

THE OBSERVER

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Seven Cairo students to finish semester in London

University officials comment on chaotic situation in Middle Eastern metropolis

By LAURA McCRYSTAL
News Editor

Two weeks after traveling to Cairo with the intent of staying for a full semester, one week after losing Internet and cell phone connections and three days after their evacuation to Istanbul, several Notre Dame students left Turkey Thursday for either London or South Bend.

See Also
"Reporters beaten, arrested in Cairo" *page 5*

Seven of the 12 students will finish the semester at Notre Dame's London Program, University spokesman Dennis Brown said. Two students flew to London Wednesday and five others arrived Thursday night.

At least three of the remaining five students will return to Notre Dame's South Bend campus this semester, Brown said.

The 12 undergraduates arrived in Cairo Jan. 20 to study at the American University in Cairo (AUC), but were evacuated Monday due to the ongoing protests in Egypt.

see CAIRO/page 4



Top: Former News Editor Sarah Mervosh captured this scene of smoke on the Cairo skyline during her time participating in the abroad program at American University in Cairo. Bottom: A tank patrols a street in downtown Cairo. Notre Dame evacuated 12 students studying in the Egyptian capital after violent protests began in the city.

SARAH MERVOSH/The Observer

Former news editor reflects on unique experience in Egyptian capital

This was originally supposed to be a column introducing The Observer's new blog, The International Desk, in which study abroad students share their experiences from locations around the world.

I was studying abroad in Cairo and already had a column written for this space a week ago to convince you to read about my life in Egypt.

It went something like this: Right now, it is probably nearing lunchtime and you are reading The Observer while sipping on a coffee from Waddick's.

You're dreading your next class and wishing you had gotten a few more hours of sleep.

It feels like negative 12 degrees outside.

Right now in Cairo, it's dinner time. I'm tired from a long day of classes and am sitting in traffic on the bus back to my



Sarah Mervosh

News Writer

see BLOG/page 4

Alumni Association appoints new director

Observer Staff Report

Elizabeth "Dolly" Duffy, associate director of the Notre Dame Alumni Association, has been appointed executive director of the association, as well as associate vice president for University Relations, according to a University press release.

Duffy will succeed Charles F. "Chuck" Lennon in July when he leaves the University after 30 years leading the most extensive alumni network in the nation.



Duffy

"I'm absolutely thrilled to build on the strong outreach, programs and service that Chuck and this wonderful staff have accomplished over many years," Duffy said. "It's an honor to have the opportunity to work with our alumni, parents and friends to deepen their connection to Notre Dame."

The association connects the University with its nearly 132,000 alumni. Lennon increased the number of clubs from 151 to 276 during his career.

"As we begin this next chapter in the history of the Notre Dame Alumni Association, I have great confidence that Dolly will build upon an organization that is con-

see ALUMNI/page 4

London calls students to intern

By SAM STRYKER
News Writer

For many students, interning for a company involves fetching coffee and picking up laundry for their bosses. However, some Notre Dame students studying abroad in London are defying these stereotypes as they intern for a variety of organizations.

Junior Stephen LaBrecque is working as an awards assistant for the US-UK Fulbright Commission. He said he spends most of his time finding various ways to promote the awards of the program.

"My duties include redesigning promotional material and advertisements, emailing out various department heads and socie-

ty chairpersons to increase the awareness of the awards," he said. "I also have been looking into various ways to advertise for the awards via job websites and social networking sites."

LaBrecque said he sought an internship during his time abroad for cultural and career-driven purposes.

"I was looking for an opportunity to meet local residents of London and I also wanted to gain some new work experience," he said.

Junior Kelsey Clemson, who is interning for the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, said she chose to intern to be active in London.

"[I] wanted a way to get more involved in the city I am living in," she said. "[It is a] great hands on experi-

ence."

Junior Alyssa Sappenfield is interning with Emmaus, a charitable organization in London. Emmaus enables the homeless to live in a community as "companions" in order to get back on their feet. They help a store sell donated items in order to fund the community.

Sappenfield said interning with the group allows her to give back to the public.

"I have always believed that we all have a responsibility to contribute to the good of society, especially to those who are vulnerable and face hardship," she said. "Emmaus is an organization that echoes those beliefs."

Clemson, who is coordinating with dioceses to market National Grandparent

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THE OBSERVER

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The news is reported as accurately and objectively as possible. Unsigned editorials represent the opinion of the majority of the Editor in Chief, Managing Editor, Assistant Managing Editors and department editors. Commentaries, letters and columns present the views of the authors and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Viewpoint space is available to all readers. The free expression of all opinions through letters is encouraged. Letters to the Editor must be signed and must include contact information.

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor-in-Chief Matt Gamber

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CORRECTIONS

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

THE HOT SEAT: ONE PERSON, SIX QUESTIONS, INFINITE POSSIBILITIES



Stephanie Walz

junior
Pangborn Hall

Q: Where did you study abroad last semester?

Stephanie: Toledo, Spain

Q: What is the most useful thing you learned?

Stephanie: How to use public transportation like a boss

Q: What was the strangest thing you ate?

Stephanie: Rabbit and this orange mush that had fat on top of it, and I'm still not sure what it's called. We didn't get a name for it, we just ate it.

Q: What is your favorite memory?

Stephanie: When my mom came and

met my host family, and they took my mom and me out for drinks and for a tour of the town

Q: What was the most unexpected thing?

Stephanie: There are redheads in Spain! And my host family became like a real family to me.

Q: What did you miss the most?

Stephanie: Snacking: sour patch watermelons and diorites. And there is no substitute. Europe sucks at gummies. Nothing compares.

Know someone who should be in the hot seat? E-mail obsphoto@gmail.com



Sarah O'Connor/The Observer

Students, bundled up against the frigid cold, walk in the snow along God Quad in the aftermath of the severe weather this week. The University had its first closing Wednesday due to weather since 2000.

OFFBEAT

Toxic candy pulled from U.S. markets

WASHINGTON — The U.S. government says candy imported from Pakistan called Toxic Waste Nuclear Sludge is not safe to eat. Who would have guessed?

The Food and Drug Administration announced that the U.S. distributor of Nuclear Sludge chew bars is recalling the candy because of lead contamination. No one has been sickened, but the FDA said elevated lead content could be harmful to small children, infants and pregnant women.

The candies were manufactured in

Pakistan. Indianapolis-based Candy Dynamics said it would stop selling all Nuclear Sludge candy in the U.S. The candy is wrapped in bright yellow caution-like tape, and the company's website features the screech of a blaring warning horn.

"Our product's tongue-in-cheek brand name in no way reflects the vigilant approach the company takes toward product integrity," the company said in a statement.

House fire started by impromptu ashtray

PORTLAND, Ore.— An official in Portland,

Ore., says a house fire that caused \$30,000 in damage was apparently started by tenants who were using a hole in the floor as an ashtray.

Portland Fire & Rescue spokesman Paul Corah says, in his words, "That's not careless smoking, that's stupid smoking."

He says the caller who reported the fire Wednesday also hung up on the 911 dispatcher, then refused to talk when the dispatcher tried to call back for more details.

No one was injured.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Graduate School 101: Understanding Graduate School Panel Discussion and Q & A Session is today at 2:00 p.m. in 101 Jordan Hall of Science. For more information contact Victoria Froude at vfroude@nd.edu or Sarah Dunham-Cheatham at sdunham@nd.edu.

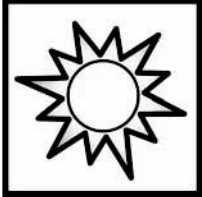





Dance Fest 2011,Welsh Family Hall's signature event is being held tonight at Washington Hall. The event features the dancing of Troop ND, Ballroom Club, Swing Club,Irish Dance Team, Dance Co., First Class Steppers and Pom Squad. Doors open at 7:00 p.m.The cost is \$7 and all proceeds will go towards the Robinson Community Learning Center Summer Shakespeare Program.

Saturday, The Girl With The Dragon Tatoo is being shown at DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. The film, based on the bestselling novel by Stieg Larsson starts at 3 p.m. and costs between \$3 and \$6.

Saturday night, the Late Night Olympics kicks off at 6 p.m. at the Joyce Center. This all night interhall olympic style competition benefits the St. Joseph Special Olympics. For more information,contact Tim Novak at 574-631-0584.

Saturday at 7:30 p.m. L.A. Theatre works presents The Real Dr. Strangelove as a part of the visiting artist series. The performance is being presented in the Decio Mainstage Theatre at the Debartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets cost between \$15 and \$35.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to obsnews.nd@gmail.com

	TODAY	TONIGHT	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 22 LOW 16	HIGH 16 LOW 10	HIGH 28 LOW 24	HIGH 31 LOW 24	HIGH 25 LOW 10	HIGH 14 LOW 8

Winter career fair postponed

By ADAM LLORENS
News Writer

The cancelation of Wednesday's annual Winter Career and Internship Fair due to extreme weather conditions has sparked both concern and questions from many students.

Sophomore Peter Thompson said the storm produced a dilemma for internship possibilities this summer.

"I am one of the fortunate ones who had an interview before the blizzard came on Tuesday," Thompson said. "However, I would have liked to create a connection with a couple of employers at the fair on Tuesday to open up more possibilities for this summer and the future."

Lee Svete, director of the Career Center, said weathering the storm would not be a wise decision with the high influx of employers coming in from the Chicago area.

"When Notre Dame cancelled the Board of Trustees meeting due to the blizzard, we took it as our cue to cancel the Career and Internship Fair," he said. "If that level of leadership was going to nix their event, we thought it would be good to follow suit."

Svete said he and his staff have begun contacting employers who



MACKENZIE SAIN/The Observer

Students speak with representatives from several companies at the Fall Career and Internship Fair in October.

were planning on coming to Wednesday's event to inform them of the tentative rescheduled date.

"We are hoping to be able to hold the event on March 3, based on the availability of the Joyce Center," he said. "We think we actually will be able to pick up more employers to come at the later date."

In addition, Svete said he wants those students who had interviews lined up for the following weeks to keep an eye on employers they remain interested in.

"The résumés for students who had an interview scheduled

remain on Go IRISH," Svete said. "Some employers need to follow through with the application process, so we ask students to monitor those deadlines through Go IRISH."

In addition to the Career and Internship Fair, the Diversity Reception will also be held tentatively on March 3, Svete said.

"March 3 is the ideal date for us all, as most, if not all, of our initial employers will be able to return to campus, as will one hundred percent of our sponsors," he said.

The blizzard, which wreaked havoc on the entire Midwest, has created problems for the companies and corporations who planned on making the trip to campus. Svete said despite this, the event would benefit from a later date.

"Armageddon took over Chicago and O'Hare was cancelling flights left and right," he said. "But, the make-up date of March 3 will make for a better Career and Internship Fair for all."

Contact Adam Llorens at
allorems@nd.edu

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

SGA holds meeting for election candidates

By ALICIA SMITH
Associate Saint Mary's Editor

With elections for student government around the corner, Saint Mary's Student Government Association (SGA) held a meeting for prospective candidates Thursday.

Another meeting will take place today at 2:15 p.m. in the SGA office. At least one member from each ticket must attend one of the meetings in order to be eligible to run.

The meeting was offered to those who wish to run for SGA, Residence Hall Association, Student Activities Board and Student Diversity Board.

One of the meetings was originally scheduled for Wednesday, but was cancelled due to inclement weather.

At the meeting, Laura Smith, student body vice president, explained the rules of the election.

Students were told when and where they are allowed to post campaign materials. Students also received election rules.

Smith said students must have a 3.0 GPA in order to run.

"If you do not have it, Patrick [Daniel, director of Student Involvement] and the Student Involvement people will be checking and he will ask you to step down from campaigning," she said. "The

College is really strict on the GPA requirement."

