

## Senior Class Council tickets vie for votes

*Senate has already confirmed Junior and Sophomore Council tickets, while seniors vote today*

By KATIE GALIOTO  
News Editor

Two tickets will compete to be elected to the executive board for Senior Class Council. Elections will take place today from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., according to Judicial Council. Because tickets for Junior Class Council and Sophomore Class Council ran unopposed, they were declared winners by Student Senate last Wednesday.

### Senior Class Council

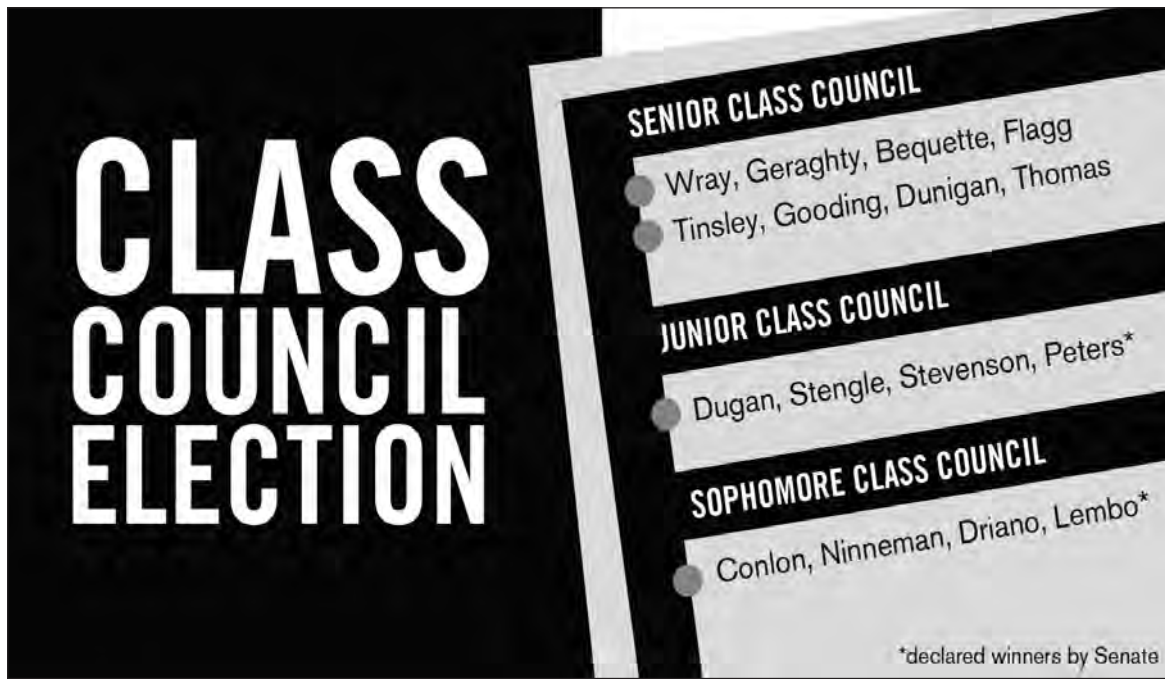
Katelyn Wray, Clare Geraghty, Zach Bequette and Celanire Flagg designed their platform to focus on four main pillars — experiencing the city of South Bend, providing outlets for

students to develop professionally, building lasting memories with friends and leaving a class-wide legacy at Notre Dame.

“Utilizing the diversity of the senior class, we strive to have programs that bring the entire community together and create opportunities for people who may no longer be involved through dorm life,” Wray, the ticket’s presidential candidate, said in an email.

Wray said the ticket has identified events affiliated with each pillar that are both feasible and innovative, including a signature class of 2017 event during Antostal, a class service day and an event for seniors to take professional

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ERIC RICHELSEN | The Observer

## Panelists examine voting rights

By JENNA WILSON  
News Writer

The Center for Civil and Human Rights sponsored the panel discussion “The Right to Vote: Shaping an American Electorate” on Monday afternoon. Moderated by David Campbell, chair of the department of political science, the discussion centered on the accessibility of the ballot in current American culture, as well as the

shaping of the electorate in the past.

The panelists included Dianne Pinderhughes, chair of the department of Africana studies and professor of political science, Jennifer Mason McAward, associate professor of law and acting director of the Center for Civil and Human Rights, and Luis Fraga, professor of political science and Arthur

see VOTING **PAGE 4**

## Government investigates ND sexual assault case

### Observer Staff Report

The University of Notre Dame is under investigation by the United States Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights (OCR) for possible Title IX violations pertaining to the University’s handling of sexual violence cases, University spokesman Dennis Brown said in an

email Monday evening.

The South Bend Tribune reported Monday that the OCR opened the investigation on Feb. 19.

“The accused student in this matter is no longer enrolled at the university as of the spring semester of 2015, nearly a year before we learned of the OCR charge,” Brown said.

Notre Dame is one of

167 colleges and universities under investigation by the OCR, according to the Tribune.

The University had previously been under investigation for possible Title IX violations related to its handling of sexual assault cases in 2011, according to a letter sent in 2011 to University

see ASSAULT **PAGE 3**

## Pope Francis honors Notre Dame priest

By KATIE GALIOTO  
News Editor

At an Ash Wednesday Mass in Vatican City, Pope Francis commissioned more than 700 priests — including Notre Dame’s Fr. Joseph Corpora — as Missionaries of Mercy.

Corpora, who serves as director of University-school partnerships for the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE), said the Missionaries of Mercy are granted the authority to forgive sins

usually reserved to the pope.

“There are certain sins that if a priest does, he’s automatically excommunicated from the Church,” he said. “There are other sins that lay people commit that are reserved to the Holy See. We have the faculty to forgive those sins for the year’s length.

“The real work is trying to help in one’s own way to help people more fully accept and believe in God’s mercy.”

see PRIEST **PAGE 4**



Photo courtesy of Fr. Joseph Corpora

**Pope Francis named Fr. Joseph Corpora a Missionary of Mercy along with more than 700 priests. The Missionaries of Mercy are granted the authority to forgive certain extraordinary forms of sin.**



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# THE OBSERVER

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

# QUESTION OF THE DAY:

## What are your Spring Break plans?



**Jenn Blum**  
junior  
Walsh Hall

“Going to Miami.”



**Monica Golbranson**  
junior  
Walsh Hall

“Going home to Cali.”



**Megan Davey**  
freshman  
Walsh Hall

“Going home to the beaches of San Diego.”



**Molly Heck**  
freshman  
Walsh Hall

“Going to Kansas City and Jacksonville, Florida, with a friend.”



**Ally Chang**  
junior  
Badin Hall

“Road trippin’ to Florida.”



**Maggie Arriola**  
junior  
Badin Hall

“Traveling to the Galapagos Islands to confirm the Theory of Evolution.”

# THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

## Tuesday

### “Stand Up Women”

DeBartolo Performing Arts Center  
5 p.m.-6 p.m.  
Gender performance and critique.

### Blood Drive

Grace Hall  
10 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Benefiting Relay for Life. Donors will receive a free t-shirt.

## Wednesday

### Diversity Panel

Oak Room  
South Dining Hall  
6:30 p.m.-8 p.m.  
Forum discussing diversity.

### Men’s Basketball vs. Miami

Purcell Pavilion  
7p.m.-9 p.m.  
The Irish take on the Hurricanes.

## Thursday

### Mindful Meditation

Coleman-Morse Center  
5:15 p.m.-6:15 p.m.  
Open to students of all faiths.

### Iron Sharpens Iron

Coleman-Morse Center  
10 p.m.-11:30 p.m.  
Fellowship for all denominations.

## Friday

### Edit-a-thon

Notre Dame Center for Arts & Culture  
6 p.m.-8 p.m.  
Edit Wikipedia with ND Black Lives Matter.

### Graduate Student First Friday Dinner

Coleman-Morse Center  
6:15 p.m.-7:30 p.m.  
All faiths are invited.

## Saturday

### Men’s Basketball vs. NC State

Purcell Pavilion  
12 p.m.-2 p.m.  
The Irish take on the Wolfpack.

### Hats Off to Reading

Notre Dame Bookstore  
10 a.m.-11 a.m.  
Reading of “The Lorax” and sustainability discussion.

# SMC team joins Team IMPACT

## By SYDNEY ENLOW

News Writer

The Saint Mary’s volleyball team has become the second Saint Mary’s athletic team to partner up with Team IMPACT, which connects children facing life-threatening or chronic illness with local college athletic teams, according to its website. The volleyball team has been paired with Melody Blower, a 13-year-old girl who was born with a cleft palate and later diagnosed with Agenesis of the corpus callosum.

Head volleyball coach Denise Van De Walle said she learned of the organization through the Saint Mary’s basketball team’s relationship with Team IMPACT and Brianna Sikora, who joined the basketball team last winter.

“I learned about all that she does with their team,” Van De Walle said. “It’s been wonderful to watch the growth of their relationship. So when my boss came to me and asked if we would to be involved, I answered with

a resounding yes.”

Van De Walle also said the team plans to include Melody in both athletic and social atmospheres and events.

“Mel can be as involved as she wants to be with us,” Van De Walle said. “She can attend our practices, she can sit

**“We are a close-knit team, but I think [Melody’s] special personality will bring us together even more.”**

Clare McMillan

junior setter

Saint Mary’s volleyball team

in the locker room before and after matches, she can come to our banquet, she can attend other athletic events, we can go to the movies, etc. She is welcomed into our team with open arms.”

Clare McMillan, a junior on the

team, said she is excited to for the team to get to know Melody and her family.

“It is a special experience to be able to share our passion with people in the community, and we are so lucky to be able to share and learn from someone as sweet as Melody,” McMillan said.

McMillan said she is also looking forward to seeing Melody learn more about the culture of the Saint Mary’s volleyball team.

