

ND students selected for Fulbright grants

Ten undergraduate, graduate students will travel to Europe and Asia for 2014-2015 fellowships

By CAROLYN HUTYRA
News Writer

Ten students from Notre Dame were awarded Fulbright grants for the 2014-15 program, ranking the University as a top-producing institution of grant recipients.

Jeffrey Thibert, assistant director of national fellowships in Center for Undergraduate Scholarly Engagement (CUSE), said placement on the list is a significant honor for the University, raising its profile even further among U.S. doctoral and research institutions.

"The grants benefit Notre Dame by confirming the University's commitment to internationalization and expanding our global reputation," he said. "Notre Dame Fulbright recipients are not just

representing the U.S. abroad; they are representing Notre Dame abroad as well."

Thibert said the Fulbright is a great opportunity for students for three key reasons, the first of which is its ability to allow students to deepen their engagements with a particular part of the world through an immersive academic and cultural experience.

"Second, the Fulbright provides funding for work that can significantly enhance one's professional trajectory, whether that work is graduate study, dissertation research or classroom teaching experience," he said. "Third, receiving a Fulbright grant opens the door to a vast network of Fulbright recipients around the

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10 ND students win Fulbright grants



MARY MCGRAW | The Observer

Hypatia Day to promote women in STEM

By OLIVIA JACKSON
News Writer

Saint Mary's will host the 23rd annual Hypatia Day this Saturday for seventh grade girls from local South Bend schools to fight the stereotype that math and science are male-dominated fields. With the assistance of current students, professors and high school students, the day will be centered around exposing both young girls and their parents to the many opportunities available in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) fields for women.

Hypatia Day was first organized

in 1991 by Sr. Miriam Patrick Cooney, professor emerita of mathematics, director of media relations Gwen O'Brien said.

Hypatia Day is named for the first known female mathematician, Hypatia of Alexandria, who was the daughter of ancient Greek mathematician and philosopher Theon, O'Brien said. According to legend, Hypatia's father taught her mathematics during a period in Greek history when young girls were excluded from education.

According to Socrates, Hypatia's home and lecture room were the two favorite gathering places for

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Photo courtesy of Gwen O'Brien

Hypatia Day brings local seventh grade girls to Saint Mary's to explore the typically male-dominated fields of math and science.

Students elect new class councils

By KAYLA MULLEN
Associate News Editor

Judicial Council released the results of the 2015 class council elections at midnight this morning.

First years JP Bruno, Molly Knapp, Matthew Ross and Henry Long were elected to serve as the Class of 2018's Sophomore Class Council, the ticket's presidential candidate, JP Bruno. The Bruno, Knapp, Ross and Long ticket garnered 50.73 percent of the vote, while the ticket consisting of Greg Perenich, Teresa Simunich, Patrick Rodgers and Helena Qu won 42.22 percent of the vote.

Bruno said his ticket was excited to begin their term as Sophomore Class Council.

"We are honored and humbled to have been elected as SCC reps. We couldn't be more grateful to

see ELECTIONS PAGE 4

Team discovers new MRSA treatment

By ALEX CAO
News Writer

A team of researchers led by Professor Shahriar Mobashery and Mayland Chang developed an antibiotic to combat Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus, or MRSA, a strain of a certain species of bacteria that is resistant to a considerable number of conventional modern

antibiotics.

"MRSA is a multi-drug resistant version of a very common bacterium called staph aureus," Mobashery said. "Staph aureus grows in our skin, grows in our noses, and has been with humanity for a very long time. However, this version, which is drug resistant, first appeared in 1962 in the U.K. and has become a global problem."

Mobashery said

understanding the biochemical properties of MRSA that allow it to resist the effects of conventional antibiotics gave them valuable information and resources to develop an antibiotic to respond to the problem.

"How does this organism have these biochemical properties that make it so difficult for treatment? That is a question my lab concerns itself with," Mobashery said. "We

want to understand the basis for the drug resistance this very difficult organism has developed over the many decades after its appearance.

"When we understand some of the details of the biochemical event, can we subvert them in a way that leads to the demise of the organism? The answer to that question is yes,

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY:

What do you do to procrastinate?

Have a question you want answered?
Email photo@ndsmcobserver.com



Abby Piper
freshman
Lyons Hall
"Read BuzzFeed articles."



Andrea Bae
freshman
Lyons Hall
"Shop online with my homework tabs open."



Cristin Pacifico
senior
off campus
"Text friends and go on Facebook."



David Clark
freshman
Dillon Hall
"Listen to Phish."



Meg Tucker
freshman
Pasquerilla West Hall
"Eat."



Regina Ekaputri
freshman
Farley Hall
"Take a nap and browse the Internet with friends."



ZACH LLORENS | The Observer

Two fighters prepare to enter the ring Wednesday night during the Bengal Bouts quarter finals. The tournament helps fund Holy Cross missions in Bangladesh, which includes healthcare, education and spiritual ministries.

THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

Want your event included here?
Email news@ndsmcobserver.com

Thursday

Mindful Meditation

Coleman-Morse Center
5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.
Open to students, faculty and staff.

"Do I Have OCD?"

LaFortune Student Center
7 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Lecture by Dr. Christopher Bedosky.

Friday

Graduate Student Mass

Basilica of the Sacred Heart
5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.
Worship service.

Film: "Force Majeure"

DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
About a family caught in an avalanche.

Saturday

Vigil Mass

Basilica of the Sacred Heart
5 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Worship service.

Third Coast Percussion

DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Live concert.

Sunday

Mass in Spanish

Dillon Hall Chapel
1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Worship service.

"Cloud Tectonics"

DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
2:30 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Theatrical performance.

Monday

Basketball Game

Purcell Pavilion
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Women's basketball takes on Louisville.

An Evening of Irish Traditional Music

Legends
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Free live music.

ND students participate in #hackINvTX Challenge

By **SAMUEL CHAN**
News Writer

Although the name may give the initial impression of computer crime, Notre Dame students participating in the three-week #hackINvTX Challenge are working for the good of the Indiana and Texas governments. Each state has presented its residents with two challenges in the hackathon, which comes to a close next Monday.

In the case of Indiana, participants are required to either “create a centralized, streamlined and secure platform for receiving, tracking and collaborating on permit applications” for the Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) or to “develop a method to register and create a checklist of available/needed services for [residents] visiting a One Stop Shop after a disaster” for the Department of Homeland Security, according to a government press release.

The ongoing hackathon will allow “residents of both states to create applications that support and inspire entrepreneurship and digital government innovation, encourage government transparency and open data and promote interstate collaboration and competition,” the press release stated.

Junior Liam Chan, an IT management major, is part of a three-student team working on the permit application platform.

“Currently, people submit permits, documents, updates and such through the IDEM. It’s basically a paper-based system, quite inefficient,” Chan said. “Our team is trying to streamline that process so that it’s no longer paper-based, so people can submit digital copies and such.”

“For example, an application for a landfill that we saw at the office is seven binders full of paper. And that’s for one landfill. So you can

imagine if you’re trying to build a factory downtown or even if you’re a farmer, and

“Currently, people submit permits, documents, updates and such through the IDEM (Indiana Department of Environmental Management). Our team is trying to streamline that process so that it’s no longer paper-based, so people can submit digital copies.”

Liam Chan
IT management major

you get about 600 cattle that create waste. That’s something you need a permit for as well,” Chan said.

The students are “working a lot on their own,” according to Don Ginocchio, who is the SAP University Alliances Director assigned to Notre Dame. Ginocchio pointed out there are 10 faculty and staff mentors who have volunteered their time to help with the hackathon.

One of the mentors, Matt Willmore, a mobileND program manager, said, “It’s easy to look at a problem and just start coding and not really have an idea about where you’re going to end. But [mentors are] helping them to understand what’s the scope ... and zero in on what to spend our time on.”

However, Ginocchio admitted that the length of the hackathon is not entirely ideal for full-time students.

“There’s always a challenge at Notre Dame, particularly something of this nature that’s spread out over three or four weeks, that other things like classwork and other priorities get in the way,”

he said. “That’s true of any three-week effort, and I don’t think it’s unique to our situation. And actually, this is part of a series of hackathons. In the future, they’re going to try to do it over a shorter time frame — a day or two — so that people can really focus.”

Chan mentioned his involvement in Bengal Bouts this month and Junior Parents Weekend starting Friday.

“We’re definitely feeling the time constraint,” he said.

Nonetheless, there was a general consensus the effort put into the hackathon was well worth it.

“We hope that whether we take this project to the next stage, or a different team does or if the state finds a company to expand our solution, we wish them the best of luck and hope there are people who would benefit from this,” Chan said.

Contact Samuel Chan at schan3@nd.edu

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Senate debates recurring issues with O'SNAP

By **RACHEL O'GRADY**
News Writer

Student Senate met in LaFortune Student Center on Wednesday night to discuss potential issues with the revised O'SNAP program and possible future budget cuts.

"I think there's been some concern about the ways that SafeWalk and O'SNAP are being utilized. ... There have been some issues with dispatching SafeWalk; I know it's not an isolated thing," St. Edward's Hall senator and sophomore Jake Wittenberg said. "There have been a few issues with dispatching and a little clarification that we could take back to dorms, or some discussion on the procedures and efficiency of the program would be helpful."

While the topic will not enter into a formal discussion for a few weeks, other senators shared similar sentiments.

"I feel like there's been some discrimination with size and gender," Keenan Hall senator and junior Ryan Rizzuto said. "... A few weeks ago, I called, and I had to keep belaboring a point that I was concerned for a girl who was very intoxicated."

Rizzuto also said he experienced an issue several weeks ago when he called to be picked up with a few of his friends. He was told there was no danger or reason for O'SNAP to pick them up if it was a group of six or more.

"I don't think they have any right to do that," Rizzuto said. "If O'SNAP is a shuttle service, then we really need to hone in that message to the student body and figure out why it's harder to be picked up if you're a guy than a girl."

Student body vice president and senior Matt Devine brought up the issue of newspaper subscription and distribution on campus.

According to Devine, the University currently spends about \$50,000 on newspaper subscriptions annually, but only about 100-150 papers are actually picked up per day.

"I think we need to reassess," Devine said. "... We're looking to see if we can do individual subscriptions, but that doesn't necessarily stay true to the purpose of making it available to everyone."

Alumni Hall senator and sophomore Scott Moore proposed potentially decreasing the order, if possible.

"If we can't get a smaller

quantity, I'd rather see it disbanded," Moore said.

The Senate will continue the conversation on the topic throughout the remainder of

"If O'SNAP is a shuttle service, then we really need to hone in that message to the student body and figure out why it's harder to be picked up if you're a guy than a girl."

Ryan Rizzuto
senator
Keenan Hall

the semester, ultimately deciding whether to keep all of the subscriptions for the 2015-2016 school year.

"It's going to be contentious, whatever the decision is, so we're trying to make sure we get the most comprehensive thoughts from everyone," Devine said.

The Senate also unanimously passed a resolution moving Off Campus Council elections to the third week of April, as opposed to April 1.

"The purpose behind this is essentially is that there can't be a comprehensive list of all the students living off campus in about mid-February, when we're asked for one, which makes it hard to have elections," Judicial Council president and off-campus senior Kathryn Peruski said.

Contact Rachel O'Grady at rogrady@nd.edu

Elections

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

our opponents for running a clean, fair campaign, and we can't wait to get to work for the Class of 2018," Bruno said.

Neither of the sophomore tickets for Junior Class Council obtained a majority of the vote, resulting in a run-off election, Conor Bradley, one of the sophomore ticket's candidate for treasurer, said. The run-off will be held on Friday, February

20. Both tickets agreed to not release the breakdown of the election vote, Bradley said.

Juniors Thomas Shneeman, Shannon Montague, Brian Cimons and Bridget Doyle were elected to serve as the Class of 2016's Senior Class Council, the ticket's candidate for vice-president, Shannon Montague, said. Both tickets agreed not to release the results of the vote, Montague said, but noted that 42 percent of juniors voted.

Shneeman congratulated the other ticket for a well-run

campaign.

"We'd also like to thank the Class of 2016 for such a strong voter turnout. We are extremely excited to get to work on making this next year as memorable as possible. Go Irish!" Shneeman said.

The new Class Councils will take their positions on April 1.

News Editor Lesley Stevenson contributed to this report.

Contact Kayla Mullen at kmullen2@nd.edu

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Hypatia

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

her scholarly friends, as she was one of the most-loved teachers and well-respected scholars of her time.

Assistant professor of mathematics Kristin Kuter said Hypatia Day is mainly geared towards seventh grade girls and their parents.

Some of the participating schools include Indiana schools such as Boston Middle School in La Porte, Discovery Middle School in Granger, Grissom Middle School in Mishawaka, Lincoln Jr. High in Plymouth, New Prairie Middle School in New Carlisle and St. Joseph Grade School in South Bend.

"The focus of the event is to encourage the seventh graders to

continue to pursue an education in math and science, while informing their parents on how to support their daughters in that goal," Kuter said.

Kuter said this year's Hypatia Day will feature hands-on activities run by STEM-related clubs on campus.

"This year we have sessions organized by the biology, chemistry, engineering, math and computer science, nursing and physics clubs," Kuter said. "During these sessions, the seventh graders will interact with college women preparing for careers in the STEM fields and will be encouraged to view one another as potential physicians, research scientists, actuaries, engineers, statisticians, data analysts, technology experts and the like."

Beginning at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, students and their

parents will arrive in Carroll Auditorium for a welcome presentation by Kuter. Then, director of patient logistics at University of Chicago Medicine Emily Lowder will deliver the keynote address, "Following Their Footsteps and Tales from the Journey" to all participants.

Kuter said throughout the day, middle school students will have the opportunity to work in the lab with college and high school students who are preparing for a future in the STEM fields. Kuter said parents will also be able to speak with Saint Mary's students about their future careers, attend panel discussions and take part in campus tours.

"The parents attend a panel discussion focusing on what curriculum best prepares a student for

college and keeps all of her options open. Another session will provide information on financial preparation for a college education," she said.

Kuter said she believes Hypatia Day is important not only for young girls at their current age, but for the growth of their interest in the subjects over time.