In addition, students may not participate in a study abroad program during their term, which lasts an entire academic year.

Smith said in order to run for student body president or vice president, students must be a rising junior or senior at the College.

Dates were also announced for campaigning and Election Day.

"Your campaigning will start Sunday, Feb. 20 at 5 p.m. and then it will end that Wednesday, Feb. 23 at 11:59 p.m. No later than that," Smith said. "And then voting will take place Thursday from midnight to Thursday 11:59 p.m."

Smith said students must have their platform approved by SGA and the Student Involvement Office. Platforms are due Friday, Feb. 18 at 5 p.m. and will be approved by Feb. 19 at 9 a.m.

Smith said students have to pay for their own campaign expenses.

"All the costs with your campaigning is up to you," she said. "Don't save your receipts because you won't be reimbursed for anything."

Smith said she will act as interim Election Commissioner and will be responsible for approving campaign platforms and other materials.

Contact Alicia Smith at
asmith01@saintmarys.edu

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SMC students ring in Chinese New Year

By ALICIA SMITH
Associate Saint Mary's Editor

Saint Mary's College rang in the Chinese New Year Thursday with a tea party, complete with paper lanterns, music and sweets.

Held in the Warner Conference Room in the Student Center, the celebration featured two different types of Chinese tea, as well as snacks ranging from candies to biscuits.

Alice Siqin Yang, assistant director of Global Education, said the tea party was held to raise awareness about the country, as well as to share information about study abroad programs.

"I think that it's important for students nowadays to know more about Chinese history and Chinese culture and Chinese language," she said.

During the event, students shared experiences studying abroad in China.

Senior Julie Hagopian said students should consider the benefits of studying in China.

"Just jump," she said. "Just go. It's one of the best. Financially it's one of the best-priced trips. You still get three credits for it."

Hagopian said she had fears before her trip, but she did not

regret her decision.

"It's scary going to a place that you don't know the language," Hagopian said. "You're not exactly familiar with the culture or the food, but that's the beauty of it. You just have to jump. Leave inhibitions at the door, and just go."

Hagopian said it is important to share the Chinese culture with the Saint Mary's community.

"General multicultural-ness is always important ... to bring to the forefront that there are different cultures around the world," she said. "Sometimes it's not always represented as well in a beautiful, Midwestern, primarily white campus like our own, but reaching out makes it more clear that there are other cultures and they are just as vibrant as our own."

Yang said other events pertaining to Chinese culture would be held. On Feb. 19, the College will host the event "Chinese New Year Celebration." The event will be held in O'Laughlin Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. It is free and open to the public.

Yang said the event will have a variety of different cultural aspects to it including song, dance and kung fu.

Contact Alicia Smith at
asmith01@saintmarys.edu

Alumni

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sidered a model for excellence in higher education with the wisdom, enthusiasm and commitment to excellence necessary for still further growth and greater good," said Louis M. Nanni, vice president for University Relations. "Her experience as an entrepreneur, combined with her

deep faith and commitment to family, uniquely qualify her to take on this important role in the broader Notre Dame family."

Duffy is a 1984 graduate of Notre Dame. She was selected for the position after a four-month worldwide search for Lennon's replacement.

"I am delighted for Dolly and her family," Lennon said. "She brings a breadth of experience, a knack for relationship-building, a keen understanding of the

University and a passion for our University. This array of qualification and abilities will serve her well in her new position. I am confident she has the ability, experience and passion — as well as the support of the University administration, Alumni Board, club and class volunteers and staff — to take the Alumni Association to the next level."

Duffy earned her bachelor's degree in history from Notre

Dame. She has worked as a press secretary for a U.S. congressman and an account executive for public relations firms in St. Louis and Kansas City. Duffy also purchased Atchison Products in 1990 with her husband and grew it substantially over 17 years before it was acquired by BIC Graphic USA.

Duffy served on the board of directors for Notre Dame clubs in Washington, D.C., St. Louis and Kansas City, and she became

associate director of the association in early 2008. She directed the launch of a new online platform and strategy called myNotreDame, designed to help alumni connect more easily with one another and the University. She also supported the creation of ND Women Connect and led a strategic review of the association's programs and initiatives.

Duffy and her husband live in South Bend with their five children.

Cairo

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"We are grateful for the assistance from the American University in Cairo (AUC) for the secure environment that they provided our students amidst the protests and violence in Cairo, and U.S. State Department for their help in transporting the students to Turkey," said J. Nicholas Entrikin, Notre Dame's vice president for Internationalization in a Monday press release announcing the students' arrival in Istanbul.

Notre Dame's study abroad program through AUC allows students to explore fields of study such as Middle Eastern studies, Egyptology and Islamic art and architecture, according to a University press release. While in Cairo, Notre Dame students also study alongside Egyptian and Arab students.

Due to the outbreak of violent protests in Egypt, this semester's participants in Notre Dame's Cairo program were evacuated before the semester began at AUC.

As the protests spread and grew, the students were instructed to remain in AUC's student residence in Zamalek, a residential district of Cairo. The Egyptian government's efforts to stop protestors caused the students to lose Internet and mobile phone connections on Jan. 27.

The students were able to make one-minute landline phone calls on Jan. 28, according to a website update from Notre Dame's Office of International Studies (OIS).

Following a U.S. State Department recommendation that American citizens leave Egypt, Notre Dame announced in a Sunday press release the students would be evacuated from Cairo.

"We're using every connection we have to try to expedite the process," University spokesman Dennis Brown said Monday as the students awaited a U.S. State Department charter flight out of Cairo.

The University announced the students' arrival in Istanbul Monday night.

"Communications were severely disrupted, but students, parents and OIS staff members were able to create an effective communications network that was invaluable in facilitating the evacuation," Entrikin said in a press release.

Once in Istanbul, Notre Dame asked the students to choose

between returning to

South Bend for the semester or joining the University's study abroad program in London.

Meanwhile, AUC has not reopened for classes and is working to keep students who remain in the Zamalek residence safe. In a Wednesday website update, AUC President Lisa Anderson said the University anticipated beginning the semester on Feb. 13.

"While the New Cairo campus is in fine shape, we have consolidated the students currently in residence in Zamalek, so as to be able to better provide food, entertainment and security," Anderson said in a Thursday update. "A number of the offices in our campus downtown did sustain some damage last Saturday — broken glass, stolen computers, vandalized art work in the Gallery — but there have been no subsequent problems."

Anderson said in a Thursday update. "A number of the offices in our campus downtown did sustain some damage last Saturday — broken glass, stolen computers, vandalized art work in the Gallery — but there have been no subsequent problems."

Contact Laura McCrystal at lmccryst@nd.edu

"Communications were severely disrupted, but students, parents and OIS staff members were able to create an effective communications network that was invaluable in facilitating the evacuation."

J. Nicholas Entrikin
vice president
Internationalization

Blog

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dorm.

I'll soon be exploring the streets of Cairo in search of tonight's dinner. If I get a typical Egyptian meal, it will cost me less than the cup of coffee you're sipping.

The sun has set for the day, but it's still a balmy 60 degrees outside.

A few days ago, I revised the column to go like this:

Right now in Cairo, it's dinner-time. I'm listening to Taylor Swift and writing this blog in my dorm room because I don't have Internet access to distract me.

I've been in the dorm since 4 p.m., which is when the city-wide curfew goes into effect.

Every once in a while, I hear the sound of gunshots from my window.

But now, the column goes like this.

Right now, it's 5 a.m. in Istanbul and I've been up for almost 24 hours straight.

I was woken up this morning to learn that the U.S. State Department was evacuating me and the 11 other Notre Dame students from Egypt. We packed and boarded the bus to the airport almost immediately.

After 10 hours of standing in an excruciatingly slow and long line outside the Cairo airport, we finally boarded a plane to leave the country.

Due to major uprisings against the current Egyptian president and riots all over the country, the 12 Notre Dame stu-

dents studying abroad in Cairo were evacuated, pulled from the program and reassigned to either Notre Dame or London.

I'm sure most of you have read the headlines or watched CNN. In fact, you probably know more about the facts of the Egyptian revolution than me, since I was without Internet for almost a week.

But what I do know is what it felt like being there.

What tear gas feels like.

What life is like without Internet or phone access.

What cars look like after they've been set on fire by protesters.

And you can read about all of it at The Observer's new blog, The International Desk, at www.ndsmcobserver.com

This was originally supposed to be a column convincing you to read the new blog. I even came up with a corny slogan: "The Observer's International Desk — Helping Notre Dame students break out of the bubble without leaving Waddick's since 2011."

But to be honest, I don't have much energy left for convincing.

So I will simply say, if you are interested in reading about the most mind-blowing, whirlwind experience of my life, read my blog at The Observer's International Bureau.


You can find it at www.ndsmcobserver.com

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

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu

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For more information, contact John or Sylvia Dillon at 631-7163 or dillon.14@nd.edu

Intern

continued from page 1

Pilgrimages in England and develop guide material for the pilgrimages, said the internship is providing her with valuable skills for life after Notre Dame.

“I am getting a lot of experience communicating with others to develop a pastorally sensitive and relevant handbook,” she said.

Sappenfield said she believes her work at Emmaus is preparing her for her post-graduate career. She said the nature of the organization is in accord with what she wants in a job.

“I am thinking of going to law school, specifically public interest law,” Sappenfield said. “I hope Emmaus will give me more hands-on service experience to prepare for a career in a field with social justice and community enrichment in mind.”

LaBrecque said one of the reasons he enjoys working with the Fulbright Commission is because the job is fast paced.

“Non-profits can’t afford a large staff, so the interns are given a lot of different proj-

ects and responsibilities,” he said.

LaBrecque said communication presents a challenge when interning in a foreign country.

“So far I’ve been laughed at for my American accent and I have to be conscious of the fact that there are differences of language,” he said. “For example, I was going to send out an email with the word ‘program,’ my boss alerted me to the fact that in the UK its ‘programme.’”

Sappenfield said encountering foreign languages proves to be a challenge with her internship.

“Accents are really hard to get used to,” she said.

“There are companions from Latvia, Poland, Scotland and other places.”

Clemson said working in a professional environment in the city of London has been rewarding.

“In my experience so far, I have been really struck by the professionalism of my internship,” she said. “People seem to treat me like a co-worker rather than someone who is just helping out for four months. I definitely wasn’t expecting that.”

Contact Sam Stryker at sstryke1@nd.edu

Kelsey Clemson junior

“People seem to treat me like a co-worker rather than someone who is just helping out for four months. I definitely wasn’t expecting that.”

EGYPT

Dozens of reporters beaten, arrested in Cairo

Associated Press

CAIRO — Menacing gangs backing President Hosni Mubarak attacked journalists and human rights activists Thursday in an ugly turn in Egypt’s crisis as government opponents pushed supporters out of Cairo’s main square in a second day of street battles. Organizers called for protesters trying to topple the regime to fill every square in the huge capital on Friday.

The new vice president, widely considered the first successor Mubarak has ever designated, fueled anti-foreign sentiment by going on state television and blaming outsiders for fomenting unrest. The government has accused media outlets of being sympathetic to protesters who want the president to quit now rather than serve out his term, as he has vowed to do.

The Obama administration, meanwhile, was in talks with top Egyptian officials about the possibility of Mubarak immediately resigning and the formation of an interim government that could prepare the country for free and fair elections later this year, U.S. officials said Thursday. The talks were first reported by The New York Times.

The creation of a military-backed caretaker government in Egypt is one of several ideas being discussed as anti-Mubarak protests escalate in the streets of Cairo and other Egyptian cities, said the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the sensitive diplomatic talks that are continuing.

