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Students, professors reflect on Egypt

Evacuated students begin class three weeks late

By LAURA McCRYSTAL
News Editor

One year ago, junior Chris Luboja began preparing to spend the spring 2011 semester studying abroad in Cairo.

This week, he moved into Stanford Hall, enrolled in classes on campus and met with professors and advisors to make sure he could catch up after beginning classes three weeks late.

Luboj is one of 12 Notre Dame students who were evacuated from Cairo on Jan. 31 due to ongoing

protests in Egypt. The students arrived in Cairo Jan. 20, planning to spend a semester at the American University in Cairo (AUC). After their evacuation, they chose between returning to Notre Dame's campus in South Bend and entering Notre Dame's London Program.

"It is disappointing," Luboja said. "Obviously you get to see a bit of history, which is really amazing, but at the same time all of us were ready to be there for four months and experience

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AP
Egyptian anti-government protestors stand in Cairo's Tahrir Square Wednesday.

Kroc panel analyzes situation in Middle East

By EMILY SCHRANK
News Writer

The protests in Egypt mark a moment in history that will have far-reaching effects for the entire Middle East, three experts said in a Wednesday panel discussion.

The Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies presented the panel, "Democratic Revolution in the Middle East? The Rise of Civil Resistance in Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon and Beyond," in response to the unrest currently sweeping the region. The panel featured Emad Shahin, associate professor

of Religion, Conflict and Peacebuilding, Asher Kaufman, associate professor of history and Peace Studies and David Cortright, director of Policy Studies.

Shahin said the movements in Tunisia and Egypt are grassroots in nature.

"Young people began to use social media to mobilize the population," Shahin said. "There was an unprecedented show of public interest and everything was non-violent, peaceful."

Economic issues and human values also caused the protests in Egypt, Shahin

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Candidates debate platforms

By MEGAN DOYLE
Associate News Editor

Candidates for 2011-2012 student body president and vice president debated their platforms and presented ideas for improving life at Notre Dame at a Wednesday night debate in LaFortune Student Center.

Five tickets will be on Monday's ballot. The candidates answered questions from Michael Thomas, vice president of elections for Judicial Council, on their plans to improve student life and student government.

Candidates Catherine Soler and Emily LeStrange touted their knowledge of student government as their biggest asset.

"Our experience is really a great advantage because there has never been the opportunity to have this continuity of leadership," Soler said. "That takes a long time to develop. A huge part of when we started here was figuring out how to navigate through the administration and through student government so after this year we would save an incredible amount of time in transition."

Soler currently serves as student body president, and LeStrange is chair of the off-campus concerns council.

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SARAH MERVOSH/The Observer
Evacuees wait in line to depart Cairo last week. Twelve Notre Dame students were evacuated from Cairo to Istanbul.

Students brave cold for Center for the Homeless

By NICOLE TOCZAUER
News Writer

Facing one of the coldest days of the year in only sandals, shorts and T-shirts, men of Siegfried Hall walked to class, stood in front of buildings and collected donations for South Bend's Center for the Homeless.

Sophomore Andrew Ritter, Siegfried Hall president and coordinator for the Day of Man, said this annual event has allowed the men of Siegfried Hall to stand in solidarity with the homeless since 2007.

"By standing with the homeless for a day, even though it's not nearly what they go

through the entire year, it creates waves on campus," he said. "When you see a guy walking around in minimal clothing on a day with a negative one [degree] for a low, you notice. We're showing our support for the South Bend community."

This year 200 of Siegfried's 248 residents participated, Ritter said, demonstrating strength and humility.

"It's the toughness of being able to say you can stand in that weather, but for the right reasons," he said. "We stand outside of DeBartolo Hall and North and South Dining Hall with cups that people drop money into."

Freshman Michael Harvey said that, despite the cold, he

finds encouragement from other Notre Dame students.

"I've learned how cold negative 15 [degree] wind chill is and that I've noticed a 5 degree increase in temperature since the morning," he said. "Your fingers and toes go numb as you walk from Siegfried to DeBartolo, but people are supportive which makes it a lot better."

Lisa Knox, a representative from the Center for the Homeless, said the organization and its guests appreciate the time these men dedicate to raising money.

"We think these guys are stellar. The fact that they've done this unique fundraising

see SIEGFRIED/page 4



SARAH O'CONNOR/The Observer
Sophomores Jesus Perez, left, and Davis Hayes made snow angels when a donation of \$10 was made to the Center for the Homeless.

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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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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.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT WAS THE BEST COMMERCIAL DURING THE SUPER BOWL?



Emily Wurz

junior
Welsh Family

“I didn’t watch the Super Bowl. I watched the Puppy Bowl instead.”



Christie Ahn

sophomore
Lewis

“The Darth Vader Volkswagen one”



Meredith Thomas

junior
Breen Phillips

“The Doritos one with the pug”



Emily Palid

junior
Lewis

“The Darth Vader commercial, it was adorable.”

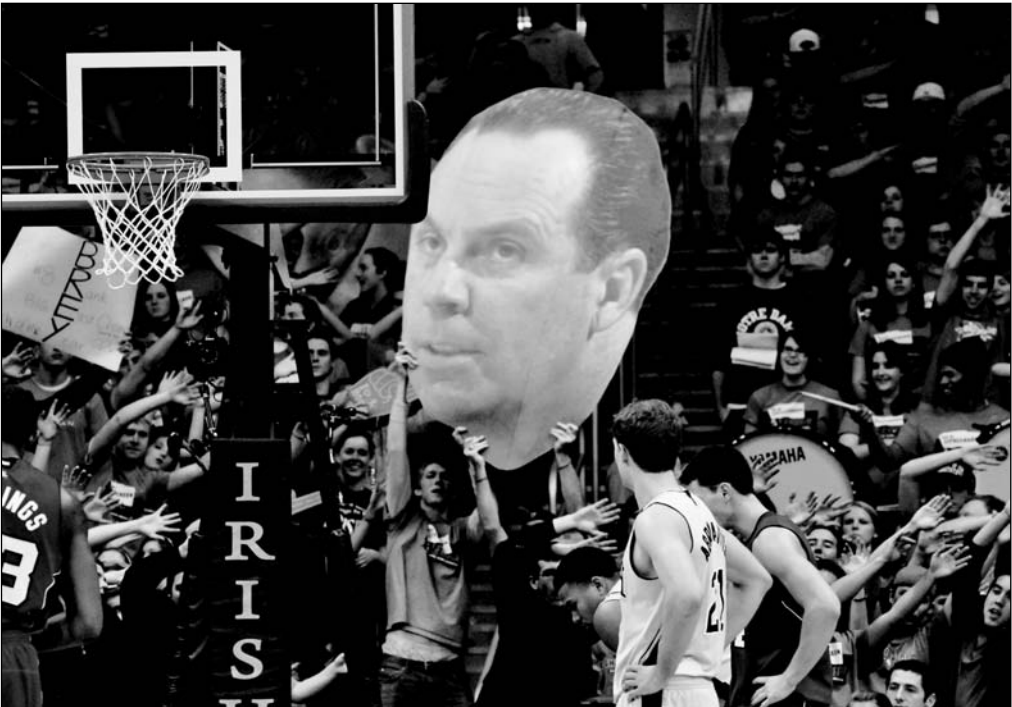


Erin Jenkins

freshman
Lewis

“The Chevy Silverado commercial where the kid is stuck in a well and stuff.”

Have an idea for Question of the Day? E-mail obsphoto@gmail.com



Julie Herder/The Observer

Students make sure Irish coach Mike Brey’s presence is known while Terrence Jennings of Louisville shoots a freethrow during last night’s men’s basketball game. The Irish won in overtime.

OFFBEAT

Former mayor’s name too funny for new gov. center

FORT WAYNE — Modern-day city leaders say they probably won’t name a new government center for a former mayor because of the jokes his name could inspire.

Harry Baals is the run-away favorite in online voting to name the new building in Fort Wayne.

The issue is pronunciation. The former mayor pronounced his last name “balls.” His descendants have since changed it to “bales.”

An online site taking suggestions for names showed more than 1,000 votes Tuesday for the Harry Baals Government Center. That’s more than three times the

votes received by the closest contender.

Jim Baals, 51, who has lived in the city his entire life, said it’s unfortunate that his great-uncle’s name won’t be considered for the building.

“Harry served four terms and was a wonderful mayor. I don’t know what the problem is,” he said. “I understand people are going to poke fun at it. That’s OK. I’ve lived with that name for 51 years now and I’ve gotten through it. I think everybody else can, too.”

Maine biologists nab owl taking heads off chickens

BETHEL, Maine — A Maine barred owl was caught inside a barn where it

had been decapitating one chicken a day and flying off with the heads.

The Sun Journal newspaper reports that the owl killed five or six chickens. The owl was captured Sunday and has been taken to a wildlife rehabilitation center.

Wildlife biologist Judy Camuso says owls are having a tough time finding food this winter and the owl was trying to survive. She says it was near death.

Camuso says chickens are too big for owls to carry off and owls are notorious for eating heads, though usually the heads of rodents.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

A free strength training orientation will be given from 3:15 to 4:15 p.m. today in the RSRC Classroom of the Rolfs Center. The orientation will provide instruction on the safe and effective use of both the strength and cardiovascular equipment. Register via RecRegister (fitness and instructional/special programs).

The women’s tennis team will face Michigan today at the Eck Tennis Pavilion. Matches begin at 4 p.m. and admission is free.

Michael Huber will discuss “Modeling and Predicting Rare Events in Baseball” as part of the math for everyone series. The discussion will take place in 117 Hayes-Healy from 5 to 6:30 p.m. tonight, and pizza and refreshments will follow.

Tonight from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. the film “Inside Job” will be shown in the Browning Cinema of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. The film chronicles the 2008 financial crisis. Admission ranges from \$3 to \$6.

The Stepan Center will house the Keenan Revue, which takes place from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. tonight. Tickets are required for admission.

The Student Union Board is sponsoring screenings of the film “The Notebook” tonight, Friday and Saturday. Tonight’s showing will begin at 10 p.m. and end at midnight in 101 DeBartolo Hall.

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	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 13 LOW 10	HIGH 9 LOW 8	HIGH 26 LOW 23	HIGH 29 LOW 28	HIGH 35 LOW 29	HIGH 34 LOW 27

STUDENT SENATE

Soler reviews trustee meeting

By MELISSA FLANAGAN
News Writer

Student body president Catherine Soler updated the Student Senate on student government's recent communications with Notre Dame's Board of Trustees at Wednesday's meeting.

Student government typically presents to the Board three times each year, but a meeting that had been scheduled for last week was cancelled due to snowstorms.

Student body vice president Andrew Bell said many of the trustees were unable to travel to South Bend for the meeting.

In place of the larger presentation, Soler and Bell met with one trustee. The information from that meeting will be sent to the rest of the board. Bell said the meeting would

not be rescheduled.

Soler said one of the main points discussed at the meeting was communication between the University and the students.

They spoke specifically about e-mails the student body receives from University President Fr. John Jenkins, Soler said. These e-mails included those about the death of junior Declan Sullivan and the events surrounding the death of Saint Mary's student Elizabeth "Lizzy" Seeberg.

"That's an essential part of being a part of the University, and making sure students are a part of that," Soler said.

Bell and Soler also talked to the trustee about the continued efforts of student government to collaborate with the South Bend Police Department. Soler said she

hopes that relationship will continue in the future.

Soler and Bell also said they talked to the trustee about changes with off-campus representatives in student government.

"We've made changes to the Off-Campus Council and we hope that will continue to make things better in the future," Soler said.

She said there is a need for centralizing the services that are available to off-campus students.

"When incidents arise off campus, the University doesn't have one place to find resources right now," Soler said.

Student government's next presentation to the Board of Trustees will be in April.

Contact Melissa Flanagan at
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Panel

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said.

Only 200 individuals controlled 90 percent of the national wealth in Egypt, according to Shahin.

"An alliance between state bureaucracy and business cronies created corruption, producing lots of losers and very few winners," he said.

Kaufman discussed the political landscape of Lebanon and its relationship to the rest of the Middle East.

"What we're seeing now in Lebanon is part of the larger picture," he said. "The ability of Lebanon to really have an effect on the Middle East is miniscule and the events in Egypt will certainly have more dramatic effects."

Kaufman said the events in Egypt might change the sense of political stagnation that pervades the Middle East.

"We're witnessing an historical moment of cataclysmic powers," he said. "We'll have to wait and see where it takes us."

Cortright discussed the non-violent nature of the

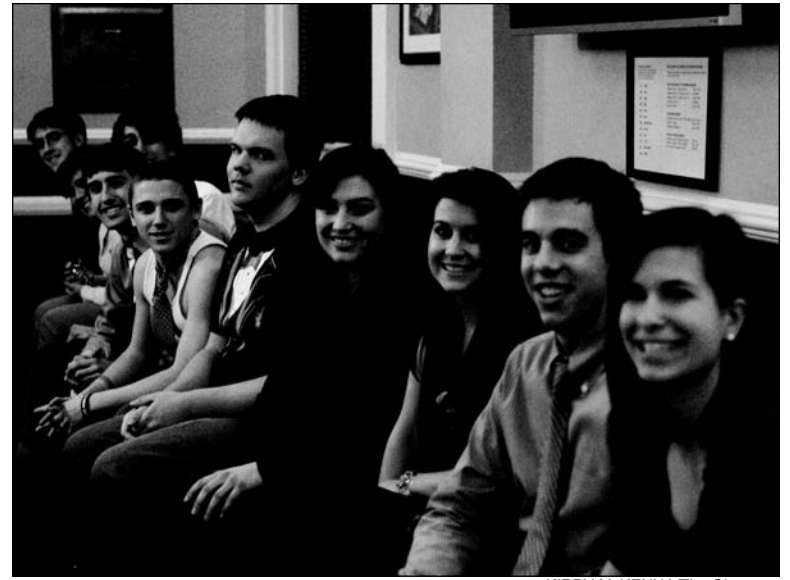
protests in Egypt.

"This is perhaps the most dramatic expression of people power in history," he said. "Never before have people in a region mobilized in such numbers."

Cortright said the protesters' non-violent approach sends a positive message.

"We can see that the means of non-violent resistance are an effective tool for social change and are creating an entirely new politics in Egypt and throughout the region," he said.

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KIRBY MCKENNA/The Observer

The 10 candidates for student body president and vice president sit in LaFortune Student Center before Wednesday's debate.

Debate

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"Looking to the next administration, we are really focusing on doing things in the academic world. For example, we have a really great plan to improve tutoring resources," LeStrange said.