"This event is important to the community because research has shown that girls of this age greatly benefit from extra attention and encouragement for their interest in studies which require a high degree of training in mathematics and science," Kuter said.

Senior Audrey Kiefer said she believes Hypatia Day to be one of the best ways Saint Mary's can engage with the local community.

"Though I haven't participated

in the day personally, I know some of my fellow classmates who are science majors always say that the young girls truly appreciate the opportunity to experiment in the labs and make connections with college students," Kiefer said.

Kiefer said she finds it essential to begin empowering young women at an early age in the same way that Saint Mary's empowers women throughout their collegiate years.

"When all of [the current students] find Saint Mary's to be such a great place for expanding our minds and planning to make a difference, it only makes sense that we host a day like this to show young girls that anything is possible, no matter what field of study," Kiefer said.

Contact Olivia Jackson at ojacks01@saintmarys.edu

Antibiotic

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and we have come up with strategies that lend themselves to specifically addressing the methods that MRSA has devised for resistance," he said. "We are actually able to take that and turn [them] around to ... kill the organism."

Mobashery said finding and developing the drug to exploit the weaknesses he and his team found in MRSA was a massive computational undertaking, narrowing over 1.2 million candidates to just 118 compounds.

"1.2 compounds were so

called 'docked' and 'scored' and ... then, out of a collection of 2,500 compounds that had promise, we did some further analysis on which one of those were worthy of pursuit because not all of them were easy to synthesize. So we wanted to ideally buy some of these compounds," he said.

"We ended up choosing the 118 compounds ... because they were commercially available and synthetically accessible."

Mobashery said the compounds were observed to effectively destroy MRSA in mice infected with the bacteria and that he saw a promising future for his work with the organism with the help of

the University and collaboration with other researchers," Mobashery said.

"In principle, the University is very much interested in exploring whether companies will step up and move this class of molecules forward into clinical trials. That is something we won't be able to do ourselves and we need partners and that's a possibility. But research is ongoing on MRSA because of our broad interest in this organism and I've been at it for something like a dozen years and I trust that in a dozen years I'll still be at it."

Contact Alex Cao at acao@nd.edu

Fulbright

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

world, and the prestige associated with the Fulbright has been a marker of outstanding achievement for decades."

Strong applicants often have experiences in their academic or extracurricular histories that indicate an interest in the wider world and the ability to adapt to an unfamiliar cultural environment, Thibert said.

"Notre Dame students are competitive applicants for the Fulbright because the University has prioritized international engagement for undergraduates and graduate/professional students," he said.

Class of 2014 alumna Deanna Kolberg, who received a Fulbright grant for the 2014-15 program, is currently working as a teaching assistant in South Korea.

Hoping to one day pursue a policy job within the U.S. government, Kolberg said she sees herself contributing to foreign policy through research or ground work with the Department of State.

"I can't think of a job in foreign policy over the next 50 years that won't need knowledge of Korea," she said.

Kolberg said she has benefited in a variety of ways as a result of joining the Fulbright community.

"You're in a group of really highly motivated internationally-minded thinkers, with plenty of opportunity to interact," she said. "I've learned a whole new set of skills and patience living with a Korean host family in pretty much the middle of nowhere."

As a teacher in Korea, Kolberg said she has experienced both the joys and pains of teaching and her own Korean has slowly improved as well.

"More than anything, I'm one of the few people I graduated with who can honestly say they love their job," she said.

Even when her mood wasn't the best, Kolberg said she was uplifted when greeted by students in the hallway shouting, "We love you, Deanna!"

Class of 2014 alumnus Marcus Liddell, another 2014-15 Fulbright recipient, also received an English teaching assistantship, although

he currently resides in Germany, working at a secondary school teaching grades 7-12.

Liddell said he decided to apply for the Fulbright grant due to his interest in education and his pursuit of a degree in German and minor in education, schooling and society.

"My summer jobs had been education-related," he said. "I had studied abroad in Germany for a semester, and I had spent a week while I was there shadowing teachers at a local high school, so I had some evidence that this was the kind of thing I'd like to be doing with or without a fellowship."

"... It was an easy choice from both the standpoint of improving my German and the standpoint of getting some practical experience as an educator," he said.

With about 12 to 14 lessons per week, Liddell said, for the most part, he does all the teaching. He said he spends his time outside of the classroom traveling, working in the community with sports and other activities and pursuing a research project.

Liddell said students interested in a Fulbright should consider the application process early and work with an advisor.

"Decide if the things you want to do fit with what the Fulbright is offering," he said. "If you're not just curious, but truly passionate, then you should consider applying."

Applications for the Fulbright U.S. Student Program are assisted in a joint effort between the CUSE and the Graduate School, Thibert said. Undergraduates interested in learning more should visit CUSE National Fellowships online at <http://fellows.nd.edu>, and graduate/professional students and alumni should contact Dr. Mike Westrate at gradgrants@nd.edu

"As we send more Fulbright recipients around the world, they raise the University's global profile, which will help us to continue to bring the best international students to the University while fostering productive international academic collaborations," Thibert said.

Contact Carolyn Hutyra at chutyra@nd.edu

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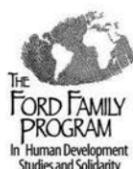
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Egypt leads fight against religious extremism

Associated Press

CAIRO — Egypt is making an ambitious bid to place itself at the center of the fight against extremism across the Middle East. Beyond fighting militants in its own Sinai Peninsula, it is trying to organize an international coalition against the Islamic State in Libya and helping Saudi Arabia defend its borders.

The growing military alliance is rooted in a shared belief among Egypt's President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi and Gulf Arab leaders that extremism must be confronted region-wide.

It has been anchored with a quid pro quo: Gulf oil powerhouses Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait have given Egypt an estimated \$30 billion to rescue its damaged economy in return for Egypt providing military manpower alongside its Gulf counterparts.

With the alliance, this nation of 90 million people seeks to maneuver itself into a leadership role that has eluded it in recent years, first because of waning influence under former President Hosni Mubarak, then because of the turmoil that followed his 2011 ouster.

A contingent of Egyptian troops is already deployed on Saudi Arabia's border with Iraq to help defend it against jihadi fighters, who earlier this year carried out a deadly cross-border raid, according to Egyptian military and security officials.

On another front, Gulf nations have said they are considering what action to take in Yemen, where Shiite rebels known as Houthis — widely suspected of links to Iran — have taken power in the capital and are fighting to seize more of the country.

Egypt already has military advisers on the Saudi-Yemeni border tasked mainly with developing a joint strategy with the Saudis to confront future hostilities, according to the officials, who have first-hand knowledge of Egypt's plans. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk about the deployments.

Plans for the creation of a military alliance with Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and possibly Jordan were back on track after a period of hiatus, said the officials, with France, Italy and Algeria now viewed as possible additional partners.

Already, Saudi Arabia and the Emirates are bankrolling multibillion dollar arms purchases by Egypt, including jet fighters and naval pieces from both France and Russia.

A deal with Germany to buy two submarines is under discussion, said the officials.

Separately, Egypt is trying to persuade the West to open up a new front against the Islamic State group in Libya, Egypt's western neighbor, and is appealing for "political and material" support to enable it to contain the threat in Libya.

On Tuesday, El-Sissi called on the United Nations to approve a new coalition for airstrikes in Libya, where the extremists have set up their first major affiliate outside of Iraq and Syria. He argued in a radio interview that the Islamic State group in Libya is not just a threat to Egypt — its militants beheaded a group of Egyptian Christians in a video released this week — but to Europe as well.

"I want to say humanity will judge us if we do not fight against terrorism and protect humanity," el-Sissi told France's Europe 1 radio.

France and Italy, directly across the Mediterranean from Libya, have come out in favor of some form of international action. The U.N. Security Council holds an emergency session Wednesday on the Libya crisis.

The more assertive Egyptian-Gulf campaign, however, threatens to mire Egypt in multiple fights that could further enflame the ongoing conflicts. Egypt's military has been battling ferociously in Sinai, but has been unable to suppress jihadis who have sworn allegiance to the Islamic State group. They are believed to number in the hundreds or low thousands, bristling with heavy weapons smuggled in from Libya.

Striking militants in Libya could prompt an even more brutal response from Sinai extremists, who previously have carried out high-profile bombings in Cairo and other Egyptian cities.

"Gulf states want Egypt to stand by them in the face of the region's entire range of crises," a prominent Saudi journalist, Abdullah Nasser al-Otaibi, wrote in Monday's edition of the pan-Arab daily Al-Hayat. "They want to see heavyweight Egypt on their side unconditionally to end the Syrian crisis. They also want a clear and pragmatic position as well as an actionable plan to intervene in Yemen and save it from the control of Houthis, who take their orders from the clerical regime in Tehran."

In Yemen, Saudi Arabia has already started arming Sunni tribesmen to fight back against the Houthis. But the Saudis and Egyptians may have little appetite for

ground action in the mountainous, chaotic country.

Egyptian columnist Abdullah el-Sinnawi, who is close to the military, wrote that Egypt's navy could deploy if there is any threat to shipping in and out of the Red Sea. Yemen lies on one side of the narrow entrance to the Red Sea, the only route to Egypt's Suez Canal from Asia.

But Egypt cannot "endure a long war abroad" or the distraction of the military from the fighting in the Sinai, he wrote Monday in the Al-Shorouk newspaper.

In recognition of the limits, the security officials said Egypt was not looking, at least for now, for a ground campaign in Libya, but rather an air assault similar to that by the U.S. and its allies in Iraq and Syria. Egypt carried out two rounds of airstrikes in Libya on Monday, on top of secret strikes it conducted last year along with the United Arab Emirates against Libyan Islamist militias.

The officials said Egyptian troops briefly crossed the border into Libya Monday to conduct search-and-destroy missions targeting possible surface-to-air rockets that could threaten warplanes headed back from Libya.

As a precaution against

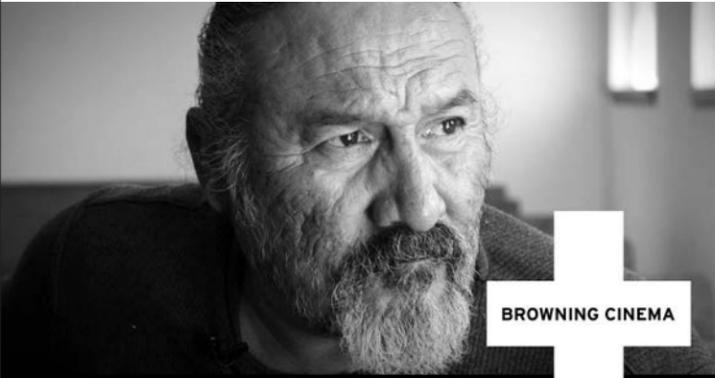
possible retaliation from militants, Egyptian naval units in the area and border guards have been placed on high alert.

Egypt is likely to continue launching airstrikes against Islamic State positions focusing on arms depots and training camps, the officials said. A second phase of the campaign could involve

special forces targeting high-value assets inside Libya, they said.

"This is a war that is as or more crucial than the 1973 war," said a top Egyptian official, alluding to Egypt's last war against Israel, when Egyptian troops crossed the Suez Canal to storm fortified Israeli positions on the waterway's east bank.

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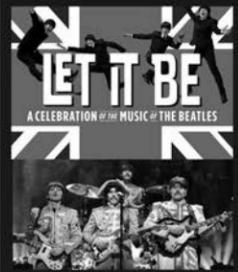
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Derailed train causes fires in West Virginia

Associated Press

CHARLESTON, West Virginia — A fire sparked by a train derailment in southern West Virginia smoldered for a third day Wednesday, keeping federal and state investigators at bay and leading residents near the site worrying about the long-term water quality of a nearby river.

The fire — sparked when a CSX train carrying 3 million gallons of North Dakota crude jumped the tracks Monday in the unincorporated town of Mount Carbon — was 85 percent contained, said state public safety division spokesman Larry Messina.

“There’s a few small fires,” Messina said. “Until those fires are out and they make sure that site is safe, they’re

going to keep folks away from that vicinity.”

CSX and multiple state and federal agencies are investigating. Federal Railroad Administration spokesman Kevin Thompson said some preliminary work has been done, including the retrieval of the train’s data recorder.

But due to the fire, “we haven’t been able to do our physical investigation on site,” he said Wednesday.

All but two of the train’s 109 cars were tank cars, and 27 of them left the tracks. Nineteen tank cars were involved in the fire, said CSX regional vice president Randy Cheetham.

A road running parallel to the train tracks along one side of the Kanawha River remained closed Wednesday.

The derailment shot

fireballs into the sky, leaked oil into a Kanawha River tributary, burned down a house nearby and forced nearby water treatment plants to temporarily shut down.

As of Wednesday evening, crews had removed cars that did not derail and have started to remove derailed cars that were not involved in the fire, according to a joint statement from several agencies that have responded to the derailment. CSX will begin transferring oil from damaged cars to other tanks for removal from the site when conditions become safe, the statement said.

About 500 feet of containment boom have been deployed to lessen the potential environmental impact, the statement said.

Containment trenches also

are being dug, said State Environmental Protection spokeswoman Kelley Gillenwater.

“We need to make sure no crude oil gets into the Kanawha River,” Gillenwater said in an email.

Once the rail cars and other debris are removed, soil testing and excavation can begin, she said.

Water treatment systems were brought back online after initial tests showed no oil in them. Residents remain under a boil-water advisory, while bottled water was being distributed at a high school.

Classes at West Virginia University Institute of Technology were canceled for the rest of the week. Students in two residence halls were bused 40 miles to facilities in Beckley.

People living away from the wreckage were allowed to return to their homes Tuesday after damaged electrical lines were repaired.

“We weathered the storm,” said retired Montgomery police chief Lawrence Washington. “Every storm in your life isn’t in the forecast.”

Nancy Holcomb, who lives in Boomer directly across the river from the derailment, was concerned about the possibility of the oil getting into the river.

“We swim in this river,” she said. “I don’t want to get out in this river now.”

West Virginia has seen other fuel disasters in recent years.