Among those options is a proposal for Mubarak to resign immediately and cede power to a transitional government run by Vice President Omar Suleiman.

White House and State Department spokesmen would not discuss details of the discussions U.S. officials are having with the Egyptians.

“The president has said that now is the time to begin a peaceful, orderly and meaningful transition,” said White House national security spokesman Tommy Vietor on Thursday night. “We have discussed with the Egyptians a variety of different ways to move that process forward.”

Mubarak, 82, told ABC television in an interview that he was fed up and wants to resign. But he said he can’t for fear the country would sink into chaos. He said he was very unhappy about the two days of clashes in central Tahrir Square.

“I do not want to see Egyptians fighting each other,” he was quoted as saying.

The violence that had been concentrated in Tahrir spread around the city of 18 million, with a new wave of arson and looting.

Soldiers, mainly protecting government buildings and important institutions, remained passive as they have since replacing police on the streets almost a week ago. Few uniformed police have been seen around the city in that time, and protesters allege some of them have stripped off their uniforms and mixed in with the gangs of marauding thugs.



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INSIDE COLUMN

Snow day magic

I grew up dreaming for snow days. I cannot count the number of nights I slept with a spoon under my pillow and my pajamas inside-out. If my prayers were ever answered by some miracle, I scraped together all the snow in my Atlanta lawn to build a snowman.

Megan Doyle

*Associate
News Editor*

My family moved north, and I only learned more snow meant a bigger snowman. But nothing changed the magic of waking up to a fresh dusting of snow and a listing of school closings.

Now I am in college, and the snow, once miraculous, suddenly became a hassle. Another inch on the ground became another inch to scrape off my car in the freezing cold. Another coating on the ground meant more snow in my boots, more cold wind and more slippery ice on the sidewalk. Another foot on the ground meant more layers to pile, bundle, wrap, zip and fasten before I venture outside.

South Quad no longer becomes a friendly stretch of grass. Instead it is a harsh wind tunnel, an Arctic expanse of wasteland and wind. I wish for a team of Alaskan sled dogs and a parka.

Where did the magic go? I thought I lost it. I used to live for snow days. My sisters and I would wake up to chocolate chip pancakes, hot chocolate and bacon, and we would spend our day sledding on the giant hill behind our house. The rush of adrenaline as the sled rocketed down the hill was life — childhood exploded in that one, beautiful, miraculous moment. Now, the only rushing I do in the middle of the winter is on the sidewalks between classes as I huddle in my jacket and make a beeline for DeBart.

The last snow day at Notre Dame was in 2000. So when I woke up on Wednesday morning to the Notre Dame Alert text informing me that the University closed due to inclement weather, I almost thought I was in a dream. Yet I woke up again — at noon — to the reality of an actual, real-life, college snow day. I almost died of joy.

My afternoon was spent curled on a comfortable couch with my favorite people, watching movies, pretending to do work, waiting for brownies to be ready, eating too many brownies, watching more movies and then remembering I really did have an insane amount of work to finish because real life was still in session.

After the perfect afternoon free from classes, I spent the night staying up too late and doing homework. But on the way back to my dorm in the cold, the dome shone against the dark night. The snow fell softly, silently and sweetly. I suddenly was hit with a sense of reverence and smacked by a sense of peace in the middle of the craziest week. Because here we are in a world that does not stop turning, even for a blizzard, and I had a moment of peace. I had my own miracle: a day to remember miracles. A snow day.

I did not sleep with a spoon under my pillow. I did not wear my pajamas inside-out. I did not build a snowman.

I just turned by face up to the sky and tasted the cold snowflakes as they melted on my tongue. And life was magical.

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

Contact Megan Doyle at mdoyle11@nd.edu

A new tradition

Snow days in college are a surreal experience. With the apocalyptic tones of meteorologists ringing in their ears, Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students started to get a little ridiculous on Tuesday night.

Blizzard conditions? Snow measured in double-digits? The Career Fair has been cancelled? A snow day was imminent, it had to be.

People from warm-weather states started to get a little giddy, as many had never experienced a snow day in their entire academic career. Those experienced in winter weather cancellations fed the anticipation with nostalgia for snow days past.

But our campuses, smack-dab in the middle of lake-effect territory and well-stocked with removal equipment, haven't closed since 2000. The sheer novelty of it was enough for 18-to-22-year-olds to resort to the tried-and-true snow day voodoo:

Wear your pajamas inside-out, flush an ice cube down the toilet, sleep with a spoon under the pillow. They knew to set their alarms for ungodly hours of the morning just to watch the cancellations list on WNDU — or, in fitting college fashion, obsessively refresh their email and the school homepage until the glorious news arrived: "Because of dangerous weather conditions, classes have been cancelled and the campus will be closed today."

For the 80 percent of the student body stuck on either campus, Wednesday was truly an escapade through

Catholic Disneyland. A few overly-brave people ventured out onto the maybe-frozen Saint Mary's lake before being shooed off by Notre Dame Security Police. Some headed out the dorm courtyards and quads to build snow forts out of recycling-bin-shaped blocks. Others spent hours playing rugby and football in the powder before heading inside to watch marathons of television shows on DVD.

Despite a snow emergency issued by South Bend Mayor Stephen Luecke that restricted travel, the valiant staff of

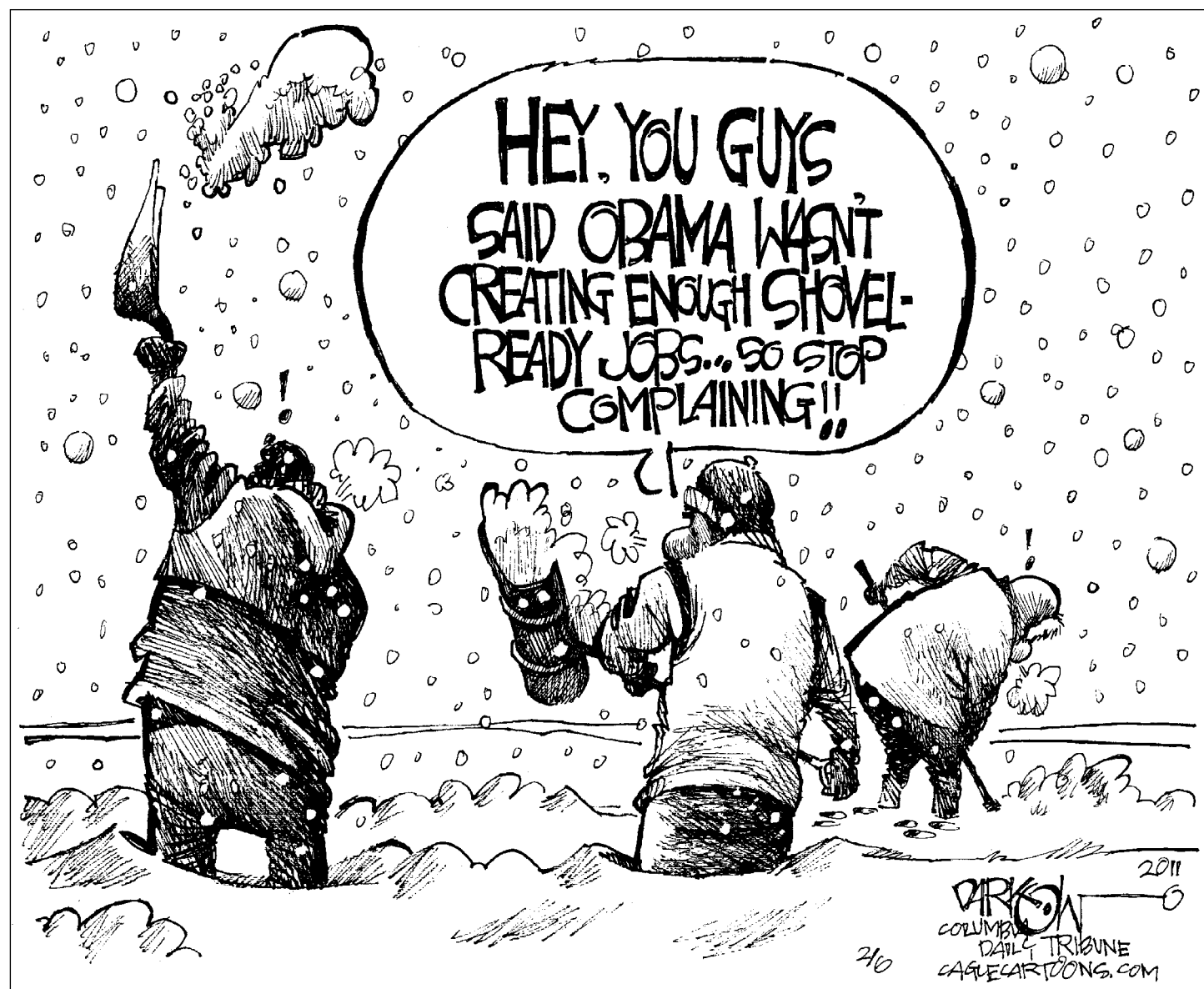
Notre Dame and Saint Mary's food services kept the dining halls open for regular hours. You could even go to LaFortune Student Center and get a hot chocolate after sledding down the steps of Bond Hall on your dining hall tray from breakfast.

For everyone stranded off campus, it was a day to wander between apartment complexes on foot (toasty in Uggs and snow boots), inventing ways to include snow in their tailgate games left over from football season. Students even took South Bend's new snow removal ordinance to heart and braved the cold to shovel their sidewalks.

Wednesday had the best of college — spontaneity, friends, community — without the pesky business of classwork and schedules and predictability. When football gameday has its own website and dorm Mass comes at the same time every week, sometimes the best parts of the tradition-laden "Notre Dame experience" are the unexpected things like snow days.

THE OBSERVER Editorial

EDITORIAL CARTOON



OBSERVER POLL

Observer Poll					
Who do you want to win the Super Bowl?					
	WANT		WILL		
	Votes	Percentage	Votes	Percentage	
Green Bay Packers	104	57%	91	53%	
Pittsburgh Steelers	77	43%	81	47%	

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"If one advances confidently in the direction of his dreams, and endeavors to live the life which he has imagined, he will meet with a success unexpected in common hours."

Henry David Thoreau
U.S. author

Please, no further help necessary!

For fear of sounding cranky like CBS commentator Andy Rooney, I am hesitant to complain about the substandard level of global technological instantaneous communications still wallowing in some quarters of cyberspace. Naturally, like most, I want my e-mail to pop into my box a split second after it was sent from halfway around the world. I remain wild about language command software that allows my PCU to reply back at me like the infamous super computers such as HAL in the movie “2001, A Space Odyssey” or WOPR of “War Games.” I would accept refusals of my requests so long as their methods of communication were either mechanical or monotone. “Would you like to play Global Thermonuclear War?” could be poetry to my ear.

Lately, humans controlling computers frustrate me. These so-called “customer support professionals” hold the entire Internet — not to mention all of my proprietary personal information — at the tip of their keyboards. They should comfort me, solve my problems and electronically pat me on my butt as we hang up the phone. (If I was actually Andy Rooney, at



Gary Caruso
Capitol Comments

this point I would diverge to ask the question, “Do you think anyone other than me still uses the term ‘hang up’ to describe pressing the end button on a cell phone?”) But I am not Andy Rooney — at least not yet — and I am upset that I received no electronic butt-pats after I recently initiated two customer service help calls. The first occurred when my six-month complimentary Sirius Radio and data subscription expired. In an attempt to renew online, I could view both programs listed on my account, but could only renew one of them.