“I think our matches will be exciting for her to experience,” McMillan said. “I am also looking forward to learning from Melody. We are a close-knit team, but I think her special personality will bring us together even more.”

Melody was officially inducted into the team Feb. 10 during halftime of the Saint Mary’s volleyball game, where she received her own team apparel and jersey, according to the Saint Mary’s website.

**Contact Sydney Enlow at senlow01@saintmarys.edu**

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**The Observer**

## Election

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

headshots to use in résumés or portfolios.

“Remember how fun Hip-Hop Night was freshman year? We are going to make Legends great again with Senior Night. Live music, cheap drinks and all of our friends in one place — Legends, as Legends was meant to be,” she said.

Wray, Geraghty and Flag all served on Sophomore Class Council, and Wray currently serves as vice president of Junior Class Council. Geraghty, the ticket’s vice presidential candidate, now serves as Cavanaugh Hall president. Bequette serves on the Club Coordination Council, which allocates funds to student groups on campus and facilitates University-club interactions, in addition to being a member of the officer board of the club sailing team.

Geraghty said the ticket’s top priority is to foster a tight-knit class community, despite the fact many seniors live off campus.

“It can be difficult to have class cohesion when everyone has such diverse involvement and interests within the Notre Dame community,” she said. “... It is our goal to extend our reach to the entire class by putting on events that all members of the class will genuinely enjoy. We are dedicated to bringing the class together for a final year under the dome and making memories to last a lifetime.”

The other ticket for Senior Class Council consists of Patrick Tinsley, Noelle Gooding, Jake Dunigan and Andrew Thomas. The campaign said the central theme of its platform is “the notion of building bridges.”

“Senior year, for many, represents a number of separations

— separating from your on-campus friends if you move off campus, separating from college life when you graduate and separations between different aspects of Notre Dame student life as a whole,” Tinsley, the ticket’s presidential candidate, said in an email. “Our goal is to bridge those separations.”

The ticket hopes to work with University administration to improve the shuttle system to and from off-campus housing sites and designate certain parking spots closer to academic buildings for off-campus students for a limited period of time during the day, Tinsley said.

“At the core of our platform lies a tremendous respect for next year’s graduating class,” he said. “As to-be seniors ourselves, we respect the remaining time we have at this university, time that should be used most effectively during our last year.”

Tinsley said that if elected, the ticket also plans to host regional mixers that would allow students to meet classmates that plan to work in the same city after graduation.

“Meeting some other soon-to-be Notre Dame alums who also will be living in an area might help ease that transition and provide you with a built-in network of friends before you ever arrive at your job,” he said.

No members of the ticket have served on a class council before, which Tinsley said would allow the group to provide a fresh perspective to the role. Tinsley served as the Transfer Welcome Weekend co-commissioner last fall and is currently the Student Union Board representative for Alumni Hall and a dorm judicial council member. Gooding is president of Notre Dame’s branch of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and has been active in her dorm’s hall council in the past.

Dunigan co-founded and is currently vice president of Notre Dame’s chapter of Young Americans for Freedom, while Thomas currently serves as the Stanford Hall senator.

The ultimate goal of the ticket is to bring seniors together with events like class Grotto trips,

**“Remember how fun Hip-Hop Night was freshman year? We are going to make Legends great again with Senior Night. Live music, cheap drinks and all of our friends in one place — Legends, as Legends was meant to be.”**

Katelyn Wray  
candidate  
senior class council

service projects, South Bend Cubs games, a senior class formal and a revamped Senior Week, Tinsley said.

“It’s our last ride — we want to make it count,” he said. “Four years is all we get with our friends, roommates and fellow Domers. In recognition of the fleeting nature of our college years, we are hoping to provide several events for the senior class as a whole to better cherish and appreciate our final year together.”

### Junior Class Council

Sara Dugan, Janet Stengle, Paul Stevenson and Matthew Peters said they hope to foster a sense of unity between members of the junior class, both on campus and in study abroad locations.

“For the first time since we have gotten to Notre Dame, our class will be significantly

separated,” Peters, who will assume the position of secretary, said in an email. “We will be divided by oceans, with students studying in countries across the globe. Furthermore, our class will be significantly subdivided into their respective majors. For these reasons and many more, it is not hard for the junior class to appear divided or fragmented. It is our goal to mitigate these effects.”

The executive board plans to increase advertising for class council events, such as South Bend Cubs games and brother-sister dorm Olympics, to increase participation and maintain accountability, Dugan, Junior Class Council president-elect, said.

“Junior Year is a unique time for students at Notre Dame,” she said. “As the Junior Class Council executive board, we really want to focus our efforts on catering specifically to those unique qualities. In addition, we hope to bring the Junior Class Council’s events to the attention of campus by staying visible, both online and around campus, and to stay accountable to our goals by adhering to the plans we make at the beginning of our term.”

Dugan currently serves as Parliamentarian for the Ricketts-Ruelas administration and works as a student assistant in the Student Activities Office. Both Stengle and Stevenson served on Freshman Class Council and Sophomore Class Council. Stevenson also works for the Orientation Steering Committee and the University Communications Department. Peters has had no student government experience.

Stengle, who will serve as vice president, said they plan to restructure Junior Class Council based on feedback and experiences from previous years.

“Our goal is to assign task

forces during the council application process based on work style, strengths and personalities to ensure that each event is executed to its fullest potential,” she said. “This will also allow for members of the council to hold greater responsibility and to build camaraderie through collaboration.”

### Sophomore Class Council

Michael Conlon, Mary Ninneman, Jane Driano and Chris Lembo said they hope to recognize the diversity of their class and use it to bring people together during the upcoming year.

“We would like to be a more open class council,” Conlon, who will assume the role of president, said in an email. “It is our responsibility to serve our constituents in the class of 2019 and to promote their ideas in future decision-making.”

Conlon said his executive board plans to host events that promote class unity through prayer, service and fun.

“There is no better instrument of unification than serving our South Bend community,” he said. “Additionally, we will offer opportunities to reflect on our Notre Dame experience together.”

All four members on the ticket serve as officers on the current Freshmen Class Council, Conlon said.

“With our previous student government involvement and individual interests, we look forward to serving our class for another year to the best of our abilities,” he said. “We have formed extensive connections in the Notre Dame administration and the other class councils, and we look forward to collaborating with and expanding our network to further foster community within our class.”

Contact Katie Galioto at [kgalioto@nd.edu](mailto:kgalioto@nd.edu)

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## Assault

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

President Fr. Jenkins from OCR. The OCR opened the investigation in December 2010, after the death of Saint Mary’s College first-year Lizzy Seeberg. Seeberg killed herself after reporting that she had been sexually assaulted by Prince Shembo, a Notre Dame football player.

The investigation was resolved on June 30, 2011 and Notre Dame agreed to make changes in its handling of sexual assault cases, according to the OCR resolution. The University agreed to educate students on the reporting process and the steps law enforcement will take after a report is filed, the resolution said. It also agreed to conclude Title IX investigations within 60 days of a complaint, the resolution said.

## Voting

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Foundation Endowed Professor of Transformative Latino Leadership.

African Americans did legally receive enfranchisement after the passing of the 15th Amendment to the Constitution, Pinderhughes said, yet they remained disenfranchised because numerous devices, such as literacy tests, prevented many eligible African Americans from actually voting.

"Post-Civil War, states were

trying to make sure blacks could not partake in the electoral [system]. ... Southern states have very large populations, these people form the balance of electoral power in the South, and Southern leaders attempted to curtail that," she said. "The right to vote could not be sustained because of the power of the states, who were specifically determined to stop African Americans from voting. Even today, we see this challenge to the right to vote."

McAward said Congress attempted to change the situation with the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

"The 15th Amendment was basically ignored for over 50 years after it was passed because of literacy tests that were enacted in the South," she said. "Congress starting in the late 1950s to try to deal with that legacy in the South."

Understanding the act is imperative to understanding its legacy, McAward said. There are five sections of the Voting Rights Act, which outlawed discriminatory voting practices that many Southern states adopted, including literacy tests, as a prerequisite to vote. While the act's provisions

provide nationwide protection of voting rights, it also contains special provisions that apply specifically to certain jurisdictions in the South.

"Under Section 2 of the law, any citizen can become a plaintiff, that is, the person that is challenging a law, has to prove the law that was passed was discriminatory," she said. "However, under Section 5 [which only applies to certain jurisdictions], districts have to pre-clear their voting law changes with the Department of Justice. Changing that burden of proof is an important thing — it places

the burden of proof on the government itself."

According to McAward, this provision stopped about 40 to 50 discriminatory voting laws from being enacted per year. However, McAward said that in the landmark case *Shelby County v. Holder*, the Supreme Court declared that the "coverage formula" — which decided what jurisdictions had to abide by Section 5 of the law — was outdated and unconstitutional.

Contact Jenna Wilson at [jwilso35@nd.edu](mailto:jwilso35@nd.edu)

## Priest

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Corpora, a 1976 Notre Dame graduate, was ordained a Holy Cross priest in 1984, according to the ACE website. He served as the pastor of two churches over the course of two decades — a primarily Latino parish in Arizona and a parish in Oregon. He founded the first Catholic school to be opened in the Diocese of Phoenix in 30 years.

According to the ACE website, Corpora returned to Notre Dame in 2009. He currently serves as associate director of Latino student ministry within the office of Campus Ministry. He also directs the Catholic School Advantage

Campaign, an ACE initiative seeking to double to percentage of Latino families who enroll their children in Catholic schools.

Corpora traveled to Rome on Feb. 7 at the invitation of Pope Francis, who designated this liturgical year as a Jubilee Year of Mercy last April.

"I think that when the Holy Father came up with this idea, part of what he was thinking was a way of getting a whole world to think about mercy," he said. "He seems to have an extraordinary grace of knowing what the world needs."

Corpora said he had the chance to meet Pope Francis for a brief second, as he was greeting members of the crowd. He kissed the pope's hand, although he did not get to speak with him.

