

ELECTION 2012

Senate races shift as Election Day approaches

*Mourdock's
debate comments
complicate Indiana
Senate race*

By **ANN MARIE
JAKUBOWSKI**
News Writer



The Indiana senatorial race seemed like an easy win for the Republicans at the beginning of election season, but now Republican candidate Richard Mourdock, the Indiana state treasurer, and Democrat Joe Donnelly, Congressional representative for Indiana's 2nd District, are in the middle of a dead heat in the race for the seat.

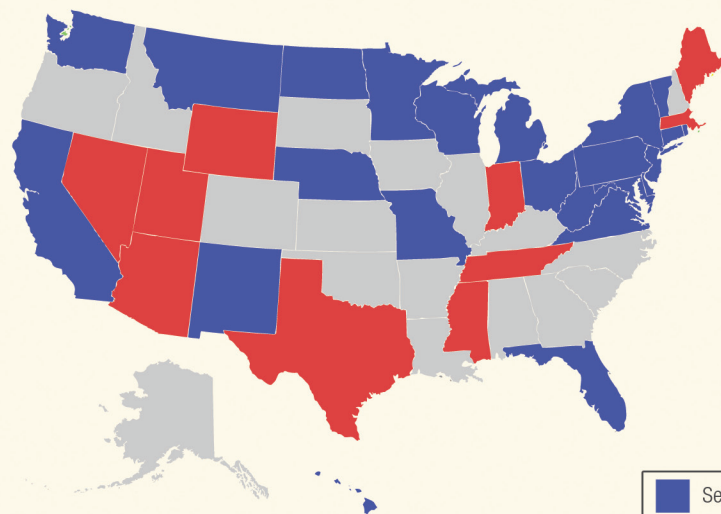
Mourdock beat Republican incumbent Sen. Richard Lugar in the May primary, when several staunch conservative groups backed him early. Lugar, a moderate Conservative, had wide support transcending partisan divides, Notre Dame professor and former political reporter Jack Colwell said.

"Lugar was known for reaching across the aisle and trying to reach a consensus with Democrats," Colwell said. "Lugar probably would have been a shoo-in, but when Mourdock

see INDIANA **PAGE 4**

SENATE ELECTION

Current Senate: 51 Democrats, 47 Republicans, 2 Independents



**33 seats up for
election:
23 seats held by
Democrats
10 seats held by
Republicans**

■ Seat up for election currently held by a Democrat
■ Seat up for election currently held by a Republican

SARA SHOEMAKE | The Observer



Observer File Photo

Democratic candidate Joe Donnelly currently serves as a U.S. representative for Indiana's 2nd District.



AP

Republican candidate Richard Mourdock is the current Indiana state treasurer.

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*Republicans,
Democrats
compete for Senate
majority*

By **MEGAN DOYLE**
Managing Editor



Thirty-three seats are up for grabs in the United States Senate during this election, but Notre Dame professors are still not convinced the Republican challenge to the Democratic majority will be enough to earn GOP dominance in tight races around the country.

The Democratic majority in the current Senate is slim, with just 51 seats to the Republican's 47. Political science professor Geoffrey Layman predicted the fight for the Senate majority would be closer than originally anticipated this year.

"I do expect the Republicans to challenge the Democratic majority, but I think it will be very close," Layman said. "I think six months or a year ago, there was sort of an expectation that the Republicans would almost certainly gain the majority because of the big seat gains in 2010 in the House, less so in the Senate."

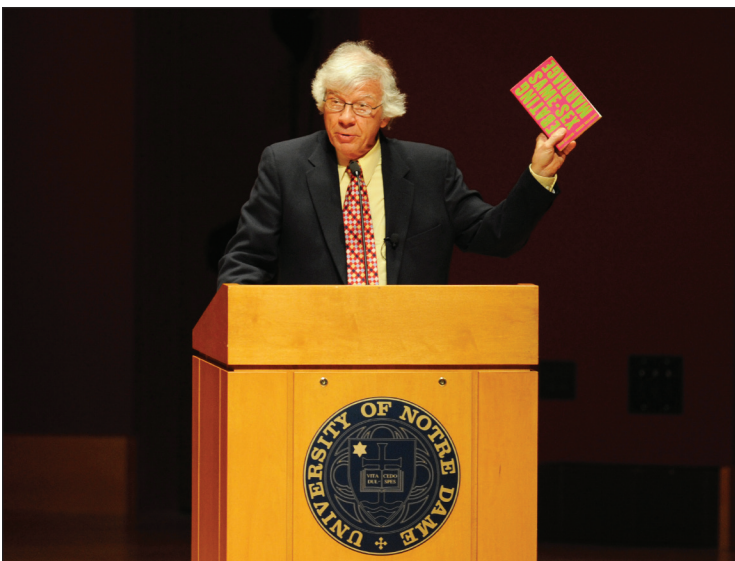
Authors debate gay marriage

By **JOHN CAMERON**
News Editor

The co-authors of "Debating Same-Sex Marriage" tackled the hot-button issue last night at a debate by the same name.

Maggie Gallagher, former president of the National Organization for Marriage, and John Corvino, chair of philosophy at Wayne State University, discussed how each believes same-sex marriage would impact children, society and the institution of marriage.

see MARRIAGE **PAGE 5**



SUZANNA PRATT | The Observer

John Corvino, chair of philosophy at Wayne State University, discusses the impact of same-sex marriage on society Thursday.

Game hype drives fans to Oklahoma

By **DAN BROMBACH**
News Writer

Distance, steep ticket prices and a potentially hostile environment were not enough to keep some devoted fans from planning a trip to Norman this Saturday to witness a top-10 football clash between the Oklahoma Sooners and the Notre Dame Fighting Irish.

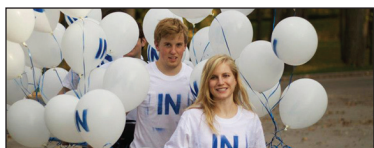
Junior Peter Roemholdt said he is willing to endure the 30-hour roundtrip drive from South Bend in order to experience the renowned

atmosphere at Oklahoma's Gaylord Family Memorial Stadium.

"The atmosphere is going to be electric," Roemholdt said. "I bet it's going to be extremely loud, and especially if it's a close game, it should be quite the experience."

Junior John Garry, who is traveling as part of the Notre Dame Marching Band, said he also is excited to support the team and be there for one of the most important games

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DESIGN BLITZ **PAGE 3**

**Diversity on
the Ballot**

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Vacant of Magic

SCENE **PAGE 10**



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MEN'S SOCCER **PAGE 20**

THE OBSERVER

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY:

If you were in a pumpkin carving contest, what would you carve?

Have a question you want answered?

Email obsphoto@gmail.com



Channing Foster

sophomore

Ryan Hall

"All-American Ryan

McDonough."



David Diaz

junior

Alumni Hall

"Money as a bribe."



Judy Scharf

sophomore

Ryan Hall

"Manti Te'o."

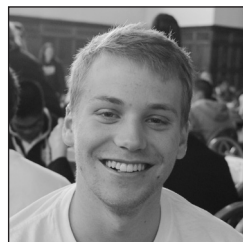


Pete McGinley

sophomore

Duncan Hall

"Tuxedo T-shirt Jesus."



Ryan Huhn

sophomore

Duncan Hall

"Fr. Hesburgh's shining face."



Sarah Bradtke

sophomore

Badin Hall

"Fr. George [Rozum]."



Observer File Photo

Irish quarterback Jarius Jackson runs the ball down the field, pushing an Oklahoma defender out of the way. Notre Dame won 34-30 in a home game against the Sooners on Oct. 2, 1999. Jackson threw two touchdowns and ran one in for the Irish, leading Notre Dame to its second win of the season.

THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

Want your event included here?

Email obsnews.nd@gmail.com

Friday

Writing Successful Grants

McKenna Hall

9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Introductory workshop for grant writing.

NBA Exhibition Game

Purcell Pavilion

7 p.m.-9 p.m.

Joakim Noah and the Chicago Bulls face the Indiana Pacers.

Saturday

"next to normal"

Washington Hall

7:30 p.m.-10 p.m.

PEMCo's fall production, a rock musical.

Film: "Take this Waltz"

DeBartolo Performing

Arts Center

9:30 p.m.-11:30 p.m.

\$4 for students.

Sunday

AfterMath Event

105 Science Hall

(SMC)

1 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

A panel of alumnae talk about careers.

Vision Walk

Fundraiser

Irish Green

1:30 p.m.-5 p.m.

\$15 registration fee for stem cell research.

Monday

"The Effective Leadership"

Carole Sandner Hall

3 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

An Irish perspective from Mary Hanafin.

Film: "Alotrolado, To the Other Side"

Geddes Hall

7 p.m.

Screening and panel discussion.

Tuesday

BAVO Speaker

Student Center (SMC)

7 p.m.

The Belles Against Violence Office hosts Debbie Riddle.

Art Dept. Fundraiser

Riley Hall

11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Chili cookoff. Funds go to breast cancer screenings.

Design students bridge gaps



Photo provided by IN South Bend

Notre Dame design students Jeff McLean, junior, and Elizabeth Maurath, senior, worked on the IN South Bend project to connect with the community. Other projects are called chalk talk and PROJECTiiON.

By **TORI ROECK**
News Writer

Over fall break, 14 design students attempted to bridge the gap between Notre Dame and the South Bend community through a design blitz led by John Bielenberg, founder of the design service program Project M.

Bielenberg is a pioneer of the “thinking wrong” approach to design, which involves drawing inspiration for projects in unconventional ways, and Project M implements design projects conceived through this method to address social problems.

Senior industrial design major Alisa Rantanen said students followed the thinking wrong approach in conceiving of their projects, starting with brainstorming words.

“It started with brainstorming and mind-mapping random words, not even design related,” Rantanen said. “Each group was given a prompt. So my group was given ‘Rick James’ and ‘chalk,’ and all in one day we were told, ‘Go make a project based on that.’”

Three different projects emerged from the brainstorming session: chalk talk, PROJECTiiON and IN South Bend.

Rantanen said her group worked on chalk talk and painted a chalkboard wall in downtown South Bend so people could share their thoughts with the community.

“It’s a way to give them a voice where otherwise many people wouldn’t be heard,” she said. “The next phase is to bring it to Notre Dame.”

The prompts on the wall say “I am,” “I think,” “I feel” and “I dream,” Rantanen said.

Industrial design graduate student Kevin Melchiorri said PROJECTiiON stands for “Projecting Interactive Images On Neighborhoods.” The project’s goal is to project meaningful images on visible buildings in downtown South Bend at night, he said.

“This process creates a

beacon that invites, unites and empowers viewers through selected content,” Melchiorri said.

PROJECTiiON also works with chalk talk to project images of the chalk wall, Melchiorri said.

“We are currently collaborating with chalk talk and have plans to create a series of projects in the future that

“We used this to drive our concepts around creating an atmosphere of fun, new experiences and excitement around student trips downtown.”

Jeff McLean
junior

involve video games, movies, lighting, restaurant and local business promotion and kinetic energy from the audience’s physical participation,” he said.

IN South Bend is an initiative to get a trolley to run from Main Circle to downtown South Bend to encourage more students to visit. Junior graphic design major Jeff McLean said the idea for the project was based on the phrase “insane clown posse struggle bus.”

“We used this to drive our concepts around creating an atmosphere of fun, new experiences, and excitement around student trips downtown,” McLean said. “An important component of doing this effectively was to make going downtown a tangibly branded experience for students.”

To promote the project, McLean said his group built a “bus” out of PVC pipe and tied balloons to it. They filmed themselves traveling

downtown, leaving a balloon at each place they stopped. The group then posted the video online and asked viewers to sign a petition to make the bus a reality, he said.

Senior industrial design major Bobby Reichle, a part of the group that developed IN South Bend, said he hopes the project will draw more students downtown because the area has a lot to offer.

“For me, my favorite place in South Bend is the Main Street Coffee House, and no one knows it exists,” Reichle said. “I want people to move beyond the cookie-cutter stores of Eddy Street and actually see the local character of downtown South Bend. There is actually some worthwhile stuff there.”

Senior industrial design major Airi Kobayashi said the design blitz forced the students to interact with South Bend in a new way and to talk to community members to learn more about the area.

“We realized how much South Bend has more to offer than we thought there was and how much of a disconnect there was from the Notre Dame community to South Bend,” Kobayashi said.

The blitz’s format and short time limit also enabled the students to put design skills they learned in the classroom to practical use, Rantanen said.

“I knew this was going to be a super-creative, super-intense process, and I wanted to get ... the messier side of actually making things real,” she said.

Rantanen said seeing her project come alive was one of the best parts of the blitz.

“This was a great opportunity to do something and see the direct impact,” she said. “Our chalk wall — less than 24 hours later, people had written all over it, so it was really rewarding to have that immediate impact.”

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Lawyer discusses disability rights

By **SHANNON O’BRIEN**
News Writer

Erick Acuña Pereda delivered a presentation yesterday in the Eck Hall of Law discussing the challenges and obstacles facing regional human rights systems to incorporate the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), a treaty adopted in 2006.

Acuña is currently a researcher for the Peruvian Working Group of the Ibero-American Network of Experts on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. His lecture was sponsored by the Notre Dame Law School’s Center for Civil and Human Rights.

Acuña started by explaining the importance of having certain laws to protect the rights of those with disabilities.

“According to a report by the World Health Organization this year, there are more than 4 million people with mental disabilities throughout the world, and seven percent of these people live in developing countries,” Acuña said.

“I think it is so important to discuss this topic because whether you work in a public institution or a civil society we should always try to take into account the disability approach either by public policy, litigation or workshops, and know that people with disabilities should have a voice and should be part of it and be included.”

While in law school, Acuña said he first became interested in the issue while choosing his thesis topic.

“I wanted to research about certain groups that are in a situation of vulnerability, but I wanted it to be a new topic that hadn’t been talked about before,” he said. “After talking with my professor and researching, I ran into indigenous people, African American people, migrants, and women and children, but then I read about people with disabilities.”

Acuña said he was struck by the lack of literature on the topic.

“What struck me the most was that there is almost

nothing written on it,” he said. “They are suffering a lot and there are injustices regarding their disabilities, so that’s why I thought it was a really important topic to write about.”

Acuña said there is a major difference between the medical approach and social approach to the CRPD.

Prior to the CRPD, the medical approach defined disabled people as mental patients with abnormalities of body structure, appearance or function of an organ or system. However, after the CRPD the entire dynamic and climate of the discussion of the rights of those with disabilities changed, he said.

“Before the adoption of the CRPD, people with mental disabilities were considered very ill and therefore needed to be cured by medical care,” Acuña said. “The old definition of those who are mentally disabled has a very negative connotation and made it seem like these people were different from everyone else and needed protection.”

Acuña also discussed the right to legal capacity that he said is, “the most important pillar of the CRPD treaty.”

The right to legal capacity bans the practice of guardianship for those with mental disabilities. Under the CRPD, it says there shouldn’t be substitution of decisions, he said, but instead there should be support in helping those with mental disabilities make decisions.

“With this right to legal capacity, they can make their own decisions and their own mistakes, just like everyone else does,” Acuña said.

Finally, Acuña analyzed the approaches of the Inter-American, European, and African legal systems to those with mental disabilities.

He said under the CRPD, “states have the moral obligation to make everything that they can to actually create a situation where people with mental disabilities can fulfill or exercise their right of any convenience.”

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Indiana

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

won the primary, that changed things in Indiana."

Another curveball flew in the race earlier this week in the second senatorial debate, when Donnelly and Mourdock answered a question about abortion. Mourdock's reply has stirred a national response.