While presidential candidate Pat McCormick and running mate Brett Rocheleau both currently serve in student government, they proposed a reinvention of student government as a platform for larger social justice issues.

"Are we going to have the student government we have always had, or can we build this bigger? Can we re-imagine what student government is about? We have outlined a series of proposals in our platform that we think will do this," McCormick said. "We think we can make Notre Dame the moral conscience of higher education in the United States."

Junior class president James Ward and freshman class president Heather Eaton presented their platform as modeled solely and specifically on student ideas.

"We heard a lot of people complain that student government just works for themselves as an institution," Eaton said. "Which is why we are running on platforms that are all student ideas. The things we are running for are things that we know you want to hear."

Presidential candidate Ricky Bevington and vice presidential candidate Olivia Colangelo said they want to bring more unity to campus.

"The primary way we would like to improve campus life is by providing more opportunities for the student body to come together as one student body," Bevington said.

Their ideas included a student body prayer service, a student-to-student advice network and student pep rallies for more sports.

The candidates outlined their plans to improve day-to-day student life.

Eaton said she and Ward would revamp the current system for online course registration, increase the number of points for Grab n' Go and install more power outlets in the Hesburgh Library and LaFortune Student Center.

McCormick said he would create new ways for students to contact student government with ideas. He and Rocheleau also promised to make the Center for Undergraduate Scholarly Engagement (CUSE) more accessible to students and open a pub for students and professors to meet casually.

"We think we have the most advanced student services platform of any ticket here," McCormick said.

Soler and LeStrange said they plan to begin "Whine

Wednesdays" to receive consistent student feedback.

They also said their administration would work to install lights on McGlinn Fields, build a heated bus stop at Library Circle and engage more with Hall Presidents' Council. LeStrange said her ticket wants to improve kitchen and exercise facilities in many older dorms.

Bevington and Colangelo discussed a plan to review the differences between residence halls.

"We have a really unique residence life structure here, and we don't want to change that," Colangelo said. "But there are obviously ways we could make it better."

McCormick said he and Rocheleau would expand student government to make its governing body more effective. They would create a committee to work on small issues, such as printing quotas and dining hall suggestions, brought forward by students.

Their points at the debate also included popular campaign promises, such as restoring the price of hot dogs in the Huddle to 25 cents. McCormick outlined plans for a large charity concert in the Joyce Center or Notre Dame stadium.

Ward said he would like to analyze the financial aid system and establish a tiered tuition system similar to those used at Harvard and Yale.

The Eaton-Ward ticket also offered ideas about drinking culture and disciplinary records, such as removing first-year offenses from students' permanent records.

"We want to address some of the drinking culture here on campus, in particular the ban on drinking games and the affect it has to student life," Ward said.

Candidates Kevin Noonan and Matthew Thomas formed the perennial Zahm Hall ticket and received loud support from fellow Zahmbies in the audience.

Noonan and Thomas proposed "hangover hours" in the dining halls on Saturday and Sunday afternoons with a "firm no-speaking-above-a-whisper policy, dim lights, free Advil and no offensive food."

The ticket also campaigned to remove Mod Quad from Notre Dame and install a weather-control dome over campus.

Voting will be held Monday. Students will receive an e-mail from the Judicial Council directing them to the voting website, which will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

A ticket must win 50 percent of the student body vote to win the election, and the large number of tickets will likely send the election to a runoff, Thomas said. Another debate would be held between the remaining candidates before the runoff election.

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STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Group allocates funds to athletic department

SGA to give \$1,000 for equipment repairs and replacements in Angela Athletic Facility

By MEGAN LONEY
News Writer

Saint Mary's Student Government Association (SGA) voted Wednesday to set aside \$1,000 of its capital budget to repair or replace fitness equipment for student use.

Athletics Commissioner Christine Brown approached the board the first meeting of the semester with a request from the Athletics Department asking for a full or partial reimbursement of funds that were used to replace two backboards. SGA discussed the request at its last meeting and decided it needed more information from the Athletics Department.

Saint Mary's Athletic Director Julie Schroeder-Biek was present at the beginning of Wednesday's meeting to discuss the reimbursement request and answer questions. Schroeder-Biek said the Athletic Department requested the reimbursement because the money it spent on the backboards cut into its funds for the Angela Athletic facility, which students use.

The Athletic Department replaced the backboards to fulfill new NCAA equipment regulations. According to a new NCAA mandate, "starting with the 2010-2011 season, a red light placed behind each backboard or LED lights placed around the backboard shall be required."

The Athletic Department was informed of the change in regulations two years ago and anticipated the cost; however, problems arose when the LED lights did not fit the backboards.

"The backboards were so outdated that the LED lights did not fit," Schroeder-Biek said. "The additional costs to replace the backboards were unexpected."

Schroeder-Biek said the money spent on the new backboards was pulled from the portion of the fundraising money student athletes earn from football parking in the fall semester. She said the Athletic Department has a set budget and no funds to request new

equipment, which led to using general funds for the Angela Athletic facility.

"As you know, the backboards are used not only by the basketball team, but also by intramural basketball," Schroeder-Biek said. "There are over 1,000 people a week using the fitness center."

"We put in this reimbursement request because the cost of the new backboards [\$3,380] cut into the funds for updating the facility," Schroeder-Biek said. "That's where the [reimbursement] money would go — back into the fitness center."

Schroeder-Biek thanked the board for extending the opportunity to clarify the issue and left. The board discussed the issue with a pro and con list.

Those who supported giving funds to the Athletics Department focused on the point that the money would be going to support the athletic facility and eventually it would benefit the entire student body.

"It may open a can of worms, but there are 1,100 girls that go to the gym every week," senior Julie Laemmle said. "Not only will students use it, but prospective students touring the campus would be more attracted to equipment more recent than the 1970s."

SGA also debated the effect that granting this request to the Athletics Department, which is outside of SGA's usual jurisdiction, would have in setting a precedent for future requests.

"If we give money to one department, we open ourselves to other departments, including academic departments that we don't fund," Student Diversity Board President Morgan Gay said. "It would be setting the wrong precedent; SGA traditionally gives money to student clubs and organizations."

After an extended discussion and a motion with several amendments, it was decided that SGA will set aside \$1,000 of the remaining \$3,218.96 available of the capital budget for repairs and equipment replacement to the Angela Athletic facility.

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Siegfried

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is really humbling," Knox said. "Their impact is great and the money they raise for the shelter is critical, but most importantly, they raise awareness of our organization and its volunteer opportunities."

Siegfried residents also continue to collect money after the Day of Man. E-mails sent to friends and family bring in contributions, Ritter said, and the dorm ends collections around the end of February.

"If people just want to make a check to the Center for the Homeless and send it to our rector [Fr.] John Conley, then

we'd be more than happy to take donations any time during February," he said. "But donations to the Center for the Homeless are always more than welcome."

Knox said the Center also welcomes students to volunteer and become involved in the organization.

"Peter Lombardo, our director of community involvement, coordinates outreach on campus. If you want to volunteer, contact him or you can visit us online at cfh.net," she said. "I would encourage anyone to help us or to check their local organizations and see what they can do."

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Saint Mary's hosts blood drive

By SUSAN HEAD
News Writer

Saint Mary's students, faculty and staff donated blood at an American Red Cross blood drive on Saint Mary's campus Wednesday.

According to the Red Cross, recent snowstorms led to the cancellation of blood drives and 1,000 units of blood have gone uncollected.

"The blood supply is at critically low levels due to this issue, so we encourage everyone who is able to give blood to do so this Wednesday," said Jennifer Kornexl, blood drive coordinator for Saint Mary's

College.

The drive was held in the Earley Conference Rooms of the Student Center Basement.

Kathy Strycker, Goshen team supervisor for the Red Cross, said the drive was a success.

"We've been very impressed," Strycker said. "We've had 23 people donate this first hour. We hope this sets the tone for the day. We had a goal of 74 units, and we've been fortunate enough to have 95 people sign up."

"I'm surprised by how many people signed up and by how many are returning donors," senior Christine Gallic added.

Despite a previous experience of fainting while donating blood, sophomore Julia Fletcher donated blood for her second time Wednesday.

"It's a really good cause, and I want to help out any way I can," Fletcher said.

Kornexl said donating blood is important because one donation can save up to three lives.

Senior Kelly Zenere said donating blood is a way to give back to the community.

"I feel like I'm giving back with my body," Zenere said. "To me, it's the biggest way to give back."

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Students

continued from page 1

that area and travel around that region."

As one of five students who returned to South Bend, Luboja said he based his decision on his personal comfort level.

"I had spent the last year kind of mentally preparing myself for Cairo, so I don't think I was really in the mindset to jump on board with London," he said.

Luboja said he was able to enroll in courses that will allow him to continue working toward his majors in finance and Arabic.

"The University pretty much left all the doors open for us," he said. "They were really accommodating because they want to make sure we graduate on time and get the classes we need."

Junior Alex Huth, who was in Cairo with Luboja, decided to enter Notre Dame's London Program.

"I wanted to go to London because I had already decided I wanted to study abroad," he said.

Mike Huth, Alex's father, said he encouraged Alex to go to London.

"I think all of them were really unhappy with the way things turned out and really disappointed," Mike said. "We were kind of encouraging them to go to London, ... stay the course on this over-

seas semester."

Alex arrived in London with six other Notre Dame students last week. He said the process of being evacuated from Egypt to Turkey, deciding whether to go to London or return to South Bend and scheduling courses for the semester was more stressful than the days he spent in Cairo without access to Internet or mobile phone connections. The University was helpful, Alex said, but the process was "a nightmare."

While Alex has not determined whether he will continue his major in Arabic in addition to his finance major, he said Notre Dame's London Program is working to arrange an Arabic course for the students who left Cairo.

"In my opinion, Notre Dame did a really good job being accommodating to us," he said.

Alex said he and the six other students who were originally in Cairo live in a dormitory building in Chelsea, an area of the city that is a 45 minute walk from Notre Dame's campus in Trafalgar Square. The other Notre Dame undergraduates studying in London live more than an hour walking distance from Chelsea.

Junior Henry Hodes also chose to go to London after leaving Cairo. Despite the disappointment of leaving Cairo, he said he is happy to still have a study abroad

experience.

"I've not regretted it since we got here," Hodes said. "Again, it's not Cairo, it's not what we originally intended," he said. "We're having to be a little flexible when it comes to where we're living, for example."

Mike Huth said while it was scary to be out of touch with his son while he was in Cairo, he was impressed by Notre Dame's communication with parents.

"There was about a two-day period where we really didn't have much contact at all with [Alex] and ... we were glued to CNN pretty much from the time we got up from the time we went to bed," Mike said. "[Notre Dame] did a great job of staying in touch by e-mail and the American University in Cairo also did a great job."

Luboja said he and the other 11 students continue to follow media coverage of the events in Egypt.

"Now it's a little personal having been there," he said.

He also had the opportunity to meet Egyptian students and has kept in touch with them since he left Cairo.

"Every time I talk to them they say, 'You have to come back' because I think they kind of feel bad that they weren't able to see everything," Luboja said. "I definitely plan on going back once everything stabilizes."

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Congressman resigns after sending photos

Associated Press

CLARENCE, N.Y. — A married New York congressman accused of sending a shirtless photo of himself to a woman abruptly resigned Wednesday, saying he regretted actions that had hurt his family and others.

The gossip website Gawker reported Wednesday that Rep. Christopher Lee, a two-term Republican with a young son, had e-mailed the photo to a woman he met on the Craigslist classified-ads website.

Lee said in an e-mailed statement that his resignation was effective immediately. The statement offered no confirmation or details of a Craigslist posting.

"I regret the harm that my actions have caused my family, my staff and my constituents," Lee said in a statement posted on his congressional website. "I deeply and sincerely apologize to them all. I have made profound mistakes and I promise

to work as hard as I can to seek their forgiveness."

Lee said the challenges faced in western New York, where he serves the 26th Congressional District, and across the country are "too serious for me to allow this distraction to continue, so I am announcing that I have resigned my seat in Congress effective immediately."

Lee's resignation comes almost a year after Democrat Eric Massa resigned his seat in western New York's 29th Congressional District amid an investigation into whether he sexually harassed male staffers. Massa gave contradictory explanations for his behavior, acknowledging he groped and tickled a staffer in a nonsexual way and wrestled with others at his 50th birthday party but then denying any groping occurred.

In Lee's case, a woman described as a 34-year-old Maryland resident and government employee provided Gawker with e-mails she said



Rep. Chris Lee, fourth from right, resigned abruptly Wednesday after being accused of sending a shirtless photo of himself to a woman.

were an exchange between her and Lee in response to an ad she placed last month in the "Women Seeking Men" section of Craigslist.

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lobbyist and sent a photo of himself posing shirtless in front of a mirror. It said the woman eventually broke off the contact with Lee after becoming suspicious that he had misrepresented himself.

Officials say border sales not priority

Associated Press

The White House says tracking the bulk sale of high-powered rifles from border states gunshops which legally sell thousands of assault weapons that end up in Mexico each year is not an emergency, and has rejected a request from the U.S. agency that monitors weapons sales to do so without public review.

Instead the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives' proposed requirement that firearms dealers near the Mexican border to report multiple purchases of high-powered rifles will undergo a standard, three-month review period, opening it to public comment.

The agency wants to require gun dealers in California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas to report the sales of two or more rifles to the same customer within a five-day period, but is not proposing any ban on sales. A similar requirement already exists for handguns.

"It's not against the law, and it's not going to be against the law, for you to buy 40, 50, even 100 of these weapons and put them in the bumper of your car and drive them around or even down to the border," ATF spokesman Scot Thomasson said. "This would just allow us to put out an investigative lead at the time of the sale."

Last month 20 people were federally indicted for allegedly participating in a ring that bought more than 700 guns to be smuggled into Mexico for use by a drug cartel. In that case, several times individuals bought dozens of AK-47s as well as .50 caliber high powered rifles capable of shooting down airplanes, even after rifles they purchased earlier had been seized.

For example, on Dec. 9, 2009, Douglas, Ariz., police officers found nine AK-47 rifles hidden in a car bumper. The guns were tracked back to Sean Christopher Steward, who had bought them in a batch of 40 AK-47 type rifles at Lone Wolf Trading Co., in Glendale, Ariz., the day before. Just five days after this seizure, Steward bought 43 more AK-47 rifles and pistols, according to court records. Altogether, after the seizure, Steward bought at least 143 more weapons, mostly AK-47s from Lone Wolf before his January 2011 indictment.

