

THE OBSERVER

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NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

Mod quad, God quad win energy competition

Winning dorms reduce energy consumption by 15.7 percent as part of Campus Conservation Nationals

Quad Energy Competition Results



Reduced energy by:

Mod/God Quad 15.7 %

North Quad 7.3 %

South Quad 6.6 %

West Quad 3.1 %

ELISA DE CASTRO | Observer Graphic

By ANN MARIE JAKUBOWSKI
News Writer

This past month, conserving energy was a regional affair on campus, as dorms grouped as quads competed in the inaugural Quad Energy Competition.

According to a press release from the Office of Sustainability, the Mod Quad and God Quad team of Carroll Hall, Knott Hall, Pasquerilla East Hall, Pasquerilla West Hall, Siegfried Hall, Sorin College, St. Edward's Hall and Walsh Hall won the \$1,000 grand prize decisively, reducing energy consumption by 15.7 percent between March 10 and 30, compared to baseline data from the end of February.

North Quad finished second, conserving energy by 7.3 percent. South Quad saved 6.6 percent more energy and West Quad decreased energy consumption by 3.1 percent, according to the press release.

Rachel Novick, outreach program manager for the Office of Sustainability, said Notre Dame's Quad Energy Competition is a part of Campus Conservation Nationals (CCN), a nationwide energy conservation contest in college dorms involving over 150 schools.

"Each school gets to pick a three-week period between February and April in which to run their competition,

see ENERGY/page 5

Student coalition seeks to promote human dignity

By DAN BROMBACH
News Writer

The Notre Dame Coalition for Human Dignity formed this semester with the goal of fostering communication among clubs working on issues of human dignity, as well as raising awareness of the work these clubs do on campus.

Freshman organizer Matt Caponigro said the coalition derives its strength from the cohesion and spirit of cooperation shared among its

member groups.

"We thought that maybe if we started a dialogue with each other that we could help each other to move forward on some of these human dignity issues, to be more effective and reach out to more people," he said.

Caponigro said the Notre Dame Coalition for Human Dignity was founded as a passionate answer to a heartfelt request from Father Jenkins.

"The coalition is our response to Father Jenkins'

call to make this university a healing, unifying and enlightening force in a world that's deeply in need," he said. "That has been our rallying call."

Caponigro said the coalition is inspired and driven by Notre Dame's special status as a university focused on social concerns issues.

"We at [Notre Dame] have a unique calling, especially among other universities, to do some real good for our brothers and sisters to start serious dialogue about hu-

man dignity issues," he said.

Caponigro said the coalition hopes to become a powerful advocate for human dignity by bringing together a diverse spectrum of clubs and individuals from across campus.

"We want to build a coalition that bridges the gap between students, administrators and faculty members so that we can be truly effective in restoring human dignity to all people," he said.

The coalition has already grown to include organiza-

tions such as Right to Life and the Black Student Association, and hopes to further expand as it becomes better organized, Caponigro said.

He said the coalition is empowered by its diverse membership, but this diversity can complicate its ability to make unified decisions.

"The coalition revolves around partnership, sitting down at the table and talking about what we've been working on," he said, "But

see COALITION/page 5

Acousticafe features student musicians

By TORI ROECK
News Writer

On Thursday nights at 10 p.m., Acousticafe transforms the basement of LaFortune Student Center from a dreary study space to a hip venue for live music.

Junior Matthew Almario, the Student Union Board (SUB) Acousticafe programmer, said the weekly event showcases students' performance skills in an informal, low-key atmosphere.

"Aside from bigger concerts at Legends, there are not re-

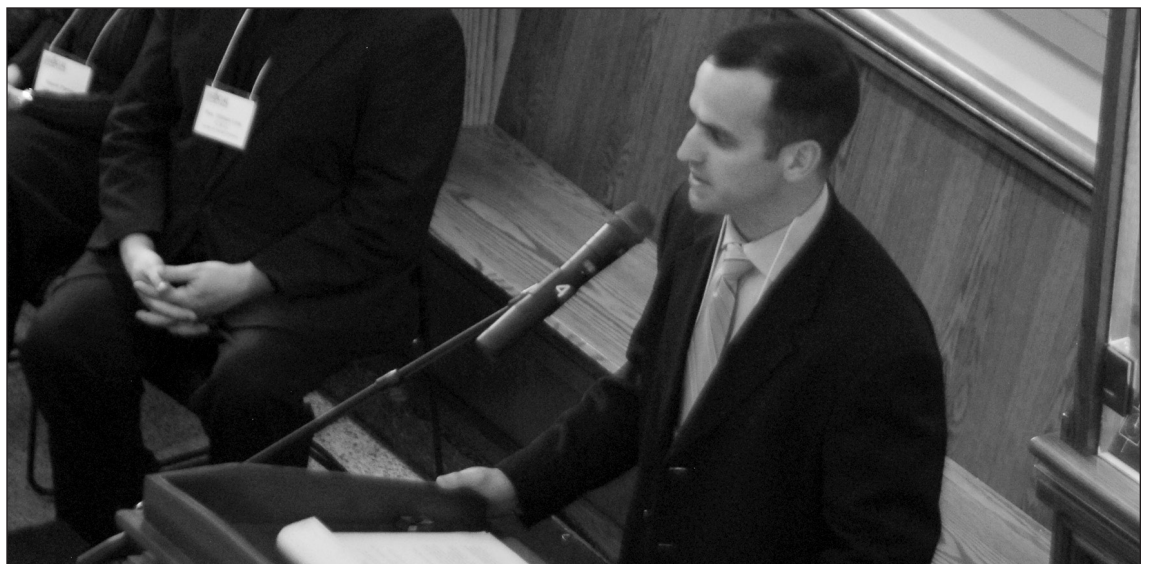
ally too many places where students can perform," Almario said. "So it's a way for musicians here on campus to get their music out there and to create a nice environment on Thursday nights."

Each week, students sign up for six 15-minute slots, and each act performs three to four songs, Almario said.

Although the most popular format for performers is a singer accompanied by acoustic guitar, Almario said Acousticafe attracts a wide

see MUSIC/page 5

GANEY COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AWARDS



JODI LO/The Observer

Professor James Schmiedeler received the Capital Faculty Community-based Research Award on Wednesday for his work in technological innovations for people suffering from paralysis.

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at (574) 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

HIGH
LOW

DPAC director to perform in charity dance showcase

By JILLIAN BARWICK
Saint Mary's Editor

A small town farm girl who grew up on disco fever, Anna Thompson, executive director for the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, will fulfill her dream of being a dancing queen in “Dancing with Our Stars,” an event benefitting the South Bend Center for the Homeless.

Thompson will participate in the competition at the Hilton Garden Inn on April 20 at 6:30 p.m.

Thompson said she will perform the hustle at the event to the Motown classic “Working My Way Back to You” by The Spinners.

“I know the basic tango, fox trot, cha-cha and the hustle,” she said. “I have always loved dancing, and I have been watching ‘Dancing With the Stars’ since it began. My all-time favorite [contestant] was Emmett Smith.”

Thompson said her love of dance started early.

“My dad was a wonderful

dancer, and I followed him wherever he led me,” she said. “When I was in college, I would bring my friends back home to Kalamazoo, [Mich.] and we would go dancing and have a great time.”

Thompson said as the curator of performing arts programming at Notre Dame, she develops interdisciplinary projects with visiting artists to the University.

In addition, Thompson said she has commissioned the first new works in music, dance and theatre bearing the name of the University to tour nationally and internationally.

Thompson said she has managed to balance her demanding job with intense dance practice.

“As part of the competition, DanceSport in Mishawaka has donated 10 lessons to each contestant for preparation,” she said. “I really, really love to dance though, so I have taken more lessons outside of the allotted 10.”

Thompson’s partner for the gala, Matt Smith, has been dancing for four years and has



JILLIAN BARWICK / The Observer

Anna Thompson, shown here with dance partner Matt Smith, will take part in “Dancing with Our Stars,” an event benefitting the South Bend Center for the Homeless on April 20.

taught ballroom, Latin and swing dancing at DanceSport. Thompson said Smith is currently the dance director and full-time dance instructor at the studio.

“Matt has been wonderful,” she said. “He is an excellent teacher, and had to take on the task of teaching me to not lead him.”

Thompson said Smith choreographed the dance as soon as she specified the song and style she wanted.

“When I told him I wanted to perform the hustle to ‘Working My Way Back to You,’ he looked at me, turned on the music, and

began leading me into step after step,” she said. “The song is over three minutes unedited.”

As part of the competition, people donate \$39 to vote for their favorite performers. This amount is the minimum number of dollars it takes to support one person at the center for one day, Thompson said.

“The Center for the Homeless is not a revolving door of people just walking in and out every day and night,” she said. “The center seeks to help their guests for as long as it takes to get them back on their feet. These donations will really help operations at the center.”

Thompson is currently third in the polls. She said her total fundraising goal is \$20,000, and she needs around 200 more votes to reach her target.

People can vote for Thompson online, or can send a check made to the South Bend Center for the Homeless.

“This really is a great cause for people to donate their time and effort to,” Thompson said. “My personal motto has always been ‘Just get up and dance!’ and that is exactly what I am doing.”

Contact Jillian Barwick at jbarwi01@saintmarys.edu

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SENATE

Group discusses The Shirt

By MARISA IATI
Associate News Editor

Student Senate discussed potential changes to freshman orientation and the upcoming unveiling of The Shirt at its meeting Wednesday.

Junior Ricky Bevington, Student Campus Orientation Committee chairperson, said the committee hopes freshman orientation can be a “vehicle for inclusion” at Notre Dame.

“It definitely needs to be a student effort,” he said. “We’re working really closely with the dorms to be a resource ... [The] goal is creating a sense of belonging on campus.”

To improve orientation, senators suggested increasing the comfort of lesbian, gay, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) students, instituting diversity training, reforming the College HAS (Hookups, Alcohol and Sex-

ual Assault) Issues program, hosting a sexual education session and distributing a sheet with useful miscellaneous information.

Bevington said anyone with suggestions about reforming freshman orientation should email scoc@nd.edu.

Senior Paul Baranay, vice president of The Shirt Project, said The Shirt will be unveiled April 20 at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore. Alta Gracia Apparel, a company with a social concerns focus, will produce this year’s The Shirt, he said.

“They have a factory down in the Dominican Republic where they pay all their workers a living wage, several times higher than other factories,” he said.

The price of The Shirt will increase from \$15 to \$18 this year, Baranay said, but shirts will be sold to students for \$15 at the unveiling ceremony.

Baranay said some of the proceeds from sales will benefit The Shirt Charity Fund, which gives money to students who could not otherwise afford to participate in campus activities. The rest of the profits will cover students’ medical costs and fund student organizations, he said.

“Last year, we sold 165,000 shirts and we raised over \$700,000 for students,” Baranay said.

Senate also approved junior Katie Hennessy for the position of Judicial Council’s vice president of elections.

Contact Marisa Iati at miati@nd.edu

Jerusalem

Semester Program
Information Session
Thursday, April 12th
DeBartolo 216 - 6:30pm

Spring 2013

Council honors work of intercultural leadership center

By BRIDGET FEENEY
Associate Saint Mary's Editor

The National Council for Research on Women (NCRW) recently named Saint Mary's Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership (CWIL) the recipient of the 2012 Diversity and Inclusion Award.

According to the organization's website, the NCRW is composed of a team of researchers dedicated to creating informed policies and debates to explore issues prevalent to young girls and women.

The Diversity and Inclusion Award is presented to organizations that expand upon its leadership, programs, policies and research activities in order to include minorities, the website said. This year, CWIL was one of two centers chosen for the award.

Elaine Meyer-Lee, director of CWIL, said the recognition is a great honor for Saint Mary's.

"NCRW involves many highly accomplished women leaders and institutions, and this award affirms Saint Mary's national leadership role in improving the lives of women and girls," she said. "It highlights our success and commitment to the challenging issues of diversity."

Meyer-Lee said the group's mission to promote diversity has only become more prominent at Saint Mary's since the center was founded in 2000.

