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SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

Students celebrate on the front steps of the Main Building late Sunday night after hearing the news of Osama bin Laden's death.

Osama bin Laden killed in Pakistan

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Osama bin Laden, the glowering mastermind behind the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks that murdered thousands of Americans, was killed in an operation led by the United States, President Barack Obama said Sunday.

"Justice has been done," said the president in a dramatic late-night announcement at the White

House.

A small team of Americans killed bin Laden in a firefight Sunday at a compound in Pakistan, the president said, and took custody of his remains. American officials said they were being handled in accordance with Islamic tradition.

A jubilant crowd gathered outside the White House as word

see BIN LADEN/page 6



SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

Hundreds of Notre Dame students spread across campus with fireworks, flags and "U.S.A." chants Sunday night.

ND names leprechaun

Junior Mike George prepares for role as iconic Notre Dame figure

By SAM STRYKER
News Editor

Notre Dame took another step in preparations for next football season Friday, naming junior Mike George as the varsity Gold Squad Leprechaun for the 2011-2012 school year.

George was one of five students who made it to the final tryouts for the leprechaun position. The tryout, held in the Pit the basement of the JACC, consisted of a mock pep rally and introduction for a speaker, react-

ing to an in-game situation, a media interview, an Irish jig and apushup contest.

George, a resident of Keough Hall hailing from Eden Prairie, Minn., served as the junior varsity Leprechaun for the Blue & Green Squad this past year. He said he was well prepared for tryouts as a result of his time on the Blue & Green Squad.

"It is great because you have experienced a lot of situations before. We would be presented with some things over the course of our tryout, and [I] actually had experienced those situations,"

George said. "The new people might try to imagine that, but [I] have had the chance to experience it so it makes it easier."

George said he has learned to quell his nerves before such daunting situations as the tryout.

"You always get a little bit of fluttering right before you step out, and as soon as you step on it's a matter of just saying, 'All right, its time to go,'" he said.

George said remembering what the leprechaun represents helps him prepare for big-game

see LEPRECHAUN/page 4



SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

Next year's Leprechaun Mike George gained experience on the Blue & Green Squad. George was named the varsity Gold Squad Leprechaun for the 2011-2012 school year Friday.

Fisher Hall celebrates Regatta

By CASEY KENNY
News Writer

The clouds parted, the sun came out and cries of "You Gotta Regatta!" reverberated from Saint Mary's Lake Saturday afternoon as Fisher Hall hosted the 25th Annual Fisher Regatta. The chilly waters and bitter winds didn't deter 22 men's teams and 18 women's teams from entering this year's competitive boat race that pitted residence hall teams against each other in a single elimination men's and women's bracket tournament.

"We made an effort to make this year's regatta the biggest and best yet," junior race commissioner and Fisher resident Kevin Bell said. "We only have one rule this year and that is: fun is mandatory but floating is not."

Hall residents mustered their creativity and scavenged for materials to design

and build their vessels — some more seaworthy than others.

"Our goal is just not to sink," Ryan freshman Pearl Banchuin said, standing by her hall's vessel which consisted of inner tubes and an assortment of floating devices. "We spent about five hours making the boat and put a lot of spirit into it, but you can't sink spirit."

Residents of Dillon had a like-minded attitude when they constructed their enormous 10-person "Paying Doo\$" boat that towered high above the other vessels.

"We're just a couple guys who lost last year and are trying to stay afloat this year," Dillon sophomore John Clohisy said. "We're going more for shock factor than first place."

Siegfried teammates also entered their craft simply to join in the fun of the event.

"We are hoping to make it 20 yards if we're lucky,"

Michael Isaacs said of his team's air mattress that served as their boat. "We probably spent about 15 minutes on this — five minutes driving to Goodwill, five minutes driving back and five minutes blowing up the air mattress."

Other teams entered the race with the desire to win and their substantial efforts were reflected in the vessels.

"We spent about 30 hours planning and painting," Pasquerilla East Hall sophomore Katie Rose said. "We plan on rowing like champions today and think we're strong contenders."

In an effort to return to the winner's circle this year, Fisher Hall entered the competition with seven boats, ranging from speedy canoes to a large party barge made of empty beer kegs — four of which made it to the elite final eight.

see REGATTA/page 5

THE OBSERVER

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

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

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

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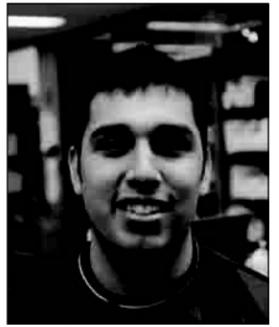
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CORRECTIONS

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

ICE BREAKER

Monday Meltdown



Michael Castillo

senior
off-campus

Question: What is your favorite childhood memory?

Michael: When we won the city championship in football during seventh grade.

Q: FC Barcelona or Real Madrid?

Michael: Madrid.

Q: If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would it be? Why?

Michael: Florence, Italy. I love everything about Italy, and it's a beautiful city.

Q: Your usual order at Starbucks?

Michael: Mocha frappuccino.

Q: Favorite on-campus cafe?

Michael: Waddick's. I'm usually there hanging out with friends or procrastinating.

Q: Plans after graduating from Notre Dame?

Michael: Medical school and then helping in third-world countries.

Know someone chill for Monday's Icebreaker? Email obsphoto@gmail.com



SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

Students cheered outside the Golden Dome following President Obama's speech announcing the death of Osama bin Laden. Crowds displayed flags, set fireworks off on South Quad, played music and ran through La Fortune and the Hesburgh Library. Similar celebrations occurred outside the White House, Ground Zero and campuses across the nation.

OFFBEAT

Salon owner challenges Arizona over fish pedicures

PHOENIX — An Arizona appeals court says a business owner is entitled to challenge the constitutionality of state rules barring her from using fish in her salon pedicures.

The Arizona Court of Appeals ruled Friday that Cindy Vong can sue over the Arizona Board of Cosmetology's threat to pull her license if she didn't stop offering the pedicure, which uses fish to eat dead skin off clients' feet.

The board alleged the fish were unsafe because they couldn't be sterilized.

Conservative watchdog group The Goldwater Institute had filed a civil suit on her behalf, saying the

broad violated Vong's right to run her business in the Phoenix suburb of Gilbert.

The lawsuit says the board lacks jurisdiction because the pedicure isn't a cosmetic service.

A lower court had dismissed the suit.

Leaking Massachusetts house calls 911 for help

MARBLEHEAD, Mass. — After months of enduring a leaking pipe that buckled its floors and sagged its ceilings, an empty Massachusetts house somehow called police for help.

The Salem News reports the 911 call went out to police from a house in Marblehead on Wednesday after water short-circuited

the phone system, apparently sparking the emergency call.

Officers were sent to the address after the call was recorded as a hang up and a return call got static.

Inside, they found the wreckage, including potentially toxic mold, from a pipe that apparently burst during the winter.

Town officials say the interior may have to be gutted.

Police couldn't immediately locate owner James Cowen. His cousin, William Cowen, said he's not worried. He says James was left financially secure by his father and often travels.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Dr. Cynthia Feliciano, a professor of sociology and Chicano/Latino studies at the University of California at Irvine, will be giving a lecture today titled "Immigrant Origins and the Latino Disadvantage in Educational Attainment." The talk, taking place at 3 p.m. in Andrews Auditorium in Geddes Hall, is part of the Henkels Lecture Series "Hispanics and Educational Inequality in the U.S."

Dine Like Caesar: the Classics Club is sponsoring its weekly Latin Lunch tomorrow at 11:30 a.m. in the Pasta Room of North Dining Hall.

Pedro Ramos Pinto of the University of Manchester will be giving a talk tomorrow titled "Crisis, Anxiety and the Colonial Origins of the Welfare State in Portugal, 1928-1944." The lecture, sponsored by the Kellogg Institute for International Studies, will take place in Room C103 in the Hesburgh Center at 12:30 p.m.

The Notre Dame Jazz Bands, joined by the New Orleans Brass Band, will be performing a concert tomorrow night in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center at 7 p.m. The concert is free but seats can be reserved ahead of time.

