

Office of the Registrar to change class times

Senior associate provost says 2013-2014 changes should reduce scheduling conflicts

By **CRISTINA SANCHEZ**
News Writer

The Office of the Registrar recently introduced a series of scheduling revisions it will implement next academic year. Senior associate provost Christine Maziar said the changes aim to reduce the number of course conflicts.

"What we have done is opened up more scheduling slots, particularly on Monday and Wednesday mornings, that allow for classes previously held on Tuesdays and Thursdays to be held on

Mondays and Wednesdays," Maziar said.

Under the new system, some classes will start at 8:20 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays and last an hour and 15 minutes, Maziar said.

Maziar said the current scheduling system is "inefficient and increasingly causing problems for students." It does not permit the scheduling of courses outside standard offering times unless the Office of the Provost and the Office of the Dean

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SCHEDULING REVISIONS INTRODUCED BY THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

- All revisions will be implemented in the upcoming academic year.
- Due to inefficiency in the current scheduling pattern, there will be more scheduling slots on Monday and Wednesday mornings.
- Earliest class times will shift from 8:30 a.m. to 8:20 a.m.

SARA SHOEMAKE | The Observer

SMC names Allison Sherman as valedictorian

By **KELLY KONYA**
News Writer

On Friday, Saint Mary's announced the valedictorian of the Class of 2013 will be Allison Sherman of Batavia, Ill.

Sherman, a computational mathematics major, said she originally liked Saint Mary's because of the professors' commitment to teaching and the College's small class sizes. "There is a strong sense of community and the personal attention that

each student receives was very important in my final decision to at-

Allison Sherman
SMC valedictorian



tend Saint Mary's," Sherman said.

Professor Joanne Snow, chair of the mathematics department, said

she hired Sherman as a teaching assistant after having her as a "star student" in Calculus III. "Sherman has the rare ability to explain concepts that she clearly has mastered to other students who have not yet achieved the same level of understanding," Snow said.

Sherman said her experiences as a teaching assistant in the department have encouraged her to pursue a career in education. She is in the process of applying to several

see SHERMAN **PAGE 4**

Chemistry professor honored as Cottrell Scholar

By **HENRY GENS**
News Writer

The Research Corporation for Science Advancement Chemistry (RCSA) recently

outside community that I'm on the right track."

Schultz said his research currently focuses on developing analytical instrumentation for biomedical applications. Scientists use these novel methods to understand diseases such as diabetes and cancer by characterizing molecules on the surface of cells and honing in on micro-particles shed from distressed cells into the bloodstream.

Schultz said the research he accumulates

in his labs outlines how he tries to teach his classes for undergraduate chemistry majors.

"In my instrumental analysis course, one of the requirements is a term project using actual state-of-the-art chemical instrumentation on campus to answer a research question," Schultz said.

Promoting undergraduate science education is one of the key components of the Cottrell Scholar selection criteria and something Schultz said he

see SCHOLAR **PAGE 3**

Zachary Schultz
Associate professor of chemistry



named Notre Dame professor Zachary Schultz one of 13 Cottrell Scholars for 2013, a prestigious early-career award recognizing excellence in teaching and research in the physical sciences.

The RCSA is a philanthropic foundation that provides science funding for top early-career teacher-scholars.

"It's nice because the Cottrell Scholar award is from people who have succeeded, recognizing what I'm trying to do is important," Schultz said. "It's confirmation from the

Students accepted to study abroad programs for 2013

By **NICOLE McALEE**
News Writer

In a few months' time, many Notre Dame students will disperse to locations as far-flung as London, Hong Kong and Perth through the University's diverse study abroad opportunities.

Kathleen Opel, director of international studies,

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SARA SHOEMAKE | The Observer

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THE OBSERVER

ndsmcobserver.com

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The Observer is the independent, daily newspaper published in print and online by the students of the University of Notre Dame du Lac and Saint Mary's College. Editorial content, including advertisements, is not governed by policies of the administration of either institution. The Observer reserves the right to refuse advertisements based on content.

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Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor-in-Chief Andrew Gastelum.

Post Office Information
The Observer (USPS 599 2-4000) is published Monday through Friday except during exam and vacation periods.
A subscription to The Observer is \$130 for one academic year; \$75 for one semester.
The Observer is published at:
024 South Dining Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779
Periodical postage paid at Notre Dame and additional mailing offices
POSTMASTER
Send address corrections to:
The Observer
P.O. Box 779
024 South Dining hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-077

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QUESTION OF THE DAY:

Do you think Pigtostal will happen?

Have a question you want answered?

Email obsphoto@gmail.com



Steven Hayworth

senior
O'Neill Hall

"Why wouldn't it?"



Gabrielle Muzzarelli

senior
Lyons Hall

"Yes, it has to happen. It's my senior year!"



Allison Kerin

freshman
McGlinn Hall

"I'm a freshman. I don't know what that is."



Rob Weir

freshman
Keough Hall

"What is that?"



Jon Olansen

freshman
Dillon Hall

"Pinktostal?"



Luke Grey

freshman
Keough Hall

"No, it didn't happen last year."



SUZANNA PRATT | The Observer

Sophomore defenseman Robbie Russo takes a shot on goal in the game versus Michigan on Sunday. The Irish won the 42nd and final CCHA championship this weekend at Joe Louis Arena in Detroit.

THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

Want your event included here?

Email obsnews.nd@gmail.com

Tuesday

Film: "The Weight of the Oath"

Snite Museum of Art
6 p.m.-8 p.m.
Hunters in West Africa
live by their own rules.

Four:7 Catholic Fellowship

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

Wednesday

Colloquium: Neutrinos

Nieuwland Science Hall
4 p.m.-5 p.m.
Physics lecture.

Borderlands Poetry Reading Project

DeBartolo Hall
7 p.m.-9 p.m.
Poetry about borders, migration and home.

Thursday

Zen Meditation

Coleman-Morse Center
5:15 p.m.-6:15 p.m.
Practice sitting and walking meditation.

Adoration

Basilica of the Sacred Heart
6:30 p.m.-11 p.m.
Adoration for Holy Thursday.

Friday

Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Basilica of the Sacred Heart
3 p.m.
Good Friday service.

Stations of the Cross

Basilica of the Sacred Heart
7:15 p.m.
Meditate on the Passion.

Saturday

Men's Lacrosse

Arlotta Stadium
1 p.m.
Game vs. St. John's.

Paschal Vigil Mass

Basilica of the Sacred Heart
9 p.m.
Celebrated by Rev. Peter Rocca.

Center grants funding for summer

By CHARLIE DUCEY
News Writer

Although deadlines for many summer programs have passed, LoriAnn Edinborough, program director of the Global Internship Initiative at the Career Center, said students can still find internships through the Center.

Edinborough said the Go IRISH system, accessible on the Career Center website, is a good place to start and offers internships applicable to a number of careers.

"The internships range the full gamut of functions and industries from film post-production in Chicago, to investment research analyst in Connecticut, to business development in South Bend," Edinborough said.

Aside from the Career Center website, Edinborough said potential interns can find openings on websites such as Internship.com and InternMatch.com. She said students can also create unique internship opportunities for themselves.

"Some types of internships that students want might not be posted online anywhere, so we work a lot with students on how to create your own internship, too," Edinborough said. "The Non-Profit Virtual Career Fair also connects interns with organizations,

Summer Internship Advice from the Career Center

GO IRISH (accessible through careercenter.nd.edu), **Internship.com** and **InternMath.com** offer potential internship openings.

The Career Center offers grants to students: up to **\$3,000 for unpaid internships** and up to **\$1,000 for paid internships**.

Applications for grants are found on the careercenter.nd.edu and the **deadline is April 19**.

SARA SHOEMAKE | The Observer

accessible on the Jobs/Internships tab of Go IRISH."

The Career Center grants funding for stu-

"The bottom line is to connect with the Career Center."

LoriAnn Edinborough
program director
Global Internship Initiative

dents interested in customizing their own internships, Edinborough said. Applications for this funding are on the Career Center's website and

the deadline is April 19. Edinborough said students can receive up to \$3,000 for unpaid internships and up to \$1,000 for paid internships.

Summer opportunities ought to focus on developing the skills employers want to see, including communication skills, personal initiative and strong work ethic, Edinborough said.

"During the summer, try to think about how to incorporate enhancing some of those skills," she said.

Edinborough said students should also pursue job-shadowing opportunities, conduct mock interviews and network.

"Statistics say 70 to 80 percent of jobs are not posted,

they are developed through networking," Edinborough said. "The same logic applies to internships."

Edinborough said it may be difficult to find an internship that fits a person perfectly, but for those who show initiative and can navigate the various career search sites, summer internships present a stellar chance to bolster a résumé and develop job skills.

"The bottom line is to connect with the Career Center," Edinborough said. "It's no exaggeration to say that as far as internship opportunities, they have it covered."

Contact Charlie Ducey at cducey@nd.edu

Abroad

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

said this year the Office of International Studies (OIS) received 1,250 applications for programs from 904 unique applicants, most of whom are currently sophomores. She said applicants could apply for a first- and a second-choice program.

"[The number of applications we received] was around what we usually get but just slightly lower than it was last year," Opel said.

OIS notified sophomores of their acceptance to an international program Feb. 8 and gave them one week to confirm their participation.

Opel said the acceptance rate for all study abroad programs was between 80 and 81 percent. Because of the competitive nature of some programs, she said not all students were placed in their first-choice program.

"In [some] cases, we had great applicants where we only had a certain number of beds," Opel said. "Oxford is a great example. We only have room



Photo courtesy of the Office of International Studies

The Office of International Studies offers 40 programs in 30 countries for students to study abroad.

for seven students. ... And therefore, even if we have 24 great applicants who meet all of our criteria, there are only seven spaces. That happens in a number of our programs."

Students can choose from 40 programs in 30 countries, Opel said. Some locations, such as Dublin and Hong Kong, host multiple programs.

"London, Dublin, and Perth are the three most

popular programs," Opel said. "There are also popular programs in Toledo, Spain and Rome, Italy, as well as smaller programs such as those in Puebla, Mexico; Nagoya, Japan and Dakar, Senegal." For the second year in a row, Notre Dame ranks ninth among American institutions of higher learning in the percentage of students participating in a study abroad program, Opel said. This

ranking was released as part of a report by the Institute for International Education (IIE), which monitors study abroad and international education opportunities for students.

"[IIE waits] one year after they tabulate it, and then they announce it the next year. So we are actually seeing the results this year from our study abroad period from 2010 to 2011, I believe," Opel said.