"Sometimes you meet famous

people, and they're not who they seem like," he said. "But that's not at all with him. He is who you see on TV."

The hundreds of missionaries hailed from countries around the world, Corpora said.

"After the Father spoke to us, we all sang the 'Hail Holy Queen' in Latin," he said. "It was interesting to hear 700 people singing that song, from all over the world, in the same language. ... There was a sense of commonality amongst us. It struck me."

The commission of the missionaries was scheduled for Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the season of Lent. Corpora said seeing a cardinal put ashes, a symbol of penitence, on the pope's forehead was particularly impactful.

"He always says he's a sinner, so I shouldn't have been surprised," he said. "But he got ashes like everyone else."

Corpora said he does not know how he was selected to be a Missionary of Mercy. He received an email from the Vatican on Dec. 22, saying his name had been submitted and the pope had accepted it.

"As far as I am aware, this has never happened for a Jubilee Year before," he said. "That the pope would select certain people to be part of this whole endeavor — it fits him perfectly. He hasn't involved 'on the ground' priests before."

Corpora's new role requires him to suspend his regular pastoral duties for a year. He has plans to travel to Catholic dioceses across the country to offer penance services

and speak with priests and bishops.

"I'm supposed to just make myself available, and what that's going to mean is hearing confessions and talking about this whole idea of what God's mercy is," he said.

Corpora said he was grateful, surprised and humbled to be a Missionary of Mercy.

"All you need to be a Missionary of Mercy is to be a big sinner and know a lot about forgiveness," he said. "I'm a big sinner and know a lot about forgiveness. It's not like it's something to be proud of. I do think that I have received a lifetime of mercy and forgiveness, and I want to be able to pass that on in any way that I can."

Contact Katie Galioto at [kgalioto@nd.edu](mailto:kgalioto@nd.edu)

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# The *HYPOCRISY* of the Academy



**Nick Laureano**  
Scene Writer

“The #AcademyAwards are on ABC this year and people are honestly wondering if #TheForceAwakens will get a best picture nomination.”

Two months ago, I tweeted this brash statement along with a screengrab of ABC’s Wikipedia page — specifically of the portion noting that ABC is a subsidiary of Disney. Disney, of course, purchased the “Star Wars” franchise — as well as the rest of Lucasfilm — from George Lucas for \$4 billion in 2012.

The steady decline of the Oscars’ television ratings is an annual point of discussion for film and television journalists. Fancying myself something of an Oscars-whisperer, I was certain Disney would doctor the nomination process to make room for their smash hit, “Star Wars: The Force Awakens.” Surely including one of the most popular movies ever made in the batch of Best Picture nominees — which are usually little-seen, middlebrow “prestige pictures” — would prove an irresistible way for Disney and ABC to cheat their way out of the Oscars

ratings slump.

The nominees were announced three weeks later. To my surprise (and disappointment — I adore “The Force Awakens”), it received no recognition in any of the major categories, including Best Picture. Ultimately, if naïvely, my sadness gave way to relief. That “The Force Awakens” wasn’t awarded any big nominations was affirmation the Academy stands for something. That an inordinate sum of money and popularity, along with pressure from corporate higher-ups, aren’t enough to corrupt that antiquated taste-making TV show we call the Oscars. That Oscar voters at the very least remain true to their taste. “The Force Awakens” and its yearlong advertising campaign were a spectacular mix of nostalgia and exhibitionism. I loved that mix, but I can respect the honesty to self displayed by the Academy in not nominating it for any of the big awards.

Or so I thought. But after seeing Alejandro Iñárritu accept the award for achievement in directing for his work on “The Revenant,” I threw what sympathy I had out the window.

In filling his movie’s two-and-a-half hour running time with gore,

rape, blunt statements about race and mystical musings that play like a poor imitation of Terrence Malick, Iñárritu crafted a movie that is bloated and portentous. Quite frankly, “The Revenant” is terrible.

But there’s flashy camerawork — long takes, anyone? — and extreme conditions and locations to burn. I must admit: Iñárritu has style, and sometimes it works to marvelous effect. Watching his camera, piloted by three-time Oscar-winner Emmanuel Lubezki, plummet down an icy waterfall alongside Leonardo DiCaprio is like riding through a nightmarish water park. But imagine that scene repeated over and over for two-and-a-half hours — that’s “The Revenant.” It’s all style and technique; it’s a masterful student film. At this point for Iñárritu, directing is an exercise not in storytelling, but in exhibitionism.

He snagged his second consecutive directing Oscar (last year, he actually earned the award for “Birdman”) on Sunday. I’d like to think Iñárritu won in spite of his rank exhibitionism, but looking at “The Revenant,” a movie that exists mainly as a platform to show off technical prowess, I’m

forced to come to terms with the fact Iñárritu’s exhibitionism is exactly why he won.

That sad fact points to the hypocrisy of the Academy. Perhaps as a matter of principle, it won’t nominate a crowd-pleasing, thrilling spectacle of a movie like “The Force Awakens.” However, dress a pulpy revenge tale up with religious overtones, a brooding score, beautiful-yet-meaningless camerawork, imprecise statements regarding race and overly serious performances, and suddenly you’re the director of the year. Yes, both movies are filled with spectacle for the sake of spectacle, but “The Force Awakens” is actually entertaining. The signs have always been there, but for whatever reason, only now do I see the truth: The Academy’s taste in directing — in addition to its backward racial politics — is totally reproachable. Uncompromising devotion to taste is a good thing but only if you’ve got good taste.

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

Contact Nick Laureano at [nlaurean@nd.edu](mailto:nlaurean@nd.edu)

## KESHA, MISOGYNY AND THE MUSIC INDUSTRY

**Jimmy Kemper**  
Scene Writer

The system failed Kesha.

After 18 months of a grueling legal battle against producer Lukasz “Dr. Luke” Gottwald, the Manhattan Supreme Court ruled against Kesha on Feb. 19, declining to grant her a preliminary injunction that would temporarily liberate her from her contract with Sony Music Entertainment while her claims of rape and other abuse from the pop superproducer made their way through the courts.

This was the latest step in a legal battle that began all the way back in October 2014, when Kesha sued Dr. Luke in a California court, accusing him of rape and other “despicable conduct.” Gottwald responded with a defamation lawsuit, filed in New York, claiming Kesha was trying to extort him to escape her recording contract. Subsequently, Kesha filed counterclaims in New York. Last June, a California judge said the New York case should go first, and in September, Kesha filed in New York asking for the preliminary injunction.

When Justice Shirley Kornreich denied this injunction, she argued “her instinct

is to do the commercially reasonable thing” and uphold Kesha’s contract, despite Kesha’s insistence she “does not feel safe in any way” working with Dr. Luke.

With this ruling, Kesha, then, is not just an alleged victim of sexual abuse at the hands of a single man but of a system that inherently fails to protect basic human rights in favor of defending the monetary interests of corporations.

Madeline Davis of Jezebel sees this as a typical and systemic problem of the industry. “When a contractual violation and a human violation are put head-to-head in court, an idealist would think that a human being’s safety takes precedence. A realist, however, would know better. The music industry, like many industries, is predisposed to favor its own safety: what’s ‘commercially reasonable’ for Sony can frequently be at odds — in more cases than just Kesha’s — to the well-being of the women it signs,” she writes.

Consequently, the message of the court’s decision — that Sony’s personhood, which only exists in the eye of the law, surpasses that of Kesha, an actual human — is abundantly clear: Without true, unadulterated justice, victims of abuse have no escape.

As Kat George of Noisey argued in

2015, the point isn’t that Dr. Luke may or may not be guilty of what Kesha accused him of but that “the onerous nature of the competing lawsuits is such that Kesha has fallen into purgatory, while Dr. Luke, miraculously, continues to thrive in his profession.”

So because she tried to stand up for herself, to end her suffering and to overcome patriarchal, systemic injustices, Kesha has now been subjected to even greater abuses at the hands of the legal system and the embarrassment of slut-shaming by a critical, misogynistic public.

Even if Kesha can work with other producers, as Sony promised, a plethora of issues remain locked in that contract. Marc Hogan of Pitchfork notes in his analysis of the court case, “Kesha may still be able to record for Dr. Luke’s Sony imprint Kemosabe Records without Gottwald’s involvement ... but imagine how that sounds to someone whose future success would line the pockets of the person who allegedly drugged and raped her.”

Furthermore, as Kat George notes in a more recent piece, Dr. Luke remains one of the most powerful producers in the world, so working without him under Sony “might cause the record label to

take the promotion and resources put into her future albums less seriously.”

Sony’s failure of Kesha extends beyond the nuances of their contract. By supporting and investing in Dr. Luke throughout this whole process, Sony has shown its interests currently lie with protecting their male producer from legal repercussions, rather than defending their female singer from psychological, physical and sexual abuse.

Unfortunately, we, as an industry, whether we be producers, critics or consumers of music, are not free of fault either. While Kesha is forced to stand on the sidelines and watch her career slowly fade away, we sustain this system that puts more value in money than a woman’s safety. Sony and the greater music industry’s continuing support of Dr. Luke, as well as our own personal consumption of Sony and Dr. Luke’s music, indicate a passive acceptance of sexism and abuse.

By being complicit, we all have failed Kesha.

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

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## INSIDE COLUMN

## Hold the reviews

**Miko Malabute**  
Senior Scene Writer

I find music and movie reviews are so absolutely pointless. There, I said it. And no, before you start drawing conclusions, I am not referring to any particular writer or any particular entity. Furthermore, I fully understand there is a place for these types of articles in our society.

But keep all of those reviews away from me.

“Art is subjective.” That phrase is widely known but easily forgotten in light of heated debates between what rating a certain movie or album should have received. When one of our favorite projects comes under fire by critics and peers alike, we are quick to forget how personal art is to each and every one of us and are insistent as to why our particular taste in films and music is the “right” one and why others should adopt our taste.