Ben Stone will be performing a student organ recital tomorrow night at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center at 8 p.m. The recital is free but ticketed.

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	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 56 LOW 45	HIGH 49 LOW 40	HIGH 52 LOW 37	HIGH 57 LOW 40	HIGH 60 LOW 46	HIGH 58 LOW 43

Students launch business



Photo courtesy of Amanda Lester

Pictured from left to right, Amanda Gajor, Amanda Lester, Marianne Jones and Melissa Jackson created BTG Advertising.

By JILL BARWICK
News Writer

Two Saint Mary's juniors and two seniors have spent the past year creating BTG Advertising, an agency intent on establishing a connection between students and the community.

Juniors Amanda Lester and Melissa Jackson, along with seniors Marianne Jones and Amanda Gajor, created the company.

"BTG Advertising" stands for "Bridging The Gap," the main goal for the project. The company aims to bring together Notre Dame, Saint Mary's and Holy Cross campuses with the local community.

The four women are enrolled in a class at Saint Mary's called New Ventures, a yearlong course teaching the practical aspects of starting and running a business.

"We learned the basics of writing a business plan, accessing financing, basic sales techniques, and how to actually run a business," Lester said.

"We decided to start an advertising company because we believed there was a need to assist local businesses to effectively reach the student market at the University of Notre Dame, Saint Mary's College and Holy Cross College," Lester said.

BTG placed monitors on the Transpo Trolley to attract the attention of the riders to its blooming business and also to advertise its current clients which include the South Bend Silver Hawks, AAA Storage, Chili's, Papa Vinos, the Saint Mary's College Student Activities Board and Clover Ridge and Clover Village Apartments.

"We wanted to establish a viable business, one that was capable of

making a profit, and also could possibly represent a win-win situation for both the local business and students," Lester said. "We also hoped to come up with a business concept which utilized technology that was readily available."

BTG chose to highlight its business this week by giving away free tickets to the South Bend Silver Hawks baseball game Sunday. Students who rode the Transpo Trolley Wednesday received these tickets to BTG's night at Coveleski Stadium.

"Our mission statement is to 'bridge the gap between the campus and the community,'" Lester said. "Giving away baseball tickets to students seemed a natural way to increase exposure for our client, the South Bend Silver Hawks, and to provide the student community free access to an afternoon of watching professional baseball."

Lester said they distributed 100 tickets to Sunday's game.

"The effort seems like it has the potential to be a big success. We distributed a total of 100 tickets to Sunday's Silver Hawks game. "The students seemed to appreciate the free tickets. We hope the utilization rate is very high. Our company also benefited from the exposure, as did the Transpo Trolley," Lester said. "The sponsorship and availability of free tickets to the riders helped us to support local business and represents the commitment by the founders of BTG Advertising to give back to the community."

Contact Jill Barwick at jbarwi01@saintmarys.edu

Habitat for Humanity club constructs homes

By CECILIA GLOVER
News Writer

More than 20 students from the Habitat for Humanity club at Saint Mary's College joined South Bend high school students and community members to paint and do construction work on a house in the local community Saturday.

The event, "Rock the House," is the second build the Habitat for Humanity club has had this year. The first build consisted of constructing the framework for the house at the club's warehouse. The framework was then moved to a specific site on Saturday where the club members painted and did construction work on the house. Along with the club members, the family of the house helped with the construction work.

"It was nice meeting the family of the house and knowing that they would soon be living there," said Cara O'Connor-Combee, sophomore and vice president of the club. "The work we do in Habitat is so meaningful."

The club's mission is to encourage Saint Mary's women to become more involved in the community by volunteering their time to those less fortunate and in need of homes, O'Connor-Combee said.

"It is very impressive to see so many Saint Mary's students

volunteering four hours of their time to building houses on the weekends," O'Connor-Combee said.

Sophomore treasurer Chelsea Young said the club members donate time on the weekends by working at the warehouse and volunteering on build sites.

"I loved seeing the progress of the house throughout the day," Young said. "I think it is great that Saint Mary's students have the chance to help families who are in need."

O'Connor-Combee said the Habitat for Humanity club hopes to continue some of the construction on the house next Saturday. The club will work with South Bend high schools, community members and the family to finish putting up walls and doors in the house.

"The club is new so we are really trying to promote it and get more Saint Mary's girls involved," Young said.

Members of the club hope to work with the Notre Dame Habitat for Humanity during next school year, she said.

"Sometimes we get so wrapped up in our own lives that we forget that there are others out there who need our help," O'Connor-Combee said. "Habitat allows us to recognize how fortunate we are and lend a helping hand."

Contact Cecilia Glover at cgllove01@saintmarys.edu

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SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

Mike George, shown here at the women's basketball Final Four victory March 31, competed Friday for the varsity Leprechaun position.

Leprechaun

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conditions.

"People always ask me how I do not freak out when I am up there, how in front of a crowd I can do these crazy things. The way I have learned to deal with that is, you don't look at it as you yourself are up there," he said. "The leprechaun is up there. When you enter that mentality, it makes things a blast."

Disappearing into the spirit of the role is what all those who

have held the position hope to achieve, George said.

"You don't have to worry what people think," he said. "It is not you, it is the leprechaun. You can embody that spirit of Notre Dame, which is what all leprechauns strive for."

Two football games in particular stand out as key events in his term as leprechaun, George said.

"You've got the night game at the Big House [at the University of Michigan] that everyone is really excited for," he said. "But we have our own night game [against USC,] which I think everyone is even more excited for, so those

are going to be awesome times on campus."

George said he also is looking to energize the spirit of Notre Dame in new ways.

"I'm also looking for the chance to affect tradition a little bit," he said. "We stick very much to tradition here at Notre Dame, which is great, but we want to make that come alive again too, in any way."

Though he had no cheerleading experience prior to his time at Notre Dame, George said in high school he was active in coordinating spirit events.

"I've had experience planning things out. Knowing that, I can bring that here to Notre Dame and use some of my friends throughout the University to [brainstorm] what we can do to make tradition come alive," he said. "I think we will come up with some great ideas this summer, as well as the stuff we know and love that is not going to change."

Although he wants to energize campus in a variety of ways, George said as it stands now the success of the athletic teams has taken care of a lot of the work on their own.

"We don't need that much now to be excited for next year or right now given the success of all our sports teams," he said. "There's not too much we need to do to build on that excitement, it is already there. It is just going to be a matter of what we can do to supplement that."

Although he was reluctant at first, George said it was at the behest of some friends who visited Notre Dame that he decided to try out for leprechaun.

"When I finally got to try-outs at the end of the year, I said to myself if I was going to do it, I wanted to go all out, I am not going to take any half measures," he said. "At the very least I [was] going to have some interesting stories."

Though he said he has many fond memories of his tenure as

Leprechaun on the Blue & Green squad, George said one women's basketball game stands out in particular. He spotted a young fan in the stands during this season's game versus Seton Hall with a sign reading, "Leprechaun Mike is Awesome!" and ran up to greet him.

"Then some of the fans suggested taking him down on the floor with me, so I did. He ended up cheering the rest of the game with our team, helping out with everything," George said. "He was a perfect leprechaun, already seemed to know how to ham it up for the camera, and had much better dance moves than me."

Sophomore Bryce Burton, a resident of Siegfried Hall from Newburgh, Ind., was selected to

succeed George as Leprechaun for the Blue & Green Squad. He said he anticipates spreading the tradition of the position across the country.

"It is really exciting to represent Notre Dame and to do all the traveling that goes with it," Burton said.

Burton said he appreciates the support from peers who encouraged him at Friday's tryouts.

"I had to make sure all my friends were there and there was some loud support for me," he said. "I bring a lot of excitement and I just think it is good we finally have another redheaded Leprechaun."

Contact Sam Stryker at sstryke1@nd.edu

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Notre Dame rugby club celebrates 50th year

By EMILY SCHRANK
News Writer

Several students and alumni gathered on campus for a different kind of reunion this weekend — the 50th anniversary of the Notre Dame rugby club.