Opel said studying abroad can be formative personally and professionally. She said it can broaden students' perspectives and teach them both about the world and about themselves.

"The kinds of things that you learn, if you embrace studying abroad, are really important in your future career," Opel said. "Employers are looking for someone with good communication skills, with adaptability, someone who has some grit and determination. And one of the things that studying abroad does for you is that it builds all of those sorts of skills."

Contact Nicole McAlee at nmcalee@nd.edu

Scholar

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

actively seeks to encourage.

"In the course I teach, I allow them to choose whatever question they want to answer because if they choose something that they're interested in then they'll be much more engaged in learning," Schultz said. "The result is a pretty diverse range of projects over the two years I've taught this, from imaging the roughness of finishes to quantifying caffeine content in soft drinks."

The Cottrell Scholar recognition includes a \$75,000 monetary award split over three years, Schultz said. He said this will then enable him to pay some of his undergraduate students to work in his lab over the summer.

"I tell [my students], 'If you're going to work for me in the summer, you're going to get paid because people get paid to do science,'" Schultz said.

Schultz said the students were one of the main reasons he chose to join Notre Dame's faculty in 2009. "It's always fun to work with bright students and the University is heading in a really positive direction in terms of pushing science and science education," he said.

Although Schultz said Notre Dame has only recently begun focusing more on science initiatives, he said science has always been a part of the University's history.

"One of the stories I always tell people is about how Knute Rockne was a part-time football coach and part-time graduate student in chemistry," Schultz said. "He gave up chemistry to pursue football full-time and I think that worked out all right for him. But it just shows that science has always been an integral part of the University."

Schultz said he discovered he wanted to pursue a career in research when he was a sophomore at Ohio State University.

"I was initially a pre-med student, but I didn't enjoy dealing with sick people very much," Schultz said. "I found doing research to be fun and when I realized you could actually do that for a living, the choice was pretty clear."

Contact Henry Gens at hgens@nd.edu

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The Observer.



Fulbright scholar describes hometown in China

By **REBECCA O'NEIL**
News Writer

Yan Song, a Fulbright teaching assistant at Saint Mary's, offered a firsthand account of life in Lanzhou, China in the Mother Pauline Room of Cushwa-Leighton Library on March 25.

The presentation, sponsored by the Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership (CWIL), gave faculty members and students a dose of Chinese culture.

Home to Song and three million others, Lanzhou marks the geometrical center of China and is the capital of Gansu, one of the country's 34 provinces.

"It's a great tourist location because of the surrounding historical sites," Song said. "With the Maiji Mountain Caves to the east and the Buddha Caves to the west, it attracts a lot of visitors."

Once a key point in the Silk Road, Lanzhou remains central to surrounding regions' transportation and telecommunication, Song said. She attributed this reliance to the capital's location on the Yellow River, the second largest river in Asia.

"It's vital because it's the only provincial city that the river runs through," Song said.

Though motorboats are accessible, Song said many Lanzhou residents use sheepskin rafts to conveniently navigate the city's veins. Unique to the Yellow River, these simple rafts are made of inflated sheep or pigskins.

The floating devices are not the only interesting sights available on the Yellow River's banks, Song said. The city is teeming with artwork.

Song said she believes the Yellow River Mother sculpture, located symbolically along the river, is the most significant of expositions.

"The Yellow River is often referred to as the mother of China," she said.

Many other structures flank the river's shore, Song said, such as Lanzhou's Waterwheel Park, a water conservation system formerly used to irrigate local crops, and the Zhongshan Bridge, the Yellow River's first iron bridge.

"Lanzhou adds the grand beauty of northern Chinese cities to the quaintness of the south," Song said. "It's a harmonious combination of the modern and the old."

Song said her hometown also offers religious diversity. Gansu Province is roughly 10 percent Muslim, she said.

Song said Lanzhou currently has 1,000 Muslim noodle shops that, combined, serve 1,000,000 bowls of hand-pulled beef noodles a day. The elastic noodles are boiled in beef-liver broth and have extra potassium carbonate added to them.

"It is the most loved food in China. It's so delicious," Song said. "Many people in China eat

it, but it all comes from my city."

Although Song said she feels privileged to be studying in the

"Lanzhou adds the grand beauty of northern Chinese cities to the quaintness of the south."

Yan Song
Fulbright teaching assistant

United States, she admitted she missed the food of her city the most. Elaine Meyer Lee, director of the CWIL, said most of the "Chinese" food in the United States is Cantonese style, which

is more common in the southern part of China.

Song studied English for ten years in Lanzhou but said she had felt deprived of understanding American culture because she was not immersed in it.

"I did not have a real vivid image of what Christmas was," she said. "Now I have experienced Christmas and Halloween. It has furthered my education to see the different kinds of western festivals and celebrations."

"We cannot learn basic cultural differences from our textbooks. We must cherish diversity of all the people here, and respect their rights."

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Sherman

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

teaching certificate programs and has not decided which program she will attend after graduation in May. "In the future, I hope to teach at the collegiate level and further my study of mathematics," Sherman said. "I want to always be learning new things and I hope to inspire my own students to do the same."

Mary Connolly, professor of mathematics, said she helped Sherman develop her love for mathematics and encouraged her to decide on a math major. Connolly said Sherman's skills extend beyond academics.

"Computational mathematics is a major which combines significant computer science with higher-level mathematics classes," Connolly said. "Allison is a very talented computer scientist, but one of her truly outstanding qualities is her generosity towards other students."

Sherman said her key to success is entertaining a healthy balance of

friends, academics and extracurricular activities. She balances school with her roles as treasurer of the Mathematics Club, president of the Saint Mary's chapter of Pi Mu Epsilon, and participant in the National Mathematics honorary society.

Sherman's former roommate Erin Masko said Sherman is a diligent student.

"She never puts off work for the next day, but instead tackles it right away," Masko said. "She is wonderful, and deserves this honor of valedictorian."

Sherman said she is grateful to be honored as her class's valedictorian. "I was extremely surprised, and I feel incredibly honored to represent my class," Sherman said. "I owe a great deal of gratitude to the entire Mathematics Department faculty at Saint Mary's, and in particular, Professor Snow, who has encouraged me throughout my collegiate career."

Contact **Kelly Konya** at kkonya01@saintmarys.edu

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New Jersey man wins \$338 million jackpot

Associated Press

PASSAIC, N.J. — The winner of a \$338 million Powerball jackpot told several media outlets Monday that his first priority will be helping his family.

Pedro Quezada, 44, entered Eagle Liquors store, where the ticket was sold, late Monday afternoon. The Passaic store owner ran Quezada's ticket through the lottery machine to validate that it was a winner as a newspaper and television outlets recorded the moment.

The New Jersey Lottery confirmed that the winning ticket was validated at the store at 4:30 p.m. Monday, but officials said they didn't yet know the winner's name.

Quezada, an immigrant from the Dominican Republic,

told reporters in Spanish that he was "very happy" and that he intends to help his family.

His wife, Ines Sanchez, told The Record in Bergen County that Quezada called her with the news Monday afternoon.

"I still can't believe it," she said. "We never expected it but thank God."

The numbers drawn Saturday were 17, 29, 31, 52, 53 and Powerball 31. A lump sum payout would be \$221 million, or about \$152 million after taxes. It's the fourth-largest jackpot in Powerball history.

The family's apartment sits at the end of a short dead end block that abuts a highway in Passaic, 15 miles northwest of New York City. Neighbors spoke with pride that one of their own had struck it rich.

Eladia Vazquez has lived



Carole Hedinger, executive director of the New Jersey Lottery, announces the winning ticket in the \$338 million Power Ball lottery.

across the street from Quezada's building for the past 25 years. The block has a half-dozen three-story brick apartment buildings on each side, and Vazquez says it's a neighborhood where everyone knows everyone,

including what car they drive and what parking space they use.

Vazquez described Quezada and his wife as "quiet and not overly talkative" but sensed that they seemed to be working all the time.

Registrar

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

approve that scheduling, she said.

"When courses are scheduled outside of standard times, it creates a series of conflicts for students," Maziar said. "Students encountered difficulties in scheduling standard courses they needed or desired because non-standard courses created conflicts in their schedules, blocking them from taking the necessary standard courses."

The revised system will minimize these conflicts, Maziar said.

"I would imagine that the ability to offer Monday-Wednesday classes on the same course offering pattern as Tuesday-Thursday classes will open up more opportunities for students to put together their schedules," she said. "The scheduling change means that all classes will fit into standard slots, either a Monday-Wednesday-Friday pattern, a Monday-Wednesday pattern or a Tuesday-Thursday pattern, although there are important exceptions like language courses that meet five days a week or laboratory courses that require a three-hour class period."

Maziar said she expects College of Arts and Letters students, in particular, to benefit from these changes because the Tuesday-Thursday course pattern is so popular within the College.

Maziar said professors brought The current scheduling conflict to her attention last fall when they were Unable to schedule certain classes because teaching space was largely unavailable. Upon further investigation, she said she noticed classrooms were being used unproductively and proposed adjusting class times in order to increase classroom availability.

Students likely will welcome the scheduling revisions, Maziar said. She said it was important the adjustment occur at the beginning and not in the middle of an academic year so as to ensure a smooth transition to the new system

"We worked diligently so that the scheduling framework would be in place before students registered for classes at the end of this spring semester," Maziar said.

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INSIDE COLUMN

Summer fever

Samantha Zuba
Sports Writer

I start saying it's almost summer New Year's Day. Allow me to explain.

This is not because the sun has started to come out and I feel the hope of warmth. That's just not how Chicago or South Bend works. Jan. 1 means it's almost time for pitchers and catchers to report to spring training, which means it's almost time for spring training games, which means it's almost time for Opening Day, which means it's almost summer.

I really like baseball.

As my dad (Hi, dad!) likes to say, "It's spring training again, and hope springs eternal." Even if you are a Cubs fan, you can get excited during spring training and say, "Maybe, maybe, this is the year." Never mind. You all should give up.

But everyone else, even Astros fans (all seven of you), can hope. Baseball fans everywhere are hoping the next Mike Trout will emerge for their team and that maybe, just maybe, they will be cheering well into October. Many are also laughing at the Yankees for acquiring Vernon Wells.

I am. A lot. He's 34, and the Yankees will fork over \$13 million of the \$21 million owed him next season. For a guy that hit .230 last season. And clubbed a whopping 11 home runs. That's some business sense, New York.