"I struggled with it myself for a long time, but I came to realize that life is that gift from God. And, I think, even when life begins in that horrible situation of rape, that it is something that God intended to happen," Mourdock said during the Oct. 23 debate.

Mourdock later clarified he was not suggesting that God preordains rape, and said his comment was misinterpreted. It has proven influential in discussion of both the senatorial and presidential elections, however.

Days before the debate, the Mourdock campaign released an ad in which presidential candidate Mitt Romney endorses Mourdock. Romney has since publicly expressed his disagreement with Mourdock's statement, but continues to endorse him.

Donnelly offered a press release in response to Mourdock's comment.

"I am pro-life, but this controversy is not about pro-life. It

is about Mr. Mourdock's words and his continuation of extreme positions," he stated in the release. "His words were extreme, but maybe as important, hurtful to survivors of sexual abuse. It is legitimate for Hoosiers to expect candidates running for the United States Senate to not take such positions."

Other Indiana politicians have weighed in on the matter, including Indiana Democratic gubernatorial candidate John Gregg, who released an official statement.

"I was shocked by Richard Mourdock's comments regarding survivors of rape," he stated in the release. "Rape is rape, and statements like these rub salt in the wounds of sexual assault survivors everywhere."

Colwell said it is too early for polls to show how the comment has affected the senatorial race, but the widespread media coverage it received will surely make a difference.

"Not many people were watching the actual debate, but the coverage is now on the front page of every paper," Colwell said. "It's a big story everywhere, and we'll find out soon enough it is big enough to tip the race for Donnelly."

Indiana has traditionally been a conservative stronghold, though the nuances of the individual races may threaten that

status today, Colwell said.

"When [President] Obama carried Indiana four years ago, that was the first time since 1964 that a Democrat carried Indiana," Colwell said. "In the senate race, they split the ballot at times, so the Democrats have a chance."

He said he thinks the selection of Mourdock over Lugar in the Republican primary may have been a dangerous move for the party, jeopardizing their stronghold.

"If Lugar were running, I think the race would be over, a Republican win," Colwell said. "If Mourdock loses, the ultra-conservatives will have thrown away a certain Republican senate seat since they thought it didn't matter which Republican candidate ran."

Colwell said he thinks Mourdock's chance for success in Indiana is challenged by his tendency to make incendiary remarks like this one.

"Mourdock was known for making some controversial comments. Among other things, he said there is too much bipartisanship in Washington, and also sought to block the Chrysler recovery effort as state treasurer," Colwell said. "That enabled Donnelly to get closer in the polls."

The gap between Donnelly and Mourdock may be coming even closer after this week. Colwell



AP

Indiana senate candidates, from left Democrat Joe Donnelly, Libertarian Andrew Horning and Republican Richard Mourdock, debate Tuesday.

said Donnelly, a Notre Dame graduate, is challenging the traditionally conservative Indiana political climate with his bipartisan popularity.

"Donnelly is a moderate Democrat, so that fits in perfectly for him — he's able to get in the middle with some of the Democrats who would have voted Lugar but are wary of Mourdock," Colwell said.

Colwell said he expects Mourdock's comment to affect Romney's recent success in gaining female voters.

"Historically, women vote Democrat, and just as Romney

is closing that gap nationally according to the polls, here comes this issue," Colwell said. "Many think that what Mourdock said would be especially offensive to women, especially young, single women that have been a real target for both presidential campaigns."

"Now, instead of being able to answer questions about the economy, he's fielding questions about Mourdock, and that's the last thing they want in these closing days."

Contact Ann Marie Jakubowski at ajakubo1@nd.edu

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SUZANNA PRATT | The Observer

The co-authors of “Debating Same-Sex Marriage” discuss the hot-button issue in DeBartolo Performing Arts Center on Thursday. John Corvino, professor of philosophy at Wayne State University, defended gay marriage and Maggie Gallagher, former president of the National Organization for Marriage, opposed it.

Marriage

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Corvino introduced his defense of gay marriage by arguing that it would not impact straight couples already or seeking to become married.

“Gay people find happiness in same-sex marriage,” he said. “When they find that happiness, it does not take away anything from you. ... Giving marriage to gay people does not mean taking it away from straight people.”

Gallagher, however, said she believed allowing same-sex marriage would detract from the important societal norm defining marriage’s key purpose as building cohesion between man, woman and child, an arrangement under which she believes children thrive most.

“We need a cultural mechanism for attaching father to mother and children for a bond and for communicating to both men and women that there’s something very important at stake here,” she said. “Children are at risk if parents don’t get and stay married and build basic, average, decent-enough marriages.”

Gallagher supported her assertion by recounting her own experience as an unmarried senior — and self-professed pro-life atheist — at Yale in 1982, when she became pregnant. Several years later, Gallagher’s son began asking about his absent father.

“There’s something very deep in the human heart about [wanting a mother and father],” she said. “I wasn’t able to give him what my mother and father, working together, were able to give me.”

Corvino cited a number of authorities, including the American Psychological Association and the American Academy of Pediatrics, claiming children of same-sex couples are not, in fact, worse off than those from heterosexual families.

“When you compare intact same-sex couples with intact heterosexual couples, controlling for other variables, we find children do just as well,” he said. “Every major health and welfare association that has commented on this issue has said the same thing.”

Gallagher pointed to the commonality of heterosexual

marriage across time and societies, singling its institution out as one of the only “universals” of human life.

“Marriage is a virtually universal human social institution,” she said. “Marriage evolves and changes over time, and yet, over and over again in completely different societies, there’s a certain basic shape that emerges.”

She said the common three principles upon which

“Marriage evolves and changes over time, and yet, over and over again in completely different societies, there’s a certain basic shape that emerges.”

Maggie Gallagher
former president
National Organization for Marriage

marriage is based throughout human cultures is the natural drive toward reproductive sex, society’s need to maintain a population and a child’s right to both a mother and a father.

“This is not some

archaic relic,” she said. “This is the common human experience.”

Corvino said marriage’s other purposes make it an important concept even for those unable to reproduce traditionally.

“People say the natural purpose of sex and marriage is procreation,” he said. “It’s pretty clear to me that a natural purpose of sex and marriage is procreation, but the only purpose? It seems that sex has these other important purposes: the expression of affection, sharing of intimacy. ... What do you say to infertile heterosexual couples, or elderly couples, that their marriage is pointless?”

Beyond recognizing relationships, Corvino said marriage offers crucial legal benefits to same-sex couples, including healthcare rights, social security, immigration and divorce.

“It also does certain things legally for relationships,” he said. “One of the reasons for gay marriage is gay divorce.”

Gallagher said the legal aspects of marriage are secondary to its purpose.

“Marriage as a legal contract is really not that significant,” she said. “Most of the

legal structures, even the ones John described, have very little to do with what people expect, want or need in marriage.”

The legal matters hanging in the balance, Gallagher argued, are the rights of those opposed to gay marriage should it become a widespread institution, citing an instance of a diversity officer at a college being suspending following her signing of a petition relating to the issue.

“It gets worse because I think the classic understanding of marriage is not only going to be repudiated, but it’s going to be actively oppressed by law, culture and society after same-sex marriage.”

Corvino said the real issue comes down to overlooking crucial aspects of human nature over issues of biology.

“What so often happens in this debate is that we reduce people — and their lives and their feelings and relationships, and all that makes them up — to parts, and we miss the larger picture,” he said. “I think in this debate, we can do better than that.”

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Oklahoma

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

since the 2005 Notre Dame-USC showdown. Despite having to leave on Thursday and drive through the night, Garry said being a part of this game is still more than worth it.

“It’s going to be rowdy, it’s going to be crazy,” Garry said. “[ESPN’s] ‘College Gameday’ will be there, so take what happened on our campus and multiply it. It should be a good day to be a college football fan.”

Roehmholdt said he is also looking forward to getting a taste of the Oklahoma tailgating culture before the game.

“The tailgating will be great,” Roehmholdt said. “A lot of these big schools pride themselves on their tailgates and pregame parties almost more than being at the game itself.”

Garry said band members won’t have much time for activities before the game, occupied by a pep rally and with preparation for their halftime performance.

“Basically we’re just there to be at the game,” Garry said. “Performing will be fun. Oklahoma fans are some of the rowdiest in the nation, so it will be great to get out there and be on the field for that.”

Despite being behind enemy lines as a Notre Dame supporter, Roehmholdt said he is not concerned about having to deal with potentially abusive or belligerent Oklahoma fans.

“It’s an 8:00 [p.m.] game, people will have been tailgating for a while so I’m sure there will be some rowdy

individuals, but it will be fine,” Roehmholdt said. “I can handle a few ‘Notre Dame sucks.’”

Garry said he expects the crowd environment to be intense due to the implications of the game, yet not as hostile as the atmosphere of Michigan.

“The Notre Dame-Oklahoma rivalry isn’t quite as heated as other rivalries, and Sooner fans are known for being incredibly courteous outside the stadium,” Garry said. “Once you get inside the stadium, it will be a different

story.

Overall, Roehmholdt said he anticipates the trip will be one of the highlights of his time at Notre Dame.

“At the end of the day you’re not going to remember the homework and the tests, you’re going to remember the experiences you had at Oklahoma for the biggest game in Notre Dame history for a long time,” Roehmholdt said.

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Senate

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Compared to 2010, when Republican candidates — especially those from the Tea Party — enjoyed sweeping success in the House of Representatives, Layman said 2012 is more favorable for the Democratic Party. In the past two years, the nation has seen slow improvements in the economy and a more positive national attitude toward the Affordable Care Act than when it was first proposed.

“I think it is certainly a better year than 2010, which was an awful year for Democrats,” he said.

However, more of the seats up for reelection have traditionally been held by Democrats and, with only a few states to swing for a Senate majority, the GOP has been fighting hard in election season. Twenty-three Democratic seats are on the ballot, as opposed to 10 Republican.

Layman cited Missouri, Virginia and Florida as examples of states where Democrats are trying to cling to a Senate seat despite tough opposition from Republican candidates. Sen. Claire McCaskill in Missouri and Sen. Bill Nelson in Florida are both Democratic incumbents trying to keep their jobs, while the Virginia seat is open to new challengers from both parties after the retirement of incumbent Sen. Jim Webb.

“A lot of those seats that the Democrats have to defend, a fair number of them are in red states or at least states where the Republicans are very competitive,” Layman said.

Political science professor Peri Arnold also pointed to close races in Wisconsin, Pennsylvania and Ohio. Even Indiana, traditionally a Republican state, has become a more spirited battle this year.

“The fact that Indiana is contentious is a signal that the Republicans are doing less well than they expected to do originally,” Arnold said.

As they make their decisions, voters’ concerns in the Senate races mirror the most important issues in the presidential race, Arnold said.

“They’re worried about the economy and economic growth and jobs ... so that’s a major pitch, saying, ‘Vote for me, I’ll contribute to a better economy,’” he said. “It isn’t like elections are rifle shots, one issue, one concern. But certainly the economy creates a climate.”

Layman also said the economy was the most important issue for voters in 2012. However, he said some states have seen other significant conversations come up in debate.

“The feasibility of national health care and sort of the size and role of the federal government have been the big issues,” he said. “Then in a couple of key races like Missouri and Indiana, abortion has unexpectedly reared its ugly head.”

Republicans Rep. Todd Akin in Missouri and, more recently,

Richard Mourdock in Indiana have faced criticism for public comments about their views against abortion.

Whichever party takes the majority after Election Day, Layman said the senators are in danger of falling into gridlock yet again.

“The Senate has increasingly been a body that finds itself unable to do anything,” he said. “It’s completely gridlocked by the increasingly frequent use of the filibuster.”

A filibuster refers to obstructive tactics, usually by extending debate, to prevent a measure from being brought to a vote. A senator may speak for as long as

“The polls suggest that the Democrats will likely hold onto their majority, but will not reach the threshold of 61 that would enable them to break a filibuster.”

David Campbell
political science

he or she wishes on the floor, unless a three-fifths majority of the Senate — or 60 out of 100 senators — votes to bring the debate to an end.

“Neither party is going to have anywhere close to 60, so even if the Democrats maintain the majority, it’s going to be by one or two seats,” he said. “So the big question for the Senate, I think, is ‘Is it possible for either party to move the Senate to do things and operate with any efficiency to seriously consider major pieces of legislation, or is it gridlocked by ... increasingly partisan use of the filibuster?’”

Political science professor David Campbell also saw no end in sight to tension along party lines in the Senate. He even predicted more polarization among senators after their newly elected members take office.

“Those Republicans who replace their retiring Republican colleagues will likely be more conservative than their predecessors, giving us still another reason to suspect further gridlock,” he said.

Campbell cited races in Indiana, Montana, Arizona, Nevada, Missouri and North Dakota as still “in play” in this election. No matter the winners, he doubted bipartisanship would enter the Senate with the new congressmen.

“The polls suggest that the Democrats will likely hold onto their majority, but will not reach the threshold of 61 seats that would enable them to break a filibuster,” he said. “In other words, we can expect partisan gridlock to continue.”

Meghan Thomassen contributed to this report.

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Campaigns raise \$2 billion



AP

Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney waves to a crowd in Ohio, his latest stop on the campaign tour. The Republican and Democrat campaigns have raised over \$2 billion collectively.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The 2012 presidential campaign passed the \$2 billion mark in fundraising Thursday, fueled by an outpouring of cash from both ordinary citizens and the wealthiest Americans hoping to influence the selection of the country’s next leader.

The eye-popping figure puts the election on track to be the costliest in modern U.S. history. It comes amid a campaign finance system vastly altered by the proliferation of outside groups and “super” political committees that are bankrolling a barrage of TV ads in battleground states.

President Barack Obama and Republican challenger Mitt

Romney have brought in about \$1.7 billion so far this election, according to fundraising reports submitted Thursday night.

Added to that: nearly \$300 million in donations involving super PACs since early 2011, as well as tens of millions more in donations to nonprofit groups that run election-related ads but don’t have to disclose their donors.

Obama, the Democratic Party and related fundraising committees raised a combined \$88.8 million for the first 15 days of October, reports showed, while Romney’s fundraising apparatus reaped \$111.8 million during the same period.

The largest of those were two pro-Romney groups. American

Crossroads, a Republican-leaning super PAC with ties to former President George W. Bush’s longtime political counselor Karl Rove, reported raising at least \$79.6 million through Oct. 15. Restore Our Future, founded by former Romney aides, reported pulling in \$130.6 million so far. And Priorities USA, a pro-Obama group founded by two former aides to the president, reported \$62.8 million in contributions.

Added to that: nearly \$300 million in donations involving super PACs since early 2011, as well as tens of millions more in donations to nonprofit groups — often affiliated with super PACs — that run election-related ads but don’t have to disclose their donors.

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TODOS LOS DOMINGOS

1:30 P.M. EN DILLON HALL

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Campus Ministry
campusministry.nd.edu

Decrease in corporate spending slows economy

U. S. government prepares to issue lackluster third-quarter growth information Friday, last report before election

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Companies are holding off on purchases of computers, industrial equipment and other long-lasting manufactured goods, a trend that's slowing the U.S. economy.

A fourth straight month of lackluster corporate spending led many economists on Thursday to trim their forecasts for growth in the July-September quarter. The government will issue its first estimate of third-quarter growth Friday, the last snapshot of overall economic activity before the presidential election.

The troubling report on business confidence overshadowed a drop in applications for unemployment aid and a slight increase in the number of people who signed contracts to buy homes.

Orders for durable goods, products expected to last at least three years, rose 9.9 percent in September, the Commerce Department said. But most of the increase was driven by a spike in aircraft orders, which are volatile and plummeted in the previous month.

Economists pay closer

attention to core capital goods, which include machinery and computers but exclude aircraft. Those orders were unchanged in September after only a slight gain in August and steep declines in July and June.