"Inclusive excellence is infused through all that CWIL has done over the past decade, attracting, engaging and mentoring diverse staff, students and participants on and off-campus to foster intercultural competence in the next generation of women leaders," she said.

Meyer-Lee said this award is especially important, because it comes from a national level.

"It is a great honor to have the creative, passionate, and sustained work towards inclusive excellence that CWIL staff has dedicated themselves to ... rewarded by not only successful achievement and local impact, but also recognition from such an esteemed national organization as the [NCRW]," she said.

Meyer-Lee said some of the noteworthy programs CWIL offers include a national "Women as Intercultural Leaders" conference, unique study abroad opportunities in Africa and Asia and the creation of the Women's Entrepreneurship Initiative. All of these programs achieve the goals outlined by the NCRW, she said.

"Winning this award is important to us because Saint Mary's has invested so much effort into our commitment to diversity and inclusion, including through CWIL, and our results do deserve national recognition."

Elaine Meyer-Lee
director
Center for Women's
Intercultural Leadership

"We have been quite successful in the criteria the award addresses, such as incorporating diverse leaders, attracting and engaging diverse participants, building in mentorship, having an impact on our broader community and establishing sustainable and replicable diversity and inclusion strategies," she said.

Despite the award and recognition that comes with it, there are still some challenges with promoting diversity on campus. Meyer-Lee said.

"At Saint Mary's, as in other higher education institutions, any kind of institution-wide change process moves slowly, given the complexity of all the different aspects it will have an impact on, on top of the normal human comfort with familiarity," she said. "Keeping a persistent, creative and multi-faceted approach is necessary to move the whole institution forward."

Saint Mary's and CWIL will formally receive the award at the opening night of NCRW's annual conference, "Agenda Setting 2012 Nationally and Globally: Leveraging Wom-

en's Voices," in Washington on June 20, Meyer-Lee said.

"Winning this award is important to us because Saint Mary's has invested so much effort into our commitment to diversity and inclusion, including through CWIL, and our results do deserve na-

tional recognition," she said. "I hope this award might bring additional support to Saint Mary's for the College's great commitment to this area."

Contact Bridget Feeney at
bfeene01@saintmarys.edu

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Music

continued from page 1

variety of artists.

“There are people who do four or five-piece sets,” he said. “This Thursday, there’s going to be a person doing a guitar, a box-drum and a trombone in one act. Another act is going to be a person on a trumpet [with] violin and guitar. Sometimes, we get a lot of different instruments.”

Best of Acousticafe takes place at Reckers the last Thursday of every month. Acts are chosen by students’ votes in an online poll available on the SUB website and Facebook page, a change Almario said started this year.

“Before, it was a subjective thing. [SUB] would just pick the four or five performers people thought were the best,” he said. “But this is a way for students to provide their input.”

Reckers is also a new venue for Best of Acousticafe, which used to take place in LaFortune basement before this year, Almario said.

“Reckers has given us a nice stage, so we’ve had a much larger turnout,” he said.

Almario said at its peak, Acousticafe attracts about 75 attendees, and he encourages students to come support their peers.

“It’s a good time to see people you know in your classes and say, ‘Oh wow, this kid’s got a voice,’” he said.

Sophomore Erin Hanratty

said she began performing at Acousticafe last spring at her resident assistant’s [RA] suggestion.

“I originally heard about it from my RA last year, because one of her friends used to do it,” Hanratty said. “I had my guitar here and I would play guitar with my friends and sing for them ... and my RA said, ‘You would like doing Acousticafe.’”

Hanratty said she performed at open mic nights in high school and wanted to continue in college.

“In high school, I played random stuff at my school, and a little bit of open mic stuff where I lived, so when I came to college, I was definitely interested in doing stuff like that because I really liked performing for people,” she said.

Hanratty said she sings and plays guitar at Acousticafe, performing both covers and original songs.

“I write my own songs, so sometimes I do a couple originals and then mix in a few covers too, like Taylor Swift or Matt Nathanson,” she said.

Acousticafe is a good, relaxed environment for student musicians to display their talents, Hanratty said.

“It’s cool to be able to have a place to perform and have it be really low-pressure and for the fun of it,” she said. “It doesn’t need to be a big organized choir or anything you need to try out for. If people want to share their music, they have a place to do it.”

Contact **Tori Roeck**
vroeck@nd.edu

Coalition

continued from page 1

it’s tricky, because there are a lot of different people at the table.”

In the future, the coalition hopes to host a signature event before the end of the year to raise awareness and encourage student participation in the fight for

human dignity, Carponigro said.

“We’re hoping to do something like a concert on South Quad that brings everybody together, that shows our classmates and the rest of the Notre Dame community that we really do care about human dignity issues,” he said.

Caponigro said he is excited for the coalition to

forge closer bonds with Notre Dame as it matures and expands as an organization.

“We’re looking forward to developing stronger relationships with the administration and with our peers so that we can really work together as a unified front,” he said.

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Energy

continued from page 1

and each uses a baseline to level the playing field,” Novick said. “At the end of April, CCN will announce the final results, and we’ll find out how we did relative to other participating schools.”

Novick said publicity made a difference in the competition’s results.

“From what I’ve heard from Mod [and] God Quad, there was a ton of publicity and residents really rallied around the competition and made a concerted effort to keep up the energy conservation,” Novick said. “Initially, they were behind, but they didn’t give up and surged ahead in the last week of the competition.”

Junior Martha Dee, Walsh Hall sustainability commissioner, said promoting the competition in her dorm contributed to its success.

“I used Hall Council as a way to get the word out about the competition and to rally up some support,” Dee said. “We put up signs in each of the bathrooms to promote turning off the lights and made a conscious effort to turn off lights in large social spaces.”

Part of the competition took place during spring break, and Dee said eliminating “vampire energy” from unused electronics during this time was important to the victory.

“Since the competition was over spring break, I really tried to encourage girls to unplug their chargers, switch off power

strips and defrost their refrigerators for the week,” she said. “We tried to decrease elevator use and use the stairs more often.”

During the competition, the Energy Dashboard on the Office of Sustainability website was updated frequently to track the competition’s progress. This feature will continue to run to chart the energy use of individual dorms to increase awareness for potential opportunities to save energy in the dorms, according to the Office of Sustainability press release.

Contact **Ann Marie Jakubowski** at
ajakubo1@nd.edu

“I used Hall Council as a way to get the word out about the competition and to rally up some support. We put up signs in each of the bathrooms to promote turning off the lights and made a conscious effort to turn off lights in large social spaces.”

Martha Dee
sustainability commissioner
Walsh Hall

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Government sues Apple over ebooks



Connecticut attorney general George Jepsen speaks during a news conference on the price of electronic books Wednesday.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The government says avid best-seller readers who use electronic books have been getting ripped off. Tina Fey’s “Bossy Pants,” Tim Tebow’s “Through My Eyes” and Keith Richards’ “Life” — maybe they should have cost less.

The Justice Department and 15 states sued Apple Inc. and major book publishers Wednesday, alleging a conspiracy that raised the price of electronic books. They said the scheme cost consumers more than \$100 million in the past two years by adding \$2 or \$3, sometimes as much as \$5, to the price of each e-book.

If there was price fixing, even the e-book version of the hot-selling Walter Isaacson biography of Steve Jobs, the late genius behind Apple computers, may have cost too much.

Attorney General Eric Holder said executives at the highest levels of the companies conspired to eliminate competition among e-book sellers. Justice’s antitrust chief, Sharris Pozen, said the executives were desperate to get Amazon.com — the marketer of Kindle e-book readers — to raise the \$9.99 price point it had set for the most popular e-book titles, because that was substantially below their hardcover prices.

The federal government reached a settlement with three of the publishers, Hachette, HarperCollins and Simon & Shuster. But it will proceed with its lawsuit in federal court in New York City against Apple and Holtzbrinck Publishers, doing business as Macmillan, and The Penguin Publishing Co. Ltd., doing business as Penguin Group.

Connecticut and Texas, two of the 15 states filing a separate lawsuit, reached agreements with Hachette and HarperCollins to provide \$52 million in restitution to consumers, using a formula based on the number of states participating and the number of e-books sold in each state. Other states in the case may sign onto the agreement, and other companies might be persuaded to join.

Susan E. Kinsman of the Connecticut attorney general’s office said it’s too early to say how consumers can go about

getting refunds. But there could be millions of people applying. A recent Pew Research Center survey found that 21 percent of adults said they had read an e-book in the last year.

Since Amazon introduced the Kindle in 2007, e-book sales have surged. They represented just 2 percent of all titles sold in the United States that year, but soared to 25 percent last year. In 2010, about 114 million e-books were sold at a total cost of \$441.3 million.

Holder told a Justice Department news conference that “we believe that consumers paid millions of dollars more for some of the most popular titles” as a result of the alleged conspiracy. Pozen said the scheme added an average of \$2 to \$3 to the prices of individual e-books.

Connecticut Attorney General George Jepsen said the individual book markups went as high as \$5 and the total cost to consumers was more than \$100 million since April 2010, when the scheme allegedly took effect.

The government lawsuits did not disclose individual titles whose prices were allegedly jacked up. The Fey, Tebow, Richards and Isaacson books all came out in electronic versions from the named publishers after April 2010.

According to Pozen, Apple’s Steve Jobs told publishers involved in the alleged conspiracy that “the customer pays a little more, but that’s what you want anyway.”

The lawsuit said the effort to get e-book prices increased by Amazon.com came as Apple was preparing to launch the iPad. The government said the conspirators agreed that instead of selling books to retailers and letting them decide what retail price to charge, the publishers would convert the retailers into “agents” who could sell their books but not alter the publisher-set retail price. The scheme called for Apple to be guaranteed a 30 percent commission on each e-book it sold, the lawsuit said.

“To effectuate their conspiracy, the publisher defendants teamed up with defendant Apple, which shared the same goal of restraining retail price competition in the sale of e-books,” the lawsuit said.

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Monday, April 16
Distribution of Ally Pins and Day of Silence Cards
11:30am-1:30pm NDH, SDH, & LaFortune
Film Screening “Out In The Silence”
7-9pm Hesburgh Library//Carey Auditorium
A stunning documentary about the battle of a gay teen and his mother against authorities when the teen is brutally attacked for coming out in his High School.

Tuesday, April 17
Distribution of Ally Pins and Day of Silence Cards
11:30am-1:30pm NDH, SDH, & LaFortune
Sarah Brooks (03) NYC Anti-Violence Project
7-9pm Geddes Hall//Andrews Auditorium.
Presentation and panel discussion, “In Violence We Forget Who We Are.”

Wednesday, April 18
Distribution of Ally Pins and Day of Silence Cards
11:30am-1:30pm NDH, SDH, & LaFortune
Poetry Slam//CoMo Lounge//7-9pm 104 Coleman Morse
Coffee & Light Refreshments Served

Thursday, April 19
FREE Tee-Shirt Distribution
11:30am-1:30pm //Fieldhouse Mall
Take Back The Night March
7:30pm//Candlelight service at the Grotto
8:00pm//March to Holy Cross Hill
8:30pm//Bonfire, poetry, “Speak Out” with messages of hope and healing. Light refreshments.

Friday, April 20
DAY OF SILENCE
3-4pm Silent Procession
Steps of the Main Building to Geddes Hall for Prayer Service.
Refreshments to follow.

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Obama and Romney prepare to square off

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — For all the turmoil of the long primary season, President Barack Obama is right where he expected to be: taking on Mitt Romney and targeting him as a wishy-washy protector of the rich. With the November outcome likely to hinge on the economy, Obama will now engage more directly with the help of an experienced, well-financed campaign organization.

The campaign for the White House took on a decidedly different feel on Wednesday, a true two-man race for the first time. Yet even as Republican Rick Santorum’s withdrawal a day earlier changed the dynamic, beginning the general election in earnest, the contours of the Romney-Obama race had already been becoming clear.

Both sides will keep pounding voters with ferocious arguments over who has the best vision for jobs, economic security and giving Americans a shot at a better life. In sharp and steady doses, directly or through aides, Obama and Romney will also accuse the other of being dishonest with voters and out-of-touch with their daily woes.

Everything gets faster and

louder now.