On Jan. 23, an overturned tanker truck spilled nearly 4,000 gallons of diesel fuel into a tributary of the Greenbrier River near Lewisburg.

In December 2012, a natural gas transmission pipe ruptured and exploded in Sissonville about 40 miles to the northwest, destroying four homes and melting the asphalt on a section of Interstate 77. No one was killed.

The tap water concerns that followed the derailment brought reminders of a January 2014 chemical spill along the Elk River in Charleston 30 miles to the north. That spill got into West Virginia American Water’s Charleston filtration plant, prompting a tap water ban for 300,000 residents for several days until the system was flushed out.

“Obvious we’ve had experiences with water in the past,” said Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin.

West Virginia’s rail system contains 2,401 miles of track, including 1,113 miles of CSX track and 801 miles of Norfolk Southern track, according to the state Department of Transportation.

Chances are, state residents live close enough to hear a train’s whistle.

“Why do people stay after things like this happen?” Washington said. “This is home. There’s a lot that goes into this community. I know a lot of people say it’s bad, but there’s good people here.”

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INSIDE COLUMN

Your upvote matters

John Darr
Scene Writer

"I can't believe people are upvoting this thing." It's winter break and my brother is on his phone, looking at Yik Yak. Yik Yak users interact anonymously with each other by writing, commenting on and voting on posts published in their area. The app is simple, straightforward and highly entertaining in highly populated areas; in a college environment, new posts are constantly being generated by and voted on by local users. At home, the app is far less-lively. I'm surprised that anything at all is happening on Yik Yak, so I reply to my little brother with a mildly-interested, "What?"

"I think I know this girl. Someone posted about how fat she is and it has, like 14 upvotes." "Oh wow. That's terrible," I say. My brother is still in high school. I had heard about Yik Yak being banned from school zones, but I hadn't really experienced anything at Notre Dame that made the decision seem like an obvious one. After all, the Notre Dame Yak was fine. Nobody personally attacked other students on the Notre Dame Yik Yak. That's not true anymore. Maybe it never was. Since winter break, there have been direct attacks on at least one named student and two unnamed (but otherwise identified) students on the Notre Dame Yik Yak. The anonymous nature of Yik Yak has always made it a forum susceptible to such targeting. The only controls against damaging posts are negative votes and reports from users.

That being said, the Notre Dame Yik Yak has been relatively peaceful since the app was launched. Top Yaks are usually funny stories, original and unoriginal jokes, universal Notre Dame sentiments and rallying cries against schools on the football schedule. Most of the time, it's absolutely harmless. After all, Yik Yak is just a social media app where the most complex thoughts are limited to 200 characters. Yik Yak, you might say, doesn't really matter. Tell that to the individuals who have been attacked. Tell that to the groups whose negative stereotypes have been perpetuated.

Though it may seem trivial, Yik Yak acts as a powerful embodiment of Notre Dame student opinion. When a yak is backed with hundreds of upvotes, it asserts that an idea or opinion is popular regardless of whether or not users would stand by it in real life. When a post that antagonizes an individual or group rises to the top of the feed, it becomes threatening. The truth is, Yik Yak matters. Notre Dame students use Yik Yak every day, and every day users are targeted, hurt and insulted, even if in seemingly small ways.

It's easy to think that your anonymous, single vote on any post doesn't have an impact on anyone. The fact is, Yik Yak is a powerful tool that affects every user on campus.

Think before you tap that arrow. Your upvote matters.

Contact John Darr at jdarr@nd.edu

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

Immigration debate in America

Kyle Palmer
Reasonably Right

Last year on Nov. 20, just weeks after suffering a decisive defeat in the midterm elections, President Obama decided that he would circumvent Congress without giving them a chance to act by putting forth executive actions that would halt deportations of 4 million immigrants who came to the United States illegally. This announcement was met with loud opposition from the Republican Party, which was just elected to be the majority party in both the U.S. House and Senate, and 26 states pressed a U.S. District Court judge to stop President Obama's actions.

On Monday, soon before the actions were to take effect in earnest, the request was granted and U.S. District Court Judge Andrew Hanen stopped President Obama's efforts. This means that the administration will have to make its case for whether or not it was stepping outside the bounds of the executive branch.

All this goes to highlight a perpetual issue that needs to be dealt with and a continuing theme to the current political dialogue. U.S. immigration policy needs to be reformed; virtually all voices of the political spectrum agree that the policies are not working as they were intended. The problem is that no side seems willing to work with the other. Some Republicans demand a plan that includes all of their ideas and none from the Democrats, and President Obama peddles the same attitude when he pushes through immigration actions without even trying to negotiate with a newly-elected Congress. Both sides fail to recognize that the other was elected with a mandate. This seems to create a paradox, but instead it should show that Americans want the two sides to come together and negotiate so the country can move forward.

The closest thing we've had in the last decade to a comprehensive solution to the immigration crisis came in 2013 with Senate Bill 744, a bill crafted by what was called the "gang of eight," which included Democrats Chuck Schumer, Dick Durbin, Michael Bennet and Bob Menendez, and Republicans Marco Rubio, John McCain, Jeff Flake and Lindsey Graham. The bill, officially known as the Border Security, Economic Opportunity and Immigration Modernization Act of 2013, was 1198 pages long. It satisfied most of the demands of both parties by offering a path

for immigrants to become citizens, securing the border by sending vast resources to the border as well as 40,000 more border patrol agents, and encouraged educated individuals to come to the United States to begin working on becoming citizens. While cost is often cited as an issue, the Social Security Administration reported that if this bill were to take effect, it would only cost \$33 billion while raising revenues of \$276 billion over the next ten years. The Congressional Budget Office actually estimates enacting this bill would lower the deficit by hundreds of billions. S.B. 744 passed the Senate with bipartisan support by a vote of 68-32. It was sent to the House, but was never brought up for consideration.

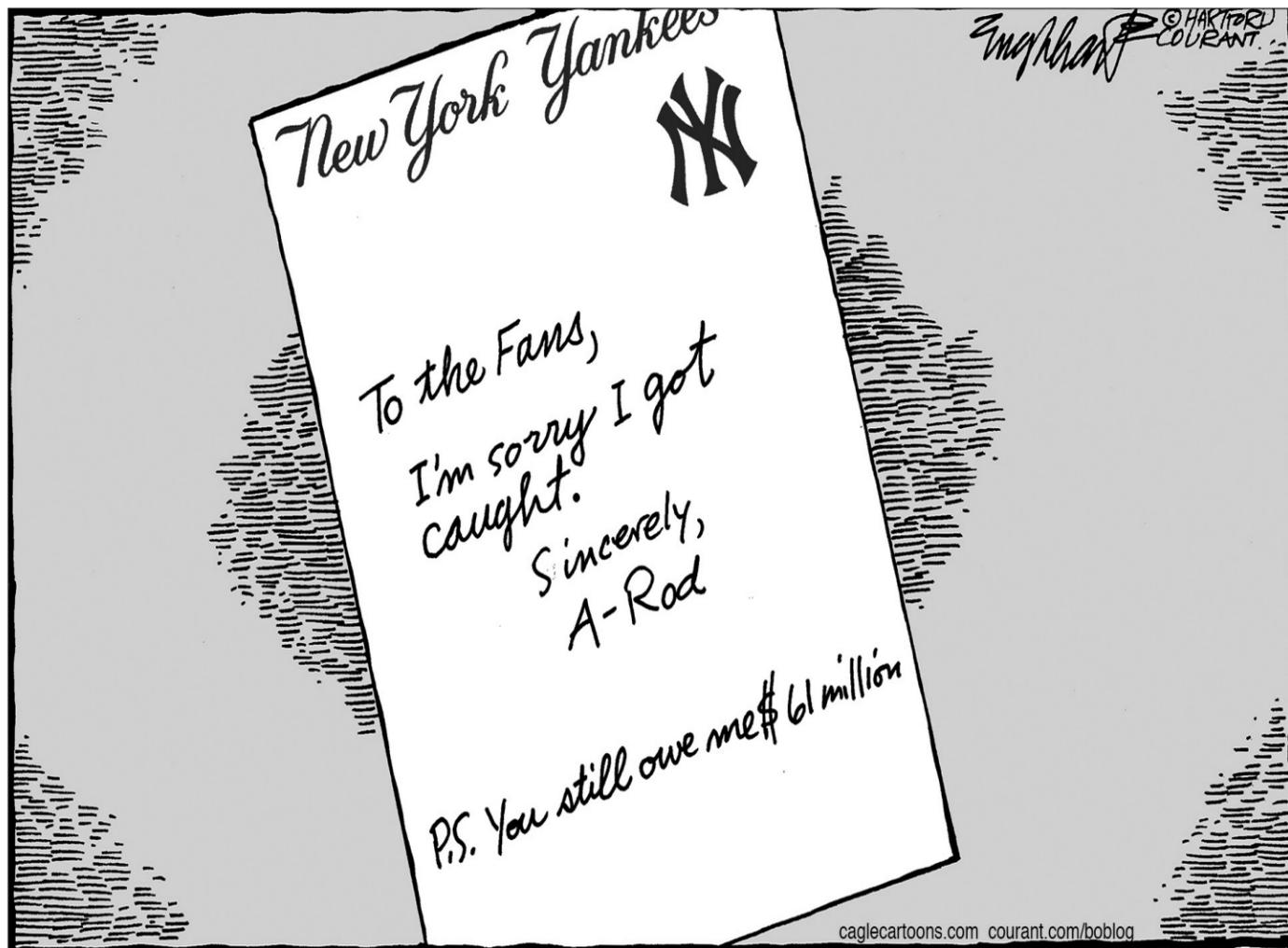
Since then, no progress has been made in the immigration debate. I had hope that President Obama would feel compelled to work with Republicans after the midterm election, but before the next congress even began he stifled the debate by implementing his executive actions. Mitch McConnell is one of my favorite senators, not only because he looks like a turtle or that he is a brilliant strategist, but because he is a master negotiator. He has been the voice of reason that was able to bring together President Obama, Harry Reid and John Boehner during fiscal cliff or tax negotiations and get a solution pushed through. It would behoove both Boehner and Obama to listen to McConnell to find an immigration solution. While the House may be the most responsive to the demands of the people and the President is the elected leader of the nation, the Senate remains the world's greatest deliberative body. While it has been slow going under Harry Reid's leadership (though to Reid's credit, SB 744 was passed under him), McConnell may be able to revive its old traditions.

I hope a solution is found, and I agree with most all of SB 744 and am still disappointed that it wasn't ultimately implemented. Immigration is an issue that has been particularly divisive in this country, and we need a solution that will work long term. I just hope that the next time such a bill comes around, the House is willing to hear it and pass it and the President is willing to sign it.

Kyle Palmer is an Alumni Hall junior majoring in accountancy. He welcomes reasonable debate on all his opinions and can be reached at kpalm6@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Political correctness and the Keenan Revue

This past weekend, the Knights of Keenan Hall took the structurally unsound Stepan stage in “Revue’s Clues: A Private Investigation.” Last year, I implored the student body not to attend for their own good, and I tried to repeat that same message this time around. Outdated 90s references and childhood nostalgia, a homage to the over-saturated crime drama market and way too many critiques of Notre Dame stereotypes, policies and the administration. I ask, where is the appeal?

Well, it is the 39th year of the Keenan Revue, so there is obviously a desire amongst the student body for good-natured humor. A full house the entire weekend confirmed that desire. This trend reflects the general consensus of the American people. Saturday Night Live is celebrated its 40th year anniversary last Sunday evening, so in a way, Keenan is the three-night opening act for SNL. While the dream is one day for SNL to open up for the Keenan Revue, Lorne Michaels demands a pretty high salary. This presents a problem as Revue tickets are free, due to an outdated Indiana State Law, (Acts 1973, P.L.55, SEC.1) which explicitly implies that any profitable performance which includes erotic dance must be taxed at a 69% rate. Rather than bow down to the Tax Man, Keenan decided to go with a free show, of which all of Notre Dame is a beneficiary.

Notre Dame benefits because it is in the current mission of the Keenan Revue to provide social commentary through the thinly-veiled disguise of sketch comedy. In no way is Keenan Hall the moral compass of the Notre Dame student body. Far from it, to be honest. While some material may be hard-hitting and provocative, most involve absurdist scenarios or the immature sexual jokes that college aged men are naturally inclined to (SNL is guilty of this too. See the famous skits “Schweddy Balls” and

“Colonel Angus”). The Revue is, however, a voice. It is an opinion that prompts thought and open discussion on campus. When a voice is silenced and censored, it shows a deeper problem that constitutes a society’s lack of confidence in itself. This is an example of a deeper problem — the disappearance of open discussion in student unions, intelligentsia and the media, as well as the general partisan attitude of Americans.

In the age of political correctness, Jonathan Chait, in his must-read article, “Not a Very P.C. Thing to Say,” in the New Yorker, notes how “political correctness makes debate irrelevant and frequently impossible.” Afraid to be attacked by both sides, it is becoming increasingly difficult in America to truly speak one’s mind. It is not only athletes on social media who have fallen from public grace for speaking their mind; it is politicians, professors, teachers, the clergy and students who find themselves unable to truly express their beliefs. Those who speak their mind and are willing to fight for their beliefs now face opposition under the monster of comment boards, blog posts, social media, lawsuit, a society that is drawn to buzzwords such as liberal and bigot and news stories involving allegedly “racist” or “feminist” comments. In the age of overwhelming and drowning opinions, it is through reason, Chait notes, that society will triumph again: “And that glory [of liberalism] rests in its confidence in the ultimate power of reason, not coercion, to triumph.”

It is not up to the Keenan Revue to decide what is right and what is wrong. The Revue merely expresses its views, whether they be in song, skit or dance form, to the student body. It is then up to the student body to reason what needs to be changed or what needs to be addressed on campus. The policing of the Keenan Revue by University

administration is wrong and further perverts the American liberalism described by Chait. Does this University truly preach a message of open discussion and truths, if the powers that be fall prey to political correctness, and are willing to hide the truth in order to save face or avoid unwelcome confrontations? Censorship does not allow the student body to formulate its own opinions or discuss the content that is provided. It is not the administration who should decide what is right and wrong; it is the students.

