

THE OBSERVER

The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

VOLUME 44 : ISSUE 108

FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 2011

NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

University integrates sustainability into academics

MBA program listed as one of nation's top 16 for "green" industries

By KRISTEN DURBIN
News Writer

Notre Dame prides itself on its top-ranked undergraduate programs in the Mendoza College of Business, but the University has more than just its programs to be proud of — the sustainable reputation of the College's MBA program has also grabbed nation-wide attention.

In its April article "A Sustainable Degree," Entrepreneur magazine listed Notre Dame among 16 of the nation's top business schools for MBA students seeking careers in "green" industries.

The magazine selected MBA programs based on a survey of administrators and students at 325 graduate schools of business during the 2009-10 school year, Director of MBA Admissions Brian Lohr said.

"Even though this is a listing, not a ranking, of graduate business schools, our selection means that we are one of the

see GREEN /page 6

-Entrepreneur magazine listed ND's MBA program as 1 of 16 best business schools in the nation for students seeking careers in "green" industries

-Listing based on survey of administrators and students at 325 graduate schools of business in 2009-10

-2 new minors will be offered beginning in fall 2011:
+Energy Studies
+Sustainability

-Open to students from all majors

BLAIR CHEMIDLIN | The Observer

ND creates two new environmental minors for fall 2011 semester

By EMILY SCHRANK
News Writer

In response to students' growing concern over environmental issues, the University announced the creation two new minors, Energy Studies and Sustainability, each of which will be offered to all undergraduate students beginning in the fall of 2011.

Rebecca Hicks, research, education and outreach program manager for the Notre Dame Sustainable Energy Initiative (SEI), will oversee the Energy Studies minor. Assistant research professor of biological sciences Maria Miglietta will serve as the director of the Sustainability minor.

Hicks said the Energy Studies minor was developed by a committee of students and faculty members who conducted a survey of student interest and determined what courses would be appropriate for the minor.

"After examining all of this information, they concluded the minor should be open to all students on campus," she said. "It will have

see MINORS/page 5

Students split on Mac vs. PC

By MELISSA FLANAGAN
News Writer

Sophomore couple Colin Slaggert and Jill Giunco only disagree about one thing: their computers. Giunco prefers her Mac to past computers, while Slaggert has always favored a PC.

"I think Macs are confusing, and I don't know how to find anything on them," Slaggert said. "Also, I like how you can right-click [on a PC]."

But which computer is more popular at Notre Dame?

Jonathan Hall, manager of the Office of Information Technologies (OIT) Computer Store and Service Center, said the answer is not completely clear. Although the store tends to sell more Macs to students, OIT's Service Center repairs many more PCs than Macs.

"I think the reason we do see a higher percentage of

OIT
sells more **Macs**
but repairs more **PCs**

BLAIR CHEMIDLIN | The Observer

Mac sales is that there is an academic discount on the Mac product versus buying through Apple," Hall said. "You save money going through your educational institution."

Hall said the store sells a

majority of their new computers to incoming freshmen during the back-to-school period. Apple offers incentives to students purchasing Macs during this time, like

see MAC/page 6

ND names honorary degree recipients

Observer Staff Report

Notre Dame will award 12 honorary degrees at this year's Commencement, in addition to the honorary degree it will give commencement speaker Robert M. Gates, the University announced Tuesday.

Gates, the U.S. secretary of defense, will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree. The other recipients will be honored with degrees in law, science and engineering.

Charles F. Lennon, associate vice president for University relations, will receive a doctor of laws degree before he retires in June. Lennon served the University for over 30 years as the executive director of the Notre Dame Alumni Association. Under his leadership, the association grew from 151 to 276 alumni clubs around the world.

Lou Holtz, famed Irish football coach from 1986 to 1996, will be awarded a doctor of laws degree.

Holtz led Notre Dame to the 1988 national championship and is a member of the College Football Hall of Fame. On three occasions during his tenure as coach, Notre Dame held the highest graduation rate among Division I-A football programs. An active philanthropist, Holtz works with the Touching Tiny Lives Foundation and the Women's Care Center of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

The University will also award Shirin Ebadi, recipient of the 2003 Nobel Peace Prize, an honorary doctor of laws degree. As an Iranian lawyer and the first woman justice in the history of the Iranian judicial system, Ebadi founded the Defenders of Human Rights Center in Iran. She received the Nobel Peace Prize for her significant and pioneering efforts for democracy and human rights for women, children and refugees.

Michael J. Brennan, a leading

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THE OBSERVER

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THE
OBSERVER ONLINE
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POLICIES

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

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

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor-in-Chief Douglas Farmer.

POST OFFICE INFORMATION

The Observer (USPS 599 2-4000) is published Monday through Friday except during exam and vacation periods. A subscription to The Observer is \$130 for one academic year; \$75 for one semester.

The Observer is published at:
024 South Dining Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779
Periodical postage paid at Notre Dame
and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER
Send address corrections to:
The Observer
P.O. Box 779
024 South Dining Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779

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CORRECTIONS

A March 24 article, "Aerospace chair dies at 50," reported a Mass of remembrance would be celebrated March 25. The correct date for the Mass is April 1. The Observer regrets this error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT'S THE WEIRDEST FOOD YOU'VE EVER EATEN?



Airi Kobayashi

junior off
campus

"Deep-fried
frog legs."



Long Tran

sophomore
Dillon

"Duck eggs."



Lucy Eckard

junior
Ryan

"Cow cheek.
Straight off the
head. South
Africa 2010."



Pat Mines

junior
Keenan

"Throw up."



Neil O'Dougherty

sophomore
Keenan

"A whole box
of Milk Bone
dog biscuits."

Have an idea for Question of the Day? Email obsphoto@gmail.com



COURTNEY ECKERLE/The Observer

Saint Mary's students begin the annual canoe race around Lake Marian Wednesday evening as spectators look on.

OFFBEAT

Criminal feigns femininity to get mattress

BOISE, Idaho — A Montana man who mimicked a female voice is exchanging his ill-gotten Tempur-Pedic mattress for a cot in a federal prison.

The U.S. attorney's office in Idaho says 60-year-old Ricky Vaughn Barry of Hamilton, Mont., was sentenced Wednesday to a year and a day in prison for impersonating his ex-wife when speaking to company representatives.

The calls to open a line of credit and order a \$4,000 bed and sheets were recorded.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael Mitchell in Boise

said the case against the former Coeur d'Alene resident developed after his ex-wife pulled her credit report and found accounts used to purchase the bed and a laptop.

The federal charges did not include the laptop purchase, but both items were sold to help pay just over \$7,700 in restitution.

Boy cries gunfire to cover for ripped pants

SALT LAKE CITY — Police say a 14-year-old Utah boy was trying to cover up for falling and ripping his new pants when he reported a bullet grazed him.

South Salt Lake police Sgt. Mikael Wersland told

the Salt Lake Tribune that the teen reported the shooting Tuesday evening. Police say about 10 witnesses told them they did not hear any gunfire in the area at the time.

Wersland says the boy "fell down and tore the knee" of his pants, but lied about being grazed by a bullet because he didn't want to get into trouble. The sergeant says the teen only suffered a "scrape where he fell down."

The boy has not been identified. It was not immediately known whether he would be charged with any crime.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Today from 12 to 1 p.m. in Geddes Hall Paul Ocobock of the Kellogg Institute will present a labor research workshop about colonial Kenya. He will discuss migration, wage labor and working life from 1920 to 1963.

The TransPose Dance Experience will take place today at 6 p.m. in Stinson-Remick Hall. Dance pieces exploring the effects of 20th and 21st century technology will be performed. The event is free.

The Notre Dame Student Players will present Joss Whedon's Emmy-Award winning online musical sensation Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog Live! tonight at 6 p.m. at the Washington Hall Lab Theater. The show is about an aspiring villain that wants to get into the Evil League of Evil. Tickets are \$5.

Comedian and Notre Dame alumnus Owen Smith will perform at Legends tonight from 10 p.m. to 12 a.m. The event is free. Owens has appeared on "Everybody Hates Chris" and "Comedy Central's Chocolate News."

The Notre Dame Creative Writing program is hosting Women Writers Festival Does Nonfiction on Monday and Tuesday. Two women writers will read on Monday at 7:30 p.m. and two women writers will read on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. Both readings will be in McKenna Hall. The writers will be on a panel on Tuesday at 2 p.m. in 100-104 McKenna Hall.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 38	HIGH 29	HIGH 39	HIGH 38	HIGH 40	HIGH 41
	LOW 23	LOW 22	LOW 22	LOW 25	LOW 28	LOW 30

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This symposium has been made possible through
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UNIVERSITY OF
NOTRE DAME

The Law School

Professor receives grant for new study



Photo courtesy of Agustin Fuentes

Anthropology professor Agustin Fuentes poses with a monkey. Fuentes studies biology, human evolution and primate behavior.

By NICOLE TOCZAUER
News Writer

What makes humans unique?

This age-old question has garnered anthropology professor Agustin Fuentes a \$197,000 grant to conduct the Human Natures Project, a study geared toward finding similarities between different disciplines in the discussion on human uniqueness.

"I've realized over the past couple of decades that many different disciplines have different ways of asking the same questions," Fuentes said. "My project is to get people to understand the whole picture and push the discussion forward with more interaction and participants."

He said the preliminary effort of the project is to determine whether the disciplines of anthropology, biology, psychology, philosophy and theology are similar in their perspectives on human nature. The project will focus on taking narrative threads from interdisciplinary conversations and understanding how they overlap, Fuentes said.

"My hypothesis is that there's space for all of these or parts of all of them to get together," Fuentes said. "One part of that is, I think, an interface between human evolution, culture and biology."

The John Templeton Foundation has pledged to fund Fuentes's ethnographic investigation, and Fuentes said he plans to hire a team of undergraduate, graduate and post-doctoral research students once the grant becomes effective June 1.

Fuentes said he will spend most of the next year traveling the world to interview individuals who write about human uniqueness. He said he believes he will uncover more similarities through these interviews and discussions than in reading published material on the subject of human nature.

"Publishing keeps you stuck in a discipline, but talking allows more engagement and flexibility," Fuentes said. "All these people write books and articles, but what you print isn't always what you believe."

In discussing human nature, behavior and motivation, Fuentes said he believes each discipline finds part of the truth, but still falls short of defining

humans as a whole. He compared this issue to an old folktale about six blindfolded men touching different parts of an elephant.

A man who touched the elephant's tail thought it was a snake, while another believed its tusk was a spear. Fuentes said their interpretations were not completely wrong, but their conclusions were inaccurate because they were unable to see the whole picture.

"If you stick a bunch of people around an elephant with blindfolds on, they will think it's different things, and I think this is what's going on with the different disciplines," he said. "My project is trying to take all of the blindfolds off."

Fuentes said he hopes to eliminate shortsightedness between the disciplines by widening the forum of discussion and highlighting similarities between different areas of study. He said Notre Dame is the perfect place to begin the Human Natures Project because the University provides individuals from each of the five disciplines who can help him achieve his goal.

Fuentes also said the University's academic reputation and financial connections helped make his project a reality.

"I'm also really thankful to the John Templeton Foundation for sponsoring this," Fuentes said. "You propose it and it's a little adventurous, but at Notre Dame you can receive help to research this."

Ultimately, Fuentes said he is not trying to discover what constitutes human uniqueness. Instead, he said he hopes to find ways for people to pursue the topic more effectively and begin to think across the disciplines in new ways.

Most people agree human nature is a relevant and important topic, Fuentes said. But he said the real question is whether or not people actually agree on what human nature is, how they discuss it and how it contributes to their understanding of the world.

"I think there's something in human cultures and the mind — how they work and function," he said. "We have a connection to the world around us and to other animals, but there's something else that makes humans especially interesting."

Contact Nicole Toczauer at
ntoczaue@nd.edu

SMC professor utilizes greenhouse

By OLIVIA BRACH
News Writer

For several years the Saint Mary's College greenhouse remained a relatively unused campus building, but students and faculty alike have begun using the building more frequently over the past two years.

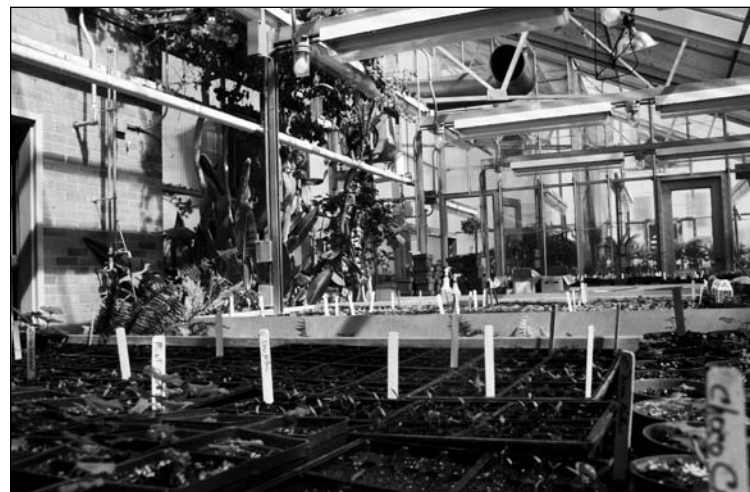
Rebuilt in 1986, the greenhouse was mainly used by the Grounds department of the College's Facilities Operations Division to grow many of the flowers prior to their planting on the Saint Mary's campus, assistant biology professor Cassie Majetic said.

But the greenhouse is currently experiencing additional traffic as the home base for Majetic's research on floral odor. Majetic's plant subjects occupy roughly half the greenhouse, while the Grounds department maintains control of the remaining space.

Majetic, a second-year professor at the College, is conducting research on the scent of flowers and its relationship to other features of flowering plants. She also studies the effects of changes in floral scents on the color of a plant's flowers by conducting chemical analyses of the plants.

"In general, I'm interested in what shapes floral scent, both ecologically and evolutionarily," Majetic said. "I break scents apart to study their chemical characteristics and how they affect other characteristics of the plants."

At this point in her research of the phlox family of flowers, Majetic said she has found that the scent of flowers in this group actually affects the color of the flowers.



COURTNEY ECKERLE/The Observer

The greenhouse at Saint Mary's College houses the plant research subjects of biology professor Cassie Majetic.

Majetic said she also researches the influence of floral odor on the process of pollination. She said she examines the preferences of pollinators for certain types of flowers based on their odors and colors.

"For agricultural plants that rely on pollinators, these preferences can mean the difference between success of a crop and failure," Majetic said. "If a pollinator prefers one plant over another, you could eventually lose a whole plant species."

In order to facilitate her ongoing research, Majetic said she has worked very hard to bring about restorations to the greenhouse. The most important of these proposed changes was the development of a functional means of regulating the greenhouse temperature, she said.

The greenhouse now has a swamp cooler, a device that pumps well water into the building and also helps to cool the greenhouse during the hot summer months, Majetic said.

Although current student use of the greenhouse is relatively minimal, Majetic said she hopes that trend will change in the future. She said she has recently begun working with two Saint Mary's students, including junior Brittany Sinka, who assist her with various aspects of her research projects.

In the future, Majetic hopes to actively incorporate the use of the greenhouse into new class-related projects.

Contact Olivia Brach at
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Club discusses immigration

By MONA RODRIGUEZ
News Writer

In support of its Action Week, the La Fuerza club at Saint Mary's College screened the film "Dying to Live" and initiated discussion on immigration Thursday.

The film, which was produced by Notre Dame associate professor of theology Fr. Daniel Groody, focused on the hardships immigrants to the United States face, La Fuerza president Brianda Salas said. Groody, who also serves as director of the Center for Latino Spirituality and Culture at Notre Dame, led the discussion following the film screening.

"We decided to get Groody to speak because he's the producer of 'Dying to Live,' and his mission is to create awareness about the struggles immigrants face," La Fuerza vice president Denise Lopez said.

Salas said Groody's personal mission relates directly to that of La Fuerza.

"La Fuerza's mission is to create awareness about issues that affect our community as a whole," Salas said. "For that reason, we dedicated 'Knowledge is power, Action is key,' as our motto for the week."

Salas said the film tied in with the club's motto in that it

followed immigrants as they traveled the treacherous mountains to get to Arizona. The film also highlighted the reasons people choose to make the dangerous journey, especially the financial benefits and the opportunities for a better life.

"We want people to know there are faces behind immigration," Salas said.

During the post-film discussion, Groody covered various aspects of immigration, from the importance of accurate education to the magnitude of immigration as a social issue.

"A number as big as the population of Brazil is migrating. It's a huge issue," Groody said. "To dismiss and disregard migrants not only deprives them, but dehumanizes us."

Groody also tried to dispel myths about immigration during the discussion.

"The Lou Dobbs and Rush Limbaughs of the world place an emphasis on people's fears," Groody said.

Groody also provided students with advice as to how students can personally address the issues surrounding immigration.

"The first thing is education and the need to dispel immigration myths," Groody said. "Advocacy and outreach are two other ways to get involved."

Groody said people should

have concerned regard for those who are seen as insignificant in society.

"Anywhere we can recognize the dignity of a human being is the first form of action we can take," Groody said.

Junior Arianne Rodriguez said the video and discussion were empowering.

"I think it's important to constantly remind ourselves of the suffering of other people so we can be their voice," Rodriguez said. "It's not about politics, it's about people."

Sophomore Molly Moskwinski said Jessica Wroblewski, visiting assistant professor of religious studies, uses Groody's book, "Globalization, Spirituality, and Justice," to facilitate class discussion on Catholic Social Thought.

"It was great to put a face to the text we've been using all year," Moskwinski said. "Fr. Groody is very well-spoken, and he makes me want to change the world."

Salas said La Fuerza was happy with the event's attendance.

"We are grateful for the support at tonight's event," Salas said. "It encouraged great dialogue for people who want to know the facts and make a change."

Contact Mona Rodriguez at mrodri01@saintmarys.edu

Staff

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pioneer in the field of modern finance, will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree from the University. Brennan is a professor emeritus of finance at UCLA and the London Business School. His research in financial markets and work in corporate finance significantly impacted the development of finance as a science.

John W. Glynn, a 1962 graduate of Notre Dame, will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree. Glynn is founder and president of Glynn Capital Management, a California venture capital investment firm, and a member of the University's Board of Trustees. Glynn and his wife endowed a chair in literature at Notre Dame, and their family made a leadership gift to expand and fortify the Glynn Family Honors Program through the College of Arts and Letters and the College of Science.

Jacqueline Novogratz will also be awarded an honorary doctor of laws degree. Novogratz is the founder and chief executive officer of the Acumen Fund. The Fund, a global nonprofit venture, has invested more than \$40 million in over 35 companies in developing countries.

Notre Dame will award Bishop Gerald Kicanas an honorary doctor of laws degree as well. The bishop of Tucson, Ariz., Kicanas was a past vice president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. As a proponent of Catholic education, he partnered with Notre Dame's Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) to establish three ACE Academy schools in the Diocese of Tucson.

Huguette Labelle, a global leader in anti-corruption efforts, will also receive an honorary doctor of laws degree. Labelle chairs the board of Transparency International, an organization that promotes transparency in international politics and business. She is also a member of the board of the United Nations

Global Compact, an initiative for businesses to promote standards of human rights, labor, environment and anti-corruption.

Mary Beth O'Brien will be honored with a doctor of laws degree. O'Brien dedicates herself to the work of the Ladies of Charity USA (LSUSA), the American affiliate of an international organization that responds to the needs of the poor. She served as the president of the organization, a representative to the United Nations for the International Association of Charities, a trustee of Catholic Charities USA and a member of the American Housing Foundation. All six of her children are Notre Dame graduates.

John C. Mather, a co-recipient of the 2006 Nobel Prize for physics, will be awarded an honorary doctor of science degree. He is a senior anthropologist in the Observational Cosmology Laboratory at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center and senior project scientist for the James Webb Space Telescope. Mather received the Nobel Prize along with George Smoot for their development of a satellite project to study the early universe.

French mathematician Laurent Lafforgue will also receive an honorary doctor of science degree. Lafforgue is a professor at the Institut des Hautes Études Scientifiques. He received the 2002 Fields Medal, the mathematical equivalent of the Nobel Prize.