Club president Patrick Griffin said the Notre Dame rugby club "has a long and storied history."

The club was founded in 1961 and became a national power after winning the national championship in 1965, the senior said.

"In the mid-80s and 90s the club was kicked off campus for behavioral problems," he said. "We finally regained status as an official university club sport

in 2008 and have experienced meteoric growth ever since."

In its first year as a club sport, the team moved from Division II to Division I status, Griffin said.

"We competed in the Midwest League for the next few years and finished the 2010 season at the top of the League," he said.

The club was also one of the nation's 31 most elite teams to be selected for the Collegiate Premier Division.

"We were expected to finish as the bottom of the League, but instead finished in third place with victories over LSU, Oklahoma, Tennessee and rival Ohio State," he said.

The club will participate in the second annual Collegiate Rugby Championship 7's tournament in Philadelphia this summer.

Griffin said the Notre Dame rugby club also has strong support from alumni.

"The camaraderie and tradition of the team is evident especially after this weekend, when alumni from many generations, including the original 1961 team, returned to campus," he said.

Griffin said the club has been a big part of his life as a student and that he will miss it once he graduates.

"I have been a member of the club for four years and it has been one of the greatest experiences of my time at Notre Dame," he said. "I have met some of my best friends through the club and I still play rugby with many of the players who graduated in past years."

Contact Emily Schrank at eschrank@nd.edu

"[The Notre Dame rugby club] has a long and storied history."

Patrick Griffin
president
Notre Dame rugby club

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SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

Keenan Hall representatives bare the cold waters of Saint Mary's Lake Saturday afternoon on a raft. Teams built their watercrafts from old lofts, insulation foam, inflated trashbags and other buoyant materials. Knott Hall and Badin Hall took home the trophies from the competition.



SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

Badin Hall's team took the trophy for the women's bracket. 22 men's teams and 18 women's teams competed in the Regatta Saturday.

Regatta

continued from page 1

While none of these halls' vessels ultimately made it to the final round, their boats and competitive spirits enlivened the atmosphere of the Regatta and made for fierce competition as the teams competed for the crown.

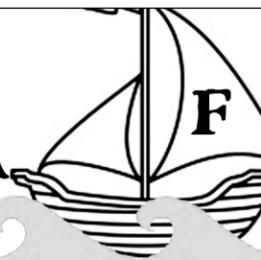
In the women's bracket, Badin Hall beat McClint Hall

to take home the trophy. On the men's side, Knott Hall squeaked by O'Neill Hall in a close finish that saw a wild and cheering crowd on its feet for the final yards of the race.

"In the end, the Regatta is all about having fun," Bell said. "There was a great turn out, great weather, free drinks, more food than ever and everyone had a great time coming together."

Contact Casey Kenny at ckenny@nd.edu

Visit ndsmcobserver.com for more photos from the FISHER REGATTA



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TENTATIVE OUTAGE DATES

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June 4-6	July 16-18	August 13-15	September 24-26
	July 23-25	August 27-29	

For Updates, Call (219) 878-1745 or Visit nicted.com

Workers demand better jobs and pay

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Millions of demonstrators around the world marched for labor rights Sunday, including thousands in Wisconsin who continued their divisive battle over collective-bargaining rights that began in February and had prompted huge masses of protesters to pour into the Madison Capitol.

Wisconsin demonstrators marched two miles through downtown Milwaukee, waving U.S. and Mexican flags and holding signs showing a raised fist in the shape of the state. Similar scenes played out across the nation and around the world, as millions of workers from Havana to Berlin and Istanbul took to the streets.

Milwaukee demonstrators pounded drums, blared through vuvuzelas and chanted, "Si se puede," Spanish for "yes, it can be done." They also held signs saying, "It's about freedom," and "Working hard is not a crime."

The rally ended at a park on the shores of Lake Michigan, where AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka told marchers they had the support of labor unions because

both groups were being attacked by the same conservative opponents.

"It's the same fight," he said. "It's the same people that are attacking immigrants' rights, workers' rights, student rights, voting rights."

May 1 is a traditional date for pro-labor demonstrations. Immigration advocates in the United States latched onto the celebrations in 2006.

Carlos Gutierrez, 40, of Oak Creek, Wis., said it was wrong to ostracize immigrant workers because "if people are willing to work hard for a better life, it doesn't matter where they grew up."

The burning issues at rallies around the world were the same: more jobs, better working conditions, higher wages and decent health care.

"STOP the deportations!" read a placard in Manhattan's Union Square, where about 1,000 people gathered at noon before marching down Broadway for a rally in Foley Square.

The square is feet from a federal building that houses the New York office of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency, which is in charge of removal operations involving illegal immigrants.

Brothers navigate nation for entrepreneurs

By ANNA BOARINI
News Writer

After 10 months and almost 40,000 miles, Notre Dame alumni and brothers Walter and Patrick Hessert have continued to promote small business and the American entrepreneurial spirit with their Million Dollar Road Trip, a journey across the country in their 23-foot Airstream trailer with the goal of covering it in

advertisements of American brands.

"We are just continuing to build on this thing, discovering new stories and awesome inspiring entrepreneurs," Walter Hessert said. "Our dedication is to cover our Airstream with this mosaic."

Through their travels, the brother's mission with Million Dollar Road Trip has continued to evolve. They recently decided to add six months to their nearly year-long trip in

the hopes of traveling to parts of their country they have yet to see, like the Northwest, and to discover new entrepreneurs to showcase.

The brothers are continuing to nurture and develop this unique community of entrepreneurs on their Road Trip. They are currently in southern Louisiana. On this leg of the Trip, the brothers plan on going to visit the family-owned company that makes Tabasco sauce, Walter Hessert said.

This month, they plan on heading north from the south to catch the Kentucky Derby, as well as the Indy 500 race in Indianapolis, Ind. Later, the brothers will head west to Nevada for the Burning Man music festival.

While traveling across the country, the brothers have stayed close to their Notre Dame roots.

"There is an entrepreneurial community that comes out of Notre Dame that undergrads don't always hear about," Walter Hessert said. "Some of the people [from Notre Dame] in the start up world have amazing stories."

The Hesserts have combined their Notre Dame community with the community of entrepreneurs Million Dollar Road Trip has created.

For example, Jeff Stuffings, a 2003 alum, started his own brewery with his brother. Stuffings and his brother built the brewery by hand.

"I was tired of working for a paycheck," Stuffings said on milliondollarroadtrip.com, dedicated to the Hesserts' trip. "I wanted to wake up and be excited about work."

The brewery, Jester King

Brewery, was awarded the seventh Million Dollar Road Trip Inspiration Grant of \$500. The Inspiration Grants are awarded to entrepreneurs that the Hessert brothers think embody the American entrepreneurial spirit they promote. Candidates are posted every other Sunday on the Trip's website, and website visitors vote on who they think deserves the grant. The winners receive a cash prize and free advertising on the side of the Airstream.

"In some cases, there are some businesses where we just go and pull up in front of a company, walk inside and see if we can talk to someone," Hessert said. "And then there are some that we hear about and decide we need to learn more."

The Hesserts rely on their community of entrepreneurs, not just for connections to the business world, but also to keep them going.

"I don't feel tired of it at all," Walter Hessert said about living in a trailer for almost a year. "It's reinvigorating."

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Courtesy of Patrick and Walter Hessert

Brothers Jeff and Michael Stuffings, left, stand with brothers Patrick and Walter Hessert, right. The Hessert brothers are traveling around the country to encourage American entrepreneurs.

Lead-ND hosts Project CPR to fight local food shortage

By ADAM LLORENS
News Writer

Lead-ND, a group of student volunteers working with local South Bend students, hosted their annual end-of-the-year service work called Project CPR: Community. Preservation. Revival. Saturday, in hopes of increasing awareness of South Bend's growing food shortage.

"The mission of LeadND is to assist in the educational process of local schools within the South Bend community," sophomore

Matt Lynch, one of the event coordinators, said. "Clay, Jackson and Jefferson are the schools we focus on, and the students at these schools helped us with the project."

The group held the project at Beacon Heights Park. Junior J.P. McCabe also helped coordinate the event.