In another case, on Feb. 20, 2010, an Isuzu Rodeo was seen on Tohono O'odham Nation land in Arizona driving toward the border. The driver abandoned the vehicle but was later found by law enforcement. The Isuzu was found with 41 firearms wrapped in plastic, including 37 AK-47 rifles and pistols purchased by Uriel Patino between in the past month at Lone Wolf Trading Co. After this seizure, Patino purchased another 159 weapons, mostly AK-47s from Lone Wolf, before being arrested, according to court records.

Indeed, almost all of the hundreds of guns identified in the indictment were sold by the Lone Wolf Trading Co., which was also identified in a Washington Post investigative series last year as the top seller of weapons found at Mexican crime scenes.

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Recovering Rep. Giffords able to speak

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Rep. Gabrielle Giffords is able to speak: She asked for toast at breakfast one recent morning.

Her ability to say even just a word, a month after being shot in the head, pleased her family, friends and doctors. It may also provide valuable clues about the condition of her injured brain.

"We're elated at this," said her spokesman C.J. Karamargin, who added that she is speaking "more and more." "We always knew Gabby is a fighter and that she's not going to let this thing win. And you know, every day is proof of that."

Few details have emerged about her recovery since she began intensive rehabilitation at TIRR Memorial Hermann hospital late last month. But doctors not involved in her care said her simple request for toast could indicate higher level cognition.

The lawmaker was apparently asking for something in an appropriate context, said Dr. Richard Riggs, chair of physical medicine and rehabilitation at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles.

"It was a desire. It was a want. It was something that would be preferable rather than just a basic need," Riggs said. "It was encouraging. I was very excited to see it . . . and the fact that it was an appropriate context gives it more meaning."

Brain injury patients who regain speech typically begin to do so about four to six weeks after the incident, Riggs said.

"At this stage of recovery, it is unlikely that Giffords would be able to say more than one to two words at a time, said Katherine Sullivan, president of the neurology section of the American Physical Therapy Association.

In rehabilitation, a patient would progress from saying one word, to possibly a few and finally to a full sentence, said Sullivan, also a neuroscientist at the University of Southern California.

"So it might be one word, 'toast,'" in this case, Sullivan said.

The bullet pierced the left hemisphere of Giffords' brain, Sullivan noted, the side that is associated with language, which includes three crucial elements: hearing, comprehending and responding.

All three are needed for communication and, based on the reports, Giffords can do this, Sullivan said.

"There's nothing surprising about the plasticity of the brain especially in a young healthy person and that's the good news," Sullivan said. "I have seen the most miraculous things so I can't say I'm surprised."

"I can say she has a long road left on her recovery because of the very serious injury," she said.

Arizona state Sen. Ken Cheuvront, a friend of Giffords who shared a house with her and another lawmaker when they served together in the Legislature, said he was excited to hear that she can speak.

"It gives all of us a lot of hope that she'll have a full recovery," Cheuvront said.

Six people, including a 9-year-old girl and a federal judge, were killed in the attack outside a grocery store where Giffords was meeting with constituents. Thirteen people, including Giffords, were injured.

The FBI and the Pima County Sheriff's Office have finished their investigations into the shooting. The 22-year-old man accused in the shooting, Jared Loughner, has pleaded not guilty to federal charges of trying to assassinate Giffords and kill two of her aides.

New York congressman resigns after accusations

Associated Press

CLARENCE, N.Y. — A married New York congressman accused of sending a shirtless photo of himself to a woman abruptly resigned his seat Wednesday, saying he was quitting because he regretted actions that had hurt his family and others.

The gossip website Gawker reported Wednesday that Rep. Christopher Lee, a two-term Republican, had e-mailed the photo to a woman he met on the Craigslist classified-ads website.

"I regret the harm that my actions have caused my family, my staff and my constituents," Lee said in a statement posted on his congressional website. "I deeply and sincerely apologize to them all. I have made profound mistakes and I promise to work as hard as I can to seek their forgiveness."

Lee said the challenges faced in western New York, where he serves the 26th Congressional District, and across the country are "too serious for me to allow this distraction to continue, so I am announcing that I have

resigned my seat in Congress effective immediately."

Lee's resignation comes almost a year after Democrat Eric Massa resigned his seat in western New York's 29th Congressional District amid an investigation into whether he sexually harassed male staffers.

A woman described as a 34-year-old Maryland resident and government employee provided Gawker with e-mails she said were an exchange between her and Lee in response to an ad she placed in the "Women Seeking Men" section of Craigslist.

Gawker reported that Lee identified himself as a divorced lobbyist and sent a photo of himself posing shirtless in front of a mirror. It said the woman eventually broke off the contact with Lee after becoming suspicious that he had misrepresented himself.

A state official who spoke on the condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to speak on the issue said the congressman hadn't yet submitted his resignation to the New York secretary of state Wednesday evening.

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Airline execs halt O'Hare deal

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Chicago Mayor Richard Daley met Wednesday with wary airline executives without reaching a deal to ensure that a \$15 billion expansion of O'Hare International Airport — a project he has championed for a decade — doesn't grind to a halt when he leaves office this spring.

After a high-stakes powwow in Washington between Daley and airline executives, which U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood brokered, the parties said there was no agreement on what airlines should pay for the ongoing expansion at the major air-travel hub. They did, however, say they intended to talk again at some point.

Daley's trip to the nation's capital to meet with CEOs from American and United — the

largest airlines out of O'Hare — underscores how much he is scrambling in his final days in office to boost capacity at O'Hare to guarantee its long-term viability.

"He has put his heart and soul into airports since the day he was elected, and he sees this expansion as one of his biggest achievements," said Joseph Schwieterman, a Chicago-based transportation expert. "And he may think it's unfair to hand all this over, unresolved, to an incoming mayor."

But United and American filed a lawsuit last month that could dash Daley's hopes of resolving the issue before he leaves office in May. The suit wants the city from issuing bonds to finance the expansion, charging that Chicago is violating a lease agreement that gives airlines authority to approve expenditures for capital projects.

In a joint statement following Wednesday's meeting, the two airlines indicated they and the city remain far apart, so they were "unable to reach an agreement that would permit us to suspend our litigation."

Unless a deal is forged and the lawsuit within, litigation could drag out for months, even years.

O'Hare is one of the country's busiest and most congested airports. And city officials argue that finishing a second phase of expansion, which would include a new runway and terminal, will help reduce delays in Chicago and throughout the U.S. air-transport system.

The first phase of the project culminated with the completion of a new runway and a control tower in 2008. A plane carrying Daley and other VIPs was the first to officially touch down on the stark white concrete as part of runway-opening ceremonies.

Lawmakers debate Indiana education bill



Teachers rally against Gov. Mitch Daniels' attempts to pass a new education bill at the Statehouse in Indianapolis Wednesday.

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana lawmakers have started work on one of the more controversial aspects of Republican Gov. Mitch Daniels' sweeping education agenda: a plan to tie teacher pay to student performance.

A Republican-controlled Senate committee began debating the bill Wednesday and plans to vote on it next Wednesday. Lawmakers may tweak some specifics, but the idea is that Indiana teachers would be evaluated each year and ranked into one of four categories: highly effective, effective, improvement necessary or ineffective. Local districts would create their own evaluations systems but would have to include objective measures of student achievement.

Teachers who fall into the lowest two categories wouldn't receive any automatic pay raises. Those in the top two categories could get pay raises, but the salary increases would be based primarily on student academic performance and not on years of experience.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Bennett said the goal is to recognize and reward great teachers.

"This is a huge pillar of comprehensive education reform," Bennett said.

Some teachers and teacher union leaders say they support the idea of annual evaluations but don't think test scores should play a heavy role in them.

"Test scores are an easy, quick and — I think — lazy way to evaluate," said Nancy Papas, a lobbyist for the Indiana State Teachers Association.

Sen. Scott Schneider, R-Indianapolis, noted that other factors could be included as local districts set up their individual systems.

"This bill goes so much farther than test scores in evaluating teachers," he said.

Bennett said it's important for local districts to come up with their own evaluation systems and their own ways to tie teacher pay to evaluations — but that the state would create "guidelines and guardrails." The state Board of Education, for example, would establish measures used to determine student academic growth and would set criteria to define the four rating categories.

Some at Wednesday's four-hour committee meeting raised practical concerns about how principals in large districts would handle evaluations for so many teachers, and some objected to a provision of the bill that allows teachers to evaluate other teachers under certain circumstances.

Sen. Tim Skinner, a Democrat from Terre Haute who is a teacher, said a provision in the bill allowing charter schools to hire teachers who aren't certified would be a bad idea. Up to half of charter school staffs could teach without being certified, under the proposal.

Skinner said the provision was another example of Daniels and Bennett going out of their way to relax rules for charter schools — which are public schools that are free of certain state regulations — while tightening rules for traditional public schools. He said teachers feel under attack despite Bennett's assertion that good teachers have nothing to worry about.



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INSIDE COLUMN

Supporting the team

Notre Dame is home to a top-ten men's basketball team this year, but judging by the buzz on campus (or lack thereof) you would not guess it.

For whatever reason, this campus continues to ignore one of the top teams in the country, which is in contention to win what is easily the toughest conference.

Andrew Owens

Sports
Production
Editor

While Notre Dame students typically embrace the Irish football team as their own when they become a student, that same support is not afforded to the basketball team.

But why is this?

It is understandable that the football program receives the unconditional support of the student body, as this university is a football school. But it is not as if the school is consistently fielding a men's basketball team of the same caliber as the bottom-feeders of the Big East, such as DePaul, Providence or Seton Hall.

Since head coach Mike Brey took over the squad, the Irish have earned a berth in the NCAA tournament six times (this season will be the seventh). Prior to his arrival, Notre Dame had been shut out of the March Madness festivities for more than a decade.

Reaching the NCAA tournament seven times in 11 seasons at a school not known for its basketball is not exactly mediocre, especially in the Big East.

But as Brey and the Irish continue to win, students continue to feel a deeper allegiance to the teams they grew up rooting for — Michigan State, UCLA, Louisville — and the list goes on and on.

It gets old to turn around and see that half the student section is empty, as was the case on Sunday against Rutgers. There is no such thing as a bad Big East home game. And, oh by the way, the team is ranked No. 7 in the nation.

While this article was written before Wednesday's game against No. 15 Louisville, I suspect the student section will be full now that an elite opponent will show up at Purcell Pavilion. Students will work their way out of the woodwork after realizing that it is a top-25 matchup between teams contending for a Big East championship. Some will have to pick up their ticket booklets that have gathered dust over the past three months.

So, Notre Dame, continue to support your team back home over the next six weeks. I'm sure UCLA is much more exciting in the vaunted Pac 10. But you will only have yourself to blame when this season is over and the accomplishments of this team are even more evident. The Irish could win the Big East, have the conference's player of the year, and earn one of the top seeds in the NCAA tournament, and much of the campus still won't be paying attention.

But I bet you can tell me how many days until football spring practice begins.

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

Contact Andrew Owens at aowens2@nd.edu

The myth of Notre Dame's bubble

Earlier this year, The Observer designated the blog "Things Notre Dame Students Like" as "the No. 1 must-visit website for ND students." By now, most of us have probably read or are familiar with this blog, a collection of various traits and qualities that the author thinks apply particularly well to Notre Dame students. This list covers a wide variety of topics, with everything from "Making Religion a Competition" to "Only Riding with One Cab Driver" included as things that Notre Dame students really like.

Ryan Williams

freethoughts

I'd like to propose my own addition to this list of things Notre Dame students like, and that is talking about "the Notre Dame bubble." In case you aren't familiar with this phrase, the Notre Dame bubble is the idea that everyone here has enjoyed a highly privileged upbringing and continues to lead a sheltered existence here on campus away from the harsh realities of the outside world. It is a stereotype that assumes that all Notre Dame students act as a monolithic whole, thinking the same thoughts, holding the same beliefs and opinions and possessing similar habits and interests. Now granted, there are a few prominent examples of groupthink on our campus, such as the increasing number of guys who inexplicably choose to wear Timberland work boots as everyday shoes, or the affinity for the cold-weather beating combination of UGG boots and a knee-length black North Face coat shared by so many girls.

Encouraged by these examples as well Mr. Kessler's blog, proponents of "the bubble theory" seek to define and publicize their view of what the quintes-

sential Notre Dame student should be, and in so doing ignore many of the qualities that really make Notre Dame great.

Here's some news for everyone in danger of buying into this outlook on life at Notre Dame: The whole idea of "the Notre Dame bubble" is bull. It doesn't exist, and in reality this myth only serves to perpetuate some very unfortunate stereotypes about Notre Dame students. If I were a prospective student reading Mr. Kessler's blog, I would be inclined to believe that Notre Dame is a school made up solely of rich white kids who know and care little about life beyond their campus, that all Notre Dame students are devout, socially conservative Catholics who attend mass every week and shudder at the thought of disobeying Church teachings, and that it is impossible to be friends with members of the opposite sex because "gender relations" (whatever that even means) are so strained.

The problem with these stereotypes is that they completely ignore the great diversity of thought, ideas and experiences that we have here at Notre Dame. Obviously, not everyone here is a rich white kid, because 80-percent of the student body is on some form of financial aid and 25 percent are non-white. Nor are we as ignorant of the outside world as some would have you believe, as evidenced by the 57-percent of Notre Dame students who participate in study abroad programs or the over 65-percent who regularly take part in service projects, many in disadvantaged locations throughout the local South Bend community. Just because our university is unfriendly to the LGBTQ community does not mean that we students are not supportive, and though the vast majority of the

student-body claims to be Christian, there are still plenty of us who have little use for religion and couldn't care less about Church teachings. As far as gender relations go, single-sex dorms and parietales only create obstacles if you let them, and most students here would say they have little problem forming solid platonic friendships with members of the opposite sex. Clearly, the conventional wisdom perpetuated about Notre Dame students is more often than not quite wrong.

