

Law student aids refugees

Rahmani travels to Syrian war zone to help victims of conflict

By KATIE McCARTY
News Writer

As Kenan Rahmani looked up at the plane that had just dropped a TNT barrel and killed 18 innocent people near him, he said his shock and fear differed sharply from the unaffected attitudes of the Syrians that surrounded him. For them, destruction is a normal, everyday occurrence, he said.

Rahmani, a law student at Notre Dame, was one of nine individuals sponsored by the Syrian American Council (SAC) to journey to the country over Christmas break to provide aid to the refugees. The nation has been engaged in a rebellion against the oppressive Assad regime since April 2011.

Rahmani, who is of Syrian descent, said he is determined to do something to help the country and the people within its refugee camps.

"Our task was to assess the humanitarian situation in order to



Photo courtesy of Kenan Rahmani

Notre Dame law student Kenan Rahmani poses with children in Syria. Rahmani was one of nine individuals chosen by the Syrian American Council to travel to Syria over winter break.

improve it," Rahmani said. "The camps are filled with people dying, kids freezing. In some camps, the only food provided is one boiled potato per tent, to be shared

with multiple people."

The Free Syrian Army is composed of rebels fighting against the oppressive police state, Rahmani said. He said the regime has used

every weapon imaginable to punish its people. Currently, the rebel forces have captured roughly 60

see SYRIA **PAGE 5**

Deadline nears for student leaders

Observer Staff Report

The deadline for potential candidates to submit petitions for the student body presidential and vice presidential election is Friday, according to the Judicial Council website.

The Judicial Council, which is accountable for the validity and fairness of Student Union elections, expects to announce the candidate tickets Tuesday. Feb. 4 is the tentative date for the student body presidential debate.

The student body presidential and vice presidential election will take place Feb. 6.

Event to showcase majors

By CATHERINE OWERS
News Writer

Students can investigate the 65 possible undergraduate majors and other academic programs at Majors Night tonight for guidance on what direction their studies will go at Notre Dame.

Faculty and students enrolled in these different majors will be available to advise students in South Dining Hall from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. tonight.

Academic Affairs Committee member Toni Schreier said all students should feel welcome to attend this event.

"We've organized this majors night as an opportunity for students of all levels — not just freshmen — to learn more about the opportunities, both academic and extracurricular, that Notre Dame has to offer," she said.

Schreier said upperclassmen

who have already declared a major can still benefit from the information available.

"[For upperclassmen,] it would just be an opportunity to confirm that's what they want to do," Schreier said. "If there's an area they've always been interested in, they can find out the requirements for a minor and if it's plausible."

Professor Thomas Stapleford in the Program of Liberal Studies (PLS) also encouraged students of all levels to attend.

"It's really valuable for a wide range of students," Stapleford said. "This is a great opportunity to learn about other programs, even if you're in a major right now, if you're still not quite sure this is the one for you, this is a great chance to go and explore some other programs."

Schreier said students can really learn about what each

see MAJOR **PAGE 3**

Mayor connects to freshmen

By VICKY MORENO
News Writer

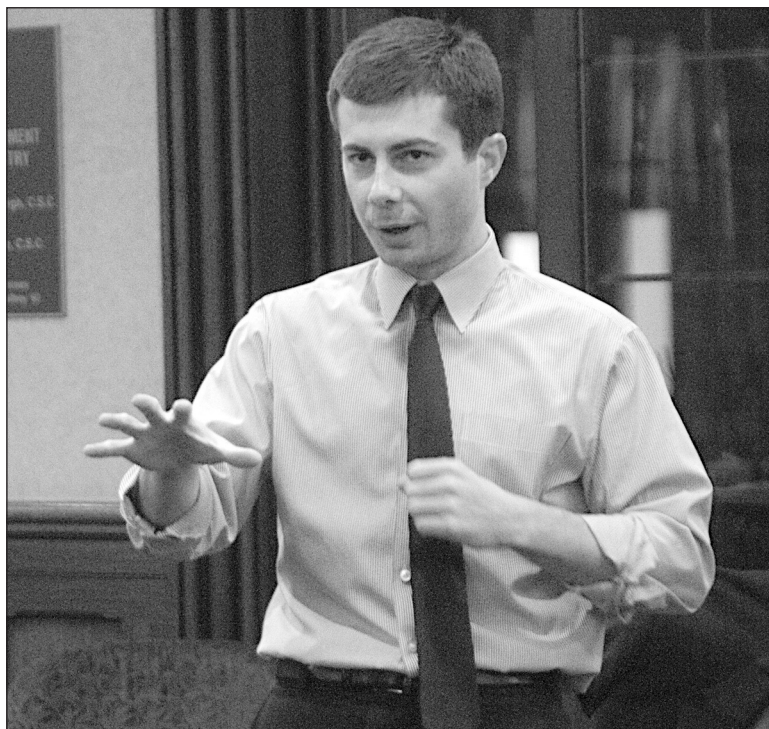
South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg emphasized politics, conversation and cooperation when he addressed Notre Dame students Wednesday night as a part of the First Year of Studies' First Year Challenge lecture series.

Notre Dame plays a critical role in the economy and industry of the city of South Bend, Buttigieg said, especially in the era after South Bend's industrial peak, the Studebaker automobile era.

"Just as [South Bend's] industrial economy began to shrink, Notre Dame became a prominent institution," Buttigieg said.

Though Notre Dame does not employ nearly as many people as the Studebaker industry once did — roughly 20,000 people before it closed its doors in 1963 — it plays a critical role in the development of local businesses and city culture, Buttigieg said.

After a brief lesson in history



JOHN NING | The Observer

South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg speaks to Notre Dame freshman in Coleman-Morse Center on Wednesday.

and a look back at the culture of South Bend before its intimate relationship with Notre Dame began, Buttigieg said he

recognized the benefits associated with living in the city, in

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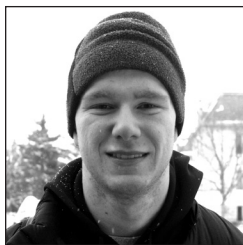
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QUESTION OF THE DAY:

What's the weirdest food you've ever eaten?

Have a question you want answered?

Email obsphoto@gmail.com



James Bauer

freshman

Siegfried Hall

"Rice noodles and poi."



Heath Eaton

junior

Cavanaugh Hall

"Zebra burger."



Mary Lopez

freshman

Welsh Family Hall

"Frog legs."



Grace Paz

sophomore

Lyons Hall

"Turtle eggs."



Tony Villano

sophomore

Duncan Hall

"Cat brain tacos."



Eric Thompson

freshman

Alumni Hall

"Tongue."



WEI LIN | The Observer

Students build a fortress in preparation for the annual South Quad versus North Quad snowball fight on South Quad on Tuesday night. The tradition battle takes place at midnight on the eve of South Bend's first major snowfall.

THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

Want your event included here?

Email obsnews.nd@gmail.com

Thursday

Majors Night

South Dining Hall

6 p.m.-8 p.m.

Help students decide what major to pick.

24th Annual Notre Dame Film Festival

Debartolo Performing Arts Center

6:30p.m.-8:30p.m. and

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

Film Festival.

Friday

Pink Zone Spin-A-Thon

Rockne Memorial

12p.m.-next day

Spin for breast cancer.

M & W Swimming and Diving: vs. Harvard

Rolfs Aquatic Center

All day

Men's and women's swimming and diving.

swimming and diving.

Saturday

Women's Basketball vs. Providence

Joyce Center

2p.m.-4p.m.

Tickets available.

The Met Live in HD: Maria Stuarda

Debartolo Performing Arts Center

1p.m.-4:05p.m

Opera.

Sunday

Mass at the Basilica

Basilica of the Sacred Heart

10a.m.-11a.m.

Sunday Mass.

June H. Edwards Chamber Series

Debartolo Performing Arts Center

3p.m.-5p.m.

Symphony Orchestra.

Monday

The Think Justice of International Law

Law School

12:30p.m-1:30p.m.

Lecture.

EAP: Listening and note taking

303 Debartolo Hall

6:30p.m-7:45p.m.

Target: Non-English native speakers.

SENATE

Group plans rest of term

By **MADDIE DALY**
News Writer

The Student Senate planned for the final two months of the current officers' tenure during its first meeting Wednesday, while looking ahead to its turnover to the new government.

Student body president Brett Rocheleau said the group needs to stay focused during their remaining time in order to finish the term on a high note.

"We have two months left in our term," Rocheleau said. "We want everyone to buckle down, make sure you are making all of the meetings and paying attention to hall elections coming up."

Student body vice president Katie Rose echoed Rocheleau's statement and praised the group's hard work.

"Regardless of outside opinion, this has been one of the most successful student senates because of all the resolutions we have passed in such a short amount of time," Rose said. "Thank you for all your hard work, especially with all the time spent in your departments and outside of meetings."

O'Neill Hall senator Jack McKeon said his hall was concerned with medical amnesty. Rocheleau said the group plans to address this issue as soon as possible.

"Perfect timing, Jack," Rocheleau said. "This is going to be one of our first topics for the semester. We are

bringing it up at CSC this Friday and will bring it to Senate soon after."

Lewis Hall senator Casey Spreen voiced a complaint from a hallmate concerning unequal hall taxing procedure.

"Girls in Lewis were wondering if there is some system keeping hall taxes uniform across the board, or if that is something we need to

"Although loyal administrators are not necessarily unique to Notre Dame, we do have rectors who spend good parts of their lives at only our University."

Ricky Bevington III
Director of Communications

work on," Spreen said.