Granted, Wells only played 77 games last season. So let's travel back to 2011 when he played a full season. And hit .218.

But that's the beauty of the days leading up to Opening Day. You can ignore the numbers. When it comes to the hometown team, hope reigns over batting averages and ERAs. For example, I am blind to the fact that my dear White Sox paid Adam Dunn approximately one gazillion dollars to hit .204 last year. I will be less blind come July when he's doing it again and the White Sox are on pace for astounding mediocrity, but right now, it's all sunshine and happiness. I can pretend the White Sox have a legitimate chance of winning the World Series even though their big free agent acquisition this winter was Jeff Keppinger.

He had a solid season last year for the Rays, but he's not exactly a blockbuster who will put the team on his back and carry them all the way to an A.L. pennant. I know this. But I can't help ignoring it because it's spring, and anything can still happen. Maybe he will have a season for the centuries and lead a band of misfits to a World Series title. Paul Konerko will add banner numbers, and they'll do it all without a catcher. Because after A.J. Pierzynski walked, the White Sox did little to fill the position.

Sit down, Tyler Flowers, you do not count.

Contact Samantha Zuba at szuba@nd.edu

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

Chivalry and healthy relationships

Jen Gallic
Ideas of a University

Three years ago, I arrived at school an overeager freshman excited for new experiences and, more than anything, excited to meet new people. Freshman orientation was a blur of activity, and I quickly hit the ground running, involved in just about every club I could find. About two months into school, I remember walking into the library feeling completely overwhelmed and a little exhausted. I had finally hit a wall. Looking around for somewhere to sit, a friend I hadn't seen since orientation called me over to sit with him. Although we hadn't seen each other since then, we got to talking and eventually started hanging out more.

With this friend, I noticed something unique. For a reason I couldn't quite explain, I immediately felt at home with him and found him trustworthy. We would study in the library together often, and whenever we were there late, he would insist on walking me back to my dorm even though it required going completely out of his way. It was only a few minutes every night, but during those moments when we were together outside of the context of class or studying, we really started to bond. We'd talk about just about anything and eventually became best friends.

Reflecting back on the start of that friendship today, I realize that the reason I felt so comfortable with him was because he was constantly showing me how much he respected me as a woman. Not in an obvious manner, but in the small things. He always insisted on walking me back and made sure to open the door for me. He didn't do these things because he thought me defective or weak, and he didn't do them because

he was interested in dating me (later in the year he started dating a mutual friend). He did them because he was a gentleman. As a gentleman, he sought to show respect to me as a woman.

Acts of chivalry have changed since chivalry's original association with knighthood. However, the idea of chivalry should not be lost. Chivalry is about showing respect, and it is through learning how to respect all women that men become gentlemen. So hold open a door, walk a girl back (and it doesn't have to be a girlfriend or someone you're interested in), smile, respect her as a woman and see what happens!

Christopher Damian
Ideas of a University

Frosh-O used to consist of a lot of dancing. Men and women would run across campus, singing and dancing for each other. One Welsh Family Freshman Orientation co-coordinator wrote on her blog in 2010, "The dances always involve lots of hip-thrusting, booty-popping, body-rolling and shimmying." The men responded with their own performances. I remember Backstreet Boys and hip-thrusting ... lots of hip-thrusting.

But things have changed. One women's dorm decided to censor these dances because, it was argued, they reinforce "heteronormativity." That is, these dances reinforce the idea that everyone is heterosexual and discriminate against sexual minorities. Year after year, I've spoken with students who were offended by these orientation rituals. It didn't take long for me to decide that I'd had enough during my Frosh-O. After the first evening of dancing and being danced at, I decided to spend the rest of the time in my room.

Neither my friends nor I, however,

found such antics to be unacceptable because of a reinforcement of heteronormativity. Rather, they reinforced gender stereotypes from a culture at odds with our Christian faith. This is a culture that says we can dance on each other, make out and sleep together Saturday night and then move on Sunday morning as if nothing happened. It is a culture that says the most important body parts (and the ones that the opposite sex ought to pay most attention to) are the ones connected to hips and chests. It is a culture that insists at the heart of all interaction between men and women is the need and desire for sex.

Surely this culture is at odds with a Catholic university that prides itself on excellence. While providing an inclusive, open environment for "sexual minorities," it is important this nation's preeminent Catholic university teach its students to form healthy relationships between men and women consisting of self-gift. Notre Dame's Pastoral Plan notes that "the call to chastity represents a divine invitation to develop relationships characterized by equality, mutuality and respect, qualities of a deeply spiritual nature."

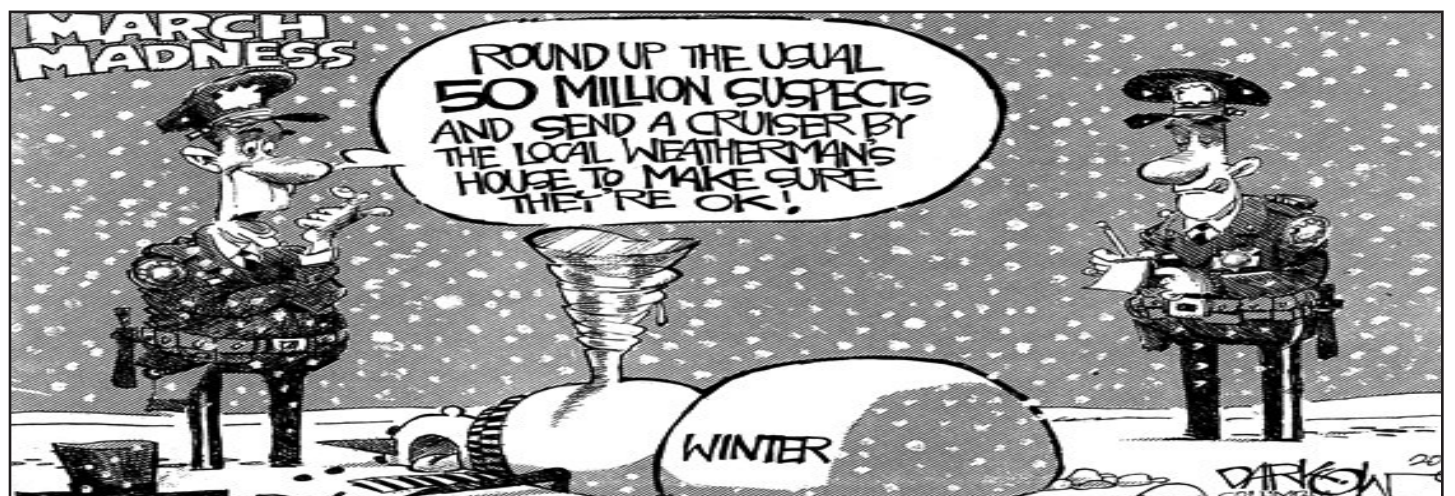
We ought to cultivate these characteristics in freshman orientation and other introductions to the University. We ought to teach men and women to treat each other with respect, not merely out of a desire for a romantic relationship, but out of a holistic understanding of what it means to be man and woman.

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Civilization is the process of reducing the infinite to the finite."

Oliver Wendell Holmes
American author and physician

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The opacity of hope

Shaaya Ellis

Reason Will Prevail

On April 16, 2009, the United States Department of Justice, at the behest of President Obama, released CIA memos that the Bush administration used to justify using enhanced interrogation techniques to solicit information that is vital to national security against suspected terrorists. The information provided in the memos was released with such detail that several watchdogs groups, including Cause of Action, lauded Obama for his campaign promise to achieve absolute government transparency.

Last week, a watchdog group, the Foundation for the Defense of Democracies, one of the groups that praised Obama for his transparency, derided his administration for its lack of clarity with its drone policy. Jay Carney, Obama's press secretary, perpetuated the hoax that the memos do not exist and described the memos as "alleged memos that simply do not exist" when asked about the drone memos.

On May 8, 2011, The New York Times reported the existence of the drone memos. The New York Times said these memos were written in 2010 followed by months of extensive interagency deliberations and offer a glimpse into the legal rationale of the most significant decision made by the Obama administration — to move ahead with the killing of an American citizen without due process.

This is a troubling aspect of the war with no end in sight. Even more problematic than what can be considered victory in the War on Terror is the

importance of transparency in government, especially when a president asserts dictatorial powers and authorizes extrajudicial killings by directing the launching of a remote-controlled drone.

In order to get a direct and concise response from the Obama administration, Republican Senator Rand Paul from Kentucky took to the Senate floor and commenced with a nearly 13-hour filibuster. After the filibuster, Attorney General Eric Holder provided Senator Paul with a letter that clearly stated the United States could not kill Americans on U.S. soil without due process.

Under no circumstance should the killing of an American on United States soil be held up as classified information. While certain information that is collected by intelligence agencies and pertinent to the War on Terror needs to remain classified, the standards by which the United States government decides when to take an American life is not one of them. The mere fact that this administration is kept in secrecy when it come to the drone wars and extrajudicial killings should disgust all Americans the same way many were in uproar about Abu Ghraib.

The lack of transparency by this administration about drone strikes is staggering. Even after drone strikes were already being conducted and reported on around the world, former White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs was told by the Obama administration to act as if there were no such thing as an active US drone program — regurgitating the hoax that the entire project was completely nonexistent.

"When I went through the process of becoming

press secretary, one of the first things they told me was, you're not even to acknowledge the drone program," Gibbs said last month on Chris Hayes' morning show on MSNBC

Military action without a formal declaration of war and targeted killings without a letters of marque and reprisal undermine our system of checks and balances and should be grounds for impeachment. Obama made a promise to be the most transparent administration in history. Even upon taking office, President Obama claimed, "Transparency promotes accountability, which encourages public engagement and furthers collaborative government," but with respect to the hundreds of drone strikes that have taken roughly 5,000 lives, he has left the American people in the dark.

The President railed heavily against the Bush administration's use of enhanced interrogation techniques to solicit information that is critical to national security, but he goes on to expand the use of drones to kill people with no regard for the judicial process or the United States Constitution. With all the unconstitutional drone strikes throughout his presidency, it's hard to believe that Barack Obama was not only a teacher of constitutional law but also a recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 2009, a feat not even Mohandas Gandhi accomplished.