The University will award Michael D. Griffin an honorary doctor of engineering degree. From April 2005 to January 2009, Griffin served as the 11th NASA administrator, where he oversaw work on the future of human spaceflight, the fate of the Hubble telescope and the agency's role in understanding climate change. Since leaving NASA, he joined the faculty in mechanical and aerospace engineering at the University of Alabama in Huntsville.

Commencement will be celebrated May 22 in the Notre Dame Stadium.

Getting Acquainted
with Catholic Charities

Fr. Larry Snyder, President of Catholic Charities USA will discuss:

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■ Getting involved in Catholic Charities

■ Professional and entry-level positions

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Minors

continued from page 1

both a technical track and a non-technical track to meet the needs and interests of as many students as possible."

Hicks said the Energy Studies minor is being offered for two key reasons.

"First, meeting the world's energy demands in an environmentally responsible fashion is arguably one of the greatest challenges of the 21st century," she said. "We feel that to meet this challenge, Notre Dame must play a key role in preparing leaders from all disciplines who understand the complexity of it."

Stewardship of the earth is an important component of the Catholic faith and provided another reason to create the minor, Hicks said.

She said many students have already taken an interest in the Energy Studies minor.

"We want to be sure those interests are met with a valuable, systematic course of study that will provide key information needed for students to be both well-informed

citizens and leaders in solving energy challenges," Hicks said.

Miglietta said a team of faculty members from various University departments collaborated to develop the Sustainability minor.

"They put their vision into a proposal that was approved by the College of Science Council and by the University Academic Council this past fall," she said.

Miglietta said students enrolled in the minor will be required to take a gateway course in "Principles of Sustainability" and submit a plan for a capstone experience involving research, service learning or a campus project.


The minor will prepare students to serve as leaders in their communities by making constructive contributions to the development of more sustainable practices, she said.

"Sustainability implies meeting current human needs in a way that preserves natural capital for future generations," she said. "One of the greatest challenges we face is thus establishing a new relationship with the environment."

Miglietta said she expects that the minor will attract a group of diverse students from all majors with a common interest in environmental issues and sustainable development.

Students interested in both the Energy Studies and Sustainability minors may contact Hicks and Miglietta for more information and to discuss course selection and approval.

Contact Emily Schrank at eschrank@nd.edu



ND Minute

The Observer News Blog

Green

continued from page 1

best programs in the country for students seeking careers in sustainable industries,” Lohr said.

The selection process took several factors into account, including the availability of courses on sustainability and career center guidance for students interested in “green” jobs. Notre Dame’s varied course offerings and career planning resources qualified the MBA program to be considered for Entrepreneur’s listing, Lohr said.

“We offer courses like Ethics in Finance and Banking, Sustainability in Business, and Corporate Citizenship and Sustainability, all of which relate directly to sustainable business and industry,” Lohr said. “The Career Center also provides students with access to opportunities in ‘green’ industries and to Notre Dame alumni who work in those fields.”

General Electric Co., a major “green” industry leader, is the No. 1 recruiter of Notre Dame MBA students. Their current work in developing sustainable energy technologies ties in with the MBA program’s recently recognized “green” reputation, Lohr said.

Lohr said GE chairman and CEO Jeff Immelt spoke to Notre Dame MBA students at the GE Live Forum in October 2009 about the company’s strong relationship with the University.

“He said the company is attracted to Notre Dame students because they bring an excellent skill set and ethical business decision making to the table,” Lohr said. “They are able to consider how business decisions impact not only the bottom line but also the local community and ecology.”

Companies value the strong ethical mindset of Notre Dame students, especially in relation to issues of sustainability, Lohr said.

“What company wouldn’t want to be part of a relationship with Notre Dame?” Lohr said. “The ethos of this place is one that people want to be around because we do things the right way, and we’re ethical in practices of business.”

“This generation is really in tune with sustainable, ‘green’ practices within organizations and how they can impact the world.”

Brian Lohr
MBA Admissions director

“What company wouldn’t want to be part of a relationship with Notre Dame? The ethos of this place is one that people want to be around because we do things the right way, and we’re ethical in practices of business.”

Brian Lohr
MBA Admissions director

of the conference focused on sustainability and global citizenship on the part of multinational businesses and investment, topics that reflect the growing interest in sustainable business, Lohr said.

“This generation is really in tune with sustainable, ‘green’ practices within organizations and how they can impact the

world,” Lohr said. “If we can show we’re a leader in that area, that will impact our applicant pool in a positive way.”

The availability of sustainable research opportunities also factored into Entrepreneur’s selection of “green” MBA programs, Lohr said. MBA students at Notre Dame have the opportunity to participate in research through elective courses, and several professors are conducting research related to sustainable business.

Assistant professor of Management Corey Angst is currently studying the functionality of paperless classrooms through the use of e-readers, Lohr said. Associate professor of Management Matt Bloom and visiting assistant professor of Management Ante Glavas studied the effects of working for “green” companies on employee motivation and job satisfaction.

Director of MBA Program Initiatives Bill Brennan said the program distinguishes itself from other MBA programs by offering interterm intensive courses to students prior to midterm break each semester.

These four-day, two-credit experiential learning courses offer students the opportunity to solve real problems for major corporations in small groups, learn cutting-edge, critical skills and apply their time and talents to resolve social issues in cooperation with nonprofit foundations, Brennan said.

“Every year, I poll the new class of MBA students about the interterm intensives, and roughly 70 percent of them chose Notre Dame partly because of that aspect of the program,” Brennan said. “Few

schools do anything like this, and it’s an innovative part of our curriculum.”

Brennan said the interterm platform ties directly into developments in sustainable business, especially when students work with companies like GE, IBM, Boeing and Green Mountain Coffee Roasters to solve real-life problems related to sustainability and corporate citizenship.

“It’s a win-win situation because companies get a fresh perspective, while students get great experiential learning opportunities,” Brennan said. “The people we partner with value the experience, and we work with them to develop new business strategies, especially in the area of sustainability.”

In one of several interterm intensive courses offered in the past, a group of students worked with Dairy

Management, Inc. to develop a sustainable process for incorporating waste from dairy farms into sources of energy, Brennan said.

He said he believes Notre Dame’s reputation as a “green” business school can only improve the prospects for the future.

“There’s no doubt there will be more focus on sustainability and corporate citizenship in society as a whole, and we are very well-positioned as a business school to participate in that area because of things we are already doing,” he said. “It fits into the Catholic character and mission of the University, so I can only see that being enhanced and continuing to evolve in the future.”

Contact Kristen Durbin at kdurbin@nd.edu

Mac

continued from page 1

receiving a free iPod with the purchase of a computer, Hall said.

Hall said PC sales are likely lower than Mac sales at the OIT Computer Store because students do not feel compelled to take advantage of discount opportunities offered by PC manufacturers.

“On the PC side, there’s so much more competition out there,” he said. “There’s not as big of a chase for that ultimate discount.”

But when it comes to repairing computers at the service center, many more PC-owning students seek assistance for computer problems than Mac owners, Hall said.

“Although we have seen an increase in the amount of students buying Macs, I don’t believe that means there’s a higher number of Macs on campus,” Hall said. “I do think there are more PCs simply because we fix more of them.”

David Yeh, director of Information Technologies for the Mendoza College of Business, said the high sales of Macs do not reflect whether or not they can be used in all academic situations.

“In the younger generation, we do see an increase in students adapting some of the Mac devices,” he said.

“However, many of the software applications are still not 100 percent compatible with the Macs. It depends on the facet of business.”

Although Mac OS and Windows are the two most common computer operating systems, Yeh said Notre Dame does not limit itself to supporting just those two. Notre Dame also supports a variety of others, including Linux, which is primarily used to run engineering programs. Mendoza currently does not

have a Mac cluster, and students use PCs when classes are conducted in computer labs, Yeh said. However, students who wish to use Mac computers may bring them to class and run them parallel to the lab PCs.

Although not a business major, Slaggert said he prefers his PC because he is comfortable with its features. He said he also values its substantial size.

“I like that it weighs ten pounds,” Slaggert said. “It helps me exercise when I don’t have time to get to the gym.”

Giunco said she appreciates her computer’s compact size and weight for easy transportation to class. She said she has never needed to run a program on her Mac that can only run on PCs.

Giunco also said she prefers the user-friendly interface of Macs.

“You can close it and open it again and be right where you were before,” she said. “When I closed my PC, all my work would get lost and it would turn off.”

Contact Melissa Flanagan at mflanag3@nd.edu

“I like that it [my computer] weighs ten pounds. It helps me exercise when I don’t have time to get to the gym.”

Colin Slaggert
sophomore

“Although we have seen an increase in the amount of students buying Macs, I don’t believe that means there’s a higher number of Macs on campus.”

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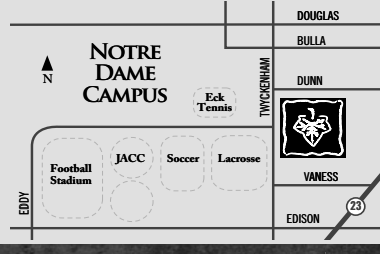
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Judge returns crown to Texas beauty queen

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — A 17-year-old Texas beauty queen allegedly told to “get off the tacos” after gaining weight has had her crown returned by a judge after a jury ruled that she was wrongly stripped of her title.

Domonique Ramirez won her lawsuit against the Miss San Antonio pageant, Luis Vera Jr., her attorney, told The Associated Press

“She won 100 percent,” Vera said.

Judge Barbara Nellermoe then restored Ramirez’s crown, clearing the way for her to compete for Miss Texas and Miss America, according Court Clerk Grace Montalvo. After deliberating 11.5 hours over two days in the weeklong trial, the Bexar County jury of five men and seven women found that pageant officials, not Ramirez, breached the contract.

“It’s a sad day for us. We think the judge and jury made a huge mistake,” pageant director Linda Woods said. “It’s an injustice for the city of San Antonio, it allows young kids to breach contracts and violate authority without any consequences ... It sends the wrong message.”

Consequently, Woods said she would not personally promote or support Ramirez in her bid for Miss Texas.

“I’m sorry, there’s no way I would represent her as talent. She’s trouble,” Woods said.

The size-2 teenager was fired in January over allegations of weight gain and bad behavior. Pageant officials testified that Ramirez showed up to a bikini photo shoot overweight and made pictures “unusable.”

But pageant officials claimed weight wasn’t the issue. Instead, they said the 5-foot-8, 129-pound teenager was unreliable, chronically showing up late for events such as grocery store openings, and violated her contract in ways ranging from not writing thank-you notes to blowing off a physical

fitness program and vocal lessons. It all added up to insubordination and breach of contract, they said.

Ramirez denied gaining weight or being late.

After the verdict, pageant attorney Ben Wallis told the San Antonio Express-News that the verdict would cause confusion and that the Miss Texas pageant could refuse to invite Ramirez. He declined to say if the pageant would appeal, only saying that the pageant has “contingency plans.”

Jury foreman Jesse Sanchez told the Express-News that the verdict was “a hard decision” and that jurors found interest in the case “overwhelming.” He declined to say why damages and fees weren’t awarded to Ramirez.

There was no immediate word on what would become of Ashley Dixon. Ramirez’s runner-up was crowned Miss San Antonio in a courtroom last month after a judge refused Ramirez’s efforts to obtain a temporary injunction stopping the pageant from naming a new winner.

Judge Nellermoe suggested that community donors provide college scholarships for both Ramirez and Dixon, who have each had their crowns taken away in this dispute.

Immediately after the trial, Ramirez went to Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church to place the crown on its altar as a gift to the patroness.

“She’s the queen of all queens, the keeper of all crowns. I wanted to give my crown to her,” Ramirez said, adding that she could buy a replacement crown for the upcoming Fiesta and Miss Texas appearances that go with the title. “I just wanted to send a message I’m very grateful and she has answered my prayers.”

Asked if she had any advice to other young women, Ramirez cautioned them to always carefully read any contract they sign and, she added jokingly: “Don’t go eating tacos in the morning.”

FAA questions landing safety

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Should jetliners be landing with only a single air traffic controller on duty — even if he’s awake?

Federal officials are grappling with that question following the safe landing of two jetliners this week with no help from the lone air traffic supervisor on duty at Washington’s Reagan National Airport. He’s been suspended, and safety investigators say he has acknowledged he was asleep.

The incident comes nearly five years after a fatal crash in Kentucky in which a controller was working alone. Accident investigators said that controller was most likely suffering from fatigue, although they placed responsibility for the crash that took 49 lives on the pilots.

Still, the National Air Traffic Controllers Association warned at the time against putting controllers alone on shifts and assigning tiring work schedules.

The union’s president, Paul Rinaldi, made the same point again on Thursday: “One-person shifts are unsafe. Period.”

The Reagan National incident, around midnight Tuesday night, has sent administration officials scrambling to assure the public that safety isn’t being compromised. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood has ordered an examination of controller staffing at airports across the nation, and he directed that two controllers staff the midnight shift in Washington from now on.

Federal Aviation Administration chief Randy Babbitt said he was investigating the incident, but he also said that at “no point was either plane out of radar contact, and our back-up system kicked in to ensure the safe landing of both airplanes.”

The National Transportation Safety Board has opened its own investigation, and the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee has added yet another investigation.

The issue is likely to land in

Congress’ lap next week when the House is expected take up a Republican-drafted bill that would cut \$4 billion over four years from the FAA. The agency says it needs more money, not less.

A House bill already calls for a National Academy of Sciences study of controller staffing. A Senate-passed version of the bill also would require a study.

“The incident at Reagan National Airport is troubling and of great concern,” said Rep. Nick Rahall, D-W.Va., the senior Democrat on the transportation committee. “We must deal with the immediate safety and security concerns of this critical airspace.”

Besides Reagan National, at least two other airports in the Washington region — in Richmond, Va., and at Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland — are also staffed by a single controller overnight. Among other airports identified by the controllers’ union as staffed by one controller overnight were San Diego International and Sacramento International in California, Tucson International in Arizona, Reno-Tahoe International in Nevada and Ft. Lauderdale Executive in Florida.

The Washington controller, who hasn’t been identified, was on his fourth straight overnight shift, from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m., the NTSB said.

Sen. Frank Lautenberg, D-N.J., cited this week’s incident while pressing LaHood for an increase in the number of fully certified controllers assigned to the tower at Newark’s Liberty International Airport. He said the airport is supposed to have 35 to 40 certified controllers, but its tower is currently staffed with 26 certified controllers and eight trainees.

“The last thing airline passengers should have to worry about is whether there is anyone working in the air traffic control tower below,” Lautenberg said Thursday.

But some aviation safety experts say perhaps too much is being made of this week’s incident.

“It’s not outrageous for the agency to avoid putting a second six-figure employee into a tower where they may only work a dozen airplanes in a shift,” said Bill Voss, president of the Flight Safety Foundation of Alexandria, Va., and a former air traffic controller.

The airport, in Arlington, Va., just across the Potomac River from Washington, typically has four to five scheduled landings between midnight and 6 a.m. plus a few unscheduled takeoffs or landings, FAA officials said.

Rep. John Mica, R-Fla., the transportation committee chairman, called LaHood’s decision to add a second controller to the midnight shift when there is so little traffic “a typical bureaucratic response.”

Planes, including smaller airliners, land frequently at small airports where there are no towers and no controllers.

But Greg Elwood of Winchester, Va., who worked 29 years as a controller before retiring last October, said he feels FAA should have two controllers on duty for the same reason airlines put two pilots in cockpits when a single pilot is capable of flying the plane alone — it’s a safety hedge against the unforeseen.

“For sure the work (on an overnight shift) is incredibly easy. It’s really not work, you are more of a watchman so to speak,” Elwood, 57, said in an interview.

But with a single controller on duty, he said, an airport tower goes unattended every time the controller leaves even to go to the bathroom.

“In the towers where I have worked, you had to walk down a flight of steps to go to the bathroom — there’s no bathroom in the cab (tower workroom),” Elwood said. “It’s like the cockpit of an airplane. It’s a workplace.”

The greatest risk to planes landing at night without controller assistance at a big airport like Washington’s is that they might collide with equipment or maintenance workers since most runway maintenance work is performed overnight, Elwood said.

“That’s when they’re changing the light bulbs and patching the runway,” he said. “A pilot can’t see the whole runway at night.”



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Teen may be tried as adult



Family and friends of the victims gather outside the Metcalfe County, Ky. home of a couple that was shot and killed by a fifteen-year-old relative.

Associated Press

EDMONTON, Ky. — A Kentucky couple who took in an incorrigible 15-year-old relative now accused of killing them had put their foot down when he wanted to date a 12-year-old girl, police and family members said.

An adult son found Gary and Barbara Holloway dead in their bed Tuesday. Soon after, police issued an Amber Alert for the teen who was living with them and for the girlfriend the couple had forbidden him to see. Police said they feared both might be in grave danger.

A day later, in one of the strangest cases to arise from the system designed to find abducted children, the 15-year-old was charged with murdering his cousin and her husband, who welcomed him into their home three months ago when his mother said she could no longer control him.

“They gave him everything in the world,” said Elizabeth Osborn, a friend of the Holloways’ son, Stephen. “He kept getting suspended from school, and they still gave him everything.”

The teen now faces juvenile charges, but prosecutors said on Thursday that they plan to ask a judge to have him tried as an adult. The adult charges would carry harsher penalties if he is convicted.

Family members said the boy was an eighth-grader at the local middle school and habitually got in trouble for bringing cigarettes to school, bullying other children and talking back to his teachers.

Barbara Holloway, his second cousin, had taken him in three months ago, said her

sister, Ruby Whitehead. Family members said his father is in prison.

“He’s always been abandoned his whole life,” said Osborn. “... I guess the first people who showed him love, he didn’t know how to take it.”

Barbara Holloway would sometimes have to pick him up an hour after school had started because he had been suspended.

Then there was the relationship with the 12-year-old, which Osborn said both the Holloways and the girl’s mother tried to end. There was no indication the girl was involved in the killing, and police said she was released after they questioned her.

“We had been trying to fight it and keep them apart,” Osborn said. “Barb had grounded him from seeing her or talking to her.”

The state medical examiner’s office said Wednesday preliminary autopsy results showed Gary Holloway, 50, died from multiple gunshot wounds and Barbara Holloway, 51, died of a single gunshot wound.

Authorities caught up with the teen and his girlfriend a few hours after the Amber Alert was issued. A volunteer firefighter spotted them in the couple’s stolen car, the 15-year-old behind the wheel.

The teen was being held at the Adair County Youth Development Center. Besides murder, he is charged with fleeing and evading, wanton endangerment, criminal mischief, reckless driving and driving without a license. Authorities have not said whether he will be charged as an adult. The Associated

Press generally does not identify juveniles charged with crimes.

Osborn said she and Stephen Holloway discovered the bodies Tuesday when they went to check on the couple because they could not reach them on the phone. She said \$1,000 had been taken and someone had dropped off the couple’s dog at an adult day care center.

Osborn and Holloway called police, who issued the Amber Alert, which described the Holloways’ car. Volunteer firefighter Moe Hensley told The Associated Press he heard the alert several times on his way home, then spotted the car and called a dispatcher, who contacted state police.

There was a short chase when police tried to pull the car over about 15 miles from where the Holloways were found, and the 15-year-old drove off the road. Police say he and the 12-year-old ran away but were caught quickly.

Police defended issuing the alert, saying they did not know exactly what had happened.

“We had to consider every possible scenario, the possibility that they were perpetrators as well as victims,” state police trooper Bill Gregory said.

Whitehead, Barbara Holloway’s sister, questioned the decision to issue the Amber Alert.

“It should have been more like, ‘We need these two people caught right away,’” she said. “... Not an Amber Alert that made people think they were in danger because they were never in danger.”

BELGIUM

NATO begins takeover of fight against Libya

Associated Press

BRUSSELS — NATO agreed late Thursday to take over part of the military operations against Libya — enforcement of the no-fly zone — after days of hard bargaining among its members. But the toughest and most controversial portion of the operation — attacks on the ground — will continue to be led by the U.S., which has been anxious to give up the lead role.

NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen, who announced the agreement in Brussels, said the alliance could eventually take more responsibility, “but that decision has not been reached yet.” It appeared that some NATO members balked at any involvement in attacks on ground targets, something the alliance’s sole Muslim member, Turkey, has resisted.