Music and movies are very much a subjective experience. It’s why you openly acknowledge a “guilty pleasure” movie — admitting that just because a certain project doesn’t meet “objective” standards, it doesn’t mean that project doesn’t meet your own subjective standards.

A quick search on Google for a comprehensive list of the best guilty pleasure movies proved to be a lesson in futility for a simple reason: For as many curators of these lists there are, there will be just as many different lists — that is, no two lists could ever really be the same. This is because the experience of enjoying these pieces of art will always be different between two different people.

Now, I understand why there is a place for reviews in today’s society. If one enjoys a particular movie or album and another piece of art that follows more or less the same formula and it receives a good score, then one would feel naturally inclined — and rightfully so — to check it out based on a trusted recommendation.

But let me figure out what I want to like. I have no interest in what you deem to be worthy of my attention and consumption. Sometimes, I like the Billboard Top 100 songs. Sometimes, I like a movie that has an IMDb score of three out of 10. What matters to me is how that piece of art resonates with me. Similarly, if I ever write a review about a project and you don’t agree with what I say, then by all means disregard whatever I say — if you enjoyed it, then that’s all that should matter.

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

## Not just a cigar

**Stephen Raab**  
Let’s Talk Smart

This weekend marked the one-year anniversary of the death of University President Emeritus Fr. Theodore Hesburgh, Notre Dame’s longest-tenured president. As a method of commemoration, the Knights of Columbus opted to hold a “Poker Smoker” event that was exactly what it sounded like — a night of card playing followed by the smoking of cigars. Proceeds from the Knights event went to Hesburgh Hospital in Ecuador. Knott Hall hosted a similar “tribute” event that also incorporated cigars. Both events were promoted as “a great way to honor a great man.” The Week@ND contained a description of the Knights event with a clickable link to purchase a ticket.

I can certainly applaud the idea of commemorating the legacy of Father Ted, a man who gave so much of himself to others, through a charity. But it is irresponsible of both Knott Hall and the Knights of Columbus to promote the consumption of tobacco products. Cigar smoking in particular causes cancer of the lung, lip, tongue, mouth, throat, esophagus, pancreas and larynx. Cigar smoke has higher concentrations of carcinogens and tar than cigarette smoke. Nicotine is an addictive drug that induces physical dependency in its users. Combined, tobacco kills 50 percent of its users, accounting for approximately six million deaths (equivalent to the entire membership of the Knights of Columbus) every year.

Certainly, both these organizations are entitled to host these events; they have broken no campus laws. Yet such an event must be considered a betrayal of their founding principles. Clearly, such an event does speak to the Knights’ belief in “charity” and “unity,” and perhaps “fraternity” in a “hold my beer and watch this” sort of way. However, a true understanding of fraternity involves a concern for the well-being of one’s brothers; providing them with addictive drugs is no way to demonstrate this. Similarly, any residence hall

must put the health and welfare of its students at a very high level of priority — encouraging them to engage in disproportionately dangerous behavior is the exact opposite of such ideals. Moreover, the University states it is deeply interested in convincing students to make healthy choices, hence the much-beloved “Contemporary Topics” course that was once a freshman requirement but has since been rolled into The Moreau First-Year Experience. Yet, the University still chooses to promote such an event, even when it was certainly not obligated to do so. The University, for instance, did not promote the “die-in” memorial to Eric Garner in December 2014 via The Week@ND.

Nor should we excuse this form of tribute to the great legacy of Father Ted merely because the man himself was known “to enjoy the occasional cigar.” Father Hesburgh was certainly a man of great personal and spiritual insight, and he received many doctorates. Yet among these is absent a doctorate of medicine, and for good reason — he was not medically trained. While we should celebrate the many great things he accomplished, we should not repeat Father Ted’s mistakes. To do so is disrespectful in and of itself.

Was there no other method of raising money to support Hesburgh Hospital than by selling tobacco? Would not a prize offered by the Knights for victory in the poker tournament have had equal motivating effect on donors? Perhaps not. But as the memorialization of Father Hesburgh through cigar smoking is increasingly appearing to be an annual event, the Notre Dame community is confronted with a challenge. Do we respect, and yet avoid, the mistakes of our greatest patriarch? Or do we ignore them and bear the consequences as the health of our campus goes up in smoke?

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

Join the conversation.

Submit a Letter to the Editor.  
Email [viewpoint@ndsmcobserver.com](mailto:viewpoint@ndsmcobserver.com)

# Donald Trump's anti-Americanism

Neil Joseph

Viewpoint Columnist

Donald Trump's slogan for his campaign this year is "Make America Great Again." A clear, simplistic and admittedly politically savvy slogan, it is supposed to define what his presidential campaign is all about. He believes our country is in shambles and needs to be brought out of this ruin with some great deals and a big, beautiful wall. He believes he will restore America to its past greatness, which Barack Obama (and George W. Bush) have crushed. Yet, when I look at his policies and all he stands for, I know he will not make America great, good or better whatsoever. Rather, I see someone whose values oppose all that America has stood for and continues to stand for today.

As part of his plan to make America great, Trump wants to deport the millions of illegal immigrants currently in our country and build a big, beautiful wall that Mexico will pay for. I agree with his idea that the country desperately needs immigration reform; undoubtedly, our borders do need to be secure in order to keep our country safe and to preserve some sense of law. But the idea of immediately deporting millions of people who came to America seeking a better life is directly opposed to the idea America stands for. All of the illegal immigrants came to America seeking a better life for themselves and for their families; what could be more American than that? For years, thousands and thousands of

people have come here because they know it is the best place to make their lives better. We can't be blind to the fact America is a beacon of hope and freedom to the entire world. It's a place where people can come to have the opportunity to better themselves and shouldn't be faulted for wanting to do that. Figuring out what to do with the millions of illegal immigrants currently here won't be easy, but we cannot simply discount the motives behind the majority of people coming here illegally.

Trump also unabashedly espouses the use of torture and tactics such as killing the families of terrorists in order to stop evil regimes such as ISIS. There is no doubt ISIS is a terrible thing for the world, and we must do all we can to stop innocent people from dying. But we cannot justify horrible, evil actions ourselves in the name of stopping evil. America has always been a force for good. Even poor and ill-informed decisions such as the Iraq and Vietnam Wars were done in the name of spreading human rights, freedom and the autonomy of each individual person. We have never stooped to the level of even the most evil people we have confronted. We didn't resort to the racist and anti-Semitic tactics of Hitler or the genocidal mindset of Stalin. Rather, we were firm in our beliefs and trusted that in the end, goodness will prevail. We cannot compromise our democratic American values in order to stop the evil that so many perpetrate around the world.

Finally, Trump threatens some of the most important American values: freedoms of speech, religion and the press. Recently, he claimed he would open

up libel laws in order to make it easier for politicians to sue and make money from prosecuting news organizations for libel. This would threaten publications, preventing them (out of fear) from publishing stories the public deserves to hear. Our Founding Fathers put the First Amendment into the Bill of Rights to ensure the people were able to speak their minds and that the press wouldn't be afraid of the government. This, along with his assertion to temporarily ban Muslims, threatens the American values the founders of this country fought so vehemently to preserve.

I don't know if Donald Trump is a total racist, bigot or sexist. He may be doing all this for publicity, and I hesitate to define someone in such terms unless I know for sure that they are. I do know, however, that his pursuit of the presidency is rooted in ideas and values that dismantle the core principles our country stands for. Not only is his rhetoric divisive, but his ideas are anti-American. They fail to consider the ideals for which America has proudly been the standard-bearer for the past 200-plus years. Our values, our promotion of good and our ability to provide hope for all people has been what has made America great and will continue to make us great in the future. Nothing else.

*Neil Joseph is a junior in Stanford Hall majoring in political science and economics. He welcomes all thoughts and suggestions and can be reached at njoseph2@nd.edu*

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

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# The American disillusion: Whose life matters?

This article is a reflection on the manslaughter conviction of ex-NYPD officer Peter Liang.

On Nov. 20, 2014, Liang, then a rookie police officer, convened with his partner, Shaun Landau, in the Louis Pink Houses, one of the most dangerous housing projects in East New York. Both men were on a vertical patrol, in which officers are posted on different floors in buildings simultaneously. As the two rookie officers nervously walked the unlit stairs, Liang's gun accidentally went off. The discharged bullet ricocheted off the wall and fatally struck Akai Gurley, a 28-year-old African-American man who happened to be walking into the stairwell with his girlfriend.

Last week, in the State Supreme Court in Brooklyn, Liang was convicted guilty on five counts: manslaughter, official misconduct, assault, reckless endangerment and criminally negligent homicide. Liang faces up to 15 years of imprisonment as a result of the accidental shooting.

People rejoiced over Liang's conviction. Indeed, as the New York Daily News put it, "The shocking verdict was a powerful message from the jury that the public opinion on police killings has radically changed in the wake of Eric Garner, Walter Scott, Michael Brown and other tragedies around the country." We, too, saw this as an important victory, as after all the tears, blood and Black Lives Matter movement, justice had finally been served in the form of a conviction. We feel genuinely happy, as you may too, for the great leap forward of social justice.

However, is this the ultimate goal of justice we want to reach? Please do not misunderstand us: We do believe black lives matter and that Liang and the NYPD are responsible for Akai Gurley's death. And it should be noted that we by no means question the court decision; after all, we are not experts

in criminal law. And yet, from a political and racial standpoint, we do believe Liang, a Chinese American, is serving as a scapegoat in our society. We do believe that no matter what happened on the night of Nov. 20, the odds are always likely to be against Liang. We do believe Liang, as a member of the quiet "model minority," is paying a price for the institutional racism in our legal system. He is a "selective example" to justify the unjust system and cover its racial profiling problems.