And shipments of those goods fell for the third straight month. That means business spending on equipment and software likely declined 4.9 percent in the July-September quarter, economists noted. It would represent the first drop in that category since the recession.

Corporate investment helped the U.S. economy emerge from the Great Recession three years ago. But businesses have grown more cautious since spring, seeing tepid growth in consumer spending and declines in exports.

Many companies are worried that their overseas sales could dampen further if recession spreads throughout Europe, as some predict, and growth continues to slow in China, India and other developing countries.

Businesses also fear large tax increases and big government spending cuts that will kick in next year if Congress fails to reach a budget deal to avert them.

The disappointing report on durable goods led several economists to downgrade their forecasts for third-quarter economic growth. Michael Feroli, an economist at JPMorgan Chase, lowered his forecast to an annual rate of 1.6 percent, down from 1.8 percent. Peter Newland, an economist at Barclays Capital, reduced his forecast to a rate of 1.8 percent from 2 percent.

Either figure would reflect little improvement from the April-June growth rate of only 1.3 percent.

Business investment has slumped even as consumers have become more hopeful about the economy in recent months. Consumer confidence rose in October to a five-year high. Retail spending increased in September, mainly because Americans bought more cars, iPhones and appliances. And home sales are up this year, contributing to a nascent housing recovery.

Consumer spending drives nearly 70 percent of economic activity.

"We have the consumer to thank for keeping the economy above water," Feroli said.

Still, the gains are far from

what is needed to ignite the economy and spur rapid hiring. Economists at JPMorgan Chase project consumer spending could increase at an annual rate of 2.2 percent in the third quarter. That's better than the 1.5 percent rate in the second quarter, but still anemic by historical standards.

Meanwhile, sluggish business investment has dragged on job creation at U.S. factories. Manufacturers slashed 20,000 jobs in the third quarter. Factories had added 194,000 jobs in the previous three quarters.

The job market has been a key topic in this year's presidential election, which is less than two weeks away. A separate report Thursday suggested hiring remains modest, at best.

Weekly applications for unemployment benefits fell last week to a seasonally adjusted 369,000, stabilizing after two weeks in which seasonal factors distorted the data. The four-week average, a less volatile measure, rose to 368,000, the Labor Department said.

Applications are a proxy for layoffs. When they fall below 375,000, it suggests hiring is strong enough to lower the

unemployment rate.

Applications have fluctuated between 360,000 and 390,000 since January. At the same time, employers have added an average of nearly 150,000 jobs a month. That's barely enough to lower the unemployment rate, which has declined from 8.3 percent to 7.8 percent this year.

A third report Thursday showed the housing recovery may be cooling off. The National Association of Realtors index of sales agreements showed the number of Americans who signed contracts to buy homes rose only slightly in September from August. That suggests sales may level off in the coming months after solid gains in the past year.

Signed contracts are up 14.5 percent from a year ago.

Housing is rebounding after a six-year slump. New home sales jumped last month to the highest annual pace in two and a half years. And builders broke ground on new homes and apartments at the fastest pace in more than four years in September.

This year will likely be the first time in six years that housing contributes to overall economic growth.

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INSIDE COLUMN

Computer love-hate



Anna Boarini
News Writer

Currently, I'm in the midst of a love-hate relationship. It's not with a boyfriend or a best friend, but it is with someone important. My love-hate relationship is with my Mac computer.

I know a computer is not a person, but I spend more time with my computer than I do people sometimes, so it has become a person to me. My beloved Macky and I have been all over the place together and are pretty much inseparable.

Anyways, as much as I love my Mac, right now I just want to chuck it across the room.

It all started one steamy day in Nepal. Over the summer, my computer decided it would just stop holding a charge, so I had to keep it plugged in all the time. That wasn't really a huge deal.

Then, my worst nightmare happened. The battery of my computer fell out. Basically, my Mac gave birth to a battery baby. One minute I was standing there taking my computer out of its case and the next minute, bang: battery on the floor.

I just stared at the rectangular piece of plastic and steel. It was like my life flashed before me. All I could think about was all the information contained on my computer. Did I lose my precious novel forever? What about the writing samples for graduate school, were they gone too?

Luckily, with some duct tape and a little elbow grease, the battery fit back in. The battery charged even slower, but my computer was working.

All was going well at school until midterms came around. Everything always goes wrong when you least expect it. There I was at 3 a.m. the day before two exams and three papers were due. Everything was going fine until I went to check some notes. I noticed the power was dangerously low. It was then I thought I might have a heart attack. My computer was plugged in. Why was the battery icon red? Had my Mac finally died?

After a long night of sheer panic, the papers got written and the tests were taken. Then came the real challenge: getting an appointment at the Genius Bar. I ran in there looking like a crazy person, with my unwashed hair piled high up on my head and tears brimming behind the glasses slipping off my nose. The Mac guy looked at me like I was a homeless person as I explained what happened. The prognosis was good; the power cord was the problem, not the computer.

But today, back to the Genius Bar I head. Now my computer is rejecting all software downloads and desperately needs updating. Hopefully, the kind people at the Mac store will give me good news. Keep your fingers crossed.

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

Diversity on the ballot

Brian Kaneb
Guest Columnist

The general election may be about two weeks away, but many who will not be in their districts at that time will already have voted by means of an absentee ballot. These early votes as a proportion of the total votes have increased from 20 percent in 2004 to 30 percent in 2008, and are expected to account for 35 percent in the upcoming election, according to Dr. Michael McDonald of George Madison University. For those familiar with the Electoral College, that is the equivalent of an astounding 188 delegates having their votes set in stone before Nov. 6.

I became a part of this trend when I sent in my absentee ballot just a few days ago. This may have been my first time voting for president, but even I noticed a difference in the candidates this time around. White Protestant males have long dominated politics in our country, with all but two presidents meeting these criteria. While it would be an overstatement to say their stronghold has ceased to exist, the choices I faced this election reminded me the establishment parties have at least come to terms with the increasing influence of previously powerless minorities.

Perhaps the most relatable race to prove this point is the one for the presidency. Whereas President John Kennedy faced prejudice simply for being a Catholic in 1960, both Vice President Joe Biden and Representative

Paul Ryan speak as if they have been invited to be open about the same faith. The latter stands as being extremely vocal about his religion. In the wake of losing his wife and daughter in a tragic car accident, Biden has come to terms with the fact his faith "defines who he is" and "has particularly informed [his] social doctrine." In a similar way, Ryan has aspired to have his work "conform to the social doctrine of as best [he] can make of it." It is hard to imagine the candidates being so blunt just a few decades ago, but with minority babies outnumbering majority babies for the first time, the political campaigns know this will not have negative electoral consequences.

This is not to say the two fall in line with their religion on every issue. Not only does the Catholic Church disagree with Biden on abortion, but the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has also criticized the budget put forth by Ryan for failing to meet its "moral criteria." Gov. Mitt Romney may seem like the epitome of the establishment at times, but he is still a Mormon. Gallup found that 20 percent of Americans would not vote for a Mormon for the presidency, which is even more surprising considering this number is the same as in 1968. Yet Romney realizes the relative importance of these votes decreasing. This was seen at the Republican National Convention when the campaign received positive attention for inviting "several Mormons" to "speak to Romney's religion and service to his faith." Of course Barack Obama

is the first African-American president, but as the only Protestant of the major candidates, even he is at odds with his predecessors in that he "was not raised in a religious household."

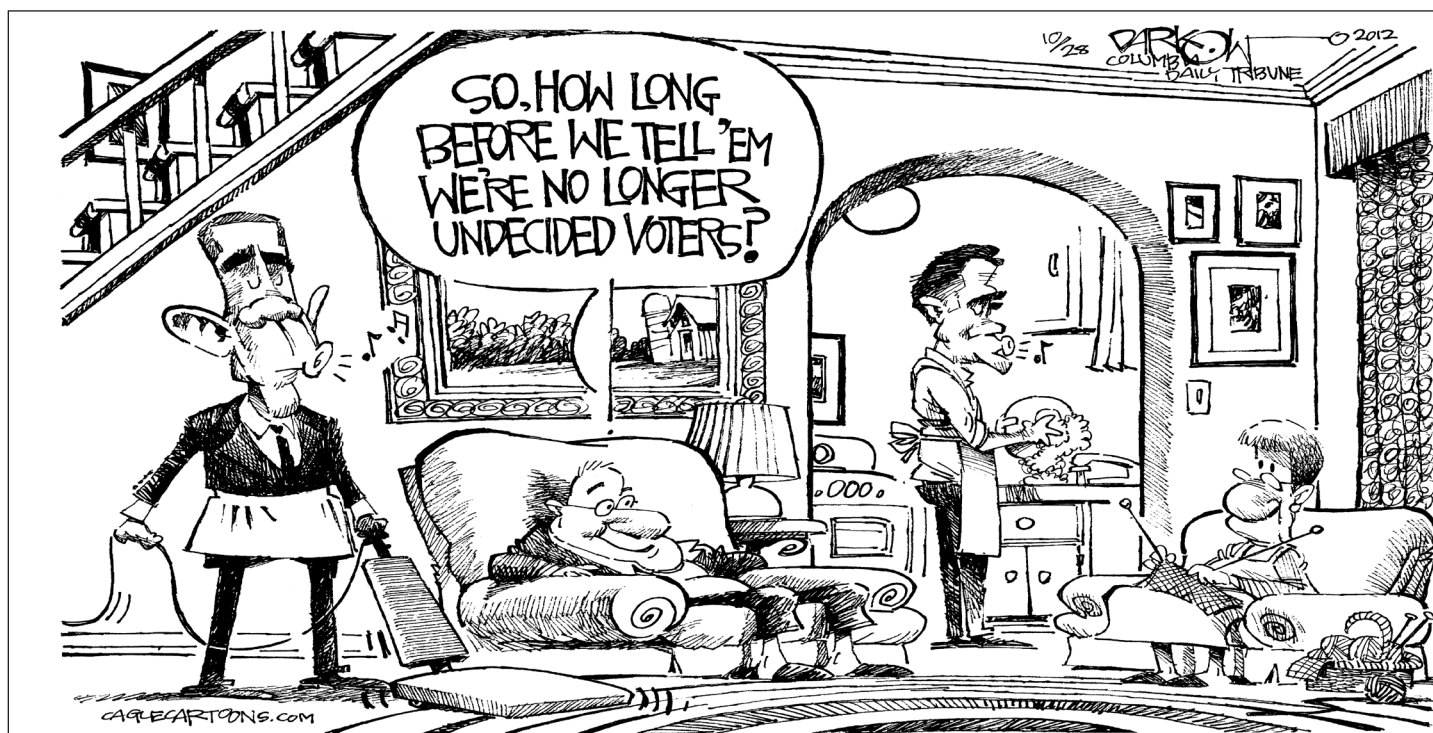
My local races reflect the changing times as well. Both Scott Brown and John Tierney are white males running for re-election in Massachusetts, but their opponents would not have been welcomed in the past. Elizabeth Warren is known for creating controversy by claiming Native American heritage, but nonetheless she would be the first woman to serve in the Senate from my home state. Still, it is Richard Tisei who hit home on the point of diversity. On top of campaigning to become the only Republican representative from Massachusetts, he would also serve as the first openly gay congressman in his Party. He is quick to point out "a lot of members have made it a point to come up to me and tell me that they're very supportive of me because they believe that the party needs to be more diverse."

Whether or not we have reached the end of the road is up for debate, but this election makes it clear the two parties have moved towards the acceptance of minorities.

Brian Kaneb is a junior studying political science. He can be reached at bkaneb1@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

"Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power."

Abraham Lincoln
United States president

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The private Joe Donnelly

Gary Caruso

Capitol Comments

Rarely can the general public routinely observe the personal, up-close behind-the-scenes character of an elected official like United States Representative Joe Donnelly (D-Ind.). However, for nearly 30 years I have been privileged to coach a baseball team of Democratic members of Congress who oppose their fellow Republicans in an annual charity game benefitting the Literacy Foundation and the Boys and Girls Clubs. In 2007, Donnelly joined a long line of participants like President George H. W. Bush, former Democratic presidential candidate Bill Richardson and current Constitutional Party candidate Virgil Goode. Having coached Donnelly throughout his entire six-year tenure in Congress, I got to know the private Joe quite well.

My firsthand observation of Donnelly comes from our frequent 7 a.m. training sessions. Donnelly is grounded, humble and genuine. He could have been called “JD” with some flashy bravado, but that is not who he is at his core. His colleagues always call him “Joe” because Donnelly is cut from the same humble yet dignified cloth as Indiana Senators Richard Lugar and Evan Bayh. He is a consensus builder rather than a bully against his opposition. Countless times I heard him say to his fellow Democrats at our

early-morning baseball practices, “If I vote with the White House on that, I might as well not run for office. I have to stick with my people back home.”

At first glance, Donnelly is low-key, likeable and genuinely authentic — an “ordinary Joe” in every respect. So being the jokester that I am, I ambushed him on his first day of practice with the team by asking, “Why on earth would you wear a Notre Dame t-shirt here?”

In a matter-of-fact way tinged with a touch of pride, he answered, “I graduated from there, actually twice because I went to law school there too.”

Since he had no idea I was a Notre Dame alumnus, I raised my voice while sarcastically replying, “Oh, a so-called ‘Double Domer,’ huh?”

Without missing a beat or showing agitation, he continued, “I got a great education. Wonderful people there. Have you ever been on campus?”

“Four, long, miserably gray and cold winters,” I answered with a huge smile as I approached for a hearty hand-shake and a short conversation about our campus experiences.

Later that week — and every week we practiced during his six years on the team — he asked me to advise him when 7:25 a.m. rolled around so he could call a radio station from a far rural border of his district. Despite teasing from other members about Donnelly skipping half of practice to further his budding disc jockey career, Donnelly religiously crouched under

a tree off the third base line each week to answer questions and offer opinions.

One morning last year, he sat next to me in the dugout to change his spikes when his call-in ended. Without my saying a word, Donnelly offered, “You know, that radio station covers a small but unique area near the edge of my district that has little in common with most of my district. But I feel obligated to represent them as best I can and to explain why I vote certain ways that they may not understand or simply support.”

He continued, “[My congressional colleagues] tease me about hiding under the tree for a radio interview, but I get more positive feedback and respect from my constituents in that area than anyone would realize. In fact, I pull more votes than state-wide Democratic candidates in that area because I’m straight with them, and they respect me for my efforts even when they may not support some of my votes in Congress.”

Donnelly went on to lament about how Republicans refused en-block to even engage across the aisle in the legislative process. His voice straining in disbelief, Donnelly said he saw too many Hoosiers struggling both physically and financially. “We aren’t here to simply fight,” he concluded, “We need to start working together.”

One morning I handed him a news story about Purdue students who, inspired by comedian Stephen

Colbert, created their own Super PAC. Another representative suggested Donnelly create a “Hoosier Daddy” PAC. Rather than jokingly banter back with a locker-room joke, Donnelly blushed as he spoke, “Oh no. That’s not right!”

Overall, the hardworking everyday nice guy he appears to be from afar is actually the man he is in person. This summer he spoke about his current Senate run, noting no Notre Dame alumnus has ever been elected United States Senator. He asked me, “Wouldn’t that be great for the University to finally have a senator?”

He spoke from pride for his university, not his own personal adulation. It conveyed an “ordinary Joe” humility reminiscent of Jimmy Stewart in the movie “Mr. Smith goes to Washington.”

Having coached for decades within the confidences of congressional representatives, I can attest that Donnelly has always been and will continue to be an “everyday Joe.”