In Washington, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton praised NATO for taking over the no-fly zone, even though the U.S. had hoped the alliance would take full control of the military operation authorized by the United Nations, including the protection of Libyan civilians and supporting humanitarian aid efforts on the ground. The operation cost the U.S. close to \$1 billion in less than a week, and has drawn criticism in Congress from members of both parties.

NATO said late Thursday that it expected to commence enforcement of the no-fly zone within two to three days. The operation will be commanded from Naples by Adm. Samuel J. Locklear.

NATO also agreed to launch military planning for a broader mandate, including a “no-drive” zone that would prevent Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi’s armor and artillery from moving against rebels his forces had been routing before the coalition’s air assault began late last week.

“If we are led to hit tanks, it is because the tanks target the civilians,” French President Nicolas Sarkozy said, adding that Gadhafi troops stationed tanks in neighborhoods to provoke civilian casualties.

The North Atlantic Council is scheduled to meet on Sunday to consider the broader plans.

“Without prejudging deliberations, I would expect a decision in coming days,” Fogh Rasmussen said.

Diplomats also have drawn up plans to put political supervision of NATO’s effort in the hands of a broader international coalition. U.S., European, and Arab and African officials have been invited to London next week to work out the details.

“The political coordination cannot be only NATO because there are countries there that are not members of NATO,” Sarkozy said.

U.S. weapons are being used less frequently than they were when airstrikes began. French fighter jets used deep inside Libya on Thursday hit

aircraft and a crossroads military base.

“Nearly all, some 75 percent of the combat air patrol missions in support of the no-fly zone, are now being executed by our coalition partners,” Navy Vice Adm. William Gortney, told reporters Thursday at the Pentagon. Other countries were handling less than 10 percent of such missions Sunday, he said.

The U.S. will continue to fly combat missions as needed, but its role will mainly be in support missions such as refueling allied planes and providing aerial surveillance of Libya, Gortney said.

Allies have especially sought military assistance from Arab countries, seeking to avoid an all-Western military presence. Qatar is expected to begin flying air patrols this weekend, and on Thursday Clinton praised a second Arab nation, the United Arab Emirates, after it agreed to deploy 12 planes.

NATO’s top decision-making body, the North Atlantic Council, had been struggling for six days to reach an agreement on using its military command and control capability to coordinate the operation in Libya.

Senior Obama administration officials said the breakthrough came in a four-way telephone call with Clinton and the foreign ministers of Britain, France and Turkey. The four worked out the way forward, which included the immediate transfer of command and control of the no-fly zone over Libya, and by early next week of the rest of the U.N.-mandated mission.

The officials, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive military planning, said the actual handover of the no-fly zone would occur in one or two days.


Turkey’s parliament on Thursday authorized the government to participate in military operations in Libya, including the no-fly zone.

Libya’s air force has been effectively neutralized. Briefing reporters in Tripoli late Thursday, Libyan Deputy Foreign Minister Khaled Kaim said no Libyan planes have been in the air since the no-fly zone was declared.

But the rebels demanding Gadhafi’s ouster after 42 years in power remain less organized and less heavily armed than Gadhafi’s forces, and they have had trouble taking full advantage of the international airstrikes. A U.N. arms embargo blocks the rebels and the government from getting more weapons.

The rebels were so strapped Thursday that they handed out sneakers — and not guns — at one of their checkpoints.

“We are facing cannons, T-72 and T-92 tanks, so what do we need? We need anti-tank weapons, things like that,” said Col. Ahmed Omar Bani, a military spokesman told reporters in Benghazi, the de facto rebel capital.



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INSIDE COLUMN

Observer fever

On Wednesday night, I had a minor crisis in The Observer offices: we ran out of purple pens. Normally, this would not be an issue. Purple isn't even my favorite color — blue is, if you were wondering. In fact, I do not even own one purple article of clothing, including underwear (I just checked). Why was the absence of purple ink in my life such a travesty? Simple: Justin Bieber's favorite color is purple.

This time last year, the Biebs was a celebrity, but certainly no superstar. I remember one time in the spring, a high-pitched voice emanated from the radio in the fourth floor bathroom of Knott Hall. At first, I thought I was listening to any run of the mill female pop star. I was mistaken — it was Justin. Justin was something for preteen girls, like my little sister, but not me.

Over time, however, I came down with the (Bieber) Fever, and I came down with it hard. Between hearing his jams at parties, dances, even the dining hall, the little Canuck with swag grew on me. Never say never ... to try something you previously discounted.

This is not the only time I made the mistake of rejecting something I would end up loving. Coffee? I used to scoff at my friend Maureen for drinking it every day. Now I practically have a Starbucks opened in my stomach. During high school, I made a point of not wearing jeans because I thought they gave me a rash. Today? Well, let's just say I have been wearing the same pair of jeans the last three days. The biggest thing I have tried which I previously rejected was the Bat House at the Bronx Zoo. My mother had to drag me in, kicking and screaming. Yet to this day, I am obsessed with all things creepy and crawly.

The reason I am rambling about Justin Bieber and my grungy jeans is because you wouldn't be reading this inside column if it wasn't for me giving things I previously rejected a chance. In high school, most of my friends wrote for our school newspaper. At one point or another, they all told me I should write for the newspaper. I listened — sort of. At the time, I thought journalism was for people who liked to write a little bit too much.

However, when I came to Notre Dame, I suddenly had a lot more free hours in my day. It took me a while to figure out how to use them, but eventually, I decided to give The Observer a shot. It sucked me in, and as cliché as it sounds, my life hasn't been the same ever since. There has been lost sleep, hair pulled out, and missed social opportunities, but I love what I do here.

I guess what I am trying to say is this — it may be a prepubescent teenybopper, or maybe the independent student publication at one of the most prestigious universities in America. Regardless of what the opportunity is, give it a chance. You never know what you're going to get out of it.

Now excuse me while I go and find some purple pens.

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

Contact Sam Stryker at sstryke1@nd.edu



Sam Stryker

News Editor

Observing contradictions during Lent

It is an unfortunate fact that greedy, self-serving, mean-spirited people abound around us daily in our society. Personal contradictions range from the subtle to the outlandish. For example, twice yearly — during the Christmas season and Lent — a humanist organization purchases advertising titled, "What Humanists Think," and places it on the Metro buses in Washington, D.C. Their message proclaims that some people do not have to believe in God to be good. Yet during the past two years, as routinely as those posters appear on the divider wall behind the driver's seat, intolerant so-called "good" Christians inevitably deface and destroy them by adding biblical citations or crossing off the words, "do not."

Undoubtedly, Lent is a personal contradiction for me. I usually transform into a 40-day curmudgeon as I attempt to forego treats, change habits or lose weight. This year I unwisely tackled all three goals, and fear that this column may sound more like an Andy Rooney rant than an inner self-examination. Try my best; I sometimes forget to order fish on Fridays. Most interestingly, several events thus far have heightened my awareness as though a greater power spread icing on my Lenten proverbial cake. Regardless of my initial expectations and goals, the unseen paths of Lent forever twist within my current trek.

On Wednesday, the worlds of life and death — central to our Lenten sacrificial awareness — collided for two of my close, fellow Notre Dame alumni. While Mike Paulius ('73) celebrated another birthday, Bill Delaney ('76) traveled to a hospital following the death of his mother. For me, and many Catholics, the cognizance of living and dying simply lurks, mostly unnoticed, in the corners of our consciousness until we lose someone we love. For some, only organized religion seems to periodically prod serious notions of life and death from within the depths of our souls to the forefront of our thoughts.

But is organized religion the only catalyst? Others would argue that the mere humanist movement's fights against what they perceive as religious bias, strategically unveiled to coincide with Christmas and Lent (like when the early Church created Christmas to coincide with the Pagan Winter Solstice), also elevate serious universal notions for good living and of the consequences of dying. Surely my Baptist coworker who hums religious hymns daily at her desk but oftentimes crashes other divisions' pizza lunches to pilfer two plates of food could use any Christian, Pagan or Humanist self-awareness sessions that are open-minded and inclusive.

However, in my experience, most Catholic religious purists

prefer to purge progressive-thinking members with a "take it or leave it" attitude. They walk a rigid line seeking to return to the theological history embodied in neo-scholasticism and biblical literalism. They stood in opposition to the Second Vatican Council reforms that embraced modernism and sought to renew the Church by restoring unity among all Christians and a dialogue with a contemporary world.

Today, they too oftentimes contradict themselves for political expediency. They praise the professed pro-life stands of some politicians who oppose abortion but who send convicts to their deaths by refusing requests for clemency. Specifically, 1976 Notre Dame graduate and current Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell last year refused to grant clemency (life) for convicted murderer Teresa Lewis, evaluated with an IQ of about 70. In his statement to deny clemency, McDonnell cited "no compelling reason to set aside the sentence."

If life itself is not a compelling reason to spare the life of even a prisoner, it is no wonder religion is on the decline throughout the globe. Recently, the American Physical Society met in Dallas where it unveiled the study, "A mathematical model of social group competition with application to the growth of religious non-affiliation." A group of mathematicians analyzed available (not asked in the U.S.) census data trends throughout the past century. They predict that in the future, organized religion will nearly vanish from nine Western-style democracies — the Netherlands, Ireland, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Switzerland, Finland, Austria and the Czech Republic.

They found evidence of a herd mentality among respondents who are drifting away from religion, not unlike the majority of churches in our hemisphere with less than 200 worshipers who conversely only favor their style of pure doctrine. As obvious contradictions and scandals unfold worldwide within various religions, religion generally is losing importance. Trends show that as religious affiliation declines to nearly nonexistent numbers in the countries studied, it is more attractive for those citizens to be part of the majority rather than a minority — more popular to not be a churchgoer.

On the most basic level, it really comes down to each individual's level of acceptance of others, regardless of how imperfect an individual. It also helps before ordering Friday's lunch to remember that a Cuban sandwich is meaty, not fishy.

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

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



Gary Caruso

Capitol Comments

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The fruit of labor

At first I greatly appreciated your piece ("Where idealism and realism don't intersect," Mar. 24) as satire, but eventually I became worried that you were serious. I am responding to what I am afraid are your actual opinions.

Instead of joining a union, Mark wants the average American worker to fight for his/her rights by independently suing his/her employer. As such disputes are resolved in the American legal system, where lawsuits drag on for years and cost tens of thousands of dollars, and where teams of corporate lawyers can easily outlast individuals who can't pay outrageous legal fees in what often become legal wars of attrition, I think the average American worker would be thrilled by this suggestion! Who needs a union to pay for lawsuits on his/her behalf? This is America — we are free to bankrupt ourselves fighting in vain for what's right, thank you very much!

Mark says unions discourage employers from staying in the United States. Indeed, the sub-human working conditions in

many developing countries are very attractive to employers. We should be ashamed of ourselves for not aiming to be just as attractive. How can we convince employers they can treat American workers like animals? Mark suggests we support right-to-work legislation, which is a step in the right direction!

To the maligned "left-wingers, lifetime union members and subscribers to Catholic social teaching," in solidarity I leave you with the words of Abraham Lincoln: "Labor is prior to, and independent of, capital. Capital is only the fruit of labor, and could never have existed if labor had not first existed. Labor is the superior of capital, and deserves much the higher consideration."

Mikey Pilger

freshman

Fisher Hall

Mar. 24

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The world is moving so fast these days that the man who says it can't be done is generally interrupted by someone doing it."

Harry Emerson Fosdick
U.S. clergyman

Submit a Letter
to the Editor at
www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Every day brings a chance for you to draw in a breath, kick off your shoes and dance."

Oprah Winfrey
American TV host

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Looking forward to a tight topic at God Debate II

The upcoming God Debate II between Sam Harris and William Lane Craig has me even more excited than I was last year. The title “Is Good from God?” already has something that last year’s debate was lacking: a tight topic.

Here’s why I think this debate will be interesting and original: “Is Good from God?” presumes the concept of “good.” So often, we pit atheists and Christians in a battle of moral relativism versus moral absolutism, and the dialogue is entirely unproductive. The two worldviews hold such absolutely different premises — one that thinks that judgments of good and bad have consequence, and another that thinks that only evolutionary progress and regress run the show. Not only are these two camps speaking different languages, but they’re speaking about different universes with entirely different rules.

Now, someone correct me if I speak too boldly, but I think that the vast majority of us recognize intuitively the general goodness or badness of an action. We may explain it in any number of ways, but when we shove a man in front of a train, we intuit that there must have been a better course of action (even if he was going for our turkey sandwich).

William Lane Craig has spoken on the relationship of morality and religion dozens of times. His 2005 article, “The Indispensability of Theological meta-Ethical Foundations for Morality,” lays out his argument succinctly. He writes that “objective morality” is expressed in relation to us in the form of divine commands which constitute our moral duties or obligations. Far from being arbitrary, these commands flow necessarily from His moral nature.

Sam Harris is also well-practiced in this debate topic. In his 2010 book, “The Moral Landscape: How Science Can Determine Human Values,” Harris writes that “values reduce to facts about the well-being of conscious creatures” and “given that there are facts — real facts — to be known about how conscious creatures can experience the worst possible misery and the greatest possible well-being, it is objectively true to say that there are right and wrong answers to moral questions, whether or not we can always answer these questions in practice.”

Notice that in this debate, Sam Harris and William Lane Craig begin with this same premise — that actions can be objectively good or bad!

I think it’s a starting point with extraordinary potential. As an atheist, I am tired of being typecast as the moral relativist who thinks that mankind is delusional and progress is illusory. On the contrary, I think it is quite dangerous to believe that no individual is ever responsible for how he defines the rules of conduct! I think ethics is a perfectly natural system that can be reasoned out as soon as two parties realize that they are interdependent. With constant confrontation and collaboration, we can reason out ethical standards that work properly for all occasions. My Christian classmates also find the “good” to be reasonable and right, though they see these moral values as having necessary origins in God.

This is a far more interesting debate than the open-ended “Is there God?” It takes a particular case study which we mostly agree upon “goodness and badness” and makes it an issue for unpacking that more complicated question.

Mary Buechler
junior
Lewis Hall
Mar. 24

“The God Debate”

Next month, Notre Dame is hosting round two of “The God Debate.” Those who organized this forum are to be applauded, for I can think of no subject of more fundamental importance than the question of the existence of God. However, the choice of speakers both this year and last leaves me a bit perplexed.

Last year, “The God Debate” pitted Christopher Hitchens who, although by no means a philosopher, is certainly one of the finest contemporary stylists and one of the most interesting public intellectuals of his generation, against Dinesh D’Souza, for whom I cannot come up with a more suitable appellation than “conservative hack.” This year standards have fallen on both sides. Taking up the mantle of atheism now is Sam Harris, a second-rate polemicist and CEO of Project Reason. On the theist side, the impossible seems to have occurred: a less adept defender of theism than D’Souza has been found in Prof. William Lane Craig, a creationist at Biola University.

Based on the choice of interlocutors for these events, one can draw two conclusions:

First, it appears that those who organize the event are either unserious, naïve or both. When discussing such profound matters as the existence of God and the origin of goodness, one should find commensurately profound commentators. Save perhaps for Hitchens, this has not happened. Of course, doing so might require moving beyond the “New Atheists” and their popular critics, which would admittedly diminish the sex appeal of the event, but at least it would prevent the debate from devolving into cheap verbal barbs and cookie-cutter “proofs.”

Second, it would seem that those who organize the event do not take the theist position seriously. With all of the fine Christian scholars at Notre Dame, including some such as Brad Gregory who have written on the subject of the “New Atheism,” why bother flying in D’Souza and Craig? And if you insist on expending the resources necessary to fly someone in, why not choose a more reputable critic of the “New Atheism,” such as David Bentley Hart?

While time is certainly tight, I would urge those who are in charge of “The God Debate” to change the bill for the evening. If the debate must be between a popular “New Atheist” and a theist critic, then you should, in the name of academic integrity, replace Craig with someone like Brad Gregory or David Bentley Hart.

Joseph Nawrocki
graduate student
off-campus
Mar. 24

Going further

I could not agree more with Mr. Mark Easley (“Where idealism and realism don’t intersect,” Mar. 24) in his assessment that unions “are outdated vehicles of progress.” In fact, I only wish Mr. Easley went further in his demand to remove unions from both the private and public sphere. In the name of almighty efficiency, why not remove all restrictions on child labor laws as well? After all, before that pesky federal government interfered, their tiny hands were better suited for work in textile mills. All of America’s youngsters could be getting an early start on their 401(k)s! Who needs that government-imposed obstacle to competitiveness, minimum wage laws? And just think of how competitive America could be if we returned to those halcyon days of the industrial revolution before those mobs otherwise known as “unions” demanded a TWO-DAY weekend. I can only hope and pray that someday the government will impose better protections against the unions that drive their companies overseas and will continue to support our hostage and battle-weary CEOs whose annual bonuses only rank in the millions of dollars.

Claire Brosnihan
senior
Pasquerilla East Hall
Mar. 24

An analysis of Rebecca Black’s song “Friday”

The decline in American culture becomes apparent when looking at and judging the popular music of the day. Rebecca Black’s hit song “Friday” makes light of this degradation of American civilization and highlights our stupidity as a people. The failure to read and understand the obvious deeper meaning of this song is simply atrocious, and points out major gaps in our education and schooling. In order to attempt to facilitate creativity and critical thinking within our schools, I will attempt to dissect and to shine a light of knowledge on the forbidden metaphorical corners of the first verse and chorus of Rebecca Black’s song.

In the opening lines of the song, Rebecca Black repeats the word “Yeah” approximately 12 times. This number 12 obviously hearkens back to the 12 Disciples, representatives of the 12 Tribes of Israel, and her refrain of “yeah” signals an acceptance. Black is making two important points here — she accepts Christ as her Savior, and she accepts Israel as a sovereign nation.

Rebecca’s song really takes off with the first verse. She sings “Seven a.m. waking up the morning / Gotta be fresh / Gotta go downstairs / Gotta have my bowl / Gotta have cereal / Seein’ everything the time is goin’ / Tickin’ on and on, everybody’s rushin / Gotta get down to the bus stop / Gotta catch my bus, I see my friends.”

This verse begins to highlight the struggles that Rebecca Black deals with and her outlook on society as a whole. Her repetition of the word “gotta” shows that she is simply going through the motions — forcing herself to do the tasks that society expects of her. When she talks about the time, continuously “tickin’ on and on,” she is commenting on the fact that the fast-paced, demanding society has turned her “necessary” tasks into something monotonous, leaving her with no time to stop and admire the world around her. However, when she sees her friends waiting at the bus stop, this is what gives her life. Without her friends, she would be but an empty husk, but her friends transform her.

Rebecca Black then sings “Kickin’ in the front seat / Sittin’ in the back seat / Gotta make my mind up / which seat can I take?” This is Rebecca’s commentary on her socioeconomic status and the decline of the American middle class. The “seats” are a metaphor for the American class system — there are only the front seat (upper class), where her friends are “kickin’,” a synonym for relaxing, and the back seat (lower class), where her friends are “sittin’,” a word that does not invoke the same relaxing connotation. She asks the listener, “which seat can I take,” making the class distinction seem like an arbitrary choice, where if one performs one’s necessary societal tasks, one can have their choice of either the front or the back seat.

Rebecca now launches into her refrain. “It’s Friday, Friday / Gotta get down on Friday / Everybody’s lookin’ forward to the weekend / Partyin’ Partyin’ Yeah! Partyin’ Partyin’ Yeah! / Fun Fun Fun Fun / Lookin’ forward to the weekend.” The repetition found in this chorus is crucial here. She repeats this line twice, cementing this refrain into the minds of the listeners that what they are hearing is the true Rebecca Black. Her repetition of the words “Friday” and “weekend” showcase Rebecca’s excitement at the arrival of the weekend — a time where she breaks free of the societal demands. This is much like when she sees her friends at the bus stop — she is invigorated. Her plans, something that she must do, are also repeated. She must “party” and she must have “fun.” This is repeated with excitement, with much more energy than what she had to do in the first verse — conform to society’s demands. Doing what she wants for a change gives her new life, the only reason why she “wakes up at seven a.m.” during the week. Finally, the repetition of the final line, “Lookin’ forward to the weekend,” solidifies the belief that without the weekend, Rebecca Black would be but a robot, destined for a life of monotony.