Surfing the Sirius site only confused me since new Ford vehicles like my Fusion Hybrid are the first to utilize new technologies other companies do not. I reviewed my data options: Sirius Travel Link, Traffic or Traffic with Travel Link. Yet I read that Travel Link was exclusive to Fords, plus already included traffic data. I ended up adding a data package I thought was the Ford package that lasted just three days at a billed cost to me of 86 cents.

Soon afterwards I knew I failed to renew my data when I clicked for weather information I previously saw during my complimentary period. Rather than weather, a notice including a call button I could conveniently press to remedy my problem shown brightly on my dashboard. Naturally, I pushed the help button.

Immediately, I knew by the sing-songy

inflections of the customer service rep that I had connected with a female in India. After explaining my quandary and inability to renew the data package, she replied, “Yes, Gary. I’ll be happy, Gary, to set up and review your music account.” I countered that I had successfully renewed my music but had no weather information. She continued, “Gary, we have several music options, Gary. And Gary, let me explain your payment options, Gary.”

“I know my options — I chose Sirius Everything over something I believe I cannot buy anyway for my new Ford,” I loudly shot back. I then pleaded, “I want my weather and traffic back. What the hell does my account indicate that I originally had, but cannot renew on line?”

“Gary, let’s see if you have music on channel 104, Gary.”

“I told you I have my music. Can you help me or not?” I barked back.

“Gary, would you be interested in paying for a full year of music, Gary, and receive two months free?” she matter-of-factly asked.

My head was about to explode. If I heard her sing my name one more time, it would have burst. I hung up on her.

Two days later, I attempted an online check-in for a Lufthansa flight using my Expedia booking confirmation code. According to the web site, the airline had no record of me. I attempted to use another check-in option, namely, my

United Airlines frequent flyer number submitted when I booked the flight. Again, nothing a mere day before what I thought for months was my scheduled flight. I panicked and called Expedia customer service ringing in — you guessed it — India.

A female voice, which I swear was the same voice from my Sirius Radio call, began in her sing-songy way, “Gary, I’d be happy to confirm your itinerary, Gary. Gary, you are on flight...”

Raising my voice, I interrupted, “I know the flights. I cannot check-in using the booking code the airline gave me or my frequent flyer number I used to book the flight.”

“Gary, I’d be happy to add your frequent flyer number to your itinerary, Gary,” she matter-of-factly replied.

Doesn’t anyone in customer services listen? Oh, for want of a stress-free solution, even if just to hear an inanimate monotone voice tell me, “I’m sorry, Gary, I can’t do that!”

Gary Caruso, Notre Dame ’73, serves in the Department of Homeland Security and was a legislative and public affairs director in President Clinton’s administration. His column appears every other Friday. He can be contacted at GaryJCaruso@alumni.nd.edu

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thank you, North Dining Hall staff!

This morning my roommates and I woke up to the great news of class cancellations due to the snowpocalypse that had reached South Bend overnight. After going back to sleep for another hour, we then got to work on deciding what to do with our newly found freetime. First order of business: eat some food. We wanted nothing more than to go to North Dining Hall and enjoy some hot brunch after the long snowy night. Unsure of whether NDH would be open as a result of the storm, we trekked across north quad and made it there without too much trouble because of the efficient snow removal. The even better news was that NDH was open! The card swipers were there, smiling at us as usual, the dessert bar was being restocked as we took our seats and the food was hot and ready. We certainly didn’t expect such a scene! The men and women of North Dining Hall (and the snow removal crew and the LaFortune workers and various support staff) made it to campus safely, all for our direct benefit. We cannot thank you enough for all that you do for us! While we slept in and lounged in our pajamas, all of you were out and about, braving the brutal road conditions and making your way to Notre Dame. It really says a lot about how much we need to appreciate the staff on campus. Don’t take your clear sidewalks, clean dorms, hot lunch and Starbucks for granted. Many people came to work this morning despite the blizzard so take a minute to say thank you and appreciate how good we have it here. Thanks Notre Dame for the snow day and thanks NDH for the best brunch we’ve had all year!

Taylor Sticha, Katie Hennessy, Sydney Speltz, Catherine de la Rosa, Mary Goodman, Anna Bennett, Mara Catlaw
sophomores
Lewis Hall
Feb. 2

Thank you, ‘Snow Essential Personnel’

Thank you for your dedication. While thousands of students, including myself, had the chance to step out of their hectic lifestyles for an entire day, you came to work. Because of you, I was able to admire the snow on beautifully cleared sidewalks, enjoy leisurely meals with friends at North and South dining halls, and even grab a cup of coffee at Starbucks to sip while reading a book. I wish I could have personally thanked every member of the “Snow Essential Personnel” team today. In fact, my sincerest gratitude goes out to every employee who makes living at Notre Dame such an honor and a privilege. As far as I’m concerned, you are the Fighting Irish.

Raquel Falk
sophomore
Badin Hall
Feb. 3

Thank you

I would just like to say thank you to the dining hall workers and support staff who came in to work. We got a day off, but they had to come to campus even through the blizzard conditions. Thank you!

Lauren McCallick
senior
Pasquerilla West Hall
Feb. 2

Looking forward to Valentine’s Day?

Share your feelings.

Write a Letter to the Editor.

OUT OF SYNC & BACKSTREET'S COMEBACK

By **CLAIRE STEPHENS**
Scene Writer

If there are any musical memories of our 90s childhoods left, pop boy bands are undoubtedly one of them. A pop cultural phenomenon, no girl under the age of 25 was lacking a favorite band member (Most guys, on the other hand, debated whether or not groups of all singers should even be called a 'band'). Starting in 1984 with the creation of New Kids on the Block, followed by The Backstreet Boys, shortly after *NSYNC and 98 degrees, as well as Boys II Men, Dream Street, B2k, and more. The cultural craze rivaling Beatle mania swept through the United States, Europe and Asia.

Nearly 20 years later, after many break ups, reunions, attempted solo careers and members leaving, which pop stars made the best of their fame and which have disappeared forever into obscurity? Starring rival favorites, The Backstreet Boys and *NSYNC, it's up to you to decide which band members are doing well or failing miserably.

The Backstreet Boys — After a four year hiatus from 2002-2006, released "Never Gone" before Kevin Richardson, now married with a daughter, left the band. Since then, they have released two more albums in 2007 and 2009. The now four Backstreet Boys will be touring with the five remaining members of New Kids on the Block this summer.

Nick Carter — Carter remained with the band's management company, The Firm, after the band left the company in 2002. In 2002 he was named Cosmogirl's "Sexiest Man in the World" (beating Justin Timberlake). His solo album "Now or

Never" reached No. 17 on the Billboard Top 200. His second solo album was aborted when The Backstreet Boys returned to the studio. He starred in "House of Carters," a reality television show on E!, that lasted one season.

A.J McLean — McLean went to rehabilitation for drug and alcohol addiction in 2001 and again in 2002 after an intervention lead by fellow band member Kevin Richardson. He performed in a solo tour in 2008, and his newest album "Have It All"



is to be released in the United States on February 8. He is engaged, with a wedding date of May 14.

Brian Littrell — Littrell decided to become a contemporary Christian singer, releasing "In Christ Alone" from his "Welcome Home" album in 2006. His second Christian album is set to be released in 2011 after The Backstreet Boys "This Is It" tour.

Howie Dorough — Has worked as a pro-

ducer to singer/songwriters, guest starred in an episode of "Sabrina The Teenage Witch," and voiced starred as Santa Claus in the "Dora the Explorer" Christmas episode.

***NSYNC** — Also went on hiatus in 2002. *NSYNC never released another new album as a band. Their greatest hits album was released in 2005.

Justin Timberlake — Timberlake released his debut album "Justified" in November of 2002. He co-headlined the

nominated film "The Social Network."

JC Chasez — Released his debut solo album "Schizophrenic" in 2004. Chasez was dropped from the 2004 Pro Bowl performance as the NFL was concerned with the lyrics of the first single off the album. In addition to his work as a singer/songwriter and record producer, he appears as a judge on "Randy Jackson Presents: America's Best Dance Crew," whose 6th season has yet to be announced.

Chris Kilpatrick — Participated in CMT's reality show "Gone Country," a competition in which the winner gets a country single produced by John Rich. Kilpatrick did not win.

Joey Fatone — Did voice work with Lance Bass in an episode of "Kim Possible" on the Disney Channel, made a guest appearance on "Hannah Montana," participated in season 4 of ABC's "Dancing with the Stars," has been a voice actor for multiple episodes of "Robot Chicken" on Adult Swim, hosted "The Singing Bee" on NBC and has been on Broadway, performing in lead roles of "Rent" and a revival of "Little Shop of Horrors."

Lance Bass — Formed music management company Free Lance Entertainment in 2000. Bass has voiced characters both on Disney Channel and in the video game "Kingdom Hearts." Bass entered cosmonaut training in Russia in 2002, received certification to fly and was scheduled to star in a documentary. The original documentary deal fell through; he was rejected from the program and replaced. He performed in the Broadway musical "Hairspray" in 2007 and released an autobiography entitled "Out of Sync."

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but WHY boy bands?

By **MARY CLAIRE O'DONNELL**
Scene Writer

I've always considered myself a bit of a boy band enthusiast. I drooled over Justin Timberlake in *NSync. I tacked up posters of Nick Carter and the Backstreet Boys on my walls. I know the origin of the name BBMak. I watched every episode of Diddy's first "Making the Band" and own both of O-Town's CDs.

But as much as I love boy bands, I have always known they were a trend of the 90s. I was content listening to old CDs, feeling waves of nostalgia wash over me as I went back to the glory days of brightly-colored leggings, oversized sweatshirts and scrunchies. And because I have always seen them firmly in the 90s, the recent comebacks and reunions of these bands have taken me by surprise.

The comebacks and reunions themselves have not taken me by surprise; man has been making comebacks for thousands of years. Grover Cleveland, our 22nd and 24th president, overcame a defeat by Benjamin Harrison in his second bid for the presidency only to return and win his

third campaign. In the realm of music, Eminem came back from his three-year musical hiatus in 2009, after many critics thought he retired from music, to release 2010's highly acclaimed "Recovery."

The marginal popularity of these comebacks surprised me. Children around the same age I was when I fell in love with BSB were unmoved by their music, preferring other artists. Instead, 20-somethings contributed the majority of ticket and CD sales. Call me naïve, but I did not understand how kids only 10 years our junior could so easily pass up the pinnacles of pop music from our youth. Could 10 years really make such a difference?

I realized the real question behind my surprise concerns the relevance of boy bands in today's pop music culture. Or, as Derek Zoolander would eloquently put it, "why boy bands?" Can boy bands achieve the same popularity today that they did in the 90s? After much deliberation, I have arrived at the conclusion that boy bands simply do not fit into the current music scene, as much as it pains me to admit this.

I know some may immediately want to disagree with my conclusion, pointing to

successes like BSB's 2005 platinum album, "Never Gone." Or you may possibly point to the success of Justin Timberlake, who exemplified our boy band generation and still does, to some extent. I would agree; these are stories of success. But they do not point to the relevancy of boy bands today.

Rather, the Billboard success of the Backstreet Boys results from nostalgia and a deep desire to return to the innocence of our childhood. To our generation, boy bands represent the carefree years when our biggest problem was being placed in timeout. In these times of uncertainty when we have no idea if there will be jobs for us upon graduation, the younger years appear perfect. There was no worry about the future, only concern for the present. And so we strive to regain that mindset through our music choices.

And Justin Timberlake's phenomenal success perfectly represents the new pop music culture in which boy bands have no place. Solo stars completely dominate today's pop music scene. Taylor Swift. Ke\$ha. Lady Gaga. Taio Cruz. Beyoncé. The Jonas Brothers tried to bring back the boy band genre, but despite early success

they have not succeeded. They tried to catch the attention of an audience unused to pop bands, only pop stars. I do not have the expertise to attempt to explain the causes of this shift away from bands, all I can do is observe its occurrence and try to postulate about it.

