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Students stand with Bangladesh

University members call for justice for war criminals, protest life sentence of Islamic party leader

By MARISA IATI News Writer

Approximately 16 Notre Dame students from Bangladesh are standing in solidarity with their nation from more than 8,000 miles away.

Protests broke out across Bangladesh on Feb. 5 after Abdul Kader Mullah, the leader of the country's largest Islamic party, Jamaat-e-Islami, received a sentence of life in prison for crimes committed during the war for liberation from Pakistan in 1971, according to Time Magazine. Jamaat-e-Islami members collaborated with Pakistan to perpetrate widespread rape, mass killings and a push against intellectuals, also according to Time.

Graduate student Tahsin

Ahmed said many Bangladeshis thought the life sentence was not sufficiently severe.

"People thought that if somebody is given [a] life sentence for doing this sort of crime, then other crimes, like normal murders and other rapes, they don't have justification for giving ... capital punishment," Ahmed said. "Their goal was to protest against that."

Ahmed said Mullah should receive the death penalty because not only did he help plan Jamaate-Islami's crimes, but he also participated in them.

"If someone who is actually involved in a crime is not given the capital punishment, what will happen to the other people [who

see BANGLADESH PAGE 6

ANGLADESHI Capital **Students** Punishme University for in Notre Dame Indiana, USA

Students gathered on God Quad on Feb. 8 to express respect for the victims of war crimes committed in Bangladesh in 1971 and demand capital punishment for Islamic party leader Abdul Kader Mullah.

Aid offered in Zhang's memory

Bv KRISTEN DURBIN News Editor

When Saint Mary's thenfreshman Ziqi Zhang entered electrical engineering professor Alan Seabaugh's office last year to discuss her application for a summer NDnano Undergraduate Research Fellowship (NURF), Seabaugh said she knew Zhang was a special student.

"You could just see she was

very mature beyond her years ... not so self-centered," Seabaugh said. "She was just open to everybody and wanted to know about all different things. We decided to offer the position to her, which was very rare for that to happen for a freshman."

Zhang spent the summer of 2012 doing research in a Notre Dame nanoscience lab. Just months after completing her fellowship, the sophomore from China died in a bike accident

near the entrance of Saint Mary's campus Oct. 18.

To "carry her memory a little farther," Seabaugh said one of this year's NURF fellowships will be dedicated to Zhang.

"We wanted ... to honor her because she touched everybody here in a big way," he said. "I think none of us appreciated her as much as we did after all this happened because she

see ZHANG PAGE 6

Election results revealed

Observer Staff Report

The Judicial Council announced the results of the class council executive elections Thursday evening.

Next year's Senior Class Council will be led by president Carolina Wilson, vice president Patrick Touhy, treasurer Elizabeth Gibbons and secretary Michael Nichols.

Rising juniors will be served by president Olivia LaMagna, vice

president Caitlin Smith, treasurer Briggs Hoyt and secretary Martin Walsh.

Sophomore Class Council leadership will consist of John Grefenstette, Michael DeSantis, Jane Goodson and Megan Schilling, who will serve as president, vice president, treasurer and secretary, respectively.

Elections for Freshman Class Council will take place in the fall.

Duncan develops new tradition in style



By CHRISTIAN MYERS News Writer

behind the blazers. Junior Joseph ceremony was Duncan's lack of Whalen, Duncan Hall vice presi-traditions because it is a relativedent, read each individuals name ly new dorm.

WEI LIN | The Observer

Members of Duncan Hall tried on their new kelly green blazers. Notre Dame's youngest men's dorm is establishing its own customs.

Residents of Duncan Hall have found an easier way to get their hands on a green blazer than winning the Masters Tournament.

Duncan presented 105 Highlanders with kelly green blazers at the hall's first ever blazer ceremony Thursday night in the hall's main lounge.

Duncan Hall president opened the event by introducing a speech from senior Josh Whelan, who was one of the organizers

as he received his blazer.

Whelan said the event was less about the ceremony itself and more about the blazers.

"The ceremony was a little excitement at the end of a long process," Whelan said. "It was more of a formality to make this more of a tradition. The important thing is having the blazers and being able to wear them to our events."

Whelan said part of his motivation for starting the blazer

"I was looking for a way to create a tradition and change the reputation of Duncan from the new dorm with nicer rooms to a dorm with its own traditions," he said.

In the future, the blazer could become an identifier for Duncan residents and a staple at events like pep rallies, Whelan said.

"Hopefully the blazers will be something recognizable that we

see BLAZERS PAGE 6



BODY WEEK PAGE 3









MEN'S BASKETBALL PAGE 24



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QUESTION OF THE DAY:

What is one thing on your Notre Dame bucket list?



Christina Gutierrez sophomore Walsh Hall "Plant a garden on South Quad."



Emily Morgan freshman Pangborn Hall

"Make an appearance on @ndmakeouts."



Henry Schneider

"Climb to the top of the St. Mary's water tower."



David Diaz junior Alumni Hall "Run through Stonehenge."

Have a question you want answered?

Email obsphoto@gmail.com









A referee lifts senior Joey "Kangaroo" Kim's arm to pronounce him the winner of his match against MBA student Brendan "Mr. Balloonhands" Andrew in last night's quarterfinal for the 155-lb. divison. Bengals Bouts is an annual boxing tournament that raises funds for Holy Cross Missions in Bangladesh.



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Corrections

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.

THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

Friday	Saturday
Train Your Inner Jedi! St. Liam Hall 3:30 p.m4:30 p.m. Workshop to cultivate focus and calmness.	Annual Bridal Expo Joyce Center 9:30 a.m5 p.m. Fashion shows by Ashlee Rene's Bridal.
National Sports and	Saturday Vigil Mass
Fitness Day	Basilica of the Sacre
Rolfs Sports	Heart.
Recreation	5 p.m6 p.m.
Center	Mass in the Basilica.
Allday	

Free giveaways.

Purcell Pavilion 2 p.m.-4 p.m. n shows by Notre Dame vs. Rene's Bridal. Cincinnati.

Sunday

Men's Basketball

Campus Girl Scouts Cookie Booth Sale Lafortune Student Center 2:30 p.m.-4 p.m. Email girlscout@ nd.edu for information.

"Indictment of Child Labor by the Arts" Hesburgh Center 7:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. CCHR Symposium.

Monday

Want your event included here?

Email obsnews.nd@gmail.com

"Accurate Filtering with 3DVAR for **Dissipative Systems**" Hayes-Healy Center 4 p.m.-5 p.m. ACMS Colloquium.

Women's Basketball

Purcell Pavilion 7 p.m.-9 p.m. Notre Dame vs. Svracuse.

Tuesday

Four:7 Catholic Fellowship

Cavanaugh Hall 8:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Student-led fellowship.

RecSports 'holiday' supports fitness goals



RECSPORTS 2011–2012 ACADEMIC YEAR

 OFFERED 372 PROGRAMS HAD 245,676 VISITORS TO ROLFS SPORTS **RECREATION CENTER AND 137,217 VISITORS** TO ROCKNE MEMORIAL RAISED \$8,500 FOR LOCAL CHARITIES CO-SPONSORED THE PINK ZONE SPIN-A-THON

By CATHERINE OWERS News Writer

In celebration of National Recreational Sports and Fitness Day today, the Office of Recreational Sports (RecSports) is encouraging students not only to be fit, but also to inform its directors on how they are using campus facilities to accomplish their fitness goals.

BRANDON KEELEAN | The Observer

Mary Strebinger, communications and marketing coordinator, said RecSports will ask people who use their facilities to fill out sheets of paper with their planned activities or fitness

goals for the day.

"They'll see these slips of paper that say 'It's your day, celebrate your way," Strebinger said. "We'll post the stories throughout the day to share with our community."

said this is Strebinger RecSports' second year celebratingthedaystartedbytheNational Intramural-Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA).

"It's our national holiday, not just for RecSports, but for any recreational program [in a] collegiate or university institution," she said. "NIRSA started this initiative about 10 years ago, and it's growing in the community as a day to be recognized."

RecSports is also using the day to promote the activities and programs it provides throughout

the year, Strebinger said. Signs around campus athletic and exercise facilities will share statistics about RecSports' events and users.

RecSports offered 372 programs during the 2011-12 school year, according to the office's Year in Review report. Rolfs Sports Recreation Center and Rockne Memorial had 245,676 and 137, 217 recreational users, respectively.

RecSports also raised \$8,500 for local charities and partnered with the women's basketball team and the College of Science to sponsor the Pink Zone Spin-A-Thon.

Strebinger said RecSports offers opportunities for all community members, including non-students.

"It's not just for students," she said. "I think they [the community] think we do a lot of intramural sports, competitions, fitness classes," she said, "but we also have family programs, swim lessons and outdoor sports programs."

emphasized Strebinger RecSports is a service-driven business and hopes to better learn its users' goals through National Recreational Sports and Fitness Day.

"We want to know a little bit more about the people who do come in," she said. "I hope people enjoy the day, and even if you can't celebrate on Friday, find another day to celebrate."

Contact Catherine Owers at cowers@nd.edu

Week educates students on positive body image

By KELLY KONYA News Writer

Next week, Saint Mary's annual Love Your Body Week will educate students on how to maintain a healthy and self-accepting lifestyle in connection with National Eating Disorders Week.

Sophomore Kelly Gutrich, cochair of Love Your Body Week, said 2011 alumna Christina Grasso inspired the planning committee to incorporate eating disorder awareness into the Week's events. Grasso cofounded the New York chapter of Project HEAL: Help to Eat, Accept and Live, which promotes self-acceptance and positive body image.

Grasso said members of Project HEAL work as mentors and consultants to diminish society's obsession with body

image, which is a common cause of eating disorders. Only one in 10 of the approximately 24 million Americans suffering from eating disorders receives the necessary treatment, according to the National Association of Anorexia Nervosa and Associated Disorders.

As an undergraduate at the College, Grasso helped begin Love Your Body Week in 2011 and spoke about her own battle with anorexia at one of the first events.

"I am more than willing to get a little uncomfortable in front of a crowd disclosing parts of my own experience for the good of others," Grasso said. "I battled an eating disorder for 10 years, and it gives great meaning to my journey to know that I have made the lives of others even slightly easier."

Project HEAL's mission will begin Monday with a panel discussion titled "Biting Back" at 7 p.m. in Madeleva Hall. Assistant professor of psychology Bettina Spencer and 2011 alumna Gina Storti will speak Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Vander Vennet Theatre in the Student Center, presenting their research in a talk titled "Love your body? Body image at SMC compared to ND." On Wednesday, assistant professor of communication studies Terri Russ will lecture on "Beautiful Body Battles, Why Are We All Chasing Unicorns?" at 7 p.m. in Carroll Auditorium in Madeleva Hall.

These events are in keeping with the Project HEAL mission to promote positive mental and physical approaches to body image among women.

"As an organization, we This year's events related to strive to raise awareness about eating disorders and raise funds to provide scholarships to send applicants to eating disorder treatment," Grasso said. Grasso said Project HEAL

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BRANDON KEELEAN | The Observer

assists women who cannot afford treatment for these disorders. This treatment costs between \$500 and \$2,000 per day and is not usually covered by health care, according to the South Carolina Department of Mental Health.

"Since our launch five years ago, we have raised over \$200,000 and sent seven applicants to treatment, all of whom are doing well and reclaiming their lives" Grasso said. "Inpatient and residential treatment for eating disorders are often imperative for survival and recovery." Visit theprojectheal.org for more information on Project HEAL. For more information on Love Your Body Week, visit saintmarys.edu/love-your-body-week

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Annual plunge benefits orphans

By CAROLYN HUTYRA News Writer

Students can provide hope for HOPE on Saturday by taking an icy dip in Saint Joseph's Lake during the fourth annual Polar Bear Plunge.

The fundraising event will take place from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday at Saint Joseph's Beach and is a joint effort between Badin and Dillon Halls.

Badin Hall president Cristin Pacifico said the Plunge raises money for the HOPE Initiative, a charity in Nepal that promotes education and operates an orphanage. She said Badin's hall fellow, industrial design professor Ann-Marie Conrado, helped start the organization.

"All the money and proceeds we raise from this event go to Nepal to help orphans go to school," Pacifico said.

Participating in the Plunge is free, but Pacifico said students can donate \$5 to receive raffle tickets for the event. Pacifico said ticket pre-sales will be today in North and South Dining Halls and the LaFortune Student Center.

"Those tickets will guarantee that you get put in a raffle for different prizes like gift cards," Pacifico said. "We'll also be raffling off some of the fair trade goods like hats and scarves that are made by the Nepali women."

Badin Hall vice president Brianna Leon said the raffle reflects HOPE's support for fair trade commerce. She said Badin's annual Conscious Christmas event, which takes place in the late fall, also supports this mission.

The event coordinators hope 400 to 500 people participate in the Plunge, Pacifico said. She said approximately 200 people participated last year and the event raised more than \$2,000 in total.

"Thanks to the funds raised from the Polar Bear Plunge and the other fundraisers that we do, [the orphans] are able to go to the top school in Nepal," Leon said.

Pacifico said any donation is welcome and encouraged. Those who would like to donate but not participate in the Plunge will still receive a ticket to enter the prize lottery.

Heritage Week celebrates SMC legacy

By CAILIN CROWE News Writer

Saint Mary's students and alumnae paid tribute to their heritage Thursday evening with a dinner in the Noble Family Dining Hall that celebrated the College's rich history and promising future.

The dinner also garnered enthusiasm for the launch of the College's Capital Campaign on Friday, according to a flier provided at the dinner. The Campaign plans to raise \$80 million for scholarships, professorships, facility improvements and other projects.

At the dinner, vice president for mission Sr. Veronique Wiedower attested to the value of Saint Mary's heritage.