Morrissey Manor senator Billy McMahon described one instance in particular of what he said was blatantly unequal punishment.

"In Morrissey there were recently three students kicked off campus," McMahon said. "I know for a fact that for two of them it was their third ResLife, but for the third guy it was just his first. We are all wondering if there is a

three-strikes-you're-out policy or if there's some room for discussion."

Director of communications Ricky Bevington III said he hoped to get the senate on board his initiative for this semester. "What I wanted to come to Senate to talk about is kind of a two-layered topic, both specific and general," Bevington said. "Generally talking, we are trying to find different ways that students can both recognize and remember people who have devoted a good portion of their lives to student development, particularly at Notre Dame."

Bevington said although devoted administrators are not unique to Notre Dame, our university has a special group.

"Although loyal administrators are not necessarily unique to Notre Dame, we do have rectors who spend good parts of their lives at only our University. Some offices do memorialize these people, especially after they have passed, but there are sort of disjointed student responses to these ideas," Bevington said.

Bevington said his idea came from a desire to honor Farly Hall's recently deceased rector, Sister Jean Lenz.

"Sister Jean Lenz passed away last January," Bevington said. "She was the first female rector of Farley Hall, so she goes way back."

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Major

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

department is like because both professors and students will be available.

"You can find out about all the different classes you'd have to take, what the requirements are and if it's possible to double major or minor," Schreier said.

Majors Night is a good time for students to learn about majors that are not as common or that might be unique to Notre Dame, Stapleford said.

"[PLS] is unlike English or History, where students may have a rough idea of what they're doing," he said. "There are English departments in other universities. [PLS] is unique to Notre Dame. We get a chance to explain this to the students and answer any questions they might have."

Stapleford said the professors in attendance want to highlight the distinctive features of their disciplines for students so that it is easier for students to choose between majors.

"In [PLS], there's an emphasis on students who really love to read, students who like to think about ideas and write about ideas — students who have a broad range of interests."

Smaller majors like PLS, which has approximately 120 students, allow students to take many of the same classes together, Stapleford said, creating a kind of "intellectual community."

"That's how we like to think of PLS, as not just a set of classes, it's an intellectual community."

Schreier said information

about opportunities at the Center for Undergraduate Scholarly Engagement (CUSE) and the Nanovic Institute will be available.

"If they [students] haven't been able to get involved in research yet, they can talk to the leaders of those programs," she said. "I know I wasn't aware of CUSE or being able to do research as an undergrad is such an advantage we have at Notre Dame. Being able to participate in that, to put on your resume for internships for the summer, or even for your future job after graduation — having that experience is vital."

Stapleford said this night complements information available during the freshman orientation.

"At the beginning of freshman year, during freshman orientation, there's a kind of majors fair. ... [However,] your views about what you want to do can change dramatically once you begin taking classes, and then especially for sophomores — that was a long time ago," Stapleford said. "I think it's really important for students to have this opportunity to come around and speak with a wide range of representatives from different departments in one place."

Stapleford said the goal of Majors Night is to give students the tools to shape their academic future.

"Ultimately, really the goal is to have students have all the information about the range of majors so that they can make an informed choice," Stapleford said.

Contact Catherine Owers at
cowers@nd.edu

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Mayor

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"On the one hand South Bend is a very cost-efficient place to live," Buttigieg said.

"On the other hand, however, the city is facing a significant problem with vacant and abandoned properties, poverty, racial gaps and anti-modernity attitudes."

Much of South Bend's difficulties stem from the high number of its residents living in poverty, Buttigieg said.

"We have more houses than people and 24 percent of the city's population lives below the poverty line," Buttigieg said. "And we have a whole generation of people that have been lead to believe that the only role they had to play in globalization is that of the victim."

The young mayor said he is hopeful of the city's ability to adapt to today's conditions.

"South Bend has a curious ability to take old things and turn it into something new," Buttigieg said.

The city's economy is not the only thing that has changed over the decades. A new wave of immigrants has created an increasingly diverse population, giving the city what Buttigieg said is a distinct "new flavor."

This cultural shift did not come without its problems, but Buttigieg said the community can and has found common

ground to embrace new cultures and new citizens.

"That's what makes us so interesting! I'm not interested in segregating the problem. I just try to make sure that there are spaces for people to interact," Buttigieg explained. "That's why I like food so much. People from different cultures will like each other's food so long as it's good."

While Buttigieg lectured on South Bend's evolution historically, economically and culturally, the students ultimately guided the conversation. Students posed questions concerning education, gun control and students' role in the community.

A South Bend native, Mayor Buttigieg said he realized through his business ventures abroad that a need for his talents and skills existed in his own hometown. He encouraged students to view South Bend as their home, too.

"I hope that you would find that engaging in your community will be beneficial to you," Buttigieg said. "I bet I can show you some places on the west side that will be no less exotic to you than Uganda. It's a lot better than those places, don't get me wrong, but the adventures you will have ... will expand your horizons."

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MAJORS NIGHT

sponsored by notre dame student government

featuring representatives from each college
plus information about
research, study abroad, and minors
thursday, january 24 | 6-8 pm
south dining hall
open to all classes!

Broadway star to visit Saint Mary's

By JILLIAN BARWICK

Saint Mary's Editor

With five Tony Awards, two Grammy awards and many other accomplishments on her resume, Audra McDonald, star of ABC's "Private Practice" and Bess in "George Gershwin's Porgy and Bess" on Broadway, is this year's Margaret Hill Endowed Visiting Artist for 2013 and will visit Saint Mary's on Monday.

"She has got something good for Saint Mary's," Katie Sullivan, associate professor of theatre, said. "She shows diversity in the world of which she works as performer. She will show students that they can do more than just hope to be successful in one area."

At only 42 years old, McDonald is the youngest actor and the only African-American to win five

Tony Awards. McDonald attended Julliard School for classical vocal training and graduated in 1993.

"The balance is found in that my goal is just to continue to evolve as an artist," McDonald said. "So anything I do whether it be in recording, theater, or television the goal is the same: to be challenged and to grow as an artist," McDonald said in an email interview.

McDonald will be conducting a master's class at the College on Monday morning.

"I have conducted master classes in the past," McDonald said. "I have also participated in [master's] classes so I know how scary they are for the participants."

"My main goal is to make the student as comfortable as possible and in a sense make every one else in the room 'disappear' so that it

is just the two of us exploring the material. I think these one-shot evaluations have value because any chance to perform for a live audience is a lesson within itself."

Sullivan said she knows that McDonald's master class will be something for the students to remember as they continue on in their careers.

"She is so inspiring to students and very relatable. She has a family; she's a working mother with a life," Sullivan said. "She is covering all areas well. She's just like us; trying to do the art that she's trained for. She seems to really enjoy working with young people."

McDonald is well known for playing Naomi on "Private Practice." She was on the show for four years before taking time away to focus on her family. For the Tuesday's series finale, however,

McDonald rejoined the cast for the last time.

"I love everyone involved with that show so much," McDonald said. "Cast and crew alike. My decision to leave was purely based on the fact that I couldn't be away from my family anymore. The commute was too difficult."

"But I missed my 'Private Practice' family very much so the decision to come back was based on wanting to be with them one more time and to be a part of saying goodbye to something that had been such a huge, huge part of all of our lives."

McDonald also said the return to "Private Practice" made her feel like she had never left the show at all.

When she takes the stage Monday night for her talk, McDonald will sit down with

Sullivan for a talk show-style interview, instead of what past artists have usually given as a lecture.

"Normally the person gives a talk more like a lecture. Audra is not interested in that, so I will interview her on stage," Sullivan said. "It will be more conversational. She will also take 15 minutes for audience questions."

Sullivan said McDonald enjoys people and talking about the arts with them.

"Music students will be equally inspired [by McDonald] as well because of her excellence in singing as well," Sullivan said. "She will give the same spark of inspiration to singers as the actors because of her ability to merge the two."

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Syria

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

percent of land area in Syria.

"The conflict has already killed 60,000 people, and those are just the documented deaths," Rahmani said. "There are close to 140,000 people missing, most of whom are dead. No matter where you go, you cannot find a single

household that is whole."

The refugee camps are filled with 700,000 Syrian citizens displaced by the war, Rahmani said. He and his companions delivered \$15,000 in aid to the camps. This money funded the construction of bathrooms, paving roads and fuel generators. They also donated \$4,000 of flour to a suburb of Aleppo, a major city in

Syria, which was enough money to bake bread for everyone in the town.

Rahmani emphasized, however, that the struggle to overcome the devastation will not end with the end of the conflict.

"Even when the war ends, a whole generation has been psychologically destroyed," Rahmani said. "Our young people have seen

nothing but bloodshed. Our girls have been raped, and our men and women have been killed."

Rahmani said echoes of the conflict will continue to affect Syrian society.

"For 30 years, we will be fighting against the economic repercussions of this regime as well."

As Rahmani interacted with the refugees, he said the feeling of

hostility was palpable.

"People did not want me there, which was tragic," he said. "Syrians have felt that the world has abandoned them. 'The whole ordeal is now normal to them, and that is the ultimate sign of failure for the United States.'"

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INSIDE COLUMN

Tasting freedom



Cory Bernard
Sports Writer

As I plopped down at my desk Wednesday afternoon, I checked my email for the gazillionth time in the past few hours. A new message caught my eye. “Hungry?” read the subject line. Why yes, Lisa Wenzel, assistant director of Notre Dame Food Services, I am hungry! How did you know?