Indeed, Rebecca Black’s song contains more than what immediately meets the eye. It is a daring commentary on societal constraints, religion and the American class system. Her songwriting is simply brilliant and fearless. However, like any good poet, her meaning is not immediately clear, but needs critical thinking to peel back the layers. I hope that one day the average American citizen will reach this level of intellect. Only then will we regain our status as a world superpower.

Mick Hammock
sophomore
Knott Hall
Mar. 24

Be creative. Send a letter to the editor.



As a senior economics major, I can't help but wonder if my time in college has been worth the tuition. Using the intelligence I acquired from this superior University, I came up with a highly sophisticated way to gauge the Notre Dame experience. Let's be honest, this score is more important than any college test. So go ahead, challenge your friends, and be sure to keep this bucket list for future reference. In the words of the great Ferris Bueller, "Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it."

Bradley McDonald

Scene Writer

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Bradley McDonald at bmc dona4@nd.edu

FOR THE HECK OF IT

- Got a number of the opposite sex at Domer Fest [5 points]
- Swam in Stonehenge [10 points]
- Climbed Stepan Center [15 points]
- Made Dean's List [10 points]
- Gone speed-dating at Legends [15 points]
- Done the Bun Run [20 points]
- Hit the "Play Like a Champion Today" sign [10 Points]
- Sat with a random person at the Dining Hall [10 points]
- Participated in a bar crawl [5 points]
- Jumped into St Mary's or St Joseph's lakes [10 points]
- Pulled an all-nighter [5 points]
- Participated in Bengal or Baraka bouts [10 points]
- Participated in a campus-wide snowball fight [10 points]
- Had a "Midnight Dog" at Lafun [5 points]
- Walked around the Lakes with a member of the opposite sex [10 points, 15 points for holding hands]
- Kissed under the Lyons Arch [10 points]
- Went on a REAL date [one on one, guy asked, paid, and called after] [10 points]
- Spent Spring break in another country [20 points]

THE NOT-SO-THRILLING LIFE

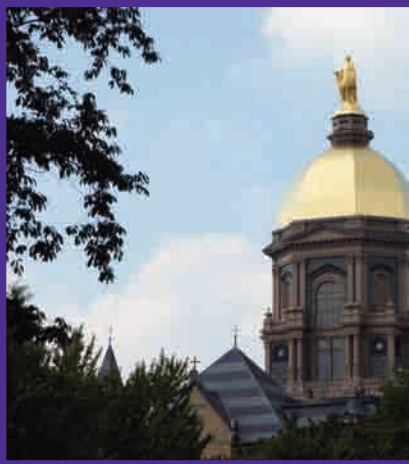
- Never played hooky [-15 points]
- Stayed in on a weekend night to do laundry [-10 points]
- Never been late to class [-10 points]
- Never asked for an assignment extension [-15]
- Never dressed up for Halloween [-15 points]
- Always been the DD [-10 points]

SOMETHING TO WRITE HOME ABOUT

- Attended an ND Religious Retreat [10 points]
- Went to mass at the Log Chapel [5 points]
- Was a member of the Marching Band [10 points]
- Earned a 4.0 for a semester [25 points]
- Studied abroad [10 points]
- Went on a service trip [20 points]
- Been an athlete, club or varsity, at Notre Dame [20 points]
- Won an interhall sport championship [15 points]
- Been on TV because of a college-related activity [15 points]
- Performed in a play [15 points]
- Ran for a Student Body office [15 points]
- Did a work-study job [10 points]
- Participated in volunteer or charity work on a regular basis [15 points, 10 if it was because of reslife]
- Been awarded a scholarship (not Financial Aid) [10 points]
- Attended every dorm Mass [20 points]
- Bought a class ring [15 points]
- Transferred to Notre Dame [20 points, 25 if it was from St. Mary's, 30 from Holy Cross]
- Participated in Dance Marathon [15 points]
- Started a student organization [15 points]
- Ran the Holy Half Marathon [15 points]
- Gotten (or given) a Ring-by-Spring [50 points]

BAR RELATIONS

- Attended Hip Hop Night at Legends [10 points]
- Sang karaoke at Club 23 [10 points]
- Attempted to win trivia night at Club 23 [5 points, 10 points for a win]
- Had a Papa Smurf at Between the Bars [10 points]
- Bought a \$4 pitcher of beer at Club 23 [10 points]
- Went to Mulligan's or Oyster Bar on Wednesday [10 points]
- Been in the cage at Fever [15 points]
- Had your ID taken at Finny's [20 points]
- Went to the Backer after a football game [10 points]
- Got arrested [or hit in the face] [10 points]



BAD ID

- Gotten a ResLife [5 points each]
- Lost your ND ID [5 points for each]
- Been kicked out of an ND football game [10 points]
- Been in a physical fight [10 points]
- Gotten a drinking ticket [15 points, 10 for additional one]
- Put a bike in a tree [10 points]
- Been kicked out of a dance [10 points]
- Been arrested [20 points]
- Played Full Beer Flip Cup [10 points]
- Spent a night in prison [30 points]
- Walked up the stairs in front of the statue [20 points]
- Walked back to campus alone at night [10 points]
- Gone to the campus cemetery at night [10 points]
- Cheated on an exam [10 points]
- Fooled around in one of the academic buildings [10 points]





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- EVERYONE IS DOING IT**
- Gone to a themed dorm party [5 points]
 - Attended an off-campus party [5 points]
 - Been to Drummer's Circle [5 points]
 - Played Bookstore Basketball [5 points]
 - Been to a SUB movie [5 points]
 - Fallen while doing pushups in the Stadium [10 points]
 - Slept over at The Stain [10 points]
 - Lit a candle at the Grotto [5 points]
 - Rubbed Knute Rockne's nose at the Rock [5 points]
 - Attended Carrol Christmas [10 points]
 - Gone to an SYR [5 points]
 - Attended a major party at another school [10 points]
 - Bought more than two pizzas at Reckers for you and your friends [10 points]
 - Broke Parietals [10 points]
 - Finished the night at Nick's Patio [5 points]
 - Been to the Keenan Revue [5 points each time]
 - Attended an "Ugly Sweater" Party [5 points]
 - Taken 21 shots on your 21st birthday [21 points, plus one for every extra shot]
 - Done a beer bong [10 points]
 - Done a keg stand [10 points]
 - Attempted the Hesburgh Challenge [15 points]
 - Attended 40s at 4 [10 points]

- GOOD STORIES**
- Went to class drunk on St. Patrick's Day [10 points]
 - Done a "Walk of Shame" [5 points]
 - Been quoted for the "Question of the Day" [10 points]
 - Attended a Dome Dance [15 points]
 - Won Bengal or Baraka Bouts [35 points]
 - Had something blessed by Father Hesburgh [15 points]
 - Been inside the football locker room [10 points]
 - Been to Duck Island [10 points]
 - Attended PigTostal [5 points each time]
 - Had a "Darty" [day party] on a snow day [15 points]
 - Been woken up by a fire alarm and forced to go outside in the middle of the night [5 points]
 - Kissed/was the leprechaun [25 points]
 - Talked yourself out of a ResLife/arrest [15 points]
 - Hooked up with someone in the middle of a party or bar [5 points]
 - Met Taylor Swift on campus [15 points]
 - Shook hands with President Jenkins [10 points]
 - Painted your body for a football game [15 points]

- FINAL SCORING:**
- 0-100** Welcome to Weenieville; ie, your life needs a makeover asap! It's time to let go and make life more interesting... college is too short to stay in this range very long!
- 101-200** There have been a few thrills here and there, but you could definitely use more excitement. Maybe implement the "never say no" policy for a bit and see how that treats you.
- 201-275** Not too bad, but nothing to get too excited about. Not suggesting you get arrested, but if you're feeling crazy, why not visit Duck Island after Climbing Stepan?
- 276-350** People might not call you reckless, but you've had your average share of thrills. A few more points couldn't hurt, but for the meantime good for you.
- 351-425** Safe to say life is interesting. Keep up the momentum... You're a king!
- 426-500** For better or worse, life is certainly exciting! It's guaranteed you have a number of stories that start out "remember that time when..."
- 501-575** At this point no one can consider you dull. But depending on how you racked up those points, it might be wise to slow down. But then again, this is still college!
- 576-675** College or reckless? Awesome Awesome Awesome!
- 676+** Let's just say it's a wonder you made it this far...

NBA

Knicks confident Carmelo trade will pay off with time

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Jerry West believes the Carmelo Anthony trade was good for the Knicks and Nuggets, though neither may know how beneficial for a while.

Knicks fans may be questioning that as their team continues to falter. The highs and lows they feel are just part of sports, though. For West, they became a health risk.

Watching the teams he assembled as one of the NBA's best executives caused too much stress for someone battling a heart condition. He could handle the anxiety and any pain as a Hall of Fame player, but not once he no longer had any control over the outcome.

"When it affects you the way it affects me, and it affects moods, mood swings, lack of sleep, I feel enormous stress and pressure," West said in a phone interview. "I didn't feel that as a player. I did not feel that. I just felt these different palpitations where sometimes it felt that your heart was beating completely out of your chest and every once in a while you get a little light-headed."

"That wasn't what I felt as an executive. I felt this frustration, anxiety."

West was in New York on Wednesday to discuss his fight against atrial fibrillation and to encourage people to get facts about the disease early. He wasn't diagnosed until long after his playing days, but said medical advances have made early detection far easier now.

He also got to check in on the Knicks, who fell to 7-10 since acquiring Anthony and 35-36 for the season with a 111-99 loss to the Orlando Magic.

They've fallen to seventh place in the Eastern Conference while watching Denver go 11-4 since dealing its superstar, but West said it's too early for the panic surrounding the Knicks.

"You can't judge a trade by that, and it also gives them building blocks," West said before the game. "They got not only Carmelo, they got a tremendous player in Chauncey Billups. He's really good and so they got two really good players out of it, but they haven't played together that long so I don't say it's patience, I think to me it's understandable that they wouldn't come in and burn the house down as far as winning games."

West constructed champion Lakers teams in the 1980s and 2000s, then built a contending team in Memphis before retiring in 2007, so he knows about making difficult deals, and understands the results may not come quickly.

"Regardless of how people try to read trades — Denver is playing well, they certainly have more depth now than they had before — but the reality of a trade like this, you're not going to be able to judge this until next year or two years from now," he said. "Which team is going to prosper the most, which team is going to make progress to the ultimate goal of any franchise, and that's to win championships."

Because he was on the East Coast, West was unable to see the Lakers' triple-overtime victory over Phoenix on Tuesday. He likely wouldn't have watched it even if he were still running the Lakers.

"I would probably be out in the parking lot ready to kill a player when he made a terrible mistake, and the same player makes the winning basket and you feel good about him again," West said. "It brings up all kind of different emotions when you have this arrhythmia problem I have and also the things I've had to do to cope with it, and those kinds of moments were the ones that were set it off even more so."

AFib is the most common form of heart arrhythmia, affecting an estimated 2.5 million Americans. It causes a rapid or irregular heart rhythm and can lead to stroke or heart failure, along with other conditions. There may not be pain like West experiences, making it unknown to many sufferers.

"I feel the symptoms, where a lot of people never feel it and that's where it's most dangerous," he said, "because it can be fatal if you don't get treated and if you don't do the right things to help battle this disease."

West only disclosed his condition two years ago, but he wants others to be aware and discuss it sooner. There is a website, www.AFStat.com, which includes an evaluator that allows people to see if they might be at risk, as well as information on medical costs and a place where visitors can share their stories.

"They got not only Carmelo, they got a tremendous player in Chauncey Billups."

Jerry West
NBA Hall of Fame inductee

NFL

Rookie NFL coaches unable to contact players

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Welcome to the NFL head coaching fraternity, gentlemen. By the way, you can't talk to your players, install new schemes or go after free agents right now.

That's not exactly what the rookie coaches bargained for. With the lockout, it's what they've got.

It's a most damaging dynamic to teams starting anew such as the 49ers, Browns, Panthers and Broncos who went completely outside their organization to hire a new head man. At least Denver grabbed a grizzled veteran in John Fox, who won a conference title during his nine seasons in charge in Carolina. Jim Harbaugh in San Francisco, Pat Shurmur in Cleveland and Ron Rivera in Carolina are newbies.

The new coaches in Tennessee (Mike Munchak), Oakland (Hue Jackson), Minnesota (Leslie Frazier) and Dallas (Jason Garrett) either were with those organizations last year or, in Frazier's and Garrett's cases, actually took over as interim coaches in 2010. So their handicap isn't quite as severe.

Still, the lockout is a hindrance as all eight of them try to rebuild struggling teams.

"It's given us a little disadvantage," Rivera said. "You want to have the team around and your veteran guys so you get a sense or a feel for what they do. There will always be a learning curve and now it's steeper."

More like a slippery slope. Rivera couldn't put in place his offensive and defensive systems. He can't identify who the key players will be on his roster because of all the turnover required in Carolina. He can't chase free agents to fill some of the massive holes on both lines.

Teams aren't exactly dead in the water because all 32 of them are preparing for the draft, which was protected under the collective bargaining agreement that expired on March 11. But it's hardly business as usual.

"We have to be fluid, be ready as time goes on," Rivera said. "The bottom line that we talk about is we have to be ready to play and adjust to whatever the situation winds up being."

The longer the work stoppage, though, the more difficult it will be for the new guys. Except in Dallas and Cleveland, the quarterback scenario is in flux. It's possible the starter whenever the season begins — if there is a 2011 season — isn't even on the roster in San Francisco, Minnesota, Tennessee or Carolina.

New coordinators in most of those cities have little familiarity with their players. No matter how quick a study they might be, an assistant coach's film work doesn't replace hands-on teaching.

"The coaches are getting plenty of time to get ready for that," Munchak said with a chuckle. "You have to be smart about it. Let your staff do what it does best, let your coordinators do what they are comfortable with, nothing drastic. You don't want to be switching from a 4-3 defense to a 3-4."

Oops. That's almost what Fox is doing as he moves from Carolina to Denver; the Broncos are switching to the 4-3.

But Fox also knows his way around the league, going 73-71 with the Panthers and losing the 2004 Super Bowl to New England.

"Retread," he said with a loud laugh.

"I had a chance to meet our players early on. I've watched plenty of tape. I think system-wise offensively we're not much different since our offensive coordinator from a year ago will be back again. Defensively we've got some (coaches) back, but there's no doubt we've got an adjustment as we go 4-3."

"But again, these things are not rocket science."

They can be complex, though, when someone is coming from the college ranks and has been out of the NFL since 2003. Harbaugh, who spent 14 years as a pro quarterback for five teams, comes from coaching bloodlines. His father Jack has spent more than four decades on the sideline, and brother John has led the Ravens to the playoffs in all three seasons in charge in Baltimore.



New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft talks with fellow NFL owners March 2.

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.

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17702 Douglas Rd South Bend Newly Renovated 3 Bed/2 Full Bath 2,312 SF 2 Ponds Creek Lots of Parking Walk to Campus 50+ Photos on web 17702douglas.com 574-876-8596

Jaimison Residence Condominium 3 BR, 2 Bath, 2 story, 2nd floor entrance condominium with no access except the front door, in the Jamison Residence on Ivy Road, walking distance to ND Stadium. Central air conditioning. Great place for football weekends. Can sleep up to 12 comfortably with bunk beds. Full kitchen, and fireplace in the living room. \$250,000. Available on June 1st, 2011. Call 239-877-1625 or email spocknd1@aol.com with inquiries.

NOTICES

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>

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>

Michael Scott: Ladies and gentleman, I have some bad news. Meredith was hit by a car. Oscar: Where? Michael Scott: It happened this morning in the parking lot. I took her to the hospital. And the doctors tried to save her, life, they did the best they could. And she is going to be ok. Stanley: What is wrong with you? Why would you have to phrase it like that?

NCAA MEN’S BASKETBALL

Walker guides UConn past SDSU in semis

Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — The legend of Kemba Walker is growing bigger with each postseason feat for the Connecticut Huskies, who are on the brink of another trip to the Final Four.

Walker scored 22 of his 36 points in another dynamic second-half performance, relentlessly driving UConn down the stretch in a 74-67 victory over San Diego State in the West regional semifinals Thursday night.

Freshman Jeremy Lamb added 24 points and hit a clutch 3-pointer with 1:43 left for the third-seeded Huskies (29-9), who won five games in five days to capture the Big East tournament and now are going to an NCAA regional final for the 10th time.

Walker, the fearless playmaker from the Bronx generously listed at 6-foot-1, scored 12 consecutive points for the Huskies down the stretch.

UConn advanced to Saturday’s regional final against the winner of top-seeded Duke’s meeting with Arizona later at Honda Center.

With four 3-pointers and a little veteran savvy to draw a run-stopping technical foul against San Diego State’s Jamaal Franklin in the second half, Walker outdueled Aztecs point guard D.J. Gay, who scored 16

points and trimmed UConn’s second-half lead to 65-64 on a 3-pointer with 2:53 to play.

Lamb replied with his 3, and his emphatic last-second dunk set off a celebration in the section of thoroughly outnumbered UConn fans at Honda Center, just 90 minutes up the interstate from San Diego.

Gay scored 16 points for the second-seeded Aztecs (34-3), who couldn’t quite catch up to the Huskies down the stretch. Kawhi Leonard had 12 points and nine rebounds but never dominated inside, while Billy White added 14 points and Malcolm Thomas had 13 points and eight rebounds.

Walker scored 14 points in the first half to stake UConn to a 36-27 lead during a 19-5 run, but the Aztecs replied with an 11-2 surge early in the second half. Thousands of San Diego State fans who sold out every home game on campus this season turned the Honda Center into Montezuma Mesa North, singing along to their favorite pep-band songs and thoroughly drowning out the UConn cross-country travelers.

Walker’s layup put UConn up 40-32 early in the second half, but the Aztecs finally remembered they’re bigger and taller than the Huskies, repeatedly using their advantages to set up open shots while keeping Walker’s teammates from getting comfortable.

Gay’s free throws put the Aztecs ahead 43-42 with 13 minutes left, and back-to-back buckets put San Diego State up 53-49 with 9:19 to play — but Walker even managed to turn that to the Huskies’ advantage.

After Franklin made a steal and fed White for a layup, Franklin and Walker exchanged a little trash talk. On the way back to their benches moments later, Franklin and Walker bumped shoulders — and Walker went crashing to the floor, drawing a technical foul and hitting both free throws.

Except for two regular-season meetings with BYU, the Aztecs were perfect throughout the winningest season in school history. San Diego State obliterated the school record for victories and won the Mountain West tournament before knocking off Northern Colorado and Temple for its first two NCAA tournament victories.

But UConn’s road was rockier, with a 9-9 regular-season mark in the Big East. With three freshmen in their starting lineup, most expected the Huskies to need another year before contending for big prizes.

UConn has been streaking ever since its regular season ended with four losses in five games. After Walker drove them to the Big East tournament title in dramatic fashion, and the Huskies knocked off Bucknell and Cincinnati in the



Connecticut’s Kemba Walker celebrates a three-pointer during the first half of the semifinals against San Diego State Thursday night.

first two rounds behind Walker, who already has obliterated the single-season school scoring record.

The West Coast vibe suits the Huskies, who also came out of this region during their runs to the 1999 and 2004 national titles, along with their trip to the 2009 Final Four.

ATTENTION SENIORS!

Notre Dame’s Office of Undergraduate Admissions anticipates hiring this spring!

As part of the Undergraduate Admissions staff, the Admissions Counselor is expected to make an important contribution to the recruitment and selection of the first-year class by managing relations with prospective applicants, their parents, high school personnel and alumni in an assigned geographic territory.

Responsibilities include extensive planning, travel and communication within the geographic territory, assessment and evaluation of applications and conducting group/individual information sessions. Additional responsibilities will be assigned by the Associate Vice President for Undergraduate Enrollment and the Director of Admissions.

Minimum Requirements: Candidates should possess a Bachelor’s degree and strong familiarity with all aspects of academic and student life at Notre Dame. Essential qualities include strong communication and organizational skills, enthusiasm, diplomacy and the willingness to work long hours, including numerous evenings and weekends.

Please Note: Applications will be accepted through April 30. Interviews will be scheduled in early May.