Gary Caruso, a 1973 graduate of Notre Dame, serves in the Department of Homeland Security and was a legislative and public affairs director at the U.S. House of Representatives and in President Clinton’s administration. His column appears every other Friday. Contact him at: GaryJCaruso@alumni.nd.edu

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

UWIRE

The climate we ask for

Jennifer Gathright

Harvard Crimson

As Americans, we constantly congratulate ourselves on our spirit of innovation. Yet, we give our government no incentive to be forward thinking about important long-term problems like climate change. President Barack Obama and Gov. Mitt Romney aren’t talking about the environment because we haven’t really asked them to do so.

This contradiction isn’t our fault — democracy just doesn’t always reward anticipation. Politicians are accountable to voters whose main concerns generally include how to feed their families and keep their jobs and houses. And it is this combination of preoccupied voters and cowardly lawmakers that has kept the U.S. from tackling climate change in any sort of comprehensive way.

It’s no surprise that a recent Gallup poll showed 72 percent of Americans thought the economy was today’s most important problem. A mere two percent saw pollution and the environment as the most important problem. Yet, the two problems are undoubtedly connected. MIT economist Henry Jacoby predicts, “People will pay ... [for inaction on climate change] in taxes, energy prices, insurance premiums, disaster relief, food prices, water bills and changes to our environment that are hard to put a price tag on.”

We’re constantly flooded with startling facts about rising ocean levels and shrinking rainforests. To those who pay attention, climate change is clearly imminent, and it’s approaching the brink of irreversibility. Scientists predict a nearly complete lack of wild fish in oceans by 2050. At the beginning of his numerical rundown of the current state of the climate, activist and writer William E. McKibben grimly states, “I can say with some confidence that we’re losing the fight, badly and quickly — losing it because, most of all, we remain in denial about the peril that human civilization is

in.”

Denial isn’t the only reason that the situation is stagnant — for those who are thinking short-term, there is a valid economic argument against cutting emissions. The fossil fuel sector certainly isn’t a small deal, and the world economy is invested in the future of drilling. Construction of the southern part of Keystone XL is already underway.

While economic hurdles block a smooth transition from fossil fuels to cleaner energy, the carbon tax represents a potent economic solution. The Kennedy School’s Joseph Aldy showed his support for the carbon tax in his talk at Harvard Thinks Green 2 last week. A tax on carbon would de-incentivize the purchase of carbon and naturally force investment in alternative energies. It would provide the economic impetus currently lacking from the green movement.

Even conservative economist and policy advisor Greg Mankiw expressed his support of a world carbon tax in a 2007 New York Times op-ed, but he doubted that a carbon tax would make it through Washington. Mankiw wrote, “Republican consultants advise using the word ‘tax’ only if followed immediately by the word ‘cut.’ Democratic consultants recommend the word ‘tax’ be followed by ‘on the rich.’”

It would simply be political suicide for a Republican to support a new tax of any kind, and Democrats are too busy trying to get rid of tax breaks for the rich that suggesting a carbon tax right now might very well be too much. Yet, logical thinking would demand that our lawmakers push aside all of those political fears for the sake of doing something that makes pure and total sense.

China’s Communist Party recently released its new five-year plan, a strategic move that will end up investing \$315 billion in measures for energy efficiency. And because of the one-party system, China can afford to be aggressive in the way it pursues its alternative energy goals. The National Energy Commission has asked each province in China to provide a plan for increased solar energy use by Oct. 15.

China remains the world’s largest coal consumer, but these steps represent a significant effort to reduce emissions. The United States is the world’s largest consumer of oil, but political polarization and corporate influence would block any clean energy initiatives of a similar scale.

So while China’s alternative energy plans charge forward, the U.S. is stuck with little to no political or economic push for sustainability.

This problem is not unique to the U.S., and it’s why very little has been done in the way of large international agreements. Recent climate discussions have all failed miserably — it’s as if every time someone mentions the words Kyoto, Cop10, or Rio+20, the environmental community emits a collective sigh of frustration.

Our markets are so interdependent that changes in energy consumption have global effects, and therefore countries must tackle the issue through a combination of domestic policies and international cooperation. The U.S. could help shape the international debate on climate change, but it chooses not to because U.S. citizens have yet to demand the discussion.

Our government spends billions of dollars each year on defense. We stockpile more weapons than we will ever use. But the prospect of entire countries being submerged under water as a result of large scale flooding is in many ways equally as scary as a nuclear Iran. And just like our founding fathers were worried about the political freedoms of every generation to come, should we not be intensely concerned about the safety and welfare of our future generations? And should we not demand from our representatives that same view?

This column originally ran in the Oct. 24 edition of Harvard Crimson, serving Harvard University.

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

Post-Potter Effort: Vacant of Magic

By **SAM STRYKER**
Assistant Managing Editor

Magic. It's what defined the Harry Potter series, both in the literal and figurative sense. There were the wands, the Quidditch, the dragons and the Horcruxes — that's all magic, to be sure. But what truly captivated the reader's mind was the literary magic author J.K. Rowling conjured up — a richly-textured world, finely detailed environs and most importantly, meticulously developed characters.

Sadly, Rowling's first post-"Potter" effort, "The Casual Vacancy," is, for lack of a better term, casually vacant of any magic. The characters may be well thought out, and the tiny fictional English village of Pagford that the novel takes place in may seem like a terrifyingly real place, but something is missing — literary magic.

A post-"Potter" hangover of sorts may have been expected from Rowling — after all, her series of books is the best-selling of all time, having sold more than 450 million copies worldwide. But at the same time, Rowling is one of the most talented authors of her generation, having enchanted readers of all ages with her Hogwarts tales. Why should she not have succeeded with her first foray into adult novels?

Unfortunately, "The Casual Vacancy" tries too hard to be just that — an adult novel. The premise of the story sounds interesting. A town councilor dies of a brain aneurysm, and the ensuing election for his replacement brings to a roiling boil what had previously been simmering class warfare in Pagford. Along the way, Rowling tosses in every calamity and societal malady available — drug use, suicide, rape, infidelity — like a sickening shopping list of the warts of humanity.

It isn't bad to show the underbelly of society — "Harry Potter" dealt with some pretty mature themes — but the



Author J.K. Rowling with her new book, "The Casual Vacancy," released Sept. 27.

nonstop barrage lacks focus, as if Rowling was looking to check off a list, hitting every one of mankind's woes with no real thought to how they contributed to the overall plot.

Part of the magic is lost in "The Casual Vacancy" when Rowling not only loses focus in trying to portray the dregs of small-town English society, but also when she does not provide a central character that draws in the reader. Imagine if "Harry Potter" only had an ensemble of Seamus Finnigan, Dolores Umbridge, Ollivander and no Harry, Ron or Hermione. No one, not even the die-hard "Potter" fans, would ever enjoy such a tale. I found myself spending more time than I should trying to iron down in my mind all of the characters in "The Casual Vacancy" when I should have been enjoying the book.

Compounding this issue is the fact that the reader simply does not care for the characters in the novel.

Every single character has a signature fault, whether it is pomposity, promiscuity or addiction. Characters certainly should never have to be painted as good or bad in black and white terms. One cannot deny the heroes in "Harry Potter" were flawed — Harry was proud, Hermione was a know-it-all and Ron was, well, Ron — but these flaws were balanced by positive traits. On the other hand, by the time I was able to sort the multitude of characters in "The Casual Vacancy" apart, I was only able to distinguish them by their unpleasant traits, not their names. It is hard to fully enjoy a book when every single one of the characters is so unabashedly dreadful.

I had high hopes for "The Casual Vacancy." I was expecting a black comedy of epic proportions, an exposé of small-town British life. Instead, I received 503 pages of misery. It may be harsh in comparing the book to "Harry Potter" when Rowling should in no way have to match the magic she conjured in the series. After all, I wouldn't want to have to live up to say, my illustrious performance in my high school European history class.

But as an avid "Potter" fan, someone who rereads the seven books every summer and dressed up for multiple midnight movie premieres, I cannot help but be more than a little disappointed with Rowling's effort in "The Casual Vacancy." In a way, I am not so much upset with the book itself as I am with Rowling. If any other author churned this book out, I would say the characters are dreary, but nevertheless the pages kept turning.

But seeing the name "J.K. Rowling" on the cover comes with astronomical expectations. I wasn't expecting magic in the literal sense, but was looking to be charmed by Rowling's pen. Unfortunately, there was no literary magic within the pages of "The Casual Vacancy."

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CAPTURE THE ND SPIRIT

By **KEVIN NOONAN**
Scene Editor

A distinct and unique musical spirit has long been a part of the Irish people and their culture, and certainly music has been central to Notre Dame's own tradition, with its "greatest fight song in all the land" and the oldest collegiate marching band in the United States.

This idea was reflected in Notre Dame's recent \$2 billion "The Spirit of Notre Dame Campaign" with the production and release of a two-part album aimed at capturing the musical identity of the Fighting Irish called "The Spirit of Notre Dame."

The album features two different discs, the first of which is an upbeat, tailgating-minded collection entitled "Celebration." This first part is mostly a fun, fast-paced collection of Celtic and Notre Dame-themed songs.

John Tabis, a 2000 graduate, and Ken O'Malley create the jig-inspiring melody "Irish in the Yard" by altering the lyrics of the commonly known tune, "Whiskey in the Jar" to suit this year's Irish football team.

"What Are You Fighting For?" by Emily Lord, a 1996 graduate, is a moving and uplifting ballad of finding purpose, and "Wearin' of the Green" by the Notre Dame Bagpipe Band is a rousing bagpipe and percussion ballad.

"Here Come the Irish" by John Scully, a 1980 graduate, and Jim Tullio is a song that will be familiar to anyone who's been to a Notre Dame football game, but the

album updates it with an opening introduction from University president emeritus Fr. Ted Hesburgh that, as most things Fr. Hesburgh says, carries a gravity that will give listeners the chills.

"Here Come the Irish" and another song on the



"The Spirit of Notre Dame" album is available at the Hammes Bookstore.

album, "Warrior" by 2007 alumnus Jeffery Stephens and 2005 alumnus Lawrence Santiago was featured on the Jumbotron during Notre Dame's football game against Miami at Soldier Field on Oct. 6.

The second disc, "Reflections," is a more contemplative look into the Notre Dame spirit. "Notre Dame's Prayer to a Guardian Angel" by Roberta Lee Halladay, a 1974 graduate, combines the religious tradition of

Notre Dame with a slow, introspective and peaceful tune.

"With All Your Heart Believe" by 1994 graduate Tim O'Neill, is another touching and emotional song that evokes the seriousness and sentimentality of Notre Dame. "Too Rah Loo Rah Loo Rah" is sung by one of Notre Dame's most famous alumnus, Regis Philbin, a 1953 graduate.

The album, which features a total of 33 songs from a number of alumni from many different generations, was a project spearheaded and produced by Tim and Ryan O'Neill, 1994 and 1997 graduates, respectively.

"It's basically the biggest music compilation project in Notre Dame history," Tim O'Neill said. "I'm thankful that Notre Dame asked my brother and me to produce the project."

The two brothers are a highly successful musical team, having sold more than two million CDs so far in their career, with horizons broadening beyond their alma mater. But Tim O'Neill said their true passion is for Notre Dame.

"What we really love are these Notre Dame songs, and we just really love to get the word out about some of these talented alumni," he said. "It's a Notre Dame family project that's going to sell a lot of music, but more importantly connect a people back with Notre Dame and get them emotional about the place and hopefully the donate their time or money."

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By DAN BROMBACH
Scene Writer

To say Macklemore and Ryan Lewis's new album "The Heist" was a breath of fresh air in today's rap music scene would be somewhat of an understatement. I think more fitting praise would be given to the duo's lyrical and production wizardry combined with their ability to convey a gripping and relevant message through their music. It is this skill that is setting a new standard for the entire industry. The bar has been set high — a bar rappers like Rick Ross can't reach and crooners like Drake can only whine about.

What makes "The Heist" such a fantastic and unique album is its variation between feel-good party tracks and gritty, serious songs that truly inspire reflection. Funny songs like "Thrift Shop," in which Macklemore boasts about how his thrift shop purchases, such as old gator shoes and a used "fur fox skin," make him the best-dressed person at the club, are juxtaposed with songs like "Same Love," a heartfelt endorsement of gay marriage, and "Wings," a critique of rampant consumerism and its consequences.

Macklemore and Ryan Lewis are irreverent yet sincere, vulgar yet also refined, jokers who also inspire. You may not enjoy a particular song off their album, or may disagree with the message it conveys, but the fact remains it came from a place of genuine talent and conviction. I hope the duo continues to make music for years to come, and that you support them by downloading "The Heist."

I'm not afraid to admit I'm a huge fan of Ellie Goulding. Not only do I enjoy her music, and think she has a beautiful and distinctive voice, but I also have a slight to modest to moderate crush on her. Okay, fine, I have a pretty big crush on her, so sue me.

Despite this confession, I was nonetheless slightly disappointed by her latest album "Halcyon." The album certainly has its gems, including "Anything Could Happen," a catchy, techno-inspired song you may recognize from recent headphone commercials. I also enjoy "Figure 8," a track continuing Goulding's long-standing love affair with dubstep. (If you haven't heard the remix of "Lights," look it up, or hang your head and go back to the comfortable rock you likely live under.)

The issue of dubstep brings me to my main critique of the album: Goulding at times sacrifices lyrical depth and creativity by leaning too heavily on slick production. Some tracks are unmemorable and simply not worth more than a single listen. My favorite song, "My Blood," is the only song I believe showcases Goulding's vocal range and ability without overdoing it on the production end of things.

Long story short, I think "Halcyon" didn't truly express the talent and charm that drew me to Ellie Goulding's music in the first place. However, the album is still definitely worth a listen.

Upon first listening to the steaming pile of musical garbage that is Gucci Mane's new album "Trap God," I can honestly say a small part of me died. If Kevin Federline's ill-fated rap album "Playing With Fire" was a punch right to rap music's jaw, Gucci Mane's latest travesty took off the gloves and knocked it to the mat.

All the songs on "Trap God" feature the stale, bass-heavy beat used by seemingly every wannabe, no-talent cookie-cutter rapper. Lyrical creativity or any sort of authentic style is completely absent.

Gucci Mane is content to spend his time rapping about cars, guns and diamonds, occasionally showing flashes of musical genius such as rhyming "up" with "up" four times in a row.

Not confident he could ruin rap music by himself, Gucci Mane assembled a cast of featured artists on the album that could be fairly called the musical equivalent of the 2006 defeated Detroit Lions. I don't know who rapper Little Scooter is, but I strongly urge him to never pick up a microphone again.

In conclusion, "Trap God" is the "Norbit" of rap music. If you think I'm being too harsh, I would encourage you to give the album a listen. Actually, no. I wouldn't wish that fate on any person. Even Gucci Mane.

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WEST COAST, BEST COAST

By MIKO MALABUTE
Scene Writer

As a bit of a disclaimer, I must go out of my way to inform everyone this: being from California, I have a natural inclination toward things West Coast-related — the music, the culture, the In-N-Out and, once again, the music. With that said, I tried to inject little bias into my examination of Kendrick Lamar's major label debut under Interscope Records, "Good Kid, m.A.A.d. City." And despite my bias, I have found only good things about Lamar's debut effort, as he exceeds the expectations that the hype seemingly unfairly placed around him. With superb presentation and extremely captivating substance, he provides a refreshing album, yet still pays homage to the "old-school" style of West Coast hip-hop that consequently gets nods of respect and appreciation from fans all over.