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

UWIRE

Israel-U.S. bromance must keep it real

Jacob Sorrells

The Hoya

Although I've had my share of fond bromantic escapades, it doesn't take a fratstar to know a bonafide bromance when he sees one. We're all familiar with the telltale signs: the effusion of endearing personal titles (e.g. "bro," "dude," "man"), constant reaffirmations of commitment (e.g. "I love you, dude") and the consistent flow of innocent favors (e.g. wingmanning, bench-spotting, shampoo-sharing).

That is why, petty personal politics between Benjamin Netanyahu and Obama aside, the relationship between the United States and Israel appears nothing short of bromantic — and appropriately so. It satisfies all the aforementioned criteria. We lavish Israel with affectionate monikers like "our strongest ally in the Middle East." U.S. politicians from both sides of the aisle constantly compete to see who can more eloquently flex their "I love Israel" muscles. The nations are continually exchanging technology and information.

According to this analysis, one assumes the United States and Israel will be bros for life, just

like Harry and Ron, Scooby and Shaggy, Jay-Z and Kanye and the countless other stalwart bromances since Cain and Abel — or at least since before things got sticky. Right? Well, not so fast.

A real bromance is defined by something far deeper than nicknames, gushy utterances, favors and other flirtations. It's defined by a mutual and honest concern for each other's long-term welfare and, at times, can require a constructive — but more critical — type of brotherly support. U.S. actions undoubtedly reflect a concern for Israel's security in the future. But what about Israel's future as a democratic Jewish homeland? Unless the United States acts soon, it will neglect to meet its bromantic obligations.

As both parties become more and more entrenched in hawkish pessimism, the window of opportunity for a two-state solution to the Israeli and Palestinian conflict is closing fast. If peace prospects die, Israel as we know it will soon cease to exist. Israel's occupation of the West Bank will become a permanent de facto annexation. Israel will either grant citizenship to all the people between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea, losing its Jewish majority and thereby ending the dream of a Jewish homeland, or it will withhold rights to vote

and uproot its cherished democratic foundation.

In either situation, the Palestinians lose as well, as even the former scenario wouldn't give them true self-governance. For these reasons — and many more — a two-state solution is the only option.

To save its bromance and to save Israel, U.S. leaders must create a framework for bringing the two sides together to mediate a two-state solution.

Obama's current visit to Israel and the West Bank could be a great step in that direction, but we must urge the president to make this trip substantive and not merely ceremonial. Both Israelis and Palestinians are distrustful of the other side, soured by decades of violence and failed peace attempts.

It is unlikely that they will come to the table without a mediator. Obama must make peace a priority in his discussions with Israeli and Palestinian leadership. Two-state diplomacy cannot be overshadowed by other issues. We must seize this opportunity before the clock strikes midnight. This is no time to break the bro code.

This column originally ran in the March 18 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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VIEWPOINT WARS

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By **WILL NEAL**
Scene Writer

Oh, “Spring Breakers.” Where do I begin? Well, I’ll start by saying that, like it or not, this is one film you are never going to forget. From the crazed mind of Harmony Korine, the story of four wild college girls and their adventure down to Tampa, Florida, reaches the point of dream-like insanity from the opening montage. It’s hard to sum up my feelings for this movie, but I can say with complete certainty this is one of the funniest and most outrageous films I’ve seen in years. If the sheer hilarity of the movie wasn’t surprising enough, “Spring Breakers” offers a rather bold underlying reflection on the current state of youth in America. Who would’ve guessed?

Before we get into breaking this film down, let’s quickly jump into what this movie is all about. “Spring Breakers” follows the misadventures of Faith (Selena Gomez), Candy (Vanessa Hudgens), Brit (Ashley Benson) and Cotty (Rachel Korine) — four girls just looking for a good time.

As much as these girls are dying to go to Florida to join in the March madness, they don’t exactly have the funds to pay for the trip. So, what do they do? Steal a car, put on ski masks and rob a Chicken Shack, of course. Next thing you know, the girls are packing up to go down south and cut loose from the “boring” and repetitive college lives they’ve been suffocated by for too long. From the bus ride to their beach party destination, their world transitions into slow-motion, booze-filled montages to the tunes of dubstep.

From here, “Spring Breakers” breaks into an art-house style music video as we see hoards of party-goers getting trashed on the beach, at the pool and on hotel balconies. The girls participate in every moment of the madness, from keg-stands and foam parties to neon raves and hotel-room trashing (everything you could ask for in a quality spring break, right?). Things get a little too out of hand after all four of the girls (yes, even Selena Gomez) are caught with cocaine and sent to jail. You’d think the party would be over, but everyone knows that when four pretty girls are in distress, there’s always a knight in shining armor to come along and save the day. Thankfully, we get something FAR better than the standard upstanding gentlemanly role. We get James Franco in cornrows playing a wannabe rapper and straight-up gangster named Alien (“My real name is Al, but truf be told, I am not from this planet, y’all”). Alien then decides to take the girls (minus Faith) under his wing and show them the hustler lifestyle. From here, the storyline becomes

dangerous and hysterically quotable (“Some people tell me I got to change. I am ‘bout STACKIN’ change!”) as the three remaining girls enter the adrenaline-fueled lifestyle of drugs, guns and gang wars. I won’t go into the ending, but just be aware the movie gets progressively crazier from start to finish.

Sure, the movie is out of control, but writer and director Harmony Korine is a madman who sought to create a movie-going experience that comes off as a “poetic video game.” It’s certainly a bizarre intention for his film, but go on YouTube and search for one of Harmony Korine’s interviews with David Letterman. You’ll get a great idea of where the insanity of “Spring Breakers” is coming from.

There’s a moment in the movie’s beginning where Faith tells her friends she’s “tired of the same old thing” and wants to experience something new and different. This definitely reflects what Korine hopes to and does accomplish with his film, as it’s an experience that certainly isn’t familiar. He’s been a part of the movie business since the age of 18 with his wild screenplay for the movie “Kids,” but even as a grown husband and father, Korine still strives to bring to life his chaotic concepts, which are always far from the norm.

His bold filmmaking styles alternatively work for and against the film. Nearly every piece of dialogue you hear is repeated and on loop two to three times over to set a dream-like tone for the audience. The pacing of the movie is spastic as almost half of the movie is made up of montages that are strung together with overlapping dialogue. While most of the film is ridiculously entertaining, there are several moments that drag on for far too long and disrupt its fast-paced style.

While he certainly isn’t conventional, Korine creates some incredibly impressive moments, such as the Chicken Shack robbery where in one take, we see from the get-away driver’s perspective the whole robbery as she drives around the restaurant. What is even more bizarre than Korine’s directorial style is the film’s dialogue. Aside from Alien’s endlessly quotable lines (“I’m made of money! Look at my f***in’ teeth! They should call me ‘money!’”), the girls often get into extremely and unnaturally deep conversation topics about finding purpose in life ... right after drunkenly dancing in a parking lot in bikinis and high-top sneakers while singing Britney Spears. These characters have aspects about them that seem genuine at times and completely exaggerated at others.

The four leading actresses give highly entertaining (if not overblown) performances, but ultimately they

stand out stronger as a group than individually. Ashley Benson as Brit is probably the weakest link in this ensemble due to a rather stale performance, even when energetic. Selena Gomez, though her character departs from the movie sooner than the other girls, gives a needed dose of emotion to her roll as the paranoid, good-hearted Christian, appropriately named Faith. The roles of Hudgens and Gomez will frequently make your heads spin when you ask yourself, “These girls used to be on Disney Channel?” Even with their G-rated starlet backgrounds, these two girls certainly shed away much of the personas we used to know them by.

While this movie is by no means everyone’s cup of tea, I urge you to see “Spring Breakers” solely for James Franco’s performance. The guy completely transforms himself into the low-life Alien as he steals every scene he’s in with a hysterical performance and delivery of his dialogue. The greatest scene of the film (and perhaps out of any movie this year) comes when the girls ask Alien to play and sing them a “sensitive and inspiring song.” His song choice is Britney Spears’ “Everytime,” which leads into a crime-filled montage with bed-jumping and gun-coddling. This scene is laugh-out-loud hilarious and may be enough of a reason to push people to see this movie.

So, do you think you can handle the madness of “Spring Breakers?” Just be ready for a movie so weird, risqué, violent and ridiculously entertaining that you will consistently be turning to your friends asking what you are watching. This movie is not for most people. It’s frantic and all over the place, but because of its entertainment value, its crazed look into today’s youth culture and James Franco’s hysterical performance, it may still be worth checking out. Like it or not, you won’t forget “Spring Breakers” after watching it. Spring break forevera’, y’all.

Contact Will Neal at wneal@nd.edu

“Spring Breakers”
AnnaPurna Pictures

Director: Harmony Korine

Starring: James Franco,
Vanessa Hudgens, Selena
Gomez





YOU HAVEN'T LIVED UNTIL YOU WATCH 'THE WALKING DEAD'

By **SHANE HANNON**
Scene Writer

For the record, I have never been into TV series. As cliché as it sounds, I am always more into watching SportsCenter than a weekly drama or reality show. Obviously, I watched “24” (Who didn’t? It was only the single greatest television series of all time, besides, perhaps, “Friends”), but since that went off the air in 2010, I’ve resorted to ESPN’s “Pardon the Interruption” (PTI) and reruns of “Two and a Half Men.”

However, this past spring break, instead of drinking on the beach with hundreds of wild and attractive college kids in the wee hours of the morning, I was lying in bed until 5 or 6 a.m., watching a show that has finally captivated my attention, “The Walking Dead.”

Currently in the latter half of its third season, “The Walking Dead” is an apocalyptic-zombie-horror drama that first aired Oct. 2010 on AMC. Developed by

Frank Darabont, who has directed such films as “The Shawshank Redemption” and “The Green Mile,” “The Walking Dead” centers around a man named Rick Grimes, played by actor Andrew Lincoln. Grimes is the leader of a small group of people trying to survive in the rural outskirts of Atlanta after the world as they knew it was destroyed by a zombie apocalypse. There is no mention of how the zombie apocalypse originated. All we know is that the United States government has been overrun and citizens have been left to fend for themselves. Infected people are stricken with a debilitating fever that kills them within days but brings them “back to life” as zombies. These “walkers” cannot run, are unintelligent, feel no pain and eat people. The only way they can truly be killed is with a fatal blow to the head. Grimes’ job is to ensure the survival of the group, which includes his son and wife, as they attempt to find a safe haven to build a new life.