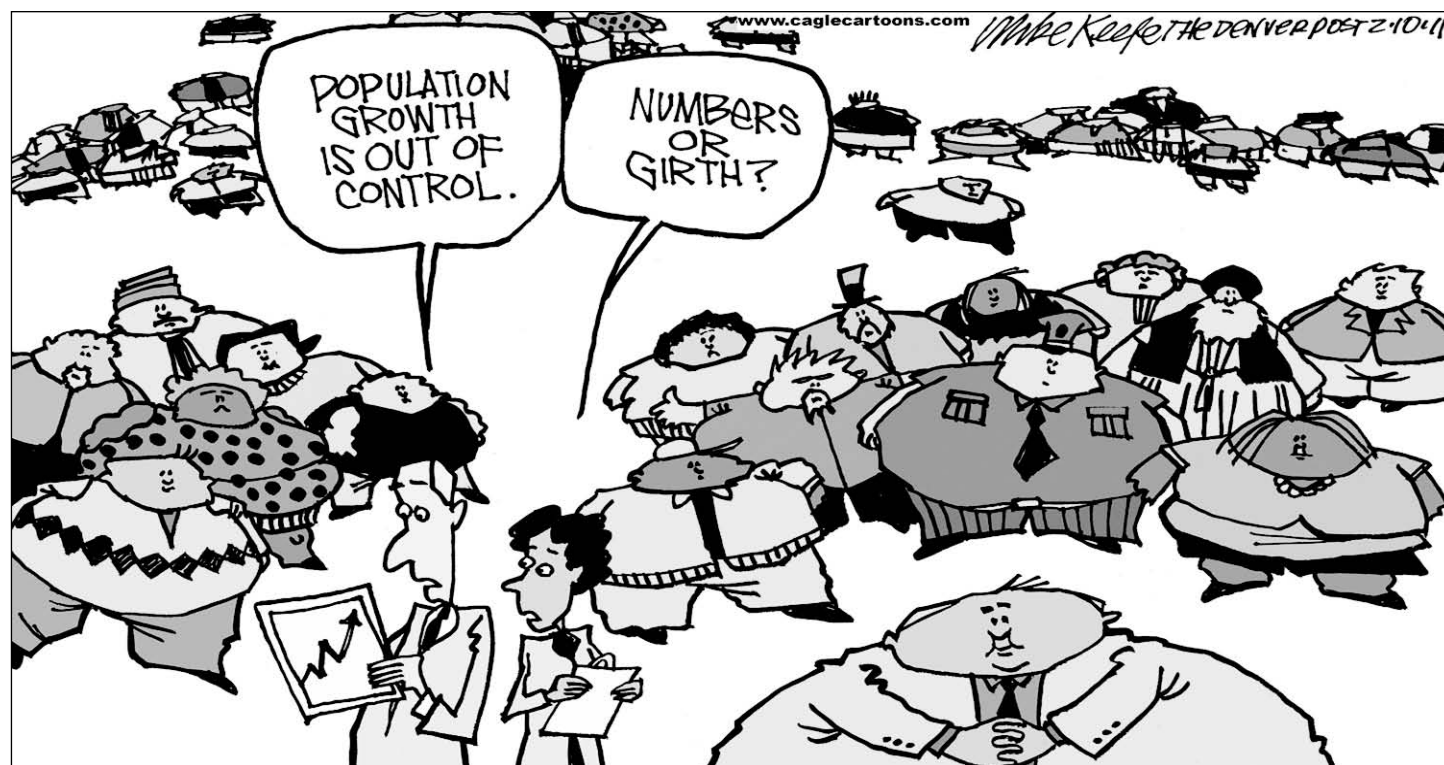
Now, I do not intend this column to be an attack on Bob Kessler's blog. I think on the whole most of us would agree that it is very entertaining and definitely points out some of the more egregious traits of Notre Dame students with wit and intelligence. Where I think the danger lies is in accepting all those stereotypes that he highlights as universally true and failing to acknowledge that they are not representative of the Notre Dame student body at large.

Each individual student at this university brings with them an immense wealth of talents, ideas and a unique outlook on life. Together we create an incredibly rich and diverse community, one that has the potential to help us all become wiser and more compassionate. This unique combination of experiences, perspectives and opinions is one of the qualities that truly makes Notre Dame an extraordinary and special university. It would be a shame to assume we are all the same, when in fact it is our differences that make us so lucky to call Notre Dame home.

Ryan Williams is a sophomore. He can be reached at twilli15@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



OBSERVER POLL

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"To have doubted one's own first principles is the mark of a civilized man."

Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr.
U.S. jurist

Love is all you need

Since 496 A.D. the Church has celebrated St. Valentine’s feast day on Feb. 14th. For many centuries, of course, the day simply recognized the person of Valentine — a priest imprisoned and subsequently martyred for his faith in Jesus Christ around 269 A.D., a time when Christianity was still considered a crime against the Roman Empire. Valentine aided his fellow Christians in whatever ways he could, including by marrying young Christian couples, until he got caught. The Emperor Claudius actually became fond of his prisoner Valentine, until Valentine decided to have a go at converting Claudius to the faith. Enraged, Claudius condemned him to death.

When I hear stories of martyrs, I imagine Jesus himself observing those deaths with heartfelt pain and love. St. Valentine had this in common with Christ himself: Knowing he was God’s beloved, he offered his life to share that love. Perhaps Valentine had heard and taken to heart a verse from John’s gospel: “Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another” (John 13:14).

We can be attracted by what we hear every day about love when we check our

Kate Barrett
Faithpoint

favorite websites, listen to music or watch TV. The images, expectations and many conflicting messages come at us fast and furious. When we want to think more seriously about the topic, however, we ought to turn to the wisdom of Jesus, Love in human form. Today’s version of the feast day of St. Valentine, for many, has become simply another example of our Christian faith crashing headlong into cultural demands that actually conflict with the best of what we know love to be.

Jesus said many things about love, probably many more than are even recorded in the gospels. One thing he never promised about love: That it’s easy. He certainly didn’t recommend chocolate, flowers, a fancy restaurant or a quick hook-up just to ensure that you aren’t “alone” on Valentine’s Day. No, Jesus teaches us that love packs a wallop; that love will ask our lives of us and will give us life to the fullest. “Love your enemies,” he said, without any sugar-coating. “Do good to those who hate you” (Luke 6:27).

Jesus spoke both about how we are to love as well as about how we are loved. And we would do well to listen, on Valentine’s Day and every day, for don’t we make some of our dumbest mistakes in love when we forget that we are loved? Don’t we allow ourselves to settle for some

cheap substitute for love precisely when we lose sight of the fact that we are absolutely, unconditionally, at each and every moment, God’s beloved? “Even the hairs on your head are all counted,” Jesus told the people who followed him in the days of his public ministry (Luke 12:7).

We ought to head into Valentine’s Day remembering that our commercial, secular society promotes pleasure, usually through exercising our purchasing power. Our faith, lived honestly and whole-heartedly, cannot always promise pleasure but will lead us through love to genuine happiness. Consider the beautiful and well-known words of St. Paul, who — once he knew Christ’s love — wrote of love as nothing other than the active stance of our lives toward others: “Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things” (1 Cor. 13:4-7).

Now, we can be serious about our faith and still feel the allure of the commerce connected to this holiday — who can resist a heart-shaped Reese’s Peanut Butter Cup, wrapped with its fellow hearts in a pack of six and festooned with a large come-hither

sign announcing its deeply discounted, buy-me-now Valentine’s Day price? And, full disclosure, I bought some heart-shaped Peeps (how great is it that Peeps are now available for every holiday?!) and three different kinds of chocolates for my children and my husband. But those treats — and treats they are — cannot possibly express the truth of my love for them, or reflect the daily challenges and joys of trying to lay down our lives for one another as followers of Jesus Christ.

Consider St. Valentine’s feast day an opportunity to celebrate the loves of our lives, and perhaps too a chance to “re-align” our understanding of love, so that it more closely conforms to what our Lord Jesus teaches us about love. As St. John wrote, “Beloved, since God loves us so much, we also ought to love one another” (1 John 4:11). The daily offering of ourselves to our friends and our families; to strangers and yes, to our enemies, is truly worth celebrating.

This week’s Faithpoint is written by Kate Barrett, director of the Emmaus Program. She can be reached at Katharine.S.Barrett.28@nd.edu
The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Let’s talk about sex

In response to the Feb. 9 Scene Commentary “Sex on TV,” I concur with Scene Writer Stephanie DePrez: Yes, let’s talk about sex. It seems sex has become the common currency of not only the 30-minute sitcom but also our daily interactions. That which is the greatest mystery has been relegated to purely pleasurable objectification. But, is there anything really mysterious or sacred about sex?

A common misconception regarding the Catholic Church imagines that the stern and sober hierarchy denounces sex. And, moreover, the Church merits no place in my bedroom. Au contraire, however, for the Church embraces and exalts sex as the most sacred mystery between man and woman. In Theology of the Body, Pope John Paul II explains that man is to woman and woman is to man the most profound mystery. After all, it’s the mysteriousness of our beloved that peppers romance with excitement. It makes our heart flutter at the sight of a new crush. The mystery, though, reaches even further into the depths of our humanity: Into sex. Mystery — deriving from the Latin mysterium or sacramentum — means sacrament. Sound a bit “churchy?” It is. Anyone with an elementary understanding of the Catechism knows the definition of sacrament: “an outward sign conveying an inner reality.”

So what’s the sacramentality — the mystery of sex? By sex, human beings manifest and make real the image of God. The ultimate unity — physical, emotional and spiritual — of man and woman in sex reflects and makes real love of the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Like it or not, the Church by the Trinity is present in the bedroom. The mystery of sex continues, making man and woman more truly themselves as they become co-creators in the image of God. For this reason, the Church rejects contraception. When couples use contraception, they deny the mystery of sex and use it for their own ends — they objectify sex and objectify one another. Casual sex is as logical as a casual mystery — it’s illogical. So being inclined to mystery, I’ll keep the chastity belt and keep the crucifix above the forthcoming marriage bed.

Beth Simpson
senior
Howard Hall
Feb. 9

Because the ... giraffes will thank you too?

Day of woman

Let me begin by saying that I think the Siegfried Day of Man, while perhaps indeed a little “phallocentric” (“Practical Men,” Feb. 8), is a good thing. Raising money for a good cause is something that everyone can get behind (women included, but again, that’s beside the point). Mr. Mullen’s letter (“Be a Man,” Feb. 9), though, encourages enforcement of gender roles without presuming to do any legitimate good in the world.

First, regarding the “true meaning” of a man. In his letter, Mr. Mullen states that the average man cries twice a month and that he finds such behavior “nauseating and embarrassing.” This implication that the free expression of emotion is a negative quality is what’s truly nauseating. In Mr. Mullen’s ideal world, men would suppress their emotions, pushing them down and letting them build until they find more masculine outlets for their feelings, like golfing or murder. In my opinion, being in touch with one’s emotional state is a trait to be admired (though perhaps my views are tainted by the relative lack of testosterone in my bloodstream).

Second, regarding Mr. Mullen’s assertion that women don’t like “feminine, sensitive” guys. This is

an absurd case of stereotyping and isn’t backed up by legitimate evidence. Women like men of all shapes, sizes and sensitivities. Women also sometimes like women, who happen to occasionally be feminine.

Finally, regarding the idea that “the absence of true manhood is a serious problem in our society.” This is the most dangerous statement Mr. Mullen makes, because it places masculinity on a pedestal above femininity and promotes it as a virtue in itself. Men and women have elements of both masculinity and femininity, and if one is going to hold up one as an ideal, one must be prepared to idealize the other as well. To do anything less would be blatantly sexist.

I wonder what would happen if Farley held a “Day of Woman,” raising money while participating in stereotypically feminine activities. Would this event be viewed in the same light by which Mr. Mullen sees the “Day of Man?”

Charlie O’Leary
sophomore
Knott Hall
Feb. 9

Concerning giraffes

I write in response to The Observer’s Question of the Day regarding the placement of a giraffe in a refrigerator. The responses, while funny, were necessarily limited to trite one-liners, and do not, in my opinion, fully capture the spirit of such an undertaking at Notre Dame. Here’s how it would really work:

First, putting a giraffe in a refrigerator is most definitely an event. Which means it’s going to need SAO approval. They will have to clear it with the Office of Risk Management. The general counsel will then produce a custom consent waiver which the giraffe must sign before participating. Of course, giraffes are not legally empowered to consent to anything, so you’d have to get your AR who is a law student to file a motion with the US District Court for the Northern District of Indiana requesting power of attorney. Once the waiver has been signed, a t-shirt committee will be formed to design a commemorative jersey for this momentous occasion. The shirt will naturally require separate SAO approval. These shirts will then be sold from a table in South Dining Hall to benefit some worthy charity. As the giraffe presumably hails from Africa, it would be best if the charity was involved in building schools in Uganda or something. If that falls through, there’s always the South Bend Center for the Homeless.

As for the refrigerator, university policy probably

requires an Energy Star-certified model, even though it will never actually be used for refrigeration. In fact, it will need to be unplugged and have the refrigerant drained, which will likely require some sort of EPA disposal permit. At this juncture, the Philosophy Department and the College of Science will jointly convene a panel discussion of distinguished faculty to debate whether or not the appliance, sans refrigerant, is still, ontologically, a refrigerator.

By the time all the pieces are in place, the giraffe, which was already at an advanced age when we obtained it from the Potawatomi Zoo, will likely have died. Fr. Jenkins will preside over the memorial service in the Basilica. Finally, the giraffe, according to its final wishes as conveyed by University Spokesman Dennis Brown, will be cremated and the urn deposited in the refrigerator. The entire assembly will then be interred in a LEED Gold-rated mausoleum in the Cedar Grove cemetery, donated by the (pick one: Eck/Jordan/DeBartolo/Pasquerilla) family. I guess there’s only question left: How do we get the giraffe into the crematorium?

Matthew Balkey
Dillon Hall
Feb. 9

Weekend Events Calendar

thursday

friday

saturday

sunday

10



11



12



13



Keenan Revue
Stepan Center
7:30-9:30 p.m.
Tickets available at Gate 3 in the
Joyce Center, student ID required

The Keenan boys are ready to make us laugh and have fun with their hilarious skits and performances starting Thursday. Go with a group of friends and enjoy this fantastic once-a-year event. If you miss it Thursday, catch encores on Friday and Saturday.

"The Notebook"
DeBartolo Hall
8-10 p.m.
Two for \$1

Begin your Valentine's weekend by watching one of the most romantic love stories of all time. Go with friends or a loved one, but be sure not to miss it.

Stoplight Party
Legends Nightclub
Midnight
Free for students, ID required

Whether you are taken, in a complicated relationship or single and ready to mingle, this Legends party promises to be a good time. Dress in red, yellow or green according to your relationship status (taken, it's complicated and single, respectively) and dance the night away.

"Chicago"
Washington Hall
7:30 p.m.
\$8, \$6 for students, available at
LaFortune Box Office

The Pasquerilla East Musical Company (PEMCo.), after weeks of preparation, is ready to perform what promises to be an amazing interpretation of the award winning musical "Chicago." This is a great way to end a weekend full of fun activities.

Contact Maria Fernandez at mfernan5@nd.edu

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Scene Around the World



Going abroad? Chronicle your travels in a photo slideshow or video and send your clip to Scene. We'll post it on The Observer website and a preview will appear in the Scene section of the print edition.