"One of the main problems we discovered with the South Bend community is the shortage of food that many citizens experience," Lynch said. "When we talked [with our group] about the possibility of helping out low-

income families with the students, we saw the passion they felt for the issue and knew that was going to be the focus of this year's project."

At the gathering, local families were entertained with the sounds of the Notre Dame Glee Club and were treated to a dinner. In addition, each person was able to leave with a substantial amount of non-perishable food items.

"One hundred and twenty eight boxes of food were donated by the Indiana Food Bank," Lynch said. "In addition to this, we had

a food drive on campus where students and staff were able to donate non-perishable good. ... In the end, we had four full boxes of food left over that the people were able to take amongst themselves."

Participation in the event was high, as expected, he said.

"We had about 80 to 100 people attend the event, though many came at the end to simply pick up their non-perishable food," Lynch said.

In addition to the members of the Lead-ND, the club received assistance from members outside

of the Notre Dame community as well to help make the event a success.

"We got a lot of help from local State Farm agent Calvin Johnson and South Bend Council member Henry Davis," Lynch said. "Our students from the grade schools came out as well and helped to distribute food to the guest and were able to interact with children attending the dinner. ... It was a really enjoyable and fun experience."

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bin Laden

continued from page 1

spread of bin Laden's death after a global manhunt that lasted nearly a decade.

Former President George W. Bush, who was in office on the day of the attacks, issued a written statement hailing bin Laden's death as a momentous achievement. "The fight against terror goes on, but tonight America has sent an unmistakable message: No matter how long it takes, justice will be done," he said.

Obama said he ordered the operation after receiving undisclosed intelligence information. Senior administration officials said the terrorist mastermind was found inside a custom-built compound with two security gates. They said it appeared to have been constructed to harbor one high-value target and that for undisclosed reasons, officials became clear the hideout was bin Laden's.

Officials also said they believe the death puts al-Qaida on a path of decline that will be difficult to reverse, but there was no word on the whereabouts of bin Laden's second-in-command, Ayman al-Zawahiri.

The stunning end to the world's most widely-watched manhunt came just months before the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks

on the World Trade Centers and Pentagon, orchestrated by bin Laden's al-Qaida organization, that killed more than 3,000 people.

The attacks a decade ago seemed to come out of nowhere, even though al-Qaida had previously damaged American targets overseas.

The terrorists hijacked planes, flew one of them into one of Manhattan's Twin Towers — and, moments later, into the other one. Both buildings collapsed, trapping thousands inside and claiming the lives of firefighters and others who had rushed to help them.

A third plane slammed into the Pentagon, defacing the symbol of America's military might. A fourth crashed in rural Pennsylvania after passengers overpowered the hijackers and forced the craft from the air — before it could hit its intended target in Washington.

The attacks set off a chain of events that led the United States into wars in Afghanistan, and then Iraq, and America's entire intelligence apparatus was overhauled to counter the threat of more terror attacks at home.

A senior administration official says Obama gave the final order for U.S. officials to go after bin Laden on Friday. The official added that a small team found their quarry hiding in a large home in an affluent suburb of Islamabad. The raid occurred in the early morning hours Sunday.

Administration officials offered some details of the operation.

Based on statements given by U.S. detainees, intelligence officials have known for years that bin Laden trusted one al-Qaida courier in particular and they believed he might be living with him in hiding. In November, intelligence officials found out where he was living, a huge fortified compound in an affluent suburb of Islamabad. It was surrounded by walls as high as 18 feet high, topped with barbed wire. There were two security gates and no phone or Internet running into the house.

Intelligence officials believed the

\$1 million home was custom-built to harbor a major terrorist. CIA experts analyzed whether it could be anyone else, but time and again, they decided it was almost certainly bin Laden.

Three adult males were also killed in Sunday's raid, including one of bin Laden's sons, whom officials did not name. One of bin Laden's sons, Hamza, is a senior member of al-Qaida.

Obama spoke with Bush and former President Bill Clinton Sunday night to inform them of the developments.

Obama struck a less than boastful tone in his brief announcement,

although he said the death of bin Laden was "the most significant achievement to date in our nation's effort to defeat al-Qaida."

"His death does not mark the end of our effort. There's no doubt that al-Qaida will continue to pursue attacks against us. We must and we will remain vigilant," he added.

Moments after he spoke, American officials cautioned that the events could lead to heightened threats against the United States.

Officials said the U.S. would ensure that bin Laden's body was handled in accordance with Islamic tradition.

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Legal fight erupts over levee

Associated Press

CAIRO, Ill. — A legal fight over whether the Army Corps of Engineers should blast open a levee to relieve the rain-swollen Mississippi River went to the nation's highest court Sunday as the Illinois town the breach is meant to help during record flooding was cleared out.

As Missouri asked the U.S. Supreme Court to block the corps' plan, struggling Cairo near the confluence of Ohio and Mississippi rivers resembled a ghost town as Illinois National Guard troops went door to door with law enforcers to enforce the mayor's "mandatory" evacuation order the previous night.

About 20 to 30 families were allowed to stay — a courtesy extended only to adults — in the 2,800-resident town after signing waivers acknowledging that they understood the potential peril, National Guard Sgt. 1st Class Heath Clark said.

"If you're (possibly) losing everything and don't know where to go, you wouldn't want to leave, either," he told The Associated Press during a staging area in the Cairo High School cafeteria.

Maj. Gen. Michael Walsh, the Corps officer in charge of deciding whether to breach the levee, on Sunday ordered field crews to move barges to the Missouri side of the river and begin loading pipes in the levee with explosives in anticipation of blowing up a two-mile section just downriver from Cairo. He stressed that the decision to do so has not been made.

Walsh said it would take 20 ours to get the pipes filled,

during which time he will review conditions before deciding what to do. Destroying the levee would provide a relief valve to ease the menacing rivers and ultimately lower them, taking pressure off Cairo's floodwall and other levees father south along the Mississippi.

But the plan possibly would inundate 130,000 acres of now-evacuated farmland in Missouri's agriculture-reliant Mississippi County, causing what Missouri argues would crush that region's economy and environment by rendering that cropland useless under potentially feet of sand and silt.

Missouri Attorney General Chris Koster, whose bid to derail the corps' plan in recent days included failed requests to a federal district judge and an appellate court, took the case to the U.S. Supreme Court, noting "it is the responsibility of this office to pursue every possible avenue of legal review."

Corps officials are monitoring water levels and haven't decided whether to go through with the blast to blunt the rise of the Ohio, which on Sunday afternoon had risen to 59.93 feet at Cairo — eclipsing the 1937 record there of 59.5 feet. The river was expected to crest Tuesday at 61.5 feet and stay there for days, raising the corps' concerns about the lingering strain water that high could put on levees. Cairo's flood wall can handle 64 feet.

Sunday's house-to-house canvass came as more thunderstorms passed through the already waterlogged, rain-pummeled region — and as emergency-management offi-

cials in Cairo focused warily on a "sand boil" — an area of river seepage that's a potential sign of trouble — pooled to 40 feet wide and 12 feet deep about 100 yards from the floodwall.

Marty Nicholson, Alexander County's emergency management coordinator, said the boil was in check, resembling a doughnut surrounded by a mound of plastic-covered rock and sandbags.

"We've had sand boils before, but never this big," Nicholson said, noting that some 70 percent of the 9,600-resident county was flooded.

Just 17 miles from Cairo, near the tiny outpost of Olive Branch, Janice Bigham watched as her husband and volunteers desperately scrambled to heighten the sandbag wall that made their ranch-style home an oasis — safe for now — from the at times swampy green floodwaters that already had swallowed up many nearby homes and outbuildings without such defenses.

"All we can do is hope and pray that they blow that levee," said Bigham, 40. "That's the only thing that might take the pressure off; otherwise, the water will be over the road and wipe out Olive Branch."

Bigham, warning sandbaggers wading into the inundation to watch out for "big-time" snakes, said the gray-and-white brick home needed to be saved, given that her late father helped build it. "That's all I have left of him," she said before turning away briefly from a reporter, her chin trembling as ears welled in her eyes.