"The convergence of Heritage Week with the Capital Campaign brings a special opportunity to



Sr. Veronique Wiedower donned the traditional garb of Saint Mary's first president, Mother Pauline O'Neil.

rejoice in the rich legacy that is Saint Mary's and to sustain the excellence of the educational opportunities of which students have been afforded," Wiedower said.

Chair of the Board of Trustees Mary Burke expressed appreciation for her time as an undergraduate at the College. "I want to do everything I can to help young women receive a Saint Mary's education," Burke said.

Junior Kat Sullivan said the dinner was an opportunity for alumnae and students to connect.

"It's been amazing to interact with alumnae because these are the women giving back to our

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

school," she said. "I hope that I can give back to Saint Mary's in the same way one day."

Wiedower acknowledged Saint Mary's history by dressing up as Mother Pauline O'Neil, the College's first president from 1895 to 1931. Wearing O'Neil's traditional garb, she said history and heritage are distinct.

"History recalls the facts about the past," she said. "Heritage, on the other hand, is the remembering. A spirit that endures through time today, we are celebrating that essence at Saint Mary's."

Burke praised the women of Saint Mary's past and present.

"The world needs Saint Mary's College," she said. "Our communities, our world and our families need faith-built leaders."

Contact Cailin Crowe at ccrowe01@saintmarys.edu

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"I think [the money raised] really goes toward a good cause," Pacifico said. "We've had Skype sessions with the Nepali kids and ...we've also been able to see the kids grow up and to see where that money is going, that it really does give them hope to have a better future."

Pacifico said the Plunge offers Notre Dame students the opportunity for a unique thrill.

"What other time of your life can you dive into a freezing cold lake in February in South Bend other than the Polar Bear Plunge?" she said.

Contact Carolyn Hutyra at chutyra@nd.edu

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Businessman urges students to think globally



JULIE HERDER | The Obsei

Siemens executive Thomas Herder spoke to students on developing a global mindset Thursday in Spes Unica.

By KAITLYN RABACH News Writer

Thomas Herder, general counsel of the energy division of Siemens AG, kicked off the Saint Mary's Department of Global Studies series called "On Developing Global Mindset" with a lecture Thursday in Spes Unica.

Herder said part of developing a global mindset is knowing companies cannot only rely on the United States, Germany and Japan. He said because many other countries are growing rapidly, there must be a shift away from a Eurocentric approach to business.

"Siemens looks at the global market, breaks it down into regions and then focuses in on certain countries," Herder said. "We then strategize from that mindset. We are a German company with a strong global footprint."

Herder said cultural sensitivity is essential for success in international business.

"It is important to do your

homework so you know up front what you are going to be dealing with and how you as a foreigner will be treated in that specific setting," he said. "It is essential to understand and appreciate different cultures, but it is also important to be aware of your own perspective and what is driving you. That way you won't let others take advantage of you in the business setting."

Herder said taking a few basic business classes helps prepare students for the global marketplace. He also emphasized the importance of having language and writing skills.

"Liberal arts education teaches people how to think," Herder said. "I can teach people how to negotiate contracts, but I cannot teach them how to think."

Herder urged students to take advantage of the opportunities presented to them.

"The only constant is change," he said. "Embrace it, get used to it and look for opportunities for value-added change. Those who resist [change] are going to be left behind." Herder expressed the importance of compliance in a world where corruption is a problem.

Compliance is important to Herder, he said, because Siemens had to pay \$1.9 billion in fines to the European Commission and Justice Department in 2009 for corrupt business practices. Although Herder was not implicated in the allegations, he said he saw the scandal's negative affects on the company.

"If people in our company had done the right thing, we wouldn't have had to pay \$1.9 billion in fines and a lot of families would not have suffered," he said. "From a global perspective, we see the darker side of corruption and the horrific effects it has on developing nations. I believe we are obliged to point out things that are wrong."

Herder reminded students of the importance of common sense when traveling to unfamiliar places. He said women should be especially careful.

"Do not let this stop you from traveling or taking advantage of job opportunities," he said. "Just be aware of your surroundings."

Workplace diversity is an important component of developing a global mindset, Herder said.

"Companies are trying to get additional representation from minorities," he said. "More representation adds to the richness of the company. Each individual comes with such different perspectives. This new major [of Global Studies] allows you to explore these different perspectives and develop a global mindset."

Contact Kaitlyn Rabach at krabac01@saintmarys.edu

Lecture addresses evolving language



Barry McCrea, an English professor and published author, discussed the advantages and disadvantages of the malleability of language.

By MEG HANDELMAN News Writer

English professor Barry McCrea discussed the relationship between language and modernity at the inaugural Keough Family Professorship of Irish Studies lecture Thursday in McKenna Hall.

McCrea specializes in modern European and Irish literature. He released a book called "Minor Languages and the Modernist Imagination" this year.

The abandonment of language and dialects in rural communities is one of modernity's immediate effects, McCrea said at the lecture.

"The mass adoption by rural population of standard languages as mediums for communication was a highly intimate form of globalization, one which produced a tangible change for how language itself was produced," he said.

McCrea said two main factors instigated the switch from dialects to regional language people began to move to cities where a need for unity in communication existed, and a mass marginalization took place in the countryside as new languages began to replace the old.

"Merely feeling or imagining that somewhere out there, there existed another language that might be more authentically their own freed writers up to experiment with the languages they knew, like English," McCrea said. "They felt that English was borrowed and there was another language for them out there to be located."

This sense of disconnectedness to their native language inspired writers to use language in new ways, McCrea said. Although people long for language to feel truly theirs, he said it is a natural predicament that language will always frustrate this longing. Above all, adopting non-native languages offered the writers a new way to express their vision, McCrea said. "Choosing to write as a nonnative in a particular language whose vernacular life has quickly disappeared was a way for both [Irish writer Seán Ó] Ríordáin and [Italian writer Pier Paolo] Pasolini to express ... a possible utopian vision of a language in which one might feel truly native to the world," McCrea said. "A modernist ideal, really, of the new, perfect language for art."



NEWS

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Blazers

CONTINUED FROM PAGE I

can incorporate into events and into the Duncan community," he said. "They can be more than another apparel item."

Duncan rector Terence Fitzgibbons said he hoped Duncan residents would wear the blazers to their upcoming dance in Chicago.

Whelan said the blazers appealed to him personally because of his southern background.

"Coming north from Savannah, Ga., I've had to adjust to the change from buttondowns and khakis to sweatshirts and sweatpants," he said. "I like the idea of getting something more formal for our dorm."

Whelan said his roommate last school year developed the idea by suggesting Duncan add green blazers to its apparel offerings.

The next step was bringing the idea to Duncan's rector last spring. Whelan said Fitzgibbons suggested making the purchase of Duncan Hall blazers a lasting tradition open to the whole dorm.

Whelan said he took a poll of Duncan residents about their interest in dorm blazers and the amount they would be willing to pay. Each blazer cost \$72 and the opportunity to purchase a blazer

"I like the idea of getting something more formal for our dorm."

Joseph Whelan vice president Duncan Hall

was both voluntary and available to the entire dorm, he said.

Whalen said he was glad so many people participated in the event.

"It was fantastic to see such a great turnout," he said. "This kind of community support is important because without support we can't start new traditions."

Contact Christian Meyers cmyers8@nd.edu

Zhang

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

touched so many people. You know she touched you, but you don't know how she touched others."

Seabaugh said this fellowship will be awarded to a student who expresses Zhang's zeal for lab research early in his or her undergraduate career.

"We wanted to make a fellowship ... that will engage people at a young age and get them in the lab as she wanted to get into the lab at a young age," he said. "It'll give us a chance to share some stories we had about her, maybe use her life and the things she did around here to inspire others."

Saint Mary's chemistry professor Toni Barstis, who advises the dual-degree program in engineering in which Zhang participated, said the dedication of the fellowship was meaningful.

"I'm humbled and deeply grateful to Dr. Seabaugh for this dedication," Barstis said.

Zhang's generous and

energetic spirit made her "great to work with," Seabaugh said, and he was affected by that spirit when her family came to South Bend from China after their daughter's death.

"[Ziqi] inspired me with the way she treated others," he said. "Her family was also incredible. ... You might think they would be angry about the decision

"We wanted to make a fellowship ... that will engage people at a young age and get them in the a lab."

Alan Seebaugh professor electrical engineering

to allow her to come [to Notre Dame], but they said they were honored that she did come. It was incredibly generous and the kind of spirit she had too. It came from her family." The fellowship is flexible in the area of research it could support within engineering or science, Seabaugh said.

"We'll be very open about where the fellowship will go," he said. "We'll just find the person most interested in their field of choice."

Seabaugh said the intention is to continue funding a fellowship in Zhang's honor each year.

"We decided in our local community to offer it for this year for now," he said. "But maybe someone will come along and feel like this is a useful thing to endow."

Although the application window has officially closed, Seabaugh said students could technically still apply because final selections have not yet been made. Interested students should contact Seabaugh, Barstis or Notre Dame professor Heidi Deethardt for more information.

Contact Kristen Durbin at kdurbin@nd.edu

Bangladesh

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

only planned the crimes]?" Ahmed said.

Graduate student Rumana Reaz Arifin agreed a life sentence was inadequate.

"It has been preplanned, it has been organized, it has been cold-blooded and it has been executed," Arifin said. "It's not just a murder. It's a genocide."

Ashraf Khan, also a graduate student, said although Mullah's sentencing instigated the nationwide protests, the focus has expanded to calling for justice for all people accused of war crimes in 1971.

Ahmed said the movement is "very nonpolitical and nonviolent."

Forms of protest have included a candle vigil on Valentine's Day, flying the national flag, singing the national anthem in schools and observing silence for three minutes nationwide, Arifin said. She said many protests occur in Shahbagh Square in Dhaka, Bangladesh's capital, but they are taking place in cities across the South Asian nation.

"If you think about [the fact that] the whole country is rais-

"It has been preplanned, it has been organized, it has been coldblooded and it has been executed... It's not just murder. It's a genocide."

Rumana Reaz Arifin graduate student

ing their voice or showing their protest for one single thing, then it's really a mass upheaval," Arifin said.

To express support for the activists, the Notre Dame students from Bangladesh held a symbolic protest Feb. 8 in front of Main Building. Ahmed said the group arranged candles in the shape of the Bengali numerals for "71" to express respect for the people murdered in 1971.

"It shows we are with them," Ahmed said. "We gathered in front of the Dome. We all get together and show our protest with posters, both in our own language and English to show that we want ... capital punishment [for the war criminals]."

Bangladeshi students at other American universities are also expressing protest, Ahmed said.

Arifin said the Notre Dame students from Bangladesh wanted the University community to know about the situation in their country, especially because the Congregation of Holy Cross runs Notre Dame College in Dhaka. She said the group could create an informational exhibition if community members were interested in learning more.

"If somebody wants to know more, then we can show more," Arifin said. "We can tell them about the history."

Contact Marisa Iati at miati@nd.edu

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NEWS

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NEWS

Youth find unique protest method

Associated Press

CAIRO — An Egyptian opposition group is using a novel way to protest against President Mohammed Morsi: Sign him up for a chance to win a trip to space.

The April 6 Youth Movement said on its official Facebook page on Thursday that it had entered the Islamist leader's name in the online contest because it wanted to be rid of him. It called on supporters to vote for the president so he'd have a chance to win the trip into space.

There was no immediate response from the president's press office to an email seeking comment.

"For sure, no one in the universe can put up with blatant

lies, reneging on promises except for the brotherly people of the moon," the group wrote on its post.

"It is for this reason that the president needs your votes. President Morsi, we wish you safe travels."

April 6 was a driving force behind the 2011 uprising that toppled Hosni Mubarak's regime. Many of its supporters backed Morsi in the June 2012 election he narrowly won to become Egypt's first freely elected president.

But later, the group became among the fiercest critics of the president and his Muslim Brotherhood, the fundamentalist group from which he hails. The opposition accuses Morsi of monopolizing power and going back on campaign promises to have an inclusive government and introduce far reaching reforms.

Morsi's supporters say the new government cannot immediately fix years of neglect and poor administration from Mubarak's 29-year rule.

The group also posted a collage of Morsi, who is a U.S.trained engineer, in a white space suit.

"I want to go to space because I completed my mission," April 6 mockingly quoted Morsi as saying below his image.

The contest is being run by Axe, a brand of men's grooming products. It promises to send 22 people to the edge of space and back aboard a private spaceship. For the competition, Axe

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teamed up with U.S. astronaut Buzz Aldrin, the second man to walk on the moon during NASA's Apollo 11 mission in 1969.

Contestants sign up and then get their friends to vote for them. Those with the most votes move to the next stage where they compete in their own country for a chance to go into space. The top recruits advance to a space camp in Orlando, Florida, where they are to take part in three training missions. A panel of space experts chooses those contestants they think are prepared to make the trip into space.

The winners then are to fly 103 kilometers (64 miles) into space with the space tourism company, Space Expedition Corp.



Chavez's health remains secret

Associated Press

VENEZUELA

CARACAS — At Caracas' military hospital, the only outward signs that President Hugo Chavez is a patient inside are the motorcades that come and go and the soldiers standing guard, some of them wearing red berets.

A poster with a large photo of Chavez smiling sits atop the Dr. Carlos Arvelo Military Hospital, but it has been there since long before the socialist leader was admitted upon his return from his latest cancer treatment in Cuba.

Some of the president's supporters shout "Viva Chavez!" and "He's back!" as they drive past the hospital, which this week has become the new center of attention in Chavez's 21-month-long cancer struggle.

The government provided an update on Chavez's condition Thursday night, saying that he remained at the hospital and that "the medical treatment for the fundamental illness continues without presenting significant adverse effects."