Having just completed the 20-minute walk from DeBartolo Hall to my house on Notre Dame Avenue in the biting cold, I certainly had food on my mind. In fact, after my hands regained feeling, I was planning on whipping up something edible in my kitchen. But this email demanded my attention first. What if it was one of those emails typically reserved for finals weeks? You know, the one offering free snacks and games in South Dining Hall as a study break and excuse to get out of the dorm or the library. Maybe the weather had prompted some University charity.

I had already attended one lecture earlier in the week simply because it provided complimentary Subway, and I wouldn’t have thought twice about returning to campus for a free meal. Sadly, it was no such email.

Its body was short. It simply read, “Purchase a campus meal plan and enjoy delicious meals in our dining halls.” My thought process went as follows. “Umm, no. Don’t boss me around. But hey, I should probably view the PDF attachment really quick just to see what’s up.”

Among other things, the attachment said, “Select the meal plan option that best fits your budget.” My budget is pretty much the reason I’m always hungry, so I decided to entertain the email’s suggestion for a second.

For those unfamiliar, off-campus undergraduate meal plans vary widely. I can purchase 120 meals for one semester or 25 meals for one semester. I had done the math back in August and decided against purchasing a meal plan, but decided to examine the cost once more. At its cheapest, one meal in the dining hall costs \$10.88. So \$1,306 provides you with exactly 120 meals in the dining halls. Now wait just a minute!

Living off campus is a privilege, not a right. It takes sacrifice and commitment, especially in this weather. Food Services tried to break me at my weakest point, when I was most desperate. It tried to take from me more than \$10.88 for every meal. It tried to take my independence.

Tuesday night, I ate a combined lunch/dinner of one frozen pizza. Wednesday night, my dinner consisted of the end of a bag of tortilla chips, some salsa left by a friend and some lunch meat about to go bad.

Did these meals taste like flank steak, pasta stir-fry or frozen yogurt? No.

They tasted like freedom.

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

There’s still some time

Bianca Almada

The In-Between Time

About a week ago, a close friend asked me about my summer plans. To be honest, I had not thought much about them. We had just returned from winter break, and my brain was occupied with thoughts of happiness with my new 11 a.m. start schedule and anticipation for all the crazy memories my reunited group of friends was sure to make this semester. I was happy. I was content with my life where it currently was and the last thing I wanted to think about was the future, even a future that was only a few short months away.

My friend proceeded to tell me all about his spring break plans to conduct research with a peer group and went on to tell me about the international service program he was applying to be a part of for the summer. He had all these great ideas in his head, all these hopes of trying to figure out exactly what he wanted to do for the rest of his life. He was not even worried about the fact the majority of these sorts of opportunities are usually reserved for upperclassmen.

I must have stared at him with a look of confusion as the phrases, “You’re already thinking about this kind of stuff?” and “Am I ridiculously behind?” ran through my head. This was supposed to be the in-between time.

College is interesting because it catches us budding adults at a very

critical point in our lives. At this point, most of us are excited to move out of our parents’ houses and to finally make our own rules. We are ready to determine our own schedules, to handle our own courses of study and to take responsibility and ownership of our own lives for the first time. We are tired of asking for permission and searching for approval. We crave independence.

At the same time, however, most of us are not ready for everything at once. We still need our parents’ money, we still have plenty to learn and plenty to decide and we are in no way ready to settle down, choose a career and live like adults that contribute to society. We do not want to live in our own apartments, pay our own bills, make our own food or dress in suits for our grown-up jobs every day for the rest of our lives.

What is so remarkable about college students is most of us are excited by the very fact we do not have to do this just yet. We take comfort in knowing we have four years to figure it all out, and to have a lot of fun along the way. This is our in-between time.

Yet, so many of us take this for granted. And after thinking more about what my plan-ahead friend had shared with me, I feared I was becoming one of those people. Notre Dame students have the privilege of this time to learn more about themselves and their interests before choosing a life-long career. In so many other places, children are pushed into the workforce at such young ages, having their futures

decided for them. So while, yes, this is the college student’s time to have fun and be free from the pressures of workforce adulthood, it is also the time to start thinking about these things. We are blessed to have the power and the privilege to choose the direction of our lives and this is our time to do it.

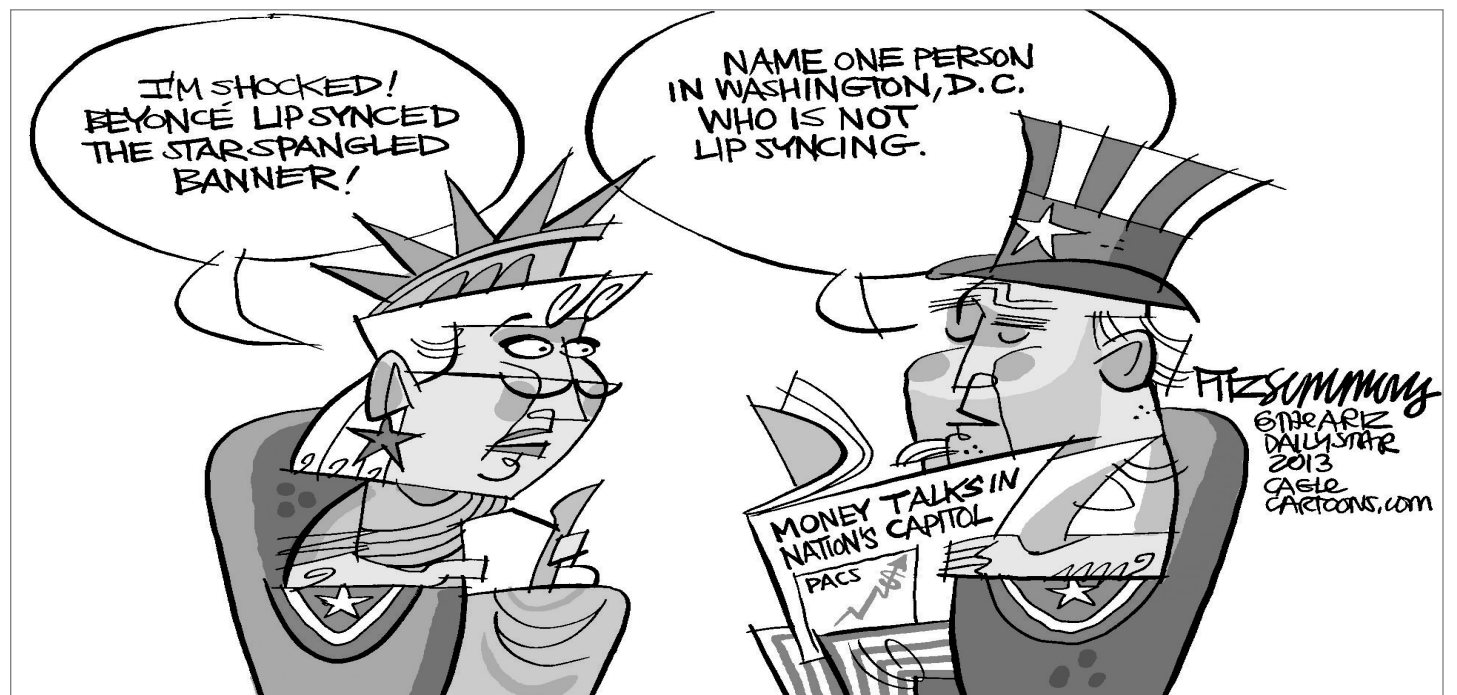
Since my surprise from my plan-ahead friend, I have begun to apply for things here and there — internships, summer employment opportunities, et cetera. I know what I want to study and what interests me, and I have a rough idea of the work I want to do. I have not, however, thought too much about where I want to live and work for the rest of my life, how many children I want to have or what kind of house and neighborhood I want to live in. I decided it is a little too soon.

I am entranced by college life. I want to enjoy it as much as I possibly can because this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. So I take the time to be amazed by the impressive, intelligent people that I meet every day, and I often daydream about how we are all going to change the world someday. How exactly? I am not really sure yet. The beauty of it is we have some time to help each other figure it out.

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



QUOTE OF THE DAY

“Laughter and tears are both responses to frustration and exhaustion. I myself prefer to laugh, since there is less cleaning up to do afterward.”

Kurt Vonnegut
American novelist

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Let's advertise the facts

I have found your “shooting down” of certain arguments (Jan. 23, “Shooting down bad arguments”) to be lacking in critical information that would highly influence the conclusions drawn from your article.

Your first refutation is of the argument, “Fewer mass shootings would occur if more people were armed.” You say Columbine had armed guards. This is not entirely correct: There was one sheriff's deputy at the school who was armed, and there were two shooters. And you know what? That deputy actually saved lives. He engaged in a shoot-out with one of the gunmen, Eric Harris, and bought precious time for backup to arrive, in which Harris was not shooting anyone. Yes, an armed guard actually saved lives. You also mention Fort Hood is a military base. It's precisely because it was a military base that this shooting was allowed to happen: According to military policy, personal firearms are not allowed on the base in order to limit violence. In the first example, lives were saved because there was an armed guard, whereas in the second there were no guns present because it was a gun-free zone. Also, let it be known all but one of the mass shootings since 1950 has taken place in a gun-free zone.

Your next argument involves the state of mental health care. In Europe, only 21.1 percent of those with a 12-month mental health disorder received no treatment. In America, that percentage increases. Less than one-third of adults in America actually receive treatment. Perhaps the problem with mentally ill patients and gun usage arises from the lack of access to care and the stigma that surrounds mental health here in America?