My best guess is the highly competitive nature of American society today, but it may be an oversimplification. Who knows, maybe in 10 or 20 years my kids will be enamored by some hot new boy band that has just launched onto the scene. I'm wearing leggings again (though thankfully not scrunchies), which I never thought I would ever do, so I won't rule anything out.

It's a scary thought that Britney Spears may have been right about something. Perhaps her career, solo since The Mickey Mouse Club, was an inspired act of genius, foreseeing the music industry of the future. Or maybe she was just lucky.

The views expressed in this column are those of the authors and not necessarily those of The Observer. Mary Claire O'Donnell can be reached at modonne5@nd.edu

SUPER BOWL
SUNDAYCulture
tantrumBy STEPHANIE DEPREZ
Scene Writer

This weekend is the Super Bowl. You know this. I know this. Everyone in the English speaking areas of North America knows this. And, let's face it, it's getting about as much press coverage as Egypt right now. Because, you know, the impending geographical riots between those who pack and those who steel is far more relevant to our lives than the truly violent riots going on in one of America's most important allies in the Middle East. Not that I'm passing judgment at all, because if the world operated according to my wants and needs, we would spend all national news focusing on the halftime show, not the quarterbacks.

How dare! You sin! For shame! That any Notre Dame student would speak out against the – ahem – Super Bowl of Super ... is

something unforeseen. Let me explain. I knew nothing of football before I arrived at McGlinn in August 2007. My knowledge of the sport consisted of that which I gathered in between spoonfuls of artichoke dip when my father (who never watches football) insisted on watching the Broncos the two times Denver went to the championship, and whatever was picked up driving around a car purchased from John Elway Toyota.

My first Notre Dame game (after my head stopped spinning from all the Irish gear in varying shades of blue, green and gold) was spent learning the finer points of why the lines of men were moving back and forth across the field with no discernable pattern, under the tutelage of a sophomore who had been drinking the Kool-Aid far longer than I. After four years, I do understand most of what happens on the field, though whenever those little yellow strips come flying from the

zebras I moan and yell crass nothings to the air before turning to the closest male and ask under my breath, "What happened? Was that good? Who did it?"

College football, you've won me over and been mastered. But this other stuff, this big stuff, with Hydro domes and billions of dollars and endorsements, I have no idea how it works. The game itself, sure. But the mania surrounding it is lost on me. I have no connection to Green Bay. I can't even tell you what state it is in. ("Wisconsin, you idiot!") And I drove through Pittsburgh ... once. I understand the legions of Midwesterners donning oversized (and overpriced) jerseys to support their team. But I, personally, will be watching for the commercials and the halftime show. Call me a sinner, but at least I'm still watching.

I do commend the efforts that the media lords have put in to making the Super Bowl not Super Boring:

commercials that represent billions of dollars invested in my own amusement, a halftime show featuring those crazy kids who provided the baseline for last year's pop mash up from DJ Earworm, and an overabundance of sappy storylines that will guarantee I cry at least twice during the telecast (especially when the captain of the winning team lifts his son into his arms at the end of the game). So when I turn to the television at 6:30ish on Sunday, after dorm Mass, moved to accommodate the hordes who would have gone without had Mass stayed in the evening, I will calmly suck up the fact that I am not so interested in the football. I will perpetuate the cliché. I will remain ... Irish.

The views expressed in this column are those of the authors and not necessarily those of The Observer. Stephanie DePrez can be contacted at sdeprez@nd.edu.

A sneak peek at Scene Around the World

Watch the videos at ndsmcobserver.com/scene

The advantages to spending a semester in London extend beyond the countless pubs, beautiful buildings and fantastic shopping to be found in all corners of the city. This diverse metropolis of 7.5 million brings together all types of people, including famous actors and excited young college students. This particular college student gladly ran straight from class to the Apple store on Regent Street three hours before actor Colin Firth and director Tom Hooper of "The King's Speech" were set to give an interview about the film to stand in line and hope for a seat. What followed was a remarkable hour in which Firth and Hooper shared stories about the trials and tribulations of making the Oscar-nominated film, as well as the sheer joy they both found in the project. The pair was riveting and proved an excellent way to start the semester with a bang.



Share your own abroad experience!
Go to ndsmcobserver.com/scene
for more information about
how to submit your video.

NFL

Driver gets first shot at Super Bowl

Associated Press

IRVING, Texas — Donald Driver's 36th birthday celebration the other day was a relatively reserved affair, just some cake with his wife and kids. At a certain age, he jokes, it's better not to remind people you're getting older.

Besides, the Green Bay Packers wide receiver hopes he's in for a much bigger celebration come Sunday.

When the Packers face the Pittsburgh Steelers at Cowboys Stadium, it will be Driver's first Super Bowl — the culmination of a 12-year wait.

"I don't think it's really going to hit me until Sunday when I walk out that tunnel, knowing that this is the biggest stage that I'm going to play on in my career," Driver said. "And I have to win it all."

For Driver, winning would be the ultimate payoff for years of hard yards and crunching hits.

Driver has made a living doing the dirty work some wide receivers won't — going over the middle, exposing himself to big hits and holding onto the ball. And now that he's finally made it to the big game, all that punishment will be worth it with a win over the Steelers at Cowboys Stadium on Sunday.

Those bumps and bruises have added up. The Packers put him on the injury report Thursday after he was limited in practice with a quadriceps injury, an injury that kept him out of a game earlier in the season. Coach Mike McCarthy said Driver was fine, and was held out as a precaution.

The hard-hitting Steelers defense expects him to play. They know some receivers can be intimidated and Driver isn't one of them.

"Not Driver, no," Steelers linebacker James Farrior said. "He's been a great receiver for that team throughout the years. He's fearless. He doesn't mind getting hit, and it's not going to be a game where you can intimidate him."

Driver said former teammates such as Robert Brooks and Antonio Freeman taught him the merits of going across the middle.

"That's where you're going to make your bread and butter," Driver said. "Because if people know that you're not afraid to go across the middle, you're going to be able to make plays. They know that

they can hit you as hard as they can, you'll still stand up and smile and shake it off. And that's what I've done over my career."

Despite all the punishment, Driver wants to play out a contract that spans two more seasons.

"I want to walk away before I have to crawl away," Driver said.

Driver has taken a back seat to Greg Jennings as the team's No. 1 receiver in recent years, but says he doesn't mind a lower profile as long as it helps the Packers win.

"You've just got to accept your role and enjoy it," Driver said. "I think if I would have been one of those guys that went out every day and complained, I'm not getting this, I'm not getting that, we wouldn't be where we're at today. I think you have to be humble and understand the situation."

The Packers' younger receivers credit Driver for helping them learn the position, and they know how much it means for him to play in the Super Bowl.

"You could see that with Driver after the NFC championship when we beat Chicago," Jordy Nelson said. "He was a little emotional. I don't know if anyone else caught it, but he was sitting back and taking it all in and probably thinking about all the years and all the work that he put into this to finally get this opportunity."

Going into the game, Driver is telling his teammates not to let it slip away.

"It is hard getting here and that is what we stress to these guys all season long," Driver said. "When you get to this point in your career, you just want to win it all. This separates you from all other great guys that play this game, by winning that championship."

And if he scores Sunday, you'd better believe he'll do a "Lambeau Leap" into the stands — although he and his teammates will have to scout around for the right spot beforehand.

"You've got to do a Lambeau Leap!" Driver said. "You've just got to make sure you find the right fans."



Green Bay Packers' Donald Driver practices on Thursday. Green Bay will face the Pittsburgh Steelers in Super Bowl XLV Sunday in Dallas.

NBA

Four Celtics named as All-Star reserves

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Blake Griffin is going to his first All-Star game, and Kevin Garnett matched an NBA record Thursday with his 14th straight selection as one of a record-tying four Boston Celtics headed for the mid-season event.

Rajon Rondo, Paul Pierce and Ray Allen will accompany Garnett, who equaled Jerry West, Shaquille O'Neal and Karl Malone for the most consecutive selections. The Celtics joined the 2006 Detroit Pistons as the only teams to have four players picked as reserves by the coaches.

Griffin, the Rookie of the Year favorite of the Clippers, will become the first rookie All-Star since Yao Ming in 2003. Joining Griffin on the Western Conference team for the Feb. 20 game at Staples Center were Tim Duncan and Manu Ginobili of the NBA-leading Spurs; forwards Dirk Nowitzki of Dallas and Pau Gasol of the Lakers; and guards Deron Williams of Utah and Russell Westbrook of Oklahoma City, who joins Griffin as the lone first-time selections.

Chris Bosh will go to Los Angeles with Miami teammates LeBron James and Dwyane Wade, who were elected as starters. The other East reserves picked were Atlanta's Joe Johnson and Al Horford.

The reserves were selected in voting by the head coaches in each conference, who had to vote for two forwards, two guards, a center and two players regardless of position.

They went for the winning teams in the East, whose reserves are represented by just three teams.

The voting was much more difficult in the West, where coaches bypassed the likes of Kevin Love, LaMarcus Aldridge, Zach Randolph and Lamar Odom at the forward spot.

"There hasn't been too many times where you've had this kind of competition at the top of the Eastern Conference with such good teams," Wade said. "So looking at the All-Star team, you understand that most guys are going to be from a few teams. That's how it should

be in the Eastern Conference. The Western Conference is a different argument."

Tony Parker missed out despite being the second-leading scorer on the Spurs, who entered play Thursday with a 40-8 record. Veteran Steve Nash of the Suns and the Warriors' Monta Ellis, the league's sixth-leading scorer, also fell short.

"I think every year it's hard for point guards to make it, because there are so many great point guards in this league, especially in the West," Williams said. "There are always young guys that are coming into the league and it's going to continue to be a fight every year. That's another reason I feel so honored."

The starters were chosen by fan voting and announced last week. Orlando's Dwight Howard, Chicago's Derrick Rose and Knicks forward Amare Stoudemire are the other East starters, while the Lakers' Kobe Bryant, Hornets guard Chris Paul, forwards Carmelo Anthony of Denver and Kevin Durant of Oklahoma City, and Houston center Yao were the winners from the West.

Yao is injured and Commissioner David Stern will choose a replacement. That gives another chance to Love, who is averaging 21.4 points and a league-best 15.5 rebounds, and shooting 43.9 percent from 3-point range. He has 34 straight double-doubles, but was undoubtedly hurt by his Minnesota Timberwolves' 11-37 record.

But the coaches couldn't overlook Griffin, even though the Clippers are also below .500. The No. 1 pick in the 2009 draft has been spectacular after sitting out last season following knee surgery, averaging 23 points and 12.7 rebounds while compiling a half season of highlights with his array of dunks.

The East will be coached by the Celtics' Doc Rivers, who said earlier Thursday that he hoped his four players would be rewarded and said he would play them all together.

"That way we can run offense in the All-Star game," Rivers said. "That'd be a first."

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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George: The sea was angry that day my friends, like an old man trying to return soup at a deli! I got about fifty-feet out and then suddenly the great beast appeared before me. I tell ya he was ten stories high if he was a foot. As if sensing my presence he gave out a big

bellow. I said, "Easy big fella!" And then as I watched him struggling I realized something was obstructing his breathing. From where I was standing I could see directly into the eye of the great fish! Then from out of nowhere a huge title wave lifted, tossed like a cork and I found myself on top of him face to face with the blow-hole. I could barely see from all of the waves crashing down on top of me but I knew something was there so I reached my hand and pulled out the obstruction!

Kramer: What is that a Titleist? A hole in one eh.