The songs in "Good Kid, m.A.A.d. City" are compiled into a story, which presents the narrative of Lamar who struggles with the decision to either transcend the dangers and temptations of his city Compton, Calif., with his music, or succumb to the daily traps that his friends and everyone else seem to be a perpetual part of. His



"Good Kid, m.A.A.d. City" was released Oct. 22.

music chronicles his time in an environment that veils the opportunities of the rest of the world to its people.

The story opens with the track "Sherane a.k.a. Master Splinter's Daughter," telling the story of Lamar falling into temptation with Sherane, where it is revealed that Lamar was simply deceived and ambushed.

From there comes a total sequence of tragedies fitting for scenes out of the Compton classic movie "Boyz n The Hood," where the story falls like a tumultuous set of dominoes, one folly leading to a disaster leading to a heartbreak. The first-person narration that Lamar provides is truly impressive, never missing a beat in story telling (except for a single curiously placed song "Don't Kill My Vibe," a solid song, but one that really has nothing to do with the overarching story).

Each track provides a different partial ambiance to the overall story of the project, perfectly capturing the mood appropriate to its portion of the narrative in a way that really allows the listener to relate to the song not just for the message being delivered, but also the feel of the song. The feelings evoked by each song are so pure and raw that the strings of the guitar in "Don't Kill My Vibe" pull at some heart strings and the crescendo of Lamar's roars in "Backseat Freestyle" are felt in the chest.

Yet there's also a versatility factor to "Good Kid, m.A.A.d. City" that makes it so beautiful, where the songs can also be standalone songs as well as sequences to the stories.

Obviously, lead singles "The Recipe" (produced by and featuring West Coast legend Dr. Dre) and "Swimming Pools (Drank)" are standouts as individual hits, but other not-so-obvious songs impress. "Don't Kill

My Vibe," "Money Trees" (featuring fellow Top Dawg Entertainment artist Jay Rock), "Poetic Justice" featuring Drake, and "Now or Never" featuring Mary J. Blige are automatic hits.

One can definitely make a case for any song being the standout song, which only speaks to Lamar's ability as a musician and artist, and the effort he puts forth in each song as well as his passion and pride in his work to avoid any filler songs.

The fervent rapping ability combined with insightful material that has come to be known as Lamar's standard of product is alive and well, pure and untouched in his major label debut.

While "Good Kid, m.A.A.d. City" does have its faults, they are far and few in between, as Kendrick Lamar seamlessly flows into his debut in his own style and his own comfort zone. And if my bias shows a little,

feel free to prove me wrong, and purchase the album and try to find a counter-point. You just might appreciate it after all.

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"Good Kid, m.A.A.d. City" Kendrick Lamar

Label: Aftermath

Tracks: "The Recipe,"
"Swimming Pools (Drank),"
"Poetic Justice"



SPORTS AUTHORITY

‘FIFA’ brings soccer popularity



Andrew Gastelum
Associate Sports Writer

A month ago yesterday, the future of soccer in America virtually became a reality. “FIFA 13” sold more than 350,000 copies on its North American release date last month.

And who says Americans don’t like soccer?

What started as yet another reminder of EA Sports’ dominance in the sports gaming industry has turned into a cultural phenomenon, becoming the video game of choice in college dorms across the country.

In a country where it sits far behind just about every other sport, soccer — the real football — is the second most popular sport among 18 to 24 year-old Americans, according to the most recent ESPN Sports Poll. That’s us folks, and what we have done by simply purchasing a copy of the nectar of the gaming gods or taking your friend up on a FIFA challenge is start a revolution that will surely affect the future of the sport.

The FIFA franchise holds an interestingly unique position in the vast American gaming culture. It’s just not like the “Madden,” “NCAA,” “NHL” or “NBA Live” franchises. Rather than further promote a league as an extension of the sport’s success like other sports video games, “FIFA” is where it all starts. If you are a college football fan, chances are you’ll purchase “NCAA Football 13.” But with “FIFA,” it’s the exact opposite effect.

“FIFA” makes soccer fans, not the other way around.

Manchester City fans in the U.S. make the despicable choice of becoming City fans in real life because they handle their roommate’s business on a consistent basis with said squad before class in the morning. Barcelona fans in the U.S. make the annoying run-of-the-mill choice of being Barca fans in real life because a team full of all-stars will flatten any five-star team on the PS3. And Brazil fans, well there are none in the U.S. because no one likes to be that guy who picked Brazil in “FIFA.”

With each new addition of “FIFA,” soccer in America becomes that much more popular among casual sports fans, which in turn raises awareness of the sport and its global superstars. Stars like Lionel Messi, Cristiano Ronaldo, Wayne Rooney and Landon Donovan are becoming household names not just for their accomplishments across the pond, but because of their accomplishments in your living room with your fingertips at the helm.

Whether it’s cursing at the screen for Real Madrid’s Karim Benzema to actually put away a goal for once in his lifetime

— even though you are the one controlling him — or running the hallways following a tiebreaking goal in the 90th minute, it’s an enormous step closer to fruition for the sport and soccer fans in the United States.

And regardless of what critics of the sport may say, that’s what soccer in America needs: fans. The national team talent is there and continues to captivate us, the MLS improves steadily every year and the youth system is considered one of the best in the world. But the fans are last to come, and the “FIFA” franchise has surprisingly acted as the quintessential ambassador for the perfect age group.

The sport craves more American fans for soccer, both domestically and internationally. If you think it is impossible to build a soccer fan base in America, take a peek at Seattle Sounders and Portland Timbers fan videos. It’s entirely possible, and who would’ve thought a video game would be the agent of cause?

Of course, the “FIFA” franchise gets by with a little help from its friends. Advertising this season’s installment of the game is Colts quarterback Andrew Luck, New York Giants receiver Victor Cruz, up-and-coming rap superstar A\$AP Rocky — whose highly anticipated debut album drops on Halloween — and a true soccer aficionado in Snoop Dogg (not Snoop Lion).

They join “FIFA 12” alumni in San Francisco Giants pitcher Tim Lincecum, Lakers point guard Steve Nash and Los Angeles Galaxy forward Landon Donovan. Snoop even made an appearance on the ESPN campus to promote “FIFA 13” on “SportsCenter” and “SportsNation,” among others, all while sporting a customized Spain national team jersey.

If Americans see their favorite athletes and rappers playing “FIFA,” they would want to also, right? Seems fair enough, but the real advertisement has come free-of-charge straight from our dorm rooms.

Whether you see the connection or not, we could be an essential part of the boom of soccer in America simply by choosing to rip some poor soul to shreds with PSG and procrastinating our homework for another hour (I like to justify this by setting the announcers to Spanish, that way I’m learning something and I feel better about my life choices).

So if you would like to take part in the revolution before it becomes the new fad, my email is below. Click the send button at your own peril.

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

ND WOMEN’S GOLF | THE LANDFALL TRADITION

Irish look to finish strong

By ISAAC LORTON
Sports Writer

Coming off a second-place finish at the Susan Maxwell Berning Classic, the No. 19 Irish conclude their fall season at The Landfall Tradition in Wilmington, N.C., against a field stacked with ranked opponents.

“We had our best finish of the fall at [the Susan Maxwell Berning Classic],” Irish coach Susan Holt said. “We had input from everybody, shooting some good scores and our confidence is high. We are ready for [The Landfall Tradition].”

There are six teams ranked ahead of Notre Dame, who will compete this weekend at The Landfall Tradition — No. 4 Arizona, No. 8 Duke, No. 11 North Carolina State, No. 12 Michigan State, No. 14 Purdue and No. 17 Oklahoma State. Right on the heels of Notre Dame is No. 20 Northwestern and No. 24 Texas Tech.

“This will be our hardest

competition yet,” Holt said. “This tournament gives us the opportunity to improve our rankings and pick up some quality head-to-head wins. We will finish off our fall season strong.”

Freshman Lindsey Weaver finished tied for second at the Susan Maxwell Berning Classic with a five-under 67 and is currently the No. 4 ranked player in the country. She has a tournament average of 70.13.

“Lindsey is the best recruit that has ever come into our program as a freshman,” Holt said. “She has a great tournament record. She has done a good job adjusting from high school to college play. To come in as a freshman and perform the way she has, she is capable of having a great collegiate career.”

The unique Nicklaus Golf Course where the tournament will be played is spread over three nine-hole courses. It is familiar to many of the competitors, Holt said.

“It’s a great golf course, very challenging” Holt said. “We are going to have to hit some quality shots, especially off the tee, in order for us

to compete here. Our game is set up well for this course. We hit it well and we hit it long. We should be able to get the ball in the hole sooner and put up some good scores.”

After a grueling fall season in preparation for the spring season, Notre Dame’s lineup is prepared for the loaded field, Holt said. All five of the Irish have shot at least one round under par this season.

“I think we have all done pretty well in the fall,” Holt said. “We have had a challenging fall and have navigated through it extremely well, even when we had to play with four players at Northwestern when [sophomore] Ashley [Armstrong] was hurt.

“It took a lot of depth to do that. We are holding our own. We are on the right track to position ourselves in a great spot for the spring season.”

The Irish compete in Wilmington, N.C., starting today, to close out their fall season in preparation for their spring campaign.

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ND WOMEN’S SWIMMING

Squad travels to Auburn

By VICKY JACOBSEN
Sports Writer

Irish coach Brian Barnes will revisit his former program as the Irish travel to Alabama to take on the Auburn Tigers in a Friday afternoon dual meet.

Barnes, who helped coach both Auburn’s men’s and women’s teams to back-to-back national titles in 2006 and 2007, said that his close ties with the Auburn coaching staff will make the visit more enjoyable and instructive.

“It’s friendly, that’s what’s nice about this meet,” Barnes said. “We’re going down and we’re going to compete against a team that’s well-coached, and we have a relationship with the coaching staff that’s a giving relationship, so one way or the other, we’re both going to learn something, both programs.”

Auburn beat Notre Dame 167-125 at the Rolfs Aquatics Center last season, and Barnes said the Tigers, who finished seventh in last year’s NCAA Championships

and have won five national championships in the past decade, will provide a good challenge for the Irish this time around.

“They’re very reputable. They’re one of the more storied programs in Division-I NCAA history,” Barnes said. “[They’re] a very good program. We’re facing very good competition this weekend.”

That competition includes senior breaststroker Micah Lawrence, who took a redshirt season in 2011-2012 to train for the U.S. Olympics team. She qualified for the London Games in the 200-meter breaststroke, eventually finishing sixth in the finals. She has not lost a breaststroke race so far this fall. Tigers senior multi-eventer Katie Gardocki is undefeated in the 500-meter, 1,000-meter and 1,650-meter freestyle events.

The Irish might not have an Olympian on their squad, but they do have senior backstroke and freestyle specialist Kim Holden. Barnes said Holden has stood out over the past few weeks at the Dennis Stark Relays and in practice.

“Kim Holden’s been very

consistent, very strong, very confident and just hard working,” Barnes said.

Barnes said that he hopes to see that confidence and consistency from all his swimmers Friday.

“I’d like to see improvement from the Dennis Stark Relays two weeks ago,” Barnes said. “As a coach, you always want to see improvement from meet to meet, and I want to see us compete and experience a ranked team and stand with poise and confidence and have a great attitude and compete.”

The Irish will also be sending three divers to Alabama to compete, including senior Jenny Chiang and sophomore Allison Casareto.

“I do have new dives for them,” Irish diving coach Caiming Xie said. “Auburn is a good team, so it will be a tough meet for the beginning of the season.”

The Irish will dive into action at the James E. Martin Aquatics Center at Friday at 4 p.m.

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Henry James once defined life as that predicament which precedes death, and certainly nobody owes you a debt of honor or gratitude for getting him into that predicament. But a child does owe his father a debt, if Dad, having gotten him into this peck of trouble, takes off his coat and buckles down to the job of showing his son how best to crash through it. ~Clarence Budington Kelland

CROSS COUNTRY

Irish enter Big East Championships in New York

By VICKY JACOBSEN
Sports Writer

The Irish begin the championship season Friday as both the men's and women's squads travel to New York with hopes of taking home a Big East title.

The conference championship will be run at Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx, a well-known park that serves as the home course for many New York college teams.

"It's one of the more traditional courses. They've been running cross country there for 100 years," Irish women's coach Tim Connelly said. "So they've run thousands and thousands of college races and high school races there."

Connelly said that the trails through Van Cortlandt Park will take some getting used to for

Notre Dame runners who are more used to racing on grass. The women's team will be running a 6-kilometer course, while the men's race is 8-kilometers.

"There [are] a lot of hills. The first 2,000 meters is pretty flat, and then the rest of the course is kind of up and down," Connelly said. "It's more trails than grass, but the trails are kind of a crushed limestone, so it's pretty good footing. It's a tough course; it's a lot different from what we run on out here. Out here most of the courses are golf courses, so they're pretty much all grass."

And if the hills aren't challenging enough, Notre Dame's Big East opponents will be sure to give the Irish a run for their money. The women's squad is currently ranked 19th nationally, but there are four other women's teams

from the conference ranked in the top 30.

"I think there are six really good teams in the Big East," Connelly said. "[No. 9] Georgetown is the defending NCAA champion, [No. 22] Villanova is the defending Big East champion, [No. 10] Providence is ranked in the top-10 in the country, Connecticut is really good, Syracuse is really good, so it's going to be a really, really competitive meet."

"Our goal, obviously, is to go in there and run really well and take our shot at trying to win, but if we don't, oh well, we could be sixth. It's that competitive. The Big East is definitely one of the better conferences and women's cross country is one of the Big East's better sports, so it's definitely competitive."

The men's team is in a similar



JOHN NING | The Observer

Irish senior Jeremy Rae runs at the front of the pack during the National Catholic Championship in Notre Dame, Ind., on Sept. 14.

position. Although the Irish fell out of the top-30 when the last rankings were released, they will also have to contend with ranked Villanova and Georgetown squads, although they did finish ahead of Providence at the

Wisconsin Adidas Invitational two weeks ago.

Both the men's and women's teams brought nine runners to New York. Seniors J.P. Malette, Jeff MacMillan, Jeremy Rae and Johnathan Shawel, juniors Martin Grady, Patrick Lesiewicz, Walter Schafer and DJ Thornton, and sophomore Jake Kildoo made the trip for the men's team, while seniors Rebecca Tracy and Jessica Rydberg, juniors Alexa Aragon, Kelly Curran and Meg Ryan, sophomores Hannah Eckstein and Gabby Gonzales, and freshmen Danielle Aragon and Molly Seidel will represent the women's team.

Although Connelly has two freshmen in his lineup, he said he is not concerned about how they will handle the pressure of running for a conference championship.

"To be honest I think a race like this, especially for the younger runners, is probably more of what they're used to than a race like we ran two weeks ago at Wisconsin," Connelly said. "Two weeks ago, there were 48 teams in the field, so they'd never experienced anything like this."

"And here there will be 15 teams, so you have a pretty good idea of who you're racing against and which teams you're trying to beat, while there you're just going out and running and you're not really sure where you're at."

Connelly said that he would like to see the best race of the season from each of his runners on Friday, and then have them top that performance at regionals and nationals in the next few weeks.

"We're getting close [to our peak]," Connelly said. "We just started to add some real intense work like track work and faster stuff. This is kind of our first step in our goals for the season. We're taking nine athletes and all nine of them are healthy and really fit, so I would hope they're ready to run their best race of the year, and obviously that's what it's going to take for us to be competitive there."

The race for the Big East men's and women's titles will take place in Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx on Friday. The women's race goes off at 11 a.m., and the men follow at 11:50 a.m.