While I do not claim to know what needs to be done about gun control, as the decision needs to be up to those wiser than myself, I do wish to advertise all the facts. It seems to me your article fails to mention a lot of things that should be taken into account when discussing the issue of gun control.

Davis Sandefur
junior
Siegfried Hall

UWIRE

The higher education bubble

Danny Huizinga

The Lariat

As our economy recovers from the bursting of the housing bubble, some warn another is looming on the horizon.

The phrase “higher-education bubble” was first popularized by Glenn Reynolds, a distinguished professor of law at U. Tennessee. In his book, “The Higher-Education Bubble,” he defines the term: “Bubbles form when too many people expect values to go up forever.”

How do we properly value education against its cost? We all know that tuition prices across the nation are rising and have been for years.

Data from College Board's Trends in Student Aid, one of the most comprehensive sources of statistics on college pricing, indicate that financial aid per student in constant (inflation-adjusted) dollars has been consistently rising as well.

Because salaries for highly educated professionals have risen rapidly in recent years, an increase in college pricing is somewhat justified. Robert Archibald, chancellor professor of economics at the College of William and Mary, said this:

“Everyone has three objectives for higher education: lower tuition, higher quality and less government spending on subsidies. The unfortunate truth is that we can have any two of these, but we can't have all three. If we mandate low tuition, we have to give on one of the other two.”

Tamar Lewin of The New York Times takes a different position, attributing much of the rising education cost to unnecessary increases in administrative staff in colleges across the country.

Students have a responsibility to make smart decisions in order to sustain the value of education. College is still worth it; however, if we are not careful, we can make the mistake of overvaluing our education. Maximizing future benefit requires more than sitting through classes.

We are not entitled to a job offer or high salaries once we graduate. In order to deserve these things, we must continue to work hard in classes and focus on enriching ourselves outside the classroom, building time management and communication skills.

According to multiple studies, students at college spend less time studying today than 60 years ago. Social development is a crucial

aspect of the college experience, but it is not the reason tax dollars are funding federal student loan and grant programs.

Nor is enrolling in college an automatic guarantee to future success. According to the American Enterprise Institute,

“Data from the National Center for Education Statistics show that only 58 percent of new college students who began in 2004 had graduated six years later.”

The 42 percent of students who dropped out (roughly two-thirds of which cited reasons not related to tuition prices) are left holding thousands in student loans with no diploma to show for it.

For these people, it may have been better if they had considered an alternative to college.

For those of us that are already here, we need to continually strive to merit the generosity we have been given and work to achieve the success we dream of.

This article originally ran in the Jan. 23 edition of the Lariat, serving Baylor University.

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Questions about the March for Life

What is it that takes over 600 students and 100 faculty and administrators from duLac to the March for Life? Why have those numbers grown continuously since two students attended the 4th March for Life in 1977, four to six students attended in 1978 and approximately 40 students went on the first bus sponsored by Notre Dame-St. Mary's Right to Life in 1979? Are there perhaps as many, or even many more, members of the Notre Dame and St. Mary's communities who would like to be counted among those attending the March for Life, but, above and beyond academic and work schedules, wrestle with identifying themselves as pro-life or being identified by others as being pro-life? Do Notre Dame and St. Mary's as institutions, Catholic educational institutions,

hesitate to be identified as pro-life? Will photographs of Fr. Jenkins in or near the front row of this year's March for Life be viewed for years to come along side the iconic pictures from the early 1960's of Fr. Theodore Hesburgh marching arm-in-arm with Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.?

What would it take for many of us among the current students, faculty, administration and alumni of Notre Dame and St. Mary's to be willing to be counted right along side the 700 students, faculty members and administrators marching for a pro-life position on Friday? Do many among us have doubts about the ever-growing scientific knowledge as to when human life begins? Is the stumbling block for many the appropriateness of consistently extending

the American social contract the nine months from birth to conception, or being equally consistent in preserving that contract through hydration, nutrition and appropriate medical treatment through natural death at the end of life? Would many among these communities view the life issues differently, or be more willing to speak out in defense of life, but for concerns about the effect of a known position on the life issues, especially in defense of life, on career options and opportunities?

Has the moment perhaps arrived for many among us to follow Fr. Hesburgh's bold example from the racial civil rights movement?

John Ryan
1979 alumnus
ND-SMC Right to Life 1977-79

You've read the

VIEWPOINT WARS

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STUDENT FILM FESTIVAL COMES TO DPAC

By **MADDIE DALY**
Associate Scene Editor

Still craving deeply interesting, hilarious and dramatic films even after the Golden Globes? Look no further than the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, which will be hosting Notre Dame's 24th annual Student Film Festival. Running Thursday through Saturday, all of the Notre Dame community will have the chance to admire the finest of Notre Dame's film department.

These wildly creative film students have been working on writing, filming and editing their original works for the past year and finally have the chance to share them with the student body. This weekend is the perfect chance to come support your fellow students while getting a first-hand look at some soon-to-be famous filmmakers.

Junior Elizabeth Kellogg worked on a documentary with seniors Nicole Timmerman and Erin Moffit while in professor Ted Mandel's Documentary Filmmaking class. Although Kellogg is abroad during the festival, she said she is still excited for the screening, describing its release as "nerve-wracking but exhilarating."

"It is sort of the moment of truth in filmmaking where you have to come to terms with what you have just created," she said.

Kellogg wanted most of the film to be a surprise for the silver screen, but she did release some intriguing details.

Titled "Amie's Image," the film revolves around, in the words of Kellogg, "a star from the Catholic Charities program in Chicago, a character that will captivate the audience." The women drove to Chicago countless times in the fall for on-site footage and showed their progress to

the class for advice and direction. With the final product now ready for screening, the amount of work the three put into the documentary has been "well worth it," Kellogg said.

Junior Grace Carini, senior Marty Flavin and senior Andrew Cheng created a film titled "The Lost Pastime" about the original version of America's game of baseball.

"I hope a lot of people come out to see what we've been working on all year because, I promise, although it doesn't look like it, we do work hard all year," Carini said.

This is the second time Carini has had a film in the festival, she said, so instead of being overcome with nerves, she was grateful to be "showcased with some of the other talent at this school."

"So much time and effort has gone into these projects, and it wouldn't be possible without a great group of faculty and staff

and many of our fellow classmates stepping up as actors," Carini said. "Each film is a huge collaborative effort and even the extras and actors with the least amount of lines should feel proud to be a part of this."

There are 13 additional films in the festival created by students of all levels, ranging from total beginners to near-experts. This year, the festival will include an Audience Choice Award, which will be decided via text message vote by the audience. The award will be announced before the last screening Saturday night.

The films will be screened in the Browning Cinema at both 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. Tickets cost \$7 for regular attendance, \$6 for faculty and staff, \$5 for seniors and \$4 for students.

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'SUITS' IS BACK AND BETTER THAN EVER

By **MARIA FERNANDEZ**
Scene Writer

The summer finale of USA Network's "Suits" left viewers wondering about the future of the Pearson-Hardman law firm, but the next block is back this month with more entertaining cases to solve and co-worker drama to discuss.

For those of you who, like me, follow Harvey and Mike's every move, not much explanation is needed as to why the show is so great. Yet, if you are clueless as to what I am talking about, here are some reasons why "Suits" is a definite must-see.

Set in the middle of colorful and hectic Manhattan, the show entertains viewers with its glamorous and fast-paced office environment. Watching "Suits" makes the audience feel as if they were employees at Pearson-Hardman enjoying all the perks and gossip that come with the job.

If the setting isn't enough to capture your attention already, the show's cast and characters definitely will.

Harvey Specter, played by the very handsome Gabriel Macht, is one of New York's best lawyers — and he knows it.

He is daring, confident and willing to do whatever it takes to protect his name and reputation.

Harvey hires a brilliant college dropout, Mike Ross (Patrick J. Adams), to help him win cases. He doesn't even have a law degree, but Mike becomes a Pearson-Hardman associate and Harvey's right-hand man, and together they make an impressive and unstoppable team.

The cast also includes Louis Litt, a former junior and now senior partner with an awkward yet hilariously entertaining personality, which contributes to making "Suits" one of the best shows currently on television. Played by actor Rick Hoffman, Louis is jealous of Harvey's success and is constantly trying to get everyone's attention at the firm. His antics give comic relief to some of most suspenseful scenes of the show.

Elegant, intelligent and powerful women also rule Pearson-Hardman — another reason to get hooked on "Suits." The firm's managing partner is Jessica Pearson, played by Gina Torres. Jessica has a strong personality, demands the best of her colleagues and lets nothing stand in her way.

She is always trying to make the firm grow and become more prominent.

But not all girl power comes from the top in "Suits." Paralegal Rachel Zane (Meghan Markle) and Harvey's personal secretary Donna Paulsen (Sarah Rafferty) are indispensable to the firm and the show. They are both sharp and smart assistants who save the day whenever a tough case takes a wrong turn.

Not only does "Suits" portray the busy, dynamic and exciting lives of New York lawyers and their powerful clients, it also does a great job in depicting the development of relationships between coworkers, both friendly and romantic. Although they have currently hit a wall in their relationship, Mike and Rachel definitely have something going on between them. Their compelling relationship will probably become more serious this season. And for the hopefuls like me, Harvey and Donna are meant to be and they will soon figure this out.

The show returned last Thursday with a few new additions to the firm and a lot of surprises. In the episode, Rachel confronted Mike with a few secrets, revealing

that she is not as perfect as everyone thinks she is. Harvey is troubled by both work and his new personal and romantic life, and Louis' new associate, Maria Monroe, could potentially expose Mike's secret past and fake law degree.