E-mail Scene Editor Jordan Gamble at jgamble@nd.edu for more information, or check out ndsmcobserver.com/scene to see other students' videos.

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Observer Scene

ObserverScene

This Week's Mix – Across the Pond



by Mary Claire O'Donnell

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | ✓ "London Calling" - The Clash |
| 2 | ✓ "Rome" - Phoenix |
| 3 | ✓ "Down Under" - Men at Work |
| 4 | ✓ "Africa" - Toto |
| 5 | ✓ "Rocky Road to Dublin" - Dropkick Murphys |
| 6 | ✓ "He Went to Paris" - Jimmy Buffet |
| 7 | ✓ "Munich" - Editors |
| 8 | ✓ "Amsterdam" - Guster |
| 9 | ✓ "Istanbul (Not Constantiople)" - They Might be Giants |
| 10 | ✓ "Spanish Eyes" - Backstreet Boys |
| 11 | ✓ "Mexico" - James Taylor |
| 12 | ✓ "Back in the USSR" - The Beatles |

For all of you juniors who were abroad

last semester, this playlist is for you.

It's been two months since you

returned, and the transition has

probably been tough. No more

blowing off class to go to the beach,

drinking age of 18, European culture

or traveling from city to city every

weekend. So kick back, reminisce and

plan a return, post-graduation trip.

Listen online at ndsmcobserver.com/scene

2011 Grammy Awards

*Who will win
and what to look for*

The 53rd annual Grammy Awards are set to take place Sunday at the Staples Center in Los Angeles, where they have been held every year since 2004. As always, the awards arrive accompanied by a wave of mixed reactions from the music community. The perennial questions of "are the Grammys still relevant?" and "why was so-and-so nominated?" are just as prevalent this year as in previous ones.

Chris Collum

Scene Writer

When surveying this year's nominations, it is apparent that Eminem could be considered the leader in this year's edition. He has been nominated for a total of 10 awards, including Album of the Year, Song of the Year and Record of the Year.

Other artists receiving nominations include Lady Gaga, Bruno Mars, Jay-Z and Lady Antebellum. With the exception of Bruno Mars, a relative newcomer to the awards, these artists comprise some of the Grammy's favorites in recent years. (Note: To avoid confusion from this point on, take note that the eligibility period for this year's awards is Sept. 1, 2009 to Sept. 30, 2010, not just all of 2010.)

In the Album of the Year category, for example, Lady Antebellum, Gaga and Eminem join Katy Perry and surprise nominee Arcade Fire. The indie rock group got a nod for their expansive concept album "The Suburbs." Most of the nominees besides Arcade Fire are neither too surprising nor too adventurous, so it's nice to see a little bit of variety.

Eminem seems to be a favorite in this category, if only because awards shows love a comeback story. That's understandable, but what they see in "Recovery" is more difficult to understand. Out of the artists nominated in this category, Arcade Fire probably deserve the title the most — but I wouldn't bet on them winning.

The Song of the Year category features two of the same artists as Album of the Year — Eminem (and Rihanna), "Love the Way You Lie" and Lady Antebellum, "Need You Now" — as well as Cee Lo Green's blissfully profane "Forget You," and nods to country crooner Miranda Lambert and folk artist Ray LaMontagne.

Cee Lo certainly deserves this award, but that again seems like a long shot. Look for either Eminem or Lady Antebellum to come out on top in the Song of the Year category.

All three of those songs — "Forget You," "Love the Way You Lie" and "Need You Now" — are also nominated for Record of the Year, so one might think that, for example if Eminem wins song of the year, then Lady Antebellum will win Record of the Year.

However, the Record of the Year category also includes the now-famous Big Apple anthem "Empire State of Mind" by Jay-Z and Alicia Keys. This record definitely deserves to win this category and seems to have a pretty fair chance of taking home the award as well.

Elsewhere in the nominations, look for Justin Bieber to edge out Drake for Best New Artist (a somewhat puzzling term when applied to those two artists), Lady Gaga's "Bad Romance" to win Best Female Pop Vocal Performance and Michael Jackson to posthumously win

Best Male Pop Vocal Performance with "This Is It." Lady Gaga also seems set to win Best Pop Vocal Album for "The Fame Monster."

On the rock side of the spectrum, "Tighten Up" by The Black Keys seems to be a shoo-in for Best Rock Song, while Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers will probably win Best Rock Album with "Mojo." Remember, if there are two things the Grammy committee loves, it's comebacks and classic rockers.

Arcade Fire will likely win Alternative Album of the Year amid a surprisingly strong set of nominees, which is a shame because Vampire Weekend certainly deserves the award for "Contra."

As far as rap goes, Kanye West should get Best Rap Solo performance with "Power," while Eminem will get Best Rap Album with "Recovery." Eminem and Rihanna's "Love the Way You Lie" and Jay-Z and Alicia Keys' "Empire State of Mind" are certainly the frontrunners in both the Best Rap/Song Collaboration and Best Rap Song categories.

Regardless of who wins what, the awards ceremony promises to be extremely entertaining as always. Live performers include Katy Perry, Lady Gaga, Eminem, Arcade Fire, B.o.B, Barbara Streisand — who will receive this year's "MusiCares Person of the Year" award — Muse, Bruno Mars and a collaborative performance by Rihanna and Drake.

Award presenters include Jamie Foxx, Neal Patrick Harris, John Mayer, Miley Cyrus, LL Cool J, Seth Rogen and Selena Gomez.

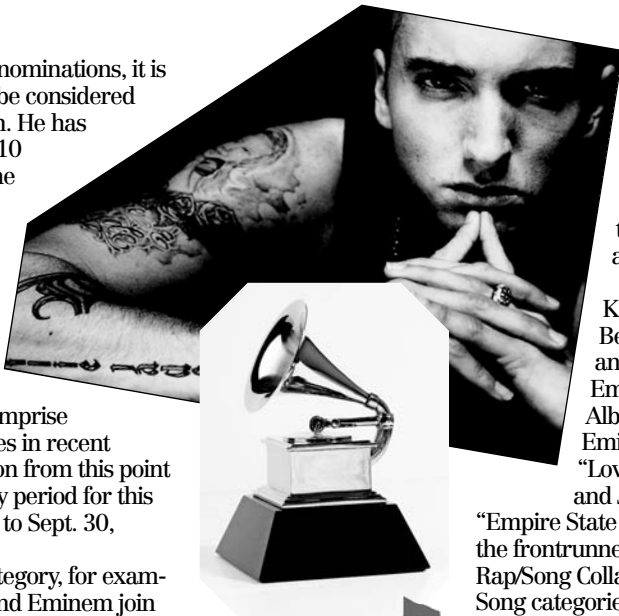
As always, there are a few surprise nominees at this year's Grammys, and there will certainly be a few surprise wins as well. Many question the relevance of the awards ceremony — but it would be fair to

counter that the ceremony has never been that relevant.

Pop quiz time: Which album won the Album of the Year award in 1992? "Unforgettable ... With Love," a collection of Nat King Cole covers by his daughter Natalie Cole — an interesting album, but nothing groundbreaking — or Nirvana's "Nevermind?" Here's a hint: It wasn't Nirvana.

Whether the Grammy Awards are relevant or not, whether they actually "matter" or not, they are at least very entertaining. Tune into CBS Sunday at 8 p.m. and join America in celebrating (some of) the best music released recently.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Chris Collum at ccollum@nd.edu



GOLF

U.S. serviceman plays golf with Woods in Dubai

Associated Press

When the call came to the home of Lt. Col. Michael Rowells, his wife Molly assumed it was a joke. Why else would someone insist her husband had won a chance to play a round of golf with Tiger Woods?

On Wednesday, the American serviceman teed up alongside the 14-time major winner at the Dubai Desert Classic pro-am.

The 47-year-old Mississippi native had flown to Dubai from Afghanistan, where he is deployed with the 401st Army Field Support Brigade.

"It's amazing to watch how these guys hit the ball," said the self-described golf fanatic. "It makes me want to go back and practice, but I have to wait until October."

Rowells beat out 16,000 other amateur golfers in a draw before the tournament at the Emirates Golf Club. In the middle of his first combat tour in Afghanistan, where his unit is charged with logistics, the father of four scrambled to get a passport for his trip to Dubai. He used a set of clubs borrowed from the golf course.

"The experience was so far beyond what my score would have been regardless of how many balls I put into the water."

Lt. Col Michael Rowells

However, Rowells brought his own caddie. Huey Hughes of Charleston, S.C., is a fellow serviceman on their Bagram Air Field military base. He said he'd been working 14-hour days for eight months.

"Here we are fighting these wars and deployed and all of a sudden he wins this tournament and you are hand-selected to be caddy with a guy," he said. "To come out and do this is an opportunity of a lifetime."

Rowells hadn't played in four months, and it showed when he hit several balls into the water. He shanked others from the deep rough despite his 9 handicap. It probably didn't help that one of the world's greatest golfers was looking on along with a gallery of several dozen.

"I was nervous, absolutely, for not playing for so long and everything else," said Rowells, wearing an Army golf hat over his crew cut.

"It's not so much intimidating as much as you see someone hit the ball so pure, so often, and you think, 'Can I get anywhere near that?'" he said. Still, Rowells sank several par putts

that elicited praise from Woods, and some approach shots earned a "great shot" from the third-ranked golfer. He also exhibited a healthy sense of humor throughout, at one point noting how enjoyable it was to be playing in the rough since there is no grass in Afghanistan.

"I came in wanting to play decent and I really didn't," Rowells said. "But it didn't matter. The experience was so far beyond what my score would have been. The time with Tiger, and the time here at Emirates Golf Club, has just been tremendous regardless of how many balls I put in the water."

Rowells met Woods on the putting green before they started and had a chance to chat throughout the day. Much of their conversation, Rowells said, revolved around his time in the military, including postings around the United States and helping with the recovery effort after the earthquake in Haiti.

Woods' father Earl did two tours during the Vietnam War as a member of the U.S. Army Special Forces, rising to the rank of lieutenant colonel. He named his son after a South Vietnamese army colleague whom he fought alongside.

"He understands the services, and that is always a plus," Rowells said. "A lot of people don't quite understand what we



American army officer Lt. Col. Michael Rowells takes a break from the game with Tiger Woods at the Emirates Golf Club Wednesday.

do. I think he has decent respect for the military and that is always nice. We spoke a little about his dad, some of the places he had been, like Fort Bragg, where I'll be ending up in the next year-and-a-half or so."

As he walked off the 18th green, Woods said he had "a great time today" playing with someone whose career path was reminiscent of his dad.

"He understands, obviously, what my dad went through," Woods said. "He was working with a reserve unit of (special forces) guys in the early days. We have a little bit of a connection, no doubt."

For his part, Rowells called Woods a "class act." He said nothing — not even the golfer's personal troubles that made headlines last year — would change his opinion about a man who remains his golf idol along with Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer and Phil Mickelson.

"I played with a Tiger that struck the ball very well, was a complete gentleman, a class act, easy going and put me at ease," he said. "One of the larger-than-life figures was very down to earth and very accommodating to somebody that came in to do this."

NHL

Penguins need scoring relief without stars

Associated Press

Sidney Crosby's return date from a concussion is still unknown. Evgeni Malkin is headed toward surgery and won't play again until next season. Chris Kunitz is day to day, and Mike Comrie, Mark Letestu and Arron Asham are all sidelined with various injuries.

May as well add one more Pittsburgh Penguin to the out-of-action bunch.

At least the Penguins know for sure when forward Matt Cooke will return to the lineup. He'll be back once he's done serving a four-game suspension, brought down by the NHL on Wednesday.

Indeed, it is a tough time for the short-handed Penguins. How much do they miss their injured stars? Well, consider

they have just one goal combined in consecutive losses. And they're not catching any breaks with the schedule, either.

The Penguins are home Thursday to play Los Angeles. Then they head into a rugged stretch, playing nine of 11 games on the road.

They'll face the Kings — as well as play road games at the Islanders, Rangers and Colorado — without Cooke. The league moved swiftly on him, a day after he hit Columbus Blue Jackets defenseman

Fedor Tyutin from behind in a 4-1 loss. Tyutin was pummeled face first into the boards. He quickly returned to his skates.

Cooke was whistled for a five-minute major penalty for charging, and issued another five minutes for fighting Blue Jackets forward Derick Brassard after the hit.

"Cooke delivered a forceful hit from behind on an unsuspecting opponent," league disciplinarian Colin Campbell said. "Also, he is considered a repeat offender under the league's supplemental discipline rules." Cooke, who will forfeit

"The player looks him right in the eye, knows he's coming and makes sure he keeps his number turned toward him."

Dan Bylsma
Penguins coach

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 all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

FOR RENT

GRADUATION/SPECIAL EVENT RENTAL:

House for rent for graduation/JPW/weddings,football, etc. Perfect location-right next to the new Eddy Street Commons-walk to everything-safe family oriented street. Email nd-house@sbcglobal.net for additional info and photos

NOTICES

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY?

Don't go it alone. Notre Dame has many resources in place to assist you. If you or someone you love needs confidential support or assistance, please call Sr. Sue Dunn at 1-7819. For more information, visit ND's website at: http://pregnancysupport@nd.edu

If you or someone you care about has been sexually assaulted, we can help.

For more information, visit Notre Dames website: http://csap.nd.edu

"A person should not believe in an "-ism," he should believe in himself. I quote John Lennon, "I don't believe in Beatles, I just believe in me."" ---Ferris Bueller

Invention, my dear friends, is 93% perspiration, 6% electricity, 4% evaporation, and 2% butterscotch ripple. ---Willy Wonka

"I shall call him Squishy. And he shall be mine. And he shall be MY Squishy." ---Finding Nemo

"Demented and sad, but social." --- The Breakfast Club

"He was always a rather stupidly optimistic man. I mean, I'm afraid it came as a great shock to him when he died." --- Clue

"Hey I got an idea! I could stay with you! We could stay up late, swap manly stories, and in the morning, I'm making waffles!" --- Shrek

"Toto, I've got a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore." ---Wizard of Oz

"See, I'm dishonest. And a dishonest man you can always trust to be dishonest. Honestly. It's the honest ones you need to watch out for, because you never know when they're going to do something incredibly... stupid." ---Pirates of the Carribean

Mugatu is so hot right now he could take a crap, wrap it in tinfoil, put a couple fish hooks on it and sell it to Queen Elizabeth as earrings. ---Zoolander

NCAA MEN’S BASKETBALL

Georgetown topples Syracuse at Carrier Dome

Temple holds on in scare against Fordham; Ohio downs Toledo to extend Rockets’ losing streak to six games

Associated Press

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Austin Freeman had 14 points to lead four Georgetown players in double figures, and the 11th-ranked Hoyas rallied late to beat No. 12 Syracuse 64-56 on Wednesday night.