Preferred start date is July 1, 2011.

Application Process: To apply, please visit <http://ND.jobs> and apply to job #11120.

The University of Notre Dame is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

WTA

Sole U.S. player remains



Belgium's Yanina Wickmayer returns a shot from Russia's Elena Vesnina in the Sony Ericsson Open tennis tournament Thursday.

Associated Press

KEY BISCAVNE, Fla. — Three days into the Sony Ericsson Open, only one American remains in the women's draw — Uzbekistan-born Varvara Lepchenko.

Three U.S. women lost in the second round Thursday, including Bethanie Mattek-Sands, who was eliminated by No. 1-ranked Caroline Wozniacki, 6-2, 7-5. With Serena and Venus Williams sidelined for health reasons, Mattek-Sands was the highest-ranked American in the draw at No. 43.

American qualifier Jamie Hampton lost to No. 21-seeded Andrea Petkovic 6-2, 7-5, and American Melanie Oudin was beaten by No. 29 Daniela Hantuchova 6-1, 6-3. "Without the Williams sisters, it definitely adds some pressure for us for sure, especially for tournaments in the States," said Oudin, a surprise U.S. Open quarterfinalist in 2009. "Everyone is going to keep trying. It's not like we're all getting down on ourselves."

The lone American left was the No. 82-ranked Lepchenko, who has lived in the United States since 2000 and became a citizen this year. She plays a second-round match Friday.

Only seven Americans made the 96-player women's field, including two wild cards and two qualifiers — a reflection of the decline in U.S. tennis fortunes in recent years.

"We all hear it, because people do say it," Oudin said. "But all of us are trying to push each other to move up in the rankings together. That would be good."

U.S. Fed Cup captain Mary Joe Fernandez found cause for encouragement in some results at Key Biscayne. Sloane Stephens, 18, and Jamie Hampton, 21, made the draw through qualifying, and four American women won their opening match.

"It's baby steps," Fernandez said. "It's a lot better than it was a year ago. We're making progress. A lot of the younger generation is starting to make their

move.

"We'll have a top-10 player again."

Seeded players were in action for the first time after

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a n d N o.
18 Nadia
P e t r o v a.

P e e r was beaten by Anabel Medina Garrigues 6-2, 6-2. Pennetta lost to Iveta Benesova 6-3, 6-0. Petrova retired because of dizziness trailing Sabine Lisicki 4-6, 6-3, 3-1.

No. 4 Sam Stosur beat Zheng Jie 6-2, 6-1, and No. 6 Jelena Jankovic eliminated Monica Niculescu 6-3, 6-1.

No. 11 Svetlana Kuznetsova, the 2006 champion, swept Simona Halep 6-0, 6-4.

In men's play, Kei Nishikori advanced to a second-round match Saturday against top-ranked Rafael Nadal by beating Jeremy Chardy 7-6 (5), 6-2. Radek Stepanek will next play Roger Federer after beating Fabio Fognini 6-3, 7-6 (5). Pablo Cuevas will face 2010 champion Andy Roddick next after defeating Michael Berrer 6-4, 7-6 (2).

Mattek-Sands has ties to South Florida, and she gave 20 tickets for her match to friends and relatives. But the home-court advantage didn't help, and neither did her typically flashy outfit, which included silver sneakers, knee-high socks and eye black.

She fell to 1-16 against top-10 players.

Such is the state of U.S. tennis. But the 26-year-old Mattek-Sands said the outlook for the next generation is promising.

"I think we have a lot of good juniors coming up," she said. "I don't think it's as drastic as everyone makes it

seem. But we definitely want to get some Americans up in the top 20."

Wozniacki, coming off her 14th career title last week at Indian Wells, erased eight of the 10 break points she faced. Wozniacki hit only five winners but com-

mitted just 15 unforced errors to 49 for Mattek-Sands.

"Bethanie is a tough player to play," Wozniacki said. "You never know what to expect from her, and she's going for her shots no matter where she's standing on the court, and it's difficult to get the rhythm."

"It's baby steps. It's a lot better than it was a year ago. We're making progress. A lot of the younger generation is starting to make their move."

Mary Joe Fernandez
U.S. Fed Cup captain



SARAH O'CONNOR/The Observer

Junior pitcher Jody Valdivia winds up during Notre Dame's 11-3 win over Villanova on April 25, 2010.

Maldonado

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good team and a great team are getting the small, important things done."

Maldonado has been out of commission due to an injury since the team's participation in the Judi Garman Classic in California over spring break, during which the Irish (16-6) went 4-4 against tough competition. The time off has left Maldonado more than ready to return to the field.

"I've been going easy for the past week due to a minor back injury, but I hope that this good amount of rest should have me ready to go for the game tomorrow," Maldonado said.

Named Big East Player of the Week in late February, the junior from Short Hills, N.J., is one of the best hitters and a key member of the Irish offense.

The downtime due to the cancellation of Wednesday's games has allowed the Irish to practice their fundamentals and think about the upcoming game against the Huskies (10-11).

When asked about their success so far and their hopes for the remainder of the season, Maldonado was optimistic about the direction the team is headed. She recognized their potential as well as the work it will take to fulfill it.

"So far our season has been good," Maldonado said. "We have found things we need to work on in order to play consistently at the next level. We definitely have the potential to make it past regionals — we just have to put everything together."

Notre Dame faces Northern Illinois in its first home game at Melissa Cook Stadium today at 5 p.m.

Contact Jack Yusko at
jyusko@nd.edu

ASIAN FILM FESTIVAL & CONFERENCE

FRIDAY, MARCH 25TH
FILM SCREENINGS Browning Cinema

6:30pm **Kamui Gaiden**
(Yoichi Sai, 2009, 120 mins.)
9:30pm **Summer Wars**
(Mamoru Hosoda, 2009, 114 mins.)

SATURDAY, MARCH 26TH
FILM SCREENINGS Browning Cinema

4:00pm **Millennium Actress**
[Satoshi Kon, 2001, 87 mins.]
6:30pm **Paprika**
[Satoshi Kon, 2006, 90 mins.]
9:00pm **The Sky Crawlers**
[Mamoru Oshii, 2009, 122 mins.]

Tickets: performingarts.nd.edu



SATURDAY, MARCH 26TH
ACADEMIC CONFERENCE Hesburgh Center Auditorium

ASIA IN FILMS:
RECENT JAPANESE ANIMATION

The Curious Cabinet of Kon Satoshi:
Phantasm, Feminism, and Fear
12:00pm **Melek Ortobasi**
Assistant Professor, Program in World Literature
Simon Fraser University

Connected Disconnect: Superflat, Parallax, and the
Virtual Limits of a Post-Cartesian New Media
1:00pm **Jonathan Abel**
Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature and Japanese
Pennsylvania State University

Shōjo Desire
2:00pm **Margherita Long**
Associate Professor of Japanese and Comparative Literature
University of California, Riverside

For information: kellogg.nd.edu/asianfilm

Sooners

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nament in four years. It should be interesting.”

The Irish met and beat the Sooners in the second round of the 2008 NCAA tournament, a game that also went to overtime.

Oklahoma knocked off No. 3-seed Miami over the weekend to advance to the second weekend of play. Sophomore guard Whitney Hand powered the Sooners with 27 points, five rebounds and four assists in the winning effort. Hand, senior forward Carlee Roethlisberger and freshman guard Aaryn Ellenberg contributed 11 made 3-pointers in the game.

Senior guard Danielle Robinson, who scored 18 points in the matchup against the Hurricanes, leads the team with an average of 18.4 points per game.

“We need to challenge them on the perimeter,” McGraw said. “We’ve been defending the perimeter better lately. It should be a great matchup.”

Frontcourt domination is key for the Irish to get to the Final Four.

The emergence of freshman forward Natalie Achonwa during the past few weeks, along with powerful



SARAH O'CONNOR/The Observer

Senior guard Natalie Novosel protects the ball from a Temple defender during Notre Dame's 77-64 win in the round of 32.

play from senior forwards Devereaux Peters and Becca Bruszewski, have highlighted Notre Dame's frontcourt capabilities this tournament.

“Rebounding is key,” McGraw said.

The Irish and the Sooners will hit the court in Dayton,

Ohio, at 2 p.m. Saturday. The winner will advance to play either No. 1-seed Tennessee or No. 4-seed Ohio State Monday, with a trip to the Final Four on the line.

Contact Andrew Owens at aowens2@nd.edu

MLB

Ross fights for a spot in Oakland rotation

Associated Press

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Tyson Ross is making it hard on his manager.

Bob Geren needs to pick a fifth starter, and Ross hasn't done anything to eliminate himself from consideration.

Well, almost anything. He did finally give up a run on Thursday, in another stellar outing in Oakland's 15-7 win over Arizona.

“He's throwing the ball well,” Geren said. “He was so efficient today.”

Ross gave up one run on four hits in 5 2-3 innings. It was the first run the 6-foot-6 right-hander has allowed in 15 1-3 innings this spring.

“I liked the command of his fastball,” Geren said. “That's the key to his success. The velocity and movement is always there.”

Kurt Suzuki and David DeJesus each had three RBIs and Kevin Kouzmanoff hit a solo home run and added an RBI single for Oakland.

Ross is in contention with Brandon McCarthy and Bobby Cramer. McCarthy has a 3.05 ERA, 14 strikeouts and zero walks in 20 2-3 innings this

spring. Cramer has an 8.25 ERA with five strikeouts and four walks in 12 innings.

“My sinker was pretty good when (catcher Suzuki) called it, and I threw some changeups in there to get them off balance and my slider had some bite to it,” Ross said.

Geren said he's not ready to announce a role for Ross yet.

“We're just running everybody out there and letting them have success and will sort it out at the end,” he said.

Arizona's Joe Saunders had another tough start, allowing five runs on six hits in five innings. He struck out four but also walked four. Saunders has given up 19 runs in 13 2-3 innings. David Winfree led the Diamondbacks with two RBIs.

“I felt good. The first two innings went pretty smooth,” said Saunders, who retired the first six batters he faced. “The third inning, I had some tough things — a couple broken-bat hits, a couple walks. There was only on hard-hit ball in that inning. Got through that then made on bad pitch to Kouzmanoff (to lead off the fourth). Other than that, I threw the ball pretty well.”

NHL

Final weeks of season important for bottom teams

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The Detroit Red Wings know what it's like to carry such expectations into the postseason. The Vancouver Canucks do not.

That's what makes the upcoming Stanley Cup playoffs as wide open as can be.

While the top of the NHL standings seems settled, much is to be decided at the bottom of the Eastern and Western confer-

ences. It promises to be a frantic final 2½ weeks that will determine who gets the first crack to knock off the Canucks, Red Wings and other prime contenders.

“Obviously, if we're going to wind up on top of the conference, we should be the favorites,” said NHL leading scorer Daniel Sedin of the Canucks. “If we can play this good for 82 games, we should be able to do it in the playoffs.”

The Canucks stretched their lead over the Red Wings to 10 points on Wednesday night with a 2-1 win at Detroit. Vancouver is up by eight points on Eastern Conference-leading Philadelphia, looking to wrap up its first Presidents' Trophy.

However, finishing first overall doesn't guarantee playoff success — especially for a team that isn't used to a target on its back.

“You see their record, you don't win every night by accident,” said

Red Wings coach Mike Babcock, a Stanley Cup champion and three-time finalist. “But what the measure is going to be for them is what they do in playoff time — just like it is for us.”

The Red Wings have captured the Presidents' Trophy, given to the team with the best regular-season record, six times since it was created for the 1985-86 season. They went on to win the Stanley Cup only twice.

There have been just seven teams in 24 seasons to win both trophies. The Red Wings have as many titles — two — in years they didn't nab the Presidents' Trophy as those in which they did.

In the East last year, the conference finals featured the seventh-seeded Flyers, who didn't secure a playoff spot until winning a shootout on the final day of the season, and the eighth-seeded Montreal Canadiens.

The Flyers aren't facing anywhere near that kind of drama this year. Their only concern is staying in first over the hard-charging Washington Capitals, who were just one point back Thursday with eight games remaining — two fewer than Philadelphia.

Washington, and star captain Alex Ovechkin, know all too well about playoff pitfalls following a stellar regular season. The Capitals had the NHL's best record this time last year before being bounced out by the Canadiens in the first round despite holding a 3-1 series lead.

The Canadiens are trying to hold off the New York Rangers for sixth in the East. New York has opened a bit of a cushion as it looks to return to the playoffs after a one-year absence. The Rangers started Thursday three points behind Montreal, but only three points ahead of the Buffalo Sabres and six in front of the

ninth-place Carolina Hurricanes, who are on the outside looking in.

New York lost that season-ending shootout to Philadelphia last year and missed the playoffs by that scant point. The Rangers carried a season-best, five-game winning streak into Thursday night's game against Ottawa.

“Continuing to get points will lock down that playoff spot, and everything else is a bonus,” forward Brandon Dubinsky said. “We knew we had to get on a bit of a roll to create separation and solidify our playoff spot.”

The Sabres have played well down the stretch. With star goalie Ryan Miller leading the way, they easily could be this year's eighth-seeded upstart to scare — and even beat — the powerhouses.

“The playoff race is great. It's been great for hockey, it's been real good for us,” Sabres coach Lindy Ruff said. “The compete level inside the games has been awesome because there hasn't been a team that's been out of it. Every team is right there.”

With teams having anywhere from eight to 10 games left before the season ends on April 10, only six of 30 entered Thursday more than 10 points out of a playoff spot. There were 20 teams within five points.

In the West, 10th-place Calgary was only 10 points behind No. 2 Detroit and three points out of fifth. None of that will matter if they can't get over the hump into the top eight.

“You look at that three through eight and that can really change the next two weeks,” said forward Dany Heatley of the third-place San Jose Sharks. “You want to have the highest seed as possible, obviously, for home ice and things like that. As far as who your matchup is going to be, it's going to be a tough series no matter who it is.”

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7:30 p.m.
Little Theatre
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**Admission: Adult \$18, Senior Citizen \$15
SMC/ND/HCC Faculty and Staff \$13
SMC/ND/HCC Student \$8**

Travel

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[mechanics] and it allowed us to practice on our field for the first time this season.”

As of late, the Irish have struggled to find consistency at the plate. This has translated into a recent skid, as they have gone winless (0-3-1) in their past four contests. The struggling offense averages 3.7 runs per game and features a team batting average of .235. Aoki remains patient though, and said he is focusing on making the necessary improvements as the Irish begin Big East play.

“We are working at getting the bats going,” Coach Aoki said. “We continue to get better at it, but it’s a matter of timely hitting that we have struggled with. Along with that, our defense has been adequate, but not great.”

The Irish could use some timely hitting — and fast. The Hoyas are averaging 7.7 runs per game and boast six players with batting averages above .300 to Notre Dame’s one, freshman first baseman Trey Mancini (.333). The Georgetown bats are led by junior right fielder Rand Ravnaas, who is third in the Big East with a .409 average and second with five home runs. The dual-threat junior also leads the conference in hits (36) and stolen bases (17).

To combat the potent Georgetown lineup, the Irish will send senior right-hander Brian Dupra (2-2) to the hill. The senior has been Notre



SARAH O'CONNOR/The Observer

Sophomore infielder Frank DeSico fields a grounder during Notre Dame's 8-6 loss to Rutgers on April 1, 2010.

Dame’s most consistent arm this year, posting an earned run average of 2.38, complemented by 35 strikeouts, third most in the Big East.

But the right-hander struggled in his last start, an 11-2 loss to Iowa Saturday where he gave up six runs — all in the second inning — and 12 hits over five innings. Dupra will face off against fellow senior right-hander Alex Meyer (3-1) in tonight’s series opener.

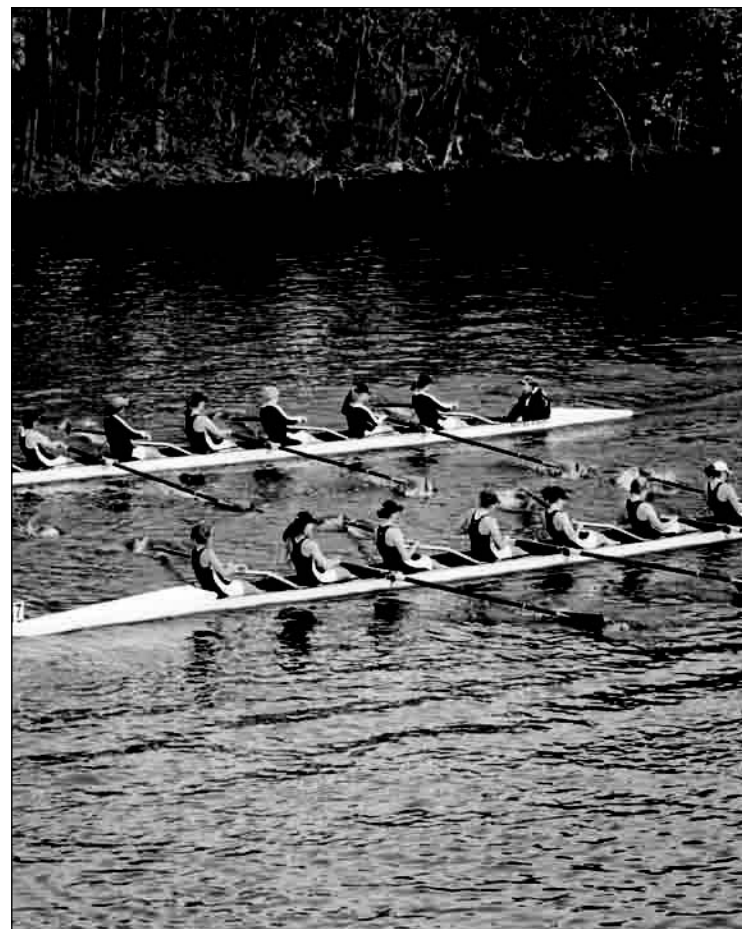
The Irish bats have the opportunity to break out of their slump against a Hoyas pitching staff that has struggled with control, giving up 13

home runs and 76 walks to go along with a combined earned run average of 4.10.

“Any opportunity to play in the conference is important,” Aoki said. “We have been playing for the past month, so it’s not early in the year anymore, but it is important to continue to improve.”

Notre Dame will host Georgetown at Frank Eck Stadium tonight at 5:35 p.m. and Saturday at 2:05 p.m. The series will conclude Sunday at 1:05 p.m.

Contact Andrew Gastelum at agastell1@nd.edu



TOM YOUNG/The Observer

Notre Dame practices for its upcoming meet in Indianapolis this weekend.

Seniors

continued from page 24

ed a foundation for strong performance.

“I would say the seniors as a whole, [by showing] good leadership, being good role models on the team, working hard, focusing on details and

not being distracted, are doing an excellent job and I think they’re a key to how we’ve trained this year and how we’ve performed so far.”

The Irish will compete against Indiana and Purdue in Indianapolis Sunday, with races beginning at 10 a.m.

Contact Sam Gans at sgans@nd.edu

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL WEEK

March 25 - April 2, 2011

March 25-26:

Asian Film Festival & Conference

DeBartolo Performing Arts Center

Sunday, March 27:

Spanish Mass

1:30 p.m., St. Edward’s Hall Chapel

Art Studio Tour with Fr. Nguyen

2:20 – 4:00 p.m.

Meet at the Grotto at 2:20 p.m.

Tuesday, March 29:

International Festival: A Sweet World

6:30 – 8:30 p.m., LaFortune Ballroom

Sample international desserts while participating in acupuncture, henna, a sale of handicrafts from Nepal, performances, and international games.

<http://issa.nd.edu>

Wednesday, March 30:

International Sunrise Breakfast

7:00 – 9:00 a.m., Fischer Community Center

Job Searching for International

Undergraduates: Peer-to-Peer Panel

5:30-6:30 p.m., Room 210, DeBartolo Hall

Red Hot Chili Pepper Eating Contest

9:00-10:00 p.m., Fischer Community Center

Thursday, March 31:

Snite Museum of Art Tour: Mexican Art

Before & After the Conquest

5:00 – 6:00 p.m., Snite Museum of Art

RSVP to issa@nd.edu



International Street Food Festival

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Wilson Commons Party Room at FOG

RSVP to mbeck@nd.edu

Friday, April 1:

Latin Expressions 2011:

Orígenes: Regresando a Nuestras Raíces

7:00 – 9:00 p.m., Century Center

Downtown South Bend

Tickets available for purchase at the

LaFortune Box Office during IFW

Saturday, April 2:

International Children’s Festival

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Community Center at University Village

Children of all ages are invited to

make international arts and crafts, get their

faces painted, and play games.