There is a lot to love about "Suits," and from the looks of last episode, those to come will certainly be worth watching.

Don't miss "Suits" every Thursday at 10 p.m. on USA.

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"Suits"
USA Network

Starring: Gabriel Macht, Rick Hoffman





KEEP CALM AND STYLE ON

THANK YOU, ANNA

By **JESSIE CHRISTIAN**
Scene Writer

On a late Sunday evening in mid-January, I sat stranded between mounds of unsorted clothing and an empty suitcase. A year ago, if you had asked me what to wear to an internship interview, I would have grabbed a pair of modest black heels, my black Banana Republic suit and a colorful top — and then called myself a risk-taker. This was a new day, however, and with the peaceful sighs of my sleeping roommate as my nighttime soundtrack, I glanced hopelessly up at the temporarily retired suit ensemble.

“Is there a wrong thing to wear to an interview with you?” An interviewer once asked Anna Wintour, editor-in-chief of Vogue Magazine. Her response was simple, but delivered a devastating blow to my understanding of interview preparation.

“A suit, I have to say. But who knows? Maybe next year I’ll love suits. And I don’t mind jeans. If there’s a girl applying to work in the fashion department and she comes in here with a great pair of jeans pulled together with the right top, it’s fine.”

On another occasion, Anna advised her readers to embrace style as unique.

“Create your own individual style. I’m not interested in the girl who walks into my office in a head-to-toe label look that’s straight off the runway. I’m interested in a girl who puts herself together in an original way.”

Upon reading these words, I took one look at my congested closet and had a minor mental breakdown. In just a few hours, while students would begin the long journey back to campus for yet another semester of classes, I would be headed to the Big Apple for an interview at the headquarters of the Devil in Prada herself.

I knew that meeting with Anna was not going to happen that day. Still, following her advice made the thought of walking into the Condé Nast building and vying for an internship with one of the company’s fashion brands slightly less distressing.

With the fashion icon’s advice in mind, I stripped the notable pieces

from my wardrobe and separated them into piles by type of garment. I had underestimated the difficulty of the challenge. Picking a month’s worth of outfits for break was easy, but picking a single outfit for a situation where the outfit counted the most was a dagger in my fashionably indecisive heart.

Naturally, I referred to some of my best resources in order to help me narrow things down. My Instagram feed, though dependably entertaining and filled with posts of models, designers, and brands, was not the source of inspiration that I so desired. After scanning the various other forms of social media for ideas, I resolved to stop overthinking, put down the computer and find the solution myself.

Once I did this, I was surprised when the process became infinitely easier. I realized that I had read Anna’s words without actually internalizing the message—originality over industry influence. With key words such as “clean,” “classy” and “professional” in mind, I was standing in front of a stylish ensemble in no time, built to adapt to whatever the day would deliver.

The following morning, I departed from South Bend in a baby pink sheer button up top, a black high-waist and pleated skirt, silky black opaque tights and a pair of matching pink cutout loafers. Along with two plaited French braids, I added a pair of sleek, golden hoop earrings and a tightly linked collar necklace to match. To brave the cold, I grabbed my trusty winter coat and headed out the door.

After my long and arduous journey to and through the busy streets of New York, when I finally made it to Condé Nast, I was relieved by what I saw. I walked into a room, of twenty or so fashionably clad girls my age, and the only suits I saw were on the two young men in the room. “They’re here for the corporate internship,” the internship coordinator said, acknowledging that she had pinpointed my gaze. I let out a comical sigh of relief and she laughed. “Thank you, Anna,” I thought, as I took my seat.

Contact **Jessie Christian** at
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Photo courtesy of New York Magazine

Anna Wintour, editor-in-chief of Vogue America, looks on at a fashion show. Wintour is legendary for her style and wit.

SPORTS AUTHORITY

The unnatural rivals of NYC



Brian Hartnett
Sports Writer

The recipe for the NBA's current hot rivalry features two teams that share the same geographical area. One of these teams has long been a bottom-dweller but has recently risen from the deep, while the other is one of the league's marquee names with several all-stars and surrounded by enough celebrities to give its arena the feel of Hollywood.

Clippers-Lakers? Not quite.

Try Nets-Knicks, a series that is quickly becoming one of the most entertaining in the NBA.

It only seems natural that the two teams would become rivals in the New York City area, a major basketball hotbed. Unfortunately, the two teams have historically failed to be in the playoff picture at the same time.

The Nets struggled to make the playoffs in the 1990s, while the Knicks routinely competed into late May. Similarly, the Knicks had fallen into the basement of the Eastern Conference by the time star point guard (and current Knick) Jason Kidd was leading the Nets to consecutive NBA Finals appearances.

However, this season marks a rare crossroads, as the two teams finally both look to be prime playoff contenders.

The Knicks managed to recover from the destructive decision-making of former coach and team president Isaiah Thomas by acquiring several high-profile stars, including forwards Carmelo Anthony and Amar'e Stoudemire and center Tyson Chandler. Anthony's explosive offense (He's averaging over 29 points per game this season) and Chandler's stout defense have indeed been major reasons for the Knicks' recent success.

Yet, it is contributions from bench players like guard J.R. Smith and three-point specialist Steve Novak as well as the nearly 40-year-old Kidd that have catapulted the Knicks to second place in the conference.

The Nets also made a splash with some acquisitions of their own, trading for point guard Deron Williams in 2011 and signing shooting guard Joe Johnson last summer. Yet the development of center Brook Lopez, as well as strong play on the boards from forwards Reggie Evans and Andray Blatche, has largely bolstered the team. A regime change also seems to have helped the squad, as it has gone 11-2 since interim coach P.J. Carlesimo took over for the fired Avery Johnson.

The Nets, an often-forgotten

squad in New Jersey, have also received the benefit of increased attention since moving to their palatial new home in Brooklyn, N.Y., in October. The borough, which has been clamoring for a team to call its own since the Dodgers skipped town in 1958, has embraced the Nets as its own, and the team has moved up 13 spots in attendance from last season.

The Nets' move to Brooklyn has divided loyalty among basketball fans in the city, giving Knicks-Nets contests the feel of baseball's "Subway Series" or one of the area's hockey rivalries. And the game has become a hot ticket: The average ticket resale listing for the teams' matchup on Dec. 19 was a whopping \$630.

Fortunately, Knicks and Nets fans have gotten their money's worth this season, as the teams split the season series after four close meetings. The Nets took the first game in an overtime thriller, while the Knicks won the second meeting by only three, with Kidd delivering the tiebreaker. The Knicks pulled away to win the third meeting, but the Nets evened the series Monday after a late Joe Johnson jumper with seconds left.

Even more foreboding for the rivalry's future is the incredible play of the teams' star players and emergence of some bad blood between the squads. Anthony averaged a staggering 35 points in the four matchups, while Williams recorded double-doubles in each contest. And Smith, notorious for his off-court troubles, got into it with Nets forward Kris Humphries, notorious for his ill-fated marriage, on Twitter after Monday's contest. Surely, it's one of the first outward signs of dislike the teams harbor for each other.

Unfortunately, due to some incredibly shortsighted scheduling, the teams will not meet again in the regular season. But with the Knicks sitting second in the conference and the Nets just two spots behind them, a playoff showdown continues to look more and more probable.

If the teams do have the chance to meet in late spring, look for a wildly intense series so unpredictable even Knicks super fan Spike Lee himself couldn't possibly script it. And in an age where NBA rivalries feel so contrived, nothing will look better than an old-fashioned cross-city clash to determine the king of the Big Apple.

Contact Brian Hartnett at bhartnet@nd.edu

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

WINTER X GAMES

White eager to hit the slopes in Colorado

Associated Press

ASPEN, Colo. — Shaun White ran his fingers through his short, red hair as he fidgeted in his seat.

The snowboarding icon is still getting accustomed to his new look after recently trimming his signature flowing locks.

Make no mistake, though: His strength isn't tied to his hair.

His command comes from innovation as he perpetually tries to stay two steps ahead of the competition in the halfpipe, where he performs tricks few others would dare attempt and captures about every big competition he enters.

But that's not enough. White wants to be just as commanding — and just as feared — in the slopestyle competition, especially with the event making its Olympic debut next winter in Sochi.

This weekend at the Winter X Games, White will show off some of those new slopestyle maneuvers, like the backside triple he pulled off in a practice run Wednesday.

That should get him some attention, maybe even open up some eyes.

See, White is largely viewed as just another competitor in slopestyle, an event where snowboarders move through rails, big jumps and bumps on their way down the hill. He's not quite as revered.

There was a time, though, when White commanded that event as well.

But that was four years ago and a new generation has since hit the course.

These days, the Shaun White of slopestyle just may be Mark McMorris, a 19-year-old from Canada who has no fear on the slopes and even less when it comes to, well, White.

"Just another guy you're riding against in a contest," McMorris recently said in a phone interview.

Don't mistake that for arrogance. McMorris has plenty of respect for White, even considers him a friend and one of the favorites this weekend. Unlike



AP

Snowboarder Sean White prepares for his latest Winter X Games run in Aspen, Colo.

the halfpipe, McMorris simply doesn't see White dominating slopestyle.

Not with riders such as Norway's Torstein Horgmo and Canada's Sebastien Toutant in the field. Of course, there's also McMorris.

"Look, (White) is really good at snowboarding," said McMorris, who won slopestyle and big air last year in Aspen. "But everybody is good in slopestyle. It's crazy, because you see new winners all the time because the tricks have become so technically challenging."