Georgetown (19-5, 8-4 Big East) extended its winning streak to seven games and gave coach John Thompson III his first win in the Carrier Dome in six tries. It was the third straight home loss for Syracuse (20-5, 7-5), only the third time that’s happened in coach Jim Boheim’s 35 years.

Georgetown tied the game at 55 on a wide-open 3-pointer from the right wing by Hollis Thompson with 3:47 left. Freeman followed with a fast break layup after a Syracuse turnover.

Kris Joseph and Brandon Triche missed from 3-point range for the Orange, and Jason Clark sneaked inside twice in a row for layups to give Georgetown a 61-55 lead with 2:05 left and Syracuse couldn’t rally. The Orange’s last basket was a layup by C.J. Fair with 6:36 left.

Syracuse shot 39.6 percent and was 4 of 16 from beyond

the arc and was outrebounded 34-28. Georgetown finished 24 of 53 (45.3 percent) and had 20 assists.

The key to the Hoyas’ winning streak has been the perimeter play of Freeman, Chris Wright, Jason Clark and Thompson. Entering the game, they had combined for 149 3-pointers and were shooting 40.3 percent from beyond the arc.

The Hoyas were 10-0 when they hit at least eight 3s and 15-0 when they shot at least 33 percent from long range. On this night, they kept that streak alive, hitting 9 of 21 (42.9 percent) as Thompson led the way with a 3 for 3 performance and 11 points. Clark hit two and finished with 12 points. Julian Vaughn also had 12 points and Wright had six points and nine assists.

Joseph scored 14 points, Fair had 12, and Brandon Triche 11 as the Orange struggled from the field, shooting 39.6 percent. Rick Jackson got in foul trouble in the second half and had a season-low four points.

Georgetown entered the game ranked second in the nation in shooting, hitting 50.5 percent, and had used the 3-pointer as a dagger all season. The Hoyas were on the mark in the first half. Five players hit from beyond the arc as the Hoyas drained 6 of 12 against the Syracuse zone but struggled inside, making just 5 of 15 shots.

But after a 3 from the top of the key by Wright gave Georgetown a 16-10 lead midway through the first half, the



Georgetown forward Julian Vaughn is blocked by Syracuse forward Baye Moussa Keita during Georgetown’s 64-56 win Wednesday.

Orange responded with a 13-2 run.

A three-point play by Markel Starks with 2:11 left in the half and a 3 from the left corner by Thompson knotted the score at 29 before Dion Waiters made a runner at the buzzer to give Syracuse a two-point lead at the break.

Syracuse extended the lead to 37-31 on a steal and layup by Waiters, but seconds after Scoop Jardine was knocked to the floor on a drive, Jackson, Syracuse’s rock all season, was called for his fourth foul with 14:40 left as the game became a bruising affair in the paint.

With Jackson on the bench, Freeman drained a 3 from the right corner to give Georgetown a 44-40 lead, but Fair responded with a pair of baskets off pretty passes from Jardine. Fair’s underhand scoop caromed high off the glass and in at 12:20 and less than a minute later he converted a reverse layup to tie it at 44.

Joseph’s three-point play broke the tie at 10:45 and when Vaughn was called for his fourth foul, a pair of free throws by Jardine put the Orange up 51-47 at 9:00.

The Orange didn’t wilt with three freshmen on the floor, but when Jackson returned with 5:37 left, the Hoyas ran away.

Wright fed Nate Lubick with a pretty pass through the lane for a dunk to pull the Hoyas to 53-52 at 4:58 and Thompson’s 3 started a decisive 9-0 run.

Temple 77, Fordham 66

Ramon Moore scored 22 points to lead No. 24 Temple to its fifth straight win over Fordham on Wednesday night.

Scottie Randall and Micheal Eric each added 12 points for the Owls (18-2, 8-2 Atlantic 10), who forced 17 turnovers and had a 49-36 rebounding edge.

Temple now sits ½ game behind Xavier and Duquesne for first place in the conference.

Lavoy Allen had a season-high 14 rebounds, seven points and four assists for Temple before leaving the game late in the second half with an apparent left ankle injury.

“We’ll see,” said Temple coach Fran Dunphy. “Everything will be determined probably tomorrow when he gets up. They’ll put him in a cast tonight and see how he’ll react. I don’t know. It’s too soon

to tell.”

Chris Gaston scored 27 points for Fordham (6-16, 0-10), which has dropped 12 straight games and has yet to win in 2011.

The Rams, who had only seven players available because of injuries, trailed by as much as 25 in the first half before pulling within three as Temple missed 18 of its first 20 shots from the field after halftime.


Fordham trailed 53-50 after Frazier hit a 3-pointer with 13:17 to play. The teams traded a few empty possessions before Randall scored on an alley-oop layup to kick off a 6-0 Temple run.

It was 62-57 after Alberto Estwick made a 3 for Fordham, but Randall answered with one at the other end for Temple. Less than a minute later, Juan Fernandez, who had been on the bench with four fouls, returned to the game and knocked down a 3 that made it a 69-57 game.

“It’s a long season, and we’ve played now 23 games. I don’t know that we’ve been able to be complacent in any game,” Dunphy said. “There was a lot of things they did, I thought, that were terrific, but there was a lot of things we did in the stretch that were really good in the first half.”

Ohio 71, Toledo 58

Tommy Freeman scored 21 points to lead Ohio to a win over Toledo on Wednesday night, extending the Rockets’ losing streak to six games. The Bobcats (12-12, 5-5 Mid-American Conference) led 36-23 at halftime after shooting 14 of 29 from the floor (48.3 percent), including 7 of 16 from 3-point range (43.8 percent). Freeman finished with a career-high seven 3-pointers on 14 attempts from beyond the arc. Ivo Baltic added 16 points and DeVaughn Washington chipped in 14. Ohio forced 18 turnovers, leading to 22 points. The Rockets (4-20, 1-9) shot 50 percent from the field (12 of 24) in the second half, but never got within 12 points and trailed by as many as 24, 68-44, with 6:12 remaining. Malcolm Griffin scored 16 points, Jay Shunnar added 13 and Reese Holliday and Justin Anyijong scored 11 each for Toledo, which has lost 11 of its last 12.



THE CUSHWA CENTER
FOR THE STUDY OF
AMERICAN CATHOLICISM
presents

*To Serve God and Wal-Mart: The Making
of Christian Free Enterprise*
(Harvard, 2009)
Bethany Moreton
University of Georgia

Saturday, February 12, 2011
McKenna Hall Center for Continuing Education
9 a.m. - noon



211 North Michigan Street ★ South Bend, IN
(574) 235-9190 or (800) 537-6415
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Lewis Black
“In God We Rust”
Comedy Tour
Thursday, Feb. 10



**South Bend
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“Broadway Rocks II”
Saturday, Feb. 12



Loretta Lynn
“Coal Miner’s Daughter”
Country Concert
Sunday, Feb. 13



Spider Saloff
“My Funny Valentine”
at Palais Royale
Sunday, Feb. 13

Upcoming Events

Friday-Sunday
Feb. 18-20

Menopause: The Musical
Celebrating 10 Years of
“The Change”

Saturday, Feb. 26

South Bend Symphony
“Classical Legends”

Sunday, Feb. 27

Michael Flatley’s
Lord of the Dance

Tuesday, March 1

Amy Grant &
Michael W. Smith
Christian Concert

Saturday, March 5

James Taylor
with Special Guest
Ben Taylor

Thursday, March 10

Barney Live in Concert

Visit Morris Ticket Outlet at Hammes Bookstore in Eddy Street Commons

MLB

Texas raises ticket prices, adds boxes

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — The AL champion Texas Rangers have raised ticket prices for about two-thirds of their seats for 52 non-premier home games, though many of the increases are for \$2 or less per seat.

Coming off their first World Series, the Rangers increased from 19 to 29 the number of home dates considered premier games with higher prices. But about 30,000 seats (69 percent) at Rangers Ballpark for those games will cost less than last season.

Individual ticket prices were announced Wednesday. The biggest increases are for lower box and club seats.

Advance sales on non-premier games are \$62 (from \$50) for lower box and \$58 (from \$45) for club seats. For premier games, the increases are from \$60 to \$69 for lower box seats and \$55 to \$65 for club seats.

Seats with all-you-can-eat food are up from \$34 to \$39 for non-premier games; and from \$39 to \$45 for premier games.

Premier games include most

Friday and Saturday home games during the season, July 4 against Baltimore and a four-game midweek series against Boston in August.

The Rangers lowered prices on upper box and bleacher seats for all games, while upper reserved seats remained \$15 for non-premier games and decreased from \$20 to \$17 for premier games. Grandstand reserved seats increased \$1 to \$7 for non-premier games, but dropped \$3 to \$8 for the rest.

Cash parking remains \$10, reflecting the \$2 drop from the start of last season instituted when the new ownership group took over last August. Parking is only \$5 for Friday games.

Individual tickets go on sale March 5 for all games except opening day.

For the April 1 opener against Boston, fans have to register online for a drawing to determine who gets the chance to buy the remaining limited number of individual reserved seats and standing room tickets. Or the team is offering 10-game plans that include a ticket to opening day.

NBA

Cavaliers drop 26th consecutive game, extend NBA record streak

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Forget the NBA record, the Cavaliers are officially as bad as any team in any pro sport.

Cleveland's losing streak reached 26, matching the 1976-77 Tampa Bay Buccaneers' record for consecutive incompetence on Wednesday night with a 103-94 loss to the Detroit Pistons, who were supposedly a beatable opponent for the bottom-dwelling Cavs.

Instead, Cleveland's season slipped further into shame.

The Cavs (8-45) remain winless since Dec. 18 and have now dropped 36 of 37. Their next chance to end the unimaginable slide will be on Friday against the Los Angeles Clippers. After that comes a home game against the road-winless Washington Wizards on Sunday.

Rodney Stuckey scored 22 to pace the Pistons, who didn't want to be remembered as the team that let the Cavs get off the mat.

The Cavs and their fans had hoped this was the night the streak stopped.

Cleveland had played well in its previous four games, losing by a combined 21 points and actually came into the matchup favored to beat Detroit, which was playing its second straight after hosting the league-leading San Antonio Spurs on Tuesday.

But the Cavs fell into a 12-point hole at half, and although they pulled within three in the third, they fell apart early in the fourth. Only some late buckets in garbage time made the score



Cavaliers guard Ramon Sessions lays the ball up during the Cavs 103-94 loss to the Pistons Wednesday in Cleveland. AP

respectable.

When the final horn sounded, Cleveland's fans didn't bother booing as the Cavs dropped their heads and walked dejectedly to the locker room.

"Well, one of these days," one fan climbing the stairs mumbled as he left.

There had been so many encouraging signs lately. The Cavs fell 99-96 on Monday in Dallas, when they failed to execute in the closing seconds and set a new league record for consecutive losses over one and two seasons. Coach Byron Scott was heartened by his young team's effort against the Mavericks, and with eight straight home games ahead, the time seemed right for Cleveland to get back in the win column.

Not yet.

After playing the Spurs, the Pistons were ready for the Cavs.

They built an 11-point lead after three and never let Cleveland get going in the fourth.

Will Bynum scored 17 and Charlie Villanueva 13 for the Pistons, who played without guard Rip Hamilton. He sat out with a strained right groin.

Antawn Jamison scored 20 of his 22 points in the second half for Cleveland. J.J. Hickson scored 18 with 15 rebounds.

Down 55-43 after a flat first half, the Cavs came out inspired in the third quarter.

They went to Jamison, who scored just two points in the first half, early and he single-handedly brought them back by outscoring the Pistons 10-4 in the first 3:32 as Cleveland closed within 59-55. However, Detroit responded, carried an 81-70 lead into the fourth and took care of business — just like Cleveland's previous 25 opponents.

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NFL

McCarthy believes Packers' talent will improve

Associated Press

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Packers coach Mike McCarthy had one final chance Wednesday to go over an injury report, providing a

fitting end to Green Bay's championship season. Cornerback Charles Woodson (broken collarbone) won't need surgery, wide receiver Jordy Nelson (left knee) played through

his injury, linebacker A.J. Hawk (wrist) needs an arthroscopic procedure, and wide receiver Donald Driver (ankle) would be out if Green Bay had to play another game.

Add those to the 16 other Packers on injured reserve and McCarthy believes his next team will certainly be more talented coming into training camp. That doesn't mean Green Bay's title defense will be any easier.

"The most important thing is we need to be the best football team next year. We can be maybe the most talented and best football team. But sometimes the most talented team doesn't win," McCarthy said. "We have to make sure we're the best football team, that everybody's doing their role, doing what they're supposed to be doing at the level they're supposed to be doing it."

"Because that was a great experience to watch this group of men pull together and fight through the adversity that they needed to, and play their best football when it counted."

Now, McCarthy said the next lesson the Packers need to learn is how to deal with success after the franchise's 13th NFL championship and fourth Super Bowl with a 31-25 win over Pittsburgh on Sunday.

"It's here, it's right here, it'll start with our whole organization, top to bottom," the coach said. "Handling success, to me, is the biggest challenge in this business."

ness."

That's one of the reasons why defending titles successfully has been so rare.

New England last repeated as champion six years ago, and no team from the NFC has even made two consecutive Super Bowls since the Packers did it in 1997 and 1998.

McCarthy's life is already changing in ways big and small. His daily cup of Starbucks coffee had "congratulations" on it Wednesday morning, and he said it'll take him at least a month to respond to everyone who reached out to him.

He's still thrilled with his chat with President Barack Obama on Monday ("He started with, 'This is a tough phone call for a Bears fan to make'"") and is honored that a street will be named after him somewhere near Lambeau Field.

Both McCarthy and general manager Ted Thompson are in line for contract extensions before their current deals end in 2012. McCarthy declined to directly address his own contract negotiations or which teams contacted the Packers for permission to talk to his assistants.

"Continuity is important, but change happens in this business," McCarthy said. "Time will answer those questions."

The other uncertainty comes after the collective bargaining agreement expires March 3.

The end of the labor deal and a

potential lockout could mess up everyone's offseason plans. McCarthy said it also affects negotiations to extend assistant coaches, and even when the Packers might be able to visit the White House because it's usually attached to an organized team activity or a minicamp.

He also sounded less than thrilled about a proposed 18-game schedule.

"I know what the company line is, but you're talking to a guy that barely made it through 16, so you can figure that one out for yourself," he said.