International Festival Week is brought to you by International Student Services & Activities (ISSA) and co-sponsored by The Career Center, DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, Fischer O’Hara-Grace Graduate Residences (FOG), the Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies, La Alianza, the Snite Museum of Art, and University Village & Cripe Street Apartments.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Irish seek to even record



KIRBY McKENNA/The Observer
Senior midfielder Kaitlin Keena looks to score during a 13-8 loss to Ohio State March 10.

By CORY BERNARD
Sports Writer

Despite a No. 10 national ranking to begin the season, a 3-4 start has dropped the Irish out of the top-25. Starting this weekend, the squad looks to make the necessary adjustments to break back in.

Despite their troubles, the Irish can reach .500 with a victory against Hofstra Sunday.

Notre Dame pulled out a 13-12 win against the Pride last year thanks to senior captain Shaylyn Blaney's career-high six goals, including the game winner. Fellow senior captain Jackie Doherty said Hofstra will be a difficult matchup.

"Hofstra is an athletic team," she said. "I expect that they'll give us a tough game."

The Irish failed to score in the second half of regulation during their double-overtime game against Cornell Sunday,

losing 6-5. Against the Pride, they will look to get their offense back on track.

Doherty said doing so will take some more careful attacking.

"One of the big keys is once we get possession, holding on to the ball a little longer," Doherty said. "We're definitely a fast-break team, but we need to work on being more patient at times."

As a leader on a struggling team, Doherty said she assumes some responsibility and looks for ways to improve.

"I feel really disappointed about how we've started," she said. "Obviously none of us imagined it going this way. As a captain, I have to look at how my leadership could change and how we can get better and get back to playing how we know we can play."

According to Doherty, the disappointing start has fueled additional competition in practice. She said her role as captain is to present a good example for her teammates in order to reach a level of consistency.

"At this point, everyone's playing for a starting spot in practice," Doherty said. "We've had glimpses of great play, but we need to be more consistent. I just try to lead by example by going 100 percent in every game and every practice and letting people know what's acceptable, and then trying to correct mistakes."

The Irish will take on Hofstra (3-5) in New York Sunday at noon.

Contact Cory Bernard at cbernard@nd.edu

FENCING

ND kicks off strong start at championships



ASHLEY DACY/The Observer
Freshman Adriana Camacho battles in the conference championships March 5. Both the men's and women's teams took first place.

Observer Staff Report

Notre Dame showed no signs of being rattled by the high expectations placed on them prior to the NCAA championships, as the Irish asserted themselves as the team to beat on day one of the competition at Ohio State.

Notre Dame registered 61 points on the first day of action, which gave them an eight point lead over second place Penn State and a 21 point lead of the next closest competition, St. John's. Ohio State and Harvard both have 39 points to round out the top five.

The Irish had four outstanding individual performances from seniors Avery Zuck, Barron Nydam, junior Reggie Bentley and freshman

Ariel DeSmet. Each fencer registered at least 10 wins and DeSmet led the team with 12 victories.

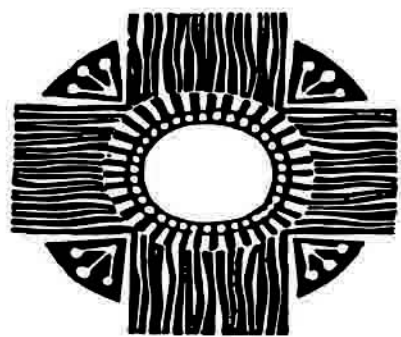
DeSmet and Bentley led the way in the foil, while Zuck and Nydam tallied their points in the saber competition.

The Irish also received contributions from sophomore James Kaull and senior Brent Kelly, who is participating in his first NCAA championships, in the epee competition. Kaull finished the day with an impressive 9-5 record and Kelly tallied a record of 8-6.

The men's portion of the championships will finish on Friday. The top four finishers in each competition will participate in semifinal 15-touch bouts to determine the individual champions.

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9:00 pm
Sunday, March 27

*Coleman-Morse Center
Chapel of Notre Dame Our Mother*



For information, contact Judy Madden 631-8508 or jmadden2@nd.edu

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NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Florida edges BYU
83-74 in overtime

BYU's Stephen Rogers fails to block a shot from Florida's Kenny Boynton in the NCAA Southeast regional semifinal game Thursday.

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — BYU had the best scorer on the court. Florida had the best team.

Alex Tyus scored 19 points and grabbed 17 rebounds as Florida beat BYU 83-74 in overtime Thursday night, chasing Jimmer Fredette and the Cougars out of the NCAA tournament.

While Fredette was the star attraction, scoring 32 points on 11 for 29 shooting in the final game of his college career, Florida countered with balance.

Kenny Boynton added 17 points while Erving Walker and Chandler Parsons both scored 16. Boynton and Parsons each hit 3-pointers in overtime as Florida outscored BYU 15-6.

Fredette made just 3 of 15 from 3-point range and had to work for his points against Florida's physical defense. By the end of the game, he had a bandage on his chin from a blow in the second half, but the baskets kept coming until he was held scoreless in overtime.

When the outcome became apparent with one minute remaining, BYU coach Dave Rose subbed out Fredette, bringing a standing ovation from the crowd.

Florida (29-7) eliminated BYU (32-5) and reached its first regional final since 2007.

The Gators led for much of the first half, but BYU rallied to tie the game at 36 by halftime.

Florida was almost unstoppable early, making 10 of its first 13 shots and leading by 10 points early. But the Gators cooled dramatically from that point, making just 4 of 13 from the field and 1 of 6 from the free-throw line in the first half.

Fredette, who came into the game as the nation's leading scorer at 28.8 points per game, missed his first six shots from the field. But the Cougars were able to tread water thanks to Jackson Emery and Stephen

Rogers, who combined to hit five 3-pointers in the first half.

Fredette was held scoreless for nearly 14 minutes before hitting a layup with 6:17 remaining in the first half. He made four of his next seven shots to finish the half with 10 points.

The Gators double-teamed Fredette occasionally, but usually guarded him one-on-one with Kenny Boynton or Scottie Wilbekin. Fredette was bumped several times while trying to finish layups, and two of his first three shots were blocked.

But fouls were hard to come by, despite Fredette's occasional glares toward officials and the anger from the vastly pro-BYU crowd at New Orleans Arena.

By midway through the second half, Fredette's chin was bleeding and he came out of a timeout sporting a white bandage. But it didn't stop him.

He brought the crowd to its feet with 4:56 remaining, nailing a 3-pointer from 30 feet away to tie the game at 63.

But Florida wasn't rattled, making several big shots. Tyus did the vast majority of his damage in the most crucial moments, with 12 points and 11 rebounds after halftime.

The Gators had the last shot in regulation, but Parsons missed a contested layup with one second remaining.

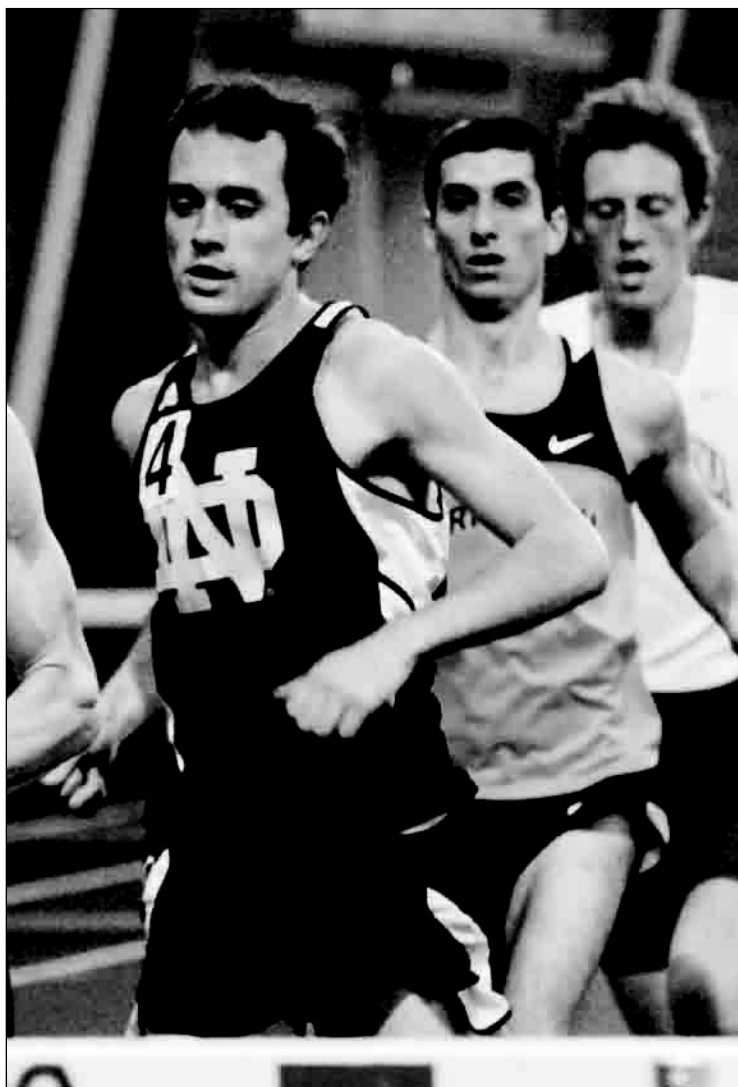
Compared to the tense final moments of the second half, overtime was anticlimactic. Tyus hit a layup and Boynton made a short jumper to give Florida a 72-68 lead and the Gators cruised from there as Fredette's 3-pointers wouldn't fall.

BYU beat Florida 99-92 in double overtime in the first round of last year's NCAA Tournament.

BYU finished the season with the most wins in school history and made the round of 16 for the first time since 1981, when another famous Cougars guard, Danny Ainge, was the star.

TRACK & FIELD

Irish succeed in Alabama



JULIE HERDER/The Observer

Junior middle distance runner Kelly Lynch competes in the 3,000-meter at the Alex Wilson Invitational March 5.

Observer Staff Report

The Irish travel to different regions of the country this weekend to participate in three separate invitation-

als. The contests should provide a glimpse of how the team stacks up against elite competition with the Big East championships quickly approaching.

The Alabama Relays began on Thursday, and although the Irish only had four athletes in the competition, each came ready to play.

The Irish featured three athletes finish in the top-20 in the men's decathlon at the event. Senior Justin Schneider came in second place, sophomore Dean Odegard came in seventh place and fellow sophomore Alex Bavis finished in 19th place.

Junior Maddie Buttinger stood out on the women's side by coming in third place overall in the decathlon.

22 athletes travel to Palo Alto, Calif., for the Stanford Invitational that takes place Friday and Saturday. The Notre Dame distance runners will have a chance to qualify for NCAA regionals during the competition.

Notre Dame's All-American distance medley relay team will be competing at Stanford as well. Graduate student and 2009 cross country All-American Lindsey Ferguson will be participating for the Irish.

The Arizona State Invitational held on Friday and Saturday also provides an opportunity for the sprinters and field competitors, 23 in all, to qualify for the regionals.

All-American freshman Patrick Feeney leads the sprinters in the relay, while senior Rudy Atang hopes to finish his illustrious shot-putting career at Notre Dame strong with an NCAA berth.

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ND WOMEN’S TENNIS

No. 19 Irish struggle against No. 20 Georgia Tech

Observer Staff Report

A trip to Atlanta concluded in disappointment, as the Irish fell 5-2 to Georgia Tech. Singles brought the most surprising outcomes of the day, with freshmen stepping forward to earn victories as third-ranked junior Kristy Frilling fell for the first time in singles play this season.

The No. 19 Irish entered the competition with a 9-7 record hot off a 5-2 win over Tennessee. No.

20 Georgia Tech carried a 7-5 record into the match following a 4-3 triumph over No. 14 Vanderbilt. The Yellow Jackets have three ranked singles athletes, the highest of which is No. 49 Jillian O'Neill.

The Yellow Jackets put away the Irish Thursday, taking the doubles point and four of six singles matches. The No. 1 singles match began the downward spiral, as Frilling fell to O'Neill 6-3, 6-0.

From there, the Irish struggled to find a rhythm. On the No. 2 court, No. 38 junior Shannon Mathews fell to No. 82 Viet Ha Ngo 6-4, 7-6. Senior Kristen Rafael was unable to overcome No. 83 junior Caroline Lilley in the No. 3 singles match, falling 7-6, 6-2.

Sophomore Chrissie McGaffigan faced sophomore Elizabeth Kilborn in No. 5 singles, but after three sets fell 6-1, 4-6 and 6-2.

Despite the difficulties the



GRANT TOBIN/The Observer
Freshman Julie Sabacinski returns a ball against Baylor March 6. The Irish fell 4-3 to the Yellow Jackets.

upperclassmen faced, two Irish freshmen managed to find success.

Freshman Jennifer Kellner, now ranked No. 107, moved up to the No. 4 singles spot and faced senior Sasha Krupina. The first set went in Krupina's favor, when she took six points to Kellner's four. After that, Kellner took the match, winning the remaining two sets 7-6 and 10-8.

At the No. 6 spot, freshman Julie Sabacinski took both sets against junior Lynn Blau 7-6, 6-3.

In doubles play, the No. 33 pair of Frilling and Mathews pulled out a victory, the lone doubles win for the Irish. The pair defeated Ha Ngo and O'Neill 8-6 at the No. 1 spot. McGaffigan and Rafael lost a close 9-8 match to Krupina and Kilborn, while Kellner and Sabacinski were unable to carry forward their singles wins, falling to Blau and Lilley 8-3.

The Irish have a break this weekend and resume play at home April 1 against Long Beach State at 4 p.m.



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NHL

Predators end Ducks’ four-game win streak

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Sergei Kostitsyn scored two goals, both in the first period, as the Nashville Predators beat the Anaheim Ducks 5-4 on Thursday night.

Nick Spaling, Jordin Tootoo and David Legwand also scored for Nashville, which has won five straight games. Tootoo and Spaling each added an assist.

Teemu Selanne scored two power-play goals, and Corey Perry also had two goals for Anaheim, which had its four-game winning streak stopped.

With 1:40 left in the second period, Tootoo took a shot in the slot that bounced off the leg pads of Dan Ellis and into the net to give the Predators a 4-1 lead.

The Predators stretched the lead to 5-1 in the third period as Legwand scored a short-handed goal that bounced off the far post and in at 9:29.

Anaheim scored 10 seconds later on the power play as Selanne skated in and shot the puck just under the cross bar. At 15:24, Selanne struck again on the power play as the puck bounced off the stick of Nashville's Ryan Suter and into the net.

Perry was credited with his

42nd goal with 27 seconds left as the puck bounced off the skate of Suter and went in under the crossbar.

For the second game in a row, the Predators opened the scoring. At 2:04 of the first period Patric Hornqvist took a shot from the left side of the net. The puck bounced off Anaheim goalie Jonas Hiller and bounced around in front of the goal. Kostitsyn tapped it into the open side of the net as Hiller was slow to recover after stopping Hornqvist's shot.

Spaling gave the Predators a 2-0 lead at the 11:18 mark. Jonathon Blum took a shot that went wide to the left of the net and bounced off the back wall. Spaling skated in from the left side and shot the puck under Hiller's outstretched leg pad from close range.

Kostitsyn scored his second goal of the night 19 seconds later. Hornqvist took a shot from inside the right board above the faceoff circle. Kostitsyn, stationed in front of the goal, redirected the puck into the net.

After that goal, Oilers coach Randy Carlyle removed Hiller from the game and replaced him with Ellis, a former Predators goaltender. Hiller faced seven shots.

NFL

Auburn employees file racial lawsuit

Associated Press

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Nine workers in the Auburn University athletic department who were laid off or reassigned filed a federal lawsuit Thursday accusing the school of racial discrimination.

The lawsuit against the university was filed in U.S. District Court. Five of the former custodial workers were laid off last May. Four others were moved to other departments during a reorganization after Auburn moved from Beard-Eaves Coliseum to the smaller new Auburn Arena, plaintiffs attorney Curtis Chandler Jr. said.

Overall, 10 of the 11 employees who lost their athletic department jobs during reorganization were black, according to the lawsuit, which said that only one black employee who wasn't a coach moved to the new building.

"It just hits you in the face that it's so overwhelmingly absurd and ridiculous that Auburn would do that," said Montgomery attorney Julian McPhillips, who is representing the plaintiffs.

University spokesman Mike Clardy said school attorneys could not comment until they have seen the lawsuit.

The suit seeks compensatory and punitive damages, court costs, and restoration of their old jobs with back pay and benefits.

"All plaintiffs aver that the race discrimination practiced against them has been systematic, endemic and reflective of a long-term practice of intentional race discrimination practiced by defendant Auburn University against black employees, especially in the Athletic Department," the suit states.

It alleges discrimination against them in receiving promotions and in their pay level compared to white employees, who also allegedly were allowed more overtime than black employees. But the complaints also range from a receptionist not forwarding email to a black employee and the allocation of football tickets.

All the employees filed complaints against Auburn with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission last June, according to the law-

suit. McPhillips said EEOC has not acted on the complaints or sent a right-to-sue notification, but cited another statute that he said allows the suits to go forward.

McPhillips said only 2 percent of Auburn's athletic department employees, excluding coaches, were black before the reorganization. There were no fulltime black employees, the suit said, in turf management, media relations, marketing, sports medicine, athletic training, equipment, the ticket office and recruiting.

Six of the plaintiffs attended a news conference at McPhillips' office, two wearing Auburn shirts.

Plaintiff Curtis Chandler Jr., who has worked for Auburn for some 17 years, became the athletic department's maintenance superintendent in 2000 and was transferred last October to the Student Activities Center, the lawsuit said. Chandler, who said he did not receive a pay cut, contends he has been harassed and moved to a lesser job in retaliation for his EEOC complaint. According to that filing, he was making \$39,289 as of June.

The lawsuit also said Chandler was not interviewed for a supervisor's position at the new arena, which went to a white employee with no supervisory experience.

The other plaintiffs are: Antonio Floyd, Walter Hughley, Teresa Ligon, Eddie J. Mackey, Ernest Ross, Pamela Oliver, Sizzy Townsend and Marquetia Williams.

Williams and Townsend both said they were offered jobs at the same pay with an outside contractor for six months and lower pay and no benefits for the first year. Both said they declined and are still unemployed. Williams said she lost her mobile home and car to foreclosure.

Mackey said he was demoted. Floyd said the transfer left him and the other remaining employees unable to receive the overtime pay that came with the sporting events at the coliseum.

"You can base your income off that," Floyd said, "but when they take all that way from you, you're back down to ground zero."

Rogers

continued from page 22

Rogers to capture a victory, Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said this year's squad has room for improvement.

"We're not going to beat ourselves up," Corrigan said, "but we just need to keep working to be the team that we think we can be, and I do not want our guys to settle for less than what we think we can be as a team...we know we can play better, and hopefully we are all focused and working on doing that."

The team's competitiveness, a trait that has proven incredibly valuable against higher-level opposition, has sustained Notre Dame's perfect record despite imperfect play.

Four of Notre Dame's first five opponents are currently ranked in the top-20 nationally, and the fifth, Drexel, has received multiple votes for a national ranking.

"Competitively, our guys have done a great job," Corrigan said. "I am excited for them that they have found a way to do that."

Consistently finding themselves in tight match-ups with talented teams, the Irish rely on outlasting the opposition to tough out the win.

"Our big thing is always working hard, playing as hard as we can," freshman faceoff specialist Liam O'Connor said. "Sometimes we are not playing that well but we always try to make the hustle play and get the next ground ball."

Their extensive experience in tight situations should give the Irish a decided advantage over Rutgers if the game proves close. The Scarlet Knights' seven games have been decided by an average of 7.7 goals per game difference



GRANT TOBIN/The Observer

Freshman midfielder Tyler Brenneman looks to pass in the 8-7 Irish win over Ohio State Wednesday.

between the winner and loser. For the Irish, that number is 2.6.