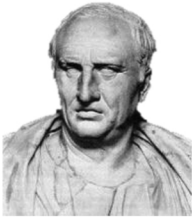
Obama will pick his spots in targeting Romney directly until the election draws closer, needing to juggle the demands of his job and eager to remind everyone that he is the one who is already the president. Obama’s Chicago-based campaign, meanwhile, will be working vigorously to challenge Romney and try to define him.

In a sign of the bitter fight ahead, Obama campaign manager Jim Messina went after Romney the day the race was joined: “The more the American people see of Mitt Romney, the less they like him and the less they trust him.” The Obama campaign followed that on Wednesday with a video of some of Romney’s most divisive or awkward moments during the Republican primaries, titled: “Mitt Romney: Memories to last a lifetime.”

The events that shape the race may well be surprises to the candidates as well as everyone else, like the economic collapse of late 2008. If the campaigns have their way, however, the narratives are set: Romney assailing Obama as an economic failure who had his shot, and Obama depicting Romney as one who would gut middle-class America.



COURSE OFFERINGS IN LATIN AND GREEK FALL 2012



Become empowered, learn Latin.

CLLA 10001/60001 BEGINNING LATIN I (MWF 8:30-9:20, T 9:30-10:45; MWF 12:50-1:40, T 12:30-1:45; MWF 3:00-3:50, T 3:30-4:15)

CLLA 30013/60013 ROMAN LYRIC POETRY C. Schlegel (MW 3:00-4:15)

This third-year course offers close reading of passages from the lyric poetry of such authors as Catullus and Horace. The lyric form gives precise and economical expression to a wide range of human thoughts and emotions, from the highly personal to the grandly patriotic.

CLLA 40016/60016 INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN LATIN TEXTS M. Bloomer (TR 11:00-12:15)

This course has two goals: to improve the student’s all-around facility in dealing with Latin texts and to introduce the student to the varieties of Christian Latin texts and basic resources that aid in their study. Exposure to texts will be provided through common readings.

CLLA 40062/60062 LIVY AND OVID AND THE FOUNDATIONS OF ROME E. Mazurek (TR 2:00-3:15)

This advanced Latin course focuses on the mythology of Rome’s foundation as depicted in Livy’s history, *Ab Urbe Condita*, and Ovid’s poem on the Roman calendar, the *Fasti*. Students will study Livy’s and Ovid’s portraits of the mythical heroes and kings associated with the origins of Rome.

Become epic, learn Greek.

CLGR 10001/60001 BEGINNING GREEK I S. Long (MWF 9:35-10:25, R 2:00-2:50)

CLGR 30011/60011 HOMER I. Torrance (TR 9:30-10:45)

This third-year course offers close reading of passages from the *Iliad* and *Odyssey*. Homer’s epic poems stand at the head of the tradition of European literature; their themes and poetic style have substantially influenced the works of Dante, Milton and many other European writers.

CLGR 40520/60520 GREEK LITERATURE IN THE HELLENISTIC AND ROMAN PERIODS C. Baron (MW 4:30-5:45)

This survey of Greek literature in the Hellenistic and Roman periods traces the development of the major genres and literary movements in “post-Classical” Greek. This course will also introduce students to scholarly interpretation and methods in the literary and cultural criticism of Greek literature.



INSIDE COLUMN

The view from halfway

Don't look now, but the year is almost over.

One month separates us from the freedom, sunshine and boredom of summer. I am not sure where the year went, but we are entering into the last quarter of the semester, or eighth

Conor Kelly

Sports Writer

of the year, at least according to the highly scientific approach of dividing the school year up into the periods between breaks. As we begin the last sliver of the year, a segment that passes faster than good weather in South Bend, I have come to the startling realization that, for all intents and purposes, I am halfway done with my time at Notre Dame. Class, weekend, class, weekend, class, weekend, finals, out of here.

While current juniors and seniors might smirk and say that it is both way too soon and way too indulgent of me to think about my dwindling days on Our Lady's campus, the sudden shift over the hump that is the end of sophomore year is somewhat unsettling. I think of it as a metaphorical continental divide, where one stops looking back to the past and reverses the flow towards the future.

I remember taking stock at the end of the first semester four months ago and being somewhat comforted by the fact that I had five semesters remaining in college. Three-eighths is not so intimidating of a fraction. Now, all of a sudden, the denominator of that fraction has changed to a two for the first time, and the thought is sobering. If there were a giant line that demarcated the two halves of one's time in college, I feel that my classmates and I are in the process of storming across it.

Last month, most of us engaged in the annual ordeal of room picks, the majority of us for the second time and, for many of us, the last. In just a couple of weeks, we will choose classes for the fifth time. For those of us studying abroad, this means that we will register for classes only two more times at Notre Dame, most likely for senior year. Things get real quickly.

On the topic of study abroad, perhaps there is nothing else that makes your time feel more fleeting than the prospect of spending a semester somewhere else. I find myself talking to friends going abroad in the fall (I am going in the spring) and realizing that after this month, many of us will not see each other until senior year.

Senior year. It is a scary thought.

Luckily, however, there still is plenty of time left. I have still never climbed Stepan, won an interhall championship, even considered attempting the Hesburgh Challenge, or done many of the other things that must grace a Notre Dame student's bucket list. Three semesters is more than enough time to do all that, if I move fast.

Up until this point, I've still thought of myself as somewhat of a newcomer to Notre Dame, still learning the ropes in some places. The thought that I will soon be older (and hopefully wiser) than the average student here has me wondering if it isn't time to start being more responsible, stop going to bed so late, maybe grab more vegetables at the dining hall. You know, more like an adult.

Nah, there's still plenty of time.

Contact Conor Kelly at ckelly17@nd.edu

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

Primary nonsense

Many conservatives, myself included, have been pretty disappointed with this year's Republican presidential primary. While the field is narrowing and a winner seems to be emerging, the entire process has been taxing on an electorate that was so charged to displace the current incumbent after all the damage done to this country for present and future generations. A conservative revival that began shortly after 2008 and manifested itself in Tea Party politics that showed tremendous influence in 2010 has taken a huge hit by the lackluster choices in candidates for the top position in global politics.

While the battle cry still remains "Anybody but Obama" in most Republican circles, it is hard to get excited for a Wall Street fat cat, who is detached from most of America and thinks he can simply buy power, even though his stated policies are significant improvements over the current regime. It is my belief that the primary system is largely to blame for our poor choice of party nominees this year and in the past.

Drawn-out primaries are bad for everyone. The voters get tired of hearing about the race, and it's not even the big dance yet. The party establishment is forced to pick sides and bicker amongst

each other until a victor emerges. The candidates weaken each other with devastating attacks that should be reserved for the other side. Crazy ideas of stolen conventions, wild card delegates and phantom votes begin to emerge to comfort supporters of losing candidates. And the worst of all is the last few states to vote basically don't get their voices heard after all is said and done. Indiana is among these unlucky few.

Something does not add up in this system. If a short primary is good, that means most states' votes don't count and a few relatively small states get to dictate party nominees. If a long primary is good, then the party is not in as strong a position to win the actual presidential race that matters at the expense of more people getting their votes counted. Does anyone else think this is stupid?

Primaries should be held on the same day. Every state gets their voice heard without significant influence from others. All the candidates get to campaign on a national level, not state by state, just as they would in the real campaign. If you want financing, you better be famous or creative with your personal branding. How many great candidates have fallen over the course of a race because they did poorly in certain geographies or were victims of bad press in the 24-hour news cycle?

If we examine the last few years we

likely would have seen Bush vs. Gore in 2000 like we did, but Bush vs. Wesley Clark or Howard Dean in 2004 would be more likely on a same day primary schedule. Hillary Clinton vs. Rudy Giuliani or Mitt Romney would have been a likely match-up in 2008. And for 2012, Newt Gingrich or Herman Cain or even Rick Perry would have had much stronger showings.

Maybe a counterargument would be that the candidates won't be properly vetted, but I what I'm proposing is not an accelerated primary season, just one where voting takes place on a set date. If the last vote of the season is in early June now, just have the Republican primary in June. Alternatively, have it on Super Tuesday. The day does not matter. The point is everyone is aware when the election is supposed to take place and that it is nationwide.

If the real presidential election was spread out over five months and went state by state, I think everyone would agree that the process would be totally ludicrous. So why do we have to put up with it in the primaries? Let people make up their own minds and let every vote count.

Mark Easley is a senior computer science major. He can be contacted at measley@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Don't go around saying the world owes you a living. The world owes you nothing. It was here first."

Mark Twain
U.S. author

Submit a
Letter to
the Editor

Email obsviewpoint@gmail.com

WEEKLY POLL

Is Haley Scott DeMaria a good choice to be the Commencement speaker?

Yes — she'll be inspiring
No — she's too low-profile

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

A blueprint for America’s fiscal future

Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid are fundamental to American society. They provide much-needed financial security to the poor, disabled and elderly. But as I wrote last time, these programs are growing at unsustainable rates, and there are economic, fiscal and moral imperatives for reform. Too often lawmakers and other commentators speak about the need to reform these programs without offering solutions (as I did in my last article.) To break this trend, I am going to explore the best policy options for reforming each of these programs.

There are only two changes that can be made to Social Security in order to avoid it going bankrupt in 2036: raising the amount collected through payroll taxes and lowering future benefits. Raising the payroll tax (currently paid at 6.2 percent of income by both employer and employee) and the income cap (currently at \$110,000) are necessary, but projections show that neither alone will be enough to fund Social Security over the long term. Thus, along with tax increases, benefit increases will have to be slowed for most but raised for the neediest seniors. The retirement age will have to increase by a year or two but exempt those who are in physically intensive labor professions.

What usually gets lost when examin-

Adam Newman
*Scientia
Potentia Est*

ing Social Security is that it was never meant to provide a retiree’s entire source of income. Currently, Social Security provides only half of what a middle class American would need for a comfortable retirement. Thus, to promote better savings, the government should reform the tax code and create mandatory 401Ks for retirement (in addition to Social Security) that would give people the flexibility to choose how they invest.

Many people currently believe that Social Security poses a larger fiscal problem than Medicare and Medicaid. This is partially due to the fact that the Social Security trust fund will go bankrupt in 2036 and currently makes up the same percentage of the federal budget as Medicare and Medicaid combined (roughly 20 percent.) However, as health care costs grow, Medicare and Medicaid will grow much faster than Social Security, which is why reforming these two programs should have much higher priority than reforming Social Security.

The overall issue with Medicare and Medicaid is that they simply reimburse for the high cost, low quality care that has become the trademark of the American health care system. Most people believe that our system is the best in the world, and on some metrics (usually inputs) they are correct: doctors, technology, treatments and prescription drugs. However, on other metrics, (usually outcomes) the U.S health care

system is mediocre: child mortality, life expectancy and even preventable deaths. Even with mediocre outcomes, America spends more on health care per person and as a percentage of GDP than any other country.

The remarkable thing about health care is that changing how it is delivered can actually allow us to receive higher quality care while paying less. This can be achieved by implementing within the health care system the “Three I’s,” a concept belonging to Stanford University Professor Victor Fuchs: infrastructure, incentives and information.

Infrastructure: America’s health care system does not have a seamless infrastructure where health care providers coordinate patient care. Instead, America has a fractured infrastructure where thousands of independent providers provide care to Americans without coordination. A robust health care infrastructure amongst other characteristics, would mandate collaboration amongst providers for patient care and incentivize a group of providers to provide care to patients as a team.

Incentives: America’s health care system utilizes “fee for service” reimbursement, meaning providers are reimbursed for every test, procedure and visit regardless of the health outcome. Incentives need to be realigned in the health care system by shifting from a fee for service reimbursement system towards a “fee for value” reimburse-

ment system. A fee for value reimbursement system would reimburse providers not for how many tests and procedures they utilize, but for the health outcomes of their patients.

Information: Currently, there is a lack of information to inform doctors and insurers about the cost-effectiveness of different treatments, known as comparative effectiveness research, or CER. Research shows that over 50 percent of treatments are not backed by any research into cost-effectiveness. If CER is funded and disseminated, the insurers could incentivize providers to practice the treatments that are the most “cost-effective.”