AP
Vice president Joe Biden will lead a series of bipartisan talks this week on reducing the deficit. The Gang of Six wants to participate.

Bipartisan group of six senators tackles deficit

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A bipartisan group of six senators is closing in on what could represent the best chance for tackling a deficit crisis that has forced the government to borrow more than 40 cents of every dollar it spends.

Their plan, still a work in progress, would reduce borrowing by up to \$4 trillion over the next decade by putting the two parties' sacred cows on the chopping block. Republicans would have to agree to higher taxes while Democrats would have to accept cuts in popular benefit programs such as Medicare, Medicaid and maybe even Social Security.

Most Republicans and some Democrats in Congress have said they will not vote to increase the government's ability to borrow without some action addressing the nation's long-term debt. The government is expected to reach its borrowing limit of \$14.3 trillion by mid-May. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner says steps are being taken to delay until July what would be an unprecedented default on the debt.

Geithner and a growing number of business leaders say a U.S. default would plunge the world, and perhaps the world, into a second economic crisis.

Despite opposition from top leaders in both parties, the Senate's Gang of Six is banking on support from many of the 64 senators who wrote President Barack Obama in March urging him to support a comprehensive deficit reduction effort.

"There's a huge appetite for a starting point that's bipartisan," said Sen. Mark Warner, D-Va., one of the six senators, three from each party. "I think the conventional wisdom that says, 'We can punt all of this until after the next presidential election.' I think there's a growing consensus we may not have that long."

The group includes four members of Obama's deficit commission, and its recommendations are expected to closely track the commission's plan for

\$3 in spending cuts for every \$1 in tax revenue increases over the coming decade.

Its other two Democrats are Sen. Dick Durbin of Illinois, the second-ranking Democratic leader, and Sen. Kent Conrad of North Dakota, the Budget Committee chairman. The Republicans are Sens. Tom Coburn of Oklahoma, Mike Crapo of Idaho and Saxby Chambliss of Georgia.

The six have met in private for several months, even as House Republicans and Obama developed more partisan plans that have little chance of being enacted into law because of Washington's divided government.

"We've made enormous progress in that group. And I hope that we are able to announce an agreement soon," Conrad said on "Fox News Sunday." He added: "If we don't, we're simply not going to be relevant because this debate marches on."

House Republicans passed a nonbinding plan in April that calls for reducing annual deficits by a total of \$6.2 trillion over the next decade. It includes no tax increases but calls for transforming Medicare from a program in which the government directly pays medical bills into a voucher-like system that subsidizes the purchase of private insurance plans.

Obama has outlined a plan to reduce borrowing by \$4 trillion over the next 12 years. His plan includes \$1 trillion in tax increases and is less specific about how he would cut benefit programs.

The senators' work is rooted in a simple political reality: Getting anything actually passed into law given the present balance of power in Washington requires both Democrats and Republicans to embrace proposals that make each uncomfortable. An approach that leaves politically challenging topics off the table simply won't make a dent in deficits averaging \$1 trillion a year or so over the upcoming decade.

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INSIDE COLUMN

A wedding worth the wake-up call

It's 5:15 on Friday morning and I technically don't have to be awake for another four hours. Instead, my alarm is telling me that it's time to get out of bed.

After only a few hours of sleep, I feel strangely excited and energetic — the royal wedding will be starting in just 45 minutes.

The idea of waking up so early to watch the wedding of two people that I have absolutely no connection to probably seems

crazy to many people, but this was a marriage that had been 10 years in the making. And I wasn't about to miss it.

At the risk of sounding cheesy or cliché, it really was a thrill to watch everything as it was unfolding. Although, I think it's pretty safe to say I wasn't alone in feeling that way; I was witnessing history being made.

Seeing the highly anticipated wedding dress the moment it was first revealed and the glances the couple exchanged when they first saw each other at the altar was actually pretty cool.

As I watched, my thoughts kept returning to the stunningly beautiful new princess and all that she must have been feeling.

Kate Middleton was actually living what most girls can only dream of. She had found her Prince Charming and was a part of a real-life fairy tale.

I'm sure when she met Prince William in college at the age of 19, she never imagined that this day would come. Now, this "commoner" from a small town in England was about to become royalty.

When the two began dating, she was immediately thrust into the spotlight and has remained there ever since. Now an international icon of sorts, I think she will represent the royal family well.

Appearing calm and poised, the new princess truly was someone to admire. All eyes were (and will most certainly continue to be) on her. I can't even begin to imagine that kind of pressure, but she took it all in stride and carried herself with such elegance and grace.

So, that being said, I guess I can forgive her for stealing the heart of the man who was once considered to be the world's most eligible bachelor (he and I share the same birthday, so we were obviously meant to be). After all, she was just an ordinary girl who was met with the most unordinary of circumstances.

I think Kate Middleton's story just goes to show that you never can tell what each day will bring and how it might impact or change your life forever. I'm not saying you'll become a member of the royal family too, but just think about the potential that each new day has. It's actually kind of amazing if you do.

In the end, it was certainly a wedding worth watching — 5:15 wake-up call and all.

The views expressed in this Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Emily Schrank at eschrank@nd.edu



Emily Schrank

*News
Production
Editor*

'... the human soul on fire'

It is truly a privilege when the people who inspire you are not historical figures in textbooks with whom you will never be able to speak. It is a privilege when the people whom you admire are not distant celebrities with whom you will never be able to sit down for a cup of coffee. It is a genuine privilege when the people who do and will make a sincere difference in their communities and in the world are friends who have both listened to your thoughts and taught you so much regarding the issues about which they care so deeply. I am honored, in my final column of the year, to be able to share my thanks for the inspiration that I have received from three incredible seniors.

I met Mary Dewey, Julia Duranti and Bridget Flores through the Progressive Student Alliance (PSA), a coalition of students, faculty and staff whose primary objective is to foster a community in which every member is welcomed, respected and loved without reservation, and which pursues changes to communal norms that inhibit or prevent a culture of respect for the fundamental dignity of the human person. I joined the group in the fall to become active on campus in various human rights issues. I stayed because of the passion shared by its members — none more so than that of Mary, Julia and Bridget, who exemplify Ferdinand Foch's saying, "The most powerful weapon on earth is the human soul on fire."

Mary is a Political Science and Chinese double major who lives in Hospitality House. Julia, another member of Hospitality House, is an Anthropology and Peace Studies double major. Bridget, a resident of Peace House, created her own Latin American Culture and Development major with the help of the Kellogg Institute where she works. Hospitality and Peace are certainly words I associate with these three, but they only brush the surface of the truly beautiful people these three are and how they work to make others.

After graduation, Mary is attending the University of Denver College of Law, where she received a scholarship for the school for Public Interest Law. She plans to specialize in law regarding immigration and

human trafficking. There are currently not enough lawyers serving the civil legal needs of poor people, she tells me, and in a justice system where public lawyers are not guaranteed in civil cases, too many life-changing cases are being tried in courts where plaintiffs may not understand what is going on, or may have inadequate representation. Having worked at a legal aid clinic in Denver last summer, Mary found it very rewarding to be able to provide the help and consultation that is in short supply within the high demand of our justice system.

Julia is joining the Jesuit Volunteer Corps (JVC) Northwest, where she will live in community with other volunteers and act as the anti-poverty specialist at El Programa Hispano in Gresham, Ore. The JVC emphasizes spiritual openness and depth, examining and acting on the causes of social and environmental injustice in order to promote peace and structural change. Julia will be bringing her experience studying abroad in Chile and Bolivia and her work in the South Bend community this past year. Her senior year especially, she has been able to engage her major and other academic classes with real life situations in the community. Some of the greatest things she has learned from her international and local work have been how to talk to people, how to listen when people need to talk, and how to learn from the people with whom she interacts. Life is a service, she tells me — a belief that all three have taught me.