Information Minister Ernesto Villegas read the statement on television, saying that a "respiratory insufficiency" that arose in the weeks after the surgery "persists and its tendency has not been favorable, thus it continues to be treated." The government has said Chavez is breathing through a tracheal tube.

"The patient remains in communication with his relatives, with the political team of his government and in close cooperation with his medical team," Villegas said, adding that Chavez "keeps clinging to Christ, with a maximum will to live."

The government hasn't released a single photo of Chavez since his arrival in Caracas on Monday, and that has led some Venezuelans to question whether he's actually in the hospital. Others insist he is there, just out of sight while undergoing treatment. "There, where you see that balcony, the president is there," said Juan Carlos Hernandez, a street vendor who pointed to the ninth floor, where Chavez is said to be staying. Hernandez, who sells snacks from a stand with a parasol, said he used to work as a military police officer and provided security at the hospital from 2004 to 2006. He said the ninth floor has a special wing with various rooms where important people are typically taken for treatment, including generals and other military officers.



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SYRIA

Bombs explode in civil war

Associated Press

DAMASCUS — A car bomb exploded Thursday near Syria's ruling party headquarters in Damascus, killing at least 53 people and scattering mangled bodies among the blazing wreckage in one of the bloodiest days in the capital since the uprising began almost two years ago.

Elsewhere in the city, two other bombs struck intelligence offices, killing 22, and mortar rounds hit the army's central command, activists said.

Recent rebel advances in the Damascus suburbs, combined with the bombings and three straight days of mortar attacks, mark the most sustained challenge of the civil war for control of the seat of President Bashar Assad's power.

Syrian state media said the car bombing near the Baath Party headquarters and the Russian Embassy was a suicide attack that killed 53 civilians and wounded more than 200, with children among the casualties. Anti-regime activists put the death toll at 61, which would make it the deadliest Damascus bombing of the revolt.

The violence has shattered the sense of normalcy that the Syrian regime has desperately tried to maintain in Damascus, a city that has largely been insulated from the bloodshed and destruction that has left other urban centers in ruins.

The rebels launched an offensive on Damascus in July following a stunning bombing on a high-level government crisis meeting that killed four top regime officials, including Assad's brother-in-law and the defense minister. Following that attack, rebel groups that had established footholds in the suburbs pushed in, battling government forces for more than a week before being routed and swept out.

Since then, government warplanes have pounded opposition strongholds on the outskirts, and rebels have managed only small incursions on the city's southern and eastern sides. But the recent bombings and mortar attacks suggest that instead of trying a major assault, rebel fighters are resorting to guerrilla tactics to loosen Assad's grip on the heavily fortified capital. The fighting in Damascus also follows a string of tactical victories in recent weeks for the rebels - capturing the nation's largest hydroelectric dam and overtaking airbases in the northeast - that have contributed to the sense that

the opposition may be gaining some momentum.

But Damascus is the ultimate prize in the civil war, and many view the battle for the ancient city as the most probable endgame of a conflict that according to U.N. estimates has killed nearly 70,000 people.

To defend the capital, Assad is using his most reliable and loyal troops, activists say, including the Republican Guard and the feared 4th Division, commanded by his brother, Maher. Armed checkpoints have sprung up across the city as part of the regime's efforts to keep the rebels at bay.

Thursday's car bomb hit a checkpoint on a bustling thoroughfare in the central Mazraa neighborhood between the Baath Party headquarters and the Russian Embassy. The force of the explosion shattered the balconies of apartment blocks along the tree-lined street and blew out the windows and doors of the party building.

Video of the blast site on Syrian state TV showed firefighters dousing a flaming car with hoses, while lifeless and dismembered bodies were tossed onto the grass of a nearby park. The state news agency, SANA, published photos showing a large crater in the middle of the rubble-strewn street and charred cars with blackened bodies inside.

"It was huge. Everything in the shop turned upside down," one local resident said. He said three of his employees were injured by flying glass that killed a young girl who was walking by when the blast hit.

"I pulled her inside the shop, but she was almost gone. We couldn't save her. She was hit in the stomach and head," he said, speaking on condition of anonymity for fear of retribution for talking to foreign media.

Ambulances rushed to the scene of the blast, which sent a

Gun battle kills three

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Bullets were flying from a black Range Rover at a gray Maserati as the vehicles raced toward a red light on the Las Vegas Strip.

Beneath the neon lights, police say, the Maserati ran a red light at one of the Strip's busiest intersections and smashed into a taxi that exploded into flames early Thursday, killing the two people inside.

Three more cars and a utility truck also collided at the crossroads home to Bellagio, Caesars Palace and Bally's, injuring at least six more people as the Range Rover sped off in the pre-dawn darkness.

The Maserati driver was pronounced dead at a hospital.

The dramatic scene that more than one tourist compared to something out of a violent action movie set off a frantic search for the occupants of the Range Rover that continued into the night, and marked the latest violent episode on the Strip since the beginning of the year.

Two people were critically wounded in a shooting at a parking garage Feb. 6, and a tourist was stabbed Saturday in an elevator at The Hotel at Mandalay Bay.

Clark County Sheriff Doug Gillespie told reporters



Police rope off the scene of a shooting and multi-car accident on the Las Vegas Strip early Thursday.

several hours after Thursday's attack that it was sparked by an argument in the valet area of the nearby Aria hotel-casino, and that the violence at the intersection of Las Vegas Boulevard and Flamingo Road did not reflect the values of Las Vegas residents or visitors.

"What happened will not be tolerated," Gillespie said. He promised the shooters would be "found and prosecuted to the full extent of the law."

On the Strip — closed and snarling traffic throughout the day until reopening late Thursday night — the fiery rampage shocked tourists. "We get stabbings, and gang violence," said Mark Thompson, who was visiting from Manchester, England, with his wife, "but this is like something out of a movie. Like 'Die Hard' or something."

Police said they were contacting authorities in three neighboring states about the Range Rover Sport with dark tinted windows and distinctive black custom rims and plates that fled the scene about 4:20 a.m. It had a car dealer's advertisement in place of a license plate.

In Southern California, the California Highway Patrol alerted officers in at least three counties to be on the lookout for the SUV.



huge cloud of black smoke billowing into the sky.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attack, but suspicion will likely fall upon one of the most extreme of Syria's myriad rebel factions, Jabhat al-Nusra.

The group, which the U.S. has designated to be a terrorist organization, has claimed past bombings on regime targets, including the double suicide blast outside an intelligence building in May that killed 55. Such tactics have galvanized Assad's supporters and made many other Syrians distrustful of the rebel movement as a whole, most of whose fighters do not use such tactics. MEXICO

Officials vow to search for missing persons



A member of a caravan of Central American mothers displays a picture of her missing child during a Mass at the Basilica of Guadalupe in Mexico City.

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — Mexico said Thursday that it will work with the International Red Cross on the search for thousands of people who have disappeared during the country's six-yearold war on drug cartels.

Officials provided few details of the arrangement signed in a public ceremony by the head of the International Red Cross and Interior Secretary Miguel Angel Osorio Chong.

The Red Cross said in a statement that it would provide "studies, protocols and technical assistance related to the search for the disappeared" but gave no specifics. Red Cross officials said they could not release a copy of the agreement, and the Interior Department did not immediately respond to requests for a copy.

The agreement was signed a day after Human Rights Watch released a report that describes 249 cases of disappearances, most of which appeared to have been carried out by Mexico's military or law enforcement. Also on Wednesday, Mexican officials said they had a preliminary count of more than 27,000 people reported missing over the last six years, the majority of the cases blamed on drug cartels or smaller gangs.

Interior Subsecretary for Human Rights Lia Limon told MVS Radio on Thursday that the government would work to collect DNA from families of the disappeared, data that she called key to matching missing persons' reports with the thousands of unidentified corpses found around Mexico in recent years.

She said the federal Attorney General's Office had assembled a list of 27,523 missing people and the government is working to add to the sometimes sketchy information. She said the database would be constantly updated.

A civic organization released a database late last year that it said contained official information on more than 20,000 people who had gone missing in Mexico since former President Felipe Calderon began his six-year term Dec. 1, 2006, and launched a campaign against cartels. In posting the database on its website, Propuesta Civica, or Civic Proposal, said the information was collected by the Attorney General's Office.

The missing in Propuesta Civica's database include police officers, bricklayers, housewives, lawyers, students, businessmen and more than 1,200 children under age 11. They are listed one by one with such details as name, age, gender and the date and place where the person disappeared.

The Human Rights Watch report said security personnel sometimes work with criminals, detaining victims and handing them over to gangs. The report cites incidents in which investigators used information collected in a case to pose as kidnappers and demand ransom payments from the victims' families.

Authorities frequently fail to take even the most basic investigative steps, such as tracing victims' cellphone or bank records, and rely on investigations.

Courts approve same-sex adoptions

Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — Puerto Rico's Supreme Court narrowly voted Wednesday to uphold a law banning gay couples from adopting children.

The 5-4 vote came in the case of an unidentified woman who has sought for the last eight years to adopt a 12-year-old girl who her partner of more than 20 years had through in vitro fertilization. It was the first time that the court heard a case on samesex adoptions.

A majority of judges upheld the constitutionality of a law that states a person cannot adopt a single-parent child if the would-be adopter is of the same sex as the child's mother or father without that parent losing their legal rights.

The judges also said a family composed of a mother and father is best for a child's dignity, stability and well-being.

"The state ... has not criminalized their sentimental relationship, but it does not have a constitutional obligation to award this relationship the same rights that other relationships have when it comes to adoption procedures," the majority's opinion said.

The majority also found that so-called second-parent adoptions, in which couples jointly adopt children, do not apply in Puerto Rico. That issue affects the case in question in part, the majority said, because the girl would have to be registered with two mothers and the U.S. territory's laws do not address such a situation.

The judges said it is up to legislators to change adoption

laws if they see fit.

"Starting today, the applicant should channel her efforts through the Legislative Assembly," the majority wrote, noting that courts in Nebraska, Ohio, Wisconsin and Connecticut have struck down similar cases.

CABE, an umbrella group that represents more than a dozen local human rights organizations, said the opinion shows the legal and social vulnerabilities of the island's gay and lesbian community.

"This opinion saddens us because we know that today they have emotionally destroyed a Puerto Rican family and left it without legal protections," said spokesman Osvaldo Burgos.

Chief Justice Federico Hernandez Denton dissented from the ruling, calling the law unconstitutional and saying the plaintiff's lawyers proved the proposed adoption would benefit the child. The girl, he noted, "proudly states: 'I have two mothers.'"

"Both (women) have ideal emotional skills, intuition and protective instinct to guarantee the girl's full and healthy development," he wrote. "In addition, tests showed that (the girl) is mentally stable, does exceptionally well in school and gets along very well with children her age."

By not allowing a second parent adoption, the girl does not benefit from the woman's medical insurance or a possible will, and the petitioner would lose custody if the girl's birth mother died or if the couple broke up, he said.

Hernandez began his opinion with a quote from President Barack Obama's inaugural address in January, in which he said that "our journey is not complete until our gay brothers and sisters are treated like anyone else under the law."

The chief justice criticized the judges who upheld the law, saying they interpreted Puerto Rico's constitution in the context of the times in which it was adopted more than 60 years ago, "as if it were an ancient manuscript encapsulated in a crystal urn." Hernandez also noted that in 1976, Puerto Rico's Supreme Court allowed a single woman to adopt the daughter of her ex-lover without him losing his biological rights. "While the rest of the world keeps opening its doors to the legitimate complaints of human beings discriminated against for their sexual orientation, the majority of this court refuses to declare the law in question as unconstitutional," he said.



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VIEWPOINT

INSIDE COLUMN

Two families



Ann Marie Jakubowski News Writer

Like all high school seniors this time of year, my younger brother has a serious decision ahead of him. He's deciding where to go to college and he's split between accepting offers from Notre Dame and the University of Michigan.

In my house, this is a legitimately difficult decision, even though the right choice is obvious to all of us here in South Bend. In the spirit of total honesty, I'll admit it - my family members are Michigan fans, cheering for the Michigan Wolverines even before the Irish. I like to think of myself as a success story in this regard, living proof that one can overcome such a dismal situation. I have been wheedling my sister and brothers to change their ways and join me, bombarding them with Notre Dame apparel for Christmas and talking ad nauseam about how generally awesome this place is.

But when my brother opened that Welcome Home letter a few months ago, I began to look at our school in a whole new light. We hear a lot of talk about our "Notre Dame family" and the ways it fosters a sense of community and hospitality on campus, from Frosh-O weekend to the student section in the stadium. I had never thought, though, about what it would mean to share that adopted family with a biological family member.

I love my family at home more than anything else. They provided me with love and support that formed me indelibly during my 18 years living with them, and I have been lucky enough to find a similarly positive "family" in my past two years at Notre Dame. And I really, really hope my brother comes here. I hope he reads this eventually, after accepting his offer and submitting the deposit, and a precious Hallmark-esque "awww" moment ensues. I haven't had the legacy student experience at Notre Dame, with grandparents who rubbed shoulders with Knute Rockne and parents who remember when Mod Quad was actually modern. I can't imagine how much fun it would be to have a brother here and, sappy as it sounds, I'm thinking about what it would be like to turn onto Notre Dame Avenue for the first time with him on move-in weekend and catch a glimpse of the dome (I'm blushing. But really). I love my home family, and I love my Notre Dame family, and for the first time, there exists the possibility that the two don't have to be separated. I belong to two families, one I chose and one I didn't. And here's hoping that the baby bro helps me bring the two together.

Notice men's basketball



If the Notre Dame men's basketball team defeats Cincinnati at Purcell Pavilion on Sunday, it will mark the fourth straight season in which the Irish have earned 10 wins in the Big East — a remarkable feat considering the conference has consistently stood atop college basketball during the past decade.