White sat next to McMorris at a news conference to kick off Winter X, intently listening as McMorris described the burgeoning rivalry between White and himself. Mainly, McMorris said, it's a media-fueled thing.

"It's funny what they make of it," McMorris said. "It's a fun showdown."

That it is, especially for White, who's enjoying trying to bridge the gap between himself, McMorris and the rest of the field. White is closing it quickly, too, winning a Winter X slopestyle competition in Tignes, France, last winter.

"This makes me want to learn more tricks," said White, a 14-time X Games champion, including five straight in the halfpipe (Winter X refers to it as superpipe).

With good reason because really, in the halfpipe, White has no one pushing him all that much.

Not right now, anyway.

Sure, he's working on maneuvers in the halfpipe, but his

biggest challenger just may be himself.

However, topping his own performance is getting more and more difficult. Last year in Aspen, White turned in a perfect score.

Asked who presented the biggest challenge in the halfpipe, White danced around the question by saying, "I'm not really looking around."

"I'm looking to land my run," he said. "As long as I do that, I'm happy. I usually focus on what I'm up to."

Since slopestyle wasn't an Olympic sport at the 2010 Vancouver Games, White decided to take a hiatus from those competitions.

Instead, he trained in seclusion on a halfpipe built for him in the back country of Colorado as he honed the Double McTwist 1260, a dazzling and dangerous trick that ultimately led to an Olympic gold medal in Vancouver.

Now, he's devoting just as much time to slopestyle. After all, Olympic organizers voted to add slopestyle to the program starting in 2014, which gives White a chance at not one, but two gold medals in Sochi.

That certainly keeps him motivated, especially here at Winter X where he's by far the biggest attraction.

He has to be creative. It's expected.

"I show up here and have all the eyeballs on me a lot of time," White said. "I want to be prepared for that. It's fun for me to learn new tricks and new things."

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AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Na upsets Sharapova, advances to final

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Li Na used the heat to her advantage and worked No. 2-ranked Maria Sharapova around Rod Laver Arena in a 6-2, 6-2 win on Thursday that put her in the Australian Open final for the second time in three years.

Sharapova was the heavy favorite after conceding only nine games in her first five matches, a record at the Australian Open since it expanded to a 128-player draw in 1988.

But the semifinal started badly for the 25-year-old Russian, serving double-faults to lose the first two points and conceding a break in the first game.

Li had the backing of the crowd at Rod Laver Arena, where dozens of red and white Chinese flags swirled in a light breeze, and where the temperature topped 93 degree during the first of the semifinals.

Li was the first Chinese player to reach a Grand Slam final when she lost to Kim Clijsters in Melbourne in 2011. She had her breakthrough a few months later when she won the French Open, beating Sharapova in the semifinals along the way.

She will now play the winner of Thursday's later semifinal between top-ranked Victoria Azarenka, the defending champion, and 19-year-old American Sloane Stephens.

The 29th-seeded Stephens produced the upset of the tournament to advance to a Grand Slam semifinal for the first time, beating Serena Williams on Wednesday.

Stephens won 3-6, 7-5, 6-4, starting to swing hard when she was down a set and a break and keeping her composure when Williams, one of her childhood heroes, jarred her back and needed a medical timeout.

Stephen's surprise win did instant wonders for her celebrity.

Before the match, Stephens said she had about 17,000 followers on Twitter. A few hours after reaching her first Grand Slam semifinal, she had more than 40,000.

And she sounded like an excited schoolgirl as she gushed about receiving a congratulatory tweet from American singer John Legend.

"I want John Legend to sing at my wedding!" she said. "I was like, 'Oh my God. He tweeted me. What can I do?'"



Li Na hits a forehand return to Maria Sharapova during Na's victory in the semifinals of the Australian Open today.

She re-tweeted the sentiments from Legend: "Just found out her dad is John Stephens from the Pats. (that's my real name) I had his football card when I was a kid. I was so proud, ha ha."

Stephens' father, who played for the New England Patriots,

died in 2009.

Retired basketball star Shaquille O'Neal sent a message that read: "When u defeat a legend you become a legend." The Dallas Mavericks' Dirk Nowitzki wrote, "Wow. What a win for Sloane. Some amazing defense. She gets every ball back."

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SMC BASKETBALL | ADRIAN 63, SMC 59

Saint Mary's falls to Adrian

By AJ Godeaux
Sports Writer

Despite leading for almost the entire second half, Saint Mary's lost a nail-biter Wednesday night at home to Adrian, 63-59.

Adrian (5-13, 4-6 MIAA) held a narrow lead for most of the first half, until an 8-0 Belles run gave Saint Mary's (5-14, 3-7 MIAA) a 23-21 lead with five minutes to go in the opening half.

The Belles would hold that

lead until halftime, going into the break leading 31-29.

Multiple times throughout the second half the Belles looked as though they would pull away. Four times they went up by seven points and every time, the Bulldogs closed the gap to a single point.

Turnovers again were the Belles' downfall. With just over four minutes left, the Bulldogs took their first lead of the game on a fastbreak

layup off an errant pass by the Belles.

"You can't turn the ball over as much as we did tonight and win," Saint Mary's coach Jenn Hensley said.

The team committed 23 turnovers, seven in the last five minutes of the game.

The Belles would cut the lead to two twice in the last 1:30, but key defensive stops and clutch free throw shooting down the stretch by the Bulldogs kept their lead intact and gave them the four-point victory.

Despite the crushing loss, there certainly were bright spots for Saint Mary's. Junior guard Shanlynn Bias led all scorers with 18 points, and Hensley was especially pleased with her play in transition, noting it was something the team would continue looking to in the next few games.

Freshman forward Eleni Shea added 12 points and 11 rebounds for the Belles, her second career collegiate double-double. Junior forward Katherine Wabler was the only other Belle in double figures, narrowly missing out on a double-double with 12 points and nine rebounds.

The Belles will look to rebound from the tough loss when they take on Kalamazoo at home Saturday. Tip-off is at 3:00 p.m. at the Angela Athletic Center.

Contact AJ Godeaux at
agodeaux@nd.edu

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TRACK AND FIELD

Rivals-turned-roommates lead Notre Dame



MACKENZIE SAIN | The Observer

Irish junior sprinter Patrick Feeney competes during the Notre Dame Invitational on Saturday at the Loftus Sports Center.

By **LAURA COLETTI**
Sports Writer

Chris Giesting and Patrick Feeney haven't always been roommates. In fact, the two haven't even always been friends. On the contrary, they grew up competing against each other at rival high schools in central Indiana just over an hour apart.

Now, the sophomore and junior sprinters share a room in Knott Hall. They also share a competitive fire and a load of talent on the track for the Irish.

"When I came to Notre Dame, Pat and I knew of each other from high school because we were always competing against each other," Giesting said. "Now

we get along really well. We cheer for each other at meets and push each other during practice."

When Giesting arrived as a freshman last year, he looked to Feeney to help show him the ropes and make the adjustment from high school to college competition.

"We have a great relationship for being as competitive as we are," Giesting said. "He's a year older than me and he really helped me get started. He kind of showed me how I need to practice and how I need to train."

Giesting and Feeney collected a number of individual accolades during the 2012 season, and were each part of team victories as well. Giesting was

a part of the distance medley relay team that won the indoor NCAA National Championship, and Feeney went to the outdoor NCAA Championships as a part of the 4x400m squad.

As for how they stack up against each other, Giesting said that the duo tries to keep track of how many times they have beaten each other.

"It's pretty even," he said, "But Pat might have a slight edge."

Giesting burst onto the scene last year when he garnered the Big East Men's Track Athlete of the Week after his very first collegiate meet. This season, he has stayed true to form, earning the award once again for his performance at the Notre Dame Invitational. Over the weekend, Giesting won the 200m dash with a time of 21.69, the 500m in 1:03.17, and ran the second leg for the 4x400m relay team that won in 3:12.68.

"To be recognized by the conference for being one of the best performances of the week is a pretty big accomplishment because there are so many athletes on the track," Giesting said. "Last year, I didn't even know that the award existed. This year, I had been there and I knew I could get back."

Giesting learned a lot from his freshman year, and would like to see his sophomore campaign be even more successful. He would

be happy to experience that success with his roommate.

"Our number one goal for the team is to win both indoor and outdoor conference titles," Giesting said. "Qualifying for the National Indoor 400m race would be great. Last year, both me and Pat just missed

qualifying. So it would be nice for us both to get there."

Giesting, Feeney and the rest of the Irish will travel to Bloomington, Ind. for the Indiana Relays this weekend.

Contact **Laura Coletti** at lcoletti@nd.edu

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NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Boise St. buries Fresno St., 74-67

Associated Press

BOISE, Idaho — Derrick Marks scored 30 points and Anthony Drmic added 23 as Boise State defeated Fresno State 74-67 Wednesday night.

Drmic's driving basket with 1:09 to play snapped a 66-66 tie and the Broncos (14-4, 2-2 Mountain West) made six free throws over the final 35 seconds to complete a school-record and conference-record 26 of 26 effort from the free-throw line.

Allen Huddleston scored 20 points and hit a career-best five 3-pointers for Fresno State (7-11, 1-4). Tyler Johnson added 16 points for the Bulldogs, who lost for the eighth time in 10 games despite going 10 of 17 from 3-point range.

Ryan Watkins had a career-high 18 rebounds to go with 10 points for Boise State, which played the second half without Jeff Elorriaga. The Broncos' guard missed the previous game with a concussion and coach Leon Rice said Elorriaga hit his head on the floor after taking a hard fall in the final seconds of

the first half.