In short, Liang is just unlucky to be an Asian-American cop in the NYPD. You may still argue race doesn't matter and that this is a matter of cops versus civilians. Sadly, we are afraid we cannot agree, due to the status of other similar cases. We believe these cases are worth critically considering, as it is up to us as members of society to judge whether or not we truly are moving toward a higher standard of justice or toward a deeper level of institutionalized racism.

One case is that of Darren Wilson. Wilson remains at home, uncharged, after intentionally shooting Michael Brown six times in Ferguson. Last year, the local police officers' association even declared "Darren Wilson Day" on the anniversary of the incident, called Wilson an "innocent, but persecuted, officer" and insisted "his ethnicity had nothing to do with their support of him."

What about Daniel Pantaleo, who was not indicted by a grand jury and then allowed to work desk duties for NYPD after choking Mr. Garner to death? Or more infuriatingly, Patrick Lynch, president of the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association, who stood up in defense of Mr. Pantaleo and described him as "a model police officer whom the public does not know enough about." Pantaleo was even offered 24 hours of armed protection after receiving several death threats. Furthermore, Bryan Conroy was only

sentenced to five years of probation and 500 hours of community service after shooting and killing an unarmed West African immigrant, who was not suspected of any wrongdoing.

Ironically, as Pantaleo was being considered a "model," Kizzy Adonis, an African-American NYPD officer who witnessed Mr. Garner's death, was charged with failure to supervise last month and stripped of her gun and badge. Similarly, Liang was fired by NYPD immediately after the incident, and he is the first NYPD officer who has been put on trial and found guilty for killing a civilian in years. According to an article in the Daily News, there have been 179 fatalities involving NYPD on-duty police from 1999 to 2014. Among these cases, only three have led to indictments (and just one conviction).

We sadly conclude Peter Liang is the victim sacrificed for all the past abuses in our justice system. There are not one but two victims behind the tragedy of Akai Gurley's death. Behind hundreds of similar cases of police killings, murderers were left unpunished while the real victims' grievances and protests went unheard. As the shocking verdict reached Facebook and sparked heated discussions, someone commented, "If Liang were white, the result would very likely be different. But he is Chinese, so no one stands up for him." Therefore, we decided to write this article and no longer remain the silent minority. We stand up, not just for all previous victims, but also for real justice in our society.

**Yuchen Zou**  
sophomore

**Lan Jiang**  
junior  
Feb. 21

## Share your opinion

Submit a Letter to the Editor to [viewpoint@ndsmcobserver.com](mailto:viewpoint@ndsmcobserver.com)

CROSSWORD | WILL SHORTZ

- Across

1

Lickety-split

5

French first lady  
Bruni-Sarkozy

10

Spear

14

ESPN's Arthur  
Courage Award

15

Let out at the  
waist, e.g.

16

Major-leaguer  
Tony or  
Alejandro

17

Essay, say

19

"I do solemnly  
swear ...," e.g.

20

Francis who  
sang "Who's  
Sorry Now?"

21

Lapel  
attachment

23

"The results  
\_\_\_!"

24

Lunched, say

26

"Glee" actress  
\_\_\_ Michele

27

Unwordy

28

King-size

30

P, to Greeks

33

Abovementioned

35

No-good

37

Space science:  
Abbr.

40

Indian home ...  
or a hint to nine  
other answers in  
this puzzle

42

Advertising,  
basically

43

Select

45

Fireplace

47

President pro  
\_\_\_

48

Cordial relations

50

Sufficient

54

Not unusual

56

American  
defense org.

57

Brazilian port of  
1.4 million

58

Backup group  
for Gladys  
Knight

61

Blacktop again,  
e.g.

62

Busby and derby

63

One not looking  
for individual  
glory

66

Italian wine city

67

Happy as \_\_\_

68

Wedding band

69

\_\_\_ and  
wherefores

70

Degrees

71

Word before  
deep or high

Down

1

Nabob

2

On dry land

3

Black eye

4

Coach on the  
court

5

\_\_\_ Canaveral

6

Rumble in the  
Jungle winner

7

GPS  
recommendation  
: Abbr.

8

Hannibal of "The  
Silence of the  
Lambs"

9

"Clear the \_\_\_!"

10

Bike wheel  
radius

11

Group  
associated with  
2009's Taxpayer  
March on  
Washington

12

Opposed to

13

U-\_\_\_ (Berlin  
railway)

18

Hall-of-Famer  
Ralph of the  
Pirates

22

'63 Liz Taylor  
role

24

Skin soother

25

La Brea fossil  
preserve

29

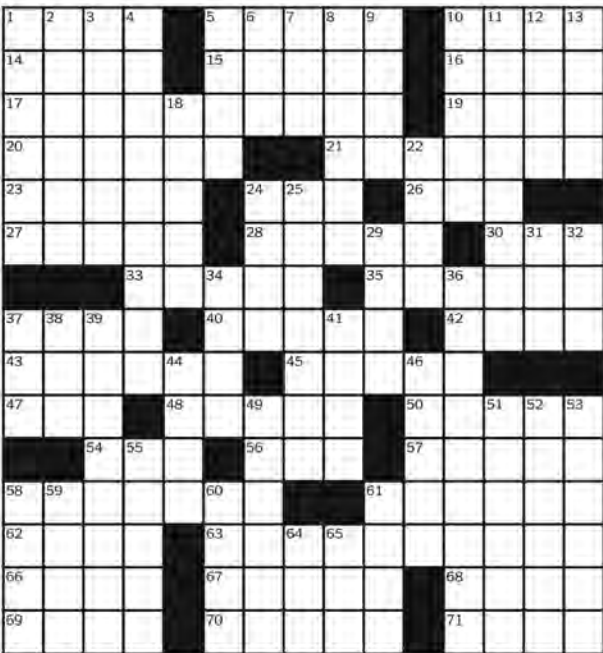
Actor/TV  
personality  
Kinnear

31

Cool, '50s-style

32

"Just the \_\_\_"



Puzzle by Gary Cee

- 34

Couple in the  
news
- 36

Disneyland, e.g.
- 37

Part of a play
- 38

"He & \_\_\_"  
(1960s CBS  
series)
- 39

Singer with the  
Heartbreakers
- 41

New Age  
Grammy winner
- 44

Hindu wrap

46

A-C on a filing  
cabinet, e.g.

49

Beetle, for one

51

Opening-round  
game of the  
N.C.A.A.  
basketball  
tournament

52

Actor Sam of  
stage and  
screen

53

Come to light

55

Extreme point in  
an orbit

58

De-ice

59

\_\_\_ mark (#)

60

School grps.

61

Dashboard  
readings, for  
short

64

Porter or stout

65

Treasure  
hunter's aid

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. AT&T users: Text NYTX to 386 to download puzzles, or visit nytimes.com/mobilexword for more information. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/wordplay. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

W	O	E	S	W	A	V	E	A	F	T	E	R
O	P	E	C	E	X	I	T	T	R	A	D	E
L	A	N	A	A	L	S	O	T	U	L	I	P
F	L	I	K	E	A	N	E	A	G	L	E	
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I	S	A	A	C	S	P	A	I	N	D	E	L
S	I	N	G	L	I	K	E	A	C	A	N	A
C	A	T	E	R	I	C	S	R	E	P	E	L
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W	A	T	C	H	L	I	K	E	A	H	A	W
Q	A	T	A	R	U	T	E	P	Y	E	A	R
E	C	O	N	O	N	E	W	T	T	O	R	I
D	O	Z	E	D	A	M	S	O	E	N	D	S

JUST ADD WATER | JOHN RODDY & ERIC CARLSON



FLING BY SPRING | RILEY MCCURRIE



SUDOKU | THE MEPHAM GROUP

Level: **1** 2 3 4

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

SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE

3	7	9	8	2	1	4	5	6
5	4	8	9	3	6	7	2	1
2	6	1	4	5	7	3	9	8
1	8	5	3	6	9	2	4	7
9	2	4	1	7	5	8	6	3
6	3	7	2	8	4	9	1	5
4	9	3	5	1	8	6	7	2
8	5	6	7	9	2	1	3	4
7	1	2	6	4	3	5	8	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](http://www.sudoku.org.uk)

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HOROSCOPE | EUGENIA LAST

**Happy Birthday:** Your sincerity and helpful input will offer freedom to explore new possibilities and projects that fit your personality and creative skills. Financial benefits will come from an unusual source. Take on any challenge you face this year, and you will gain confidence and prove your ability to take care of whatever comes your way. Trust in yourself and you won't be disappointed. Your numbers are 8, 15, 21, 27, 34, 44, 47.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Be secretive about your finances and your whereabouts. Don't feel pressured to make a move prematurely. Stay put, keep busy and avoid giving anyone an indication as to what your next move will be. Romance is featured. ★★★

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Don't pay attention to negative people. Opt to be the one who brings life and energy into a room. Positive energy will help boost your popularity and could also make others recognize that offering solutions instead of criticism will bring everyone better results. ★★★

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Peer pressure can be difficult to resist, but if you put your heart into doing a stellar job, you will advance. Put greater emphasis on mental and physical self-improvement and you will gain confidence and clout. Love looks promising. ★★★

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** An opportunity is within your reach, but you have to do your part. Now is the time to explore your dreams and to let your imagination take you on an adventure. Your intuition will not let you down. Believe in yourself. ★★★★★

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** You can make personal changes, but try not to cause discord at home. Subtle moves will be far less difficult to achieve. The realization of what you want will help to stabilize your life. Romance will improve your mindset. ★★

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Listen to what others have to say. It's in your best interest to research and come up with incredibly unique solutions. Your ability to masterfully present all the information you gather will enhance your popularity. ★★★★★

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Prioritize your to-do list and get started. Your enthusiasm will rub off on others. Socializing with people who share your skills or who work in an industry similar to yours will lead to inside information. Romance is on the rise. ★★★★★

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Don't be fooled by someone's hospitality. Ulterior motives are apparent. Take it upon yourself to venture down a path that doesn't require outside support, and you will avoid incurring debt or being put in a vulnerable position. ★★★