I do not think I have ever produced a more boring article in my entire life, but I probably have not produced a more important one either. Reforming Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid may be one of the most politically difficult, logistically challenging and most important things we can do as a country. There is no question that these programs are going to be reformed; the only question is whether it will be before or after an American sovereign debt crisis.

Adam Newman is a junior finance major. He can be reached at anewman3@nd.edu
The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Un-Christian behavior at Mass

First off, I would like to commend everyone involved in the Easter Triduum at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart for such beautiful Masses. I highly suggest it for anyone who hasn’t yet gone; words cannot describe the experience. However, there was an aspect of Easter Vigil that I found particularly distasteful. Since it is such a special and unique Mass, a large line had built up outside of the Basilica, à la Disney World. Once the church bell tolled at 7:30 p.m., however, any semblance of order immediately broke down. In a fashion reminiscent of a Black Friday opening at Wal-Mart, everyone ran in a haphazard scramble to claim a pew. For a few minutes, an unspoken mob mentality seemed to rule. When the dust settled, everyone sat solemnly as they waited for Mass to begin at 9 p.m., as if that shameful display a couple of minutes ago never happened.

I don’t wish to place myself on some moral high ground, or be some kind of Jeremiah of Notre Dame; we each have our own sins and faults which only we and God can ever truly know. However, I want to point out the bitter irony of this un-Christian action in such a holy environment. One would think that in certain places, like the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, people would be more mindful of God’s presence and of their actions to their fellow neighbors. If you are sprinting into the Basilica to get a “pew with a view,” perhaps you should reevaluate why you are coming to Mass in the first place. The Mass is a time when all members of the Notre Dame family can come together and unite under the Roman Catholic faith that this University was founded upon. I did not see a spiritual family during the opening of the Basilica doors on that Saturday evening.

David Smith
sophomore
Keough Hall
April 11

John Bolton at Notre Dame

Former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations John Bolton spoke this past Thursday at the Law School. The event was sponsored by the Notre Dame Federalist Society.

As the Undersecretary of State for Arms Control and International Security Affairs for George W. Bush, Bolton was one of the principal architects in the build up for the illegal, immoral U.S. invasion of Iraq in 2003 and the execution thereof. Therefore, he is partly responsible for the deaths of thousands of Iraqis and Americans.

In more recent years, John Bolton has clamored for attacking Iran in similar preemptive fashion.

Speakers of different opinions should be welcome on our campus. John Bolton is no exception. However, his visit should not have been given a free pass. It should have been met with protest and moral outrage.

Among the many things to say about John Bolton, one thing is for sure: He espouses positions and has helped enact policies that are antithetical to Catholic teaching. One might say he does not respect the sanctity of life. And we should hold him accountable.

Terry Fitzgibbons
rector
Duncan Hall
April 11

Postings at SMC

To whom it may concern:

This letter is in response to particular fliers, hanging in Regina Hall and which were reportedly posted by Feminists United.

The fliers in question present a particular political viewpoint in a pugilistic manner; namely, they attack specific members of an opposing political party by means of presenting quotes from the individuals under attack without proper context or citation. Furthermore, the fliers then proceed to give overly-simplistic interpretations of the candidates’ political views or platforms. This propaganda is neither helpful, respectful nor even in keeping with the goals of free speech at Saint Mary’s. As a Catholic institution of higher learning, Saint Mary’s has a responsibility to defend every individual’s right to express his or her viewpoint in a manner consistent with the College’s mission of charitable, open-minded, constructive debate, which should facilitate an enrichment of all parties’ understanding of the issue at hand. There is no place at Saint Mary’s for discriminatory, passive-aggressive propaganda, which only serves to vent a particular group or individual’s perspective without allowing for any kind of open exchange of ideas between intelligent individuals.

I am not writing in order to defend a particular political party, ideology, or perspective beyond my own desire for a more mature and thoughtful discussion of political issues, rather than a flier campaign which violates the principle of “caritas in veritate” — charity in truth — which, I hope, remains a fundamental part of the Saint Mary’s approach to the search for knowledge through questioning.

Rebekah Wielgos
junior
St. Mary’s
April 11





By MARIA FERNANDEZ
Scene Writer

Who's that girl? It's Zooey Deschanel, starring as the adorable Jess Day in Fox's latest TV sitcom, "The New Girl".

The show is centered on Jess's everyday life as an elementary school teacher in her late 20s, which might seem dull, cliché and somewhat repetitive. Yet "The New Girl" has a unique and witty twist that has audiences hooked.

After a devastating break up with her cheating boyfriend, Jess decides to move in with three single men — Schmidt, Nick and Winston. And from this moment on, all of the fun and laughs begin.

Her three new roommates each have very different jobs and personalities. However, they compliment each other

station, but it quickly turned out to be a nightmare.

Winston's facial expressions and fights with his other half, Nick, are hilarious. Their relationship and rapport with super-polite Schmidt are also very well interpreted, providing some comic relief to their everyday struggles for employment, money and love.

The funniest and quirkiest of Jess' roommates, Nick, played by Jake Johnson, is a law school dropout who currently works as a bartender. Nick's life is characterized by an endless wave of unfortunate events.

Yet his carefree and relaxed personality helps him tackle all of these crazy misfortunes with laughs, games and lots of beer.

From the three male roommates, Nick



Photo Courtesy of FOX

Zooey Deschanel and "New Girl" castmates in a promo for the FOX network comedy.

very well, adding a lot of humor and excitement to the story line. Living with Schmidt, Nick and Winston, you never know what to expect.

Schmidt, played by Max Greenfield, is a businessman who sees himself as a modern-day Casanova. He uses a very elegant and intricate vocabulary when speaking, and is constantly trying to impress everyone, especially women.

On recent episodes, his particular charm has captivated Cece's attention. Cece (Hannah Simone) is Jess's best friend. She is a tall and beautiful model with many love interests. Will Schmidt and Cece's relationship become official? We'll just have to stay tuned and watch.

Overall, Schmidt is a perfectionist. He constantly picks up after his two other wild and careless male roommates, sometimes acting as a "mature" father figure.

Lamorne Morris' character, Winston, is a former professional athlete who did not have much success abroad, and is adjusting to life back in the United States. While looking for his dream job, he works as an afterschool nanny-tutor.

On the latest episode, Winston finally found his dream job at a sports radio

is the closest to Jess. He is approachable, relatable, simple, funny and a great friend to her. I hope I am not the only one wishing they become more than friends some time soon in the show.

Coming from heartbreak, Jess's life is quickly transformed into a fun and thrilling adventure with these three new roommates. Recently, she has even started dating Russel (Dermot Mulroney) or as her roommates call him, Mr. Fancyman. Russel is a handsome and wealthy father of one of Jess's elementary school students.

Deschanel plays an amazing role as Jess. Her cute style, demeanor and awkward but hilarious comments complete the show. Her presence makes every scene better and I am sure by now she has captured viewers' hearts.

"The New Girl" is a funny and entertaining show that will get your mind off of studies and immerse you into the average, but unpredictable lives of Jess, Schmidt, Winston and Nick.

The show airs Mondays at 9 p.m. on Fox.

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mfernan5@nd.edu



By SAM STRYKER
Assistant Managing Editor

Spring has sprung, and with it, a new batch of chicks is hatching. No, not the avian kind, but of the cinematic variety. The Hollywood box office is starting to heat up, and it isn't just thanks to blockbusters like the recently released "The Hunger Games" or the heavily anticipated summer slate of films. No, there is something to be said for the ladies of many of these movies — they are young, gorgeous and most important, vying to be Hollywood's next "It-Girl."

The barrage of eligible young lasses first hit with "The Hunger Games." To be sure, the film's massive box office haul is largely a product of the popularity of the book it was based off of. But someone had to bring these characters to life, most importantly, the heroine Katniss Everdeen. Many an actress could have simply shown up to the set, but Jennifer Lawrence embodied Katniss to the core. Lawrence is beautiful, spunky and talented — she was nominated for an Oscar for Best Actress at the age of 20 for her work in "Winter's Bone," the second-youngest ever to accomplish such an honor.

Following swiftly behind Lawrence is Lily Collins, daughter of British musician Phil Collins. Don't be fooled by the famous last name — Collins may have a famous dad, but she is coming into her own, starring opposite Julia Roberts in the recently-released take on Snow White, "Mirror, Mirror." Lily is young, beautiful and a hot acting commodity and like Lawrence, she seems to be known for her thespian talent, not her off-the-screen antics.

Rounding out the list of up-and-coming actresses is Emma Stone, who perhaps best embodies this notion of the "new" Hollywood actress. Stone is swiftly approaching household-name status, thanks to her work in the critically-acclaimed "The Help" and her upcoming role as Gwen Stacy in the superhero blockbuster "The Amazing Spiderman."

Once again, Stone is a young lady known for her acting chops — namely her biting wit and easygoing persona. It is easy to forget how beautiful she is when she is so talented and driven in her craft. It would seem Hollywood is in good, albeit manicured, hands.

So why, all of a sudden, are these Hollywood actresses known for being just that — actresses, not celebrities, tabloid-fodder and lightning rods for controversy? Point the figure at the long list of ladies who enjoy the spotlight too much — Lindsay Lohan and Megan Fox at the top — and to those who are arrogant or spiteful about their place in American culture — Katherine Heigl and Kristen Stewart immediately come to mind.

Audiences tend to forget how talented Lindsay is — "Mean Girls" is a cult-classic — and Fox starred in the first two installments of the gargan-



AP

Lawrence at "Hunger Games" premiere.

tuan "Transformers" series. But then legal and personal problems began to envelope Lohan's public persona, and Fox was essentially fired for comparing director Michael Bay to Hitler. Neither were very endearing to the American public and consequently, they may have blown their shot at Hollywood glory — though media attention seems to be in their grasp.

Whereas some actresses become too media-exposed, others display a disdain for the limelight audiences find pretentious. Stewart's notoriously pouty face and Heigl's bratty comments — she withdrew her name from Emmy consideration because she didn't feel her "Grey's Anatomy" role was developed enough, a slight to the show's writers — have certainly pushed them out of favor with theatergoers, with neither attracting the following of leading ladies such as Stone. Fame seems to be fickle, like a tightrope — you don't want to be too comfortable with it, yet you also need to embrace it to a certain degree so as to not appear ungrateful.

That isn't to say the bevy of talented, young, spunky yet endearing young actresses are coming out of the blue. Emma Watson provides the blueprint for the latest crop of starlets. Despite starring in the "Harry Potter" series, one of the biggest Hollywood juggernauts ever, Watson still seems normal.

While she embraced the spotlight, she also attended college for a few years, stayed out of the clubbing scene, never made any offensive comments and consequently has a following of millions of adoring fans. Following Hermione's — sorry, Emma's — blueprint seems to be a surefire way to success. America loves talented actresses — not talented train wrecks.

Contact Sam Stryker at
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WEEKEND EVENTS CALENDAR

thursday 12



Thirsty Thursday at the Silver Hawks
When: 7:05 p.m.
Where: Covelski Stadium
How Much: \$6 for Field Box

The Silver Hawks are one of the more underrated attractions in South Bend, and the season is just starting for this Class-A minor league affiliate of the Arizona Diamondbacks. The tickets are cheap and on Thursdays the beverages are even cheaper — \$1. So grab a few friends, and have a fun start to the night.

friday 13



Allen Hemberger, Special Effects Extraordinaire
When: 7 p.m.
Where: 102 DeBartolo Hall
How Much: Free

The Department of Computer Science and Engineering presents Allen Hemberger, a premiere talent in the world of Hollywood visual effects. Hemberger will speak to the workflow of feature film visual effects. Hemberger has worked on a number of films and was a part of the "Avatar" special effects team that won an Oscar for its visuals.