In conclusion, this weekend featured the final bastions of attempts at truly free expression. While it may be under the pretense of comedy, there is a strong, powerful message underneath. SNL has changed America with its unrelenting parody of culture and politics, as evidenced by Will Ferrell’s dynamite impersonation of George W. Bush or Tina Fey’s brilliant portrayal of Sarah Palin that heavily influenced the ’08 election. The Revue has had legendary skits (search Flip & Tuck on YouTube) and even better performers, yet at the end of the day the Revue has strived above all, much like SNL, to parody life at Notre Dame, with all of its bizarre quirks, changes, policies and obsessions. So, in the unlikely event that you attended this weekend, remember that we are trying to convey a message that is sometimes done best through absurd and what may seem like offensive comedy. The skits should be taken in good humor as a message about life in South Bend as a college student. Whatever logic or message that is, the Revue can leave you to reason what is right, wrong, or just plain funny.

Seamus Ronan
junior
Keenan Hall
Feb. 18

Give up trays for Lent

Still haven’t decided what to give up for Lent? With Ash Wednesday come and gone, the temptation can be to settle for another mediocre, chocolate-less 40 days. But what if this year, your sacrifice had a true impact on your world? What if it battled social ills and the destruction of the planet at the same time as edifying you spiritually? And what if it were also a fairly simple choice? As simple as not using a tray in the dining hall?

Have I lost you? Let’s rewind a bit. A few facts and figures for your reading pleasure:

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), a branch of the United Nations, one third of the food produced in the world each year is lost or wasted. One third. That’s 2,600,000,000,000 pounds of waste. Each year.

Right, so we waste a lot. But aren’t there more pressing issues in the world? Like starvation? Like the incredible rate at which we are adding greenhouse gases to the atmosphere? Glad you asked, because food waste contributes to both of those and more.

According to the FAO, nearly one sixth of the world’s citizens are undernourished. This means that they do not even have sufficient amounts of food to lead healthy, active lives. Does our wastage problem seem slightly more dramatic now? Each year, the

world’s farmers far, far exceed the amount of food that would be needed for each human on the planet to thrive. Before it can get to them, however, we waste massive amounts of food at every step of production. Then wealthy consumers over-purchase food which eventually simply ends up in waste bins.

And then there is the environment. In 2013, the production of food waste was beaten out only by the United States and China in the amount of CO2 that it contributed to global warming. Food that is produced and then wasted currently occupies around 1.3 billion hectares, or about 30 percent of the world’s agricultural land area. When the spread of agricultural land is one of the biggest contributors to the destruction of rain forests and biodiversity, that’s serious. And we haven’t even mentioned yet the unfathomable amount of water, a scarce resource these days, that is used, nor the pollution created by the tons and tons of fertilizer dumped on these uneaten crops.

Then of course, all of this pollution and environmental destruction ends up disproportionately affecting the poor. Poverty makes it nearly impossible for people to distance themselves from areas that are polluted and toxic for their health, and for them to overcome resource scarcity that the better-off of

society may not even notice.

So. We’ve established that we have a problem, and its name is food waste. What now?

The obvious answer is to waste less food; to be more conscious of how much food we’re taking; to finish all of our food to remind ourselves to take less next time. But it seems that no matter how much I harangue my friends about the issue, I watch their mountains of uneaten French fries, tasted and disliked entire meals and whole pieces of fruit pass by me on the conveyor at the end of the next meal. We’re human. Our eyes are bigger than our stomachs. And conveniently, our big, empty trays let us indulge them.

This is my challenge then, regardless of whether you are Catholic, Christian or just generally fond of your fellow humans and the environment — during the 40 days of Lent, go trayless. Making wasting just a little bit more difficult for yourself. Let’s see if we can’t start big changes in the world with tiny changes in our lives.

Jessica Peck
junior
Farley Hall
Feb. 18

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The Observer.



THINK on INK

UNBECOMING

Caelin Miltko

Scene Writer

The BuzzFeed Books newsletters are an interesting mix. Most include one article about the Harry Potter series, a list of funny/inspiring/romantic quotes from the classics, features on some currently relevant best seller *cough* *Fifty Shades of Grey* and occasionally, at the very bottom, a book recommendation for the month.

For this article, I chose to read one such recommendation.

Rebecca Scherm's "Unbecoming" is billed as a "Mystery and Thriller," but I'd liken it more to a coming-of-age or rite of passage novel. Of course, the protagonist is a little twisted and in the end, it's not clear she's really matured. So maybe that's not quite right either.

The story starts in Paris, with an American girl working in an antique repair shop. For some unknown reason, she lied to all of her coworkers — giving them a fake name and no documents. Grace from Garland, Tennessee, is Julie from California to her Parisian colleagues and though her lies are obvious, it becomes clear later on that each of her coworkers have their own reasons for letting

her lie to them. Everyone, it seems, has their own secrets.

The novel, told from a third-person limited perspective, only delves into Grace's secrets and past mistakes, leaving the reader to guess at what the others have done from Grace's discoveries. She is the protagonist, so wrapped up in her own worries and stories that the other characters are only tangentially important.

Scherm's story is compelling and amusing to read. I might be on a bit of a theme here, but like "Girl On A Train" and "Gone Girl," it attempts to portray some sort of female delinquency. Unlike "Gone Girl" and even "Girl On A Train," "Unbecoming" hardly deserves the "mystery" moniker if only because the final "solution" is made evident from the beginning. The reader knows that Grace isn't as innocent as she would have anyone believe. The real question is whether she will learn from her past lies or not.

That said, the end was surprising. That Grace might resist all the lessons her life seems to be teaching her and not end up entirely punished, goes against everything literature has tried to teach me for the last twenty years. It's almost, one might say, unbecoming of Scherm to give Grace the ending she does.

Still, this is perhaps what is compelling about

"Unbecoming." It's not a story of punishment or redemption; it's not a story of deep, spiritual change. It's a story of art and the value of things and it's a story of growing up in a small town where family means everything. It's a story of escaping and reliving the past. It's the story of a flawed girl who looks for love wherever she can find it and of the boys with whom she tries to find it.

To that end, "Unbecoming" was a rather fantastic read. As Grace flits from place to place, in her memories and in reality, Scherm has the opportunity to recreate her character to fit any society. Grace, it seems, is whatever she needs to be given her place and time; her reality is whatever lie she's told her most recent companions. Perhaps this is why Scherm gives Grace a "happy ending," though the finale hardly deserves the term. Grace continues on, adaptable as ever.

For my first attempt at a BuzzFeed recommended book, I'd say it was rather successful. "Unbecoming" was compelling, light and fun — exactly what I want (and expect) from my favorite procrastination website.

Contact Caelin Miltko at cmoriari@nd.edu

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



By JIMMY KEMPER

Scene Writer

There's this great scene in Mary Shelley's "Frankenstein" where Frankenstein's monster, lost and alone in the world, happens upon John Milton's "Paradise Lost" and starts reading it. He quickly realizes the stark contrast between his creation and that of Adam — Adam was created lovingly in the image of his creator, God, while he was cobbled together into a wretched, pitiful monster.

The new Imagine Dragons album, "Smoke + Mirrors," is sort of like that: a tragic monster that should have never been made. "Smoke + Mirrors" suffers from an identity crisis much like that of Frankenstein's monster. Instead of developing and refining their own sound, Imagine Dragons sheds all identity, both lyrically and sonically, to create a disturbing monster of an album that bears very little merits other than its ambitious attempt to appeal to as many people as possible.

Imagine Dragons has it within its power to create something artistically beautiful; lead singer Dan Reynolds has such a powerfully unique voice that they could easily carve out a permanent and important place in rock history for themselves. Rather, it seems that Imagine Dragons are satisfied with being pop rock flavor of the month entertainers, creating as large and as dull of a fan base as possible to sell out arena tours and \$50 t-shirts.

In terms of sound, this identity crisis means listeners are in for a pretty scary time. Where Frankenstein had body parts collected from different cadavers that didn't really fit together, "Smoke + Mirrors" has instruments and synthesizers that just don't work. The tracks on this album have influences ranging from folk to blues to hip-hop and everything in between. So we'll get Lumineers-esque whistles and claps, Of Monsters and Men's "heys!" and "ohs!" and the beginnings of a Kanye-sounding beat. And guess what? That's all on the same track, "Gold." It's like Imagine Dragons went flipping through radio stations, found the most annoying elements of popular songs and stuck them all into one unholy body. It didn't work for Dr. Frankenstein, and it certainly doesn't work for Imagine Dragons.

These flaws are just symptoms of that ever-present identity crisis. If you were to ask me what Imagine Dragons sounded like, I couldn't tell you. Sure, it's vaguely arena rock and all of the songs embrace generic angst, but beyond that, I couldn't tell you much about a uniting sound.

Speaking of generic angst, the lyrics suffer from being basic. If you thought "Demons" was lacking any real personality, then you haven't heard "Polaroid" yet. Reynolds swings from cliché to cliché without break in this lackluster headache of a song. Reynolds claims he's a reckless mistake, a rolling freight train and a guy who lives in the fast lane all in the span of about a minute. Bleh. At least

here Reynolds tried to include some variation. In lead single "I Bet My Life," Reynolds tells you that about 20 different times.

My problem with Imagine Dragons isn't in who they are, they're talented musicians with a charismatic stage presence, my problem is that they've bastardized alternative rock and created this strange, angsty monster of a sound that isn't trying to make better music, but rather just pick and choose the best parts of what's already out there and hope for the best.

"Smoke + Mirrors" is a pretty bad album, but I hope Imagine Dragons can learn from this mess and put the pieces together better next time.

Contact Jimmy Kemper at jkemper2@nd.edu

"Smoke + Mirrors"

Imagine Dragons

Label: Kidinacorner

Tracks: None of them. Don't listen to this album.

If you like: Nails on a chalkboard, your 13-year-old brother's garage band





By ERIN McAULIFFE
Scene Writer

They say don't judge a book by its cover, but what do they say about judging music by its album cover?

"Vestiges and Claws," José González's new album released Tuesday, features a simple white sketch of an eye surrounded by foliage for its album art. It is reminiscent of his past album covers, simple and pleasant.

This is also the aesthetic I would attribute to the album itself: true to González but nothing new or experimental — overly safe.

Despite features on a few soundtracks, including "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," and work on albums with Junip, the Swedish folk-rock band he has fronted since 1998, this is the first work González has released since 2007's "In Our Nature." One would assume that an artist's sound would evolve and change during this length of time, and he would come back rearing to experiment and implement new techniques. However, this was not the case with José González and "Vestiges and Claws."

The dictionary definition of vestige is, "a mark, trace, or visible evidence of something that is no longer present or in existence." This album is almost a direct translation of González's sound on past work, making for an ironic title. Perhaps a vestige mentality, initiating risks and evolving his stylings while keeping traces of his

known sound, would have made this a more exciting return for González.

The self-produced album features three ethereal layers, percussion, guitar and vocals, that recess or take precedence harmoniously. In a time of music with umpteen electronic components and involved instrumental and vocal arrangements, it is the welcome, relaxing reprieve you need while traversing across campus in a snowstorm.

Case in point, "Let It Carry You," will do just that on a trek from North Dining Hall to DeBartolo. The repeating downbeats lull you into a march, while the upbeat plucking combined with González's sputtering vocals channel the snow falling around you — turning the dusting into something more sublime than a hassle.

"Stories We Build, Stories We Tell" sums up the idea behind González's lyricism on this album. What he simplifies in production and composition, he elaborates in songwriting. "The stories we tell / Oh, they'll get to you," González croons in a way that does just that. The lyrics evoke emotion but do so without conformation, sometimes without you even realizing it — a more subliminal, circuitous approach to "getting to you."

However it is hard for these lyrics to so lazily reach you when they compete with guitar fingerpicking that sounds, with input from my #dad who introduced me to José, "like the white man's overbite clap, when someone

has no beat but is trying to clap on time so they are overly focused" and "guitar that sounds like a cheap recording — or maybe it is my free beats — not the headset."

González's laid-back, catch-it-if-you-can style is attuned to González's album as a whole. His enunciation, although improved from past work, still tapers at times to the point of being uninterpretable.

The sound and appeal of the album is true to González, however, it proves less haunting in its third iteration. After eight years of anticipation, filled with replaying González's past albums to exhaustion, his new work does not bring a reprieve — just ten new, non-distinct songs to throw onto my "Sleep" playlist.

Contact Erin McAuliffe at emcaulif@nd.edu

"Vestiges and Claws"

José González

Label: Mute

Tracks: "Let It Carry You," "Leaf Off/The Cave"

If you like: Ben Howard, James Vincent McMorrow



WEEKEND AT A GLANCE

THURSDAY



What: Cloud Tectonics
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: DPAC
How Much: \$7 for students

The opposite of the TLC hit "I Didn't Know I Was Pregnant," what happens if you've known you were pregnant for two years? José Rivera's poetic love story explores human relationships, the impermanence of time and the possibility of miracles.

FRIDAY



What: The Second City
When: 9:00 p.m.
Where: Washington Hall
How Much: Free

The Second City comedy improv group kickstarted the careers of Tina Fey, Amy Poehler, Jim Belushi, Steve Carell and the like. Show up early (doors open at 8 p.m.) for a chance to see some of the up-and-coming comedic talents headed for places like SNL.

SATURDAY



What: "Force Majeure"
When: 6:30 p.m.
Where: DPAC
How Much: \$4 for students

A favorite at this year's Cannes Festival, this wickedly funny and precisely observed Swedish psychodrama follows a family on a skiing holiday in the Alps. When an avalanche hits the resort, the father makes a decision that challenges his role as family patriarch.



Weekly Watch is a series in which a scene writer picks a movie or show available on instant streaming service, then writes a review.

If you just got into study abroad or are missing your semester overseas, this one's for you. "Puzzled Love," available on Netflix, follows the love story of American and Spanish students, Sun and Lucas, studying in Barcelona. Check back Monday for Erin McAuliffe's review!

SPORTS AUTHORITY

Don't pick infamous Jameis



Zach Klonsinski
Sports Writer

Between Tim Tebow and Jameis Winston, give me the Gator, please.