It's a shame so many students have failed to notice. Irish coach Mike Brey's squad — which recently clinched its seventh consecutive 20-win season, the first time that feat has been accomplished in program history — has consistently competed among the conference's elite during his 13 seasons at the helm. But with Brey set to accomplish a personal milestone four consecutive NCAA tournament berths for the first time in his coaching career — the student body has been mostly apathetic.

Unless a marquee program like Kentucky, Syracuse or Louisville is in town, the student section of Purcell Pavilion is mostly a ghost town. Even the enticement of ESPN's "College GameDay" coming to campus could not attract a large student crowd, and the network's strategic camera angles could not hide the fact that the vast majority of seats were empty. The electric atmosphere of that evening's five-overtime thriller against Louisville carried little weight four days later when DePaul and Notre Dame played another overtime.

For a program that is consistently among the best in what is typically the nation's best conference, the lack of support makes little sense. College basketball games are only two hours (with the exception of fiveovertime tilts), which is the perfect amount of time for a midweek study break or a weekend activity. Even the price is affordable. When members of the Class of 2013 were freshmen, a student ticket booklet cost \$100. This season, one could be purchased for \$65. If you just attended the seven Big East games and the November matchup against Kentucky and chose not to attend the other non-conference games, it only cost a sliver more than \$8 per game — affordable for even a college student.

Sure, Notre Dame might not offer the best ticket policy and could offer some flexibility to students akin to other universities. Many students want to see Kentucky, Syracuse or Louisville, but they don't want to pay for games against Evansville and Monmouth in the process. It's not only the early non-conference attendance that suffers (that's somewhat to be expected because of the lack of many marquee matchups), but also the student attendance against quality programs like Villanova, Georgetown and Cincinnati — matchups that students should want to see.

Selection Sunday is three weeks from Sunday, and the Irish are on the brink of clinching yet another bid into the field of 68 teams. Only two home games remain (Cincinnati and March 5 against St. John's), and Brey would no doubt welcome a gaggle of newcomers on the Notre Dame bandwagon as Jack Cooley and Scott Martin, who's currently sidelined with an injury, close out their Irish careers.

There's no doubt Notre Dame's a football school, but the quality teams Brey continues to develop are worthy of more of a showing from the student body. See if you can snag a last-minute ticket or find a friend with season tickets who might have lost interest. Use it as a midterm study break or as some time you set aside to enjoy yourself for the week.

But take the time to notice before the end of another entertaining season has passed.

EDITORIAL CARTOON



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Contact Ann Marie Jakubowski at ajakubo1@nd.edu

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

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The best ideas come as jokes. Make your thinking as funny as possible."

David Ogilvy American advertising executive

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VIEWPOINT

Saturday night's alright

Joel Kolb The Provocateur

The date was Saturday, Feb. 16. Without a home game for men's basketball, the day in my mind was relegated to a mundane workday with little to look forward to — that is, of course, with the exception of burrito night at North Dining Hall. Besides complicating the debate about dining hall superiority, burrito night provides weary, winter-worn students with the motivation to work hard during the day. A fair amount of you know the punch line, as it were, to this story. It turned out, hopefully by some unthinkable oversight, but more likely because of Junior Parents Weekend, that there was no burrito night. The caveman in me wanted to rise up and rebel, but the French in me decided against that. Why exactly did I feel so upset about such an (admittedly) small thing? Barring a physical addiction to burritos, the feeling I experienced was entitlement.

In my mind, every Saturday night is virtually declared as, "Burrito Night in America" by Bob Costas himself. What I was perceived as mine was now taken from me.

Honestly, I would venture to say the majority of us at Notre Dame have little to no experience with entitlements. So as not to get too carried away, my sense of entitlement towards Saturday night burritos is small compared to conventional entitlements — be it public union benefits, unemployment compensation, food stamps etc. What I need to learn, even if it takes something small like a burrito, along with the rest of America, is the danger of entitlements.

Entitlements are, by definition, either something someone feels they have a right to, or something someone actually has a right to. Either definition suffices; however, the line between the two definitions is where entitlements become dangerous. "I have a right to do something" and "I feel I have a right to something" are different things. Once our feeling to have a right becomes an actual right, it is almost impossible to turn back. In a person's mind, there is now a permanent expectation and deserving feeling towards that object, i.e. payment, benefit etc. Simply put, once a person feels entitled to something, there is no turning back.

I would now challenge most people to think of entitlement programs that have been reduced or cut by the federal or state government. There are some examples, but they are few and far between. As of just last year, it was estimated that 62 percent of the annual federal budget went to entitlement programs. Many of our country's fiscal and budgetary problems stem from this fact. A laundry list of problems results from paying entitlements with the majority of tax revenue. Daily operations of the government are sacrificed due to lack of funds. States in particular are faced with the challenge of balancing a budget while a critical amount of their revenue goes to funding entitlement programs.

Take Wisconsin, for example. About two years ago, newly elected Gov. Scott Walker was faced with a \$3.6 billion budget deficit. In order to balance the budget, Walker proposed to make various cuts in different areas of the budget, but the main money-saving decision came in asking teachers to pay for a modest amount more of their health benefits. Walker simply asked public school teachers' unions to pay for 5.8 percent of their pension costs and 12.6 percent of their healthcare costs. Compared to the private sector, the teachers still had a top-tier health and retirement plan. However, because of nothing but a sheer sense of entitlement, the teachers made a preposterous amount of stink about these modest increases. The public teachers union was used to always receiving more and more from the state without thinking about where the money actually came from. When the Wisconsin legislature met to pass the legislation in Madison, protests broke out. Protests are not inherently bad things, but the protesters' presence in Madison had many implications. For one, some of the people were not even Wisconsinites - they had been bussed in from New York. On top of that, teachers in the Madison and Milwaukee school districts took off

time from teaching to join the protest in Madison. At one point, state senators received death threats while walking into the capitol building to do their job.

Ask yourself, what was the cause of these months of mayhem and unrest in the Wisconsin state capitol? The cause was entitlement. The teachers felt it was their right to have these benefits. The power of entitlement caused people to be beside themselves. The power of entitlement resulted in the recall (however unsuccessful) of a governor who had done nothing remotely criminal.

There are a lot of tough choices that need to be made in the near future. If a politician seems hesitant to make a tough change, it is because they are well versed in the power of entitlements. It is virtually political death to try to make major cuts to today's entitlements. The uproar in Wisconsin and political hesitation merely speak to the power of entitlement.

With any luck, this Saturday night we'll all be treated to another burrito. If eaten in the perspective of this column, burrito night can provide not only food, but food for thought.

Joel Kolb lives in St. Edward's Hall and is a sophomore studying mechanical engineering. He can be reached at jkolb1@nd.edu

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

UWIRE

Netflix show captures political drama

Rianna Folds

The Hoya

Netflix has done it again. First, it contributed to Blockbuster's bankruptcy with on-demand DVDs and online streaming. Now, Netflix is gunning for network and cable television with its first original series, "House of Cards." The online structure frees Netflix from the formatting and content constraints of regular television. This should worry channels like NBC and HBO, whose DVD sales are already abysmal thanks to streaming sites like Netflix.

This freedom has allowed Netflix to create a rich, addictive show with an A-list cast. Kevin Spacey stars as Frank Underwood, a member of the House of Representatives out for revenge after he gets passed over for secretary of state. Robin Wright is consummate politician's wife Claire Underwood: a cold, calculating Lady Macbeth. She is the perfect complement to Frank's cunning, chess-like strategy to get back on his lack of promotion. Kate Mara is Zoe Barnes, a typical overeager (and somewhat annoying) rookie reporter. Critically acclaimed director David Fincher helms the first two episodes, and his stark cinematography adds quiet gravity to every shady deal and glamorous gala.

Frank's startling asides are equally compelling. The series premiere opens with Underwood directly addressing the audience as he twists the neck of a canine hit-and-run victim. He continues to do so throughout the show, usually with an eye roll and a snide comment about the person he's trying to schmooze. The most powerful of these moments comes when Underwood delivers a eulogy at the funeral of a teenager from his South Carolina district. He recounts the profound experience of his father's death, turns to the camera and, in the same breath, remarks that his father did nothing but take up space. Instances like these are the genius of "House of Cards." Viewers become complicit in Underwood's underhanded dealings and invested in his plans as we gain further access to his thoughts. This tactic is borrowed from the identically titled BBC miniseries that aired in the nineties, which was adapted from a novel by Michael Dobbs, who is currently an executive producer.

Writer Beau Willimon, who gained prior experience writing the political thriller The Ides of March, updates the show to reflect the current political climate. Claire Underwood runs the Clean Water Initiative, a charity that she wants to expand on an international scale. As ruthless as her husband, Claire fires half of her staff in order to hire one person with access to resources she desperately wants.

"House of Cards" certainly has credentials, but it remains to be seen whether audiences will actually buy into this new television format. Viewers may not be willing to purchase Netflix subscriptions simply for its own original series, but this show is definitely worth watching for current subscribers. Netflix caters to fans of binge watching by placing all thirteen season one episodes online at the same time. This could be the beginning of a new era of television, and "House of Cards" is an ambitious start (Hulu's original series don't count. Let's be real. No one watches those.)

This column originally ran in the Feb. 10 edition of The Hoya, serving Georgetown University.

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



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STAFF OSCARS PICKS

The Scene writers voted on the films they think will win during Sunday's Oscars as well as the films they think should win but probably won't. Do you agree with their picks?



BEST PICTURE:

Will likely win: "Argo"

12

"Argo" is considered the frontrunner of the category after its numerous award wins, not to mention it is an extremely entertaining and well-executed movie. Unless you think the Academy wants to go for yet another biopic like "Lincoln" to take the win (which is certainly a strong possibility), then this film is probably your best bet.

BEST ACTOR:

Will likely win: Daniel Day-Lewis — "Lincoln"

While no man has ever won an Oscar for portraying a president, this guy knocked it out of the park. Daniel Day-Lewis took on the role of the most renowned and beloved president in history: a man who both abolished slavery. Sure, he's won two Oscars already, but the guy crafted his own unique Lincoln that was historically accurate rather than traditional. He is "the" Daniel Day-Lewis, so cower in fear, other nominees.

Should win: Joaquin Phoenix – "The Master"

It's unfortunate that Daniel Day-Lewis and Joaquin Phoenix made such incredible movies in the same year. Daniel Day-Lewis is an undeniably incredible actor, and may take the Oscar, but Phoenix's commitment to his role in this movie was amazing. We had chills throughout the entire movie because of the intensity Phoenix brought to the screen.

Should win: "Zero Dark Thirty"

Like the "Social Network," "Zero Dark Thirty" is a film that defines a major part of our generation. It's controversial and criticized for its alleged inaccuracies, but the film's intensity, acting and heartpounding storyline from start to finish make this, in our opinion, the best film of the year.





BEST DIRECTOR:

Will likely win: Steven Spielberg — "Lincoln"

It's not just because everyone loves Spielberg (even though his film "War Horse" didn't win a single Oscar last year), but more so because he recreated a crucial part of American history — filled with speeches and political debates — in a movie both accurate and enjoyable (for a biopic).

BEST ACTRESS:

Will likely win/should win : Jennifer Lawrence — "Silver Linings Playbook"

She delivered a multi-layered, witty and emotionally powerful performance that would have fell flat with most other actresses. Her role has earned her both a Screen Actors Guild award and a Golden Globe. It's going to be a tough race competing against the outstanding Jessica Chastain, but if she can beat Robert De Niro in a screaming match, Lawrence can take down anyone.

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR:

Will likely win/should win: Robert de Niro — "Silver Linings Playbook"

Should win: Ang Lee — "Life of Pi"

While it's not considered a frontrunner for best picture, you can't ignore the fact that Ang Lee made a supposedly "unfilmable" movie into an Oscar-worthy film. It also helps his chances that Ben Affleck ("Argo") and Kathryn Bigelow ("Zero Dark Thirty") weren't even nominated in this category.



BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS:

Will likely win/should win: Anne Hathaway— "Les Miserables" If you haven't heard it a thousand times already, Anne Hathaway rocked this 20-minute role like a champ. Let's just give her the Oscar already.

BEST ADAPTED SCREENPLAY:

Will likely win/should win: "Lincoln"

The fast-paced dialogue and lengthy monologues in "Lincoln" should earn the film the Oscar for best adapted screenplay. Tony Kushner's storyline relies upon more than a decade's worth of historical research, and Daniel Day-Lewis brings to life one of America's greatest orators.

A P

In a category comprised entirely of past Oscar winners who all gave great performances, it's really anyone's game. But De Niro delivered a heaping dose of both charm and raw emotion to his role. Not only has he not won an Oscar in 32 years, but he also hasn't even been nominated in 21 years. He's overdue and deserves this year's Oscar.

BEST ANIMATED FEATURE:

Will likely win: "Wreck-It Ralph"

It won the Annie Award for best picture, and while that's not a guaranteed victory at the Oscars ("Kung Fu Panda" beat Oscar winner "WALL-E" for that award) it certainly helps. One can certainly argue it's not the best film of the category, but it's still a great, funny and charming movie that has the passionate supporters and awards to guide it to the Oscar win.

Should win: "Frankenweenie"

It's a love letter to classic horror/monster genre and seems to be one of Tim Burton's favorite pet projects. Burton has never won an Oscar before and this humorous, dark and heartfelt animated film could finally be what earns him his time of recognition. To put it simply, it's a great film with a great director who's due for a win.







By WILLIAM NEAL Scene Writer

This year, we've seen arguably one of the best lineups of best picture nominees in a long time.

Between the films "Amour," "Argo," "Beasts of the Southern Wild," "Django Unchained," "Life of Pi," "Lincoln," "Silver Linings Playbook" and "Zero Dark Thirty," there's plenty for Academy members and fans alike to discuss for the Oscars this year. But while there are often one or two clear frontrunners in the category, the race for best picture this year is really turning some heads.