MOVIE QUOTE GAME

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"We are noodle folk. Broth runs through our veins. "

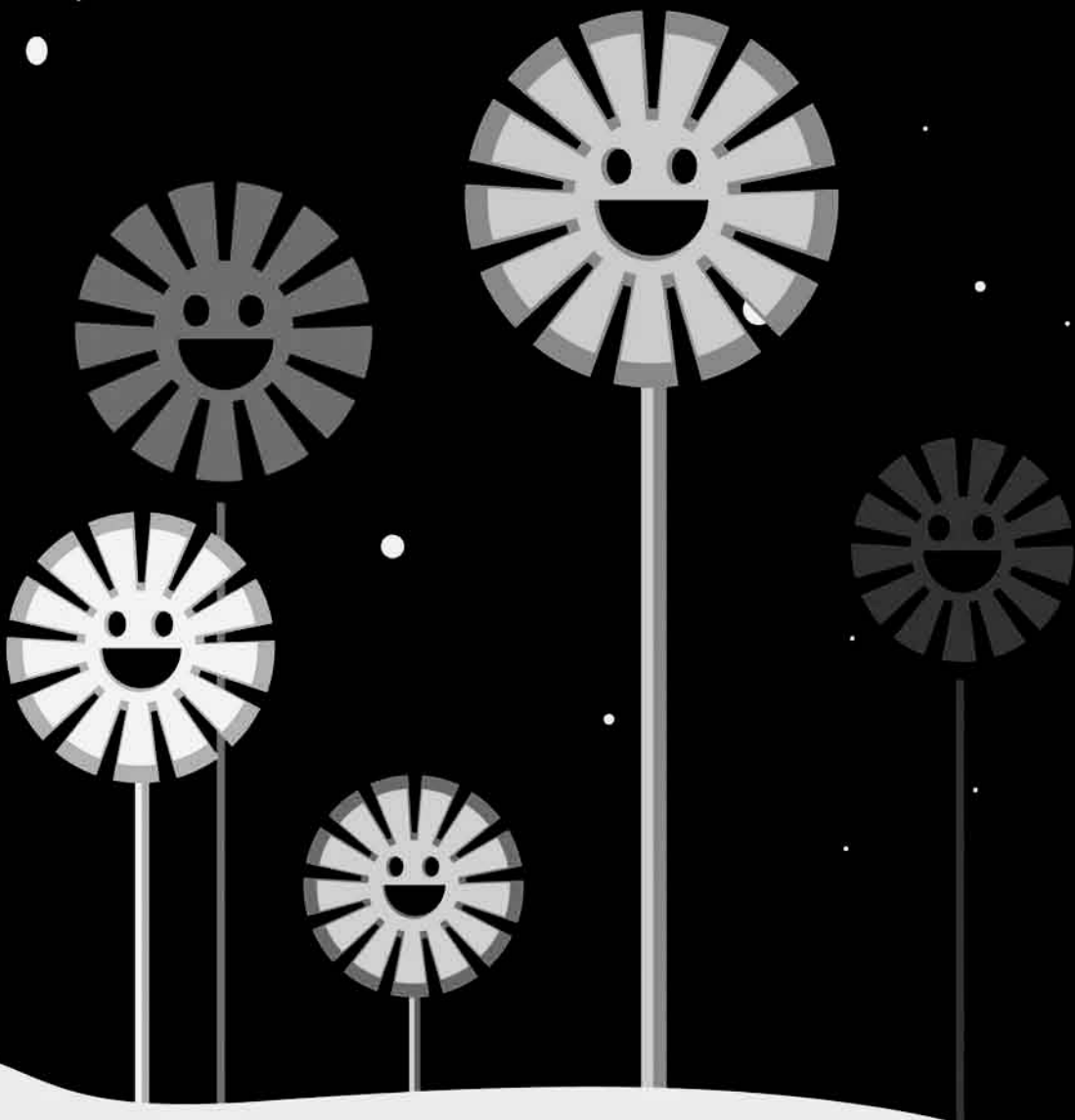
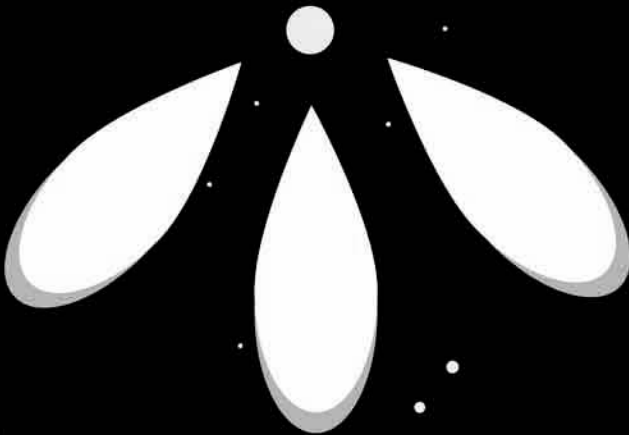
"What? You pooped in the refrigerator? And you ate the whole... wheel of cheese? How'd you do that? Heck, I'm not even mad; that's amazing. How 'bout we get you in your p.j.'s and we hit the hay."

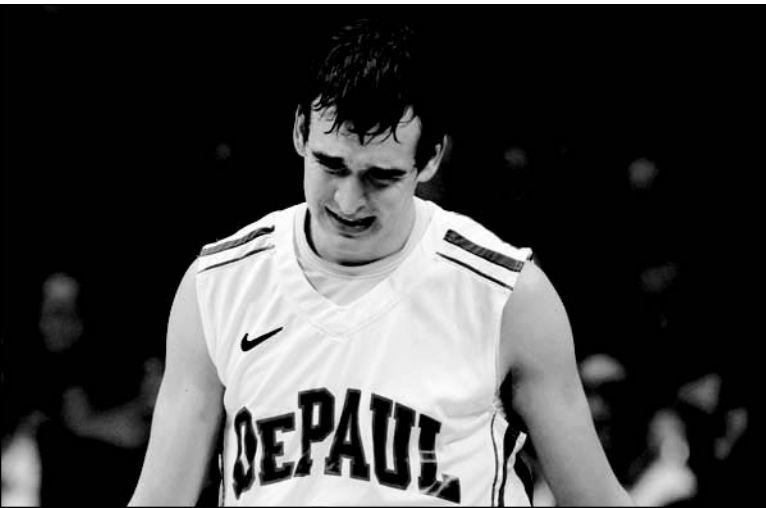
You're 5 foot nothin', 100 and nothin', and you have barely a speck of athletic ability. And you hung in there with the best college football players in the land for 2 years. And you're gonna walk outta here with a degree from the University of Notre Dame. In this life, you don't have to prove nothin to nobody but yourself.

LIVE AT LEGENDS SATURDAY FEB. 5 10PM

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Alpha Rev





DePaul junior guard Michael Bizoukas reacts to missing a shot during Notre Dame's 83-58 victory Thursday.

Irish

continued from page 16

24 points, including 5-for-8 on 3-point attempts, in their first game since beating then-second-ranked Pittsburgh on the road nine days ago.

"I thought the layoff helped us," Brey said. "We got energized. Our energy was great this week in practice, and our energy was good tonight again."

The Blue Demons (6-16, 0-9) remained within striking distance through most of the first half, only down two points with eight minutes remaining, but fell behind 37-24 entering the half thanks to an 18-4 run from the Irish. Coming out of the break, Notre Dame's sharpshooters quickly put the contest out of reach, as Hansbrough hit two 3-pointers and fourth-year forward Tim Abromaitis added one more before the first media timeout.

"One of the things we wanted to do was come out and set the tone," Hansbrough said. "And leave it all on the court. I think we did that."

Senior guard Scott Martin followed Hansbrough as Notre

Dame's second-leading scorer with 15, while senior forward Tyrone Nash added 8 rebounds. Nash also hit the first 3-pointer of his four-year career as the shot clock expired late in the first half, part of Notre Dame's deciding run, on his way to 10 points. Nash's only previous attempt came nearly exactly three years ago in a 95-69 Irish victory at Seton Hall on Feb. 6, 2008.

Abromaitis added 13 points for the Irish, who as a team shot 50.9 percent from the field.

DePaul remains winless in conference play this season, but the lopsided win provides the same value to Notre Dame's record as the nail-biter win over Pittsburgh did.

"It's another Big East win," Hansbrough said. "I told the guys before we played, 'This is another Big East win.' They all count the same so we need to treat them the same."

Notre Dame's two-game road trip, with its nine-day layover included, ends as the Irish will host Rutgers Sunday at noon and No. 15 Louisville Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Contact Douglas Farmer at dfarmer1@nd.edu



Senior Daniel Stahl fires a serve in a match against William and Mary on Jan. 22, 2010.

Doubles

continued from page 16

with four consecutive victories to beat Notre Dame, 4-1.

"We did not execute or play well against Illinois," Sachire said. "It's important that we step up and play like we can."

The Blue Devils are yet another ranked opponent that the Irish will face in the early part of the spring season.

"We need to play well and compete well," Sachire said. "Duke is very well-coached and has a lot of talent. We will be in the match if we play and execute like we are capable of. Duke is certainly one of the more talented teams on our

schedule."

The Blue Devils qualified for the Indoor Championships with a tournament win last weekend. The championships will be held in two weeks.

The doubleheader Sunday will be the first of a string of matches the Irish will compete in over the course of the next couple weeks. On Tuesday, Notre Dame will play at Big Ten competitor Wisconsin before playing Michigan State and Marquette in East Lansing, Mich., next weekend.

The Irish will face Duke at 12 p.m. and Toledo at 6 p.m. Sunday at the Eck Tennis Center.

Contact Andrew Owens at aowens2@nd.edu

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Please recycle The Observer.

Smith

continued from page 16

had a sensational year. She's a first-team Big East type of player. She's quick, she can shoot the three, get to the basket. She's as good as any of the guards in the Big East. She's going to create some problems for our defense."

In addition to Smith's scoring ability from the perimeter and her quickness through the lane, No. 8 Notre Dame (19-4, 8-1 Big East) will have the additional task of containing post presence Porche Grant. Listed as a true center, Grant is the second-leading

rebounder in the Big East with a 9.6 rebounds per game average.

The Irish have faced a number of talented posts thus far in the conference season, and McGraw has once again tabbed senior forward Becca Bruszewski to lead the defensive effort against the Bulls (10-12, 1-7).

"[Grant] is a great rebounder," McGraw said. "She's got size, and she's just so athletic. We've played some other good posts that Becca Bruszewski has done a really good job on, so she's going to get the challenge of guarding her again."

While their conference records are nearly mirror opposites, the two squads

implement a similar style offense. Both teams like to run the floor, score in transition and put pressure on the defense to come up with key stops.

"They're an up-tempo team," McGraw said. "They like to run, they'll press. They create a lot of different things defensively. They'll play some zone. They'll really try to mix things

up, really trying to break your rhythm. It should be a matchup of two up-tempo teams."

While Notre Dame has benefited from a competitive lull by racking up six straight wins in the conference, the schedule heats up following Saturday's contest against the Bulls and a home matchup against a Seton Hall team that remains winless in the conference. Notre Dame will host

"This team, especially with the leadership of Becca, has really come out every game and been ready, no matter who we're playing."

Muffet McGraw
Irish Head Coach

Rutgers (12-9, 5-3) next Saturday before traveling to No. 2 Connecticut (21-1, 9-0).

McGraw said her players take each game with the same approach — preparation and determination.

"This team, especially with the leadership of Becca, has really come out every game and been ready, no matter who we're playing," McGraw said. "That's just great leadership. They don't look past anyone. They look forward to the challenge of playing everybody."

The Irish face the Bulls at 7 p.m. Saturday in Tampa.