"I think [our experience] helps us a lot when it gets down to the wire," O'Connor said. "We tend to keep our poise in the fourth quarter in those close games and make sure that we keep ourselves under control and make sure we have enough poise to make that last play, to get that last goal."

Still, Corrigan realizes that Rutgers will offer a substantial challenge to his battle-tested Irish team.

"They are a young team, but they are very well-coached," Corrigan said. "They have a really good sense of themselves and how they want to play, so I think we will see a kind of ball-control game where they will try to limit the possessions and make us work at both ends of the field, probably not dissimilar to

what we just saw with the Ohio State game."

Corrigan says he hopes his team will show improvement from Wednesday's game against the Buckeyes. In particular, he wants to see his players demonstrate increased consistency on both offense and defense.

"I think our offensive consistency and our ability to finish our opportunities are the two things that I'd like to see us improve on the most," he said. "Defensively, [the goal is] just to play 60 minutes. I think we have played some outstanding defense at times but then we have given up some goals and runs and I would like to see us eliminate that."

The Irish will take the field against Rutgers Saturday at noon.

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Sweet reunion

McGraw looks to guide team past Sooners

By ANDREW OWENS
Associate Sports Editor

For the ninth time in the last 15 seasons, the Irish have advanced to the NCAA Sweet 16. To advance even deeper, they will have to defeat a familiar opponent in the process.

No. 2-seed Notre Dame (28-7, 13-3 Big East) will face No. 6-seed Oklahoma in the third round for the second consecutive season. In 2010, the Sooners (23-11, 10-6 Big 12) defeated the Irish to advance to the Elite Eight with a 77-72 overtime victory.

"I think we're two different teams this year compared to last year," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "We've both graduated players since then and injured players have come back. It's the third time we've seen them in the tour-

see SOONERS/page 17



Sophomore guard Skylar Diggins dribbles away from a Utah defender in the first round of the NCAA championships March 19. The Irish won 67-54.

SARAH O'CONNOR/The Observer

ND SOFTBALL

Weather provides prep time

By JACK YUSKO
Sports Writer

After inclement weather led to the cancellation of Wednesday's doubleheader against Eastern Michigan, the Irish used the extra time to prepare to face Northern Illinois in their home opener today.

Junior outfielder Alexa Maldonado said the team worked on improving their overall game by paying attention to the details.

"We don't have a specific plan other than what our goal has been all season," Maldonado said. "We have been all about showing up and playing Notre Dame softball no matter who the team is. In order to prepare, our team has really been focusing on the little things. The difference between a

see MALDONADO/page 16

WOMEN'S ROWING

Coach Stone determined to continue improving squad

By SAM GANS
Sports Writer

After a successful trip to Oak Ridge, Tenn., during spring break, Notre Dame returns to action in its home state against instate rivals Indiana and Purdue. The Irish travel to Indianapolis Sunday to compete against both schools.

Notre Dame won eight pieces in a tune-up race against Alabama and Minnesota March 13. They followed that by win-

ning four out of five races in a meet against Buffalo March 19.

Coach Martin Stone was pleased with the trip's results.

"I think [spring break] went well," Stone said. "We accomplished a lot. We got a lot of rowing in. My thoughts are that it went well and it prepared us for the coming weeks. Everything kind of builds on itself throughout the year, so training indoors prepared us in a greater capacity to row for spring break and spring break

allowed us to take the next step this week and to row a little bit higher on the ranks."

Stone said the theme for the squad is to continue improving.

"We want to race better than we did last weekend," he said. "There were some areas in all our crews that we need to improve. We want to make sure that we make improvements, do the things that we did well last week again, and the things we didn't do so well be better at this week."

Though getting better is of high importance for Sunday, that alone will not be satisfactory.

"Ultimately, we'd like to win," he said. "If we do what we want to do and we do it well, we'd hope to win."

While there are a number of key individual rowers that the Irish will rely on this weekend, including senior tri-captains Emily Crosby, Stephanie Gretsche and Carol Ann Michel, a good performance will depend on the whole team pro-

ducing, both now and in the future.

"For the NCAA [championship], we need 20 rowers and 3 coxswains," Stone said. "So everybody's playing a critical role on our team and for the Big East, we need almost double that. Take any one person out of any of the boats [and] the boats might not go as fast."

But, as with any team, a strong senior class has provid-

see SENIORS/page 18

MEN'S LACROSSE

Irish defend perfect record

By JOSEPH MONARDO
Sports Writer

Well, they aren't perfect. Their goalie is inexperienced, their offense lacks consistency over four periods and their defense is prone to allowing opposing teams to score in bunches. And yet, as they sit at 5-0, it is undeniable that the Irish are, in fact, perfect.

The No. 3 Irish look to maintain their undefeated record as they prepare to face Rutgers (5-2) in Piscataway, N.J., during their first Big East game of the season.

After a gritty win over Ohio State Wednesday, in which the Irish relied on a last-minute goal by junior attack Sean



Junior attack Sean Rogers advances the ball in a game against Ohio State Wednesday. Rogers scored the final goal in the 8-7 Irish win.

GRANT TOBIN/The Observer

see ROGERS/page 22

BASEBALL

Big East play kicks off with Georgetown

By ANDREW GASTELUM
Sports Writer

To begin a winning streak of their own to jumpstart the season, the Irish will have to break one held by a formidable Big East opponent — Georgetown.

Notre Dame (7-10-1) opens Big East play with a three-game series starting tonight against the red-hot Hoyas (15-7), who are riding a seven-game winning streak after Tuesday's 10-6 win over George Mason.

The Irish have not played since Sunday's 3-3 tie against Gonzaga due to inclement weather and rain, which

postponed games against Oakland and Illinois-Chicago on Tuesday and Wednesday. But Irish coach Mik Aoki does not expect the extended break to affect the travel-weary Irish, who have yet to host a home game after venturing to tournaments in Florida, South Carolina and Texas.

"It has been a normal week for us getting ready for Georgetown," Aoki said of the days off. "We would usually have the middle of the week to practice and travel on Thursday, so there isn't much of a difference. But, yes, it helps to work on

see TRAVEL/page 18

IRISH INSIDER

Friday, March 25, 2011

THE OBSERVER

One Last Shot

Notre Dame's seniors try to recapture the magic of their freshman-year Frozen Four run

Photo Illustration by Suzanna Pratt and Brandon Keelean

Irish must calm nerves to advance

Just four weeks ago, Notre Dame stood atop the college hockey world. The Irish were riding an eight-game unbeaten streak into the season finale against Western Michigan. A win against the Broncos — who they had beaten 3-2 on the road the night before — would have given Notre Dame the CCHA regular season title.



Sam Werner

Senior Sports Writer

Instead, Western Michigan scored twice in the first 11:20 of the game and the Irish couldn't recover, falling 2-0 and ceding the CCHA crown to rival Michigan.

Last weekend, Notre Dame headed to Joe Louis Arena in Detroit for the CCHA Championship. After a comfortable 4-2 win over Lake Superior State in the do-or-die third game of their second round playoff series, the Irish seemed poised to make some noise in the Motor City.

Instead, the trip ended with a thorough 6-2 beating at the hands of Miami (Ohio) in the semifinals and a 4-2 loss to the Wolverines in the third-place game. Against the RedHawks, Notre Dame once again could not recover from an abysmal opening period, falling behind 4-0 before the first intermission.

"We didn't have as much fun," senior right wing Ryan Guentzel said. "I think the big building kind of got to us Friday night, dug us a big hole and we couldn't get out of it."

It's understandable that a team as young as Notre Dame — with 12 freshmen on the roster — might experience some stage fright in their first game playing for a trophy, or their first game in a 20,000-seat NHL arena. Now that it's NCAA tournament time, though, it's time for the Irish to grow up fast.

No matter how many high school or junior playoff games a player has experienced, there's nothing quite like postseason NCAA hockey. After the past month, the freshmen have seen collegiate playoff hockey with their own eyes. Even if it was not necessarily positive, the younger players have experience — albeit limited — to draw on now if they face adversity against Merrimack or beyond.

The Irish have plenty of

reasons to be confident heading into the NCAA tournament. This team has been ranked in the top-10 all season for a reason, and they need to remember that when they arrive in Manchester this weekend.

If the Irish weren't a good team they would not have beaten defending national champion Boston College earlier in the season, nor would they boast wins at both Michigan and Miami.

There are plenty reasons Notre Dame may not advance past this weekend — or even past Saturday night — but nerves should not be one of them. It's up to senior captains Joe Lavin, Calle Ridderwall, Ben Ryan and Ryan Guentzel to keep the team calm and not let the big-game jitters get to them. There's no better group of players to do it, either. Ridderwall, Ryan and Guentzel advanced to the Frozen Four as freshmen three years ago.

Interestingly, that team also lost both games in Detroit before making its run to the championship game.

Notre Dame has thrived all season on its loose atmosphere in the locker room. Older players have noted that the influx of freshmen have created a more carefree vibe around the program. When the team apparently stopped having fun off the ice — against Western Michigan and Miami — the Irish struggled on the ice.

I'm not going to pretend I know what the Irish need to do to keep it loose in Manchester. Maybe it's playing certain music in the locker room, playing practical jokes on one another or just remembering that college hockey is, at its roots, a whole lot of fun. Whatever Notre Dame needs to do to have fun on this trip, that will be the key to advancing to Saint Paul and the program's second Frozen Four.

This year's team has set the Irish hockey program up nicely for the future. There's no doubt that players on the roster now will someday raise some banners in the soon-to-be-ready Compton Center. Just because T.J. Tynan, Anders Lee and the other Irish freshmen have a bright future, though, doesn't mean that winning can't start now.

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

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

ND faces Merrimack in opener



SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

Irish freshman defenseman Shayne Taker eyes the puck during Notre Dame's 4-2 loss to Michigan in the CCHA third-place game Saturday.

By ALLAN JOSEPH
Sports Editor

After a disappointing end to the season, the No. 9 Irish have one final shot at glory as they enter the first round of the NCAA tournament, taking on No. 7 Merrimack in Manchester, N.H.

"I know that it's my last chance to win a championship," senior center Ben Ryan said. "I just want to make the most of every day because my career here is almost over."

Notre Dame (23-13-5) came into the season with low expectations but rode a strong performance from the freshmen — who dominate the roster — to the top of the CCHA standings late in the season. Facing Western Michigan at home in the regular-season finale needing a win to clinch the crown, however, the Irish fell short by the count of 2-0. The slide was compounded when Notre Dame dropped a 6-2 decision to No. 4 Miami in the conference semifinals and then lost 4-2 to Michigan in the third-place game.

"We have to overcome this paralyzing factor that happens to us where we're so nervous," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. "I sense our team being focused, and yet we go out on the ice and it seems like we're tentative and I don't know if it's a fear of making mistakes or whatever it is. Hopefully after having gone through it we'll be able to get back."

Jackson and the Irish are in an oddly familiar place, especially for the seniors. Three years ago, Ryan, senior left wing Calle Ridderwall and senior right wing Ryan Guentzel were freshmen on a team that made an unlikely run to the national championship game after a disappointing CCHA tournament in Detroit.

"The juniors and seniors on this team want to get to the Frozen Four," Jackson said. "Those kids know what happened that year, and it came off of two losses in Detroit."

Notre Dame will face Merrimack (25-9-4) in its first-round game, and while the

Warriors are not a traditional hockey power, Jackson knows that they are "the real deal." What worries Jackson is that the Irish will look at the winner of the Miami (OH)/New Hampshire game — played directly before the Irish's own game — and get caught looking ahead to its possible regional final opponent.

"If we look past Merrimack, we won't be playing Miami," Jackson said. "They're going to be as good a team as we face this weekend, if not better — I couldn't tell you. They're right there with BC."

While Notre Dame's youth may have contributed to some early high-pressure jitters, there is hope that the freshmen who played so well for most of the season will return — that their youth will lead to resilience.

"With 12 freshmen and a couple of sophomores that haven't had the NCAA experience, the underdog mentality lets them be a little looser and a littler freer," Guentzel said. "When we played BC [earlier in the season] we had that underdog mentality, and it was helpful for us."

Jackson, however, does not want to encourage an underdog mentality — or, for that matter, any storyline. He only wants his squad to focus on the task at hand.

"I don't want them thinking underdog, I don't want them thinking overdog," he said. "I want them to think about playing the way we're capable of playing and not being nervous. They need to go out there and play."

The Warriors play in the Hockey East conference, which has a significantly more up-tempo style than Notre Dame's CCHA. Hockey East games feature fast-skating teams, and while the Irish play in a significantly more technical and physical conference, they believe that their speed will match up well.

"I think it's going to work out well for us because we're such a great skating team," Lavin said. "We don't want to get into a track meet, but we'll be able to handle it for sure."

Jackson outlined a number of keys for success beyond his

team's mental preparation. Rather than focus on anything schematic against an opponent the Irish have not faced before this season, Jackson said his team will focus on fundamentals and discipline.

"You have to play 60 minutes, first of all. You've got to play good special teams," he said. "It really boils down to creating your own breaks, playing well with the puck, not turning the puck over. You have to make sure that you're able to play four lines, and that means discipline, staying out of the penalty box."

Guentzel mentioned another important key for the young players on the team, one that was sorely missing when Notre Dame fell behind 4-0 in the first period against the RedHawks last weekend.

"The main thing for this team this year is getting off to good starts," he said. "With a young team, I think getting off to a good start and giving them confidence to make plays is vital for us this weekend."

Selection Sunday provided Jackson with an opportunity to reflect on the season and his squad's somewhat surprising success.

"There were a lot of question marks for [the upperclassmen] heading into the season," he said. "For a young group like this to make it to [the CCHA semifinals] and make the tournament is a real positive, but we're not going to Manchester to lose."

Knowing that each game could be their last, Lavin said the four seniors will leave everything on the ice in their final quest for a program-defining title.

"We don't have another chance after this, so we don't really have anything to look forward to in the future," he said. "It's do or die now."

The Irish face Merrimack at 7:30 p.m. in Manchester Saturday. If Notre Dame wins, it will face the winner of the Miami-New Hampshire game Sunday at 8 p.m.

Contact Allan Joseph
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Senior experience

Seniors Lavin, Ryan, Ridderwall and Guentzel lead the youthful Irish into the NCAA tournament

By CHRIS ALLEN
Sports Writer

It was arguably the biggest moment in Notre Dame hockey history — the brightest lights, the biggest stage and the top opponent in the country.

A shot from the high slot slipped past Michigan senior goalie Bryan Hogan in overtime during the semifinal game of the 2008 Frozen Four, elevating the Irish to a place they have never been before — the National Championship game — and right in the middle of the action were three freshmen.

Left wing Calle Ridderwall scored the goal just feet away from a fellow freshman, Ryan Guentzel. On the bench, center Ben Ryan poured over the wall to celebrate the goal with his teammates. The moment was the high point in a long Irish hockey tradition — yet these were just kids.

Fast forward three years, and the trio of Ryan, Guentzel and Ridderwall are three of four members of an illustrious quartet of senior captains leading No. 9 Notre Dame (23-13-5) into its second NCAA tournament since that Frozen Four experience in 2008, which ultimately ended in a 4-1 loss to Boston College in the title game. As they prepare for their last chance to bring a first NCAA championship back to South Bend, the group of seniors remembers fondly the Frozen Four run that has defined their postseason careers thus far.

“Three years, it seems so long ago, but I remember it like yesterday. [The Michigan game] was one of the greatest games that I’ve ever been a part of,” Guentzel said. “We were up big on Michigan early, and then they came storming back. I remember sitting on the bench saying, ‘This is so nerve-wracking’ and being able to go out there and get an opportunity in

overtime was something that I know me and Calle personally will never forget.”

Though Ryan was not on the ice for the 5-4 overtime winner as Guentzel and Ridderwall were, he shared in the memories of the game.

“I just remember, I think we came out in the first period and scored a bunch of goals. The mindset going into that game was the same kind of mindset we have now. I think Michigan was No. 1 in the country. They had Kevin Porter, the Hobey Baker Award winner, and he was the best player in the country,” Ryan said. “They were obviously picked to win it all by a majority of people, so we went in there and thought that maybe they would fall victim to the pressure. We tried to put a lot of pressure on them and play our game.”

The goal in the Michigan game, the second of the contest for Ridderwall, served as a springboard for the rest of the Swedish forward’s career. He came back in the 2008-09 season and 2009-10 seasons and posted seasons of 17 and 19 goals respectively as a lead member of Irish coach Jeff Jackson’s attack. Though the speedy wing has struggled through injury in his senior campaign, Jackson said his development is evident.

“I think that [Calle] took huge strides in his sophomore and junior years. This year, he’s had a good year,” Jackson said. “I think the injury set him back, because not only did it set him back for the five games that he was out, but he didn’t get back to being 100 percent until the last couple weeks. I think it bodes well for us that he’s able to get back to 100 percent.”

Off the ice, Ridderwall’s colorful personality has made him a fan and teammate favorite — as well as the source of many a techno song blasted at high volume in the Irish locker room

after big wins.

“Well, I mean, he likes to have fun, everybody knows that,” Guentzel said. “But he’s one of the hardest working kids on the team, in the weight room and on the ice. Being able to manage all of those things, it shows the young guys that we can have fun, but we know when to get serious. We know when we have to work hard.”

While Ridderwall has spent a chunk of the season sidelined with an injury, Guentzel has enjoyed a career year, setting new highs in both goals and assists en route to posting 37 points on the season, good for third on the team. Guentzel acknowledged his success this year, but said he doesn’t feel extra pressure going into his final postseason.

“We’ve had a great year so far,” he said. “Just doing what you can to help the team is all that matters, if you compete your hardest, you have to be happy with what happens. There’s not that much pressure.”

Like his fellow assistant captain and frequent line mate Guentzel, Ryan has also enjoyed a productive year on the ice as the center on the top Irish lines. Unlike Guentzel and Ridderwall, whose production was limited in their freshman years despite their moment in the Frozen Four, Ryan has been a consistent contributor throughout his four years under Jackson.

This season has been no different, and the Brighton, Mich., product has posted 18 assists and 24 points over the course of the season. Jackson said one of his main memories of Ryan’s career thus far was his stellar play in the 2009 CCHA championship that helped the Irish bring home the title in Detroit.

“Benny, his moments at Joe Louis Arena [in Detroit] a couple of years ago helped us win the CCHA Championship there,”



SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

Irish senior defenseman Joe Lavin goes for the puck during Notre Dame’s 4-2 loss to Michigan in the CCHA third-place game Saturday.

he said.

The trio of seniors, all assistant captains, are joined in leadership by a transfer from Providence who ascended to the sole captain’s role with less than a year’s experience on the ice with the Irish — defenseman Joe Lavin. Though he is a senior, and the other seniors have multiple NCAA Tournament games under their belt, Saturday’s first-round matchup with Merrimack will be Lavin’s first taste of NCAA action. The senior from Shrewsbury, Mass., said the other seniors have prepared him mentally for what to expect.

“[The others seniors have told me] it’s a different environment. Playoff hockey is playoff hockey. It’s obviously going to be pretty exciting,” he said. “I think I have a little bit to contribute. We’re playing Merrimack and that’s a team that I’m obviously accustomed to, so they’ll be able to help me out and I’ll be able to help them and the team out.”

On a team that’s roster is nearly half composed of freshmen, the four Irish senior leaders has grown close during the process of leading such a young team through the season. Ryan said that the dynamic between the four has brought them together over hockey and the successful 2010-11 season.

“It’s really close-knit. Four people is a really small class. We started with seven guys, four of them are gone now, and obviously we added Joe,” Ryan said. “We all live together, we’ve had a great season. We’ve mentioned numerous times to each other, this is our most fun year playing hockey.”

Lavin echoed Ryan’s state-

ments about the team’s close-knit nature.

“This is the closest hockey team I’ve ever been a part of,” he said.

As the final group of seniors to play in the Joyce Center, this group serves a special purpose in closing the book on an era of Irish hockey — an era that they have capped with three NCAA tournament appearances in four years. Jackson said that regardless of the team’s play in this upcoming tournament, he would have lasting memories of the outgoing class of seniors.