Wait. What'd he just say?

You heard me.

As the pre-NFL Combine talk begins to heat up, we are already going deaf from the so-called "experts" beginning to debate who should go first overall April 30 on the campus of Roosevelt University in Chicago. A lot of the chatter currently has the Tampa Bay Buccaneers leaning towards selecting Winston with the top pick.

No. Just ... no.

I'm not an NFL general manager, nor will I claim to be. However, I have played sports before, and I know enough about what a team needs as a leader and what it does not to give my input.

In football, the leader of the team is almost always going to be the quarterback. Players like Brian Urlacher, Ray Lewis or J.J. Watt can be the face of the team, but finding a leader on defense like them is simply a once-in-a-generation find. No other position on the offensive side of the ball can be the face of a modern-NFL team other than the quarterback, just because of how the game is.

With this in mind, let's take quick look at the quarterbacks who made the divisional round of the playoffs this year: Joe Flacco, Tom Brady, Tony Romo, Cam Newton, Andrew Luck, Peyton Manning and Aaron Rodgers. These names do not evoke controversy. The first thing that pops into my head about them is that they have the innate ability to lead in all aspects of the word: on the field, on camera, in the locker room, in the film room and in the way they conduct themselves in life.

I hear the name "Jameis Winston" and I shudder. I think of crab legs, BB guns, screaming indecent things, rape (sure, he wasn't charged, but he's still associated with it), his "interview" after the national championship game last year and finally the utter collapse against Oregon.

That's what Winston evokes in my mind. If nothing else, Florida State coach Jimbo Fisher deserves credit for somehow surviving the "Jameis Winston Show" at the Jack Haskin Circus Complex for two years.

Except a first-overall pick isn't for two years. It's for 20. Even many Florida State

fans became fed up with Winston. On the other hand, Packer supporters are as proud of Rodgers as they are of wearing giant blocks of cheese on their heads, and Patriots fans disregard Brady's combine "highlights" as much as Bill Belichick does Deflategate.

A leader doesn't have to be friends with all the other guys on the team. He doesn't have to be the guy you want to go out with Sunday night after the game — in all honesty, he shouldn't be. He does, however, need to earn his teammates' respect. He does need to gain their trust and support.

When I think of a player comparable to Winston, my immediate response is Johnny Manziel. I trust Winston about the same as I trust rehab-resident Johnny Football. I might even trust Manziel a little more, as scared as I am of that statement.

Compare Winston to Cam Newton, sure. Newton has grown a lot since he got into the league, but I wouldn't exactly call him a successful No. 1 pick yet either, nor do I think his body will hold up until he is 30.

Call Winston an athletic freak with too much talent to pass up. Cool. Then look at just about every defensive NFL player and realize how much of a freak each one of them is, too. They're already drooling at the prospect of tearing Winston's head off.

Winston is not worth the first-overall pick any more than Manziel was worthy of the 22nd pick last year. Now, about that whole Tebow thing ...

Am I saying I'd take Tebow over any of the other quarterbacks I mentioned earlier? Of course not, but I'd take him over Winston in a heartbeat. Winston's downsides outweigh his physical abilities in my eyes in the same way Tebow's leadership, sheer will and personal character outweigh what he lacks as a quarterback — at least enough to where he's clearly a more attractive choice than Winston.

Sure, you'd have to build a really good football team around Tebow for him to succeed, but before you even think about Sunday's squad, you'll have to build a better PR team around Winston.

Contact Zach Klonsinski at zklonsin@nd.edu

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

NFL

No vote of confidence for Cutler in Chicago

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Both the coach and general manager of the Chicago Bears were given ample opportunity Wednesday to endorse Jay Cutler as their quarterback for 2015 and beyond.

Time and again, they declined.

"We're going to ask this about eight different ways?" coach John Fox said after one of the attempts Wednesday at the NFL scouting combine. "I don't think there's any question that there's ability and talent there. But there's a lot more that goes into it, and we're evaluating that as we speak."

The Bears signed Cutler to a seven-year contract worth \$54 million guaranteed last offseason, with the thought that he'd lead them into the next decade. But 2014 was a debacle in Chicago. The Bears

finished 5-11, coach Marc Trestman got fired and Cutler tied for the league lead in interceptions (18) and was in the middle of controversy all season.

Fox said he met with Cutler when he was hired in Chicago last month, but when pressed, the coach offered up nothing about what he took out of that meeting.

"I'm just getting to know him," Fox said. "Everyone's got perceptions. This is a relationship business and that takes time. I don't want to stand up here and give you a final evaluation when maybe I'm a fourth through the test."

The Bears brought in free agent Josh McCown for a workout and Fox said "there's obviously interest or we probably wouldn't have met with him."

Cutler is 44-38 as the Bears starter, and has led the Bears within a game of

the Super Bowl only once, in 2010. That season, he hurt his knee in the NFC title game. Cutler has never had a passer rating over 90.

Bears general manager Ryan Pace was every bit as noncommittal as his coach when asked about having Cutler back this season. Cutting him would count as much as \$15.5 million against the Bears salary cap, though there are ways to recoup some of that loss. "We're still evaluating all of that, obviously, going through this whole thing," Pace said. "I don't want to rush any decisions. I want to max out the time that we have and just be thorough with every one of these."

Pace said the Bears are evaluating the tape on Cutler.

"But there's things we want to know more about the player," Pace said, "and that goes for all our players."

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL | WISCONSIN 55, PENN STATE 47

Decker, Kaminsky lead Badgers past Penn State

Associated Press

STATE COLLEGE, Pennsylvania — No. 5 Wisconsin couldn't control Penn State's D.J. Newbill on Wednesday night, so the Badgers settled for stopping all his teammates.

Sam Decker scored 22 points and Frank Kaminsky added 16 as No. 5 Wisconsin overcame a late Penn State surge to defeat the Nittany Lions 55-47.

Dekker and Penn State's D.J. Newbill waged an entertaining scoring battle. Newbill got 29 points, but the next-highest scorer for Penn State (15-12, 3-11) was Brandon Taylor with seven.

The Badgers (24-2, 12-1), despite shooting 39 percent, were aided by Nigel Hayes' 13 rebounds and nine points.

"We kept trying to get stops on the other end," Wisconsin

coach Bo Ryan said. "If Newbill wants to get a shot, he's going to get a shot. With how strong he is with the ball and deception and change of directions. We wanted to be sure we didn't let anybody else get hot. Fortunately they didn't."

Wisconsin's 24th victory marked the school's best start in program history.

Seventeen of Penn State's 27 games have been decided by eight points or fewer and the Lions stuck around in this one. But they were 2 of 13 from long range and got to the foul line just three times.

Penn State's players outside of Newbill were just 8 of 33 from the field.

"I was just trying to get a win, man," Newbill said. "The points mean nothing to me if we don't win the game."

"I was just trying to do whatever I could to keep my

team in the game."

Wisconsin never trailed and pulled out to a 39-26 lead at the outset of the second half when Dekker sandwiched a pair of buckets around two from Hayes.

That forced a Penn State timeout, then neither team scored for more than three minutes before Newbill's layup for Penn State and another Dekker 3-pointer that put the Badgers up by 14.

The teams combined for just 21 points in the first 11 minutes of the half, and the Badgers patiently built a 46-30 lead. Hayes and Kaminsky dominated the boards and Penn State went cold.

"We were trying to do whatever we could to keep the lead," Kaminsky said. "We knew coming in they were much better at home and they were able to feed off that energy."

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

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the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us, we were all going direct to Heaven, we were all going direct the other way

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Irish to travel to Louisville, Pittsburgh

By **HUNTER McDANIEL**
Sports Writer

After splitting last weekend's matches at Indiana and Illinois, Notre Dame will hit the road again this weekend with trips to Louisville and Pittsburgh.

The 26th-ranked Irish (4-3) will officially kick off their slate of ACC matches Friday afternoon in Louisville, Kentucky, when they take on the No. 74 Cardinals (9-3, 1-0 ACC) before traveling to Pittsburgh to face the Panthers (2-4, 0-1).

Following a disappointing 4-3 loss to the Hoosiers on Sunday, the Irish have begun to refocus before

the action-packed weekend ahead of them, Irish coach Jay Louderback said.

"[Tuesday] was our first practice back, and we had a really great practice," Louderback said. "I was disappointed [with the loss to Indiana]. The team was disappointed. But the kids were all fired up and ready to go once we started practice. You know, we play every match tough, with the ACC and our difficult nonconference schedule as well, and they know, especially on the road, we're going to have some losses.

"We weren't too happy, but as soon as we got back to practice we regrouped and

are looking forward to starting ACC play this weekend."

After a nonconference schedule that featured traditional Big Ten and Pac-12 rivals, Notre Dame will now turn its attention to conference opponents. However, not much strategy will be changing with the new opponents, Louderback said.

"We're not really going to do anything different," Louderback said. "We do make a switch in the format, with doubles going up to eight now. We go back to that this weekend, back to that format pretty much the rest of the year. In practice we've been working on the no-ad, and now we're switching back to

regular scoring. It's a change that we need to get used to again. It makes it seem like the game lasts forever. That's a big, main adjustment."

Both Louisville and Pittsburgh will present early challenges for the Irish, Louderback said.

"Louisville — we saw them this fall in our tournament," Louderback said. "They only brought four or five players, so it'll be a new look this weekend. And they're going to be a different team from last year, with some graduating seniors. They're young, definitely a team we haven't seen much of. It'll be interesting to see how that match goes because they are young, and, for

many of them, it's their first time through the ACC.

"Pitt's basically the same team as last year. We won the match [7-0]. But if you look closely at the box score, it was a lot closer than it seemed. We had some tight matches. We played them here outdoors last year, so it'll be interesting to see how they are at home and indoors. We definitely will not be taking them lightly by any means."

Notre Dame will take on Louisville on Friday at 4 pm and will head to Pittsburgh for an 11 a.m. match with the Panthers on Sunday.

Contact **Hunter McDaniel** at hmcDani1@nd.edu

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SMC TENNIS

Saint Mary's continues nonconference slate

By **DAISY COSTELLO**
Sports Writer

After starting off the year with a Feb. 7 loss to Aquinas, Saint Mary's dives back into the heart of its season this Saturday with back-to-back away matches against Ohio Northern and Wittenberg.

The Belles (1-1) had not competed since the end of September prior to their loss to Aquinas, and Belles coach Dale Campbell said he sees the defeat as a learning experience for the team.

"The lessons we learn from each match and getting better is most important," Campbell said.

The Belles are gearing up for a tough season this spring, with

early nonconference matchups preparing the team for tougher MIAA competition later in the season.

"Hope and Kalamazoo, the defending No. 1 and No. 2 in our conference, should be extremely tough this year," Campbell said. "Calvin was very tough last year too, and we cannot overlook anyone in our conference."

The Belles are slated to square off against their first conference opponent, Hope, on Feb. 28, followed by a week-long trip in early March full of nonconference matchups before resuming conference play in mid-March. The team will square off against Calvin on April 11 and finish the

regular season at Kalamazoo. The MIAA tournament features the top four teams in the conference, and Campbell said he expects the Belles to be playing in it.

"A certain goal [for the team] is to be top four in our conference, making the conference tournament," Campbell said. "We were top four in our conference last year, but we believe we can do better this year."

The winter has held back the Belles, forcing them to battle the injury bug and preventing them from getting in solid practices, Campbell said.

"Players [getting] sick ... has made it difficult to get into a rhythm," Campbell said. "[But] we have a deep squad and are trying to get everyone ready to contribute."

Campbell said the Belles will rely on senior captains Shannon Elliott, Jacqueline Kjolhede and Kayle Sexton for leadership both on and off the court, as the team welcomes four freshmen to its roster. Elliott posted a career-high 12 singles wins in the 2014 season, with Kjolhede and Sexton following with 10 and nine wins, respectively. Campbell said their leadership will be valuable because the team is trying to improve its singles game.

"A heavy focus was put on our ... singles game over the past week," Campbell said. "With about five weeks of practice, we're trying to get better every week."

The Belles continue their season this Saturday against Ohio Northern and Wittenberg. The first match is slated to begin in Lima, Ohio, at 1 p.m., with the second following at 6:30 p.m. in Dayton, Ohio.

Contact **Daisy Costello** at mcostel4@nd.edu

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Johannes Göransson, Assistant Professor of English and expert in Swedish and American poetry, will introduce the 6:30 p.m. screening on February 20th.

Bouts

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

round, Brennan knocked down Nadar with a vicious headshot. After the knock-down, Nadar showed fatigue and could not put together a comeback. Brennan advanced to the semifinals by unanimous decision.

Atticus Coscia def. Albert "I am so Lone" Lee

Lee came out on fire in the first round, but Coscia came to match his opponent's intensity, putting Lee on the defensive for the latter part of the round. The sophomore from Siegfried Hall Coscia landed several headshots on Lee to gain the early advantage. Lee remained on the defensive in the second round, eventually stopping to go through an eight-second count, but the match continued. Coscia used lightning-fast combinations to keep his fellow sophomore on the ropes to start the third round and was relentless until the final bell. As a result, Coscia was named the victor by a unanimous decision.

Alex "El Cadejo" Alcantara def. Cullen "The Fishtown Hound" McNamee

Both fighters kept their distance throughout the first round, employing defensive strategies. However, Alcantara started the second round strongly and put McNamee on the ropes, where he delivered a powerful combination of left and right hooks. McNamee tried to open the third stanza more aggressively, but an Alcantara counterattack forced him onto the ropes again, where Alcantara delivered a flurry to McNamee's body that knocked the Duncan Hall senior down. When the fight restarted, Alcantara forced McNamee back into a corner where more body blows knocked him down again. Alcantara continued to show off his footwork, forcing his opponent into the corners, where once again he went on the offensive. The referee stopped the fight and awarded Alcantara the victory.

E.J. "Binks" Leppert def. Daniel Lee

The two fighters scouted his opponent for the majority of the first round, but each landed some well-timed punches with Leppert proving to be the more accurate. Lee came out strong to start the second round, landing some solid left hooks, but the fight returned to a slow, calculated pace, with most punches from each fighter being blocked. At the end of the second round, Leppert took control with a powerful combination of left and

right hooks and carried that momentum into the third round. Leppert landed a powerful uppercut to Lee's jaw, but a counterattack from Lee forced Leppert onto the ropes, where Lee delivered a strong flurry. However, it was not enough to secure the victory, as Leppert took the bout by split decision.