No matter when the season begins or how long it might be, Green Bay will have its core in place, led by Super Bowl MVP Aaron Rodgers and his receivers. Running back Ryan Grant and tight end Jermichael Finley return from injured reserve.

The Packers are also well-equipped to run defensive coordinator Dom Capers' attacking 3-4 scheme with young stars cornerback Tramon Williams, nose tackle B.J. Raji and linebacker Clay Matthews continuing their development.

The abundance of talent also taught McCarthy a lesson about himself.

He said he learned to handle his own ego this season by delegating leadership in a variety of ways, including letting the captains talk before games late in the season after getting the idea driving home one day after practice.

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PGA

Johnson returns to Pebble Beach for redemption

Associated Press

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. — Dustin Johnson returns to Pebble Beach with conflicting emotions.

Rare is a defending champion who is looking for redemption.

Johnson has a chance to make history as the first player to win three successive years at the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am since this iconic event began in 1937.

Forgotten is how he built a four-shot lead in 2009 and was declared the winner when rain cut the tournament short to 54 holes. Or how he smashed one last drive to set up an easy birdie from the bunker on the final hole last year for a one-shot victory.

No, the lasting image of Johnson at Pebble Beach comes from the U.S. Open last summer.

He had a three-shot lead going into the final round when he took two chips from the rough — one of them left-handed — and took a triple bogey on the second hole. Then came an aggressive play with the driver on No. 3 that he hooked into the bushes for a lost ball. His tee shot on the

fourth went into the ocean.

It added to a colossal collapse in his first chance to win a major. Johnson closed with an 82, the highest final round by a 54-hole leader at the U.S. Open in nearly 100 years.

He had yet to get out to Pebble Beach by Wednesday, and planned to play only a couple of holes before sneaking over to Cypress Point. Johnson has moved into the celebrity rotation, meaning he will play Monterey Peninsula on Thursday and Spyglass Hill on Friday before he gets his first crack at Pebble Beach.

Which memories will come back?

“Neither,” Johnson said. “I’m just coming out to play the golf course. It’s still good, even though the last time I played it I struggled a little bit. But I’m still excited to get back out there and play. I’m always going to love this golf course, no matter what. I’m just ready to get back out and play.”

But then he paused, and offered a slight smile.

“Get a little redemption for the last round of the Open,” he said.

Johnson does not lose confidence easily. Despite a round

that would haunt some players, he was right back in the mix two months later at the PGA Championship, poised to win another major until he failed to realize he was in a bunker on a Whistling Straits course that has too many bunkers to count. Instead of getting into a playoff, he wound two shots behind. Unfazed, Johnson won the BMW Championship a month later to mark himself as a rising star.

That’s not to say he hasn’t learned from his mistakes, especially at Pebble Beach.

Johnson attributes his U.S. Open blunders to playing and thinking too quickly. He is among the fastest players in the game, and Johnson spent the latter part of last year trying to slow down.

“In the first couple of rounds, I might get a little quick,” he said. “I probably need to do it more in the first, second and third rounds than I do in the final round. The final round is when you’re thinking and you’re more conscious of what’s going on. That’s when it’s most important, when you’re under the gun and when you’ve got a shot to win.”



Dustin Johnson talks to the press Monday in Pebble Beach, Calif., in his first return to the course since last year’s U.S. Open.

“Slow for me is still pretty fast,” he said. “I’ve got to feel like I’m moving pretty slow, which probably isn’t slow.”

The AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am gets under way Thursday with the usual suspects — Johnson going for a third straight win, Phil Mickelson trying to find momentum sometime before the Masters, Davis Love III playing for the 25th consecutive year, and Padraig

Harrington making his PGA Tour debut.

Harrington was on his way out to Pebble Beach for a practice round when he bumped into Johnson. He stopped to shake hands and pass along a playful message.

“I’m trying to take the trophy off your hands this week,” Harrington said.

“Good luck,” Johnson said with a delivery that Clint Eastwood could appreciate.

Shock

continued from page 20

average Notre Dame team.

The age of Harangody is over. This Irish have a team full of stars, not just one. After years of relying on one star player and the 3-ball, Mike Brey has found a true team with interchangeable parts and strong defense.

Notre Dame is a team full of role players who are ready to do their jobs every night. Just at the time when the Irish looked to fall back into its mold with Hansbrough as the superstar, we saw the real Notre Dame emerge.

Hansbrough is the leader, plain and simple. He gets the ball with less than two minutes to go. He wills the ball into the hoop. He makes others around him better. That is his role. He singlehandedly led the Irish on the aforementioned run that turned the game around for the Notre Dame, scoring five points to tie the game in a matter of seconds. But then he picked up the ominous fourth foul, and the Irish were doomed once again.

But the difference between the teams of Irish past and this one goes back to a lesson learned a year ago, right around this time, when do-it-all forward Luke Harangody went down with an injury that left the Irish without their biggest star for the biggest stretch of the year.

This learning experience was evident last night.

Abromaitis is the multi-purpose man. He went from hitting 3s, to guarding Louisville phenom guard Preston Knowles, to ripping rebounds

away from taller defenders on his way to 24 points — most of which came when Hansbrough was either struggling from the field or sitting on the bench in foul trouble. But the game-changing contribution had yet to be made, as the lead changed hands more times than Jack Cooley — the guy who does the dirty work — has been called Luke Harangody.

Then along came Carleton Scott. Scott is the catalyst. He went from shooting 1-for-7 from the field with three points with less than 10 minutes to go, to shooting 5-for-11 on the night with 16 points and eight rebounds, two of which came after Scott blocked a shot, got the rebound on one end, and snatched another on a putback on the other end. The lanky senior forward even goes into the crowd after the game to celebrate. It’s a mutual feeling. The crowd feeds off his energy and he feeds off theirs, making his game that much better.

Finally, we have the often criticized and seldom appreciated vital defenders who really take away the other team’s best scoring options. Senior forward Tyrone Nash is given the assignment of guarding the opposing big men, who are always bigger than he is. But Nash uses his quickness and deceptive length to get his opponent in foul trouble. Case in point: Nash held instrumental Cardinals forwards Terrence Jennings and George Goode to a combined 16 points and 10 rebounds while drawing fouls on Jennings, which eventually led to Jennings fouling out early in overtime.

Meanwhile, transfer forward Scott Martin guarded red-hot sharpshooter Kyle Kuric, limiting him to two field goals in the

last 15 minutes of play after he scored 26 points until that point. Martin is the quintessential team player, passing off multiple shots to keep the movement and rhythm of the offense going while playing 39 minutes.

With these pieces of the puzzle, we are fortunate to witness the true meaning of the word team. The crazy thing is that no one — probably not even

Mike Brey himself — expected this team to be in the top-10 this year with an undefeated record at home, after defeating the likes of Connecticut, Marquette, Georgetown, Gonzaga and Louisville, in addition to knocking off No. 2 Pittsburgh on the road.

The truth is, this Notre Dame team looks poised and overly ready to make a run into late March and early April.

The Irish have a lot going for them right now, including a six-game Big East win streak. Plus the coach wears a turtle-neck, so what isn’t going well for the Irish these days?

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

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MACKENZIE SAIN/The Observer

Junior Shannon Mathews prepares for a forehand against DePaul April 16 at the Eck Tennis Center.

Mathews

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ed in singles play and stand as a threat together in doubles. Despite a doubles loss by the pair last weekend against North Carolina, this weekend brings an opportunity to secure three wins.

"Learning from our losses is the most important thing to help us succeed in future matches," Frilling said.

Supporting the juniors at the top of the singles rotation is crucial for Notre Dame, and a surprise at the bottom of the singles lineup has been freshman Julie Sabacinski. Sabacinski won the first match-clinching victory of her career against Wake Forest Sunday. Positioned at No. 6 singles with a 3-2

record, she has recently come into her own as a member of the Irish.

"Playing more matches makes my game more refined, and I have finally adjusted to college tennis," Sabacinski said. "[This weekend] I am going to focus on bringing high energy to each match."

Seeded at No. 8, Michigan (4-0) poses the most imminent threat to the Irish. This marks the second straight season the Wolverines have begun with a 4-0 record.

No. 18 Vanderbilt (4-1) will take on the Irish at 11 a.m. Saturday. On Sunday at 11 a.m., Notre Dame will stand as the first ranked opponent the No. 74 Badgers (4-1) have faced this season.

Contact Megan Finneran at
mfinnera@nd.edu

Nel

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Nel came to the U.S. with a plan in mind. He wants to turn himself into an elite swimmer and compete on the international stage.

"With the help of my coaches and fellow teammates, I hope to swim the fastest that I have ever been," Nel said.

Nel has been a contributing factor on the Irish squad. He helped Notre Dame to victories in the 800-yard free relay and the 400-yard backstroke relay in the Dennis Stark Relays Oct. 8 in the Rolfs Aquatic Center. He finished fourth in the 400-yard IM in the Hawkeye Invitational Dec. 4 and finished second in the 400-yard backstroke against Utah Nov. 12.

Overall, Nel is just glad to be part of the tradition at Notre Dame. He has embraced all there is to offer and appreci-

"With the help of my coaches and my teammates, I hope to swim the fastest that I have ever been."

Bertie Nel
Irish freshman

ates everything that people have done for him here.

"Being part of the Notre Dame swimming team is an amazing honor," he said. "They are all a great group of gentlemen and it's been an honor training and building relationships with them this past season."

Although Big East championships and NCAA competitions are on his mind, Nel said the pinnacle of his swimming career would be representing his home country in either the 2012 or 2016 Olympic Games.

"It is a dream I have always had," Nel said. "I know that I can reach that goal here at Notre Dame."

Up next for the Irish are the Big East Diving Championships Feb. 11-13 and the Big East swimming championships Feb. 16-19 in Louisville, Ky.

Contact Matthew Robison at
mrobison@nd.edu

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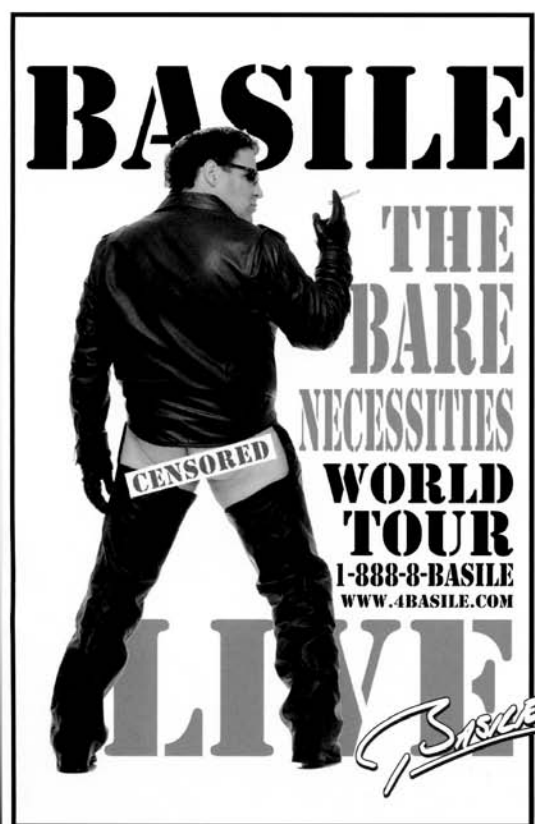
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Siva

continued from page 18

You feel like if you can get to overtime in a game like that, we really felt like we had momentum getting to overtime, because it was not an easy one for us."

The Irish won the tip-off to start the extra period and Hansbrough found an open Scott, whose 3-pointer sparked a 13-0 run for the Irish on their way to the victory.

"I don't think Carlton had a smooth game, but when he had that clean look to start overtime, there was no second thought when he rose up to take that one," Brey said. "It's not surprising. They have the will to get to overtime, and that's experience and maturity. This group has kind of been developed now and they're a pretty confident group. They've won a lot now, and wow, is that a good habit to have."

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Shootout

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for each team take their shots, the team with the most goals wins the shootout. If no team has pulled ahead after three rounds, the shootout continues until one team scores and the other misses.

The intensity and drama a shootout consists of provides great entertainment to fans. Yet it also can be a perplexing and confusing event. Though one team “wins” and one “loses” a shootout, any game that goes to a shootout results in a tie for both teams’ NCAA record. To add to the confusion, the CCHA, Notre Dame’s conference, awards three points for a win, zero for a loss, and one for a tie in the conference standings, solely in conference games. The winner of the shootout then receives an extra point, in addition to the one point earned for the draw.

Irish coach Jeff Jackson said he dislikes the shootout deciding an extra point, because it is not tested in game-like conditions.

“I think it’s not part of the game,” Jackson said. “[Teams] get an extra point for scoring one goal on a breakaway in a non-game environment.”

Jackson is also not a shootout supporter because the attitude of a team can be heavily influenced by an event that doesn’t change the game’s official result.

“We tied the game last night and it felt like we lost,” Jackson said after Notre Dame’s shootout victory Jan. 29, in reference to the previous night’s shootout loss. “The kids battled hard for 65 minutes, and we tied the game

according to the NCAA. We had to motivate them this morning, because they were down, and it shouldn’t be that way after a hard fought tie, like in the good ole days of hockey.”

While Jackson is not a fan of the shootout, some of his players have opposite emotions.

“I love [the shootout]. I think it’s great for the fans,” Irish senior center Ben Ryan said. “Having the shootout decide [an extra point] is awesome for the sport of college hockey.”

Notre Dame sophomore goaltender Mike Johnson also said he thinks the shootout is exciting, though sometimes the result can be disheartening.

“I think it’s definitely fun for the league,” Johnson said. “But if you’re on the losing end, it’s kind of bitter, even though it’s still a tie.”

Though the shootout may be a tie for the NCAA, the extra point for a shootout win can be critical down the conference stretch. But both players take a calm demeanor into the event.

“When I [approach] the goalie, I just think of a few different things I’m going to do,” Ryan said. “I know his tendencies a little bit, but I don’t try to psyche myself out.”

Johnson echoed the thoughts of his teammate.

“It’s just reaction,” Johnson said. “I just go out there and try to stop the puck. I try not to think too much about it and just focus on one shooter at a time. Sometimes it goes your way, and sometimes it doesn’t, but you just have to brush it off either way.”

Contact Sam Gans at sgans@nd.edu

Brey

continued from page 20

That was very similar. We went out and took care of business in overtime.”

Hansbrough led the Irish with 25 points, including five 3-pointers. He said that he was not pleased with the team’s game offensively, but when overtime came, it was Notre Dame’s time to shine.