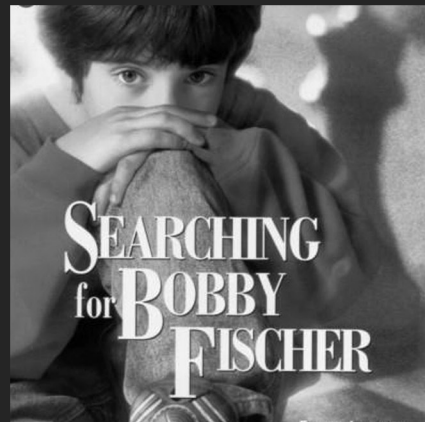
saturday 14



Australian Chamber Orchestra
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
How Much: \$15

Artistic director Richard Tognetti and his crew of extraordinarily talented musicians travel to Notre Dame this weekend, and bring with them their unique combination of classical sophistication and rock 'n' roll sensibility. The result, according to reviews from across the globe, is a raw and explosive show.

sunday 15



"Searching for Bobby Fischer"
When: 3 p.m.
Where: DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
How Much: \$3

This 1993 film gave audiences an inside look at the world of chess competition, especially the intensity it demands even in young children. But even more, it's a fascinating look at a father and son trying to be close, even when their interests and dreams aren't quite in line.



By ALEX KILPATRICK
Scene Writer

While a British romance celebrating the sport of fly-fishing in a dry desert Middle Eastern climate may seem preposterous, "Salmon Fishing in the Yemen" has everything a good dramedy should, from religious and political discussion, to international affairs, to a preponderance of salmon.

Ewan McGregor portrays Fred Jones, a British government fisheries expert who is approached by international consultant Harriet Chetwode-Talbot (played by Emily Blunt) to assist in a project to introduce the traditionally Western sport of salmon fishing to the desert country of Yemen.

Harriet represents the liberally minded and wealthy Yemeni sheikh Muhammed (portrayed by Amr Waked), who commissions the project in order to improve Anglo-Arab relations.

Although Fred seems dubious of the plausibility of the project, considering the Yemen's dry arid climate and general lack of proper conditions for salmon

to thrive, as well as the astronomical amount of money and resources necessary to fund the project, he eventually agrees to advise Harriet and Sheikh Muhammed. As to be expected in almost any dramedy, a predictable romance eventually buds between Fred and Harriet.

Kristin Scott Thomas plays the high-strung Prime Minister's press secretary Patricia Maxwell, who must find a Middle East story "without explosions."

She hits the jackpot when she discovers the news of Sheikh Muhammed's budding salmon fishing project. Director Lasse Hallstrom sets the movie up as a feel-good international affairs drama, but it quickly becomes apparent the story is much more complicated.

A side plot runs parallel to the main plot's idealistic ex-

pectations of Anglo-Arab cooperation and portrays Harriet's paramour Robert (played by Tom Mison) going missing in action in the War in Afghanistan. Hallstrom juxtaposes the war against the cooperation between Sheikh Muhammed and the British government.

Hallstrom also occasionally dabbles in religious discussions. Sheikh Muhammed questions

Fred when the self-proclaimed man of science claims to be an atheist.

The sheikh uses fishing as an analogy for religion at one point in the film, explaining to Fred anyone willing to wait for a fish to bite for hundreds of hours on end must have some semblance of faith.

Aside from the predictable romantic development and sev-

eral lulls in the film's pace, the movie is an excellent British romantic dramedy that covered everything from international affairs to religion to the science of salmon fishing, offering a different look at a region of the world typically portrayed as troubled.

Contact Alex Kilpatrick at akilpatr@nd.edu



Photo Courtesy of Lionsgate

"Salmon Fishing in the Yemen"

Directed By: Lasse Hallstrom
Studio: BBC Films, Lionsgate
Starring: Emily Blunt, Ewan McGregor, Kristin Scott Thomas, Amr Waked



SPORTS AUTHORITY

Coaches in headlines spoil week of sports

It's the first line and I am already dropping the bomb. Well, now it is the second line but here it is: This week in sports was the best one of the year.

We saw national championships won, Opening Day celebrated, an underdog story at The Masters and the start of the hectic NHL play-offs.



Andrew Gastelum
Associate Sports Editor

So there is plenty to talk about, right?

But check the headlines. They are not the glory of the green jacket or the start of baseball. They are about coaches.

The same guys who sit inconspicuously at the end of the bench are now more important than the players on the court. The same middle-aged men who are well removed from their playing days are the ones making the most noise. The figures who head the front lines of their teams in press conferences and appearances are now making the headlines, for all the wrong reasons.

One of these coaches cannot leave a football team on good terms. Former Arkansas coach Bobby Petrino crashed his motorcycle, joined by an Arkansas assistant. And she was around the same age as Petrino's daughter. And she was engaged. And she was hired improperly and given \$20,000 as a gift. Oh, and Petrino tried to cover it all up. That merits a firing, and that should be the end of it.

Another coach has a bad habit of running his mouth. Marlins manager Ozzie Guillen expressed his love for Cuba's very own Fidel Castro. The coach who was supposed to usher in the new era of Miami baseball with Latin flair enraged fans in Little Havana — of all places — by saying the worst possible thing to the community. The Marlins (and Miami) had to have known what they were getting with Ozzie, an unfiltered, unplugged loudmouth who can go off at any time. That merits a suspension, and that should be the end of it.

And just to continue the trend in sports' Big Three, Orlando Magic coach Stan Van

Gundy told reporters Dwight Howard called for his firing. It's an asinine move for a team in the middle of a playoff race. If a trade at the deadline in the whole Dwight Howard scenario is a perfectly-cooked, medium-well steak (the best possible case), then the waiter has served us a burnt crisp. And we are still eating it up. And what did Van Gundy's move accomplish? It merely grabbed attention away from the players, the games and the rest of the NBA. That merits swift criticism, and that should be the end of it.

In the Petrino case, we are not thinking about the players who lost a coach and a leader in the middle of spring practices, and were on the cusp of doing some serious damage in the SEC.

And in the Ozzie case, we are not thinking about the offended Cuban-Americans who escaped Castro's oppressive regime and lost loved ones in the process.

I am ashamed these are our headlines, coming off such a thrilling week in sports.

It's not just these three either. See Sean Payton, Urban Meyer, Mike D'Antoni, John Tortorella and even Jose Mourinho.

But don't blame the media. They are simply reporting a story worth reporting. It is our faults as sports fans, for letting controversies and scandals take control of our sacred games. I want to talk about Bubba golf, Kentucky basketball and Dodger Stadium's 50th anniversary, not infidelity, insensitive remarks and hurt feelings.

We feed these stories by giving them the fervent attention we should be giving to the better things in sports. It defeats what we love most in sports: the thrill and fun of the game. It turns ESPN into TMZ, and sports reporting into near-tabloids.

Good stories like Bubba Watson's improbable Masters win are ruined by our insatiable need for the juicy news of the day.

I just want my sports back. You should too.

Contact Andrew Gastelum at agastell@nd.edu
The views expressed in this Sports Authority column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

MLB

Nationals take down Mets, 4-0



Mets pitcher Johan Santana throws out Nationals outfielder Xavier Nady at first base during the fourth inning of Washington's 4-0 victory in New York on Wednesday.

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Johan Santana had already thrown 93 pitches. He was due up in the bottom of the fifth and it appeared to be a natural spot for a pinch hitter.

So when Santana sauntered out to the on-deck circle with a runner on in a one-run game, it created quite a buzz at Citi Field. No, it had nothing to do with his ability with the bat. It was seeing the Mets' No. 1 starter ready for another inning on the mound.

Santana walked the only batter he faced in the sixth but he managed to turn in another positive performance in a 4-0 loss to Stephen Strasburg and the Washington Nationals on the 50th anniversary of the Mets' first game.

"I was able to compete and I feel good," Santana said Wednesday. "I told (manager Terry Collins) I felt good and he let me go back out there. I didn't come through, but at least I was able to warm up and come back out again. So that's a good sign."

Meeting in a blustery, chilly matinee, Strasburg (1-0) and Santana each got off to an erratic start but settled into a duel of pitchers coming back from major arm operations.

Santana (0-1) allowed five hits in five-plus innings but his wild pitch gave Washington a 1-0 lead in the second inning of a game that lasted 3 hours, 36 minutes even though the Mets had only three hits. New York pitchers combined to walk 10 and hit one batter.

"I'm very happy at this stage," Collins said, "and five days from now you'll see him again."

Strasburg allowed two hits and struck out nine while throwing more than 100 pitches for the first time in the major leagues. He helped the Nationals take the final two games of the three-game series against their division rival with stellar pitching — Ross Detwiler shut down the Mets on Tuesday night.

"I was going to hold him to 100 pitches but I didn't know who to go to to get out of the jam," Nationals manager Davey Johnson said of the two-on, one-out jam in the sixth. "I probably would've had to strangle him to get the ball to get him out of the game."

Ryan Mattheus, Sean Burnett and Henry Rodriguez each pitched a scoreless inning for a Nationals bullpen that is without closer Drew Storen, who is out with an elbow injury.

New York's bullpen gave up two bases-loaded walks and a run-scoring grounder by Chad Tracy in the eighth. By that time, much of the announced crowd of 34,614 had left.

The 33-year-old Santana, a two-time Cy Young Award winner, was making just his second start in 19 months after undergoing left shoulder surgery. His operation was about two weeks after Strasburg had elbow ligament-replacement surgery in September 2010.

Santana's fastball was clocked at about the same speed (a high of 90 mph, reached once) as the 23-year-old phenom's changeup (89 mph).

Strasburg's fastball peaked at 98 mph.

Strasburg gave up a single to his first batter, Ruben Tejada, and walked Daniel Murphy in a 26-pitch first inning. After starting the second with a walk, he started to command his curveball better and went on a run of retiring 10 in a row until hitting Ronny Cedeno with a pitch with one out in the fifth.

"I was really concerned early because he was pitching backward. He was using a lot of changeups, back-to-back changeups, curveballs, even cutting his fastball," Johnson said. "He got straightened out in the third inning and started pitching like he can."

Said Strasburg: "I have four out pitches. It's just a matter of commanding them."

Ike Davis singled in the sixth, ending an 0-for-18 start. That was just the second hit for the Mets, who wore their white uniforms instead of their traditional pinstripes for the anniversary game.

Santana needed 27 pitches to get through the first and finished with 99 overall. In the second, he bounced a slider in front of the plate that went to the backstop, allowing Mark DeRosa to score. DeRosa singled leading off the inning and moved to third on Xavier Nady's single to right.

Santana retired 10 in a row, striking out four straight at one point, before allowing back-to-back hits in the fifth.

"He looks great," catcher Josh Thole said. "I think it's what everybody expects from him."

CLASSIFIEDS

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

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This Day in History:

1606 - England adopts the Union Jack as its flag.

1770 - Parliament repeals the Townsend Acts.

1861 - Fort Sumter is shelled by Confederacy, starting America's Civil War.

1877 - The first catcher's mask is used in a baseball game.

1945 - President Franklin D. Roosevelt dies at Warm Spring, Georgia. Harry S. Truman becomes president.

1955 - Dr. Jonas Salk's discovery of a polio vaccine is announced.

1961 - Soviet Yuri Alexeyevich Gagarin becomes first man to orbit the Earth.

1983 - Harold Washington is elected the first black mayor of Chicago.

NFL

Briggs, Bears agree to extension

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Lance Briggs once vowed he would never play another down for the Chicago Bears. He keeps negotiating new deals with them, though.

The Bears agreed to a one-year contract extension through 2014 with the Pro Bowl linebacker, keeping one of their cornerstone players happy.

"This was by far the least amount of time I've ever had with the Bears trying to (negotiate) a contract," Briggs said on a conference call with reporters Wednesday.

A person familiar with the situation said the new deal basically guarantees about \$8 million over the next two years. The person spoke on the condition of anonymity because the terms were not released.

Briggs, whose six-year, \$36 million contract would have expired in 2013, was scheduled to make nearly \$4 million next season. Instead, he gets a \$3 million bonus up front, along with a \$250,000 workout bonus and \$3 million in salary.

His salary for 2013 is \$4.5 million, with \$2 million guaranteed and \$4.75 million for 2014. The deal also includes \$250,000 workout bonuses in 2013 and 2014, plus roster bonuses of \$1 million and \$500,000 for those seasons.

"I'm grateful," Briggs said. "I'm just very appreciative right now that the work has been recognized and that it got handled as fast as it did."

Agent Drew Rosenhaus met with new general manager Phil Emery and lead contract negotiator Cliff Stein at the combine, and they agreed to table the discussions until the Bears addressed

other roster needs. Once they resumed talks, it didn't take long to reach an agreement.