145-pounds:

Robert "R. Kelly" Devine def. Connor "MJ" Chelsky

The first round consisted of Devine pinning Chelsky on the ropes several times. However, Chelsky quickly bounced back to fight the senior off. A very intense second round ensued, as both sides traded punches and kept a brisk pace. Devine landed a strong headshot to start the third round that stunned Chelsky and sent him into the ropes, but again the senior recovered. Devine knocked down Chelsky some moments later with a strong headshot, but after a pause, Chelsky came out with renewed energy. He managed to swing the momentum and the crowd in his favor, but it was not enough as the final bell sounded and Devine was declared the winner by split decision.

Danny "Nacho Tigre" Espinoza def. E.J. "Armageddon" Smith

The fighters came out slower than other fights of the evening, as they tested each other out and probed different avenues of attack. The second round saw a continued defensive struggle, with few hard punches hitting their mark. Both fighters successfully dodged and parried each other until Espinoza unleashed a combination to start the third round, a moment that changed the course of the match. The junior never let Smith recover and stayed on the offensive, applying continuous pressure. Espinoza was awarded a trip to the semifinals by unanimous decision.

"Sloppy" Joe Guilfoile def. Matthew "Scruffy" Yoder "I Barely Know Her"

Despite a slow start from both contestants, Guilfoile took the upper hand in the first, forcing Yoder towards the ropes and dodging the O'Neill freshman's attempts to counter. Guilfoile was able to land some strong right hooks in the second, but Yoder connected with a very powerful right hook of his own that knocked Guilfoile down late in the round. In a lively start to the third round, Guilfoile delivered a combination of blows to Yoder's body, but Yoder blocked it and forced Guilfoile onto the ropes with a counterattack. Through



KEVIN SABITUS | The Observer

EJ "Blinks" Leppert and Daniel Lee confront each other in the middle of the ring in the quarterfinals of the 135-pound division. Leppert will be moving on to the semifinals after earning a split-decision win.

the remainder of the third, though, Guilfoile kept Yoder at a distance and connected on enough well-timed punches to win by unanimous decision.

Peter "The Wild Irish Rose" McGinley def. Joe "GI Joe" DeLuca

McGinley came out aggressively, but DeLuca dodged most of his early efforts. He was eventually able to land a flurry of punches, but DeLuca countered. McGinley connected on a few well-timed punches past DeLuca's defenses, forcing DeLuca onto the ropes late in the first. DeLuca started the second round on the offensive, but McGinley fought back, forcing DeLuca onto the ropes, where McGinley soon knocked him down. McGinley again knocked him down again shortly after. McGinley forced DeLuca to the ropes to start the third and delivered more blows to DeLuca's body, knocking him down again and once more soon after. Although DeLuca was able to hold on to finish the fight, McGinley won by unanimous decision.

149-pounds:

Luke "Lobos" Kiefer def. Liam "Trooper" Chang

This fight started slowly, as the two boxers looked to find a winning strategy. Near the end of the first round, Kiefer, a junior from Duncan Hall, broke the monotony by landing one solid combination. The second round saw more action and again, Kiefer managed to land more blows than Chan before the bell rang. In the third round, the junior from Alumni tried to build some momentum with an attack, but Kiefer stifled his attempts and got the better of Chan throughout the round. Kiefer was declared the winner by unanimous decision.

Devin "Opel" Duffy def. Patrick "Payday" Yerkes

Both fighters landed powerful combinations throughout a punch-filled first round. The second round

was just as action-packed. Yerkes, a sophomore from St. Edward's Hall, opened the round with a strong flurry, but the Dillon Hall senior Duffy managed a counterattack to push Yerkes into the ropes at a few different points. In the final round, Duffy was the stronger of the two boxers and continually forced Yerkes on the defensive. Duffy was declared the winner by unanimous decision.

Kieran Carroll def. Paul "The Shake" Rudnicki

The start of the fight saw Carroll, a junior from Duncan Hall, taking early control, with a series of body shots and a hard cross that knocked Zahm sophomore Rudnicki to the canvas. Halfway through the first round, action was stopped to treat Rudnicki's bloody nose. Throughout the match, Carroll dodged the majority of Rudnicki's jabs and hooks and countered with stiff shots to the head. In the second and third round, Carroll held off opening surges from Rudnicki to slow down the pace of the match and establish control. Though both boxers threw flurries to end the fight, Carroll was able to connect on the majority of his. In the end, Carroll advanced to the next round by unanimous decision.

Garrett "FedEx" Schmelling def. Briggs "Drop It Like It's" Hoyt

Both fighters came out swinging to open the first round, and Schmelling, a Fisher Hall sophomore, quickly established himself as the swifter of the two fighters. He ducked under numerous attempted shots to his head by Keenan Hall senior Hoyt and landed several impactful hits of his own towards the end of the first round. Hoyt came out aggressively in the second round, but Schmelling landed several brutal shots to the head that caused the referee to step in and begin a count. Hoyt shook it off, but towards the end of the second round Schmelling landed several

heavy shots to the ribs and a few to the face, slowing Hoyt down. Schmelling dominated the third round, keeping Hoyt at bay with jabs, on his way to the unanimous decision victory.

158-pounds:

Garrity "Biscuit" McOsker def. Joe Quinones

Close-quarter fighting defined the first round, as both boxers sought to land body blows and keep his opponent close. Finally, the senior McOsker opened the action up by landing a powerful uppercut near the end of the first round. The second round slowed down, as both fighters seemed to tire as the fight wore on and neither boxer gained a clear advantage. In the third round the action heated up again with McOsker backing the freshman Quinones into the corner on multiple occasions. McOsker was declared the winner by unanimous decision.

Ryan "Attila" Dunn def. Sean Himel

Dunn, a freshman from Knott Hall, came out swinging in the first round and attempted four right hooks that Himel, a junior from Duncan, managed to dodge. However, halfway through the round, Himel hit the deck hard and the fight was stopped. Dunn had landed a punch that caused Himel fall, and he landed poorly. Dunn was declared the winner in a referee-stopped contest.

Chip Blood def. Eoghan "I am Actually from Ireland" Flanagan

The match began cautiously, as both sophomore fighters spent the first half of the opening round feeling each other out. Zahm's Flanagan backed Blood, from Sorin College, into the corner, and unloaded several hard shots to the body and head. Blood escaped and threw a few blows of his own to even things up, and

Bouts

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

the first round ended inconclusively. The second round was more or less the same, with Flanagan landing a few more accurate strikes than Blood to take a slight edge. However, in the third and final round, both fighters put everything they had into each punch. In the end, Blood escaped the hard-fought match with a split-decision victory.

Joe "Sully" Sulentic def. Patrick Burkett

The fight began with the quicker Burkett, a sophomore from Siegfried Hall, darting around Morrissey Hall sophomore Sulentic, throwing periodic jabs to keep Sulentic from getting in too close. Eventually though, Sulentic trapped Burkett's against the ropes with his harder crosses to the head and ribs. Multiple times both fighters clinched each other, forcing the referee to separate the two. As the fight went on, Burkett's speed slowed, leaving him vulnerable to steady and powerful hits from Sulentic through the third round. The match ended with Sulentic picking up the unanimous decision victory.

167-pounds:

Patrick "Pattycake" Shea def. Eric "The Squirrel" Tomarello

In a battle of off-campus seniors, Tomarello squared off with Shea. The first round saw Shea take a slight edge as he managed to keep Tomarello on his back foot for most of the round. Despite this, Tomarello dodged most of Shea's more intense punches. In the second round, Shea began to methodically wear down Tomarello using his superior height and reach. The fight halted for a few seconds in the second round as Tomarello was treated for a bloody nose. Shea continued to use his advantages in the final round and at the end of the bout, Shea was declared the winner by unanimous decision.

Mike "Greasy" Grasso def. Chris "Double Diesel" Clarke

Clarke started on the offensive,

attempting to breach Grasso's defenses with experimental jabs. However, a mistimed left hook gave the shorter Grasso an opening, and he forced Clarke into the corner on two separate occasions with relentless body blows, forcing two stoppages. Clarke adjusted well to Grasso's strategy after the second stoppage; taking advantage of his superior reach, by throwing punches to connect under and around Grasso's high guard. Clarke regained some momentum in the second round. Grasso became more tentative in the following rounds, giving Clarke opportunities to connect with combinations. Ultimately, however, Grasso's early aggression earned him the advantage and the victory by split decision.

Gage "American Psycho" O'Connell def. Scott "Bootstrap" Rosseau

The fight began with both boxers immediately laying into each other, throwing flurries of punches to the head and body. The storm ended with a sudden jab that knocked Rousseau, a senior from Fisher Hall, down. The second round was more or less the same, with both fighters exchanging moments of control where they trapped each other in the corner, landing hard shots to the body and head. The third round devolved into an endurance test, as both men threw as many punches as they could, bringing the crowd to a fever pitch. Finally, the bell rang, and in the end, the judges awarded the law student O'Connell the victory by split decision.

Mike "Flanigan" Flanigan def. Paddy "El Canelo" Lawler

The intensity of this matchup was apparent from the opening bell, as both boxers traded body and headshots continuously throughout the first round, inciting loud cheers from their large supporting sections. At different points in the opening round, each fighter pushed his opponent up against the ropes. The second round saw much of the same, as the freshman Lawler came out firing but was evenly matched by the senior Flanigan. In the final round, both fighters went all out, and there did not seem to be a clear victor at the final bell, but

the judges awarded split-decision victory to Flanigan.

178-pounds:

Jason "Downtown" Ellinwood def. Matt "Hands" Bedell

The duo exchanged jabs early, but Ellinwood's headshots were more effective in the early stages of the fight. In the second round, Bedell searched for the perfect punch while Ellinwood landed a series of jab-hook combos, forcing a count halfway through the frame. Bedell attempted to respond as the second round concluded, but his attempts were countered with strikes from Ellinwood. The final round saw Bedell land an early body combo, but a parried hook gave Ellinwood room for an uppercut that forced the second count of the match. Bedell survived the count and finished the fight, but Ellinwood took the victory by unanimous decision.

Brendan "Rainman" Lesch def. James "Iceman" Hodgens

Both fighters launched an all-out offensive to start the hotly-contested match. Lesch landed a brutal right hook to Hodgens' head, sending him reeling and forcing a stoppage. The hook seemed to shake Hodgens, whose intensity wavered towards the end of the round. Lesch returned to his right hook again and again, causing Hodgens to stagger back to his corner. Hodgens roared back in the second, though, taking advantage of a haphazard defensive stance from Lesch. The third round started in much the same manner as the first — with a punishing right hook from Lesch — sending Hodgens to his knees, earning Lesch a decisive victory in a referee stopped contest.

Brent Breslau def. Ryan "Cherry Boppins" Chestnut

After a slow start to the bout, Breslau went on the offensive. Breslau fought more aggressively than his freshman opponent, Chestnut, in the first round. The second period saw a shift in momentum, as the fighters stood in the center of the ring, going blow for blow. The third round opened as an all-out brawl, as Breslau

repeatedly forced his opponent to the ropes and landed devastating headshots, but Chestnut continued to fight back throughout the round. Ultimately his effort was not enough, as Breslau secured a unanimous-decision victory from the judges.

Eric "P-Rex" Palutis def. Brian "Rowdy" Roddy

These two seniors showed patience early in the bout, before Palutis landed a number of devastating shots at the end of the first round. The second round featured much of the same, but Roddy was able to land a higher percentage of his punches. As the third round began, Palutis started to pull away from Roddy, forcing him into the corner more than once and landing fierce shots to the face and body. Though the fight was close throughout, Palutis did just enough to differentiate himself and earn a split-decision victory over Roddy.

184-pounds:

Derek Meyer def. Jack "Hammer" Corrigan

The beginning of the match was mostly defensive, with Corrigan landing a right jab that snuck past Meyer's guard and made contact with his head. Meyer responded in kind, though, delivering a flurry of body blows to force Corrigan against the ropes at the end of the first round. To start the next frame, Corrigan managed to duck a hook and land a fierce body shot, only for Meyer to connect with an uppercut of his own. Both fighters appeared exhausted by the end of the bout, with punches losing speed and missing their targets. Ultimately, though, Meyer's earned the victory by unanimous decision.

CJ "Chief Justice" Pruner def. Erik "The Dozer" Mendoza

Pruner used his longer reach early and often, lobbing punishing blows around the guard of Mendoza to remain continuously on the assault. Still, Mendoza retained a strong stance and responded with well-targeted body blows. Pruner's momentum continued through the second round, as he pressed his height advantage, forcing Mendoza out of range with straight jabs and parries. Mendoza forced the issue as the final round opened, taking Pruner's jabs and responding with body blows of his own, capped by a crushing right hook to Pruner's head. Still, Pruner's early assaults earned him an advantage that he maintained throughout the match, resulting in a victory by unanimous decision.

Bryan Cooley def. Mike Rossetto

Pitting freshman against senior, these two boxers opened the match with a flurry of action. Midway through the first round, the senior Cooley knocked his opponent to the ground, but Rossetto battled back to make

the first round close. In the second round, Cooley continued to land punch after punch, forcing the referee to stop the fight momentarily. Rossetto was never out of the fight, however, and was able to still land punches on his opponent throughout the bout. Cooley's experience proved to be too much for the freshman, however, as he pulled away in the third round and secured a unanimous-decision victory and a spot in the semifinals.

Brian "Cheese" Willis def. Lucas "Da Ugly Doo" de Heraclito Lima

De Heraclito Lima came out on the offensive, but Willis weathered the storm and forced him up against the ropes twice early in the first round. Before the end of the round, Willis landed a brutal blow that sent de Heraclito Lima crashing into the ropes. As medics and trainers helped de Heraclito Lima to a sitting position, Willis waited in the opposite corner. Before leaving the ring, de Heraclito Lima was met with a hug from his opponent, and Willis was granted a victory in a referee-stopped contest.