Marks hit all 12 of his free-throw attempts en route to his second 30-point outing of the season. He tallied 35 in an upset of Creighton on Nov. 28 and is the first Boise State player with two 30-point games in the same season since La'Shard Anderson in 2010-11.

Watkins had eight offensive rebounds as the Broncos had a 37-24 edge on the boards.

Boise State led 41-31 with less than 16 minutes left but Fresno State used a 15-2 spurt to take a three-point lead with 12:31 remaining.

The Broncos recovered and Marks' basket gave Boise State a 59-53 lead with 5:24 to go. Huddleston hit back-to-back 3-pointers as part of an 11-2 run that gave Fresno State a three-point edge with 2:55 remaining.

Huddleston's basket with 1:35 left tied the score at 66 prior to Boise State's game-deciding flourish.

Marville Harris added 10 points and Robert Upshaw blocked four shots for Fresno State.

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MEN'S SWIMMING

Senior Bass garners Big East honors

By **MARY GREEN**
Sports Writer

Adding to an already successful 2013 in the pool, senior Bill Bass earned another accolade Tuesday — Big East Swimmer of the Week. Along with junior teammate and two-time

winner Frank Dyer, Bass is the second Irish swimmer to earn the honor this season.

Bass took the award after his performance against Cleveland State last week. During the meet, he nabbed first-place finishes in the 100-yard butterfly with a time of

50.58 and he finished the 200-yard individual medley at 1:50.59. Bass also swam the fly leg of the winning 200-yard medley relay, aiding the Irish (6-0) in a 131-112 victory over the Vikings.

However, the senior's path to this achievement included a major setback along the way. In the spring of 2011, then-sophomore Bass underwent surgery for an ailing shoulder. Irish assistant coach Matt Tallman, who has worked with Bass in every practice since his arrival freshman year, said he believed the surgery repaired not only the swimmer's upper body, but also forced him to develop his kick even more.

"The biggest facet of his swim skills is that his kick has improved a lot, and getting his shoulder fixed certainly helped," Tallman said. "He gained strength and a better ability to kick from getting his shoulder fixed since he couldn't pull for a while."

Tallman and Irish coach Tim Welsh praised the five-time school record holder for his work ethic and leadership in and out of the pool, both describing him as a teammate who leads by example.

"He comes to work out and work hard, gets his job done and races well," Tallman said. "He isn't overly vocal with the



GRANT TOBIN | The Observer

Irish senior Bill Bass competes in the 200-yard butterfly during Notre Dame's 174-121 win over Michigan State on Jan. 21, 2012.

guys, which is why I say he leads by example, but the guys respect his ability to come ev-

NCAA Championships in Federal Way, Wash. He was just the third Irish swimmer

"He's a racer, and he just wants to push."

Matt Tallman
Irish assistant coach

ery day and get his work done and be successful."

Welsh agreed with this description of Bass, an art studio major.

"He's outgoing, friendly, self-disciplined and a caring, sharing team member who's very team-oriented," Welsh said. "If you wanted to emulate a guy in the senior class to copy, it's Bill Bass."

His dedication to the team and his sport propelled Bass to earning a spot in the field in the 200-meter IM and 100- and 200-yard fly in last year's

ever to achieve the individual times needed to advance to the championships, along with Dyer and 2007 graduate Tim Kegelman.

Coupled with his hard work, his speed fuels Bass in the pool, Tallman said.

"He's a racer, and he just wants to push," Tallman said. "He's a racer who wants to go out there and sprint, and he won't back down to any challenge."

Contact Mary Green at
mgreen8@nd.edu

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MICHAEL KRAMM | The Observer

Irish senior guard Skylar Diggins dribbles upcourt during Notre Dame's 79-64 win over Georgetown on Jan. 15 at Purcell Pavilion.

Pittsburgh

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

and I think we need to be just a little more disciplined on our box-outs."

The Irish extended their school record for Big East road wins to 11. Notre Dame is the only Big East team is who still unbeaten in conference play.

"We have a veteran team," McGraw said. "I think we come out the same way on the road as we do at home. When you have good leadership, it's easy to come out ready to play."

Everything started with defense for Notre Dame. Pittsburgh shot just 35 percent from the field for the game.

"We can be really good, I think, when we have our intensity up," McGraw said. "We started the game with a press. We got three quick steals to really get the offense going. We've just got to try to get that 40 minutes of intensity and to continue it when players sub in so we can maintain that high level of defense the entire game."

It was a homecoming for Cable, who is from Mt. Lebanon, Pa., and McBride, who is from Erie, Pa. McBride went 5-for-9 from the field, while connecting on nine of her 10 free throws.

"[McBride] worked on getting good shots," McGraw said. "I think she attacked

"We can be really good, I think, when we have our intensity up."

Muffet McGraw

Irish women's basketball coach

the basket and got to the free throw line. She was very efficient scoring tonight. She's from Erie so she had quite a few people there in the crowd for her. It was a big game for her."

Notre Dame's next game is Saturday against Providence at the Purcell Pavilion at 2 p.m.

Contact Matthew Robison at mrobison@nd.edu

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Martin

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

somebody jumps up there and takes that, and that's how we play with that group, great. But I think I'm going into it thinking, we're looking at everybody in a gold shirt.

"If they have to play their way into it a little bit, the young

guys, we can do that. There's a lot of games left. If we have to learn on the fly for a while to have what we need to have in February, that's what we have to do."

The Irish will take on South Florida in Tampa, Fla., on Saturday at noon.

Contact Chris Allen at callen10@nd.edu



SUZANNA PRATT | The Observer

Irish graduate student forward Scott Martin defends Georgetown junior forward Nate Lubick during Georgetown's win on Monday.

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- ACROSS**

1 Hair-raising

6 Secretive org.

9 Cause of everything going up?

14 Hip

16 Range

17 Gamer's midday meal?

18 Quick online message

19 Spot

20 Dancer/choreographer Michio

21 Villains in the "28-Down" films, e.g.

22 Working hours for director Shyamalan?

24 Fourth-largest city in the Americas

27 Use, as dishes

28 Nasal spray brand

29 Restaurant's after-dinner selection
- 31 Red wing?

34 N.Y.C. subway line in one's imagination?

38 Atomic

39 Fishes or cuts bait, say

40 They take a beating

41 Centipede creator

44 Stops in the country

45 Bozo in a big Mercedes?

50 Peppermint ____

51 Hearth's content

52 End of many company names

56 Santa ____

57 With 63-Across, extra holiday pay ... or what's in 17-, 22-, 34- and 45-Across?

59 Noodle dish

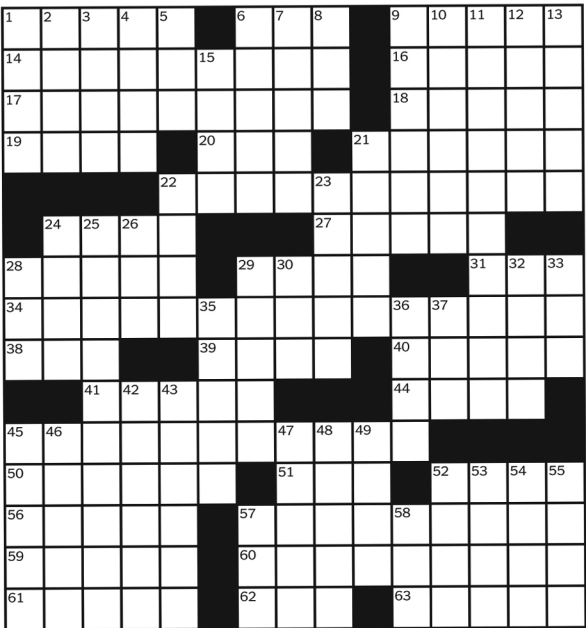
60 Upper
- 61 Some hard-to-wrap presents

62 Starting O, maybe

63 See 57-Across

DOWN

- 1 Old German duchy name
- 2 Team supposedly cursed by a billy goat
- 3 Rent-____
- 4 Classic theater name
- 5 Actor Brynner
- 6 "Pretty, pretty please?"
- 7 Sporting a fake nose and glasses, maybe
- 8 Sporting figure: Abbr.
- 9 Discriminatory, in a way
- 10 Spanish spread
- 11 Proof positive
- 12 Lacking
- 13 Cloud producer, for short
- 15 Total
- 21 Narc's discovery
- 22 Conservative skirt
- 23 Early races
- 24 Diet, commercially
- 25 As it happens
- 26 "Give ____ buzz"
- 28 See 21-Across
- 29 The weather, commonly
- 30 Newt, once
- 32 ____ law
- 33 Liq. measures



Puzzle by IAN LIVENGOOD AND J.A.S.A. CROSSWORD CLASS

- 35 Like 36-Down, e.g.