"It's a good thing for Lance," Rosenhaus said. "It's good for the Bears. It's nice to see a happy outcome."

Briggs pushed hard for a new contract at the start of last season, but the Bears wouldn't budge.

With three years left on a six-year, \$36 million contract, general manager Jerry Angelo basically told Briggs at the time to leave him alone when the linebacker asked for permission to seek a trade if he couldn't get a renegotiated deal before the season. Briggs said he thinks they would have reached an agreement even if Angelo had not been fired following an 8-8 finish.

"There were some times where it was kind of difficult dealing with Jerry. At the end of the year, we had some open talks with Jerry, and he voiced that my contract is something that needs to be addressed," Briggs said. "It just so happens that he got fired the very next morning."

Briggs vowed he would never play "another down for Chicago again" after the Bears slapped the franchise-player tag on him for the 2007 season. He wound up accepting a one-year, \$7.2 million contract and agreed to that six-year deal in March 2008.

Now, he hopes to finish his career in Chicago.

"My dream is to retire a Bear, and I know that I will retire a Bear," he said.

Briggs entered select company this past season when he became just the fourth linebacker in franchise history to make seven straight Pro Bowls, joining Hall of Famers Dick Butkus, Bill George and Mike Singletary.

He led the Bears with 147 tackles last year, his eighth straight with 100 or more, and had eight tackles for loss. He also forced two fumbles, broke up three passes and intercepted one.

"We're very excited for Lance and for the Bears," Emery said in a statement. "Lance has been a very valuable and productive member of our team. Seven straight Pro Bowls is quite a record of success. This is a very positive step for our team in our efforts to win championships."

The extension for Briggs is just the latest in a long line of moves since Emery was hired. He addressed the Bears' biggest need by acquiring Pro Bowl receiver Brandon Marshall in a blockbuster trade with Miami and signed running back Michael Bush to a four-year, \$14 million from Oakland to team with the disgruntled Matt Forte in the backfield.

He also signed Jason Campbell to back up quarterback Jay Cutler, brought in special teams star Eric Weems and added cornerbacks Kelvin Hayden and Jonathan Wilhite for depth in the secondary, but there are still some issues to address.

Forte hasn't signed his \$7.74 million franchise tender, and linebacker Brian Urlacher's contract expires after the upcoming season.

Briggs said he hopes Forte's situation gets resolved, adding "I want him to be happy." As for Urlacher?

"I think that the Bears will do right by him," Briggs said. "He's coming off a great year, and hopefully, we can play until we're 49 years old, if that's possible."

MLB

Verlander, Tigers falter in ninth, lose to Rays



AP

Tigers starter Justin Verlander pitches against Tampa Bay in the second inning of Wednesday's game in Detroit. The Rays won 4-2.

Associated Press

DETROIT — For most of the game, Justin Verlander was calm and efficient, seemingly headed for another masterpiece.

In the ninth inning, he began reaching back for a little more speed — and that might have cost his team the game.

"Once a couple guys got on, really the first time I've cranked it up like that — and lost a little bit of my consistency that I'd had all day," Verlander said. "It's inexcusable. This loss rests solely on my shoulders today."

Ben Zobrist hit a tiebreaking two-run single, part of a four-run ninth inning by Tampa Bay in its 4-2 win over Verlander and the Detroit Tigers on Wednesday. Verlander took a one-hitter into the ninth and hadn't allowed a run all season, but he couldn't close out the Rays.

Verlander (0-1) gave up a run on a wild pitch, and Evan Longoria then tied the game at 2 with a single to left on his 104th and final pitch.

Daniel Schlereth came on and allowed a walk to load the bases, and Zobrist singled up the middle off Jose Valverde.

"They are never going to give up," Rays manager Joe Maddon said. "Say what you want about this team, but they play nine hard innings."

The Tigers (4-1) lost for the first time this season.

James Shields (1-0) allowed six hits and two runs in eight innings. Fernando Rodney pitched the ninth for his third save.

For most of the day, Verlander was marvelous. He took a no-hitter into the fifth and had thrown just 81 pitches through eight.

But pinch-hitter Jeff Keppinger started the ninth with a single, and Desmond Jennings added another one an out later.

"When you go against Verlander, if you get the ball in between the giant white lines, you've accomplished something. You know he's going to beat you most of the time, but you just hope he makes a mistake and

you can take advantage," Jennings said. "Kepp gave us a lot of confidence. We hadn't been doing anything before that, but he got a hit and we got things going from there."

Carlos Pena drew a walk — with ball four skipping past catcher Alex Avila for a wild pitch that made it 2-1.

Verlander's final pitch to Longoria was clocked at 100 mph, but the star third baseman was able to hit a sharp single through the left side of the infield, and neither Detroit reliever was able to stop the rally until it was too late.

"I got away from what I'd been doing all day," Verlander said. "I'd been playing to those guys' aggressiveness, getting them out in front on off-speed stuff and then just got away from it there in the ninth for no reason."

Verlander allowed four runs and four hits in 8 1-3 innings. He walked two and struck out seven. Verlander, last year's AL Cy Young and MVP winner, pitched eight scoreless innings against Boston last week. He didn't get the win that day either — Valverde squandered the lead, although the Tigers did win that game.

"Both starting pitchers were terrific again today. You figure runs are going to be scarce," Tigers manager Jim Leyland said. "We couldn't add on to that two-spot. It made you a little uneasy but the way he was pitching, you certainly felt pretty comfortable."

Wednesday was Verlander's first regular-season loss since July 15.

Shields, who finished third in last year's Cy Young voting, allowed an RBI single in the first to Miguel Cabrera. He also batted in a run in the fifth.

Shields bounced back from a shaky first start, when he allowed six runs and nine hits in five innings against the New York Yankees.

The Rays are 4-1 for the first time in franchise history. The Tigers were trying to start 5-0 for the first time since 2006, when they won the American League pennant.

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NBA

Pacers beat Cavaliers 104-98 in overtime

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — One of Indiana's players wrestled Cleveland's furry mascot before the game. The Pacers then had to fight off the spunky Cavaliers.

Danny Granger made a 3-pointer in overtime and scored 23 points, and George Hill made a dagger 3-pointer in the extra session, lifting Indiana to a 104-98 victory on Wednesday night and allowing the Pacers to hold onto the No. 3 spot in the Eastern Conference for one more day.

David West added 19 points, Hill had 17 and Roy Hibbert finished with 11 rebounds, five assists and four blocks for Indiana, 6-1 in its last seven. The Pacers outscored the Cavs 10-4 in OT and stayed just ahead of Boston, Atlanta and Orlando in the standings.

This was a dogfight — playfully and literally.

During pregame introductions, West got into a mock fight with Moondog, the Cavs' floppy-eared mascot, who often interacts and teases opposing players. West accidentally struck the character in the mask, sending him to the hospital with an eye injury.

"I feel terrible about that, I really do," said West, who was visibly upset. "We were just having fun. We were just messing around. I really hope he's OK. Make sure he knows I'm sorry."

A Cavs spokesman said the mascot was checked out and released.

Hibbert thought Moondog was joking when he went down holding the head of his costume.

"For real?" Hibbert said. "We thought he (Moondog) was just playing when it happened. Oh man, that's crazy. I can't believe it happened. I've never heard anything like that in the NBA."

Antawn Jamison scored 21 and Lester Hudson 19 for the Cavs, who dropped to a league-worst 0-5 in overtime games. The Cavs, who were just 2 of 9 in the extra five minutes, were officially eliminated from the playoffs.

"We fought hard," Hudson said. "We played very hard, but we just came up a little short."

The Pacers should have put the Cavs away in regulation but Hill, starting in place of the injured Darren Collison, missed three free throws in the last 21 seconds.

West opened overtime with a bucket for the Pacers, who went without a field goal for a 6:41 stretch of the fourth

"George Hill made some huge plays. He's down on himself right now for missing those three free throws, but I told him he was the reason why we got the lead back. He was able to turn the corner and make some plays for us."

Frank Vogel
Pacers coach

that allowed the Cavs to overcome a 10-point deficit and open a seven-point lead.

Granger then nailed a 3-pointer, and after Hudson scored for Cleveland, Indiana's leading scorer made an 18-foot jumper to put the Pacers ahead 101-96. After Jamison misfired, Hill put the Cavs away with his 3, making it 104-96 with 53 seconds left.

It was some vindication for Hill, whose three missed free throws gave the Cavs late life and they tied it when Hudson, the D-League cast-off who came in averaging 24.7 points in his past three games, dropped a sweet floater in the lane over West with 1.2 seconds to go.

The Pacers had one last chance in regulation, and Hibbert nearly made an impossible shot, arching an attempt from behind the backboard that bounced off the front of the rim.

Indiana finally took care of business in overtime.

"We knew we were in a tough fight tonight," West said. "We're playing for home-court advantage, so there is no room for any slip-page on our part."

Indiana improved to 17-14 on the road, the club's first winning record outside Indiana in eight years.

Cleveland played its fifth straight game without rookie Kyrie Irving, who has a sprained right shoulder.

The Cavs were down 78-68 after Dahntay Jones dropped a 3-pointer for Indiana.

But Hudson heated up and the Cavs responded with an 18-1 run, taking an 86-79 lead on Omri Casspi's 3-pointer from the left wing. Hudson scored six points during the improbable run, which the Pacers helped by making four turnovers and missing four shots.

Indiana ended up going nearly seven minutes between field goals, with Hill's 3-pointer with 4:19 pulling the Pacers within 88-85.

Hill then converted on two drives and after Hibbert dunked, the Pacers appeared on their way to a win, leading 93-89 with 30 seconds left.

Hill, though, failed to put the game away at the line and the Pacers had to work an extra five minutes to hold onto their playoff seed.

"George Hill made some huge plays," said coach Frank Vogel. "He's down on himself right now for missing those three free throws, but I told him he was the reason why we got the lead back. He was able to turn the corner and make some plays for us."

NBA

Surging Celtics beat Hawks



AP

Celtics point guard Rajon Rondo looks to pass while being guarded by Hawks guard Kirk Hinrich and forward Josh Smith, right, during Wednesday's 88-86 Celtics win in Boston.

Associated Press

BOSTON — Paul Pierce overcame a miserable shooting game with a key jumper in overtime and Rajon Rondo finished with a triple-double with 20 assists, 10 points and 10 rebounds to lift the surging Boston Celtics to an 88-86 win over the Atlanta Hawks on Wednesday night.

Kevin Garnett had 22 points and grabbed 12 boards before fouling out with just under 3 minutes left in OT, and Brandon Bass, who also hit a jumper in OT, scored 21 points.

It was Rondo's 19th straight game with double digits in assists.

Jeff Teague led the Hawks with 21 points and Josh Smith had 20 with 11 rebounds. The Hawks had won eight of 11 since losing to Boston at home on March 19.

It was the Celtics' 11th win in 14 games. Pierce finished with 14 points.

Bass and Pierce hit jumpers,

giving Boston an 88-84 lead early in the OT, but the Hawks sliced it to a one possession game on Kirk Hinrich's open jumper.

The teams traded turnovers over the next 2 minutes — with the Hawks' Smith getting picked cleanly by Pierce with 30 seconds to play, but the Celtics' captain was called for an offensive foul on the other end with 10.1 seconds to go.

Smith front-rimmed a 3 and Boston gained possession after a battle for the rebound went out of bounds off a Hawks' player in front of Boston's bench with 1.3 seconds left.

Boston inbounded the ball to Rondo, who fired it in the air as the horn sounded. Pierce, just 6 of 19 from the floor, raised his arms in triumph.

In a back and forth fourth quarter during which the teams traded the lead five times, Boston went up 82-81 on Garnett's jumper from the top of the key with 1:26 to go, but Zaza Pachulia hit one of two free throws on the Hawks' next possession, tying it with 74 seconds left.

Bass then hit a short jumper in the lane and the Hawks' tied it again on Joe Johnson's jumper with 47 seconds to play.

Pierce, who struggled from the floor all night, missed a 3 but Garnett grabbed the rebound.