196-pounds:

Pat Gordon def. Chris "The Fist" Vazquez

Each fighter began the bout by throwing punches with an emphasis on efficiency and precision. The first round proved to be an even affair, with both landing several jabs before the frame's conclusion. The second round saw Gordon break the defensive stalemate, as he nearly forced Vazquez to keel over with a brutal left hook. The strike seemed to shake Vazquez, whose guard faltered and he adopted a more haphazard attack. Gordon continued to gain in the third, but "The Fist" did not go quietly, finding a second wind and forcing Gordon against the ropes shortly before the final bell. The momentum from Gordon's second-round push set the tone for the fight, though, earning the freshman a victory by unanimous decision.

Evan "Heavy Duty" Escobedo vs. Ian White

Escobedo and White traded punches at the center of the ring and danced around one another for much of an evenly-matched first round. In the second frame, these two seniors continued to battle in the middle of the ring, but Escobedo's shots found his opponent more frequently. Once the third round got going, Escobedo began to pull away from White, forcing him to the corner and overwhelming him en route to earning a unanimous-decision victory.

Chris Croushore def. Daniel "imals Drinkable Yogurt" Babiak

Croushore held a height and reach advantage but Babiak rattled his opponent and had him on the run as the first round went



JODI LO | The Observer

Senior Eric "P-Rex" Palutis is named the winner after defeating Brian "Rowdy" Roddy in the 178-pound quarterfinal matchup. Palutis won the matchup by split decision.



EMILY MCCONVILLE | The Observer

Sophomore Chip Blood and sophomore Eogan "I Am Actually from Ireland" Flanagan circle each other in the center of the ring during their quarterfinal bout Wednesday night.

Bouts

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

on. The second round only grew in intensity, as Croushore nearly forced Babiak from the ring at one point. The final round was a rollercoaster of momentum, with each fighter enforcing his will at various points. The fight came down to a split decision, with the judges awarding Croushore a spot in the semifinals.

Jack Considine def. Joseph "The Dirty Bubble" Stevens

The fight saw both fighters forego lengthy jabs in favor of vicious body blows. Each fighter landed a series of impressive shots in the first round, with Considine gaining the slight upper hand, but neither fighter faltered for more than a few moments. The bout seemed to tilt further in Considine's favor as the middle frame progressed, with his hooks forcing Stevens to adopt a more defensive style. Stevens tried increase the speed of the match and avoid Considine's strategy of fighting near the ropes in the final round, but his efforts afforded Considine openings of his own. After an exchange of hooks and jabs that left Stevens reeling, the bell rang and Considine took the unanimous-decision victory.

Heavy Weight

Gerry "Jarreigh" Kelliher def. Kevin "Packy" Gates

Early in the fight, it seemed as if both fighters simply wanted to out-muscle the other, clinching often. Kelliher landed shot after shot before the referee was forced to stop the fight momentarily, but Gates came back with a fury to end the round. The second round featured a similar intensity, but neither fighter was able to gain an edge. Midway through the final round, Kelliher landed a pair of devastating shots to the face, and he was ultimately

able to earn a unanimous-decision victory over Gates.

Jackson "The Flash" Wrede def. Kyle "Hot Crossed" Munns

Much of the first round was spent sparring in the center of the ring, as the law student Munns and freshman Wrede searched for weaknesses. The second round saw the fighters trade body shots, before Wrede began to knock his opponent off balance and drive him to the fringes of the ring. At the start of the third round, Munns came out firing, forcing Wrede to the ropes, but Wrede was able to fight him off and reassert control of the fight with one punch after another. Wrede was ultimately too much for Munns, as he secured a unanimous-decision victory.

Ryan "The Swedish Meatball" Lindquist def. Erich "Daddy" Jegier

Both fighters exchanged haymakers to start the bout, with neither willing to back off. The fight was interrupted midway through the first round, as Lindquist bloodied Jegier's nose. Jegier had trouble regaining his early intensity. Lindquist continued with jabs to the face that forced stoppages in the first and second rounds as trainers tended to nose bleeds. The wound did not slow Jegier down, however, as he renewed his aggression in the later half of the fight. The two matched blows through the end of the second round, with neither fighter earning any apparent advantage or appearing to fatigue. The fight concluded with Linquist taking home the split-decision win.

Tyler "Tuna" Plantz def. Taylor "Showbiz" Kolbus

A contrast between reach and tenacity defined the fight from the opening bell, as Plantz's hard-hitting barrages sought to overcome the far-reaching jabs and hooks of the lanky senior Kolbus. Each managed a number of blows, with the majority of Plantz's connecting with his opponent's midsection, while "Showbiz" targeted the head. Plantz earned a warning against low blows midway through the round.

Still, he managed to take advantage of his nimble step and forced Kolbus into a defensive grapple in a corner. The final round proved decisive, as Plantz found a pair of openings and managed to close the distance between himself and his taller opponent. When the bell rang to end the match, Plantz took home the unanimous-decision victory.

Contact Mike Ginocchio at mginocch@nd.edu, Sean Kilmer at skilmer@nd.edu, Marek Mazurek at mmazurek@nd.edu, Daniel O'Boyle at dobyle1@nd.edu Hunter McDaniel at hmcdanil@nd.edu and Brett O'Connell at boconnel@nd.edu



JODI LOVE | The Observer

Ryan "The Swedish Meatball" Lindquist and Erich "Daddy" Jegier dance around the middle of the ring.



JODI LO | The Observer

CJ "Chief Justice" Pruner connects on a left uppercut in his matchup against Eric "The Dozer" Mendoza.



JODI LO | The Observer

Eric "The Dozer" Mendoza blocks CJ "Chief Justice" Pruner's right hand jab. Pruner went on to win the bout by unanimous decision, which advances him to the semifinals of the 184-pound division.

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Baseball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

really quality teams, and they were all three tight games," he said. "So for us to say that we're some sort of prohibitive favorite, I think, would be really, incredibly getting ahead of ourselves."

Last weekend, Aoki started junior left-hander Michael Hearne, senior right-hander Scott Kerrigan, freshman right-hander Brandon Bielak and junior right-hander Nick McCarty, respectively, and he said he plans to send that same quartet to the mound this weekend in the same order.

"Hopefully, Nick is pitching in the championship game, but if not, we're just going to go down there, and we're going to try to get better and compete every pitch as well as we can," Aoki said.

He added he wants to see his players have a competitive attitude this Friday to Sunday.

"I think the big thing for me is, I don't really look at last weekend and feel as though we played absolutely at our potential, but I feel as though we came pretty darn close to playing as well as we can in terms of our compete factor, and

that's what I want to see because that's completely controllable," Aoki said. "... Sometimes performances are gonna be great, and sometimes they're not gonna be so great, but if the compete factor is there, we can still manage to take a weekend, three out of four, when maybe we didn't play at our very best."

As Notre Dame is just starting its season, its first two weekends feature four-game series, while the majority of the rest of the season will consist of three-game weekend series. That extra game helps the team solidify factors like its starting lineup, especially with ACC play opening in just two weeks, Aoki said.

"There's so many things that are still up in the air," he said. "I think the playing four-game weekends early really kind of gives you an indication of how guys are gonna react when the games count for real."

The Irish take on Incarnate Word tonight at 6:05 p.m. at Nelson Wolff Stadium in San Antonio to open the Irish Alamo Invitational. They will later face Villanova on Friday and Northwestern on Saturday.

Contact Mary Green at mgreen8@nd.edu



MICHAEL YU | The Observer

Irish senior first baseman Phil Mosey flicks a throw to the bag during Notre Dame's 2-1 win over Clemson at Frank Eck Stadium on May 9. This was the first home game at Frank Eck Stadium with new turf.



MICHAEL YU | The Observer

Notre Dame sophomore infielder Cavan Biggio swings at a pitch during a 2-1 win over Clemson on May 9 at Frank Eck Stadium. Biggio was 1-3 at the plate, including an RBI that gave them the go-ahead run.

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SARAH OLSON | The Observer

Irish junior Jewell Loyd looks to pass the ball during Notre Dame's 63-50 win over Duke on Monday at the Purcell Pavilion. Loyd leads Notre Dame in scoring this season with 20.7 points per game.



SARAH OLSON | The Observer

Notre Dame junior Jewell Loyd dribbles the ball on offense against Duke in a 63-50 win on Monday at the Purcell Pavilion. Loyd scored a game-high 21 points and tallied five assists on the night.

W Bball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

playing together. I think everybody's starting to get comfortable. The freshmen look a lot more comfortable, so I think we've coming a really long way."

In the most recent win over the Blue Devils, Irish junior guard Jewell Loyd — who was named to the Naismith Trophy women's midseason 30 list last week, along with freshman forward Brianna Turner — tallied a game-high 21 points, 12 of those coming on four 3-pointers.

Those 21 points brought her 2014-2015 scoring total to 538, helping her become the fastest player to accumulate 500 points in a season in Notre Dame history. Her 20.7 points per game also lead the ACC.

Even with an All-American distinction and national freshman of the year award under her belt after her first two seasons, Loyd said she has noticed a change in how she approaches the game as a junior.

"I just think that I'm more

passionate — I want it more," she said after the Duke game. "I've had some great mentors before who really preached that. ... When I get on the floor, I just want to have fun. I want to compete every single night."

McGraw said Loyd's improvement has extended to defense as well, where she has posted Notre Dame's second most steals (43) and third most defensive rebounds (95).

"She's fighting screens a lot better," McGraw said. "I think she's communicating a lot more, and her lockdown faceguard is a lot better than it was last year."

The Yellow Jackets will bring their own Naismith candidate to McCamish Pavilion in sophomore guard Kaela Davis. Davis' 20.2 points per game sit in third place in the conference behind Loyd and Wake Forest senior forward Dearica Hamby.

Joining Davis in the Georgia Tech starting lineup is junior forward Roddrika Rogers, whose 60-percent field-goal percentage trails only Turner's 68 percent mark in the ACC.

Davis led the Yellow Jackets with 24 points in their first game against the Irish despite getting into foul trouble.

Georgia Tech sits fifth in the conference in scoring offense, averaging 73.5 points per game. But its defense ranks 12th out of 15 teams, giving up 68.3 points per night, a stat that fares well for an Irish offense that leads the ACC with 84.0 points per game.

Even though Notre Dame has already collected a win against the Yellow Jackets this season despite a poor defensive performance, McGraw said her players need to keep their focus through their final four regular-season contests.

"Every game is important," she said. "The most important game is the next one up, and we've got to look at it that way: every single game matters from here on out. We're focused on the next game."

The Irish and Yellow Jackets tip off at 7 p.m. Thursday at McCamish Pavilion in Atlanta.

Contact Mary Green at mgreen8@nd.edu

Softball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

against Hofstra on Sunday.

Despite putting in so many innings, Nasland said she was not worried about getting physically overworked.

"Pitching that amount of innings does have an effect on my arm, but adrenaline definitely carries me through the innings," Nasland said. "I just work hard to recover during the week."

In order to play with the stout competition they will face in California, the Irish will look for more strong performances on the mound from Nasland and the rest of the pitching rotation, as well as more production at the plate from players such as senior infielder Katey Haus, who leads the team with a .444 batting average and three home runs, and junior infielder Micaela Arizmendi, who boasts a squad-leading eight RBIs. Nasland said the team is confident that it can do so and compete well.

"I think we just need to focus on the fundamentals of the game and play with confidence," Nasland said. "We have all the building blocks of a great team; we just need to trust that."

The Irish take the diamond Thursday against Tennessee, with four more games between then and Saturday. First pitch is scheduled for 10 a.m. at Big League Dreams Sports Complex in Cathedral City.

against Hofstra on Sunday.

Playing multiple days in a row in a position as stressful as pitcher can be a daunting, but Nasland said she was not worried about getting physically overworked.

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Contact Mike Ginocchio at mginocch@nd.edu



DAVID SCHMITZ | The Observer

Irish sophomore pitcher Allie Rhodes hurls a pitch in a 12-4 win over Boston College on May 3 at Melissa Cook Stadium.

Write Sports.

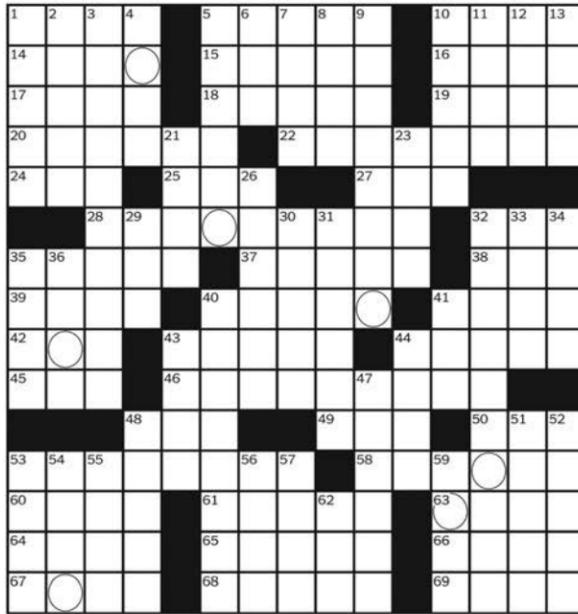
Email Mary at mgreen8@nd.edu

CROSSWORD | WILL SHORTZ

The seven circled letters reading from top to bottom describe an event occurring at four locations in this puzzle.