The great part about “The Walking Dead” is it isn’t simply a shallow shoot-‘em-up series. Trust me, I didn’t watch 30 episodes in four days because of the mass zombie slaughter scenes. No, it actually has an interesting plot with intriguing characters and storylines. Among the gore and suspense are storylines involving love, lust, joy, despair and betrayal. “The Walking Dead” producers have successfully integrated all the features of modern dramas into an interesting and unprecedented scenario.

The part I personally find so addicting is the portrayal of human nature in the show. “The Walking Dead” brilliantly explores the darker side of human nature, the side that surfaces in times of desperation — the dog-eat-dog mentality we all feel but rarely act on. The ethical and moral dilemmas Grimes faces in every episode are so frustrating because I know what should be done, but I don’t know if that decision is actually the right one. Contrary

to what you may think, often the biggest threat to Grimes and his crew is another competing group of survivors. Decisions must be made regarding the life of an innocent stranger versus the safety of the group. This raw, survivalist portrayal of humanity adds a little something extra to the show.

This show truly has something for everyone. Do you love action and violence? Got it. How about romance, relationships and dramatic personal dilemmas? Got it. Sex? Yup. The balance between the two extremes of violence and drama makes “The Walking Dead” the most enjoyable show on TV today.

What I’m trying to say is, “The Walking Dead” is amazing. If you care about grades, I wouldn’t start up until the summer. But if you know what’s good for you, you’ll at least give it a shot.

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Tune In: WSND and WVFI

By **MAGGIE WAICKMAN**
Scene Writer

Tired of listening to the same old iTunes collection? Top 40 not meeting your musical needs? Looking for a new way to procrastinate that paper? Expose your ears to Notre Dame’s on-campus, student-run radio stations, WSND and WVFI. Whether you are interested in new classical tracks, the latest indie release or a funny talk show, these programs can provide the aural pleasures you desire. The stations stream live at and wvfi.nd.edu. WSND also broadcasts live at 88.9 FM.

Folk Music

Senior Melissa Jordan hosts “Feelin’ Folky,” an hour-long program dedicated solely to folk music. Jordan has been with WVFI for the past three years, hosting a different show focusing on a different musical genre each semester. Students looking for folk music selected by an experienced host can listen to Jordan every Wednesday from 4 to 5 p.m.

Jazz

WSND’s program “Jazz Traditions” provides the opportunity to hear jazz music from a variety of traditions. “Jazz Traditions” broadcasts Mondays and Tuesdays from 10 p.m. to 12 a.m. and Wednesdays from 8 to 10 p.m. Hosts Joseph Ahmad, Sam Kaczmarek and Benjamin Pfeifer, all seniors, play bebop, swing, fusion, modal and cool.

Indie Rock

Junior Cameron Goodman, one of WVFI’s Music Directors, plays indie rock and alternative music, with a focus on the obscure and the newly-released. His program, “Spending Warm Summer Days Indoors,” broadcasts Thursdays from 9 to 10:30 p.m. Those looking to expand their musical palette into a more hipster territory can tune in for the cutting edge of indie rock.

Symphony Orchestra

Every Thursday from 8 to 10 p.m., WSND broadcasts highlights from the Chicago Symphony Orchestra’s radio program. Students looking to learn about classical

music can listen in for performances of both well-known and obscure pieces and a brief context for these pieces, including who wrote them and why.

Student Comedy

The “Student Stand-Up Sit-Down Radio Show” broadcasts Wednesdays from 10:30 p.m. to 12 a.m. Host Robert Reichle, a senior, and his guests provide listeners with a comedic study break, which usually focuses on the various exploits of Reichle’s life. Students looking to hear some good comedy without taking a step outside their dorm room can listen to WVFI for this humorous stand-up-style talk show.

Broadway

Freshman Jenny Poth hosts “ND on Broadway” every Thursday from 6 to 7 p.m. Students interested in belting out to their favorite show tunes can listen in to hear a wide selection of original Broadway recordings.

Late-Night Listening

Students staying up late to finish that paper or cram for tomorrow’s exam can

accompany their work with WSND’s program “Nocturne,” which broadcasts from 12 to 2 a.m. every night. Students play their own musical libraries, music from independent rock labels and any requests listeners call in. “Nocturne” can include any musical genre, from ‘80s exercise tunes to jam rock.

Hip-Hop

Junior Mia Lillis hosts “Straight Out the Dungeons of Rap” every Monday from 12 to 2 a.m. Lillis has been steadily building her knowledge of classical hip-hop since her early high school years. Those interested learning about classical hip-hop or sharing an already-established love of the genre can tune in for this informative and interesting show on WVFI.

Don’t fear if your musical needs weren’t met by a program covered here. WSND and WVFI have a slew of other genre-based programming just waiting to grace your ears. Visit nd.edu/~wsnd and wvfi.nd.edu for more information on programming.

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SPORTS AUTHORITY

Replay in NCAA needs improving



Peter Steiner
Sports Writer

No matter if you watched four hours or 44 hours of basketball during the NCAA tournament four-day frenzy, your time was split into three neat categories — the game, the replays and the commercials.

Although seeing the same Bud Light blind date commercial dozens of times and learning about the “Pickle Roll” over and over again was not the ideal way to spend a Saturday afternoon, the biggest detractor from some otherwise-exciting basketball was not the commercials, but actually the replays — specifically the referee replay reviews.

Seeing replays of high-flying alley-oops by Florida Gulf Coast or re-watching the 3-point daggers by Aaron Craft, Victor Oladipo and Shane Larkin is not what has got me tied up in knots. Rather, it's the countless times the referees stopped the game, moseyed on over to the official's table and replayed the most recent series of events to make sure they made the correct call.

The NCAA tournament is one of the greatest events in sports and it will continue to hold that status without any alterations. But if we are striving for perfection, then instant replay in college basketball needs an overhaul.

Official NCAA basketball rules allow referees to use replay equipment for situations involving free throws, controversial 3-point baskets and flagrant fouls and also to adjust the game or shot clock if a mistake occurred.

Statistics on how many times referees review plays per game are not readily available, but judging from four days of basketball, each game averaged around three replay reviews, with a higher frequency in close games near the end of regulation.

The biggest issue with referee-replay review is the disruption to the game that comes along with the stoppage. At the end of a game, as many as three plays are reviewed in just a 30-second period. Any momentum shift caused by a big play can be cancelled out by the stoppage and, as Davidson fans can attest to, these referee replays can also give teams distinct advantages.

On Thursday night No. 14 seed Davidson was on the verge of upsetting No. 3 seed Marquette, leading the Golden Eagles by one point with 10 seconds remaining. But an errant pass by Davidson during the press break turned the ball over to Marquette, who did not have any timeouts remaining. The referees reviewed the play to adjust the game clock though, essentially giving Marquette a timeout. With the added 1.2

seconds in hand, the Golden Eagles won the game on Vander Blue's game-winning layup.

Davidson was doubly punished by its critical turnover as the following replay review gave Marquette time to huddle up and talk over a play. It's certainly not the reason the Wildcats lost, but the review of the game clock did impact the game.

To reduce unnecessary stoppages, reviews to adjust the clock should be almost completely eliminated. The majority of these reviews change the clock by less than a half second and clock errors should even themselves out over the course of an entire game anyways.

Anyone who watched one or two games last weekend probably also learned the rules for flagrant fouls and the penalties they entail. The rule and penalties are another topic to discuss, but to avoid additional referee replays, flagrant fouls should be called during the action without instant replay. Calling these fouls in the heat of the moment will help to differentiate inadvertent elbows from actual flagrant fouls caused by recklessness, malice or the particularly dangerous use of elbows above shoulder level.

As a solution to the whole replay review situation, the NCAA should adopt a similar system to the one used in the NFL. Give each team one replay challenge for the entire game with the ability to challenge any plays currently reviewable under NCAA rules. Unlike the NFL, though, don't leave the last two minutes to the booth. Teams will almost certainly save their challenge until the end of the game anyways. The only exception should be automatic reviews for potential game-winning baskets at the end of a game.

Finally, the NCAA should upgrade its replay equipment at tournament sites to speed up the process. As intriguing as it is to watch the referees watch themselves on TV, depending on the actual game broadcast is not efficient.

Referee replay review is not infallible (just recall the mistake made Jan. 3 when Colorado should have defeated Arizona on a buzzer-beater that was called off). But these changes would go a long way towards perfecting and speeding up the process itself.

Once instant replay in college basketball is improved, the only thing standing between us and a perfect NCAA-tournament experience will be those commercials.

Contact Peter Steiner at psteiner@nd.edu

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

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Florida Gulf Coast steps into the spotlight

Associated Press

Sherwood Brown only wanted a bagel.

The Florida Gulf Coast star walked into a restaurant on campus Monday and was quickly surrounded. People wanted autographs. People wanted photos. People just wanted to yell words of encouragement.

A school that opened a mere 16 years ago finds itself front-and-center in March Madness, one of only 16 college basketball teams left from a field of 68, hoping to win the NCAA national championship.

“I had no idea it was going to be like this, but I'm loving it,” Brown said as he made his escape from the shop. “I feel like we're getting a lot of America behind us. I guess you could say we're a part of America's team at this point.”

And the Eagles spent the day savoring their moment.

Lines in the campus bookstore snaked from one side to the other, more than 100 people waiting for the chance to pay for their FGCU shirts and hats. Phone lines were jammed by those seeking tickets for this weekend's South Regional, and even the university president half-seriously wondered if he would be able to obtain what he needed. And as they arrived at classes, players were met with applause.

“It's so brand new,” Eagles coach Andy Enfield said Monday, as emails popped into his mailbox at a fairly dizzying rate. “No one knows — no one knew — what FGCU stood for, the letters. Now it puts our university in a national spotlight and rightly so, because this is a great place. It's a young, vibrant university with just a lot of energy. I've been trying to tell that story to a lot of people.”

The Eagles play Florida in the South Regional semifinals Friday night, two wins from a most-improbable trip to the Final Four. Seeded 15th in their region, FGCU knocked off both No. 2 Georgetown and No. 7 San Diego State in Philadelphia over the weekend to keep their season going.

Enfield's lone mistake so far



AP

Florida Gulf Coast celebrates after defeating San Diego State 81-71 in the third round of the NCAA tournament on March 24.

in the NCAA tournament may have been what happened when he went to bed around 5:30 a.m. Monday, roughly two hours after the Eagles landed home in Fort Myers after punching their ticket to the regional semifinals.

Before Enfield went to sleep, he forgot to silence his ringer. Suffice to say, he was awakened long before he wanted.

“It's part of the moment,” Enfield said. “We're happy to sacrifice a little sleep for the success of our program.”