Bridget will be working for a year in Austin, Texas, at an immigrant refugee shelter, where she will also hopefully shadow an immigration lawyer working there. Her passion is very much immigration, because, as she strongly feels, "a just immigration policy is needed for undocumented immigrants, so that people do not have to die trying to get to America and so that conditions are fair and humane for both Americans and immigrants." Law school is one possibility for her after her time in Austin, with specialization in immigration law and other civil rights protections for members of the LGBT community and women. Bridget's experience working with the Kellogg Institute on campus and developing her Latin American Culture and Development major will be an important background for her as she follows her passion.

Mary, Julia and Bridget are each expressive of and thankful for the people they have met while at Notre Dame. Many Notre Dame students, they agree, create a "com-

munity of people who actually utilize spirituality to promote social justice" and who are constantly "looking outside themselves." Certainly, Mary, Julia and Bridget have found a home in this community and have contributed to the peace and hospitality within it. For Mary, Julia and Bridget, PSA has been a forum and group to develop leadership skills while running social action campaigns that make a lot of progress on campus.

Much of this progress is behind the scenes, within meetings with members of the administration, academic departments, other clubs and student government. They are exemplary models of involvement in their campus community. PSA's focus has been utilizing direct service and charity in order to address structural issues on campus. Much of their efforts recently have been involved with the LGBT rights movement on campus. It is an issue that many do not want to address, it is an issue that requires structural and environmental changes on campus and it is an issue in which the changes do not come easily. However, Mary, Julia and Bridget have faced these challenges and for the past four years they have made it their goal to get the desired changes. They have been the on-campus leaders for the movement to include "sexual orientation" in the non-discrimination clause and to grant club status to a gay-straight alliance. While four years have passed and these changes have not yet been made, they have made an immeasurable difference in the lives of students, faculty and staff who identify as LGBT and allies. Their tireless commitment to PSA and all that PSA does is truly incredible. Their constant fight for what is right has inspired me and has won my unconditional admiration. They truly embody the sentiment that all life is a service.

Daniel Golston said, "If you're going to be passionate about something, be passionate about learning. If you're going to fight something, fight for those in need. If you're going to question something, question authority. If you're going to lose something, lose your inhibitions. If you're going to gain something, gain respect and confidence. And if you're going to hate something, hate the false idea that you are not capable of your dreams." Daniel Golston said it; through living it, Mary, Julia, and Bridget have taught it to me.

Alex Coccia is a freshman. He can be contacted at acoccia@nd.edu. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily



Alex Coccia

Shard of Glass

EDITORIAL CARTOON



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"'Wrong' is one of those concepts that depends on witnesses.

Scott Adams
U.S. cartoonist

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to the Editor at
www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends."

Martin Luther King Jr.
U.S. civil rights activist

A misguided 'path to prosperity'

Recently, Congressman Paul Ryan, the 41-year-old Chairman of the House Budget Committee, revealed the Republican version of the 2012 budget for the federal government titled "The Path to Prosperity." "The Path to Prosperity" cuts over \$4 trillion from the national debt during the next decade by reforming government programs and simplifying the U.S. tax code. While Mr. Ryan should be commended for his work, his budget contains misguided policies that are more geared towards creating a political firestorm than much needed compromise.

Adam Newman

*Scientia
potentia est*

"The Path to Prosperity" contains five major reforms. First, Medicare (the federal government's health insurance program for the elderly) becomes privatized for those under 55 and faces tremendous cuts. Second, Medicaid (the joint federal-state government program that provides health insurance for the poor and some health insurance for the elderly) faces cuts and becomes a "block grant," meaning states will have more flexibility in how they spend Medicaid funds. Third, the U.S. tax code will have fewer tax brackets, lower tax rates and fewer tax loopholes. Fourth, the recently passed health care bill is repealed. Fifth, numerous cuts are made to discretionary programs like Pell Grants.

As someone who spends (too much) time

studying the federal budget, I have a deep admiration for Congressman Ryan's knowledge of complicated budgetary issues and his political fearlessness for proposing reforms to entitlements. However, there are three main issues with his plan.

First, Congressman Ryan cuts health care costs the wrong way. Medicaid payment cuts will cause states to "decrease payments to Medicaid providers, reduce eligibility for Medicaid, provide less extensive coverage to beneficiaries or raise taxes" according to the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO). The CBO also found that the cuts to Medicare would shift more of the cost of Medicare onto seniors. Under current projections, in 2022, seniors will pay for 30 percent of their health care costs. The CBO found that under Congressman Ryan's plan in 2022 seniors would pay on average 60 percent of their health care costs, a \$6400 increase.

A better solution would be to make major investments in something called comparative effectiveness research, or CER. CER could be used to see which of many similar treatments is the most "cost-effective." For instance, let's say treatment "A" and "B" are both used to treat a common disease. "A" may cost more than "B," but it is likely that no evidence is available to prove that "A" is any more effective than "B." CER may be able to show that

"B" is just as effective as "A," or the added benefit of "A" may not be worth its additional cost. If this research is funded, the federal government could incentivize providers to practice the treatments that are the most "cost-effective." This is a less painful way of decreasing health care costs that Congressman Ryan ignores.

Second, too many of the sacrifices that "The Path to Prosperity" calls for fall on the disadvantaged. Deficit reduction should require cuts to every sector of the budget and require every American, poor and rich, young and old, to share in the sacrifice. Congressman Ryan's plan does not embody this ideal. "The Path to Prosperity" makes virtually no cuts to defense spending (20 percent of the budget), but makes major cuts to non-defense discretionary spending (the 15 percent of the budget containing Pell Grants, the EPA's budget, infrastructure funding, etc.) Moreover, while Congressman Ryan's tax reform lowers rates for all Americans, the highest tax bracket will be reduced from 35 percent to 25 percent. While economic growth is a necessary solution to deficit reduction, this tax break for the rich is far too great, even if many loopholes are eliminated. Many seniors and poor people would take major financial hits due to the cuts to Medicare, Medicaid and other services. Reducing taxes for the rich so greatly while drastically cutting services for the poor and elderly does not represent the

"shared sacrifice" America needs.

The third and most pressing issue with "The Path to Prosperity" is that Congressman Ryan makes no attempt at compromise. The combination of lowering taxes on the rich, drastically cutting services and repealing the health care bill make it politically impossible for this budget to receive Democratic support. Instead of working to please the conservative base, Congressman Ryan should have written a more moderate budget that would have attracted the support of both Democrats and Republicans.

President Obama recently proposed a deficit reduction plan of \$4 trillion over the next decade, a number similar to what Congressman Ryan has proposed. While both men agree on the amount of deficit reduction, President Obama's and Congressman Ryan's plans achieve it in very different ways, meaning tough negotiations will occur in the coming weeks. If negotiations between these two fail, it will not be because of Paul Ryan's ideas, but his unwillingness to compromise. It would be sad for so much political courage to go to waste.

Adam Newman is a sophomore majoring in finance. He can be contacted at aneuman3@nd.edu

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

True Life: I Love Will and Kate

I truly hope, for all of those reading this, that you are not yet sick of the Royal Wedding. Additional warning: This column may or may not contain elements of cheese. Proceed with caution.

Why? Because as a Notre Dame student studying abroad in London, I participated in all the wedding madness this past Friday and I loved every minute of it.

Molly Madden

*Guest
Columnist*

For those of you who may have read my contribution to The Observer's International Desk blog, you will have noted that my day began before 5:00 a.m. and involved sleeping next to a homeless man in St. James Park

before standing along the processional route all day to witness the entire Bridal party make its way to and from Westminster Abbey.

As much as it pains me to say it, I ended the day totally and madly in love with Kate and Will. This is saying a lot coming from someone who, if in Kate's shoes, I would have run 50 miles in the opposite direction before ever agreeing to join the dysfunctional and highly scrutinized family that is now her in-laws.

Why is it then that I, like so many other rational, democracy-loving individuals, got swept up into the Royal Wedding fever?

Answer: At the end of the day, many of us are still suckers for, and please excuse the overused expression, a modern-day fairy-tale.

Now you can criticize that statement all you want but the fact is a sensible, and maybe even a bit too-good-looking for her now-husband, woman willingly jumped into the media circus that has both annoyed and enthralled us to no end these past few months. I tend to subscribe to the belief that agreeing to have your wedding, one of your most personal and joyful days, broadcast world-wide to nearly two billion people who will analyze every detail, even the appearance of your sister's derriere in her maid-of-honor dress, to be a sign of enduring devotion.