“We were trying so hard to make our runs that we really weren’t making our shots,” he said. “[Senior forward] Ty [Nash] missed a hook shot, I was missing some shots. I thought [fourth-year forward Tim Abromaitis] really stepped up and willed us to the win tonight. I’ll be honest with you, we were in a heck of a drought, but in overtime we just got things going. We were due. If you give us enough time, we’re going to start making some shots. To see our guys and the way they willed us back into it — it’s just a heck of a win for us tonight. This is one of the wins I’m going to remember for the rest of my life.”

Abromaitis finished the game with 23 points and eight rebounds. He made all nine of his foul shots, and played all but one minute against the Cardinals.

The Irish trailed for most of the first half, and by as much as eight with five minutes to go in the period. But 10 points from sophomore Jack Cooley in the last six minutes of the half kept them within four going to the locker room. Cardinals jun-



Irish senior forward Tim Abromaitis drives on a Louisville defender during Notre Dame’s 89-79 win over the Cardinals Wednesday.

ior Kyle Kuric led the way for Louisville with 18 of his 28 points in the first, including a spectacular one-handed dunk to end the period.

“We probably feel in a game like that like you don’t deserve to be down four,” Irish coach Mike Brey said. “You deserve to be down 12, so to be down four, you’re counting your blessings. Jack and [freshman guard] Eric [Atkins] gave us a great lift off the bench tonight. Jack was fabulous — he was scoring for us. We couldn’t score, and I felt tonight that we were going to have to get 85 or 90 to get out of here tonight.”

The back-and-forth game continued throughout the second half. The lead changed 10 times throughout the game and was tied 13 times. Louisville

took a two-point lead with 1:19 to go before Nash drew a foul and made both free throws, tying the game 74-74.

With nine seconds to go, Notre Dame called a timeout and switched to a zone defense, which forced senior guard Preston Knowles to fire up an errant 3-point attempt as time expired in regulation.

“We did not talk about it in the timeout,” Brey said. “We talked about what we were going to do on the [sophomore guard Peyton] Siva ball-screen, and we kind of changed on the fly, and we did a great job. That’s veteran guys making it work. That helped us, and changed their rhythm a little bit, and forced a tough shot.”

see SIVA/page 17

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14 Reply suggesting "perhaps"

15 Big name in PCs

16 Sister of the Biography Channel

17 "Average national earnings

20 Let it all out?

21 Mont. neighbor

22 "Hooked on Classics" record company

23 Era of (period in Notre Dame football history)

24 One who works in feet and meters
- 25 Chamber workers: Abbr.

26 *Capital ENE of Jerusalem

30 Olympic gymnast Paul or Morgan

31 Something for pairs to enter?

32 Screw up

37 Organ donation site

39 Genre for the Spice Girls and Oasis

41 "Slow and steady wins the race," e.g.

42 Poker game memento, maybe

43 Turn around

44 *Symbol above a 5

48 Danish kroner, topologically speaking

52 Not look so good?

53 Partner of 40-Down, traffic-wise

54 Nervous as ____
- 55 Pole position holder?

56 Use a portion of, as one song in another

59 *Easter basket treat

62 Ex-governor Spitzer

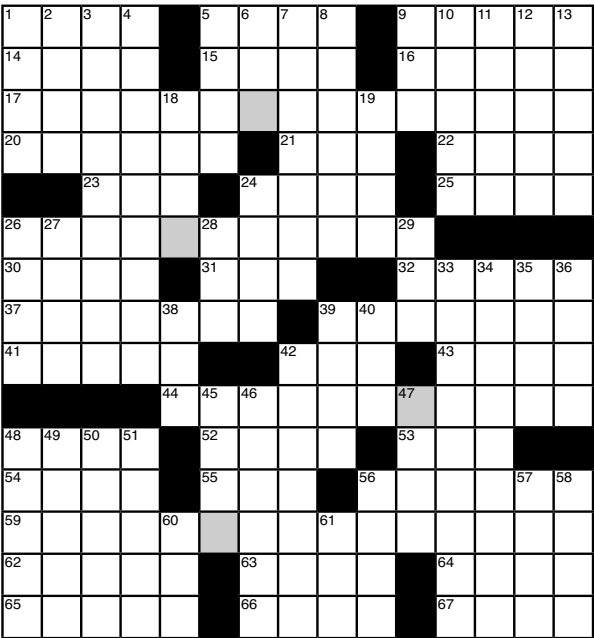
63 Jerk

64 Race assignment

65 See 9-Across

66 Spotted

67 Ciudad del ____ (second-largest city in Paraguay)



- Puzzle by Mike Nothnagel
- 34 Some soup ingredients

35 QB Flutie

36 Place the first bet

38 2006 Winter Olympics backdrop

39 Orange Free State settler

40 Partner of 53-Across, traffic-wise

42 Penguin's locale

45 Ca, Co or Cu

46 Some races

47 Get out of the cold?

48 Circus chairperson?

49 Florida's ____ National Forest

50 ____ to go

51 "There, there"

56 Before you know it

57 Time to give up?

58 Thin blade

60 Cleveland ____, O.

61 Caustic soda

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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



PLEASANDVILLE

JAMES SOLLITTO, CODY ECKERT and JOHN FLATLEY

Sorry [sor-ee] (adj):

1. feeling or expressing pity, sympathy, remorse, grief, or regret: I feel sorry for him

2. pitiful, wretched, or deplorable: a sorry sight

3. poor; paltry: a sorry comeback

Used in a sentence: We're sorry that the Tuesday Variety Show had a sorry excuse for a comic yesterday.

THE MATING RITUAL

SCOTT MITCHELL and MATT MOMONT

Here I sit, lost and alone,
Missing thee, my porcelain throne.

I even thought of using my hand,
Thoreau would be proud to know such a man.

But this little triumph is sure to be brief,
Because I just can't seem to find a leaf...

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Tyson Houseman, 21; Mia Farrow, 66; Joe Pesci, 68; Carole King, 69

Happy Birthday: Recycle, revive, redo or repay an old debt or favor so you can finally put the past behind you and move forward. There is plenty of opportunity this year if you take advantage of what's being offered. Don't sell yourself short. Pressure and pursuit should be the key words that push you ahead. Your numbers are 1, 5, 18, 22, 24, 38, 42

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't put too much emphasis on what everyone else does. Follow your own path. It's what you offer others and the insight you bring to what you do that will make others eventually realize your value. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Learning something that will help you market yourself for the current economic climate will enhance your chance to get ahead and may also lead to a favorable geographical move. Think for yourself and follow the path that suits you best. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): The future looks bright if you present your talent, skills and a viable plan. There is stability in your future if you take the right steps to secure your position now. Don't let love or feeling responsible for someone cost you financially. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Base choices on your needs, not what someone else wants. Being accommodating can be the path of least resistance but it may not suit your needs in the future, especially if you cannot be fulfilled by the person in your life who is calling the shots. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Show your strength and confidence and what you are capable of doing. Your leadership quality will bring you added responsibilities but also the discipline and courage to turn something little into something big. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Make whatever self-improvements you can to position yourself for the future. Someone from your past can make a huge difference to the path you take. Listen to advice being offered. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Trust in your own instincts, not what someone else is trying to convince you to do. What you propose will set the stage for what's to come. You stand to benefit personally, professionally and financially. ★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Take your time, listen to what's being said and you won't make a poor decision. It's the people closest to you and the ones who can affect your life-style that may not understand what you want or need. Communication will be required. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Focus on home, family and friends. Keeping both personal and professional deals and plans out in the open will allow you to gauge what you are up against. Your determination, coupled with staying power, will bring success. ★★★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You've got more going for you than you realize, so take advantage of any opportunity to speak from the heart. A serious approach to the way you handle pending problems will determine who will support your efforts and who will not. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You don't have to bend to what others want, especially if they are asking too much of you or from you. Determine what it is that will make you feel satisfied or happy about your life, lifestyle and future goals. Make your choices count. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): There is too much that you aren't seeing clearly to make a beneficial decision. Step back, ask pertinent questions and prepare to sit on the fence until you know what you want. An opportunity will present itself if you volunteer your services. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are stubborn, loyal and determined. You welcome a challenge. You are strong, persuasive, insightful and unpredictable.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

JUMBLE

JEFF KNUREK
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

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

KAQUE

IGSEE

YULIBS

INNEAC

WHAT THE POKER PLAYER HAD WHEN THE ROYALS JOINED THE GAME.

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

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

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: SHOWY ELITE PALLID MULISH
Answer: What the traffic reporter said when the police chase tied up the roads — "IT'S A HOLD UP"

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

Dealing with the Cards

Overtime thriller ends with another ND victory

By ERIC PRISTER
Associate Sports Editor

In January 2009, Louisville and Notre Dame found themselves tied at the end of regulation at Freedom Hall in Louisville, Ky. The Cardinals came out firing in the extra period and pulled out a 14-point victory.

Two years later, it was Notre Dame's turn for revenge.

Led by seven points from senior forward Carlton Scott in the final five minutes, the No. 8 Irish stayed undefeated at home, beating No. 16 Louisville 89-79 at the Purcell Pavilion.

"It's just two great teams battling it out," senior guard Ben Hansbrough said after the game. "This game was very similar to two years ago, when it went into overtime and they just burst out and won by 14.

see DIGGINS/page 13



GRANT TOBIN/The Observer

Irish senior guard Ben Hansbrough drives on Louisville's Mike Marra during Notre Dame's 89-79 overtime win over the Cardinals Wednesday. Hansbrough had a game-high 25 points in the effort.

Role players, not stars, lead team's magic run

They did it again. I am still in shock going all the way back to the Old Spice Tournament.

At one point it looked as though the home streak was over, after Louisville went on an 8-0 run early in the second half to make it 55-50.

Two minutes later the score was 59-55 with the Irish looking as though not even a timeout could stop them from scoring points.

That is definitely not the Notre Dame team I am accustomed to.

But, then again, this isn't the



Andrew Gastelum

Sports Writer

see SHOCK/page 16

MEN'S SWIMMING

Freshman Nel travels from South Africa to join Notre Dame

By MATTHEW ROBISON
Sports Writer

Before freshman Bertie Nel could spend his days swimming mile upon mile in the Rolfs Aquatic Center, he had to make an 8000-mile journey just to get to campus. The Tzaneen, South Africa, native decided to take the challenge of living, learning, and swimming in America head on.

Nel admits that coming to the U.S. has not been easy, but it has been worth the effort.

"I have always heard that everything is bigger and better in America, and that is true," Nel said. "Everything was done on a much bigger scale here, and it was rather overwhelming, but a lot of fun."

Most freshmen have trouble balancing schoolwork and socializing, adapting to living on their own, and learning the

ins and outs of the college experience. Nel had to do so with limited knowledge of the English language and without the luxury of a short trip home.

"I grew up in South Africa with Afrikaans as my mother tongue," Nel said. "I have had English classes since the fourth grade, but never as intensive as here in America."

On top of adapting to a new language and a new educa-

tional system, Nel's had the challenge of competing in one of the toughest collegiate swimming conferences. But it is also an opportunity for which he is grateful.

"Swimming is completely different than back in South Africa," Nel said. "I absolutely love the team camaraderie and spirit, and training was harder than I ever expected it to be."

Although there have been

challenges, Nel has not had to go them alone. He has had the support of his teammates, coaches, and classmates the entire time. He has not seen his parents since freshmen orientation, but he has new family here.

"I am thankful for two great families on campus, my fellow teammates and Stanford Hall Griffins who are always there

see NEL/page 17

HOCKEY

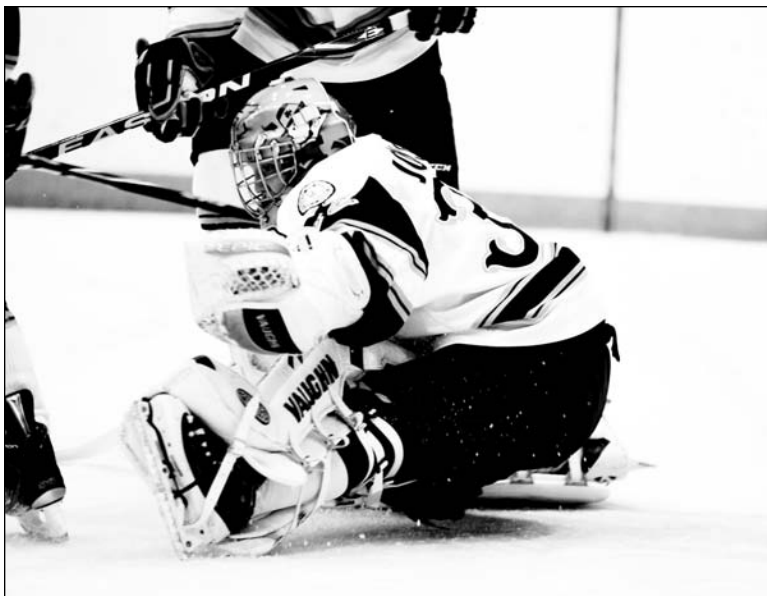
Shootouts decide CCHA games

By SAM GANS
Sports Writer

The last time the Irish hit the ice for a series, on Jan. 28 and 29 against Miami (Ohio), a shootout decided both games. The first contest left the Notre Dame students and fans disappointed. The second left the Irish supporters elated.

Yet, according to the NCAA, the result of both games was the same: a tie.

The shootout is a competition used when two teams are tied after regulation play and five minutes of overtime. Three skaters are selected by each team to attempt a one-on-one breakaway against the opposition's goaltender. After all three players



COURTNEY ECKERLE/The Observer

Sophomore goaltender Mike Johnson makes a save in a shootout loss Jan. 28 against Miami in the Joyce Center.

see SHOOTOUT/page 18

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Three matches present chance to bounce back

By MEGAN FINNERAN
Sports Writer

With two losses behind them, the No. 13 Irish (3-2) want nothing more than a solid performance this weekend, when Michigan, Vanderbilt and Wisconsin travel to the Eck Center to face off against Notre Dame over the course of four days.

"They are all tough teams, but if we compete the way we are capable I know we can do well in all of the upcoming matches," freshman Jennifer Kellner said.

Kellner's contributions last weekend included a win in both singles and doubles play

against Wake Forest. At the No. 5 singles position, she has stood out among a determined freshman class that has improved throughout the season.

"I've been working on a lot of small things the coaches have been telling me, but they certainly make a big difference," Kellner said. "Things like stepping into the ball more and working on my serving toss have been a few of several things."

In the singles competition, juniors Kristy Frilling and Shannon Mathews still remain the driving force behind the Irish. They are both undefeated

see MATHEWS/page 18