Here's maybe the best way to explain what's happening right now with FGCU: In a state where the Gators are back in the regional semifinals, where the Miami Hurricanes (who lost to FGCU early this season) are still alive in the field and look very much like a title contender, and as the Miami Heat took a 26-game winning streak into their game at Orlando on Monday, it's the Eagles who might be the best story.

LeBron James picked them to win one game in his bracket. Not two, though.

“Just a hunch,” the NBA's reigning MVP said.

The Eagles — 26-10 overall and 13-5 in the Atlantic Sun Conference — are starting their own tradition, since they have no real tradition yet. Of the 19 banners that sway in their gym to commemorate various

accomplishments, the earliest entry on them is for a women's volleyball trip to the NCAA Division II tournament in 2004.

“You come from a small school like that, and everyone just kind of looks at us like a mid-week prep game. ‘All right, we'll get our win mid-week and then we'll get ready for conference play,’” said Chris Sale, a former FGCU pitcher now with the Chicago White Sox. “I don't think that's the way it's going to be from here on out.”

The school has about 11,300 students, half of whom come from the state's southwest section. The campus — which includes a manmade lake and actual beach where students flock — sits on 760 acres of land donated by Ben Hill Griffin III. And that lends a certain irony to this Eagles-Gators matchup, given that Florida's football team plays its home games in what everyone calls The Swamp but what officially is named for Ben Hill Griffin Jr.

FGCU is in such infancy as a school that its oldest alumni probably have yet to turn 40.

“I've been in higher ed for a long time, worked at several institutions, and I have not experienced anything like this phenomenon,” FGCU President Wilson Bradshaw said. “What has happened in the last three or four days has been exceptional.”

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PERSONAL

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The man who invented it doesn't want it. The man who bought it doesn't need it. The man who needs it doesn't know it. What is it?

“...We had to tip our hats to him. He was lucky she hadn't beat the **** out of him. We wouldn't have blamed her. What he'd done was sneaky, rotten, and low... and cool... He had kissed a woman. And he had kissed her long and good.

Contactghadley@nd.eduwiththeanswer.

NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Penn State, LSU prepare for tournament rematch

Associated Press

BATON ROUGE, La. — Penn State coach Coquese Washington would like to believe her team's experience beating LSU on the Lady Tigers' home court in the second round of last year's NCAA tournament would bode well for Tuesday night's rematch.

She'd be pleased if LSU's relative shortage of healthy players was something Penn State could exploit.

Washington is also wise enough — she has undergraduate and law degrees from Notre Dame, after all — to be cautious about the Lady Lions' favored status against an LSU team that has won eight of its last nine games.

"They're now playing their best basketball of the season, playing with a high level of confidence and playing on their home floor," Washington said of the Lady Tigers. "That's tough to play against, so we've got to be ready."

Third-seeded Penn State (26-5), which advanced with an 85-55, first-round demolition of Cal Poly on Sunday night, has a deeper lineup and better resume than LSU (21-11), which held on against Green Bay after nearly squandering an 18-point

second-half lead.

Complicating matters for the Lady Tigers is the uncertain status of junior guard and emotional leader Jeanne Kenney, who banged heads with teammate Adrienne Webb and was carried off the floor Sunday night holding a towel over her face.

LSU coach Nikki Caldwell said tests were ongoing Monday to determine if Kenney's injury was serious enough to sideline her Tuesday night. If Kenney is out, LSU, whose motto has been "Eight is enough," (after the old TV series) will have only seven available players.

"The thing is, they've played with limited numbers all year. So they know how to play with seven people the whole game," Washington said. "They've dealt with it very, very well."

"We want to dictate the tempo," Washington continued. "It's going to be a contrast in styles. We want it up-tempo, they probably want it a little bit slower. So we'll see which style can kind of win out."

Washington added that when she was an assistant coach on Notre Dame's 2001 national title team, the Irish's rotation was limited to eight players, "So I'm not feeling sorry for Nikki Caldwell. She'll be fine."

Working in the Lady Tigers'

favor is that their short rotation has required the players who are available — including talented freshman guard Danielle Ballard and 6-foot-4 freshman reserve center Derreyal Youngblood — to gain invaluable experience. All the while, the team has jelled into a unit much more cohesive and formidable now than when it lost six of nine games from early January to early February.

"We've fought through adversity all year long," said All-Southeastern Conference forward Theresa Plaisance. "This is just going to be another test."

The 40-year-old Caldwell went so far as to compare her squad to the fictional youth baseball team depicted in the movie "The Bad News Bears," the original version of which was a hit when she was a kid in the 1970s.

"They weren't really good early and they just plugged away, plugged away, and their confidence started to build," Caldwell said. "I'm proud of them for getting themselves into a position to compete again against a great team like Penn State."

LSU has players versatile enough to jump between several positions, allowing them to match up well with opponents despite their lack of depth.



AP

LSU forward Theresa Plaisance blocks a shot during a first-round victory in the NCAA tournament Sunday in Baton Rouge, La. over Green Bay.

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Tar Heels future depends on rising freshmen

Associated Press

North Carolina reversed course from its early struggles only after coach Roy Williams made a midseason strategic shift. Whether the Hall of Fame coach stays with it will depend largely on who returns for the Tar Heels next season.

North Carolina (25-11) closed Williams' 10th season at his alma mater with Sunday's loss to Kansas in the third round of the NCAA

tournament. The Tar Heels only made it that far after Williams switched from his post-centric offense to a four-guard lineup that spread the floor and shot lots of 3-pointers.

Before the move, the Tar Heels were a team with lopsided losses to Indiana, Texas and Miami to go with an 0-2 start in Atlantic Coast Conference play. Afterward, they won nine of 13 to close the season — the only losses were to high NCAA seeds

Duke, Miami and Kansas — and reached the ACC tournament final.

"I really enjoyed coaching my team. I really did," Williams said after Sunday's loss to the Jayhawks in Kansas City, Mo. "We had some tough, tough losses early. They kept coming to practice every single day and tried to do what we wanted them to do."

The Tar Heels started the year with the challenge of replacing four NBA first-round draft picks from a team that had reached two straight NCAA regional finals. They reached as high as No. 9 nationally before an early loss to Butler in which they fell behind by 29 points — the first sign that this year's group filled with young and unproven big men would need time to grow.

The promotion of sophomore guard P.J. Hairston into the starting lineup sparked UNC's late-season surge along with the improvement of freshman point guard Marcus Paige.

Still, North Carolina beat only one NCAA-bound team — rival North Carolina State

— during its late run before topping Villanova in its NCAA opener.

"It was certainly a roller-coaster ride for me as a point guard trying to learn everything," Paige told reporters in the locker room after Sunday's loss. "... We made some real big strides through the ACC tournament and even here for the majority of the way we played in the NCAA tournament. I'm pretty proud but at the same time — I'm not the only one — we're going to be pretty hungry to get better."

The Tar Heels are only guaranteed to lose one starter, senior guard Dexter Strickland. Sophomore forward James Michael McAdoo had an up-and-down year in trying to become UNC's go-to player and will again have to decide whether to enter the NBA draft or return to school.

McAdoo, a 6-foot-9 forward, was second on the team in scoring (14.4 points) to go with a team-high 7.3 rebounds. But he shot just 45 percent, including a 5-for-19 performance against the Jayhawks.

Instead, it was Hairston who

grew into UNC's top player. He averaged a team-high 18.2 points after becoming a full-time starter and shot 40 percent from 3-point range.

Assuming Hairston and junior guard Reggie Bullock don't flirt with the draft, the Tar Heels will return two elite outside shooters along with key reserve Leslie McDonald — which could lead Williams to stay with the small-ball attack.

Regardless, incoming freshmen Isaiah Hicks and Kennedy Meeks should provide a boost to the frontcourt that struggled to find steady production behind freshmen Brice Johnson and Joel James, and sophomore Desmond Hubert.

As for Williams, the 62-year-old coach had a cancer scare just before the start of pre-season practice but went on to earn his 700th career victory against Villanova and reach 25 wins for the seventh time in 10 years at UNC.

"We have a chance to be a sensational basketball team again," he said, "but that's not going to help me get through the spring."

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NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Howland departs UCLA with gratitude

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES—Ben Howland kept it classy in departing as UCLA basketball coach on Monday, thanking the athletic director who had fired him a day earlier while noting the high expectations that come with running a program that owns a record 11 national championships.

Howland was applauded by supporters as he walked into a news conference at Pauley Pavilion for the last time. The 55-year-old coach expressed gratitude for his 10-year run in Westwood, the longest tenure since John Wooden retired in 1975 after 27 years on the sideline.

Howland had a 233-107 record that included three consecutive Final Four appearances and four Pac-12 titles, including this season, when the Bruins were 25-10. Their season ended with a 20-point loss to Minnesota in the second round of the NCAA tournament.

"As a coach, you always remember the losses way better than the wins," he said.

Howland said he's excited about his future and wants to coach again, although he doesn't

know where or when that will happen.

"It's where the best opportunity is," he said afterward. "I can live anywhere. I want to compete at the highest level."

He said he took the unusual step of meeting the media after his firing because he wanted to publicly thank his current and former players and staff. He recited a laundry list of names, including his wife, Kim, who kissed him after he finished.

No senior athletic department officials attended, including athletic director Dan Guerrero, who fired Howland in a meeting on Sunday.

Howland declined to discuss details of what was said.

"I enjoyed our working relationship, his support and his regard for all we accomplished," Howland said, reading from a prepared statement he had worked on after being dismissed.

Howland sidestepped a question on whether he was treated fairly, considering the Bruins won the league's regular-season title and lost in its tournament title game playing without freshman Jordan Adams, who broke his foot in the semifinals.

Howland's four league titles were the most by any UCLA coach since Wooden.

"We had a great year. I was so proud of our players and coaches to win the Pac-12 championship," he said. "I feel very good about leaving here with a good nucleus."

However, Guerrero cited "a depleted roster" as one of the reasons he let Howland go.

Attendance lagged at games this season despite a \$138 million renovation of Pauley Pavilion, and UCLA missed the NCAA tournament twice in Howland's last four seasons. The Bruins haven't reached the final 16 since 2008.

"It's very complex," he said about coaching at UCLA. "There's a lot that goes into it."

A national search is under way for Howland's successor.

"They're not going to have a hard time finding a great coach to come in here. They're not going to hire a rookie," he said. "I just wish him the very best."