36 Frigg's husband

37 It may fill a niche

42 Inked up

43 Japanese or Javanese

45 Trades one-tuos, say

46 Ear part
- 47 "Chicago Hope" Emmy winner

48 Umpire of Hamlet's fencing match with Laertes

49 Impulse

52 French town in '44 news

53 Gulf land
- 54 Part of a sitcom sign-off

55 Big "birds" of old

57 Ill. hours

58 Fill-in

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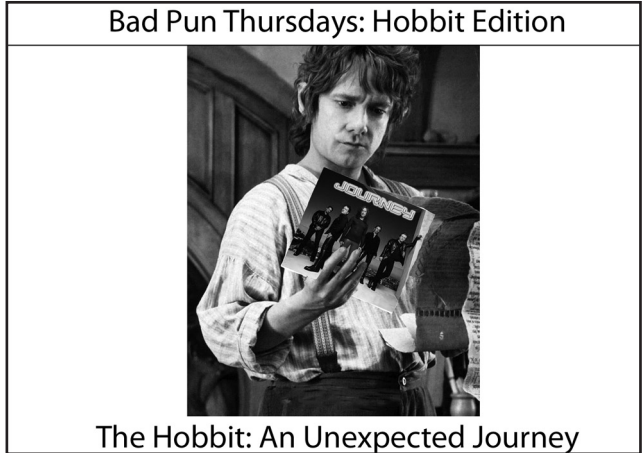
ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



HIGHLY PUNLIKELY | CHRISTOPHER BRUCKER



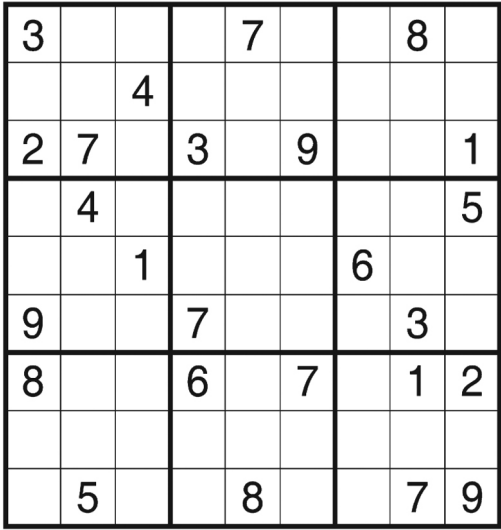
LOWER YOUR EXPECTATIONS | LENNY RAGO & PATRICK CROSS



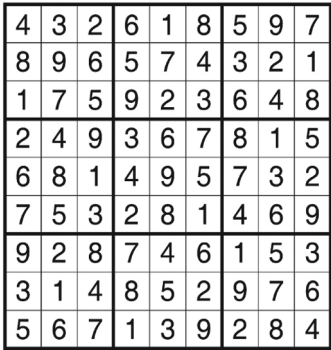
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Level: 1 2 3 4



SOLUTION TO WEDNESDAY'S PUZZLE 1/24/13



Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

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HOROSCOPE | EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Tiffani Thiessen, 39; Mariska Hargitay, 49; Gail O'Grady, 50; Richard Dean Anderson, 63.

Happy Birthday: Aggressively seek what's required to reach a destination of choice. It's not about quantity, it's about quality and doing the right thing. Out of struggle and hard times can come the wisdom and fortitude to accomplish something great. Believe in what you know you are capable of achieving and you will make a difference that cannot be denied. Your numbers are 5, 7, 19, 22, 25, 34, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Take part in events in which you feel you can offer something special. Your unusual way of looking at things will help shed light on a situation that has been impossible for someone you are close to. Rely on past experience. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Give love, entertainment, travel and communication top priority. The more you interact with others and participate in interesting events, the more you will discover about yourself and the people you associate with. Disagreeing with someone will be a waste of time. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Put effort into learning more about someone who interests you personally or professionally. Mixing business with pleasure will help you discover a unique way to utilize your skills with what someone else has to offer. Travel to a destination you find inspiring. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): A partnership will take an unexpected turn. Wager the pros and cons before hanging on to someone or something that is of no use to you anymore. You have to cut your losses and make room for new beginnings. Love is highlighted. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Tread carefully when dealing with domestic matters or older relatives who require your attention. You are likely to face an unfortunate situation if you don't take care of your responsibilities before you engage in your own entertainment. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Shake things up and spice up your life. You are in a high romantic cycle and should enjoy the company of someone you think is special, but don't feel you have to be extravagant to win someone's favor. Be yourself and have fun. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Put greater emphasis on things you enjoy doing. Take on a challenge if it will get you motivated to explore interests or finish projects. Don't let your emotions cost you a friendship or cause you to miss out on a good time. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Be careful what you say and who you share your information with or you may get caught in the middle of someone else's fight. Step back and view each personal situation you face from a distance. Focus on love and creativity. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Put more thought into what you want to do professionally. A change that will help you fulfill a lifelong dream may be within reach if you gather information and do your best to network and connect with people who share your interest. ★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Look, see and do. Don't sit back and let others take over. Your future depends on the contribution you make now. Open up to new ideas and make suggestions that will ensure practicality is injected into the plans you make. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): What's the hold-up?. Make personal changes that will surprise the people who care about you, and you will gain their support. Added respect will give you the inspiration to go the distance. A new beginning is within reach. ★★★★★

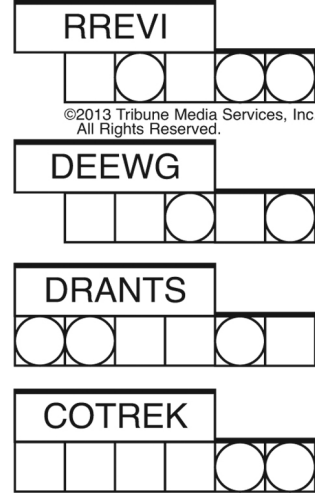
PISCES (Feb. 19- March 20): Put more time and attention into moneymaking ideas. Focus on those you feel can contribute the most. Don't let an emotional incident that happened a long time ago stand in the way of an opportunity you get now. Make amends and make things happen. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are adventurous and difficult to mirror. You are versatile, intellectual and inspiring.

JUMBLE | DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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Answer: [Grid of 12 circles] (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's | Jumbles: WHARF MOUTH PLEDGE YONDER
Answer: Heidi Klum was working the minute she stepped off the plane because she was — A RUNWAY MODEL

WORK AREA



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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL | ND 73, PITTSBURGH 47

Declawed

No. 2 Notre Dame overpowers Panthers for their 12th consecutive victory; McBride scores 19



Irish senior guard Skylar Diggins attempts to drive past Pittsburgh sophomore guard Brianna Kiesel during Notre Dame's 73-47 win over the Panthers on Wednesday night at Purcell Pavilion.

AP

By **MATTHEW ROBISON**
Sports Writer

After trailing by three points in the first half, No. 2 Notre Dame allowed only 18 points in the second half to pull away in a 73-47 road victory against Pittsburgh on Wednesday night. Junior guard Kayla McBride led all scorers with 19 points.

The Irish (17-1, 6-0 Big East) started fast, but senior guard Skylar Diggins picked up her second foul, which forced her to the bench.

"We got off to a great start," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "We were winning 16-5, and we just a little complacent. I think we thought the game was about over. We got a little complacent on defense and Skylar got her second foul shortly after that. We sputtered a bit on offense without her in the game."

But Notre Dame turned it around before the intermission and led 35-29 at the half.

The Irish outperformed the Panthers (9-9, 0-5) on rebounds, 36-25. Three Irish players grabbed seven boards each, including two guards. Junior forward Natalie Achonwa, sophomore guard Madison Cable and McBride led the way on the glass.

"We play four guards for stretches so we need them to be good rebounders — Kayla McBride, especially," McGraw said. "That's her job, to rebound."

But McGraw thinks her team can do an even better job rebounding, saying the Irish gave up too many offensive rebounds Wednesday.

"[Freshman guard] Jewell Loyd is capable of rebounding more," McGraw said. "The guards have to do a better job of it. We generally did a pretty good job. But we let them get just a couple offensive rebounds. We missed a couple box-outs,

see PITTSBURGH **PAGE 14**

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Irish prepare for life without Martin

By **CHRIS ALLEN**
Sports Editor

When the struggling Irish take the floor Saturday against South Florida, they will do so without their captain and most experienced player. Notre Dame coach Mike Brey announced in his weekly teleconference Wednesday that the Irish would shut down graduate student forward Scott Martin for an indefinite period of time.

Martin, a sixth-year senior who has been through an ACL surgery and a torn meniscus in his left knee in the past, has suffered in production recently as the No. 24 Irish (15-4, 3-3 Big East) lost three of their last four games to drop to .500 in the Big East. Brey said Martin would take time off to rest.

"We're at a point now where our team has to do something with guys that are 100 percent physically," Brey said. "If he does come back, it's a pleasant surprise and when that is, I really don't know."

After transferring to Notre Dame from Purdue, Martin sat out the 2009-10 basketball season, his first in South Bend, while recovering from reconstructive

knee surgery. Since returning to the lineup in the fall of 2010, Martin has been a fixture in Brey's rotation.

The Indiana native missed a game earlier this season against Saint Francis (Pa.) with knee soreness. Since that time Martin's production has declined — Martin went scoreless in losses to Georgetown and St. John's.

"We've got to shut him down indefinitely to see if we have one more run in him," Brey said. "It's not helping our team."

In Martin's absence, Brey said he will look to an inexperienced group of bench players to replace the veteran's minutes. Seniors Garrick Sherman and Tom Knight along with freshmen Zach Auguste and Austin Burgett are all candidates to replace Martin's minutes in the lineup. Martin was averaging 7.9 points per game and 29 minutes per game through Monday's loss to Georgetown.

"I think you'll see a little bit of everything on Saturday," Brey said. "I think I have to have a really open mind to that, and it could be a revolving door. If

see MARTIN **PAGE 14**



SUZANNA PRATT | The Observer

Irish graduate student forward Scott Martin fires a bounce pass to a teammate during Notre Dame's 63-47 loss to Georgetown on Monday. Martin is out indefinitely with a left knee injury.