Contact Chris Masoud at cmasoud@nd.edu



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SMC BASKETBALL

Flying Dutch triumph over Belles

By MATT DeFRANKS
Sports Writer

The blizzard that postponed all MIAA games on Wednesday night cast a chill over South Bend — and over Saint Mary's shooting. The Belles (14-7, 7-5 MIAA) fell 79-59 to No. 3/4 Hope on Thursday night at Angela Athletic Facility.

The Flying Dutch (19-1, 10-1)

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held Saint Mary's to 18-of-60 (30 percent) shooting from the field and 1-of-9 shooting from the 3-point line.

Hope senior center Carrie Snickers led all scorers with 22 points, including 17 in the first half, and chipped in 10 rebounds. Snickers scored nine of the Dutch's first 13 points, staking them to an early 13-4 lead.

"She's a real nice player. She kept them going, she kept them in it in the first half," Belles coach Jenn Henley said. "When you have a post player like that with a soft touch inside and can hit it from the outside, that's a hard person to defend."

Following a layup by Hope senior forward Rachael Kutney that pushed the lead to 14, the Belles responded by cutting the lead to eight before halftime. Just two minutes into the second half, two free throws by junior guard Patsy Mahoney trimmed the Dutch advantage to 4.

The Belles' 18-8 run, which spanned 7:30 over both halves, got them back in the game. But that was the closest they would get. Hope used timely transition points to pull away from Saint Mary's.

"We tried to slow them down a little bit, tried to limit their possessions," Henley said. "Every time we kept knocking on that door and closing that gap, we gave up some

easy transition points and seemed to kill us down the stretch."

Junior forward Kelley Murphy led the Belles with 16 points and 14 rebounds while co-MIAA Player of the Week junior guard Maggie Ronan was held to eight points on just 2-for-5 shooting. Despite the loss, Henley was still proud of her team.

"They battled, they do not quit and they were here ready to compete tonight," Henley said. "I give our kids all the credit in the world. I'll go to battle with them any day."

The Belles hit the hardwood next against Trine (7-13, 5-7) on Saturday. Saint Mary's beat the Thunder 74-53 earlier this year behind Ronan's then-career-high 23 points.

"Saturday's a big day for us," Henley said. "It's Senior Day and we'll be honoring our two seniors Grace [Sadowski] and Liz [Wade]."

Henley said that the prep time for Saturday's game will be very beneficial.

"We're going to work a lot on our defense to try to slow them down a little bit," Henley said. "We'll also look to take advantage of our height advantage against Trine."

Tip-off is set for 3 p.m. at Angela Athletic Facility.

Contact Matt DeFranks at mdefrank@nd.edu

THE DEPARTMENT OF AMERICAN STUDIES PRESENTS

HOW DO BAD SONGS BECOME BELOVED?

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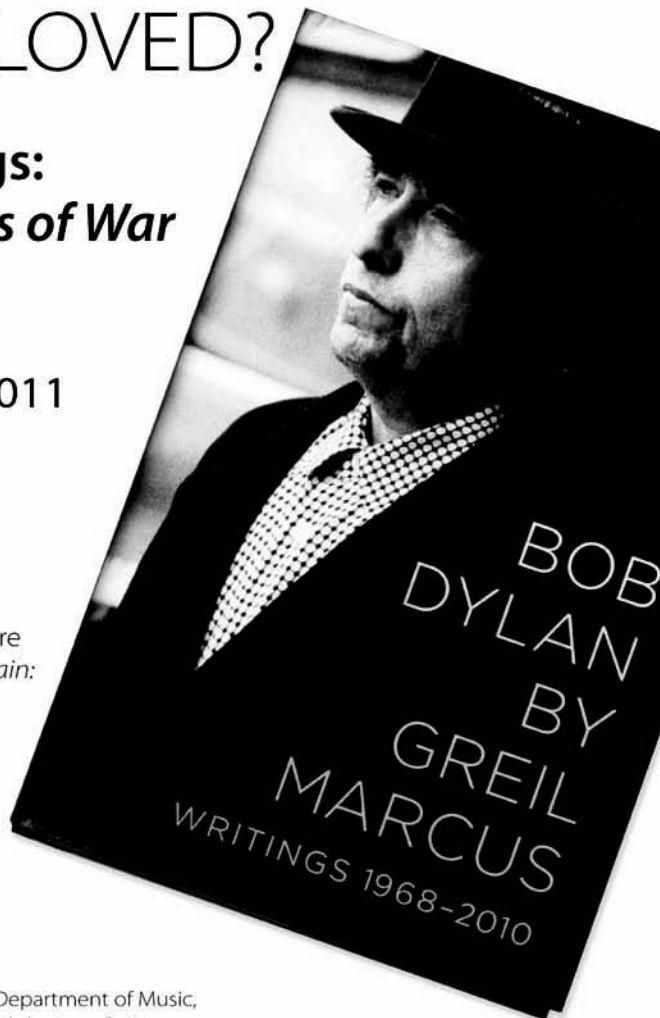
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More Information

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PAT COVENEY/The Observer

Freshman Jennifer Kellner swings in the Eck Classic on Oct. 3, 2010. The Irish take on North Carolina and Wake Forest this weekend.

Road

continued from page 16

ers from a year ago so it was good to see how we played under pressure."

The challenge of playing on the road this weekend is more tangible than most.

"This week [the challenge] is getting out of town because of the snow," Louderback said.

On the other hand, playing on the road brings a unique element to the team dynamic.

"It is good for us to go on the road because we need to spend some time together and have to compete

in front of our opponents' crowds," Louderback said.

North Carolina is 3-0 on the season with wins over Elon, DePaul and No. 15 Georgia. Wake Forest is 2-1 with wins over Winthrop and East Tennessee State and a loss to Virginia. Neither team has faced an opponent of Notre Dame's caliber so this weekend's matchups create interesting stories on both sides of the net.

The Irish square off with North Carolina at 12 p.m. Saturday in Chapel Hill and then take on Wake Forest at 11 a.m. Sunday in Winston-Salem.

Contact Matt Robison at mrobison@nd.edu

FENCING

Irish seek to maintain top rankings at Northwestern



SARAH O'CONNOR/The Observer

Junior Courtney Hurley strikes an opponent in the Notre Dame Duals on Saturday. Both the men's and women's teams won 8-0.

By CONOR KELLY
Sports Writer

As the top-ranked team in the country, it goes without saying that expectations for the Irish are sky-high. Coach Janusz Bednarski wouldn't have it any other way. Both the men's and women's fencing teams head into the Northwestern duals this weekend as the best in the land, and both are determined to keep it that way.

"For the men, it will be about solidifying our spot as the best in the country," Bednarski said. "For the women, it will be to continue our unbeaten streak."

Both teams have been dominant in the early part of the season and will look to continue their winning ways as they travel to

Northwestern on Saturday. The meet will feature, among others, Northwestern, Princeton, Stanford, Temple, North Carolina, Air Force and Temple. It will be a tough contest for an Irish men's team coping with the loss of star junior Gerek Meinhardt, who will not compete for the remainder of the year due to injury. Meinhardt, who competes in the foil, was an NCAA champion and a U.S. Olympian in 2008. Bednarski, however, is far from worried.

"We certainly have other fencers who can step up," he said. "It will be good to see some younger fencers get an opportunity."

The women should also be favored to win, building on a prodigious win streak that has lasted the whole year.

Eager to compete for the national championship they missed last year, the women should fare well against some stiff competition. Stanford and Princeton both float near the top of the polls on both the men's and women's sides and should be the Irish's main competition come Saturday.

"They are two very strong teams," Bednarski said.

With conference championships in just about a month, the Irish are looking to use this weekend as a springboard to a potential championship season. The next few days should help show whether or not that dream can become a reality. The Northwestern duals will take place Saturday and Sunday in Evanston, Ill.

Contact Conor Kelly at ckelly17@nd.edu

MLB

Pettitte retires from Yankees

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Andy Pettitte is going ahead with his decision to retire, leaving the New York Yankees with two huge holes in what appears to be a rather wobbly starting rotation.

The team scheduled a Friday morning news conference at Yankee Stadium for Pettitte to announce the choice he had been leaning toward making since the end of last season.

"I don't think enough people know that he's still the leader of this pitching staff until today," former Yankees right fielder Paul O'Neill said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press.

A five-time World Series champion, Pettitte became the third-winningest pitcher in team history.

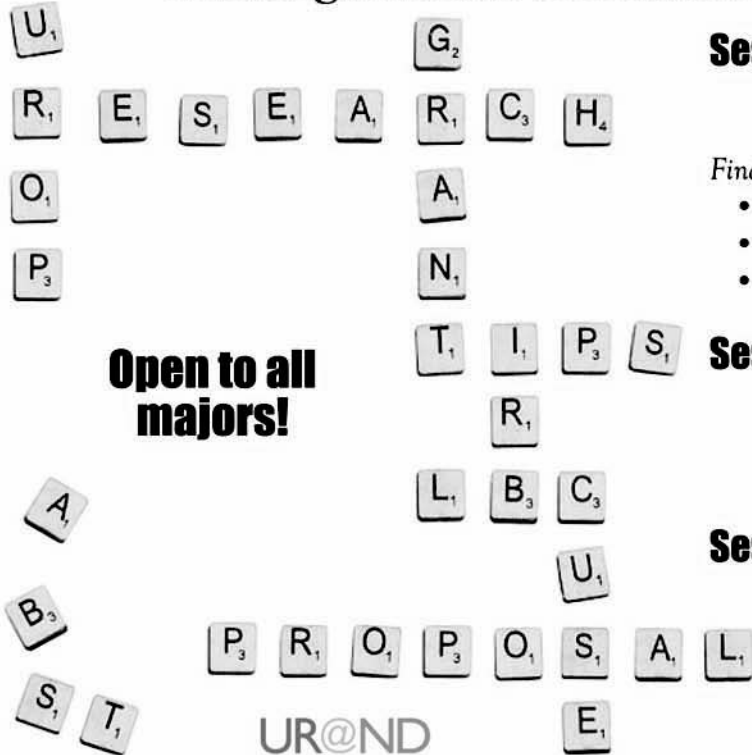
"Andy was probably the consummate team player," former Yankees manager Joe Torre said. "He's been a huge favorite of mine because he's such a standup guy, and he hasn't changed from day one. He's a great teammate, and I think that's why he won so many games. The guys that play behind him understand how intense he is, and it becomes contagious."

Pettitte won't disappear from public view entirely. He is expected to be a witness this summer at the trial of former teammate Roger Clemens, indicted on charges he lied to a congressional committee when he denied using performance-enhancing drugs.

Pettitte admitted using human growth hormone and said Clemens told him he had used HGH. Clemens testified Pettitte didn't remember the conversation correctly.

Clemens said Thursday he hasn't been able to speak with Pettitte lately because of the ongoing case. But he insisted he held no hard feelings toward Pettitte and congratulated him on his career.