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Listen carefully and share only what is necessary to get what you need or want. Don't believe hearsay or get drawn into a situation that will be costly or permissive. Live within your means and promise only what you know you can deliver. ★★★

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Take old ideas or items and recycle them to suit your current needs. Incorporating your ideas into your daily routine will save money, time and space. Refuse to let someone's unpredictability interfere with your plans. ★★★★★

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Weigh the pros and cons of whatever situation you face. Listen to suggestions and show concern for those around you who are struggling. Your compassionate attitude will help ward off someone looking for an argument. Choose positive suggestions over criticism. ★★

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Uncertainty will be the enemy. Gather information and formulate a plan that will help you get what you want. Don't let anger take over, which could make you difficult to get along with. A well-thought-out solution presented amicably will suffice. ★★★★★

**Birthday Baby:** You are sensitive, relentless and passionate. You are protective and possessive.

JUMBLE | DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

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

AZLEB

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ACHHT

BETJOC

SLOIAR

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

PLAYING THE SUN IN THE PLAY ABOUT THE SOLAR SYSTEM ALLOWED HIM TO ---

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

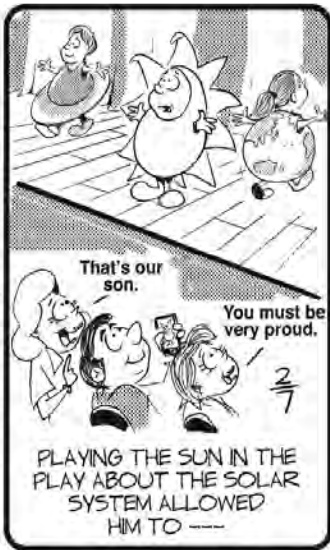
Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: BUDDY CRAMP BOUNTY STORMY

Answer: When she asked if she would be able to get a seat on the next flight, she was told to — STAND BY

WORK AREA



CLASSIFIEDS

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PERSONAL

LOURDES YOUTH PILGRIMAGE. June 4-12, 2016. For more info visit 4Mary.org.

I knew she'd find a way to get over me. But I'd never thought that she would get down with somebody I know. I guess that's just how it goes. When

you break up in a small town. I see our friends and they put on a show like they don't want me to know. So they give me the go-around. But there's only so many streets, so many lights. I swear it's like I can't even leave my house. I should've known all along. You gotta move or move on when you break up in a small town. For a while I guess they were keeping it low-key.

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SPORTS AUTHORITY

# Younger stars alter landscape



**Daniel O'Boyle**  
Sports Writer

On Sunday, Manchester United forward Marcus Rashford scored twice in a Premier League game against Arsenal. This came just days after scoring twice in a Europa League game against FC Midtjylland.

This made me unhappy. Not because I hate Man United and he helped them to a victory (I do, but I dislike Arsenal as well. I have a lot of hate for a lot of soccer teams), but because Rashford is two years and three months younger than me. It gave me a bit of a midlife crisis.

Like most boys growing up in Northern Ireland, I wanted to be a professional soccer player when I grew up. I wanted to be like George Best, the exciting Belfast-born winger of the 1960s with a famously extravagant lifestyle. Best had played over 150 games by my age. Gradually, I'm having to accept that my chances of making it in professional soccer are getting less and less likely. My support of an admittedly not very good team in Reading FC allowed me to keep my hopes of playing with my heroes alive just a little bit longer, but with virtually no athleticism and nowhere near enough skill to make up for it, I may have to now accept that my chances of a professional sports career appear to be virtually zero. I sometimes keep a faint glimmer of hope — my reputation is apparently great enough for me to be selected for the Alumni Hall "B" soccer team without even showing up to tryouts (although I believe everyone who signed up made the squad) — but it appears my chances are gone.

But that's something I've had plenty of time to come to terms with. Gradually, more and more of my sporting heroes are close to my age: It's hard to imagine being in their world when you're getting up early to watch a low-quality stream of them playing.

It goes far beyond soccer, too. We're right in the middle

of draft-anticipation season. At the end of April in Chicago, someone will be drafted and become the first-ever NFL player younger than me. I never really believed in my chances of making it in the NFL, but I can't shake how strange it'll be that there could be players in the next game I watch who will be younger than I am. ESPN might not announce that stat, but it'll be on my mind. The 2015 NBA Draft brought in plenty of players younger than me, and the likes of Karl-Anthony Towns have been having great seasons.

It's even more apparent in college football or basketball. Sometimes it's easy to forget these guys are my age, maybe even younger. But every player is in their teens or early 20s (with the possible exception of Kansas forward Perry Ellis, who I maintain is definitely old enough to be my dad. Look at him.). Even if you're watching students you've shared a class with, it can be easy to forget that they're no longer grown-ups like you once saw them. They're basically kids.

Even more terrifying, a player's entire career could flame out by my age. Federico Macheda made a name for himself as an 18-year-old Manchester United forward, too, and disappeared from view in the soccer world just as quickly. Someone in the 2016 NFL Draft will be a major bust and find their best years behind them in their early 20s.

Usually, this column makes a bit more of a point about something in the sports world. There's definitely something you can take from this fact: Maybe that we should remember so many athletes are essentially kids and understand their lack of maturity, but right now, I'm just a little freaked out by it all.

*Contact Daniel O'Boyle at [doboyle1@nd.edu](mailto:doboyle1@nd.edu)*

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

ND SOFTBALL | DIAMOND 9 CITRUS CLASSIC

# Notre Dame wins all five games at Citrus Classic

Observer Staff Report

Notre Dame had a memorable weekend, winning all five games it played in Diamond 9 Citrus Classic at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex in Kissimmee, Florida.

The busy weekend for the No. 23 Irish (12-3) began Friday afternoon with an 8-0 shutout win over East Carolina. The Irish were led by junior centerfielder Karley Wester, who was 3-for-3 in the game and scored two runs. The underclassmen were not far behind, however, as freshman pitcher Caitlyn Brooks went 1-for-3 with two RBIs, and freshman second baseman Ali Wester and sophomore left fielder Bailey Bigler both went 1-for-3. Senior pitcher Allie Rhodes picked up her fourth win of the year after pitching six complete innings, striking out 10 batters and surrendering three hits.

Later on that day, Notre Dame beat No. 22 Central Florida, 5-1. Karley Wester went 2-for-4 and scored a run, while Ali Wester went 3-for-4, driving in two runs and scoring another. Freshman third baseman Melissa Rochford went 1-for-2 with one RBI. Freshman catcher Maddie McCracken also chipped in a hit

and scored a run. Junior pitcher Rachel Nasland picked up her third win of the year after pitching five complete innings, striking out five batters and giving up only four hits. Sophomore Katie Beriont pitched two complete innings in relief and struck out two batters while giving up only one hit. The win over Central Florida (7-8) was Notre Dame head coach Deanna Gumpf's 600th career victory.

The Irish beat North Florida on Saturday morning, 7-3. Rochford went 2-for-3 with three RBIs, while Karley Wester went 2-for-4, driving in a run and scoring one of her own. Ali Wester went 3-for-4 and scored two runs, while senior first baseman Micaela Arizmendi went 2-for-4, drove in a run and scored one of her own. Senior second baseman Carly Piccinich went 2-for-3 with one RBI, and sophomore shortstop Morgan Reed went 1-for-3 with one run batted in. Rhodes recorded the win after pitching 5 and 2/3 innings, striking out nine batters and giving up four hits.

Later in the day, the Irish shut out Bryant, 7-0. Brooks finished the game 2-for-3 with two RBIs and scored a run of her own. Ali Wester again had a solid showing as she finished 2-for-3 with one

RBI and one run scored. Other strong Irish performances included Arizmendi, who went 2-for-4 with one RBI, and Rochford, who went 2-for-2. Beriont recorded the win, her second of the season after pitching a complete game and giving up only one hit.

Notre Dame completed the weekend sweep by beating Penn State on Sunday morning, 6-2. The Irish trailed 2-1 after the third inning, but they scored five straight runs in the next three innings and never relinquished the lead. Leading the Irish were the Wester sisters, who each went 2-for-4 and scored one run apiece. Brooks went 1-for-4 while collecting two RBIs, and senior right fielder Megan Sorlie went 2-for-3 and scored two runs. Bigler went 2-for-3 while driving in two runs and scoring another. Nasland earned the win after pitching four complete innings and striking out two batters. Rhodes pitched three complete relief innings and struck out two batters to give the Irish an undefeated weekend.

This weekend, Notre Dame will play in the Florida Gulf Coast Round Robin Tournament in Fort Myers, Florida. The Irish are scheduled to play Stony Brook, Florida Gulf Coast and Ball State.

MEN'S TENNIS | OHIO STATE 5, ND 2

# Irish drop home match to No. 3 Buckeyes

By **TONY ZAPPIA**  
Sports Writer

Notre Dame put forth a strong effort against No. 3 Ohio State on Sunday at Eck Tennis Pavilion but ultimately fell to the Buckeyes by a final score of 5-2.

The Irish (6-6) started strong, claiming the doubles point after winning two of the three matches. The first victory came as the pairing of freshman Grayson Broadus and senior Quentin Monaghan won three games in a row at the No. 2 court to seal a 6-2 victory over Ohio State redshirt junior Ralf Steinbach and freshman Eddy Covalsch

Despite the loss, Irish head coach Ryan Sachire said he was pleased with the way his team hung with a challenging opponent. "I think a goal of ours is always to be competitive, to play our best at all nine spots in all six singles matches and all three doubles matches, and I thought we did that today," Sachire said. "Our

As the singles matches got underway, Torpegaard, the sixth-ranked singles player in the country, proved to be too much for Monaghan, winning on the top court, 6-1, 6-2. Pollanen then defeated Schnurrenberger, 6-4, 6-2, to give the Buckeyes (14-1) their first lead of the day. Lawson was able to mount a comeback to defeat Diaz, 0-6, 6-2, 6-2, giving the Irish their only singles victory of the match. However, Di Feo then bested Covalsch, 6-4, 6-3, and Ohio State sealed the victory as Broadus fell to Joyce, 6-3, 4-6, 6-0, in a matchup of talented freshmen. The Buckeyes ended the match by adding to their margin of victory as Hagar fell to Steinbach in a back-and-forth battle, 2-6, 6-4, 7-5.