After Boston's time-out, Garnett was forced to take a long fadeaway that missed the rim badly and the 24-second shot expired during a scramble for the rebound.

Teague front-rimmed a long jumper as the horn sounded, sending the game to OT.

Boston opened an 80-76 lead on Garnett's 3-point play when he drove around Pachulia for a reverse layup and was fouled, hitting the free throw to cap a 7-0 spree with 4:04 to play. The Hawks then retied it on Teague's jumper from the left wing a minute later after Johnson hit two free throws.

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WOMEN’S LACROSSE

Basketball star Mallory joins lacrosse squad

Observer Staff Report

Just a week after losing in the national championship game with the women’s basketball team, graduate student Brittany Mallory has joined the women’s lacrosse team.

Mallory, a guard, averaged 5.8 points per game and started all 39 games for the Irish. She also tallied 2.1 steals per game in helping Notre Dame to its second consecutive runner-up finish.

The Baltimore native played lacrosse during her first three years of high school and earned All-County and All-American honors as a midfielder.

Mallory will play defense

for the Irish for the remainder of the season.

Mallory is not the first Notre Dame player to play a second sport this year. Freshman Pat Connaughton now pitches for the Irish baseball team after starting at guard for the men’s basketball squad. Freshmen George Atkinson III and Josh Atkinson participated in events for the track team, along with sophomore Bennett Jackson, after all three competed for the Irish football team in the fall.

Mallory and the rest of the No. 7 Irish return to action this weekend when they take on Connecticut on Saturday in Storrs, Conn.

MLB

Denorfia leads Padres to win

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Chris Denorfia hit a two-run homer with one out in the eighth inning Wednesday that carried the San Diego Padres to a 2-1 win over the Arizona Diamondbacks, who had been the last unbeaten team in the major leagues.

Denorfia’s clutch shot to straightaway center field — his first of the season — came on a 2-1 pitch from David Hernandez (0-1). Cameron Maybin was aboard on a walk.

Center fielder Chris Young lost his glove over the fence trying to make a leaping grab. Someone from the Padres’ bullpen retrieved it for him.

Ernesto Frieri (1-0) threw 1 1-3 innings, and Huston Street pitched a perfect ninth for his first save with the Padres.

Until the homer, the Padres had only one baserunner advance as far as second.

Arizona was trying for the first 5-0 start in franchise history.

Hernandez had replaced Joe Saunders, who allowed four hits over seven innings in his season debut. He struck out four and walked two.



Padres center fielder Cameron Maybin argues with umpire Eric Cooper after striking out in a win against the Diamondbacks on Wednesday.

San Diego’s Cory Luebke struggled in the first inning, when he threw 43 pitches and walked four. With two-outs, he loaded the bases by walking Chris Young and then forced in Willie Bloomquist with a walk to Jason Kubel. Luebke struck out Paul Goldschmidt to end the threat.

Luebke then threw 61 pitches over his final 4 1-3 innings. He allowed one run and four hits, struck out five and walked four.

With two outs in the second,

Bloomquist hit a ball off the top of the wall in left field that was ruled a triple. Three of the umpires went in for a video review and upheld the call. Bloomquist was stranded when Aaron Hill flied out to center.

Arizona loaded the bases again in the seventh on a single and two walks before Frieri got Kubel to pop up to second baseman Orlando Hudson.

Luebke allowed one run and four hits in 5 1-3 innings, struck out five and walked four.



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SMC TENNIS

Belles set to square off with Bethel

By ISAAC LORTON
Sports Writer

In one of its biggest regular-season matches of the year, Saint Mary’s will look

to take down Mishawaka rival Bethel. Even though the Pilots are a mere five miles away, the Belles will enjoy home-court advantage against the familiar foe.

“Our conference matches are the most important to us,” Belles coach Dale Campbell said. “But this game is definitely up there in terms of importance. You want to beat your cross-town rivals because there will be some bragging rights, which are always nice.”

The Belles (8-6, 1-2 MIAA) seek to draw upon confidence gained from a hard fought 5-4 victory over Trine last week.

“I think the win will serve us well,” Campbell said. “It was a good bounce-back win after a close loss to Alma. It was a great confidence boost because it is pleasing to see the team turn around a tough loss into win.”

Saint Mary’s has had the upper hand against Bethel (10-5, 4-4 MCC) in recent history, winning the past three matchups against the Pilots under Campbell’s coaching term.

“We look to continue this winning streak against Bethel,” Campbell said. “However, we do not want to underestimate them. They have some new players who we are not familiar with, and we can’t look past that. They have a good record this year, so we are expecting a matchup.”

Recently, Campbell has been tinkering with the dou-

bles lineup, but has left the singles side alone. Campbell is now satisfied with the doubles lineup, and as of Wednesday’s practice said there will not be any further changes. He did not count out the possibility of a change occurring in the singles roster before match time, however.

“We have not made any changes to the lineup at this point,” Campbell said. “We might take a look at the order of our singles [Wednesday] at practice. We will primarily be making sure we are in the right spots.”

Campbell’s decision regarding the singles order is partially a product of trying to tailor the lineup to best match-up against the opponent, he said.

“It’s hard to judge singles based on match play, because other teams have different lineups consisting of different talent at each spot,” Campbell said. “It is also difficult to do challenge matches within our team during the season, because we have a limited time during practice. Despite how the lineup will end up, the team is just excited for and looking forward to the upcoming string of matches.”

The Belles start off the first of three matches in a five-day span as they take on the rival Pilots at home today at 4 p.m.

Contact Isaac Lorton at ilorton@nd.edu

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ND SOFTBALL

Irish split with Scarlet Knights

By ERNST CLEOFE
Sports Writer

After beginning the day by extending their winning streak to nine games, the Irish picked up their first Big East loss of the season in the back half of a doubleheader with Rutgers on Wednesday.

The Irish (20-11, 4-1 Big East) started off their day in Piscataway, N.J., with a 4-1 win over the Scarlet Knights (17-21, 6-7) behind an impressive effort by sophomore pitcher Laura Winter. Winter threw a complete game with seven strikeouts, giving up only one run on three hits.

“She had great presence and she played with intensity that rubbed off on the team,” senior captain and outfielder Alexa Maldonado said. “Even when there were moments where she gave up hits, she had the presence to keep control of the game, and she could count on us to give behind her.”

In the third inning, freshman designated hitter Cassidy Whidden gave Winter the only cushion she needed with a three-run home run. Junior catcher Amy Buntin added to the Irish lead shortly thereafter when she continued her current hot streak with a solo home run in the fourth.

Along with the offensive output, the defensive effort behind Winter was key to the Irish victory.

“We played good defense that kept the game in control for us,” Maldonado said. “And we scored when we needed to.”

After cruising to a victory to open the series, Notre Dame faced trouble in the day’s second game. The Irish got off to a



JULIE HERDER/The Observer

Irish sophomore pitcher Laura Winter fires a pitch in a 7-2 win against Connecticut on April 1 at Melissa Cook Stadium.

good start by picking up a five-run lead after four innings at the plate. But in the bottom half of the fourth, Notre Dame started to make mistakes. Following two Irish errors, the Scarlet Knights loaded the bases. After Rutgers scored a run with an RBI single, the Scarlet Knights tied the game at five with a grand slam.

After falling behind by a run in the sixth inning after a Rutgers’ solo shot, the Irish knotted the game again in the seventh inning to push the game into extra innings. In the bottom of the ninth, Rutgers catcher Kylee Bishop drove in the game-winning double off Winters, who took on the loss after pitching five innings of relief and allow-

ing two runs on four hits.

In the second game, Notre Dame’s errors prove to be enough to deny them the series sweep and their tenth-straight win.

“In the first game, we were in control during the game,” Maldonado said. “[In the second game,] we let things get out of control on defense and we stopped making batting adjustments during the time.”

Notre Dame will look to get back on track in the Big East when it travels to Syracuse for a three-game weekend series starting Saturday.

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povertystudies.nd.edu

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Photo Courtesy of Dana Gallagher

The men’s club volleyball team celebrates its national championship victory after defeating UC Berkeley on Saturday.

Gallagher

continued from page 20

with or seen playing club,” he said. “He had two amazing digs in the championship game, which were some of the best I’ve seen.”

The Irish have a motto of “All we do is block and dig,” which understates the team’s offensive prowess and puts a focus on defense.

“Our defense definitely improved from last year and contributed a great deal to this

year’s success,” Bauer said.

On a student-run club without a paid coach, Gallagher said he gives credit to the cohesiveness of the team.

“I am just so happy that we won for all of my friends who are seniors,” Gallagher said.

The Irish prepare to lose three of their starting seniors — Rehberg, middle blocker Steven Walsh and opposite hitter Tom Johnson — but look forward to next year’s campaign with an eye on the repeat.

Contact Isaac Lorton at ilorton@nd.edu

Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study
“Conceptions of Truth and the Unity of Knowledge” Conference
APRIL 12-14, 2012

**Schedule for
FRIDAY, APRIL 13**

*All conference sessions are held in the Notre Dame Conference Center in McKenna Hall.
All conference meals will be served in the Morris Inn.*

First Session: 9:00am to 12:30pm

Osborne Wiggins (University of Louisville)
Does introspection (a first-person perspective) remain indispensable to psychology?
Coffee Break (McKenna Hall Atrium)

Zygmunt Pizlo (Purdue University)
What is the nature of perception?
Coffee Break (McKenna Hall Atrium)

Keith Lehrer (University of Arizona / University of Miami)
Intuition and Coherence in the Keystone Loop

Lunch (12:30 to 2:00 p.m.)

Second Session: 2:00 to 5:30pm

Celia Deane-Drummond (University of Notre Dame)
How is theology inspired by the sciences?
Coffee Break (McKenna Hall Atrium)

Robert Hanna (University of Colorado, Boulder)
What is the nature of inference?
Coffee Break (McKenna Hall Atrium)

Carsten Dutt (University of Heidelberg)
Truth in Interpretation

Dinner (6:00 to 8:00 p.m.)

Questions? Call NDIAS (574-631-1305)

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XULE LIN/The Observer

Irish pitcher Donnie Hissa throws a pitch during Wednesday's 5-4 loss to Western Michigan at Frank Eck Stadium.

Broncos

continued from page 20

their arms and couldn't put together a string of timely hits.

"It has been a lot of different things that (have) conspired against us," Aoki said. "Bottom line is we are dealing with a very young team who lost every shred of confidence from that good start we had and are trying to refind themselves."

Western Michigan blew two one-run leads in the fourth and fifth innings, mostly due to a solid day at the plate by Irish freshman outfielders Mac Hudgins and Ryan Bull. Hudgins went 2-for-4 with a triple and an RBI single while Bull contributed a single and a leadoff double, later scoring to tie the game at four in the fifth inning.

Broncos freshman catcher Jared Kujawa led the way for Western Michigan and delivered the final blow, a tiebreaking home run in the seventh to give the Broncos the 5-4 lead.

The former high-school hockey and football star went 2-for-4 with two RBIs and a walk, sparking the team's three-run rally in the third.

Notre Dame was without two key starters in junior outfielder Charlie Markson (virus) and sophomore first baseman Trey Mancini, who injured his shoulder in the weekend series at Seton Hall.

Despite the missing pieces, Aoki still said the Irish must continue to fight and be aggressive if they want to break through at such a crucial point in the season.

"We have got to be stubborn about competing and playing to the best of our ability," the second-year coach said. "There is no magic recipe to it, we just have to go out and attack ... We are certainly struggling to find our way right now."

The Irish will look to snap their losing skid Friday in a weekend series at home against Cincinnati.

Contact Andrew Gastelum at agastell1@nd.edu

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SMC Softball

Belles take opener, lose game two in 11 innings

By NICK BOYLE
Sports Writer

Traveling to Hope College, Saint Mary's split its double-header Wednesday against its conference foe, taking the first contest in a 3-0 shutout while losing the second, 9-7, in an 11-inning thriller.

The first game featured an effective team effort from the Belles (16-8, 3-3 MIAA) to keep the hosts off of the scoreboard. Belles sophomore pitcher Callie Selner dominated for the visitors, throwing a complete-game shutout.