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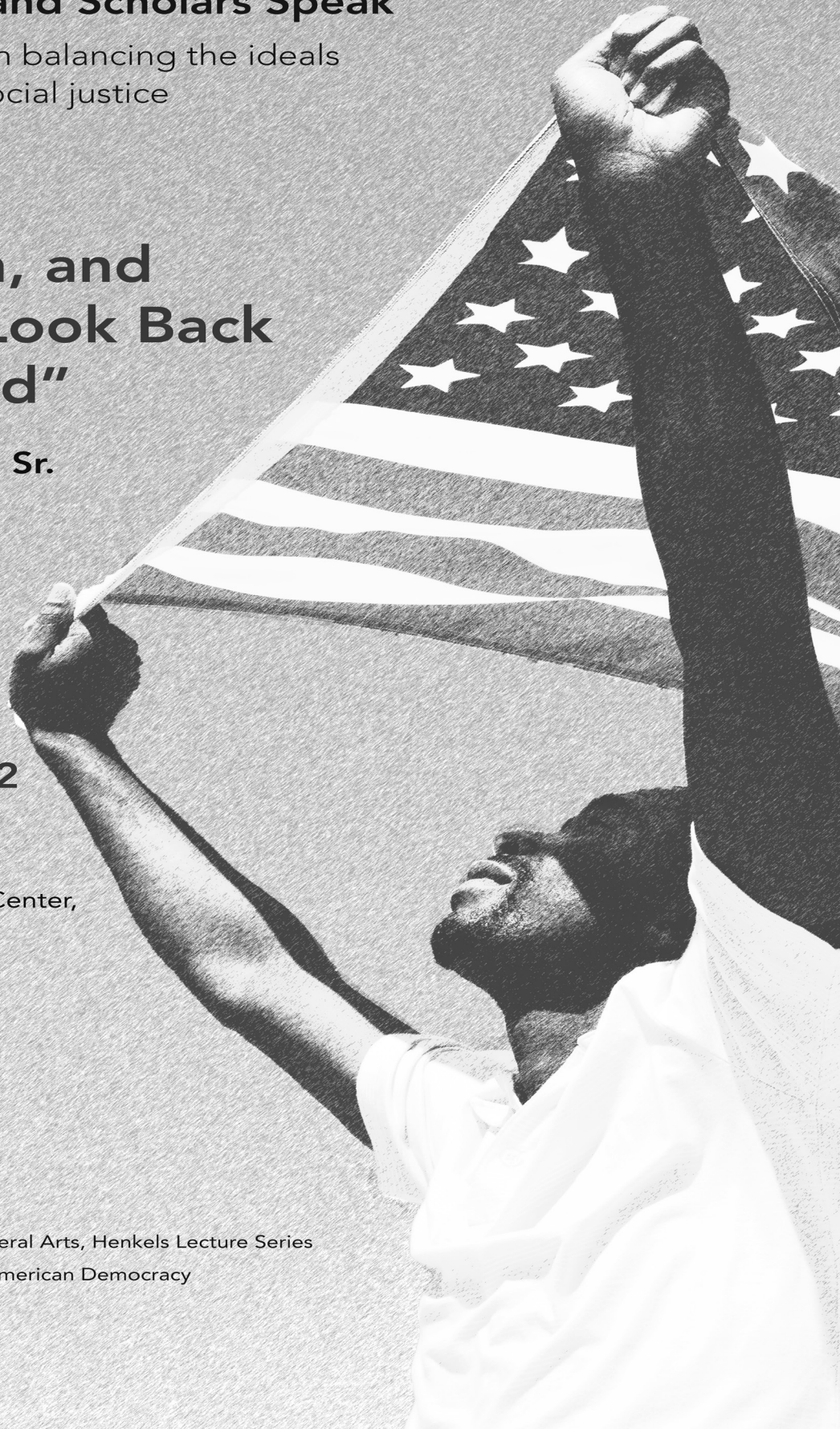
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ND VOLLEYBALL

Big East foes to test Irish win streak

By **JOE WIRTH**
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will put its six-game winning streak on the line this weekend as it hosts Pittsburgh and South Florida in Big East action.

This streak has vaulted the Irish (15-6, 8-1 Big East) into a tie for second place in the Big East with Marquette (18-4, 8-1), just a half-game behind conference leader Louisville (20-3, 9-1).

Irish coach Debbie Brown said the team's good play has been a byproduct of working together and putting together quality team efforts.

"I have been very pleased with our play," Brown said. "It is not like there has been one girl carrying the team — it has been a collective effort from all of the players."

The Irish have lost only one set during this stretch, and Brown said the team's improved defense has been the main reason for their recent success.

"It has been a team effort all the way around and we have been able to get a lot of girls involved," Brown said. "The key has been our steady defense and our ability to transition and turn that good defense into scoring opportunities."

Both Pittsburgh (13-11, 4-6) and USF (13-10, 5-5) have strong

offenses and will test the Irish defensively. The Panthers boast two of the best kill specialists in the Big East in sophomore Jessica Wynn and senior Alexa Campbell. Wynn leads the team with a total of 181 kills with a 2.55 kills-per-set ratio and Campbell is second on the team with 173 kills.

"Pitt really packs the middle on offense," Brown said. "They are one of the better offensive teams in the conference. They have a lot of hitters with live arms and just have a lot of offensive firepower."

The Bulls are coming off a win against St. John's on Sunday and also will provide a stern test for the Irish. The Bulls have a balanced offense, but they beat the Red Storm with their defense, limiting St. John's to a .190 hitting percentage.

The Bulls are led by one of the best freshman in the Big East in Erin Fairs. She is second on the Bulls with 224 kills and leads the team with a 2.70 kills-per-set ratio.

The Irish will take on Pittsburgh at 7 p.m. Friday at the Joyce Center Field House. Notre Dame will then wrap up weekend play with its game against South Florida at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Purcell Pavilion.

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FENCING

Buckeyes to challenge squad

By **PETER STEINER**
Sports Writer

After winning multiple national titles in recent years the Irish now have a championship-caliber facility in which to train and compete.

Notre Dame will show off its new home — the Castellan Family Fencing Center — on Saturday during the Notre Dame Elite Invitational against Ohio State.

Facing the defending national-champion Buckeyes, the Irish will square off against some of the best fencers in the nation to begin their fall season.

"We received the challenge from Ohio State, who is the current NCAA national champion," Irish coach Janusz Bednarski said. "We won a gold medal two years ago so champions will face off against each other at the beginning of the season."

The Irish will compete in their new facilities for the very first time this weekend, as the Castellan Family Fencing Center was dedicated last Saturday. A gift from Patrick and Concetta Castellan, whose sons Matthew and Christopher both fenced at Notre Dame, the center includes a team room and a conference room, new offices, locker rooms and an armory.

"The new facility is a great place to organize matches

because it is a bigger space and in addition, we have a full-size equipment room," Bednarski said. "Our kids also have comfort in a team room and places like new locker rooms ... It's a great place to be."

The tournament this weekend will consist of men's and women's team matches, in addition to men's and women's individual tournaments. While the team matches will be strictly between Notre Dame and Ohio State, the individual tournament includes fencers from all over the Midwest.

"[The individual competition is] a small tournament which is open to Midwest fencers, plus, of course, Ohio State fencers, who are very strong," Bednarski said. "Altogether, about 75 fencers will be competing on the day so it will be interesting."

Of all the Notre Dame fencers, Bednarski believes the returning Olympians — junior Courtney Hurley, senior Gerek Meinhardt and freshman Lee Kiefer — will perform the best this Saturday. Along with a many other Notre Dame fencers, these three competitors also competed in the North American Cup in St. Louis last weekend.

"I believe that our Olympians who return will be a strong part of our team," Bednarski said. "The Olympics games ended in

the late August and September did not include much fencing [for them]. So I understand that they are without form, but they are so good that even without special preparation, they should be a strong part of our team."

Because Ohio State confirmed it would compete in the Notre Dame Invitational only one week ago, Notre Dame had little time to prepare and advertise this event. Despite the abbreviated preparation period, Bednarski hopes a large contingent of fans will come out to see the high-level of competition and new facility.

"I would like to have a full audience," Bednarski said. "It's open, free and before the [Notre Dame vs.] Oklahoma [football] game, which starts at 8 p.m. So I believe that we will have a couple of hundred people."

The all-day event in the Castellan Family Fencing Center will begin at 8 a.m. with men's individual tournament, followed by the Notre Dame men's team match against Ohio State at 12:30 p.m. The invitational will then transition to the women's individual tournament at 1:45 p.m., before it ends with the Irish women's team match versus the Buckeyes at 5:30 p.m.

Contact Peter Steiner at psteiner@nd.edu

SMC SOCCER | HOPE 2, SMC 0

Belles fall after weather delay

By **MIKE MONACO**
Sports Writer

After a weather delay of more than 90 minutes, the Belles suffered a 2-0 loss to Hope on Thursday night in a pivotal conference contest.

The Flying Dutch (12-4-2, 9-3-2 MIAA) found the back of the net twice in a span of less than two minutes in the first half. Senior midfielder Tricia Bajema scored unassisted at the 34:12 mark and junior forward Raisa Yewah headed another goal 100 seconds later.

"We're definitely upset about this," Belles sophomore goalie Chanler Rosenbaum said. "It's always fun winning and this was a big game for us and we knew we could have won so it's definitely disappointing."

Ten minutes into the second half, the game was suspended due to lightning. When play eventually resumed, the Belles could not mount a comeback.

"[The delay was] definitely [tough]," Rosenbaum said. "We would have rather played it out in full ... We came out with the same intensity after the delay and we knew what we had to do but it

didn't go in our favor."

The Belles (11-5-2, 8-5-1) entered the game one point behind a trio of teams tied for the fourth and final playoff spot in the conference. With the loss, Saint Mary's fell to sixth place. The Belles, however, are just three points behind fourth-place Adrian with two games remaining.

Saint Mary's will look to get a vital conference victory when it squares off with Trine on Saturday. The Thunder (1-14-3, 0-12-2) are riding a 17-game winless streak, but Rosenbaum said the Belles will not look past any team.

"Records, standings, statistics don't matter when you go into the game," Rosenbaum said. "We can't go in thinking of those things ... They might not have the best record but you never know what can happen."

Saint Mary's defeated Trine 4-0 on Oct. 3. The Belles outshot the Thunder 16-4, including an 8-3 advantage on goal. The Belles also took a season-high nine corner kicks in the romp.

Saint Mary's and Trine square off Saturday at noon in Angola, Ind.

Contact Mike Monaco at jmonaco@nd.edu

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Toner

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

game,” Toner said.

Though the game does not have playoff implications, Scheper said the Ducks are treating this game as if it were their first.

“I don’t really know much about Breen-Phillips, but we definitely won’t take them lightly,” Scheper said.

The Ducks and Babes will look to shake off their losing records this year and focus on getting a win when the two teams meet Sunday at 6 p.m. at LaBar Fields.

Contact Kyle Foley at kfoley2@nd.edu

Badin vs. Cavanaugh

By MEG HANDELMAN
Sports Writer

Badin and Cavanaugh will go head-to-head to compete for one last regular season win when the two teams meet Sunday.

Badin (2-3) senior captain Tommasina Domel said she plans to utilize her team’s strong defensive line in its game plan against Cavanaugh (4-1). Domel said she is confident the Bullfrogs’ defense has the skills necessary to pull off the team’s third win of the season.

“Our defense is consistently strong, and we will

continue to rely on them,” Domel said. “We are a defense-centered team.”

Still, Domel said she is confident the offense, led by fifth-year senior Carli Fernandez at quarterback, can contribute strongly this Sunday.

“We have been practicing and working on our offense in preparation for our game, and will continue to do so going forward into playoff season,” Domel said.

Chaos senior captain Rosemary Kelly said she hopes to maintain focus during practice and work to keep the players upbeat and enthusiastic as the team takes its final step toward the playoffs. Success for Cavanaugh begins up front, she said.

“Our defensive lines have been consistently dependable and explosive this season,” Kelly said.

Kelly said senior Kelly Brakora and sophomore Caroline Gerstle have been forces on Cavanaugh’s offensive line. Additionally, Kelly said she has been impressed by the efforts of junior Julie Cleveland and senior Christina Buchanan on the defensive side..

“I’m intimidated by them during every practice,” Kelly said.

Kelly not only credits the hard work of her team, but also the efforts of dedicated coaches who have helped the team garner its impressive record this season.

“To secure a championship, you have to make it there,” she said. “Now is the time to win it all.”

The Bullfrogs and the Chaos will close out the regular season Sunday at 5 p.m. at LaBar Fields.

Contact Meg Handelman at mhandelm@nd.edu



EMILY KRUSE | The Observer

Knott freshman running back Casey McCaffrey carries the ball during the Juggerknotts’ 10-7 loss to Alumni on Sept. 30. Knott enters Sunday’s game against Duncan with playoff seeding implications on the line.

Keough

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

14-8 on Oct. 7 with an interception on the final drive to seal the game.

Junior quarterback Michael Fischer leads the offense while freshman defensive back Mitch Patin, who had the game-clinching interception last game, steadies the defense.

Keough sophomore captain Charlie Magiera said the Kangaroos were restricted by the weather against the Mob,

win.

“We’re just looking to play the best game we have so far,” Highlander sophomore center Alan Keck said. “In previous games we’ve made some mistakes, but we’re hoping to move forward.”

Keck said the Highlanders, who last played Sept. 23, are not fazed by their time off but are well rested and focused on the task at hand.

Offensively, Keck said sophomore quarterbacks Matt Garcia and Pete McGinley have anchored the team in

Sorin vs. St. Edward’s

By A.J. GODEAUX
Sports Writer

With the regular season winding down, Sorin and St. Edward’s will square off in the regular season finale Sunday.

The Otters (3-0) come into the game undefeated and looking like the best team in the Gold Division after a convincing 20-7 victory Sept. 30 against Carroll. The Gentlemen (1-2), meanwhile, are coming off a solid victory of their own, a 7-0 shutout against the Zahmbies on Oct. 7.

Sunday’s matchup has playoff implications for both sides. For the Gentlemen, a win would give them a shot at a wild card berth. St. Edward’s, however, will have to go up against a vaunted Otter defense.

“We’ve only scored one touchdown and they’ve only given up one,” St. Edward’s junior quarterback and captain Paul Rodriguez said. “So we’ve got to get off to a fast start offensively or we won’t be making the playoffs.”

Sorin has already clinched a playoff berth, but freshman running back John Pearl made it clear that the team was not content.

“We don’t just want to be in the playoffs, we want to be in the best position possible, and this game will offer us a chance to do just that,” Pearl said. “As long as our defense plays the way it has, I don’t see a reason why we can’t win the division.”

The Otters, however, will be playing without one of their best players, senior quarterback Ted Spinelli, who left the Carroll game with a concussion. Sorin will count on senior running back Chris Champlin, who scored two touchdowns against the Vermin, to carry the offense in Spinelli’s stead.

The Otters and Gentlemen face off at 2:15 p.m. Sunday at Riehle Fields.

Contact A.J. Godeaux at agodeaux@nd.edu

“We’re just looking to play the best game we have so far. ... In previous games we’ve made some mistakes, but we’re hoping to move forward.”

Alan Keck
Duncan sophomore center

and he expects a better performance Sunday.

“The weather was definitely against us last game,” Magiera said. “We couldn’t open up with the pass, and we need to be more effective on the run against a great team.”

Keough faces Keenan on Sunday at 3:30 p.m. at Riehle Fields in a marquee matchup.

Contact Rich Hidy at rhidy@nd.edu

Duncan vs. Knott

By ALEX STEMBAUGH
Sports Writer

Duncan and Knott are set to square off Sunday in their final regular season game and their first action after a long layoff.

The Juggerknotts (2-1) are looking for a final win to put them in position for a share of the division title and a post-season berth.

Duncan (0-3), however, is hoping to end the season on a high note by earning its first

sharing snaps under center, but utilizing the speed of their running backs and receivers will provide the key to victory.