Despite the loss, Irish head coach Ryan Sachire said he was pleased with the way his team hung with a challenging opponent.

"I think a goal of ours is always to be competitive, to play our best at all nine spots in all six singles matches and all three doubles matches, and I thought we did that today," Sachire said. "Our

guys left it all on the line. They went after it. Ohio State was just a little bit too good [Sunday]. We tip our cap to them. They're a great team, and it gives us a direction for where we need to improve our tennis going forward."

Sachire said he knows there are ways in which the Irish must improve headed into ACC play, but he is confident the Irish can build on recent performances to improve individually and as a team.

"From a team perspective, I think three of the last four matches, including this one, we've played the right way, competed the right way, and I think we'll continue to build on that and get better in those areas," Sachire said. "From a game perspective, a skills perspective, that's pretty different for each guy. We'll work on those this week and get ready for [Boston College] on Thursday."

Notre Dame begins ACC play on the road against Boston College on Thursday before returning home to face Louisville on Sunday.

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Write Sports.

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## Track

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

were loading up and trying to win the meet,” Turner said. “Anyone who could possibly score a point in an event, we entered them in it. Several of our top athletes were entered in more than one individual event. My expectation was to put us in the best position to win the women’s ACC team title; we did that, just came up a little bit short of pulling out the win.”

The weekend concluded with several impressive performances on both the men’s and the women’s sides. Defending 10,000-meter national champion Molly Seidel broke the ACC all-time record in the women’s 5,000-meter race with a time of 15:19.64 and broke the ACC-meet record in the 3,000-meter race the next day. Irish freshman Anna Rohrer took second place in both events, and the two led the team by earning 36 of the total 82 points.

“Molly Seidel’s performances have almost become commonplace, so that wasn’t a surprise,” Turner said. “We knew she would win the [3,000 meters] and [5,000 meter] races, but putting up the No. 4 women’s indoor [five kilometer] performance in collegiate history was huge and breaking the ACC meet record and ACC all-time record.”

Turner said he was also proud of Rohrer and predicted her having a bright future at Notre Dame.

“In any other year, Anna Rohrer would be the talk of the conference,” Turner said. “What she has done as a freshman is incredible. Anna is one the NCAA elites, and she will, if she remains healthy throughout her collegiate career, become our most decorated track and cross country athlete.”

Turner attributed Rohrer’s standout performances to the work of distance coach Matt Sparks.

“[Sparks] has done a tremendous job with them this year, making sure they are well trained, healthy and ready to put up championship performances when it matters the most,” Turner said.

On the men’s side, junior pole vaulter Nathan Richartz and freshman high jumper Matthew Birzer each beat out highly ranked competitors to finish the weekend with Richartz in first place and Birzer in second in their respective events.

“Nate Richartz in the pole vault broke our school record and won the ACC title over several Virginia Tech vaulters who were ranked ahead of him,” Turner said. “He went 17-11 [5.46 meters] and had several good attempts at 18-1. Hopefully he’ll get that 18-footer at the NCAA championships and come back an All-American.”

Birzer was projected to finish eighth in the high jump but ended the meet in second place with a personal best of 2.10 meters. Turner said

Birzer’s underdog mindset helped him pull out the second place showing.

“He was in the zone, emotionally and physically, and just put it all together at the right time,” Turner said. “He trusted his training and just went out there and competed. He wasn’t highly ranked, and he had nothing to lose, with no pressure. His performance actually spurred our men’s team on. The men’s high jump was the first individual event on Friday during most of the preliminaries, and our team saw how well this unheralded freshman did, and it inspired [them].”

Looking towards the future, Turner is optimistic about the team’s prospects as it enters the outdoor season.

“We are a very good team, especially the women,” Turner said. “The ACC is ranked the No. 2 conference for women’s track & field, and we just missed winning it by a very thin margin. One more inch here or there or a place here or there in an event, and we win the title. The women have been on the verge of winning an ACC title the last couple of years. We will again be hungry to get the ACC title at the outdoor championships in May. What can be learned from the meet, is what I emphasized to the team right before the meet, that every point counts and that everyone contributes to the team success.”

Contact Molly Murphy at [mmurph40@nd.edu](mailto:mmurph40@nd.edu)



CAITLYN JORDAN | The Observer

Senior Molly Seidel competes during the Meyo Invitational at Loftus Sports Center on Feb. 6. Seidel set the school’s all-time record with a time of 8:57:13 during her 3000-meter run at the event.



EMMET FARNAN | The Observer

Irish freshman epee Dylan French competes during the ACC championships Sunday at Castellan Family Fencing Center.

## Fencing

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

In addition to winning the women’s team title Saturday, Notre Dame boasted winners in all three individual men’s titles: Freshman Axel Kiefer won in foil, freshman Dylan French took the epee title, and sophomore Jonah Shainberg won the sabre. Both Kiefer and Shainberg faced teammates in the championship rounds of their respective competitions, a trend that continued throughout the weekend for Notre Dame. In the sabre championship, Shainberg defeated sophomore teammate Jonathan Fitzgerald, 15-12, while Kiefer beat junior teammate Kristjan Archer in a 15-7 win.

“That’s the easiest thing because you don’t coach,” Kvaratskhelia said of watching his players compete against each other. “You just go grab a glass of water and enjoy the good fencing without getting all riled up.”

The Irish continued their winning ways during Sunday’s events, which featured the women’s individual championships and the men’s team contest.

In the men’s team competition, Notre Dame began the day with a 23-4 victory over Boston College. Just as the women had done the day before, the Irish then defeated North Carolina and Duke soundly, this time by matching scores of 19-8.

Of the three women’s individual competitions Sunday, the Irish picked up two crowns in foil and epee. Senior Catherine Lee picked up the epee title by beating Boston

College senior Olivia Adranga, 15-11, while freshman Sabrina Massialas defeated freshman teammate Elyssa Kleiner, 15-12, for the foil crown. In Notre Dame’s only championship loss of the weekend, freshman Tara Hassett fell to Duke sophomore Jennifer Ling in the sabre championship, 15-12.

Kvaratskhelia said he was particularly proud of the performances of his youngest and oldest fencers at the championships.

“Win or lose, I cannot single out right now,” Kvaratskhelia said. “Our freshmen and seniors were huge — the freshman because it was their first time doing this and our seniors because they were just outstanding.”

Notre Dame will now have two weeks without a competition before beginning the next step of their postseason, the NCAA midwest regional.

“That is a completely new competition,” Kvaratskhelia said of the upcoming regional. “We’re going to completely reset and retool and get ready for that particular competition. The difference is they have to again fence again each other to qualify, and that will be heartbreaking for them.”

The NCAA midwest regional will take place in the French Field House on Ohio State’s campus in Columbus, Ohio.

Following the regional, the Irish will try to take part in the NCAA championships in Waltham, Massachusetts, at the end of March.

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## Baseball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

exceptional.”

No rally was needed Saturday, as Irish hitters pounced on Incarnate Word in the first inning, scoring four runs to stake a lead Notre Dame would not relinquish. Nine different players combined for 15 hits, while sophomore left-hander Sean Guenther went 7 1/3 innings, surrendering just four hits and one earned run.

Senior Ricky Sanchez went 3-for-4 with a run and RBI against Incarnate Word, while also catching all nine innings in place of injured junior Ryan Lidge. In fact, Sanchez caught every single inning of the four games over the weekend, his most work behind the plate in his career at Notre Dame, Aoki said.

But the added workload didn't slow Sanchez down. He battled opposing pitchers all weekend long, Aoki said, and that toughness at the plate paid off when he singled on a 3-2 count in the bottom of the ninth against Gonzaga to give his team the 7-6 win. Over the tournament's four games, he

hit .412 with three RBIs and five runs scored.

“Ricky is a very talented offensive player, and he has struggled at time for whatever reason, but he has a very mature approach to the plate this year, and although it's a very young season, he's been able to shorten his swing, especially with two strikes,” Aoki said. “In the first inning of the Gonzaga game, I think he had a nine- or 10-pitch at-bat.

“... In previous years, Ricky wasn't able to execute consistently, and the maturity he has had at the plate has allowed him to maximize the considerable amount of talent he has.”

Even in the very first game of the Classic, in which the Irish fell to Bradley, 4-3, Sanchez posted an RBI and run scored off one hit.

However, that offense was part of a three-run eighth that was not enough to support a strong outing from Irish junior right-hander Ryan Smoyer, who held the Braves scoreless through five innings and finished with a quality start of 6 1/3 innings and two earned runs. Bradley junior right-hander Matt Dennis kept the Irish hitters handcuffed for



MICHAEL YU | The Observer

*Junior lefty Scott Tully pitches for the Irish during their 8-3 victory over Central Michigan on March 18, 2015 at Eck Stadium. Tully earned the win Sunday, tossing two innings of one-run ball against Gonzaga.*

seven innings, allowing just four baserunners and striking out 10.

Winners of three straight, Notre Dame will next travel to

Cary, North Carolina, for the USA Baseball-Irish Classic this weekend. The Irish will play Alabama on Friday, Brown and Bucknell in a doubleheader

Saturday and Niagara on Sunday.

**Contact Greg Hadley at**  
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## Suddes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

“He just got an association with the program, it's just an outstanding program,” Mike Suddes said. “It was extremely physically challenging, the vast majority of guys that fight — and the women that fight in the Baraka Bouts — have very little or no experience in boxing before they come here. It's a club sport; somehow a roommate or someone else in the dorm says you should come out and do it, and the next thing you know, guys are doing exactly what you saw out there.