And at the end of the day, after all the hoopla over the dress, the difficulty with the ring and the briefest of balcony kisses, it was still a wedding. A "royal" wedding, yes, but still a wedding where two people, who do seem genuinely in love, officially committed themselves to each other — without a pre-nup I might add.

With that being said, I no longer feel guilty for being a Royal lover. When I saw Kate drive past on her way to the Abbey, I felt a special affiliation to this young woman. Not because she was about to achieve every little girl's dream of being a princess, but because I was so swept up in the moment and wanted nothing more than her future happiness with her real-life prince.

And at a little after 11 a.m. on April 29, 2011, those all around me felt it too as the cheers of a million strong crowd went up in response to two words: "I will."

Molly Madden is a junior studying in London. She can be reached at mmadden3@nd.edu

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

M.E.Ch.A. a force for unity

First, I would like to thank Amanda Gray for providing M.E.Ch.A and Latina/os at Notre Dame with a positive portrayal of the work that we do ("Latinos maintain culture on campus," April 20). I would also like to thank Jessica Lujan for her views in "A Different Way to be Latino" (April 27) — she is right, there are many different ways of expressing our identity. However, I would like to address several incorrect assumptions that she made about our club, "M.E.Ch.A." Her Viewpoint article essentially denied the existence of a nationwide attack on the Latino population via discriminatory legislation and the anti-immigrant hysteria in our country. Allert Brown Gort argues that today Latinos are often associated with being immigrants, who are equated with being "illegal" and who are then demonized by a society that benefits from their disadvantaged status. I am glad that Miss Lujan was fortunate enough to never experience this type of discrimination, but the truth is that Latina/os are targeted and scapegoated everyday.

M.E.Ch.A., an organization whose members espouse a Chicana/o identity that can be shared by anyone, fights for the empowerment of all people through education, activism and preservation of culture. We challenge ignorance by educating ourselves and the people around us. To say that our organization is exclusionary is contradictory to our message and goals. Perhaps because she has not been involved in M.E.Ch.A., Miss Lujan's commentary on our organization was misinformed. Throughout the years we have been a vehicle for students to share and maintain their culture on campus. In fact, our efforts to educate and retain Latina/o culture have been recognized by Student Activities as we were recently awarded the Cultural Club of the Year award and Program of the Year for our Diversity Panel. In our chapter, as in most chapters, members include people from different ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds. We encourage all people who share our goals of social justice and equality to participate. At the same time, we are also aware and supportive of the fact that M.E.Ch.A. is not the only way Latina/o students maintain their culture on campus. We recognize that we have a very dissident style of reaching our goals that may not appeal to some students and so there are other Latina/o clubs on campus that we are either members of or we work closely with in cooperative event planning.

While Notre Dame has provided much opportunity for growth and advancement for minority students, there is still ignorance about different lifestyles that often leads to insensitive remarks and offensive incidents. Again, I am happy that some Latina/o students have not experienced this, but these experiences are a reality for many minority students.

Finally, we would like to say that in light of all the work that still needs to be done in support of unity, we encourage all Domers to participate in and become involved with the multicultural clubs here on campus. Our efforts are futile when only our members attend education nights, meetings and other events.

M.E.Ch.A. de Notre Dame

Luis Huerta
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May 1



By MAIJA GUSTIN
Scene Editor

In the days leading up to the Royal Wedding of the new Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, Prince William and Kate Middleton, rumors ran rampant on who the bride would wear on her wedding day. Names such as Vera Wang, Alexander McQueen and Monique Lhuillier were all dropped as the lucky designer to clothe the future queen of England. Somehow, despite all the press coverage of the high profile event, the secret was kept until Kate stepped out of her Rolls Royce at Westminster Abbey.

It was around the world dropped as Kate emerged in a stunning Alexander McQueen gown by Sarah Burton. Clearly inspired by Grace Kelly's dress at her wedding to the Crown Prince of Monaco in 1956, the dress was both classic and elegant. Sarah Burton, who took over as cre-

ative director of Alexander McQueen after the death of McQueen last year, created a chic and elegant silhouette for the most famous bride in recent history. She managed to combine some of McQueen's edge with a classic look befitting the future Queen of England for a breathtaking dress that will surely inspire brides for years to come.

Though the dress was stunning from the front, with its v-neck and delicate lace, the back was equally beautiful. Kate's train was nearly nine feet long and the back of the dress featured handmade buttons.

Sarah Burton has quickly escalated from arising (perhaps risen) fashion star to a household name thanks to Kate's unforgettable look. Will's look of shock and amazement at the altar neatly summed up the reactions of all

else watching, in person or on screen.

Kate finished off her look with a tiara borrowed from Queen Elizabeth herself. Her make-up was light and natural and she wore her hair down in loose waves.

Philippa (Pippa)

Middleton, Kate's sister and maid of honor, also wore a Burton dress, one that helped catapult her to Twitter-trending status on the day of her sister's wedding. Though dressed in white, Pippa's stunning, form-fitting dress failed to detract from her sister. Rather, she was simply stunning following her sister

down the aisle.

Burton contributed a third gorgeous dress to the day: Kate's reception dress. Kate stayed in white, this time with a form-fitting, sleeveless white gown with embroidered waistband. She topped this off with an angora white shrug.

Though Kate was undoubtedly the star, eliciting cheers from the millions thronging London to be a part of the wedding, Sarah Burton was clearly the hero of the day, dressing Kate as if she were already the queen.

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Royal Wedding: fashion do's and don'ts

By MARIA FERNANDEZ
Scene Writer

The most popular and awaited royal wedding of the century finally came Friday and all eyes were on fashion. The British Royal Family demonstrated once more its exquisite elegance and sophistication with its choices of attire and the bride, now Catherine Duchess of Cambridge, and her sister, Pippa, also looked both beautiful and breathtaking.

However, the main characters of this royal event of the year were not the only ones dressed to impress. Wearing mainly short hem ensembles with lots of color and extravagant hats, celebrity and royal guests to the wedding made good and not-so good fashion choices on this big day. After carefully looking at all of the wedding fashions, here are some of my picks on guest do's and don'ts.

Do's

The majority of the wedding guests chose very stylish outfits that were perfect for the occasion. They emanated elegance and poise and were avant-garde in their selections.

David and Victoria Beckham's ensembles were certainly a do. The handsome soccer star looked great in his Ralph Lauren suit and Philip Treacy top hat, while his wife's dark blue dress from her new fall collection fitted perfectly with her growing baby bump. Posh's custom-made Christian Louboutin pumps and Philip Treacy headpiece completed her sophisticated look. They were without doubt one of the most stylish couples in Friday's ceremony and festivities.

Prime Minister David Cameron's wife, Samantha Cameron, radiated simplicity and refinement at the event. Her combination of both a bright teal dress and an orange shawl and necklace were a great choice that gave personality to her outfit.

Spanish-designed attires caused a sensation at this worldwide-telvised event. Miriam Gonzalez, wife of English Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg, looked sophisticatedly elegant in her Miguel Palacio black-and-white



David and Victoria Beckham



Samantha Cameron



Miriam Gonzalez



Princess Letizia of Spain

polka dot dress and draped black turban with coral flower applications. She proudly showed her cultural roots with this bold and fashionable outfit.

Princess Letizia of Spain also chose to wear Spanish-designer pieces for the occasion. She looked simple, elegant and chic in a monochromatic blush-colored pleated dress and hat by Felipe Varela.

Recently married Princess Victoria of Sweden and Prince Albert of Monaco's fiancé, Charlene Wittstock, also followed the monochromatic fashion trend to perfection. Princess Victoria looked polished and modern with a side-gathered, salmon-colored Elie Saab dress and matching shoes and hat, while Wittstock demonstrated she has what it takes to look and become a royal with a seamed gray coat, gloves and clutch. The soon-to-be princess completed her refined look with a white wide-brimmed hat and nude-colored heels.