On the other side of the ball, Knott knows the stakes are high and is looking to come out strong. Senior captain Joe Beglane said the Juggerknotts hope the success of their last game, a 10-0 win over Morrissey, carries over to Sunday.

“We played good defense and didn’t give up any points [against the Manor],” Beglane said.

Beglane said he hopes to pick up more passing yards Sunday, but he also feels confident in the running ability of freshman fullback Casey McCaffrey, who had over 100 yards rushing against Morrissey.

Duncan and Knott kick off at 2:15 p.m. Sunday at Riehle Fields.

Contact Alex Stambaugh at astembau@nd.edu

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WOMENS INTERHALL

Wildcats face Pyros in regular season finale

Pangborn takes on Lewis, Farley looks for win against McGlinn, Howard and Breen Phillips face off

By **KIT LOUGHRAN**
Sports Writer

Ryan will put its playoff hopes on the line when it faces Pasquerilla East on Sunday.

The Wildcats (3-2) hope the momentum from their last game, a 20-6 victory over the Chicks on Oct. 7, carries over into their matchup against the Pyros (1-3-1).

"We are looking to use this game to prepare for the playoffs and ensure our playoff position," Ryan senior captain and quarterback Maya Pillai said.

The Wildcats have seen steady progression on defense throughout the season, as they have consistently shut down their opponents.

Ryan's offensive strategy has developed alongside its defensive strategy, which has created a balanced team dynamic and improved execution all-around, Pillai said.

"Our team has a well-balanced attack on running and passing, and we want to limit big yardage gains," Pillai said.

Though they are not playoff eligible, the Pyros continue to practice hard and will be ready to play Sunday, senior captain and cornerback Anna Perino said.

"We have been working on stepping up our defense and stringing together effective plays to score touchdowns," Perino said.

The Pyros have seen improvement on both sides of the ball this season. The Pasquerilla East offense and defense combined to secure the team's first victory, a 22-7 win over Farley on Oct. 7.

"We had a rocky start," Perino said. "We have definitely solidified as the season has progressed."

The Wildcats and Pyros will battle Sunday at 4 p.m. at LaBar Fields.

Contact Kit Loughran at kloughr1@nd.edu

Pasquerilla West vs. Lyons

By **D.H. KIM**
Sports Writer

Pasquerilla West will look to finish the regular season undefeated when it faces Lyons on Sunday.

The Purple Weasels (5-0) have found success by keeping a solid balance on both sides of the ball. Pasquerilla West has also received strong contributions from senior captain and defensive end Meghan Schmitt and senior wide receiver Kirsten Danna. Sophomore quarterback Lauren Vidal, a first-year starter, has been a key element to Pasquerilla West's victories over several formidable teams, including Cavanaugh and McGlinn, Schmitt said.

"[Vidal] has obviously done a lot, but we don't want to be too excited," she said. "We want to keep our head in the remaining game against Lyons and the playoffs."

Lyons (1-4) has struggled during the season, as the team is currently in the midst of a three-game losing streak. The Lyonites were shut out in their most recent game, a 13-0 loss to Walsh, on Oct. 8. Junior captain and cornerback Christina Bramanti, a key contributor to the Lyonites' defense, said the team is still in rebuilding mode and has many young players.

"We just need to be more united as a team, and that's been hard with so many new faces on the team," Bramanti said.

The Purple Weasels will look to head into the playoffs undefeated, while Lyons will look to play the role of spoiler when the two teams meet Sunday at 6 p.m. at LaBar Fields.

Contact D.H. Kim at dkim16@nd.edu

Pangborn vs. Lewis

By **SAMANTHA ZUBA**
Sports Writer

Pangborn and Lewis will look to punctuate their respective seasons with a win when they meet Sunday in the last regular season game for both sides.

For the Phoxes (4-1) the game is a final tune-up before the playoffs. Pangborn has not played since Oct. 1, but senior captain Colleen Bailey said the Phoxes have stayed focused on their ultimate objective of playing for the championship in Notre Dame Stadium.

"Coming off a break is hard," Bailey said. "The end goal is playing in the Stadium, so we're going to use that to keep people focused and motivated."

Although the Phoxes have already clinched a playoff spot, Bailey said Sunday's game is important for her team.

"We want to have a strong victory that will make us a team to fear coming into the playoffs," Bailey said.

Lewis (1-3-1) cannot make the playoffs, but senior captain Connaught Blood said the Chicks will play hard Sunday.

"In our last game, we want to end the season on a high note and have a lot of fun," Blood said. "We're going to take everything we've come so close to doing in all the other games and put it together."

Blood said Lewis could make a statement next year, as the team has gained some critical experience from this season.

"I know our running back [junior Colleen Haller] is looking for all the really great freshmen athletes to come back and use what they've learned this year," Blood



KIRBY MCKENNA | The Observer

Ryan senior quarterback Maya Pillai carries the ball for the Wildcats during Ryan's 26-6 win over Farley on Sept. 17. Pillai and the Wildcats conclude their regular season against Pasquerilla East on Sunday.

said.

The Phoxes and Chicks close out their regular seasons when they meet Sunday at 4 p.m. at LaBar Fields.

Contact Samantha Zuba at szuba@nd.edu

Farley vs. McGlinn

By **LESLEY STEVENSON**
Sports Writer

In its last chance for a victory this season Farley will look to top a playoff-bound McGlinn squad when the two teams meet Sunday.

Both teams head into the matchup with their respective postseason futures secured. The Finest (0-4) know this is their last game of the season, while the Shamrocks (4-1) clinched a playoff spot with a 14-6 victory over Welsh Family on Oct. 7.

Nevertheless, Farley senior captain Jonelle Shudick expressed pride for the young Farley group, which includes only three seniors.

"Most of the time, we outplay the other team, but it'll be a long touchdown they get or something like that that'll tip the scales," Shudick said. "We've outplayed people, and we've done really well for having such a young team."

Shudick said the Finest will be motivated to win Sunday not just to capture their first victory.

"We know the coaches on the other team, so we really want to beat them," she said.

McGlinn takes Farley's threat seriously, senior captain Emily Golden said.

"We know that they're probably going to do everything that they can to get one win before the season is over," she said. "We're expecting them to come out with their A-game."

The Shamrocks' only loss this season came against Pangborn, but Golden said McGlinn's two wins after that defeat, especially the team's victory over Welsh Family, have helped the team

gain momentum for the upcoming playoffs.

"We're very confident," she said. "We believe that we can beat anybody that we play."

McGlinn and Farley will try to cap off their respective regular seasons with a win when the teams meet Sunday at 5 p.m. at LaBar Fields.

Contact Lesley Stevenson at lsteven1@nd.edu

Howard vs. Breen-Phillips

By **KYLE FOLEY**
Sports Writer

Sunday's contest between Howard and Breen-Phillips may not have playoff implications but both teams will take the field fighting for pride. With each team having recorded one win this season, both the Ducks (1-5) and the Babes (1-4) will look to go out with a victory.

Coming off fall break, the

Ducks will look to hit the pond swimming and have a strong showing in their final game.

"I think we'll have a little bit of a bounce in our step after break," Howard graduate student coach Dan Scheper said, "It's been a little tough this season, but we want to cap it off strong with a victory."

The Ducks will square off against a Babes team that put up a hearty fight against Pasquerilla West and intends to show the same intensity against Howard.

"In our game against Pasquerilla West, which is arguably the best team, we played well," junior captain Molly Toner said, "We are trying to build on that game."

Toner said Breen-Phillips is ready to pull all the cards in order to assure a victory,

"We have been working [on] making big plays late in the

see TONER **PAGE 15**

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MEN'S INTERHALL

Fisher and Carroll battle for playoff berth

Alumni aims for win against Morrissey, winless O'Neill faces Dillon, unbeaten Keenan takes on Keough

By **ALEX WILCOX**
Sports Writer

Do or die. Win and in. For Fisher and Carroll, an entire season of practice and preparation will come down to one 48-minute contest when the Vermin (2-1) and Green Wave (2-1) battle Sunday with a playoff spot on the line.

Technically, the playoffs don't start until next week. But Carroll junior captain Tommy Spoonmore isn't looking that far.

"[Sunday] is win or go home," Spoonmore said. "We're both 2-1, both fighting for second place in our division. We're playing this game like it is a playoff game."

The Vermin have put themselves in the playoff hunt largely through the play of their defense, which has yet to allow a passing touchdown.

"We have a great defensive line," Spoonmore said. "We're able to stop the run and also the pass because our secondary is very good. The only way guys are able to attack our defense is by running outside the tackles because we're not giving up anything through the air."

Despite the suffocating play of Carroll's defense, Spoonmore knows defeating Fisher will not be an easy task.

"They have a pretty good quarterback and have always

Sunday.

"Our starting running back isn't going to be there, so, offensively, we're going to have to throw the ball a little more and open up the passing game," Spoonmore said. "Defensively we're also missing a few guys so [junior cornerback] Steve Hannon is going to have to step up and fill in some spots. [Neither situation] is ideal but it's what we have to do."

For Fisher, however, the problem may be more dire.

"Unfortunately, we may not have enough people at campus to play the game on Sunday," Fisher senior captain Matt Hart said.

If the two sides can field teams, Fisher and Carroll will battle for a playoff spot Sunday at 1 p.m. at Riehle Fields.

Contact Alex Wilcox at
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Alumni vs. Morrissey

By **MARY GREEN**
Sports Writer

With one game left the in regular season, Alumni faces a critical contest against Morrissey on Sunday that will determine its playoff status.

The Dawgs (2-1) will likely make the postseason with a victory but could be eliminated from contention if they lose to the Manor (1-2), junior



STEPHANIE LEUNG | The Observer

Keenan senior Tyler Gregory, left, assists on a tackle during the Knights' 13-0 win over rival Stanford on Oct. 17. The Knights will take on Keough on Sunday, with both teams entering the game undefeated.

juniors, quarterback Will Cronin and running back Kevin Rolfs, to carry the load on offense. The Dawgs will also be looking for a physical defensive effort to keep Morrissey off the board.

"In our division, it comes down to being physical, so we want to do that to win and make the playoffs," O'Sullivan said.

The Manor face a different task in this matchup. Though his team's playoff chances are slim, senior captain Taylor Stein still wants Morrissey to claim a win to close out the season.

The Manor will turn to sophomore linebacker Zac Plantz and freshman linebacker and running back Erik Rayno to lead the charge. Stein said Morrissey would depend on Rayno to have an impact on both sides of the ball.

"He's ready to make some plays and run over Alumni defenders in the backfield," Stein said. "We're looking for him to have a good game and put up some good numbers."

Meanwhile, Plantz concocted new schemes over fall break to revive Morrissey's playbook, and Stein said he hopes the new plays will pay off.

"We've got nothing to lose at this point, so why not give it everything?" Stein said. "We'll see what [Plantz] has got."

The Manor and the Dawgs will square off in the regular season finale Sunday at 1 p.m. at Riehle Fields.

Contact Mary Green at
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O'Neill vs. Dillon

By **GREG HADLEY**
Sports Writer

Dillon's last-ditch effort to make the playoffs will be put to the test Sunday, when the Big Red (1-2) square off against O'Neill.

The Big Red have struggled to this point but still have a chance to make the playoffs, provided they win and get some help from other teams. Junior captain and quarterback Kevin Fink, who is returning from an injury, said his team has a chance to make the playoffs if they can stay focused and play smart.

"We need to play physical and limit our mistakes," Fink said. "That means cutting down on penalties and turnovers."

In addition, Fink said he believes defense will play a key role.

"O'Neill has a good offense and we're going to have to step it up," Fink said. "Senior linebacker Ben Ferry will be key for our defense."

O'Neill (0-3), on the other hand, will have to be content to play the role of spoiler. According to junior captain Eric Reed, the Mob certainly have no intention of laying down and are looking to win and improve for next year.

"We want to have a good end to the season," Reed said. "Even though next season is far away, we'd like to build some momentum."

Still, if the Mob are to upset Dillon, Reed said defense will be vital.

"We need to step up on defense and stop the run," Reed said.

Specifically, Reed said the linebacking corps, led by junior

Calvin Hemington, will be crucial to this effort.

O'Neill and Dillon will face off Sunday at Riehle Fields at Stepan at 3:30 p.m.

Contact Greg Hadley at
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Keenan vs. Keough

By **RICH HIDY**
Sports Writer

In a battle of unbeaten squads, Keenan faces Keough on Sunday with a division championship on the line.

The Knights (3-0) are coming off a low-scoring victory in sloppy conditions as they shut out Stanford 13-0 on Oct. 7.

"Last game we didn't get to run everything we had planned on offense because of the field, so we just have to execute and get back in the swing of things," Keenan senior quarterback Andrew McDonough said.

Keenan is looking to find extra motivation with the stakes so high against Keough.

"This game is huge for us," McDonough said. "We are both playing for the first seed and we expect them to come out and play well. We have a chance to make a statement after [fall] break."

Keenan will be relying on two talented upperclassmen at receiver in junior Jeremy Riche and senior Alex Green. McDonough said the Knights will look to spread the field on offense in the matchup.

"Both Green and Riche have to step up and have big games for us, and if so, we should be able to take care of business," McDonough said.

Keough (3-0) defeated O'Neill

see KEOUGH **PAGE 15**

"[Sunday] is win or go home. ... We're both 2-1, both fighting for second place in our division. We're playing this game like it is a playoff game."

Tommy Spoonmore
Carroll junior quarterback

been able to run the ball effectively against us," Spoonmore said. "Our main objective is to stop the run. If we can do that, we feel we can dictate the game."

Absences will factor in the game as well, as both teams anticipate small squads come

captain and left tackle Tom O'Sullivan said.

"We're fairly certain that if we win, we're in," O'Sullivan said. "But this is definitely a big game for us."

Alumni, which made it to the semifinals last season, will rely on two veteran

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MEN'S SWIMMING

Irish to face Oakland, MSU

By **NICK BOYLE**
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will be busy this weekend, traveling to Oakland (Mich.) on Friday night before performing a quick turnaround with a trip to Michigan State on Saturday.

Irish coach Tim Welsh said the Irish will try to start the season off strong Friday with their season's first duel meet.

"It's our first chance for us to see this team in action," Welsh said. "We had a relay meet a couple weeks ago, but this is our first formal two-team competition. We're looking to get off to a great start and are very optimistic."

The Irish have already competed against Oakland this season when the two teams faced off at the Dennis Stark Relays in South Bend. The relays consisted of 10 races in which the Irish won five and Oakland won five. Welsh said he expects the meet Friday to be just as competitive.

"The two relays at the beginning and end of the meet will be huge for us," Welsh said. "Diving will also be quite important for us. Our divers did well compared to Oakland at the Relays,

and we're hoping that they can have a repeat performance."

The Irish will not have much time to rest after Friday, having to travel immediately to Michigan State to take on the Spartans the next day.

"Michigan State has been a competitive team in recent years," Welsh said. "They have a solid returning team of swimmers and divers. It's going to be a tough meet with the meet the night before."

Having started training in August, the Irish have been anxiously waiting for these first duel meets of the season, Welsh said. Friday and Saturday's meets will allow the Irish to show the work they have done in preparation.

"We have been training together for a couple months now," Welsh said. "Everyone is eager to get into our competition phase of the season."

The Irish will look to three returning swimmers and divers for leadership over the weekend. Returning sophomore diver and Big East Champion Nick Nemetz, senior Big East Swimmer of the Year Bill Bass and junior All-American freestyle swimmer Frank Dyer should prove to play

a critical role in the Irish's success this season.