“And if you want to see why this sport is unique and why this program is unique even within the sport, watch the way these guys hug after a fight. It's pretty sincere. Tom and I sparred together for many, many years; obviously boxing is a full-contact sport, and the relationships you develop within the Bengal Bouts program, you're hugging guys you haven't seen for 15 years: He may have bloodied my nose 20 years ago, I don't know. It's an interesting program. And it's a worthwhile program because every year all the proceeds get sent to the Holy Cross missions down in Bangladesh. When I was here in 1973, we donated about \$15,000, and now I think last year, they donated \$125,000, or at least \$100,000. It's been a good program — probably close to a million dollars have been donated to the program, where a dollar goes a long way towards food, education and things like that. It's a worthwhile program, and it's a great program to be associated with.”

Terry Johnson, another longtime Notre Dame boxing coach, said he was inspired by Suddes to stay involved with the program as

well.

“I first met Tom Suddes when I was a freshman at Notre Dame starting at the boxing program, and he was a senior captain,” Johnson said. “So he was kind of our idol. That was 45 years ago. He then came back and became a boxing coach, I went to law school, and we kind of starting this avocation of trying to help out with the Bengal Bouts. So for the last 45 years, we've been down here together, and he's just been such an inspiration and such a great guy.”

Suddes' illness may have made him unable to continue coaching, but he remains a popular figure with current and former boxers, with many excited to see him after the fights.

Mike Suddes said Tom's status among the boxers is best reflected in an anecdote from his senior year.

“He's had some great positive memories as far as the fights, the relationships, and things like that,” Mike Suddes said. “When he was a senior, I was a sophomore, and in the semifinal fight, he fought a fellow named Dave Pemberton, and Tom won the fight. But in doing so, his left eye was black and blue and completely closed. But it was also that time when we had the 45th anniversary of the Bengal Bouts, so we had a banquet in the monogram room, [Dominic Napolitano] and different members of the faculty and staff, a lot of faculty and a lot of alumni, and Tom was the president of the club. So Tom was the emcee of the night with one eye closed. And then he fought two nights later, and he lost in the final.

That was a very memorable, gutsy presentation, and he did a good job.”

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**WOMEN'S TENNIS** | ND 4, BOSTON COLLEGE 3; SYRACUSE 4, ND 3

## Irish split pair of road conference matches

### Observer Staff Report

Notre Dame split two ACC matches over the weekend, defeating Boston College 4-3 on the road Friday before falling at Syracuse, 4-3, on Sunday.

The Irish (8-4, 3-1 ACC) got off to a slow start Friday, dropping the doubles point to the Eagles (5-6, 0-4) to open the contest. Senior Quinn Gleason and junior Monica Robinson fell 6-3 at No. 1 doubles to put the Irish behind before junior Mary Closs and senior Julie Vrabel dropped a 6-4 decision on the second court, handing Boston College the early advantage.

When Closs and sophomore Brooke Broda won the first two singles matches to finish at the Nos. 4 and 5 flights, the Irish pulled ahead 2-1, but their advantage was short-lived. Eagles sophomore Lexi Borr took down Gleason 6-3, 6-2 on the top court to level proceedings before Eagles junior Emily Safron defeated sophomore Allison Miller in three sets on the third court to put Notre Dame on the brink of defeat.

The Irish rallied, however, as Robinson and Fennelly took three-set victories in the last two matches of the day to keep their team perfect in conference play.

That changed Sunday, though, as Syracuse (8-1, 2-1) turned the tables on Notre Dame late in the Orange victory.

Like they did in Friday's win, the Irish fell behind early after dropping the doubles point; Closs and Vrabel earned a 6-1 win to put Notre Dame ahead early, but losses on the Nos. 1 and 3 courts dug them into an early hole.

Syracuse freshman Maria Tritou topped Closs 6-3, 6-2 to extend the hosts' lead to 2-0, but successive victories from Robinson, Broda and Miller gave Notre Dame a 3-2 lead, just

needing one more win to stay unbeaten in league play.

But it didn't come, as wins by Orange freshman Dina Hegab and graduate student Anna Shkudun on the sixth and first courts sealed the victory for the hosts.

Notre Dame returns to action Sunday when it visits Miami (Fla.) for an ACC match before heading to Puerto Rico for games with East Carolina and LIU Brooklyn.



CAITLYN JORDAN | The Observer

*Senior Quinn Gleason returns a shot during Notre Dame's 6-1 victory over Indiana at Eck Tennis Pavilion on Feb. 20.*

BASEBALL | BRADLEY 4, ND 3; ND 6, TEXAS SOUTHERN 5; ND 13, INCARNATE WORD 2; ND 7, GONZAGA 6

## ND wins Alamo Irish Classic

By **GREG HADLEY**  
Senior Sports Writer

As evening began to fall last Friday in San Antonio, it looked as though Notre Dame's slow start to the 2016 season would continue.

Losers of three straight, the Irish were trailing Texas Southern, 5-2, heading into the bottom of the ninth. If they dropped the game against the Tigers, they would have no chance of defending their Alamo Irish Classic title from 2015.

Two walk-off hits and 24 runs later, Notre Dame (4-3) finished off the weekend with a flourish, defending its crown and building a three-game win streak heading into Spring Break.

"It's always nice to win a tournament that you're hosting," Irish head coach Mik Aoki said. "The thing we try to emphasize is that if you take care of the little things and control the things you can control, we feel we're a talented enough team that we'll be able to compete at a high level."

Those little things piled up at the plate for the Irish, who scored four in the ninth against Texas Southern to claim a walk-off win and then did almost

the exact same thing two days later against Gonzaga to finish off the tournament. In between those two results, Notre Dame's bats exploded in a 13-2 win over Incarnate Word on Saturday.

The key, Aoki said, was patience and resiliency.

"First and foremost, I was most pleased with the energy and engagement level of our team, in particular, the players that weren't playing," he said. "That was able to keep us grounded in the moment and worrying about doing the little things to keep it going."

Against Texas Southern, the Irish did not have any one particular big at-bat but instead piled on five hits and took advantage of two passed balls to rally. Freshman designated hitter Connor Stutts had the longest hit of the comeback with a triple that tied the game, and freshman pinch runner Cole Daily came around to score when sophomore outfielder Jake Johnson slapped a single into right field to end the game.

"We had a bigger hole to dig out off against Texas Southern," Aoki said. "We stayed confident and ... showed a little toughness, and I thought it was



MICHAEL YU | The Observer

Senior shortstop Lane Richards readies for a pitch during Notre Dame's 7-2 win over NC State on April 18, 2015 at Eck Stadium.

see BASEBALL **PAGE 11**

TRACK &amp; FIELD

## Irish compete at ACCs

By **MOLLY MURPHY**  
Sports Writer

Notre Dame placed third in the women's competition and seventh in the men's competition at the ACC indoor championships this past weekend in Boston.

Irish head coach Alan Turner said the results matched his expectations for the meet.

"For the men, we traveled a squad of 16 men," Turner said. "We do not have the depth as in the past, and we had a handful of injured athletes, so we knew that we couldn't contend for a team title. The focus was having the guys at the meet focus on their main event, meaning I didn't enter them in multiple individual events, and score as high as they could."

The women's team took a more aggressive approach to the meet, according to Turner, entering its top runners in several events.

"On the women's side, we

see TRACK **PAGE 10**

FENCING | ACC CHAMPIONSHIPS

## Notre Dame sweeps conference titles at home

By **RYAN KLAUS**  
Sports Writer

Notre Dame added to its successful season over the weekend at the ACC championships, as both the Irish men and women went 3-0 to claim conference titles on campus at the Castellan Family Fencing Center.

"The crowds and friends were fantastic," Irish head coach Gia Kvaratskhelia said. "You always give more to show them how hard you work."

The event began Saturday with the men's individual championship and the women's team championship tournaments.

The No. 2 Notre Dame women started team competition with a 21-6 win over Boston College before beating both Duke and North Carolina handily with equivalent 20-7 final scores to pick up the team crown, as Notre Dame to defend its title from last season, when the Irish won both team events in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.



EMMET FARNAN | The Observer

Sophomore foil Virgile Collineau lunges toward his opponent the ACC championships at Castellan Family Fencing Center on Sunday.

see FENCING **PAGE 10**

BENGAL BOUTS

## Suddes embodies message of Bouts

By **DANIEL O'BOYLE**  
Sports Writer

Over the 86 years of the Bengal Bouts program, countless Notre Dame students have trained for months to fight. For many, it has sent them halfway across the world to visit Bangladesh, where the proceeds from the annual competition go to help Holy Cross missions. For Tom Suddes, who was honored during Sunday's finals, the Bouts sent him back to Notre Dame, every year, as a coach, trainer and referee.

Suddes received an honorary monogram for his work with the program in 2014, but just months later, he was diagnosed with ALS. Suddes is no longer able to coach, but he was able to attend the Bouts once more this year to be recognized for his commitment to the program.

Suddes' story with the program started, like many Notre Dame students, in his freshman year. His brother, Mike, said his devotion to the program was

clear from his time as a student.

"Tom was a freshman here in September of 1967," Mike Suddes said. "How he got introduced, I don't know, but he started working with the novice program as a freshman, and then he fought in the Bengal Bouts as a freshman, and he fought all four years. He was the president of the club his fourth year, and he won two championships, in his sophomore and his junior year."

After two years in the U.S. Army, Suddes returned to Notre Dame to work in the development office and returned to the program he cherished as a student. When he left South Bend to found a fundraising company, he could have been forgiven for leaving the program, but each year, without fail, Suddes returned to coach the boxers. Mike Suddes said the camaraderie and charity of the Bouts always ensured Tom would stay connected.

see SUDDES **PAGE 11**