When he arrived in April 2003, Howland said there would never be another Wooden, who remained close to the program under Howland's stewardship until



AP

UCLA coach Ben Howland objects to a call during UCLA's loss to Minnesota in the second round of the NCAA tournament Friday.

he died in 2010.

"It's a place that has such high expectations and that's understandable," Howland said, calling UCLA "the premier athletic program in the country."

Howland pointed out that every player who stayed four years with him went on to graduate.

He said he either met with or spoke by phone with his current players, who are on spring break this week.

"I've encouraged them all to continue to work hard and to develop," he said. "I'm nothing but supportive of these kids and their futures here at UCLA."

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ND WOMEN'S GOLF

Notre Dame excels despite weather conditions

By GREG HADLEY
Sports Writer

The Irish entered the Briar's Creek Invitational in John's Island, S.C., as the highest ranked team in the field at No. 23 and the clear favorite.

Despite the pre-tournament accolades, the Irish ended the first day of the tournament Monday in a close-fought contest, tied for first place with Coastal Carolina and East Carolina at 33 over par. Rain and wind slowed the golfers until play was suspended due to darkness midway through the second round. The Irish will complete the second round today and play the final third round. "[Monday] was a very long day," Irish coach Susan Holt said. "The wind was consistently around 30 miles per hour, and the course was flooded yesterday, so we were playing it and really just seeing it for the first time."

Sophomore Ashley Armstrong is in the midst of another strong performance, after winning the Insperity Lady Jaguar invitational last week. She is in third place individually after 12 holes in the second round. She currently leads all Irish golfers at three shots over par, just one shot behind the leaders.

Freshman Talia Campbell also played well, rebounding from a tough first round to score one under par through the first 11 holes of the second round, catapulting her into a tie for seventh place. "Ashley played excellent in tough conditions and managed the course very well," Holt said. "We didn't play a practice round, so to be only three over par is just great." However, the rest of the Irish struggled throughout the day. Freshman Lindsey Weaver is the highest ranked individual in the field at No. 8 but double-bogeyed three holes en route

to a 12 over par day. The rest of the Irish all scored at least four shots over their season average. "We just didn't play well as a team," Holt said. "There's no other way to say it. Every player had some problems. It was a little bit of everything overall." After the first 18 holes, the Irish were tied for seventh place, behind Kansas and Coastal Carolina, both of whom they beat earlier this season. However, they managed to rally in the second round and put themselves in contention for the win heading into the final day. "The first round took [more than] six hours to finish," Holt said. "It was exhausting. We played a little better the second time through. We just need to rest and be ready for tomorrow." The Irish finish play today at the Briar's Creek Invitational.

Contact Greg Hadley at ghadley@nd.edu



Photo courtesy of Ed Zerkle

Irish sophomore Ashley Armstrong lines up her shot at the Landfall Tradition tournament Oct. 23, 2011.

SMC SOFTBALL | SMC 7, FRANKLIN 0; SMC 3, FRANKLIN 5

Belles take game one, drop second to Franklin

By MEREDITH KELLY
Sports Writer

The Belles split a non-conference doubleheader against Franklin on Saturday in Franklin, Ind.

Saint Mary's (6-6) took the first game 7-0 before falling 5-3 in the second game.

The first run of game one came in the top of the third inning, courtesy of senior captain Erin Sherwood. Sherwood hit an RBI double down the left field line to bring freshman Ashley Watkins home.

Sherwood then scored off an

error by the Grizzlies center fielder on a ball hit by senior Morgan Bedan to make the score 2-0.

With the Grizzlies (4-12) still scoreless in the top of the fifth inning, the Belles increased their lead to 6-0. Sophomore Victoria Connelly, sophomore Callie Selner and freshman Jillian Busfield all scored earned runs.

Belles coach Erin Sullivan said Selner was the team's standout in the first game. Selner pitched a near-perfect game with no runs allowed, one hit allowed, four strikeouts and no walks. Selner also excelled at the plate with two hits and one run.

The Belles took the win 7-0 and went into the second game feeling confident. Sullivan said they may have been too confident.

"I think we went into the second game thinking that we already had won it, when in reality, we hadn't," she said

The Belles started off taking advantage of Franklin's errors in the field in the second game. Sherwood reached base on an error by Franklin's center fielder, then was brought home after a throwing error by Franklin's shortstop.

The Grizzlies started to pick up momentum in the bottom of the

fifth inning when their shortstop delivered a two-run single up the middle, tying the game 3-3.

The Grizzlies moved ahead in the bottom of the sixth inning, taking advantage of two of Saint Mary's errors. Franklin scored two unearned runs to win 5-3.

After splitting the doubleheader, Sullivan said non-conference games create less pressure than conference games — which may have led to a letdown from her team.

"Maybe we needed that pressure to perform a little bit better," Sullivan said. "But the only good thing is that it doesn't hurt you for

postseason play."

In terms of postseason play, Sullivan said she believes her team has a lot more growing to do and a long road of hard work ahead of it.

"We need to turn it around, we still have a lot of the season left," Sullivan said. "We don't want to think about quitting right now when we are only halfway through."

The Belles are scheduled to face Defiance on Thursday in a home doubleheader.

Contact Meredith Kelly at mkelly29@nd.edu

MEN'S GOLF

Snow ends Irish competition in Virginia

Observer Staff Report

For the second day in a row, Notre Dame was unable to take the course as scheduled

Intercollegiate tournament officials to end play early.

Monday due to inclement weather.

Sunday the Irish golfers were able to finish their rounds despite the weather, and Notre Dame tied for 9th place out of the teams that finished their rounds.

Monday's round was cancelled before the Irish could begin, and Notre Dame's second round of play will not be made up.

The unplayable conditions forced officials to constrain the tournament, held in Williamsburg, Va., to an 18-hole contest.

The unique circumstances mean Notre Dame is finished with play in the tournament. The teams that did not complete play Sunday will finish play Wednesday and the results of the tournament will thereafter be determined.

Notre Dame finished the tournament with a score of 289, six strokes behind current leader James Madison. Junior Andrew Lane scored a 68 to lead the Irish and place third on the individual leaderboard at the conclusion of Sunday's round.

Notre Dame will return to competition April 6 at the Irish Creek Collegiate tournament in Kannapolis, N.C.

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GRANT TOBIN | The Observer

Irish sophomore infielder Kevin DeFilippis throws the ball during warmups before Notre Dame's 3-1 loss to St. John's on April 29, 2012.

Flashes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

six contests. The Golden Flashes have bounced back as of late though, winning six of their last eight games.

Much like Notre Dame, the Golden Flashes have faced several of the toughest teams in the nation throughout the early part of their schedule, including Virginia Tech, San Diego and No. 10 Louisville.

Kent State is coming off a series win against Northern Illinois this past weekend. In the series finale Sunday the Golden Flashes routed the Huskies 13-1.

The Golden Flashes surprised much of the college baseball world last year by making the first College World Series appearance in the school's history.

While last year was their first trip to Omaha, the Golden Flashes are no strangers to postseason

play, having made it to the NCAA tournament in each of the past four seasons.

Senior infielder Evan Campbell leads the way for Kent State on offense. Campbell is batting .322 with 16 RBIs and six stolen bases.

On the mound, Kent State relies on junior right-hander Taylor Williams, who is 4-1 this season with 2.09 ERA and 37 strikeouts.

Notre Dame is coming off a series win this past weekend against Seton Hall in its first Big East matchup of the season.

The Irish lost in a one-run contest Friday night before taking both games of a doubleheader on Saturday afternoon.

The Irish will look to get the win in today's game before resuming Big East play Friday against No. 10 Louisville.

First pitch for tonight's game is scheduled for 6:35 p.m.

McGraw

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

Dame fans out there tonight to balance that out, but we're ready to go."

Much like Notre Dame, Iowa looks to several different players to provide scoring. 6-foot-5 senior center Morgan Johnson and 6-foot-4 sophomore center Bethany Doolittle anchor the paint for the Hawkeyes. The frontcourt duo averages a combined 21.5 points and 13.1 rebounds per game.

"They are very tall and lean. ... They work well together within their team and their motion," Achonwa said of Johnson and Doolittle. "I think it's just going to be about being physical. Iowa's physical, we're going to play physical."

In addition to the two centers, Iowa relies on a trio of talented guards in sophomore Melissa Dixon and Samantha Logic and senior Jaime Printy. Both Dixon and Printy average double-digit points per game, while Logic has dished out 6.4 assists per game this season.

Irish freshman guard Jewell Loyd said Notre Dame will have to play fundamentally sound defense to contain the Hawkeyes' perimeter players.

"They are all good guards, they all can shoot the ball really well," Loyd said. "Logic is a really good passer, so containing the ball definitely with her. I think just being able to stay to our principles in our defense and we'll see where that takes us."

McGraw said Logic and her teammates present a unique defensive challenge because the Irish will not be able to assign a second defender to any one Iowa player.

"I think that [Logic] is definitely somebody that's a challenge for us," McGraw said.



AP

Irish freshman guard Jewell Loyd goes for the steal during Notre Dame's 97-64 victory over Tennessee Martin on Sunday.

"You have Printy and Dixon with great 3-point shooting ability, so you got to go out and guard on the perimeter and then you have the inside presence, so they've got a really good, balanced team.

"I don't think you can leave anyone to go double anyone else. I think you have to really play them straight-up, so

I think it's a challenge for u, defensively."

Notre Dame and Iowa will tip at 9:40 p.m. today in the second round of the NCAA tournament at Carver-Hawkeye Arena in Iowa City, Iowa.

Contact Cory Bernard at cbernard@nd.edu

Faller

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

Campbell said. "It develops our confidence to fight till the end of the match."

Sophomore Jackie Kjolhede and Kiefer provided dominant wins to round out the Belles' singles match wins. Margaret Faller and sophomore Shannon Elliott added a sixth victory in No. 3 doubles competition.

Campbell said the conference win was important but his team has to keep the

whole season in perspective.

"I think we have gained confidence, but we have talked about the need to simply keep improving," Campbell said. "That will be important as we play our toughest conference opponents."

Notably absent over the weekend were singles victories from junior Mary Catherine Faller, who dropped both of her singles matches. Campbell said he nevertheless maintains confidence in his team leader.

"There have been some matches where she gets the

only win for our team, and both of these opponents had difficult styles with their No. 1 players," Campbell said. "I have confidence that Mary Catherine will figure out how to beat this type of player, and I know she has the ability."