"We have three returning team members in Nemetz, Bass and Dyer who were outstanding for us last year," Welsh said. "They have great experience of having done it, and we have strong leadership in them. We are also looking for people to emerge as leaders and competitors for us, and find out what our character will be when we are tested."

Welsh said he believes his team can use the meets to get the season off to a strong start.

"[The meets are] going to depend on how everyone lines up," Welsh said. "We think our swimming is very balanced and deep and our diving is strong. Both meets will be a big test for us to see where we are, but I am optimistic we will start the season strong."

The Irish will travel to Rochester, Mich., to face Oakland at 6 p.m. before heading to Michigan State for a noon meet Saturday in East Lansing, Mich.

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Jackson

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

"I want to get Johnson a game," Jackson said. "Right now, it's kind of a feel thing for me. It's Steven's first chance at this, but I also have to make sure to keep Mike fresh."

"I don't want him to go such a long period of time before he gets his first start because you never know what's going to happen. You have to make

sure you have a second guy that has the ability, and Mike certainly has the ability to play."

Regardless of who stands between the pipes on Friday night for the Irish, Notre Dame will be tested by Northern Michigan, and if the past is any indication, the game will be close. With the emphasis on picking up every point possible, Jackson took time at the end of practice Tuesday to work on shootouts, looking

for finishers among his squad that could net the team an extra conference point in the event of a tie.

"I know that we have the guys that can get it done [in a shootout]," Jackson said. "Every point is important."

The Irish hit the ice against the Wildcats on Friday and Saturday at 7:35 p.m. in Marquette, Mich.

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ckelly17@nd.edu



SUZANNA PRATT | The Observer

Irish sophomore defenseman Robbie Russo and Minnesota-Duluth freshman center Tony Cameranesi battle for the puck during Notre Dame's 4-1 win on Oct. 19.

Marquette

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

consecutive victory over Marquette, the Irish will look for yet another stellar performance from senior forward Ryan Finley, who netted a pair of goals Wednesday. The Lumberton, N.J., native leads Notre Dame with 16 goals, including 10 in his last six games.

The Irish have scored three or more goals in each of their last three contests, while the three scores Wednesday were the most Marquette has surrendered all season. The Golden Eagles entered that match with a 0.6 goals-against-average. Clark acknowledged Notre Dame's strong performance Wednesday, but said there were still valleys to go with the peaks.

"We lost our way a little bit towards the second half of the first half, but that's games," Clark said. "When you are playing against good teams they are going to have times

in the game and you are going to have times when you are in the game. And when you are in the game, you've got to take the chances."

The Irish will likely take those chances again Saturday, with nothing to hold back in the regular season finale. With a win, Notre Dame would be in prime position to win at least a share of the Big East regular season title.

"I think, if we can win this on Saturday, I think we would have a piece of the [Big East] championship," Clark said. "And what a great league. I mean the Blue Division is phenomenal. To win that league would be a real honor and it would be fantastic for this team. So it would be nice. It would be the first opportunity to win a trophy this year and if we could win it, it would be very rewarding."

The Irish and the Golden Eagles kick off at 8:05 p.m. at Valley Fields in Milwaukee.

Contact Mike Monaco at
jmonaco@nd.edu

Waldrum

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

out of Syracuse.

"They remind me a lot of in terms of how they play, their system very similar to Rutgers," Waldrum said. "They're playing out of a 4-4-3 [formation], very much like we are. I think they're solid in pretty much every position."

"They're one of those teams that, you know, when you look at them, you don't

to do well," Waldrum said. "It should be a really good battle with the way the coaches are familiar with each other."

Notre Dame worked hard to earn a home game for its quarterfinal game and is hoping for a good turnout for the students and the local community, Waldrum said.

"Playing at home, playing in front of your home fans, it's huge," Waldrum said. "You sleep in your own bed, you're in your routine, and

"Playing at home, playing in front of your home fans, it's huge."

Randy Waldrum
Irish coach

really find a lot of weakness where you say, 'We can exploit this player.' They're solid throughout their roster."

Waldrum and Syracuse coach Phil Wheddon have a history together, having coached together on the U-23 U.S. National Team, of which Waldrum is the head coach.

"I think he knows me and my style and the things I try

most importantly, you hope that you're playing in front of a good home crowd. So I really, really hope the students will turn out for this first playoff game."

The Irish face Syracuse at 1 p.m. in Alumni Stadium on Sunday in the Big East Quarterfinals.

Contact Matt Robison at
mrobison@nd.edu

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Down

1 ____ J. Mikva,
White House
counsel under
Clinton

2 Much-tattooed
people

3 What a mayor
tries to instill

4 Carver of Hells
Canyon

5 Die

6 It'll help you get
a bite

7 Flatter to a fault

8 Flexibility

9 Hull of the
Constitution

10 Propulsion gear

11 See 34-Across

12 Flash
d'inspiration

13 Isn't fine

19 Shakespearean
title character

23 First name in
'50s TV

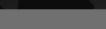
26 Into-the-stands
homer, say

27 Mohair source

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FIRE	S	T	O	N	E	S			R	I	N	G	O	F	FIRE



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User Reviews

Review of MGT 231 (Summer '11)

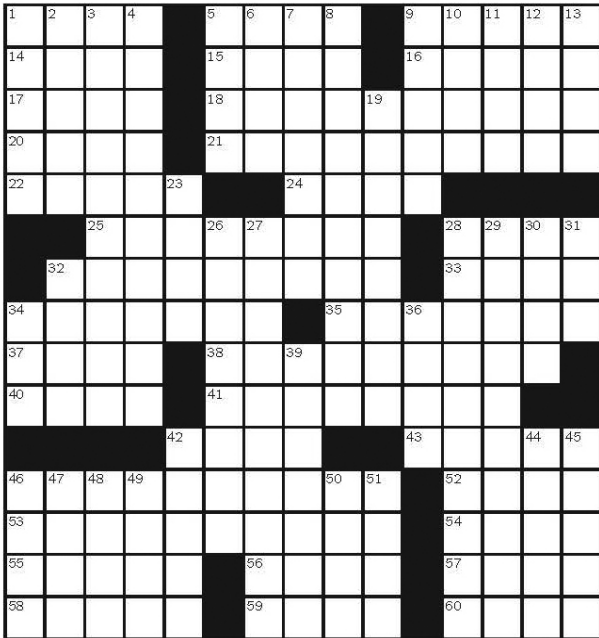
Professor Romney's class, while interesting, was continuously interrupted by these crazy other professors. They'd just barge in, insult our professor, and then run away giggling. One of them, Santa-ram or something, threw his shoe at Professor Romney! Very disruptive!

Review of MGT 101 (Spring '12)

Professor Romney isn't the most exciting teacher you'll ever have, but he's a nice man, a good teacher, and boy is he organized. He has a binder for EVERYTHING!

Review of MGT 101 (Fall '12)

To be honest, Professor Romney isn't in class much. Maybe he's busy with research or something. Anyway, our TA Paul pretty much taught the course. I don't know if I learned anything about management, but he sure is fun to look at. I'll bet he works out!



Puzzle by Barry C. Silk

28 "High Fidelity"	36 Hit the dirt?	47 Move before
star, 2000	39 Start to tank	taking off
29 Like a diva	42 Bill of fashion	48 Vexation
30 W competitor	44 Italian for	49 1943 U.S.-vs.-
31 First character	"baked"	Japan battle site
seen in "Zelig"	45 Flip chart	
32 Boat stern	supporter	50 ____ Taylor, old
34 2009 Grammy	46 "Law & Order:	sitcom character
winner for "Crack	SVU" co-star	51 Believe
a Bottle," briefly		

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.

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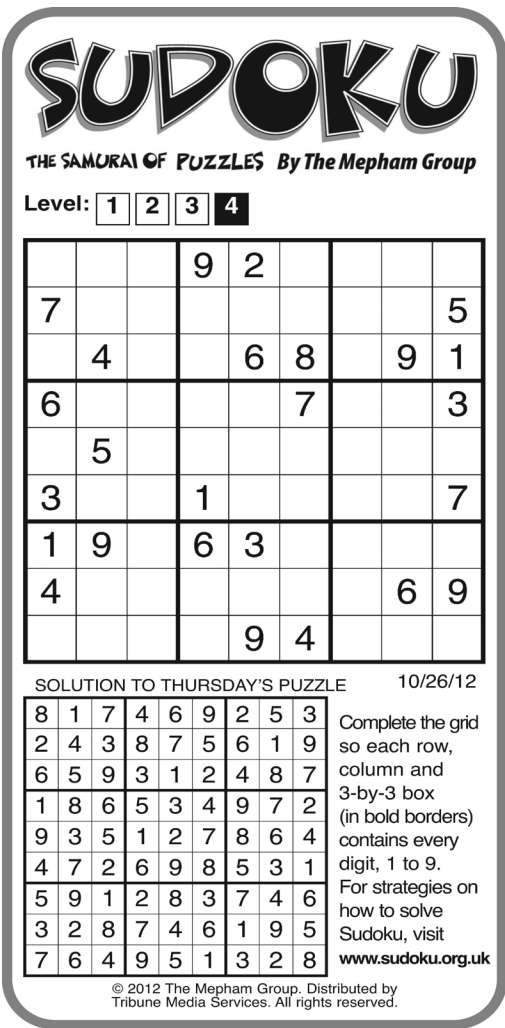
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Unscramble these four Jumbles,
one letter to each square,
to form four ordinary words.

MIGER

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INTERVIEW

				
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BOWSET

[illegible]

SHYMIW

--	--	--	--	--	--

Ans: A 

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's		Jumbles: WHIRL MUSTY COBALT ABACUS
		Answer: The gun wouldn't fire because — IT WAS SHOT

WORK AREA



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

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HOCKEY

Irish ready for last CCHA opener

By **CONOR KELLY**
Sports Writer

After a four game out-of-conference stretch to start the year, the Irish will open their final season of CCHA play when they travel to Northern Michigan on Friday and Saturday for a two-game series against the Wildcats.

The CCHA is set to dissolve following the 2012-2013 season with the emergence of the Big Ten Hockey Conference, and the Irish (3-1-0, 0-0-0 CCHA) will join Hockey East beginning in the 2013-2014 season. For now, however, the Irish are focused on competing in a league that is still one of the nation's best.

"I think it could be even better than last year," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said of the CCHA. "If you look at a team like Northern Michigan or Lake Superior that's all of a sudden better than they were a year ago, it makes it all the more so. Our league has a good non-conference record over the past few weeks. We'll have a lot of teams that are close to .500 in conference. Every point could really matter."

Notre Dame and Northern Michigan have played each other 52 times throughout the two teams' history, and each side owns 22 wins to go along

with eight ties, including two ties at Northern Michigan last season.

Led by junior goaltender Jared Coreau, who boasts a .913 save percentage, the Wildcats (3-1-0, 0-0-0) are stingy defensively and will challenge an Irish squad that from last year to this has struggled at times to find the back of the net.

"They are always a very well-coached team, and they play very well in their own building with the Olympic sheet," Jackson said. "They are always fundamentally sound and don't give up a lot. They've got good forwards that transition quickly and really good goaltending. They're a nice team."

After taking over the starting job at the end of last season, Irish junior goaltender Steven Summerhays has played well through the season's opening four games, sporting a sterling .943 save percentage. However, Jackson said that he still has not decided how the goaltending duties will be split up for the series, given the work that senior Mike Johnson has put in during practice and his own desire to keep his backup fresh.

see JACKSON **PAGE 18**

MEN'S SOCCER

Division title up for grabs

By **MIKE MONACO**
Sports Writer

It all boils down to this. Four teams. One identical record. One division title on the line. And it all will be decided in one day.

No. 8 Notre Dame closes out the regular season with a pivotal conference match-up against No. 5 Marquette on Saturday. The Irish (13-3, 5-2 Big East) downed the Golden Eagles (14-2, 5-2) on Wednesday with a 3-1 win to pull into a four-way tie atop the Big East Blue Division. No. 3 Connecticut and No. 6 Georgetown also have 5-2 conference records.

"It's an unbelievable league," Irish coach Bobby Clark said. "There are four teams that are in the top 10 in the country, all are in the Blue Division, all fighting for one, two, three and four, and it will go right down to the wire."

And after over two months of regular season action it all comes down to Saturday, when the Irish and Golden Eagles square off in their rematch. Meanwhile, Georgetown (14-2-1, 5-2) faces Seton Hall and Connecticut (13-2-1, 5-2) battles Providence, who defeated the Huskies in an upset



JEAN-PIERRE VERTIL | The Observer

Irish midfielder Dillon Powers is pulled to the ground by Michigan State midfielder Jay Chapman during Notre Dame's 2-0 win on Sept. 14.

Wednesday.

"Anything can happen," Clark said. "I think all four teams could win the league and all four teams could end up possibly being fourth, so you don't get any closer or more exciting than that."

After besting Marquette at Alumni Stadium on Wednesday, the Irish head northwest to face the Golden Eagles in Milwaukee, Wisc., where Marquette is 9-0 this season. Notre Dame lost 1-0 last year to the Golden Eagles

at Valley Fields.

"It will be a huge game up in Milwaukee on Saturday night," Clark said. "And we lost last year. So I think, just having seen Marquette here [on Wednesday], what we realize is this is a tall order. But if you want to be champions, you've got to be able to go to places like Milwaukee and you've got to handle the game and come away with a win."

In order to get a second

see MARQUETTE **PAGE 18**

ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

ND to host Orange in tourney

Notre Dame, Syracuse will square off in Big East quarterfinals

By **MATTHEW ROBISON**
Sports Writer

After clinching a share of the Big East National Division regular-season title with a double-overtime 1-0 win over DePaul on Friday in Chicago, No. 24 Notre Dame will host Syracuse in the Big East tournament's quarterfinal round.

The Irish (12-4-2, 8-1-1 Big East) had an impressive conference run, rattling off seven straight wins to start the Big East regular season. After a 2-2 double-overtime tie with Rutgers on Oct. 7 in Alumni Stadium and a 2-0 loss at Georgetown on Oct. 12, the Irish defeated Villanova, 1-0, before handling DePaul (9-9-2, 3-6-1).

Irish coach Randy Waldrum said he was pleasantly surprised by his young team's solid performance during the regular season and said it is clicking at exactly the right time.

"I think going through with

a young team, where we started, and going through the whole Big East pretty much undefeated with the one loss there at Georgetown, I think says a lot," Waldrum said.

The tie with Rutgers and the one loss are the only non-wins on an otherwise shining conference record. Waldrum said he would have liked to see the Irish play better in those two matchups, but he is not upset with the overall outcome.

"I thought we were better than Rutgers when we tied," Waldrum said. "I thought we didn't play two good halves against Georgetown in the loss. So, you know, I would have liked to see us be a little bit better in that. If we look at the whole picture, I'm really pleased with the way we went through the Big East."

After the regular season performance Notre Dame displayed over the last five weeks, Waldrum said his team is exactly where it

needs to be heading into the postseason.

"I think right now the team's been playing really well," Waldrum said. "I think we're heading into the Big East relatively healthy for this time of the year. I think the chemistry's great. I think they kids are excited about playing."

Notre Dame's final conference standing granted it a home game for the quarterfinal round of the conference tournament as well as a much-needed break Friday.

"We don't have a game [tonight]," Waldrum said. "That's allowed us to have a couple days off in the week early to kind of help us rest and recover a little bit. I would expect us to be really good on Sunday."

Although the Irish have not played the Orange (9-6-2, 6-3-1) this season, Waldrum said he knows what to expect

see WALDRUM **PAGE 18**



SUZANNA PRATT | The Observer

Irish junior goaltender Steven Summerhays covers the puck during Notre Dame's 4-1 win over Minnesota-Duluth on Oct. 19.