In a surprising turn of events, after Ben Affleck was snubbed from the best director category - an award that often determines the best picture winner — for "Argo," his film has gone on to dominate the award season. So far, "Argo" has brought in key awards from the Director's Guild of America (best

director), Producers Guild Awards (best picture), Writers Guild Awards (best adapted screenplay), British Academy Film Awards (best film/director) and Screen Actors Guild Awards (most outstanding cast), all after the Oscar snub in best director. It seems in the eyes of the public, "Argo" has pushed itself to be the frontrunner of the top award in the movie industry. So where do the other films stand in comparison?

All of the films nominated offer something unique. Films from such a wide variety of genres broke into this category — everything from spaghetti westerns and musicals to stories of war, romance, poverty, fantasy and history. Everyone has their favorite genre, but when that time comes to fill out their Oscar ballot people often do not vote with their favorite. Instead, people often base their vote on the mass public and critical opinion. Competition runs high and even people begin to look at films they once looked

at with awe in a much more critical light. Many critics will argue that while "Life of Pi" is a true achievement in filmmaking and a stunning piece of cinematography, the film doesn't convey its religious message until it is shoved down your throat in the end. Harsh, critics.

Critics argue that the suffocating camera work, several less than impressive performances and the ambiguous theme in "Les Misérables" put it out of the race. "Django Uncahined" and "Zero Dark Thirty" (my personal favorites) are two excellent films, yet the movies' controversial themes of slavery and torture (respectively) will overshadow their chances of winning. As for "Amour" and "Beasts of the Southern Wild," I believe the two films are just not getting the attention, press and support that they need to win. The unfortunate fact is that the Oscars are highly political awards, and the films that receive the best press coverage often jump to the top of the

category.

So while I would love to say that all of these films have their fair shot of winning, critics will point out two frontrunners come this Sunday: "Argo" and "Lincoln." Like many past best picture frontrunners, these two movies follow stories based on true events in completely different styles. Most people who have seen the two films will tell you that "Lincoln," while a highly respectable film, falls flat in keeping the audience's attention — especially in comparison to "Argo." Then again, as the result of the 2011 battle between "The King's Speech" and "The Social Network," showed us, the Academy is a sucker for a good biopic, meaning "Lincoln" would be the likely winner between the two. But until Sunday rolls around and that final title is called, it's all fair game.

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By LAUREN MATICH

because Pinterest is making Oscar watch creatively improvising with what's avail- menu might be the ticket. There isn't a

parties more of a reality than ever. able to you. food that symbolizes American cinema more than popcorn. The blog somethingswanky.com features a post with 40 different recipes that involve different popcorn goodie concoctions including Snickers popcorn, cinnamon bun popcorn, peanut butter popcorn balls and fudge mint popcorn made with Thin Mints. Other foods that are sure to get guests in the cinematic mood are hot dogs, nachos and any assortment of candy-wall candy. The themes and details that can contribute to a great Oscars party are as varied as the films and actors being recognized. However you decide to celebrate the awards show, don't forget to tune in Sunday at 7 p.m. to see who takes home the gold.

13

As Notre Dame students, we love ceremony, tradition and gold statues; just look to the dome for evidence. We love huddling around television stations in too-small dorm rooms to watch nationally-televised competitions, holding our breath until a winner is proclaimed. During the first few months of spring semester, when we all are at the peak of football season withdrawal, the time until we all take up football watching as a quasi-professional sport again can seem centuries away.

This Sunday, a different kind of ceremony and tradition will be playing out on the television sets around campus, and a different sort of gold-gilded figure named Oscar will make an appearance. Dust off your television, initiate the Facebook event invitation chain and anticipate that being up much later than you want to be

According to Los Angeles stylist and Huffington Post consultant Tabitha Evans, a great Oscars party doesn't need to cost a fortune or go "all out." For a puttogether shindig, focus on one element that is important to your vision. If you're going for a super-glam feeling, convince your guests to break out the old prom dresses that only get used once a semester. Complete the glam feeling by toasting like stars with sparkling juice.

If food is an important element of how you want to celebrate awards season, Oscars.org has great recipes inspired by what foods are actually served by the academy this year. Huffingtonpost.com suggests coordinating dishes with your projected best picture winner. One example was shepherd's "pi." Some of them are pretty ambitious for a dorm kitchen, but throwing a smashing party is about

To some party hosts, atmosphere is everything. Oscar-themed decorations are heavy on the star-studded glitz and glimmer, so start a hunt for stray strands of twinkle lights. Use gold star shapes and glitter as a theme for your decorations — the perfect opportunity to pull out your gold football season accessories again.

If your party is focused on the highstakes races, start the night off by showing the trailers of the best picture nominees. As the night progresses, offer guests categorical ballots to cast their votes and bingo cards to keep the tempo of the party moving along during the long night. Both the ballots and bingo cards are available to print for free at Oscars.org.

For a more casual and informal get-together, an Orville Redenbacher-themed

Contact Lauren Matich at lmatich@nd.edu

SPORTS AUTHORITY

Exclusion sullies sports' shine



Andrew Gastelum J Associate Sports Editor pOD

"In today's society, being different makes you brave. To overcome your fears, you must be strong and have faith in your purpose."

Heartrending. Inspiring. Moving.

If I told you it flows from the mind of a great orator of days passed, maybe a Gandhi or a Churchill or a Lincoln, you would have no doubts.

But it came from a podium of American sports, where role models are molded whether they agree to it or not. So, you might say it had to be Vince Lombardi or Jackie Robinson who said it.

In fact, it came from a plain, bare-bones blog post last Friday. Its author is not a household name because of his athletic prowess. Instead, he is a household name because of his lifestyle.

The author is American soccer player Robbie Rogers and last week he announced that he is gay. Then, the budding star retired at age 25.

Now, knowing that, read that quote at the top of the page again. How much did your opinion of it change? The real question is why did it change at all?

In theory, sports are one of the few things that don't care who you are, but rather what you can do. If you are faster, there is a time to prove it. If you jump higher, there is a mark to prove it. If you score more points, you win.

So why won't the world of professional sports let "gay" and "superstar" athlete work together?

Thirty-five years ago, Glenn Burke became known as the first openly gay baseball player. Los Angeles Dodgers manager Jim Gilliam considered Burke "the next Willie Mays," and yet the social pressures and his blatant mistreatment forced him to quit his dreams of playing the game he loved. Just last December, the supporter's group of one of Russia's top soccer teams, Zenit St. Petersburg, openly asked the club to exclude gay players, stating they were "unworthy of our great city."

What is this world of sports we live in? My love for sports stems from their ability to offer escapes from any of the harsh realities of the world. For the 90 minutes of a soccer match or the four quarters of a basketball game, the only thing I ever worried about was the score. Not homework, not drama, not big ol' scary life. It was beautiful, it was my escape.

It was Rogers' escape too, for much different reasons. But now that escape is gone, and we let it come to that.

Not to say there isn't already support for gay athletes, from athletic directors to current players to Charles Barkley. Former teammates and soccer fans gave Rogers widespread support.

But in the pantheon of modern-day American sports like basketball, football, hockey and baseball, there has yet to be an openly gay male athlete.

There was former NBA player John Amaechi, who came out in his book after retiring. There are plenty of women who have received support after coming out and continuing playing. But for male athletes and the supposed machismo that comes with sports, there has been no such case. It appears the support may be there, but the pressure is still too much, both socially and psychologically.

That should never be the case in sports. Sports accept people from all backgrounds, colors, creeds and lifestyles. Why should an athlete's lifelong dream be derailed because of how he lives, and who are we to make that decision?

This is not a call advocating gay rights. Nor is it one advocating against them. It is but a genuine evaluation of the world of sports we live in. One that I thought was open for whoever wanted to play, and one that has blindsided me with its sense of exclusion.

Woods and McIlroy fall in first round of match play

Associated Press

The snow is gone from the Match Play Championship, and so are Rory McIlroy and Tiger Woods.

In a stunning conclusion to what already is a bizarre week on Dove Mountain, Shane Lowry of Ireland made a 4-foot par putt on the 18th hole to eliminate Rory McIlroy in the opening round Thursday of golf's most unpredictable tournament.

Moments later, Charles Howell III finished off a fabulous round in cold conditions by defeating Woods on the 17th hole. Howell, who had not faced Woods in match play since losing to him in the third round of the 1996 U.S. Amateur, played bogeyfree on a course that still had patches of snow and ice after being cleared Thursday morning.

The match was all square when Howell hit a wedge that stopped inches from the cup on the 15th hole for a conceded birdie. Then, he holed a 25-foot birdie putt on the 16th and went 2 up when Woods badly missed a 12foot birdie putt.

The final matches were played in near darkness, and they could have stopped after 15 holes. Woods wanted to play on, even though Howell had the momentum. Woods was 2 under for the day, and neither of them made a bogey.

"We both played well," Woods said. "He made a couple of more birdies than I did. He played well, and he's advancing."

McIlroy, the No. 1 player in the world, built a 2-up lead early in the match until Lowry rallied and grabbed the moment by chipping in for birdie on the par-3 12th and then ripping a fairway metal to within a few feet for a conceded eagle on the 13th. Lowry missed a short par putt on the 14th, only for McIlroy to give away the next



Tiger Woods examines his lie down the 12th fairway during the first round of the Match Play Championship on Thursday.

hole with a tee shot into the desert and a bunker shot that flew over the 15th green and into a cactus. But the two-time major champion hung tough, coming up with a clutch birdie on the 16th to stay in the game.

McIlroy nearly holed his bunker on the 18th, and Lowry followed with a steady shot out to 4 feet and calmly sank the putt.

"Deep down, I knew I could beat him," Lowry said. "There's a reason I'm here, and this is match play."

For McIlroy, more questions are sure to follow him to Florida for his road to the Masters. He now has played only 54 holes in the first two months of the season, missing the cut in Abu Dhabi and losing in the first round at Dove Mountain.

"You want to try and get as far as you can, but I guess that's match play," McIlroy said. "I probably would have lost by more if I had played someone else in the field. It wasn't a great quality match. But it would have been nice to get through and just get another day here and another competitive round under my belt." The only other time the top two seeds lost in the opening round was in 2002, when Woods and Phil Mickelson lost at La Costa.

Luke Donald nearly made it the top three seeds except for a clutch performance. He holed a 10-foot birdie putt to halve the 17th hole and stay tied with Marcel Siem of Germany. Donald then birdied the 18th from 7 feet to win the match.

Louis Oosthuizen, the No. 4 seed, rallied to get past Richie Ramsay of Scotland.

The opening round was halted Wednesday after 3 1/2 hours because of a freak snowstorm that covered Dove Mountain with nearly 2 inches. It continued to snow at times overnight, and it took nearly five hours to clear snow from the golf course for the tournament to resume.

Turns out snow wasn't the only surprise.

Howell said he has never beaten Woods — not as an amateur, not even in dozens of games at Isleworth before Woods moved away to south Florida. What a time to change that losing streak.

"I had to play extremely well to have a chance, and I still kept waiting for that Tiger moment," Howell said. It never came.

GOLF

Thirty-five years later, Rogers did just the same Feb. 15. He said he quit the game he loved when living with a constant fear that his secret would get in the way of his dreams.

It would be living every day without being you. It would be like trying to breathe without enough air to take in. It would be something no one would wish on anyone.

And the world of sports hasn't allowed for much room to budge.

San Francisco 49ers cornerback Chris Culliver said during Super Bowl week that he wouldn't welcome a gay teammate, saying gay football players should come out "10 years" after leaving a football locker room. Growing up, when I saw a kid watching my friends and I shoot hoops on the playground, I asked him if he wanted to play. I did not care what he looked like. I did not care what religion he stood by. I did not care how he lived his life.

I just cared to see if he wanted to play ball.

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

Just like that, the Match Play Championship lost its two biggest stars in one day.



PERSONAL

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

"We're going to turn this team around 360 degrees." -Jason Kidd

"They don't think it be like it is, but it do." - Oscar Gamble

"When you're rich, you don't write checks. Straight cash, homey." -Randy Moss

Nobody in football should be called a genius. A genius is someone like

Norman Einstein." - Joe Theismann

"These are my new shoes. They're good shoes. They won't make you rich like me, they won't make you rebound like me, they definitely won't make you handsome like me. They'll only make you have shoes like me. That's it." -Charles Barkley

"Baseball is 90 percent mental and the other half is physical." -Yogi Berra

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League addresses HGH testing changes

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — NFL senior vice president Adolpho Birch said Thursday the league and players association need to reach agreement soon on HGH testing.

The NFL and the union agreed in principle to HGH testing when a new 10-year labor agreement was finalized in August 2011. But protocols must be approved by both sides and the players have questioned the science in the testing procedures, delaying implementation.

"The longer we continue to stall out on this issue or we don't have an effective regiment in place, it's a disservice to all of us," Birch said at the NFL's scouting combine. "We need resolution. This is enough. We've been talking about this for two years."

In 2011, the NFL became the first professional league to agree with its players on HGH testing. But while the sides debated the scientific validity of the test, and the union still is not satisfied with the process.

Meanwhile, Major League Baseball will test for HGH throughout the upcoming regular season. Last year, players were subject to blood testing for HGH during spring training.

On Tuesday, the union said in a conference call it favors HGH testing, but only with a strong appeal process.

"We've had kind of a long history in our union and the league's relationship and that's deteriorated the trust between the two, and the players don't feel comfortable moving forward and I don't feel comfortable moving forward without the proper protections in place," NFLPA President Domonique Foxworth said. "As far as I understand, there's no good reason not to have those protections in place, so that's kind of the hold up as far as HGH is concerned."