Saint Mary's next match against Judson on Wednesday was cancelled due to weather conditions. The Belles will next play April 4 against Olivet at 4 p.m.

Contact Samantha Zuba at szuba@nd.edu

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Ottoman nabob

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Level: **1** 2 3 4

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SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE											
9	1	8	4	7	6	5	3	2			
7	5	4	2	3	1	8	9	6			
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HOROSCOPE | EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Danica Patrick, 31; Sarah Jessica Parker, 48; Elton John, 66; Aretha Franklin, 71.

Happy Birthday: Embrace change and challenge anyone who stands in your way. Broaden your outlook and expand your friendships to include people from different backgrounds. Silence your temper and refrain from complaining about what you cannot change. Focus on the present and how you can achieve the goals that will lead to your advancement. Love is on the rise. Your numbers are 7, 9, 16, 23, 32, 43, 69.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Keep busy and avoid temper tantrums. What you accomplish will be what speaks volumes about who you are and how responsible and reliable you can be. There will be plenty of time for romance once you have taken care of business. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Express your feelings. Learn all you can and you will be able to take advantage of a situation that develops with a partner or group. Let your intuition guide you and you will secure your position and enhance your reputation. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): If you exaggerate, you will give someone the opportunity to make you look bad. Excess will be your downfall and pitching in and lending a helping hand your salvation. You can get what you want if you take an honest approach. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): By allowing changes to take place, you will lift what's blocking you from getting ahead. Learning a new skill or taking something you enjoy doing and turning it into a second income will help you get past any setback you face. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You will attract attention. Don't miss out because someone is trying to monopolize your time. Focus on what you want to do and how you can get ahead. Mastering something that will allow you greater opportunities should be your quest. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Hold on to your cash. Don't let anyone bully you into something you don't want to do. Do your own thing and stick to the people you know well and trust. Someone is likely to make you an unrealistic promise. ★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Keep personal secrets and avoid an unpleasant situation. A change in an important relationship can be expected if you or the other person feels pressured. Meeting new people or reuniting with someone from your past will change your outlook. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Listen to your intuition. Follow your heart and it will lead to a better relationship with the people in your life who mean the most to you. A contract, settlement or investment will turn out to be prosperous. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't be fooled by someone playing emotional games with you. Concentrate on your home and domestic situation and you will bypass a temptation that can lead to trouble. Love is on the rise, and the right partner will enhance your life. ★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Caution must be taken. Verbal confrontations can lead to mishaps that are difficult to rectify. Put more effort into your job and your personal financial, medical and contractual obligations. Injury is likely if you overdo it physically. ★★★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Good things come to those who wait. You will be able to finalize important plans. Getting together with someone you love can lead to a promise that will improve your life. An innovative idea can turn into a lucrative pastime. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19- March 20): Set your standards high and follow your gut feelings. Don't let anyone push you or play with your emotions. An equal partnership is the only way you can move forward with anyone who wants to be in your life personally or professionally. ★★★

Birthday Baby: You are powerful, proud and intuitive. You are observant and responsible.

JUMBLE | DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

JUMBLE

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

KNLAF

AABET

CAFEDA

RITPUN

Answer " " - " (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: FLING GOING TWENTY BOLDLY Answer: The owner of the toupee company was a — BIGWIG

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

This Vulcan character is a strange fellow.

Have you talked to him yet?

This is a most peculiar hand gesture.

LEONARD NIMOY'S CAREER REALLY TOOK OFF AS A RESULT OF HIM BEING —

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

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

On the road again

Irish square off against Iowa in Iowa City for Sweet 16 bid

By CORY BERNARD
Sports Writer

No. 2 Notre Dame may be the top seed in the Norfolk region, but it will be the road team tonight.

The Irish (32-1, 16-0 Big East) will face No. 9-seeded Iowa at Carver-Hawkeye Arena in Iowa City, Iowa, tonight with a birth in the Sweet Sixteen on the line. The game against the Hawkeyes (21-12, 8-8 Big Ten) marks the second time in three years Notre Dame has played a true road game early in the tournament. In the first round of the 2011 NCAA tournament, the Irish beat Utah in Salt Lake City.

Fortunately for the Irish, they have not lost a road game this season.

"Iowa has a home-court advantage here, everyone knows that," Notre Dame junior forward Natalie Achonwa said.

"And I think we've played a lot of great ... away games this year and I think it's just about focusing on what we're going to do and how we're going to play and just trying to take the crowd out of it."

Irish coach Muffet McGraw echoed Achonwa's confidence heading into a hostile environment.

"I think we've been road-tested," she said. "We're battle-tested, we're undefeated on the road and so that's kind of the message we're sending out [to the] team. We've gone to Connecticut, we've gone to Tennessee, we've gone to a lot of tough places on the road, so we know what that's going to be like."

"The crowd's going to be against us, there are going to be a lot of people cheering against us. You would hope that we get some more Notre

see MCGRAW PAGE 14

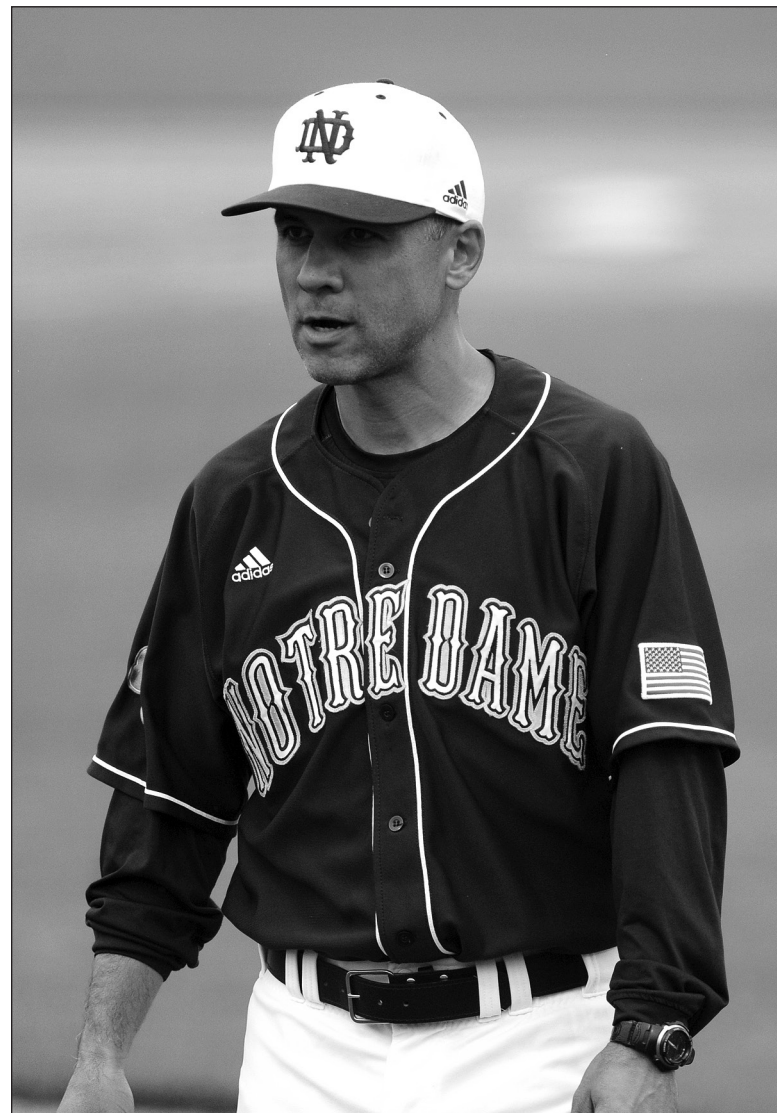


Irish senior guard Skylar Diggins is fouled by Tennessee Martin defenders while attempting a shot during Notre Dame's 97-64 victory over the Skyhawks on Sunday.

AP

BASEBALL

Connaughton to debut



Observer File Photo

Irish coach Mik Aoki stands on the field during Notre Dame's 6-5 victory over Butler on May 1, 2012.

Observer Staff Report

No. 16 Notre Dame will take on Kent State this evening — weather permitting — in a single-game matchup at the U.S. Steel Yard in Gary, Ind.

Monday night's game with Kent State was cancelled due to inclement weather.

A makeup game is not expected to be announced for what was supposed to be the first half of a two-game series against the Golden Flashes.

For the Irish (14-6), sophomore right-hander Pat Connaughton will make his first start of the season on the mound. Connaughton spent the first month of the baseball season in a different uniform, playing for the men's basketball team.

Connaughton was 4-4 in 10 starts last season, posting a 3.18 ERA with 40 strikeouts in 45 innings pitched.

Kent State (8-12) struggled at the start of this season, losing its first

see FLASHES PAGE 14

SMC TENNIS | SMC 5, SAINT FRANCIS 4; SMC 4, TRINE 3

Belles start MIAA play with wins

By SAMANTHA ZUBA
Sports Writer

The Belles came up big this weekend with back-to-back victories at home against Saint Francis and Trine on Friday and Saturday.

Saint Mary's (4-4, 1-0 MIAA) evened its record and snagged an important conference win in the process.

Belles coach Dale Campbell said the productive weekend should have a positive effect on the team's attitude.

"It's always good to get two wins, and I think it does help the spirit of the team," Campbell said. "It was good to win the first conference match against Trine as well."

Junior Mary Catherine Faller and sophomore Kayle Sexton contributed two victories at No. 1 doubles to lead the Belles over Saint Francis on Friday and conference rival Trine on Saturday. The pair cruised to victory over Chelsea Selking and Elizabeth Faber of Saint Francis 8-3, and defeated junior Jessica Huhnke and junior Chrissy Uphaus of Trine

(6-4, 0-1 MIAA) 8-4.

Saint Mary's took an early lead against Saint Francis (7-9, 3-5 Crossroads League) on Friday, going up two matches to none after an 8-0 No. 3 doubles victory and the win by Faller and Sexton. The Belles also benefited from strong matches at the No. 2, No. 3 and No. 5 singles slots. Sexton, freshman Margaret Faller and sophomore Audrey Kiefer provided those three match victories to give the Belles five points and the edge over Saint Francis.

Saturday's triumph was more secure. Saint Mary's took six matches to Trine's three. Several of the individual matches were nail-biters, however.

Sexton took a narrow 6-4, 6-4 victory. Margaret Faller played an even closer, more up-and-down match but managed a 6-3, 4-6, 6-3 win. Campbell said close wins are an important learning experiences for the Belles. "I believe it is helpful to win some of the close matches,"

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