What makes a grant proposal average, good, or great? Undergraduate Research Grant-Writing Workshop



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Wed, Feb 16, 3-4 pm, Andrews Auditorium

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- Across**

1 One likely to die on the road?

7 What something may go down to

14 Foster girl

15 Poster girl

16 Debunked?

17 Response to great news

18 Big tin exporter: Abbr.

19 Beat badly

21 Battle joiner's choice

22 Kind of replication

23 Sticks up for, maybe?

25 Serbian city where Constantine the Great was born

26 Org. with towers

27 Luzón, e.g.

28 Thingamajig
- 31 Film in which Eddie Murphy voices the dragon Mushu

33 Lit

35 Be revolting

40 Homes within nations

41 San Francisco's Museo ____ Americano

42 Red giants in the night sky

45 Procure

47 Big hit

48 Cross character

49 Not dormant

51 As

52 Ice legend's family

54 Head start?

56 It's often hung illegally

57 "The Humpbuds of the World" author, 1865
- 60 Be coerced

62 Relationship in the 2009 film "I Love You, Man"

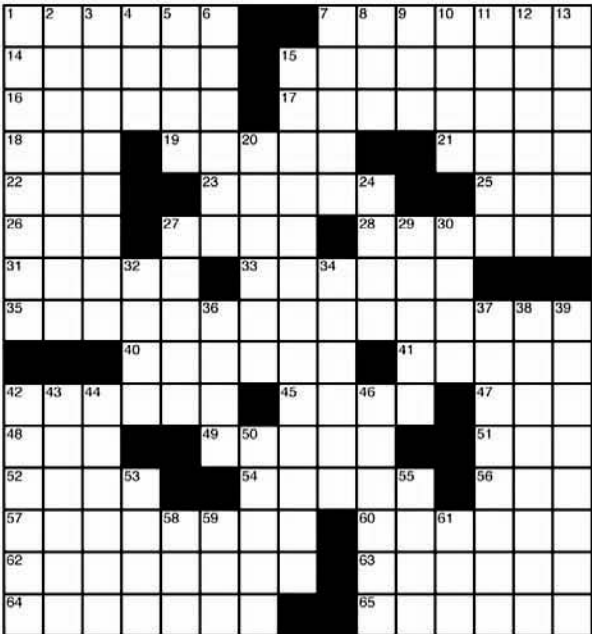
63 1974 hit with Spanish lyrics

64 "Got it"

65 The Allman Brothers Band, e.g.

Down

- 1 Creator of TV's "Alias"
- 2 Blimp navigator
- 3 Boxer who wrote "Reach!"
- 4 Switch sides?
- 5 Some county fair contest entries
- 6 Folks getting into dirt
- 7 Bait
- 8 Bucks, e.g.
- 9 Rock's Brian
- 10 Freaks (out)
- 11 Not going anywhere
- 12 Carrier of drum cases, maybe
- 13 First in line, say
- 15 Over and over
- 20 Like M&M's
- 24 Sacrifice fly?
- 27 Cartoonist, at times
- 29 64-Across, to a cat
- 30 Debugger?
- 32 Court proceedings
- 34 Freak



Puzzle by Caleb Madison

- 36 Self, in a Latin phrase

37 Many users follow its directions

38 "Gentile" one of song

39 Problem for one who's trapped

42 Visit
- 43 "The Transcendence of the Ego" writer

44 Some muscle cars

46 ____ National Park

50 It may stick to your ribs
- 53 Language related to Finnish

55 Dummy on a greyhound track

58 Coll. peer leaders

59 Uptown's dir. in N.Y.C.

61 Really try

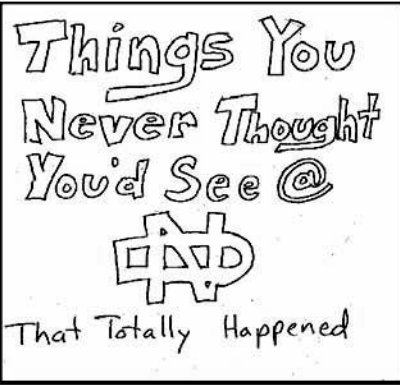
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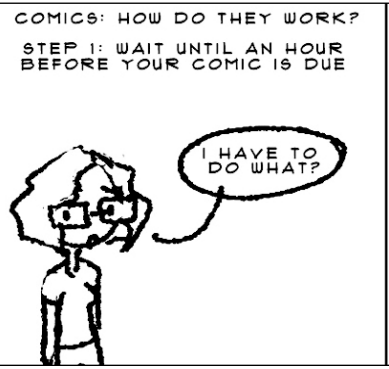
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HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Isla Fisher, 35; Nathan Lane, 55; Morgan Fairchild, 61; Blythe Danner, 68

Happy Birthday: You need to act fast and to set yourself up for what's to come, so you are on solid ground when nothing around you appears to be. Be prepared and ready to counter-act as well as take advantage of what comes your way. This can be an interesting year if you are organized and know what you want. Your numbers are 7, 16, 20, 29, 35, 41, 44

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't give anyone room to criticize you. Your contributions will catch people's attention and override any negativity being hurled your way. Expect a personal situation to get blown out of proportion. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Emotional blackmail is apparent and can cause you to miss out on a really good opportunity. Prepare to pay a face to face visit to whomever you need to see to make things happen. Take a focused approach; don't allow your own uncertainty to stand in your way. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): The time is right to take action. No matter what challenge you face, you will have the determination and willpower to drive you to the finish line. You will gain respect and feel good about what you have accomplished if you stick to your criteria. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Unexpected options will appear out of nowhere, leaving you with a tough decision over which you must not waffle. Knowing what you want will be half the battle. Sometimes you have to let go of one thing to grab hold of another. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Your aggressive, no-nonsense way of going about what you want will pay off. An opportunity you were waiting for will appear at precisely the right moment. The chance to make a difference to your world professionally, personally or financially is apparent. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Stop fussing so much about the things you cannot change. Focus on what you can do to make your life less hectic and stressful. If that means making a move or backing away from someone who causes you grief, do so. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Let the past go and look toward the future. Interacting with as many people as possible will lead to both personal and professional gains. You can mix business with pleasure and come out on top. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Problems at home or within your personal life will only get worse if you don't deal with each issue you face. Don't be fooled by someone's evasive way of explaining things. Ask direct questions and do not budge until you get a satisfactory answer. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your past experience with others will help you move forward now. Don't just think about making changes at home, take action. When something isn't working, fix it. ★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You'll have too many options and too little time. Don't feel you have to do everything yourself. A rival or past partner can make your life miserable if given the chance. Proceed with caution. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Realize how powerful you are and offer your services, skills or know-how. It's what you do for others that will help you gain respect. Differentiate yourself from anyone else and you can attract the more eccentric and interesting people. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Nothing will be out in the open or easy to see. Strive for fairness and equality if you want personal or professional unions to last. Problems with legalities or settlements can be dealt with if everyone is ready to compromise. ★★

Birthday Baby: You always follow the road less traveled. You strive for perfection and care about the underdog. You are a Good Samaritan.

JUMBLE

JEFF KNUREK
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

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

HASUQ

RUILD

CRAHNB

UNDOAR

Ans: " " ON THE

Yesterday's Jumbles: SMOKY DERBY FAULTY BYGONE
Answer: Occasionally a family does this to make ends meet — ENDS MEAT

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek



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

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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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Demons downed

No. 8 Notre Dame vaults into Big East second place

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Editor

ROSEMONT, Ill. — No. 9 Notre Dame moved into second place in the Big East with a 83-58 victory over DePaul Thursday night at Allstate Arena.

The Irish (18-4, 7-3 Big East) have only won two games on the road all season, their last two, and this trend-changer has raised Notre Dame above the five other teams in the conference with six wins, at least for the time being.

"I'm proud of our group. We talked about our goal of winning two-in-a-row on the road," Irish coach Mike Brey said after the game. "This group has done a lot this year, but hasn't done that yet. I think our leadership did a great job."

Senior guard Ben Hansbrough led the Irish with

see IRISH/page 12



Senior guard Ben Hansbrough drives to the hoop in the first half of Notre Dame's 83-58 victory over DePaul Thursday night. Hansbrough scored 28 points and hit five 3-point shots. AP

MEN'S TENNIS

Irish look to recover from loss

By ANDREW OWENS
Sports Writer

Despite the cold currently experienced in the South Bend winter, the season is heating up for the Irish, as they will play a doubleheader Sunday, as they host No. 14 Duke and Toledo.

"Duke is very good," associate head coach Ryan Sachire said. "They're a top 15 team this year and they were a top 15 team last year when they went to the Sweet Sixteen. They are loaded from top to bottom."

Part of the challenge for the Irish will be getting the bad taste out of their mouth from a weekend loss to No. 16 Illinois.

Freshman Greg Andrews and junior Casey Watt won a doubles match to give the Irish an early 1-0 advantage. The Illini, however, finished the match

see DOUBLES/page 12

ND TRACK & FIELD

Meyo Invitational marks last chance for Big East qualification

By JACK HEFFERON
Sports Writer

The Irish will return home this weekend for the 24th annual Meyo Invitational, their last chance to qualify and prepare for the Big East championships.

"As far as non-championship meets go, this is one of the best in the country," junior thrower Andy Hills said.

Last year's version of the Invitational was an exceptionally fast meet, with track records bro-

ken, nation-leading times set and great performances across the board. The meet also served as a last-chance qualifier for several Notre Dame athletes, on whose strength the men's team was able to win the Big East indoor championship, while the women turned in a strong showing to finish sixth.

With last year in mind, the Irish understand the importance of a strong showing at the Invitational this weekend. One Irish athlete who will be looking for a strong performance is soph-

omore Jeremy Rae, who is hoping to follow up a win at the Indiana Relays and Big East athlete of the week honors with another great performance. Rae will run in the extremely competitive Meyo Mile, which featured a winning time under four minutes last year.

Another hotly contested race will be the Ryan Shay 3,000-meter run. The race honors Shay, a 2001 graduate who excelled for the Irish, earning All-American honors an incredible nine times. Junior Joe Miller finished 11th in

the event last year, and will look to build upon that finish this time around. On the women's side of the meet, sophomore Nevada Sorenson will look to claim the 60-meter hurdles after finishing second last year.

The Irish will face stiff competition throughout the weekend, as several elite collegiate teams from around the country will be in attendance. Illinois, Michigan, Western Michigan, Marquette, Vanderbilt and Indiana are among the many collegiate teams entered in the meet. The

Hoosiers will pose a particularly stiff challenge for Notre Dame, as both their men's and women's teams are ranked in the Top 20 in the latest NCAA rankings.

"Usually it's a higher level of competition, and there's always a lot of good teams that come in," Hills said.

The meet will begin Friday at 5 p.m. in the Loftus Sports Center, and will continue 10 a.m. Saturday.

Contact Jack Hefferon at jheffero@nd.edu

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

McGraw prepared for Bulls

By CHRIS MASOUD
Sports Writer

While South Bend remains enveloped in snow, the Irish head to warmer climates to take on a South Florida team seeking its second conference win of the season.

Despite their struggles in the win-loss column, the Bulls feature a number of premiere players that Irish coach Muffet McGraw believes could cause potential mismatches on the floor.

South Florida guard Andrea Smith ranks third in conference scoring, averaging 17 points per game.

"[The Bulls] have played really well," McGraw said.

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Senior guard Brittany Mallory and junior guard Fraderica Miller defend an opponent in the 71-48 win against Syracuse Tuesday. SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Notre Dame ready to bounce back in N.C.

By MATT ROBISON
Sports Writer

The No. 4 Irish experienced something Sunday that they are not quite used to: a loss. This weekend, Notre Dame (2-1) looks to bounce back from a surprise defeat to No. 23 Arkansas as they face No. 6 North Carolina and Wake Forest in the Tar Heel State.

"North Carolina was a final four team last year and will be tough on the road," Irish coach Jay Louderback said. "They are well-coached and always compete really well."

The Demon Deacons, although not ranked as high as Notre Dame and the Tar Heels, will still pose a challenge to the visiting

Irish.

"Wake Forest has a new coach with a few new players so we don't know a whole lot about them," Louderback said. "They are usually a tough team to play indoors at their place."

More than anything, Louderback said, the loss to Arkansas Sunday was an awakening for a team that had not encountered any adversity in the early going, allowing them to see those areas that need improvement.

"I think we learned some things about our team and what we need to work on," Louderback said. "We have some new doubles teams and some new singles play-

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