"HGH testing that doesn't give our players the opportunity to appeal, that's just a nonstarter."

Birch noted the union has asked for appeals to be handled by a neutral, third party, and that the league has proposed third-party arbitration since 2009. In MLB, positive tests and resulting discipline can be challenged by the union before an arbitrator. MLB and its players' union agreed before the 2012 season to start releasing the identity of substances causing a player's positive test. Birch was asked whether use of the drug Adderall is a trend in the NFL or an excuse used by players who tested positive for performance enhancers.

"That is one of the features we have proposed is to release the substance that was tested for so there is no ability to go behind and minimalize what the violation was," Birch said. "I think it also helps other players realize what substances cause this.

"But the union has consistently rejected that, so that's another feature they said they'd take today from Major League Baseball and that they've rejected today."

Union spokesman George Atallah disputes Birch's claim.

"It's part of our collective bargaining agreement to keep everything confidential," Atallah said. "Part of the reason why it's kept confidential is if a player needs some sort of treatment, he can get treatment without public pressure."



NCAA BASKETBALL

Cincinnati falls to UConn in overtime

15



Cincinnati's Cashmere Wright signals to his team during the Bearcats' 73-66 loss to Connecticut on Thursday.

Associated Press

HARTFORD, Conn. — Shabazz Napier put Connecticut on his back again, helping the Huskies to their fourth overtime win this season.

Napier scored 11 of his 27 points in extra time Thursday as UConn (18-7, 8-5 Big East) beat Cincinnati 73-66.

DeAndre Daniels added 17 points and tied a career high with four blocked shots for the Huskies (18-7, 8-5 Big East), who are now 4-1 in overtime games.

Napier has scored 46 points in those overtimes, hitting nine of his 14 shots, and going 8 for 12 from 3-point range.

"I try to be the best leader for this team, and guys look for me to make shots," he said. "All I've got to do is see the ball go in the hoop one time, and I feel like I'm going to make the next one."

The teams were tied a 55 going into overtime before Napier hit two 3-pointers as part of a 6-2 UConn run. A layup by Kilpatrick made it 63-60, before Napier buried a third with a minute left.

Jermaine Sanders' layup cut the

Cincinnati.

A 10-2 run, sparked by a 3-pointer by Kilpatrick, gave the Bearcats a 53-47 lead with just over 4 minutes to play in regulation.

But the Huskies scored the next six. A free throw by Napier tied the game at 53 with 1:30 left. Rubles hit a put-back to give the Bearcats back the lead, and Napier tied it again on an off-balance driving layup with 40 seconds left.

Wright turned the ball over in the backcourt setting up the final shot, but Napier missed a contested layup, sending the game into overtime tied at 55.

"We've got to learn how to play with the lead down the stretch, especially with veteran guys who are capable of beating their man," said Cincinnati coach Mick Cronin. "All of our losses are the same. It's Groundhog Day."

UConn was 10 of 19 from 3-point range, and Napier hit six of his nine shots from behind the arc.

The Huskies made six 3-pointers in the first half, as it built a 37-34 halftime lead. Cincinnati, meanwhile found its success inside, with 34 points in the paint. The Bearcats outrebounded UConn 44-28 and had 17 offensive boards.

DeBartolo Performing Arts Center

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lead to four with 43 seconds left and the Bearcats began to foul. UConn made seven of eight free throws down the stretch.

Ryan Boatright and Daniels each hit a pair and Omar Calhoun made one of two, before Napier sealed it with a pair.

"We've got a lot of great players in our league, but he's right there," said UConn coach Kevin Ollie. "If people aren't considering (Napier) for Big East player of the year, I don't know what they are doing."

Sean Kilpatrick had 13 of his 18 points after halftime and JaQuon Parker added 14 for Cincinnati (19-8, 7-7), which lost for the fourth time in five games.

Titus Rubles and Justin Jackson each fouled out in overtime for

UConn had given up 20 offensive rebounds in each of the last two games, leading to a combined 36 second-chance points. The Bearcats had 17 on Thursday.

A Rubles foul shot cut UConn's lead to 43-41 with 17:23 left in the game and it stayed that score for the next 7 minutes, until Rubles banked in a long 2-point jump shot to tie it.

UConn missed seven straight shots and was held without a field goal for almost 9 minutes before a Tyler Olander dunk gave them a 45-43 lead. The Huskies had just three baskets in the first 13 minutes of the second half. NBA

Deadline passes without any blockbuster deals

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The only trade involving Dwight Howard came last summer. The potent scorers that moved did so long ago.

There was no eye-catching activity left for deadline day, resulting in minor deals Thursday to the disappointment of those hoping for a frenzy.

Josh Smith stayed put and the Boston Celtics' core stayed together, leaving J.J. Redick, dealt to Milwaukee, as the biggest name to be traded.

There were nine moves, nothing approaching a blockbuster and none to jump-start the Lakers.

Players such as James Harden and Rudy Gay were traded far before the deadline, but with teams perhaps fearful of new penalties for the biggest spenders, Thursday was mostly quiet.

"I don't think I've seen fewer trade deadline deals, ever," said Houston general manager Daryl Morey, who completed two trades Wednesday. "But I think it's a one-year blip."

The Atlanta Hawks held onto Smith, and Utah kept both Paul Millsap and Al Jefferson on a day when much attention was focused on both situations, since those players have value and could leave their teams this summer as free agents.

The long-shot deals never materialized. Howard remained in Los Angeles, just what Lakers general manager Mitch Kupchak repeatedly said would happen. Howard's unhappiness and struggles since he was acquired from Orlando last summer fueled speculation that the Lakers might move him before possibly losing him for nothing as a free agent.

"It took a while for league to understand our position was exactly what we stated," Kupchak told reporters. "I think they finally got it."

Kevin Garnett and Paul Pierce will continue wearing Celtic green, as will Rajon Rondo when he's healthy enough to put on a uniform again. The Celtics did make one deal, acquiring guard Jordan Crawford from the Washington Wizards for center Jason Collins and injured guard Leandro Barbosa. Those were the types of trades that were left after the big names that were available had already been moved. Oklahoma City sent All-Star Harden to Houston the preseason, fearing it couldn't pay what last season's top sixth man would want after already giving lucrative longterm deals to Kevin Durant and Russell Westbrook. The Memphis Grizzlies broke up their frontcourt when they sent Gay to Toronto in a threeteam deal with Detroit.

"I think normally a point was made, normally you would see big deals being made. We cannot forget, Andre Iguodala, that deal was made in the summer. That could have potentially been a trade deadline move," said Denver Nuggets president Masai Ujiri, referring to the player he acquired in the fourtime Howard trade in August.

"Harden was traded right before the season started. That could have been a potential trade deadline move. Rudy Gay was started a couple weeks ago. There was some cleanup before this date. Apart from a couple guys who were out there all the time in terms of big names, it just went by. I can't explain it."

Finances certainly played into it. The collective bargaining

agreement that went into effect in 2011 came with much more punitive penalties for teams that repeatedly exceed the luxury tax and limits the options of those over the salary cap, and decisions Thursday were made with that in mind.

Golden State sent forward Jeremy Tyler to Atlanta and guard Charles Jenkins to Philadelphia in separate deals, slicing more than \$1.5 million off its payroll after beginning the day about \$1.2 million over the league's \$70,307,000 luxury tax.

Rebuilding after trading Howard, the Magic decided Redick wasn't in their plans while averaging career highs in points (15.1) and field goal percentage (45.0).



Orlando's J.J. Redick goes up for a shot during the Magic's game against the Knicks in Orlando, Fla., on Nov. 13.







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NFL

Rolston drops first game as Sabres coach

Associated Press

TORONTO — James van Riemsdyk kept the Buffalo Sabres reeling on Thursday night.

Van Riemsdyk scored twice to power the Toronto Maple Leafs past the Buffalo Sabres 3-1 in Ron Rolston's first game as an NHL head coach.

Rolston, who until Wednesday was the head coach of the AHL's Rochester Americans, was hired as the Sabres interim coach following the club's decision to fire Lindy Ruff. Ruff, who also played 10 seasons for Buffalo, had been behind the club's bench since 1997 and was the NHL's longest-tenured head coach.

Prior arriving in to Rochester, Rolston spent seven seasons as a head coach with USA Hockey's national program, leading the under-18 squad to three gold medals and a silver in four world championship appearances.

Van Riemsdyk played for Rolston for two years, earning a world championship gold medal in 2006 before getting silver the following year.

"He's a big reason for the success I've been able to have as a hockey player," van Riemsdyk said. "He really kind of instilled that confidence and trust that he had in me as a player and he put me out there in pretty much every situation in every game and allowed me to grow.

"There was obviously some growing pains my first year, but the second year I was able to blossom under his tutelage and I feel thankful for

everything he taught me."

But Rolston could only watch as the Sabres dropped their third straight and fifth of their past six games.

"I thought we played well in parts of the game," Rolston said. "I didn't like our second period, obviously it was the turning point.

"We had too many turnovers, we were forcing things, long shifts in the defensive zone. It was the difference."

Toronto erased a 1-0, firstperiod deficit with two goals in the second.

"The second period wasn't good enough," said Sabres goalie Ryan Miller, who turned aside 33 shots. "We stopped doing some things we did early in the game and it caught up with us."

Van Riemsdyk's power-play goal at 14:28 of the third his team-leading 11th — gave Toronto breathing room after Miller stopped him with a glove save earlier on the power play.

Maple Leafs coach Randy Carlyle said van Riemsdyk's work away from the puck was a big reason for his success.

"He probably skated as strong in this hockey game as any game he has this year," Carlyle said. "It's good to see him move his feet and be rewarded.

"I think if he continues to skate and move his feet the way he did tonight, I don't think he shouldn't continue to score if he's going to stay around the net and go into those tough areas.

"He's going to continue to play with our top-six grouping of forwards and he's going to maintain power play time, all of those things should

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Toronto left winger James van Riemsdyk scores on Sabres goaltender Ryan Miller during the second period of the Maple Leafs' 3-1 victory Thursday in Toronto. The game marked Ron Rolston's first contest as a head coach.

indicate he can continue to make contributions. It's all up to him."

Dion Phaneuf also scored for Toronto, which won its third straight home game. Ben Scrivens stopped 31 shots for his third win in five starts since James Reimer's knee injury Feb. 11.

Tyler Ennis scored for Buffalo.

Buffalo outshot Toronto 13-10 in the first period and also had the period's lone goal. Ennis scored his sixth of the season with high wrist shot 13:20.

Both goaltenders were sharp as Miller made a quality save on Toronto's Leo Komarov while Scrivens twice denied Thomas Vanek with a nice split-pad save.

"You just try to get on a roll and stop as many pucks as possible," Scrivens said of his stop on Vanek. "Obviously I was fortunate he wasn't able to get the rebound up on me, but I gave myself an opportunity to make the save.

"Maybe a little bit of both

to Scrivens' blocker side at hard work by me and unfortunate luck on his part."

> Phaneuf's one-timer with four seconds remaining on a power play at 1:15 of the second tied it. The goal was the 100th of Phaneuf's NHL career.

> Buffalo's Steve Ott put a backhand past Scrivens at 7:08, but it was disallowed because of a goalie interference penalty on Kevin Porter.

> Van Riemsdyk put Toronto ahead 2-1 at 18:04, converting a nifty 2-on-1 break with Phil Kessel as the Leafs outshot Buffalo 15-6.

> "We didn't start very well. ... we got our skating game going in the second," Carlyle said. "And once we can get on that forecheck and continue to throw that puck in and come at teams in waves, we can be an effective team grinding teams down."

"That's what we felt the

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case was tonight because we didn't skate very well and were fortunate to get out of the first period with the score what it was."

Notes: NBA slam dunk champion Terrence Ross of the Toronto Raptors took in the game. ... Toronto wore its third sweater for the fourth of eight games this season. ... Toronto entered the game leading the NHL in hits (476) and fighting majors (20). ... The Sabres and Leafs will meet once more this season, March 21 in Buffalo. ... Rolston has been Rochester's head coach since the 2011-'12 season, having compiled a 63-44-17 record.

FENCING

Notre Dame prepares for home advantage



Irish freshman foil Lee Kiefer competes at the Notre Dame Invitational on Oct. 27, 2012. The Irish host the Notre Dame Duals on Saturday.

BV BRENDAN BELL Sports Writer

With the regular season coming to a close, the Irish will compete in their final

dual meet of the season at the Notre Dame Duals on Saturday. Sophomore women's foil Madison Zeiss said the challenges the Irish will face this weekend provide

a good measuring stick for both the No. 2 men's and No. 1 women's sides.

"I definitely think Northwestern will be the most solid competition and Wayne State is also a very good team for the women's foil," Zeiss said. "Air Force is particularly strong on the men's side, as well."

Cleveland State, Detroit and Lawrence College will also compete. The No. 8 Wildcats women's team will present one of the biggest challenges for Notre Dame during the meet.

Zeiss said competing in the Joyce Center provides the Irish with a sense of familiarity. But she also said Notre Dame focuses well when competing away from home.

"Knowing the gym and knowing the set up and everything will definitely be nice," Zeiss said. "When we travel and when we get on the bus we attain a great sense of focus and we need to be careful to have that same focus here on campus and I think we will do it." The

Midwestern

Conference championships follow the Notre Dame Duals and are only a piece of the larger puzzle for the Irish, who aim to win a men's and women's national championship. If Notre Dame makes the national championship round, it will compete in San Antonio, Texas, for a fourth national championship under Irish coach Janusz Bednarski.

"This is a good tournament to practice and get our feet under us before the NCAA qualifiers," Zeiss said.

Since the beginning of the season, Zeiss said the team has grown in many dimensions.

"I definitely think the entire team has improved," Zeiss said. "The new epee coach has really improved a lot and some times they have been really carrying the team and I think they will continue to do great for us in the upcoming matches.