“There’s always going to be a lot of memories. I think that Frozen Four experience and the Michigan game will be big ones,” Jackson said. “It was Guentzel to Ridderwall that won that game in overtime and Calle scored two goals in that game. But Joe Lavin has been an important part of this team as well. There are all different kinds of memories that you have. They’re not always on the ice. Some of them are off the ice.”

With the lights having gone out on the final full season in the Joyce Center, the Irish seniors will lead Notre Dame to Manchester, N.H. to face No. 7 Merrimack (25-9-4) while looking to surpass the memories they made in their freshman season.

“I fully believe that our team has a chance to get back to the same spot,” Ryan said. “We’ve played against the best teams in the country and competed with them. Hopefully, I’ll look back on this year and remember it as the best moment.”

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SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

Senior center Ben Ryan battles in the corner during Notre Dame’s 6-2 loss to Miami (Ohio) in the CCHA semifinals Friday. Ryan and the Irish will take on Merrimack in the NCAA first round Saturday.

Notre Dame

Record: 26-10-4 (18-7-3-2 CCHA)
USCHO: 9 USA Today: 9

2010-11 Schedule

Oct. 3	University of Guelph	W 5-3
Oct. 8	Holy Cross (in St. Louis)	W 6-3
Oct. 10	Boston U. (in St. Louis)	L 5-4
Oct. 14	Lake Superior State	W 4-2
Oct. 15	Lake Superior State	W 4-2
Oct. 23	Boston College	W 2-1
Oct. 29	Western Michigan	W 3-2
Oct. 30	@ Western Michigan	T 2-2 (OT)
Nov. 5	@ Bowling Green	L 3-2
Nov. 6	@ Bowling Green	W 6-3
Nov. 12	@ Michigan	W 3-1
Nov. 13	@ Michigan	L 5-3
Nov. 19	Michigan State	W 6-2
Nov. 20	Michigan State	W 4-2
Nov. 26	@ North Dakota	L 6-3
Nov. 27	@ North Dakota	T 2-2 (OT)
Dec. 3	@ Miami (Ohio)	W 5-4
Dec. 4	@ Miami (Ohio)	L 5-2
Dec. 11	Northern Michigan	L 3-2
Dec. 12	Northern Michigan	W 5-2
Dec. 29	Canisius	W 10-2
Jan. 1	Minnesota State	L 4-3
Jan. 2	Boston U.	T 3-3 (OT)
Jan. 7	@ Northern Michigan	W 8-1
Jan. 8	@ Northern Michigan	W 3-1
Jan. 14	Alaska	W 2-1
Jan. 15	Alaska	L 4-1
Jan. 21	@ Ohio State	L 6-1
Jan. 22	@ Ohio State	W 4-1
Jan. 28	Miami (Ohio)	T 5-5 (OT)
Jan. 29	Miami (Ohio)	T 2-2 (OT)
Feb. 11	Bowling Green	W 2-1
Feb. 12	Bowling Green	W 5-1
Feb. 18	@ Ferris State	W 3-2
Feb. 19	@ Ferris State	W 5-2
Feb. 25	@ Western Michigan	W 3-2
Feb. 26	Western Michigan	L 2-0
CCHA PLAYOFFS		
March 11	Lake Superior State	W 3-2 (OT)
March 12	Lake Superior State	L 4-3
March 13	Lake Superior State	W 4-2
March 18	Miami (Ohio) (in Detroit)	L 6-2
March 19	Michigan (in Detroit)	L 4-2

Notre Dame's key players



GOALTENDING

Sophomore Mike Johnson has seen the bulk of the action in net for the Irish. With 31 starts on the year, Johnson has posted a 2.62 goals against average and a .903 save percentage. Late in the year, though, Irish coach Jeff Jackson began rotating Johnson and freshman Steven Summerhays. Summerhays played well down the stretch, and provided Johnson with some much-needed rest. Johnson started both games in Detroit last weekend, and appears to be the man Jackson trusts the most heading into the NCAA tournament.

DEFENSE

Captain Joe Lavin is the only senior on the blueline for the Irish, but the defensive corps is probably Notre Dame's most experienced unit. Lavin is joined by junior defenseman Sean Lorenz, who turned in an outstanding junior season en route to winning the CCHA's Best Defensive Defenseman Award. Sophomore Sam Calabrese also played well for the Irish on the blue line, seeing time in 39 of Notre Dame's 41 games. A host of freshmen have also played on the defensive unit, with standout Stephen Johns embodying the role of a defensive enforcer while also leading the team in penalty minutes.

OFFENSE

The Irish offense has been something of a surprise this season after the team struggled to score goals during the 2009-10 campaign. Center T.J. Tynan and wing Anders Lee, both freshmen, have been the main offensive threats for the Irish, with Tynan posting 52 points, the highest total for a Notre Dame player during Jeff Jackson's tenure. Senior wing Ryan Guentzel, junior wing Billy Maday and freshman wing Jeff Costello have shared the load with the the talented freshmen.

POWER PLAY

Notre Dame's power play has been up-and-down all year, with the team struggling to find a consistent rhythm. Overall, Notre Dame scored 32 power-play goals on 197 chances for a percentage of .162. Freshmen provided most of the Irish power play firepower, as Tynan's 14 power-play points led Notre Dame, and Lee and Costello shared the team lead in power-play goals with six.

PENALTY KILL

The constantly improving Irish penalty kill unit paid big dividends early on in the year, as Notre Dame displayed a knack for key shorthanded goals, particularly by defensemen Lavin and Lorenz. The Irish gave up 33 power-play goals in 180 chances over the course of the year. The penalty kill unit featured strong performances by primarily offensive players such as Tynan and senior center Ben Ryan, who saw frequent time on the penalty kill.

INTANGIBLES

Merrimack's Mark Dennehy may be an up-and-coming name in coaching, but Irish coach Jeff Jackson is one of the best coaches in the entire country. Jackson's championship pedigree from his time at Lake Superior State, where he won two championships, as well as his experience with USA youth teams and the NHL's New York Islanders, brings an unmatched level of knowledge and strategy to the Notre Dame bench.

Follow all the action
on The Observer's L

2011 NCAA Northeast Regional

No. 1 Miami RedHawks

Conference tournament result
Won CCHA tournament with 5-2 win over Western Michigan

Between the pipes
Connor Knapp (2.03 GAA, .909 save percentage)

By the numbers
Goals per game: 3.8
Goals against per game: 2.2
Power play percentage: 25.1
Penalty kill percentage: 88
Shorthanded goals: 8
Power play goals: 44

NCAA Tournament history
Ninth appearance, 7-6 record, two Frozen Fours

Top scorers
Andy Miele (24 goals, 47 assists)
Carter Camper (19 goals, 37 assists)
Reilly Smith (28 goals, 26 assists)
Pat Cannone (14 goals, 23 assists)
Alden Hirschfeld (12 goals, 13 assists)

No. 2 Merrimack Warriors

Conference tournament result
Lost to Boston College 5-3 in Hockey East championship game

Between the pipes
Joe Cannata (2.44 GAA, .911 save percentage)

By the numbers
Goals per game: 3.7
Goals against per game: 2.4
Power play percentage: 24.4
Penalty kill percentage: 84.3
Shorthanded goals: 8
Power play goals: 44

NCAA Tournament history
Second appearance

Top scorers
Stephane Da Costa (14 goals, 30 assists)
Chris Barton (14 goals, 25 assists)
Joe Cucci (14 goals, 22 assists)
Ryan Flanigan (15 goals, 17 assists)
Jesse Todd (17 goals, 14 assists)

No. 4 New Hampshire Wildcats

Conference tournament result
Lost to Merrimack 4-1 in Hockey East semifinals

Between the pipes
Matt Digirolamo (2.49 GAA, .921 save percentage)

By the numbers
Goals per game: 3.43
Goals against per game: 2.51
Power play percentage: 19.9
Penalty kill percentage: 83.1
Shorthanded goals: 3
Power play goals: 31

NCAA Tournament history
21st appearance, 13-22 record, 17 Frozen Fours

Top scorers
Paul Thompson (28 goals, 24 assists)
Mike Sislo (13 goals, 33 assists)
Phil DeSimone (10 goals, 30 assists)
Blake Kessel (5 goals, 21 assists)
Stevie Moses (14 goals, 12 assists)

No. 3 Notre Dame Fighting Irish

Conference tournament result
Lost to Miami 6-2 in CCHA semifinals

Between the pipes
Mike Johnson (2.62 GAA, .903 save percentage)

By the numbers
Goals per game: 3.5
Goals against per game: 2.8
Power play percentage: 16.2
Penalty kill percentage: 81.7
Shorthanded goals: 12
Power play goals: 32

NCAA Tournament history
Fifth appearance, 4-4 record, one Frozen Four

Top scorers
T.J. Tynan (22 goals, 30 assists)
Anders Lee (22 goals, 19 assists)
Ryan Guentzel (6 goals, 31 assists)
Billy Maday (8 goals, 16 assists)
Ben Ryan (6 goals, 18 assists)

Our Picks



Sam Werner
Senior Sports Writer

After a pair of lopsided losses in Detroit, Notre Dame will need to learn how to play on the big stage in order to have any success this weekend. The Irish will have learned their lesson from big games down the stretch, and show up in Manchester ready to handle the pressure. Unfortunately, as much as the Notre Dame seniors deserve a trip to Saint Paul, this team seems to be just one year away.

Notre Dame 5, Merrimack 3
Miami 3, Notre Dame 1



Allan Joseph
Sports Editor

On the one hand, there's the team that showed up for most of the season — confident, fast and far from scared. On the other hand, there's the team that showed up once they got to the top of the conference — nervous, tight and tentative. This time, though, there's nothing to get caught looking forward to. Irish coach Jeff Jackson will get the team past Merrimack, and the seniors will grind out a revenge win against Miami.


Notre Dame 4, Merrimack 2
Notre Dame 4, Miami 3 (OT)



Chris Allen
Sports Writer

This trip to New Hampshire has to feel eerily familiar to the Irish seniors. Back in 2008, after two losses in the CCHA Championship, the team headed to Colorado Springs relatively anonymously and turned things around to get to the Frozen Four. In a similar situation, this team has a good chance of pulling off the same result. They won't get the big-arena jitters in Manchester and the Irish seniors will get another shot at the title.

Notre Dame 4, Merrimack 2
Notre Dame 5, Miami (OH) 4



Sam Gans
Sports Writer

This season is shaping out very similar to 2008's Frozen Four run. Just like three years ago, I expect the Irish will win the first round, as Merrimack is playing their first NCAA Tournament game since 1988. But after watching Miami have its way with Notre Dame just one week ago, I think the RedHawks, with their strong senior class, are on an absolute mission and I don't know if Notre Dame's youth can handle it, especially mentally.

Notre Dame 4, Merrimack 3
Miami 5, Notre Dame 3

Notre Dame's NCAA history shows mixed results

2008 run to championship game highlights four previous tournament appearances

By SAM GANS
Sports Writer

For many years, the NCAA tournament had eluded the Notre Dame hockey program. Until 2004, the Irish never competed in the extra season. But recently, Notre Dame participation in the event has become nearly commonplace.

This season marks the fifth time in history the Irish have qualified for the event, including the fourth in the past five years. Throughout the years, there have been unexpected triumphs and shocking failures, and members of the current senior class have experienced both. But, no matter whether the Irish exceeded or sunk below tournament expectations in a given year, one thing has constantly remained out of reach: a national championship.

The Irish are on a quest to change that this time around, and if history — or luck — is on Notre Dame's side, it will have a great opportunity to do so.

In 2008, Notre Dame went limping into the NCAA tournament after a disappointing 0-2 weekend at the CCHA tournament in Detroit, overlooked and counted out, the Irish upset No. 1-seed New Hampshire in the first round 7-3 before defeating Michigan State 3-1 to reach the Frozen Four, where they faced bitter rival Michigan. Tied in overtime, then-freshman Calle Ridderwall scored to put the Irish in the national championship game. Though Notre Dame would lose to Boston College, the run greatly surpassed any expectations by experts entering the tournament.

Flash-forward to 2011, Notre Dame is limping into the NCAA tournament after a dis-

appointing 0-2 weekend at the CCHA tournament in Detroit, overlooked and counted out.

"My freshman year we were in the same situation, coming off two losses," senior right wing Ryan Guentzel said. "We went to Colorado Springs and kind of got away from here. We were able to do our own thing. We just had that kind of underdog mentality. That's what we're going to go with this weekend."

Of course, for the current seniors who were on the team in 2008 — Ridderwall, Guentzel, and center Ben Ryan — the tournament has not always been as kind.

One year after being in the underdog role and making the most out of it, the Irish were on the opposite end of the spectrum. Entering the 2009 tournament, Notre Dame was a No. 1 seed and scheduled to play the last team in the field in Bemidji State. The result? An overwhelming 5-1 Bemidji State win.

The two distinct results provide interesting contrasts heading into a regional semifinal game.

"They've been in situations that cause you to lose to Bemidji State or beat Michigan in the semifinal," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. "They've been through both types of situations. The most important thing is that they relay that information to their teammates."

Though none of the players were around, Jackson was also behind the bench for Notre Dame's 2007 run, in which the Irish notched their first ever tournament victory. The No. 1-seed Irish beat Alabama-Huntsville 3-2 in double overtime in the first round before losing to Michigan State 2-1.

The first time the Irish qualified, 2004, was under former



Notre Dame and Boston College face off in the 2008 national championship game in Denver. Playing in the first championship game in program history, the Irish fell to the Eagles 4-1.

coach Dave Poulin. The stay was short-lived with an opening round loss to Minnesota 5-2, despite firing out to a 2-0 lead.

An unexpected Cinderella run, a shell-shocking oust, a mildly disappointing end, and a defeat with a "just happy to be here" mentality. Four dif-

ferent seasons, four different results. The Irish know which one they're trying to emulate this year.

"The Frozen Four experience is what's going to stick out right now," Ryan said. "But I think we have a great chance to get back there. I fully believe that our team has a

chance to get back to the same spot. We've played against the best teams in the country and competed with them. Hopefully, I'll look back on this year and remember it as the best moment."

Contact Sam Gans at sgans@nd.edu


Notre Dame's Tournament History

Year	Seed	Result
2004	No. 4	Lost 5-2 to Minnesota in first round
2007	No. 1	Lost 2-1 to Michigan State in second round
2008	No. 4	Lost 4-1 to Boston College in Championship game
2009	No. 1	Lost 5-1 to Bemidji State in first round
2011	WE SHALL SEE...	

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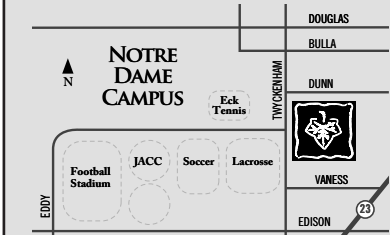
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Merrimack rides deep roster to tournament bid

Warriors coach Mark Dennehy uses unconventional methods to assemble a winning squad

By CHRIS ALLEN
Sports Writer

Merrimack coach Mark Dennehy did not pull any punches when discussing how he put together the roster of his No. 7 Warriors squad.

"I don't want to say we've pieced this together, but we've taken a lot of guys that other teams have passed on," he said. "We happen to think they're good players."

The surprise runners-up in the Hockey East Conference tournament will make their first NCAA Tournament appearance since 1988 and their second all-time when they face the No. 9 Irish Saturday night as a No. 2-seed. The small liberal arts school in North Andover, Mass. has seen a hockey resurgence since Dennehy took over prior to the 2005-06 hockey season. In his six seasons behind the Warrior bench, Dennehy has rebuilt a program that competes in one of the toughest conferences in college hockey. In 2009-10, he was named All-New England Coach of the Year and Co-Hockey East Coach of the Year as Merrimack won a Division I program-record 16 games and qualified for the Hockey East Conference Tournament. Irish captain and senior defenseman Joe Lavin, who played his first two years of college hockey in Hockey East with Providence, said that Merrimack is clearly a team on the rise.

"[Merrimack] has had a great turnaround. They're just finally starting to break through," he said. "They're a

really hardworking team. Very physical, very smart, very methodical in the way they do things. They're obviously a very dangerous team. We just need to be ready for the physicality."

The Warriors (25-9-4) did indeed break through this season, smashing the previous season's school record for Division I wins and finishing fourth in the conference in the regular season. In the Hockey East Conference tournament, Dennehy's squad dispatched Maine in a first-round sweep and took care of No. 2-seed New Hampshire in the semifinals before falling to top-seed Boston College 5-3 in the title game. Despite Merrimack's loss to the Eagles, Irish coach Jeff Jackson hinted that the Warriors might be the strongest team to come out of Hockey East.

"They're a deep offensive team. They've got several forwards that have scored over 10, 15 goals. They've got a good power play," he said. "They also defend well, and they've got a good goaltender. I've got a good friend of mine that told me they're the best team in Hockey East, regardless of BC beating them in the championship game. We'll have our hands full. It's going to be a challenge. We'll have to defend well and take advantage of our opportunities as well."

Merrimack's offense attack comes from a balanced group of forwards, highlighted by sophomore forward Stephane Da Costa, the reigning NCAA Rookie of the Year. Da Costa is one of seven players on the Warrior squad with double-



Merrimack's Elliot Sheen, left, celebrates a goal with teammate Adam Ross during the third period of his team's 4-1 win over New Hampshire in the Hockey East semifinals.

digit goals this season. Jackson said the team would need to be prepared for the multifaceted Merrimack offense.

"They push the pace. They're a good offensive team, they transition really well, they do a good job coming back into their own end and they transition well from that," Jackson said. "With their forward depth they can roll their lines and be a

threat with all their lines."

Dennehy's unique recruiting style of finding 'diamonds in the rough' has given the Warriors a deep team at all positions, not just at forward. It's a style to which Dennehy is fully committed.

"The best players being recruited aren't always the best players when they get to college and we've prided ourselves on turning over some stones and finding guys

that may end up being blue-chippers at the collegiate level, not necessarily coming in with all the hoopla," Dennehy said.

The Warriors will hope to capitalize on perhaps the deepest and most talented roster in school history in their matchup with Notre Dame.

Contact Chris Allen at callen10@nd.edu

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL WEEK

March 25 - April 2, 2011

March 25-26:
Asian Film Festival & Conference
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center

Sunday, March 27:
Spanish Mass
1:30 p.m., St. Edward's Hall Chapel

Art Studio Tour with Fr. Nguyen
2:20 - 4:00 p.m.
Meet at the Grotto at 2:20 p.m.

Tuesday, March 29:
International Festival: A Sweet World
6:30 - 8:30 p.m., LaFortune Ballroom
Sample international desserts while participating in acupuncture, henna, a sale of handicrafts from Nepal, performances, and international games.

<http://issa.nd.edu>

Wednesday, March 30:
International Sunrise Breakfast
7:00 - 9:00 a.m., Fischer Community Center

Job Searching for International Undergraduates: Peer-to-Peer Panel
5:30-6:30 p.m., Room 210, DeBartolo Hall

Red Hot Chili Pepper Eating Contest
9:00-10:00 p.m., Fischer Community Center

Thursday, March 31:
Snite Museum of Art Tour: Mexican Art Before & After the Conquest
5:00 - 6:00 p.m., Snite Museum of Art
RSVP to issa@nd.edu



International Street Food Festival
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Wilson Commons Party Room at FOG
RSVP to mbeck@nd.edu

Friday, April 1:
Latin Expressions 2011:
Orígenes: Regresando a Nuestras Raíces
7:00 - 9:00 p.m., Century Center
Downtown South Bend
Tickets available for purchase at the LaFortune Box Office during IFW

Saturday, April 2:
International Children's Festival
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Community Center at University Village
Children of all ages are invited to make international arts and crafts, get their faces painted, and play games.

International Festival Week is brought to you by International Student Services & Activities (ISSA) and co-sponsored by The Career Center, DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, Fischer O'Hara-Grace Graduate Residences (FOG), the Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies, La Alianza, the Snite Museum of Art, and University Village & Cripe Street Apartments.



SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer



SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

Notre Dame finished the regular season second in the CCHA, but stumbled in the conference tournament, falling to Miami (Ohio) in the semifinals at Joe Louis Arena in Detroit.

The Irish are playing in their fifth NCAA tournament in program history, and two wins in Manchester, N.H., would give the team its second-ever trip to the Frozen Four.



SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer



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