- Across**
- 1 Thrifty alternative
 - 5 Signs of spring
 - 10 Feline face cleaners
 - 14 Casino stock
 - 15 Shorten, maybe
 - 16 Settled
 - 17 Ceremonial military outfit
 - 18 —
 - 19 Long
 - 20 Like the worst excuse
 - 22 Clink
 - 24 The girl from Ipanema?
 - 25 "You will be ___" (last line of "Wishin' and Hopin'")
 - 27 Classic play whose title is an abbreviation
 - 28 Dairy Queen treat
 - 32 —
 - 35 Drum kit component
 - 37 "Oops, sorry"
 - 38 Build on, with "to"
 - 39 Deuce follower
 - 40 Govt. security
 - 41 Certain spot
 - 42 "Delta of Venus" author
 - 43 Actress Davis
 - 44 One carrying dust, maybe
 - 45 Hides, in a way
 - 46 —
 - 48 Place for a particle accelerator
 - 49 Photoshop option: Abbr.
 - 50 Help-wanted letters
 - 53 "Man who catch fly with chopstick accomplish anything" speaker
- Down**
- 1 Confuse
 - 2 Like some marketing
 - 3 Wet-bar convenience
 - 4 Mobutu ___ Seko (African despot)
 - 5 Rotten Tomatoes contributor
 - 6 Dict., e.g.
 - 7 "You'd better watch out!"
 - 8 Dos minus dos
 - 9 Like vampires
 - 10 Movie with a 9-year-old Best Supporting Actress winner
 - 11 Character with the tagline "Booyakasha!"
 - 12 Major downer?
 - 13 Fret
 - 21 Targeted launch
 - 23 Took to court
 - 26 Melancholy
 - 29 Chinese dynasty
 - 30 Deceitful
 - 31 Deafening

- 58 Pass
- 60 Director of "The Witches," 1990
- 61 Omits
- 63 —
- 64 Wolfe or Woolf, e.g.: Abbr.
- 65 W.W. II general nicknamed "Bombs Away"
- 66 It begins at conception
- 67 Gusto
- 68 Ray variety
- 69 Crayola color since 1998



- Puzzle by Bill Thompson**
- 32 Kato Kaelin portrayer on "S.N.L."
 - 33 Purim's month
 - 34 Whirl
 - 35 "___ 'em!" (mob's cry)
 - 36 Graphic beginning?
 - 40 Tots' sports equipment
 - 41 Whup
 - 43 Greeting in Oz
 - 44 Image on the "E.T." poster
 - 47 Feature of Mike Wazowski in "Monsters, Inc."
 - 48 Work after work?
 - 51 Basket material
 - 52 Chair for Cleopatra
 - 53 Singer Jason
 - 54 Rake
 - 55 Team whose colors are blue and orange
 - 56 Tech whiz, say
 - 57 Meaning of "Ich bin ein" in J.F.K.'s quote
 - 59 "In your dreams!"
 - 62 Big tank

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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



HIGHLY PUNLIKELY | CHRISTOPHER BRUCKER

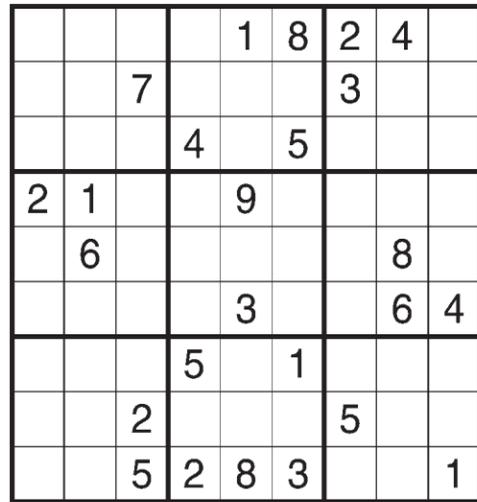


DOME NUTS | ALEXANDRIA WELLMAN



SUDOKU | THE MEPHAM GROUP

Level: 1 2 3 4



SOLUTION TO WEDNESDAY'S PUZZLE 11/22/12

8	7	1	3	2	5	4	9	6
9	3	5	7	6	4	2	1	8
4	6	2	9	1	8	3	7	5
2	1	9	6	8	7	5	3	4
6	5	8	1	4	3	9	2	7
3	4	7	5	9	2	8	6	1
5	8	6	2	7	9	1	4	3
7	9	3	4	5	1	6	8	2
1	2	4	8	3	6	7	5	9

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

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HOROSCOPE | EUGENIA LAST

Happy Birthday: Don't shy away from something or someone you want in your life. You have good discipline, and if you use your intelligence, you will find a way to get what you want. Don't be daunted by setbacks or those who don't share your vision. Set your sights on what you want to achieve and don't stop until you reach your destination. Your numbers are 3, 14, 17, 22, 30, 37, 45.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Show off your playful side. Socialize and get involved in activities that will help you expand your awareness and your physical and mental strength. Set goals and prepare to make positive changes to your attitude, your finances and your health. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Emotional problems will escalate if you disagree with an elder or a superior. Think twice before you take on something that you aren't prepared to compete with. Focus on honing your skills and don't waste your energy. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Size up what you want to do and what you must do. Having a clear picture regarding what's expected of you will help you delegate your time accordingly. Showing your ability to do it all will lead to advancement. ★★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't let anyone dump added responsibilities in your lap. Uncertainty will result in loss, so if you are questioning a deal, read the fine print before you make a commitment. Put more time and effort into self-improvement instead of trying to change others. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Plan activities that will challenge you mentally and physically. Love and romance are in the stars and will enhance your personal life if you offer affection to someone special. Your confidence will entice someone to partner with you. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Concentrate on partnerships and network at functions that are geared toward entrepreneurs. Taking a stance and following through with your plans will attract attention and help to stabilize your position among your peers. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Be careful not to disrupt your relationship with someone you need in your corner. Choose your words wisely and throw in compliments to ensure that you maintain the support you need to follow through with your plans. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Stick close to home and make the changes that will help you fulfill your creative needs. Love, romance and passion should be a top priority. Don't talk -- take action and show how much you care. A unique lifestyle change will be beneficial. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Put your plans into motion. Say what's on your mind and follow through. The more concise you are, the easier it will be to avoid being misinterpreted or deceived. Positive changes at home or to your surroundings will give you fresh vision. ★★★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Choose to take a unique route or approach to something you do that can raise your income. It's how you display and present what you have to offer that will make the difference. An old partner will have something worthwhile to contribute. ★★★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your impulsiveness will put you in an ideal position. A clear-cut view of the possibilities will make it easier for you to jump into action and take over. An important partnership will improve your chance to get ahead. ★★★★★

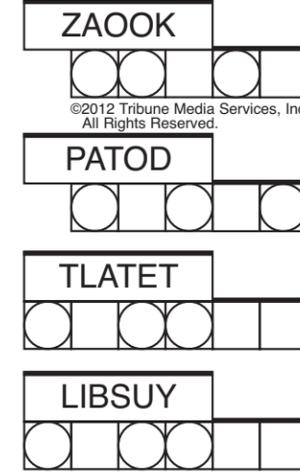
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't leave anything to chance. Secrets will be revealed if you trust someone with personal information. Don't give anyone a reason to doubt you. Demands will be made if you are too accommodating. Don't make promises you will regret. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are opportunistic, sociable and popular. You are helpful and charitable.

JUMBLE | DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

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

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



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

A: [] [] [] [] [] A [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: MUSTY SIXTY NIBBLE FACTOR
Answer: When he put the finishing touches on his book about clocks, his wife said this — IT'S ABOUT TIME

WORK AREA

THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community.

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BENGAL BOUTS

Boxers compete in quarters

By MIKE GINOCCHIO, SEAN KILMER, MAREK MAZUREK, HUNTER McDANIEL, DANIEL O'BOYLE, and BRETT O'CONNELL
Sports Writers

135-pounds:

Patrick "Il Lupo" Brennan def. Arun "Bollywood Basher" Nadar

The first round of the fight began evenly matched. However, midway through the stanza, the junior Nadar caught his hand on the ropes, which required medical attention. At the beginning of the second round, Nadar had to stop the fight again because his nasal bandage was giving him problems. After the time-out, the sophomore Brennan seized control of the fight, bobbing, weaving and connecting several counter-punches. Immediately after the bell to begin the third

see BOUTS PAGE 14



EMILY MCCONVILLE | The Observer

Sophomore Joe "Sully" Sulentic eyes his opponent sophomore Patrick Burkett in the quarterfinals of the 158-pounds division.

BASEBALL

Team heads south for four-game series

By MARY GREEN
Sports Editor

Notre Dame will escape the South Bend snow and cold this weekend when it travels to San Antonio for the Irish Alamo Invitational.

The Irish (3-1) will take on Incarnate Word, Villanova and Northwestern in the tournament, which they enter coming off a 3-1 start to their season in Oklahoma.

Notre Dame has traveled to San Antonio six out of the last seven years for the invitational, held at Nelson Wolff Stadium.

"You've got a certain level of comfort [at the tournament], and I think that familiarity and the comfort that it breeds allows you to play at a pretty high level," Irish coach Mik Aoki said. "Obviously, part of the challenge of going on the road is that oftentimes, you could

be going into a place you've never been, and just that level of uncertainty might just affect you a little bit, but this is a place where three out of our four classes on the team have been. It's a good setup."

The Irish will take on Incarnate Word (2-2) on Thursday, Villanova (0-2) on Friday and Northwestern (0-3) on Saturday, with a potential championship game Sunday. Though Notre Dame collected more wins during its opening tournament than this weekend's opponents combined, Aoki said his team should not consider itself as a favorite heading into the matchups.

"It's so early in the season to say that, well, Northwestern, who played Oregon State and Michigan State — they played three

see BASEBALL PAGE 17

ND SOFTBALL

Irish travel to Cathedral City

By MIKE GINOCCHIO
Sports Writer

After stumbling to a disappointing finish at the Tiger Invitational last weekend, the No. 23 Irish look to get back on track when they travel to Cathedral City, California, for the Mary Nutter Collegiate Classic, which starts Thursday.

Notre Dame (5-4) will be one of 35 teams competing over the weekend, and three of its five scheduled games are against other ranked teams.

Last weekend, the Irish finished 1-3, including two narrow 3-2 losses, but sophomore pitcher Rachel Nasland said the team has diagnosed the problem and is ready to move on.

"[Last] weekend did not play out as we had hoped," Nasland said. "We didn't come out with the same intensity that we typically do, and I think that is what ultimately hurt us. [However,] this is just the start of the season, and we are still trying to adjust to the rigorous schedule."

Notre Dame's opponents in California include No. 10

Tennessee, No. 25 Texas and No. 8 Georgia. This will be the first time the Irish have played the Volunteers since 2005, when Notre Dame won 5-2. Notre Dame last faced the Longhorns in 2007 and the Bulldogs in 2004, when the Irish lost, 7-1, in the sole meeting between the squads.

Against such strong teams, pitching will be key to establishing the Irish on the field, Nasland said.

"Pitchers set the mood for the entire game," Nasland said. "If, as a pitching staff, we can continue to hold steady on the mound, I think it will mentally allow the hitters to relax at the plate and not press. They can then be confident that we will outscore the opposing team."

Nasland in particular has been effective recently. In three games at LSU, she recorded a 0.88 ERA in 16 innings, allowing just two earned runs on only seven hits. In addition to starting twice, Nasland came in as a reliever for the Irish and clocked six no-hit innings

see SOFTBALL PAGE 18

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

ND puts 10-game win streak on the line against Tech

By MARY GREEN
Sports Editor

The last time No. 4 Notre Dame faced off with Georgia Tech on Jan. 22, Irish coach Muffet McGraw dished out some scathing words to her team after an 89-76 win.

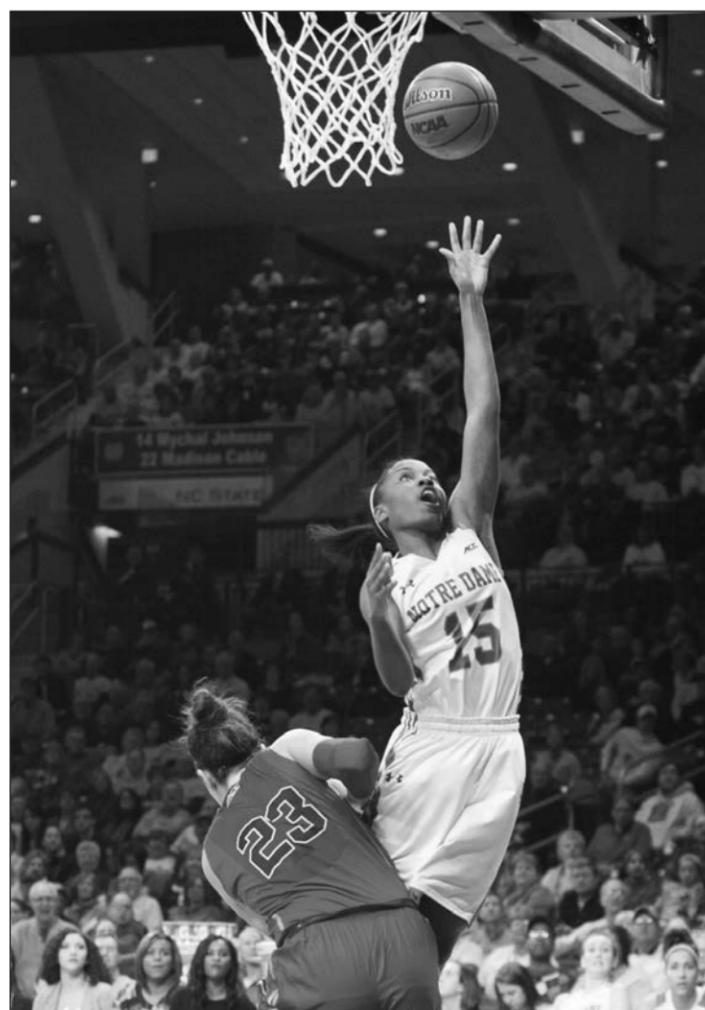
The Irish (24-2, 11-1 ACC) will see just how far they have come in a month when they meet the Yellow Jackets (14-12, 4-8) tonight at McCamish Pavilion in Atlanta.

The home win over Georgia Tech was the second game in January in which Notre Dame showed serious vulnerabilities, the other being a Jan. 8 loss at Miami (Fla.).

However, Notre Dame has bested opponents by an average of 22.2 points since the Georgia Tech game, and its 13-point win over Duke on Monday was the smallest margin of victory since then.

"I think we've come a long way since early in the conference season," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said after the Duke game. "We're playing great basketball; we're

see W BBALL PAGE 18



SARAH OLSON | The Observer

Irish sophomore guard Lindsay Allen attempts a layup during Notre Dame's 63-50 win against Duke on Monday.