"We have all been training hard and as a team have improved ... By NCAAs we will be peaking, I think and ready to compete for the national championship."

The Notre Dame Duals will take place all day Saturday in in the Joyce Center.

Contact Brendan Bell at bbell2@nd.edu



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McGraw CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

and 10 rebounds to record her Big East-leading 14th doubledouble of the season.

McGraw said Diggins, Achonwa and the rest of the Irish will need to commit extra attention to DePaul shooters in transition. But she said the offensive side will be business as usual.

"Defensively, I think we need to worry about transition defense and finding them on the 3-point line," McGraw said. "Offensively, I think we're just looking to display our own game."

Notre Dame plays DePaul at 3:30 p.m. Sunday at the McGrath-Phillips Arena in Chicago.

Contact Samantha Zuba at szuba@nd.edu



SARAH O'CONNOR | The Observer

Irish senior guard Skylar Diggins looks for an open player during Notre Dame's 93-64 win over Louisville on Feb. 11.

Fisher tops Knights in finals

Special to The Observer

Fisher won the men's interhall basketball championship Wednesday in a 51-36 victory over Keenan. The Green Wave entered halftime locked in a 26-all tie with the Knights, but dominated the second half en route to the championship.

Keenan senior Ryan Dunbar said Fisher executed better in the second half and took advantage of the Knights' mistakes.

"[The Green Wave] made

big shots when they had to and we didn't execute as well as we planned," Dunbar said. "[Fisher] went on a run and we couldn't make the plays to stop it. But I'm really proud of our guys. The effort and the hustle were there, but the shots weren't there. And we missed a couple of assignments on defense. But we gave ourselves a chance to win, which is ultimately all you can do."

Fisher graduates three

seniors from its team, but senior Mike O'Neill said the group effort in Wednesday's game demonstrated the Green Wave's strong potential in coming years.

"It was a team effort, and everyone really stepped up and had a big performance," he said. "We have a good group of young kids, so watch out for Fisher next year."

Next week, RecSports will cover the men's interhall ice hockey championship.

Lindsay-Abaire's poignant script about a family struggling to deal with a major loss won the Pulitzer **Prize for Drama** in 2007, the 2006 Tony Award for Best Actress, and was nominated for four **Tony Awards.**

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A play by **David Lindsay-Abaire**

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Irish aim for momentum change in Bloomington



Irish freshman Quinn Gleason hits a hard return during Notre Dame's 4-3 loss to Purdue on Feb. 15.

By VICKY JACOBSEN Sports Writer

The Irish will try to bounce

back from a two-loss weekend with tilts against Baylor on Saturday and Indiana on Sunday.

Although the No. 22 Irish (5-3) usually have more experience indoors than visiting teams from southern climates, they might not possess the same home court advantage when they host the No. 19 Bears on Friday afternoon.

"We'd probably rather play them outdoors, but since we're playing them here in February it's inside," Irish coach Jay Louderback said. "They've always been a team that hits the ball very big. They play an aggressive game and they just played the National Indoor, so they've been indoors a lot."

Notre Dame and Baylor have played every year since 2007 (the Bears lead the alltime series 5-4), but familiarity won't help the Irish as Baylor graduated four seniors in 2012.

Although Baylor is ranked in the top 20, the Bears have lost five of their last six matches, including all three at the National Team Indoor Championships Feb. 8-10.

After their Friday evening match, the Irish will travel to Bloomington, Ind., to take on Indiana (8-2) on Sunday morning. The Hoosiers have lost their last two matches by a score of 4-3 to Tennessee on Feb. 15 and Kentucky on Sunday. Despite Indiana's recent slide, Louderback said the Hoosiers still belong in the same company as the Irish.

"They're a little like we are," he said. "They're one in the group that is anywhere from about 10 to 40; it seems like there are lots of schools in there that are just all so close, and Indiana is right in there."

Louderback said Notre Dame will arrive in Bloomington on Saturday, which will give the Irish a chance to get used to Indiana's courts before Sunday's match.

"They're always a tough team at home, [because] their courts are pretty fast," Louderback said. "You have to adjust to them some."

The Irish dropped three spots in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association rankings after losing 4-3 to Purdue at home Feb. 15 and falling 5-2 at Northwestern. Louderback said he wasn't too concerned about the losses, as Notre Dame has been competitive in all of their matches.

"Every match since [Bowling Green] we haven't had one match that either team couldn't have won," Louderback said. "I think that's better than just going out and winning a lot of easy matches."

Notre Dame has only won the doubles point in two of its eight matches so far this spring, a troubling development for a team that puts a strong emphasis on winning the first point of the match.

Although the Irish could not pull out the doubles point against Northwestern on Sunday, Louderback said the new doubles team competing against the Wildcates pleased him

"We had [junior Jennifer] Kellner and [senior Chrissie] McGaffigan still play together, but the other two teams we switched the partners around and we thought they both played really wel.," he said. "Even though we've played a few matches, we're still in the process of looking at some different combinations. Our big goal this year is to be ready by Big East time and be playing really well." The Irish will begin this weekend's competition against Baylor on 5aturday morning at 10pa.m.ait the Eck Tennis Center.hNotre Dame then heads south to Bloomington, Ind., to take on the Hoosiers on Sunday morning at 11 a.m. at the Indiana University Tennis Center.



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Contact Vicky Jacobsen at vjacobse@nd.edu

MEN'S LACROSSE

Notre Dame set to play familiar opponent

By MIKE MONACO Sports Writer

Despite a successful 2012 season, No. 3 Notre Dame would like this weekend to go a little differently than it did last year.

Last year, the Irish downed then-No. 2 Duke, 7-3, in the season opener.

Notre Dame followed that up, however, by falling to Penn State 4-3 in overtime.

This year's squad is fresh off Saturday's 13-5 demolition of then-No. 4 Duke heading into Sunday's matchup with the No. 9 Nittany Lions (2-0) at noon in University Park, Pa.

Irish junior midfielder Jim Marlatt, who scored a careerhigh five goals Saturday, said Notre Dame (1-0) is out for revenge after last year's lackluster performance against Penn State.

"Our defense played out of their minds [but] our offense cost us the game," Marlatt said of the overtime loss. "I think it's that simple. We didn't execute to our full potential. So I think that's a big part of redeeming ourselves."

If Saturday's rout of Duke is any indication, scoring will not be a problem for the 2013 Irish. In addition to Marlatt's five-goal output, freshman attack Matt Kavanagh netted four goals in his collegiate debut. Senior attack Sean Rogers and senior midfielder Steve Murphy added two goals each. The 13 goals were the most for the Irish in a season opener since 2005 against Penn State.

"It's a good start, good momentum," Marlatt said. "It was fun to play someone else other than ourselves after five weeks of preseason. So it was a good start, something to build on. Last year we beat Duke and then we kind of laid an egg against Penn State, especially offensively so we definitely need to focus on building off that 13 goal performance."

The Nittany Lions posted a dominant offensive performance of their own Sunday against No. 11 Denver. Penn State exploded for 15 goals against the Pioneers after burying 11 in a season-opening win over Michigan. Junior attack Shane Sturgis leads the squad with eight goals through two games. Sturgis and senior attack Jack Forster ripped four goals each against Denver.

"We watched the second half," Irish senior goalie John Kemp said of the Penn State win over Denver. "So we saw how much offensive firepower [the Nittany Lions] have. They shot the ball hard. They took good shots. Offensively they kind of did what they wanted so we've got to prepare for them obviously offensively."

Kemp, an All-American in 2012, powered an experienced Irish defense against the Blue Devils on Saturday. Notre Dame led the nation in goals-against average last year, and Duke mustered just five goals as Kemp notched 10 saves in the cage.

"[Our defensive performance Saturday] is something to go out and kind of emulate," Kemp said. "We just go into every game the same way, knowing that we have to communicate, take everyone's role and be there for each other. Defensively it's a thing where everyone has to do their part for us to succeed so everyone's just got to go in and play the way that we want everyone to play."

Marlatt said he sees a lot of similarities between the Nittany Lions and the Blue Devils.

"I think [Penn State] is pretty similar to Duke but maybe a little more disciplined," Marlatt said. "They're aggressive. They put two poles on the faceoff so we know they're going to come out, try to be aggressive at first and then kind of sink in."

Last year, the Irish weathered the initial aggressiveness from Penn State, holding the Nittany Lions scoreless for the first 21 minutes. Defense wasn't the problem, Kemp said.



Irish senior midfielder Ryan Foley evades a Nittany Lion defender during Notre Dame's 4-3 loss to Penn State on Feb. 26, 2012.

"We didn't really play very well offensively last year," Kemp said. "We definitely want to get back at them, I think that was the first time we lost to them in quite some time. They're a good team."

Marlatt, meanwhile, said the Irish are excited to face a familiar foe. "It's a team we're familiar with — we've played them in the past — so we're looking forward to it," Marlatt said.

The Irish seek revenge against Penn State on Sunday at noon in University Park, Pa.

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ERASMUS BOOKS

Contact Mike Monaco at jmonaco@nd.edu

BASEBALL

Irish prepare for celebrated pitcher

By MARY GREEN Sports Writer

Like the many college students who flocked to New Orleans for Mardi Gras festivities, the Notre Dame baseball team will take a late-winter trip to New Orleans. Unlike other students, however, the Irish are not looking to revel in the city's vibrant nightlife. Instead, the Irish travel to the Big Easy looking to sweep a three-game weekend series with Tulane.

The Irish (2-1) will face the Green Wave (3-1) after earn-

Eric Jagielo and freshman pitcher Nick McCarty to its Weekly Honor Roll on Monday. Jagielo went 6-for-11 with two home runs and eight RBI in the tournament. McCarty pitched five shutout innings of relief to take the 6-5, extra-innings win against Florida Gulf Coast.

The Irish will need solid work from the plate and from the mound again this weekend if they want to return to South Bend with a series victory against a strong Tulane rotation with a 1.54 team ERA and a .167 opponent average. and I guess he just pitched outstanding, really great stuff [against Sam Houston State]," Aoki said.

Rizzotti will most likely match up against Irish junior right-hander Sean Fitzgerald on Friday night, while senior right-hander Adam Norton and freshman right-hander David Hearne will head to the hill in the second and third games for Notre Dame.

Aoki said these three pitchers, backed by solid defense, will try to stop the Green Wave's recently hot bats. The Louisiana offense carried the team to 6-4 and 5-3 victories over Missouri State and Southeastern Louisiana, respectively in its last two games. "For us, the big thing is that our kids go out and pitch and make sure that we're throwing strikes, that we're commanding it," he said. "The game is set up in such a way that the defense and the pitching have a really big advantage, so as long as you don't create your own messes, either by defending it poorly or pitching it poorly, I think we'll be okay. These guys just got to go out and do what they do."

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NOTRE DAME

ing wins against Florida Gulf Coast and Ohio State in the season-opening Snowbird Tournament last weekend in Sarasota, Fla. Despite failing to complete its rally against Mercer in a close 5-4 ballgame Sunday, Irish coach Mik Aoki said the team aims to maintain the momentum it earned from winning two of three games,

"I think the big thing is that we just continue to play well," Aoki said. "In spite of losing that game on Sunday, I thought overall we played pretty well."

Two players performed well enough in the opening weekend to garner early-season conference attention. The Big East named junior third baseman Aoki said he anticipates three hard-fought games against the Green Wave.

"They're an older team with mostly juniors and seniors, and they've got some outstanding pitching so we're going to get tested for sure," he said. "This is a really, really good team that we're going to play."

Included in the strong Tulane pitching staff is sophomore right hander Tony Rizzotti, who threw a complete-game, one-hit shutout in his team's season opener against Sam Houston State, a 2-0 Tulane victory.

"Rizzotti's been the talk of baseball Twitter nation and everything else all week long,

The Irish will face the Green Wave at Turchin Stadium in

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MEN'S TENNIS

Irish face toughest competition of the season

By MEGAN FINNERAN Sports Writer

The No. 25 Irish hit the road this weekend, traveling to Columbus, Ohio, to face No. 4 Ohio State. The Buckeyes (10-2) will be the highest ranked opponent Notre Dame (6-4) has faced this season.

Ohio State dropped its second contest of the season 4-3 last weekend to No. 1 Virginia. Its only other loss came against No. 14 Texas A&M on Feb. 10. The Irish enter the weekend following a 4-3 victory over No. 23 Michigan.

"The [Michigan] win will give us some confidence going into this weekend," junior Ryan Bandy said.

Junior Billy Pecor has become a leader for the Irish lately, clinching the win over Michigan with his victory in singles play. Pecor also earned a win in doubles play during the contest. The Big East awarded Pecor Player of the Week honors for his efforts.

For the Buckeyes, No. 62 junior Blaz Rola offers similar

leadership skills. The Big Ten named him Athlete of the Week for the eighth time in Rola's career Wednesday. Rola is 7-0 in singles play and 7-0 in doubles play this season.

Joining Rola in the national singles rankings for the Buckeyes are No. 2 junior Peter Kobelt, No. 30 senior Connor Smith and No. 37 freshman Chris Diaz.

Despite the disparity in rankings, senior Blas Moros said the Irish have no hesitation as the weekend approaches.

Notre Dame lost to No. 6 Kentucky on Feb. 12, but the 4-3 contest proved to the squad it can compete with the toughest opponents, he said. "We have a great opportunity this weekend against top-five Ohio State and our guys know that," Moros said. "There will be no lack of motivation getting ready for this match."

Play will begin at 12 p.m. Saturday afternoon in Columbus, Ohio.

Contact Megan Finneran at mfinnera@nd.edu

Junior Billy Pecor smacks the ball during Notre Dame's 7-0 victory over Marquette on Jan. 19. The Irish head to Columbus, Ohio, on Feb. 23 to face No. 4 Ohio State, the highest-ranked team the Irish have faced this season.