"Game one was a great group effort, we played very clean softball," Belles coach Erin Sullivan said. "Selner threw a fantastic game, and our defense was solid with no errors."

Saint Mary's was able to get on the board in the fourth inning when freshman first baseman Jordie Wasserman drove in two with a home run. The Belles manufactured one more run in the seventh inning to secure the shutout win.

"Wasserman hitting the homerun was huge for us," Sullivan said. "We had quality at-bats all game."

The Belles didn't fare as well in the second game, falling after 11 innings of play in a tight contest.

Hope got off to a quick start in the second contest, scoring two runs in as many innings. The

home team added three more runs in the fifth and sixth innings, before taking a 5-0 lead into the bottom of the seventh.

With two outs and no runs, the Belles looked to be all but finished before rallying to score five to tie the game and send it to extra innings. Senior pitcher Angela Gillis, freshman infielder Michelle Duncan, and junior infielder Emily Sherwood all contributed RBI hits in the inning.

"We didn't hit super-well in game two, but we were able to come back to score five runs in the seventh to tie the game," Sullivan said. "That was very timely, clutch hitting."

The two teams traded runs in the ninth and 10th before Hope moved two across in the top of the 11th inning. The Belles were not able to answer in the following frame, ending the game.

"While our six errors hurt us, the team stayed determined through 11 tough innings coming back to tie three times but we fell just short," Sullivan said. "It was a tough loss, but was also very motivating to see us play so well against a good team."

The Belles next take on conference foe Olivet on Saturday at home. First pitch is scheduled for 1 p.m.

Contact Nick Boyle at nboyle1@nd.edu

Please recycle The Observer.



PAT COVENEY/The Observer

Irish senior running back Cierre Wood tries to break away from a defender in a Nov. 26 away game against Stanford.

Spring

continued from page 20

Gasp, shock, awe.

That’s right, it’s the person next to Tommy Rees that will decide Notre Dame’s fate this year. It’s the person to the left of Andrew Hendrix that should carry the load for the Irish. It’s the person to the right of Everett Golson that will be better than they were a year ago. It’s the player sharing a backfield with Gunner Kiel that will grind out the wins for Notre Dame.

And with a returning back-field featuring 1,000-yard rusher Cierre Wood, running back-converted-receiver-converted-running back Theo Riddick and USC transfer Amir Carlisle, why shouldn’t the running back be the most meaningful position on the field?

Wood — who combined with Jonas Gray to top nearly 2,000 yards rushing — enters camp the undisputed starter in the backfield and will look to build on last season, when he scored nine touchdowns on the ground.

Riddick and Carlisle will fight for playing time behind Wood, while George Atkinson III could provide the “big back” option for the Irish. Atkinson has the size (he stands at six-foot-one) and speed (remember his two kick returns last season) to also challenge for a spot in the lineup.

Don’t forget the Irish un-orthodox group the running backs and slot receivers into the same position group under Irish running backs coach Tony Alford. That means Robby Toma could get some carries as well.

While having four options at quarterback may be a bad thing, having five at running back certainly is not.

I know you’ve heard all about the turnovers costing the Irish football game after football game. And that is right, without a doubt. But you probably haven’t heard about 41, 57 and 93. Those are the rushing totals in Notre Dame’s last three losses last year to USC, Stanford and Florida State, respectively.

Comparatively, in their eight wins, the Irish averaged nearly 200 yards rushing per game. The lowest total in a victory was a 114-yard output in the 31-13 win over Michigan State.

Clearly, success of the run-

ning game is paramount to the success of the program. It’s not just Notre Dame, either.

Each of the last six BCS champions has leaned heavily on the run game and ridden star running backs (or running quarterbacks) to championships. Of course, each squad also had a stringent defense.

But wait, don’t the Irish have a pretty tough front seven themselves? Led by linebacker Manti Te’o and defensive end Aaron Lynch, the answer is a simple yes.

If the running backs can move the chains and keep the ball away from the quarterbacks — and, therefore, from other teams — the Irish could fare favorably against a quite unfavorable schedule.

If the running backs can chew up yards and the clock, Notre Dame alums may stop calling for Brian Kelly’s job.

If the running backs live up to their potential, it may not even matter who the signal caller is.

Run and win. It is just that simple.

Contact Matthew DeFranks at mdefrank@nd.edu



MACKENZIE SAIN/The Observer

Notre Dame senior offensive lineman Mike Golic Jr. (no. 57) blocks against Maryland on Nov. 12 in Landover, Md. Golic Jr. will compete for a starting job this season.

Riddick

continued from page 20

said he is focused on working hard to improve all aspects of his offensive game.

“I mean, everyone wants the ball. It’s why you play the game,” he said. “But it just makes you come to work every day, instead of taking days off and saying ‘I’m in this position, I have all this and I’m at this rank’. Everyone’s on an even playing field, so you have to come out and bring your ‘A’ game every day.”

The Irish coaching staff unconventionally groups slot receivers and running backs into the same skill group during practice, meaning Riddick has split reps with senior Cierre Wood, sophomore George Atkinson III and senior Robby Toma, among others. Riddick said the focus on both positions makes him and the other hybrids more versatile.

“You can be very dangerous if you can [play] both [slot receiver and running back], So far, I’m doing both, and I’m liking where I’m coming. It’s very

exciting, but you have to get in shape, and I’m getting there.”

Blue-collar Golic

Senior offensive lineman Mike Golic Jr. has been identified throughout his career as a hard worker in all aspects of the game. With the addition of Harry Hiestand as offensive line coach in the offseason, Golic believes he has a coach who shares his blue-collar mentality.

“I definitely would describe coach Hiestand as a very blue-collar guy,” Golic said. “He’s about coming in and working hard and giving a great effort every day, and we’ll work on everything else from there. He’s said the one thing you can always control is your effort, and that’s one thing we’ll never sacrifice is a great effort on the offensive line.”

Filling the vacancy left by Ed Warriner’s move to Ohio State in the offseason, Hiestand was hired from Tennessee as Notre Dame’s offensive line coach and run game coordinator. Golic said the 29-year coaching veteran has returned focus to technique and helped him improve his fundamental game.

“Something that [Hiestand] has been really focused on is technique, and not so much scheme and working on scheme and things like that, but those basic techniques that can bail you out of a bad situation,” Golic said. “Whether you’re seeing a new scheme or not, if you’re in that fundamental position that he’s teaching, you’ll be able to handle anything a defense will throw at you. It’s something that’s already helping us all out a lot.”

After seeing extensive time on the offensive line in 2011, Golic returns to Notre Dame for a final year of eligibility hoping to improve his game and follow his father’s footsteps into the NFL.

“Most of the guys that come here, if you come to play big-time Division I football, you have [NFL] aspirations,” Golic said. “I absolutely want to take my shot and try to play in the NFL, but I’m worried about this year first and worried about a great senior season. We’ll let the chips fall where they may after that.”

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FOOTBALL

The chronicles of Riddick

Riddick and Golic look to improve this spring

By CHRIS ALLEN
Sports Editor

In addition to the signature gold helmet, senior playmaker Theo Riddick has worn many hats for Notre Dame. First, he was a dangerous kick returner and situational running back. Then, he was a lightning-quick slot receiver. Entering his fourth season in an Irish uniform, Riddick finds himself playing both running back and slot receiver as the most experienced member of a group of hybrid offensive players grouped under running backs coach Tony Alford.

Riddick said at this point he does not have a defined role.

"I don't think anyone has roles right now," he said. "At this point, like coach [Alford] said, everybody wants the ball in their hands, so we're still trying to find out who can do what."

Instead of trying to find a niche in the offense, Riddick

see RIDDICK/page 18



GRANT TOBIN/The Observer

Irish senior running back Theo Riddick breaks off a run during a March 24 practice. Riddick, a receiver in 2011, will see playing time as both a slot receiver and running back in 2012.

Running backs could take pressure off QBs

This is spring ball. Almost everything means nothing. Almost nothing means anything. Players have 15 practices to prove to the coaching staff — and an overeager fan base — next year will be different. You'll hear about so-and-so impressing and this-and-that position battle.

But you won't hear that from me. I'm here to talk about the most meaningful position for Notre Dame this year: running back.



Matthew DeFranks

Associate
Sports Editor

see SPRING/page 18

BASEBALL

Broncos hand Irish 5-4 loss

By ANDREW GASTELUM
Associate Sports Editor

It is that time of the year again when the Irish can't seem to catch a break, culminating in a five-game losing streak after a 5-4 home loss to Western Michigan on Wednesday night.

Freshman pitcher Kyle Rubbinaccio got his first collegiate start for the Irish (17-15, 4-5 Big East), but only lasted 3 1/3 innings despite a promising start. Notre Dame's first four batters reached base to open the game, but the Irish could only score one run from the inning on an RBI-double from Irish sophomore third baseman Eric Jagielo. Notre Dame had the bases loaded with no outs following Jagielo's double and a walk to junior catcher Joe Hudson, but Broncos freshman pitcher Will Nimke managed to find his way out of the jam, striking out two straight Irish batters.

Nimke threw a seven-strikeout complete game for the Broncos (15-15, 5-3 MAC), but was far from dominant. The Irish had the chance to knock the freshman out of the game early, but couldn't capitalize on a few key chances in the opening innings. The right-hander soon settled into a groove, limiting the Irish bats to one hit in the last four innings of the game.

"I think we had some really bad at-bats once we loaded the bases there in the bottom of the first," coach Mik Aoki said. "Those string of at-bats let them off the hook there with one run. As the game went on I think we lost our approach.



JULIE HERDER/The Observer

Irish sophomore third baseman Eric Jagielo swings during Notre Dame's 7-3 win against Toledo on April 3.

You have got to give [Nimke] a lot of credit. He battled and they made some plays as the game went on and down the stretch they kind of out-competed us."

The Irish led 2-0 heading into the third inning, but the Bron-

cos broke through for three runs against Rubbinaccio, who struggled to throw strikes as he trudged through the lineup. Compounding the issue, the Irish bats struggled to support

see BRONCOS/page 17

CLUB SPORTS

Men's volleyball team wins national title

By ISAAC LORTON
Sports Writer

The words "national championship" resonate for all athletes and sports fans, speaking directly to the desire to be on top.

The No. 1 Irish earned their place at the top this weekend by capturing the title of Div. I national champions at the National Collegiate Volleyball Federation [NCVF] championship in Kansas City, Mo., on April 7. Notre Dame (34-7) finished a grueling weekend with a 2-0 (25-23, 25-2) victory over UC Berkeley.

Success is not uncommon for the Irish. Last year in the NCVF championships, Notre Dame fell short in the title game and took second place. Team leaders said the title-game loss provided the Irish with motivation this year.

"It feels great to get the win," junior outside hitter Rob Bauer said. "We came in second last year and had a chip on our shoulder. We had something to show, and we wanted to prove to ourselves we could do it this year."

The Irish had their hands full in the championship game this season, however, with a tough opponent in Cal.

"This capped off a winning season the best way possible," senior setter and Josh Rehberg said. "This showed our hard work throughout the season paid off."

Notre Dame proved its determination during the final day of the national tournament with three three-set matches Saturday.

"The most impressive thing this weekend was how we dealt with adversity," sophomore libero Liam Gallagher said. "We lost our first set to Indiana, and it is hard to come back from that, but we did it."

The championship year brought two extra honors for Bauer, as he earned the titles of NCVF Player of the Year and tournament MVP on Saturday.

"I really want to thank my teammates," Bauer said. "Without them, we wouldn't have gotten to the championship game, and I wouldn't have won this award. It is because of them, not me, that I won this award. I wasn't happy with how last year ended, so I went out there to prove we could win the national championship."

Bauer earned high praise from his team captain Rehberg.

"Rob definitely earned it and carried us through the tournament," Rehberg said. "Whenever we needed a point, he came up big."

Gallagher brought home another accolade for Notre Dame by earning All-Team honors.

"I am absolutely honored to be recognized," Gallagher said. "One of the deciding factors of All-Team honors is the captain or coach vote. I am happy Rehberg saw me as a contributor and it means a lot coming from someone I respect."

Gallagher was deserving of the award, Rehberg said.

"Liam is one of the best defensive players I've ever played

see GALLAGHER/page 16