ND SOFTBALL

Notre Dame takes competitive edge south

By MEGAN FINNERAN Sports Writer

The Irish will travel to North Carolina this week for the second time this season. Notre Dame (4-5) will compete in the Pirate Invitational in Greenville, N.C., against Liberty, East Carolina and Fairfield.

Due to potentially adverse

weather conditions, Beth Keylon-Randolph, the coach of host team East Carolina, announced alterations to the schedule Thursday. Lehigh, one of the teams originally scheduled to compete, has withdrawn from the tournament.

East Carolina will be hosting its third tournament this season. The Pirates (5-3) have lost

twice to Ohio and once to St. John's. One day after falling 9-5 to the Red Storm, East Carolina bounced back with a 1-0 win.

Liberty (1-3) earned its only win of the season against IUPUI by the count of 5-2. Fairfield opens their season this weekend, competing for the first time in Greenville. The Stags recently earned the top spot in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference preseason coaches' poll.

The Irish enter the weekend having most recently suffered a close 7-5 loss to No. 1 Oklahoma. The game lasted nine innings, proving Notre Dame's ability to compete at the top, according to Irish senior catcher Amy Buntin.

"Although the score at the end didn't show it, that game

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showed us that we will fight until the last out of the last inning," Buntin said. "It was an exciting game to be a part of and we want to continue playing with that same enthusiasm. "

Despite the loss, the Irish left the field with other successes. Their five runs broke the Sooners' streak of more than 35 scoreless innings. Junior pitcher Laura Winter helped lead the squad with 14 strikeouts, while the deep batting order collected eight hits.

"We are rolling into this weekend with the same energy we brought to the Oklahoma game," Buntin said.

During the week of practice since Oklahoma, Notre Dame has been looking for ways to improve and emerge from the weekend with three wins.





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"This week we focused a lot on our offense and making things happen with our bats when runners are in scoring positions," Buntin said.

The invitational schedule remains tentative due to weather but the Irish are currently scheduled to start the weekend Saturday at 1 p.m. against Liberty followed by East Carolina at 5:30 p.m. Notre Dame will finish the Pirate Invitational in Greenville, N.C., on Sunday at 9 a.m. against Fairfiely.

Contact Megan Finneran at mfinnera@nd.edu

Brey

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

quarterfinals of the Big East tournament.

"[It's] very familiar territory for us heading down the stretch in the midst of maybe getting a double-bye," Brey said. "We've been in that race before. Of course, our last four are very challenging."

Notre Dame bested the Bearcats 66-60 on Jan. 7. Irish junior guard Jerian Grant spearheaded the Notre Dame attack with 19 points on 7-for-10 shooting from the field. As a team, Notre Dame made nine of 16 three-pointers. Bearcats junior guard Sean Kilpatrick scored 15 points in the loss.

Brey said the key to winning games down the stretch will be powering through the inevitable valleys that come with the peaks. The Irish missed 18 of their first 19 shots against the Panthers on Monday and had three points total nearly 13 minutes into the game. Brey said the Irish have realized the importance of defense and rebounding when the offense is sputtering.

"The four remaining games are all [against] really good teams," Brey said. "What I've liked — what I think we've come to grips with — is we're going to have our lulls. We're

going to be unsmooth. Can we just go back and guard and rebound like that? And that's hard. When guys' offense isn't going good will they do that?

"Well on the road the other night, Pittsburgh, there was the mentality 'Boy, we better do that or we're going to get blown out.' ... If we have our lulls we have our lulls. Let's just rely on defending and rebounding the ball and [being] mentally tough to know that if it's a close game, we've been pretty good in close games."

Brey said graduate student guard Scott Martin, who has missed the last eight games with a knee injury, could be close to returning.

"I don't know about [playing] this weekend but I think he's really trying to make some progress toward a full practice or going live five-on-five on Friday, which would be a big step," Brey said. "I don't know if he would be really ready with all the time he's missed and just two days of practice. I think we've just got to see a couple full days of practice. But we are making progress. I'm encouraged."

The well-rested Irish tip off against Cincinnati on Sunday at 2 p.m. at Purcell Pavilion.

Contact Mike Monaco at jmonaco@nd.edu

Jackson CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

Western Michigan enters the contest allowing only 1.94 goals per game. Slubowski has started every game for the Broncos this season and ranks 11th in the nation in goals against average and second in minutes played.

Jackson said winning matters more against a tough defensive opponent than the game's style. "It's about great goaltending and teams that play good team defense," Jackson said. "And that's why, like Sunday, you have to be willing to win a game 2-1."

A stifling defense and goalie are not the only problems Notre Dame might face this weekend. The Irish will also deal with of the toughest crowds in the CCHA at the 3,667-seat Lawson Arena.

"They've got a great student section — it's like a little bandbox in there," Jackson said. "The fans are right on top of you. ... If they were my fans, I'd be happy to have them. They're into the game and it's a loud building."

This will be the second series between the Irish and the defending Mason Cupchampion Broncos this season. The teams split a pair of games in the Compton

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Sophomore right wing Peter Schneider chases the puck in Notre Dame's 3-1 loss to Ferris State on Jan. 25.

Family Ice Arena in early if there's any differential." November.

"The personnel's the same. I'm sure the tactical end of the game's probably fairly similar," Jackson said of this series compared to the series in November. "It just depends on where their mindset is and where ours is,

The Irish and Broncos face off against the Broncos at 7:35 p.m. tonight and 7:05 p.m. Saturday night at Lawson Arena in Kalamazoo, Mich.

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SOLUTION TO THURSDAY'S PUZZLE

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The Observer apologizes for the absence of

HIGHLY PUNLIKELY | CHRISTOPHER BRUCKER

Highly Punlikely

LOWER YOUR EXPECTATIONS | LENNY RAGO & PATRICK CROSS

> 2013 Oscar Nominee: Best Picture DTango Unchained



HOROSCOPE | EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Ashley Green, 26; Ellen Page, 26; Jennifer Love Hewitt, 34; Kelsey Grammer, 58

23

Happy Birthday: You need to put a little more fun and excitement into your life. New hobbies, pastimes or physical challenges will help you discover a side of you that has been buried due to responsibilities. Let your imagination take over and you'll find a lifestyle that is rejuvenating. Communication skills will be amplified. Your numbers are 3, 8, 15, 24, 27, 33, 41.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Listen to complaints and what it is people are asking for and you will have a better idea how to move forward. Being oblivious to others will lead to emotional stress and demands that you won't want to tackle. Avoid secret encounters. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Follow your intuition and you will end up exactly where you are supposed to be. Share feelings with someone who has common interests. Don't give in to indulgence. Too much of anything will depreciate your gains. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Steer clear of anyone looking for a favor that will deter you from reaching your personal or professional goals. Leave room to deal with a personal issue that arises between you and someone looking for more than what vou have to offer. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't hesitate if an opportunity arises that allows you to mix business with pleasure. The better acquainted you are with your colleagues, the further ahead you will get. Precision and decisiveness will raise your profile. Take control. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Make whatever alterations are necessary to achieve happiness. Don't give in to demands being put on you by someone you feel is stifling you. A short trip will open your eyes to what's available if you are willing to make a move.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Put practicality first. You may want to overreact to compensate for something, but you are best to keep things simple and to the point. Live by your rules, not what someone else wants you to do. $\star\star\star\star$

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Let situations play out naturally and eventually everything will fall into place. A change in your relationships will benefit you in the end, so don't lament something you cannot alter. Love is in the stars and socializing is a must. **

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Visit people you admire or research a culture that you find fascinating. Incorporating ideals you feel akin to will enable you to fulfill a dream from long ago. Get involved in a creative endeavor that allows you to explore your talents. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Make changes at home that will secure your reputation and your future. Deception and disillusionment are present. Proceed with caution. Don't reveal personal information or it may end up costing you financially ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Utilize everything you studied or experienced in the past in order to complete a project. An unusual approach to an old idea will put you in a favorable position when dealing with potential partners. Personal investments will pay off. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Learning and trying new pastimes will lead to an interesting meeting with someone who is trying to achieve similar goals. Larger quarters or closer proximity to others will add comfort, opportunity and joy to your life. *******

PISCES (Feb. 19- March 20): Don't let anyone talk you in to doing things on too grand a scale. Minimizing your job duties will result in higher profits. Contracts should be drawn up and signed to keep everyone in check and contributing what's expected. ****

Birthday Baby: You are compassionate and proactive. You are outgoing, charming and original

JUMBLE | DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK



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SPORTS

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Rested and ready

Notre Dame faces Cincinnati in Big East homestretch

By MIKE MONACO Sports Writer

After playing a pair of overtime thrillers last week, the No. 25 Irish could finally rest and recover.

Notre Dame (21-6, 9-5 Big East) squared off with two conference foes on the road in a quick Saturday-Monday turnaround, but the rundown Irish have had ample time to recover for Sunday's tilt with Cincinnati at Purcell Pavilion.

"Much needed, really much needed," Irish coach Mike Brey said Wednesday of the respite. "We took [Tuesday] off. We'll go a little bit [Wednesday], not crazy, and then we're going to take [Thursday] off, shorten the week up and then we have two days to get ready for Cincinnati. And then I love the fact that we don't play until [March 2] after the [Cincinnati] game.

"This is really needed for us, probably just as much mentally as physically."

With four games remaining in the standing-room-only Big East, the Irish are entrenched in fifth place, though they are just one-and-a-half games out of first place. Cincinnati (19-7, 7-6), meanwhile, has lost three of its last four games and



Junior guard Eric Atkins dribbles in Notre Dame's 82-78 win over DePaul on Feb 13. The Irish will play Cincinnati on Sunday.

has fallen to 10th place in the league.

While the Bearcats fell to Connecticut 73-66 on Thursday night, the Irish will have had five full days between games after downing Pittsburgh 51-42 on Monday.

"I can be a fan and root a little bit," Brey said. "We're always rooting standings down the stretch. Certainly when you have a win like we did Monday it's nice to put that in the bank for a while and see what the rest of the league does."

Brey said the Irish are eyeing one of four double-byes to the

see BREY **PAGE 22**

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Irish hit the road to play DePaul

By SAMANTHA ZUBA Sports Writer

No. 2 Notre Dame will not venture far from home to play DePaul in Chicago on Sunday. But though the drive is short, the Irish (24-1, 12-0 Big East) will face an unfriendly environment for this conference road game. The Blue Demons (18-8, 7-5) will defend their 14-1 record at home when Notre Dame arrives at the McGrath-Phillips Arena. The game could be quite a challenge for the Irish, coach Muffet McGraw said.

McGraw said the DePaul fans' energy will produce plenty of noise, as tickets for the game sold out Wednesday.

"I love to play it here," McGraw said. "[The McGrath-Phillips arena] is like a high school gym, so it'll be very loud, and it's going to be difficult. It's a struggle to play up there. They are really, really tough at home.

"We expect [Blue Demons senior guard] Anna Martin to be back," McGraw said. "She's their top player that's been out for three weeks. That'll give them a huge lift. It's going to be a tough game for us."

Martin anchors a starting lineup that features three

players who average double-figure points per game. DePaul's two starting forwards, senior Katherine Harry and junior Jasmine Penny, stand at 6-foot-3 and 6-foot-1, respectively. McGraw said the Blue Demons use their size to spread the floor and create space on the perimeter for their sharp-shooting guards. Harry and Penny present particularly difficult matchups for Notre Dame and have consistently been a tough game on the Irish schedule in recent years, McGraw said.

"Last year, Penny had a really good game against us here and Harry is a tough matchup for us too," she said. "So, those two guys inside are tough for us to guard. They're playing really well right now, and they have a good team because you can't double team them because their guards shoot the ball well."

The Irish are coming off a resounding 87-49 victory over Marquette on Sunday in which senior guard Skylar Diggins put up 23 points and moved into sole possession of second place on Notre Dame's all-time scoring list. Junior forward Natalie Achonwa chipped in 17 points

see MCGRAW PAGE 18

HOCKEY

Team travels to play key CCHA weekend series

By SAM GANS Sports Writer

No. 11 Notre Dame will face one of the toughest teams and venues in the country when it travels to Kalamazoo, Mich., this weekend for a two-game series with No. 7 Western Irish coach Jeff Jackson said he is aware his players check other CCHA scores in the middle of a tight conference race whether he wants them to or not, but it's critical they remain focused on their own game.

"It doesn't matter if I mind,



24

Michigan at Lawson Arena.

Following a 2-1 victory over Miami (Ohio) at Soldier Field on Sunday, the Irish (19-12-1, 15-8-1-1 CCHA) trail the second-place Broncos (18-8-6, 14-6-4-2) by one point in the conference race with four games remaining, and are three points behind the CCHA-leading RedHawks.

The Irish clinched a topfive CCHA finish last weekend, which guarantees a first-round bye in the CCHA tournament. Notre Dame needs just one win or shootout win in its final four games to secure home-ice advantage in the second round of the conference tournament. I'm sure they're doing it, and they're on the internet all the time so I'm sure that they're looking at everything, no matter what I say," Jackson said. "I just want them to stay focused on the process here, because the only thing that matters right now is Friday night."

Less than a week after playing the RedHawks — the nation's top scoring defense — the Irish will face the No. 3 scoring defense in the country when they head to Kalamazoo. Behind sophomore preseason all-CCHA goaltender Frank Slubowski,

see JACKSON PAGE 22

Irish senior defenseman Sam Calabrese steers the puck in Notre Dame's 7-4 win over Michigan on Feb. 8. The
 Irish, who sit third in the CCHA standings, will travel to Western Michigan for a two-game series this weeekend.

MICHAEL KRAMM | The Observer