Another fashion trend seen in some guests at the wedding was metallics, and Princess Marie Chantal of Greece and Zara Phillips, Prince William's cousin, wore it best. Chantal wore a Chanel Haute Couture gray-tweated dress with silver hand-beaded embroidery and an elaborate flower-adorned hat by Philip Treacy. Zara Phillips chose to wear a metallic silver dress and fabulous hat for her cousin's wedding. Both royals nailed the metallic trend with their stylish ensembles, making great and innovative fashion statements.

All of these guests prove that when it comes to choosing their outfits for a royal event they are definitely en vogue.

Don'ts

Although many



Princess Victoria of Sweden



Charlene Wittstock



Marie Chantal of Greece



Zara Phillips

celebrities and royals who were invited to Prince William and Kate's wedding showed poise and charm with their perfectly adequate fashion selections, others did not make the do list.

Chelsy Davy's aquamarine bias-cut satin blouse and skirt, made specifically for the occasion by Alberta Ferretti, were somewhat disappointing. She paired her outfit with nude-colored pumps, clutch and hat, which did not help her overall look. I expected something more stylish and youthful from Prince Harry's on-again, off-again girlfriend.

Although these sisters are popularly known as British fashionistas, Princess Eugenie and Princess Beatrice of York chose apparel for their cousin's wedding which was also a miss. Eugenie, the younger of the two, wore a Vivienne Westwood multicolored jacked and poufy taffeta skirt combined with a flamboyant Philip Treacy hat. She went too over-the-top with her outfit and did not exude the effortless grace of a British royal.

Princess Beatrice's beige Valentino Haute Couture dress seemed less contrived than her sister's, but it is still not a fashion hit. The dress was fairly appropriate for the occasion, but her extravagant Philip Treacy headpiece ruined the look. Beatrice mixed an elegant Valentino piece with a wildly shaped hat. This combination hindered her overall look.

Lastly, British socialite and TV presenter, Tara Palmer-Tomkison, wore the most outrageous ensemble to the royal nuptials. Her outfit is a perfect example of monochromatic gone wrong. Her choice of a cobalt blue color did not spoil her ensemble. It was the exuberant shape of her Deborah Milner dress and Philip Treacy hat that did. Tara was certainly trying too hard. She was dressing to impress in all the wrong ways.

Good or bad, hit or miss, do or don't, these celebrity and royal guests enjoyed this most anticipated wedding of the year and definitely made fashion history with these ensembles.



Chelsy Davy



Eugenie and Beatrice of York



Tara Palmer-Tomkison

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MLB

Indians continue surprising start, sweep Tigers

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — No matter the situation, the upstart Cleveland Indians can do no wrong this season.

Cleveland has baseball's best record at 19-8 after Michael Brantley singled home the go-ahead run in a three-run eighth inning Sunday and the Indians beat the Detroit Tigers 5-4 for their 13th straight home win.

"I don't think anybody could see this coming," closer Chris Perez said. "Everything is coming together. The starting pitchers are keeping us in there, the bullpen is doing the job. Two outs, none on? The offense will do something. This is a lot of fun."

Cleveland's third consecutive victory in its last at-bat and sixth straight overall pushed Detroit's losing streak to six games. It also gave the Indians five series sweeps this season, one more than all of 2010 when they went 69-93.

"A super, fantastic homestand. Just terrific," manager Manny Acta

said. "Winning breeds confidence and these kids right now are feeling pretty good."

Brantley followed a tying RBI single by Orlando Cabrera by lining an 0-1 pitch from Joaquin Benoit (0-2) to left, scoring Shelley Duncan from second base.

Matt LaPorta added a sacrifice fly for his third RBI and a 5-3 lead as Cleveland extended its best home start in 70 years. The Indians are 13-2 at home for the first time since 1941. They didn't get their 13th home win a year ago until June 28.

"It's amazing," veteran infielder Adam Everett said. "You can't script out the way we're winning. These guys never quit and it's really exciting."

Chad Durbin (1-1) struck out the only batter he faced, Brandon Inge, to end the eighth. Perez yielded an RBI single to Miguel Cabrera in the ninth before earning his seventh save.

Next up, a six-game trip to the West Coast, starting Tuesday in Oakland. Acta believes the Indians can win there, too.

"Expectations don't change," he said. "You try to win every game.

We'll try to take some home cooking on the road."

Detroit let leads slip away in all three games in Cleveland and will open a four-game set at home Monday against the New York Yankees.

"We're not doing enough things to win games," manager Jim Leyland said. "We're either getting behind and not catching up or getting ahead and not holding them off."

Benoit twice failed to stop the surging Indians. After serving up a game-ending grand slam to Carlos Santana on Friday night, he yielded a single to Shin-Soo Choo to start the eighth and plunked Duncan in the hand with one out Sunday. Orlando Cabrera then singled off the glove of a diving Inge at third to score Choo for a 3-all tie.

"I'm struggling," Benoit said. "Nothing is going right for me now."

Alex Avila's bases-loaded sacrifice fly in the top of the eighth gave Detroit a 3-2 lead.

Indians starter Justin Masterson yielded a leadoff single to Don Kelly and hit Miguel Cabrera in the left leg with a pitch to open the eighth. Cabrera glared at the mound, gestured at Masterson and walked slowly to first. Earlier in the game, both benches had been warned after Masterson and Tigers starter Phil Coke plunked batters.

"Under no circumstances was



Cleveland first baseman Matt LaPorta laces a two-run double to right field in the second inning of Sunday's game against Detroit.

Masterson trying to do that," Acta said. "We respect Miggy. My guys are not afraid of him, but I am. He's the most scary guy in the league."

Rafael Perez struck out Brennan Boesch, but Ryan Raburn singled to load the bases and Avila lofted his third sacrifice fly of the series.

LaPorta's two-run double in the second tied the score against Coke.

Kelly had an RBI double in the

first, when the Tigers added a run on a passed ball by Santana.

Masterson avoided big trouble in the second. Detroit loaded the bases with one out on a bloop single, walk and bunt single. Masterson got Ramon Santiago to ground into an around-the-horn double play started by Everett.

"He dialed it up after that," Acta said. "He gave us 120 pitches and gave us a chance to win."

NHL

Red Wings falter again on the road against Sharks

Associated Press

DETROIT — Defensemen Ian White and Niclas Wallin scored their first goals of the postseason and Antti Niemi made 33 saves to help the San Jose Sharks take a 2-0 lead in their Western Conference semifinal series over the Detroit Red Wings with a 2-1 victory Sunday.

White scored on a power play in the first period and Wallin extended the lead early in the third period as the Sharks put together two of their best back-to-back games to jump on top of the Red Wings for the second straight year.

While Detroit could blame a lack of rest for falling into a 3-0 hole to San Jose a year ago following a seven-game first-round series, the Red Wings were well-rested this year after sweeping Phoenix.

But that made no difference against a determined Sharks team that has won 10 of 12 games against Detroit.

Jimmy Howard was again strong in goal for the Red Wings, making 35 saves, but he got little help from his teammates. The Red Wings hope to change their fortunes when the series shifts to Detroit for Games 3 and 4 starting Wednesday night.

The Sharks controlled play in the second period and took control of the scoreboard with the rare goal from Wallin early in the third. He skated into the offensive zone and fired a shot that hit off Howard's shoulder and helmet, popped in the air and fell into the net for a 2-0 lead.

Detroit's frustration quickly materialized as Tomas Holmstrom took a roughing penalty on Jason Demers to negate a power play, and

Niemi kept coming up with the big saves. His best moment came when he stopped Nicklas Lidstrom from the point and then Danny Cleary and Henrik Zetterberg on rebounds midway through the third.

The Red Wings finally broke through with a power-play goal by Zetterberg with 6:02 remaining. They couldn't get the equalizer, with the best chance coming when Lidstrom hit the post late in the period.

Both goalies came up big in a second period that featured plenty of hard hits, scoring chances and animosity that boiled over when San Jose's Ben Eager and Detroit's Todd Bertuzzi fell into the Red Wings bench during a scrum. The two nearly went at it again after serving coincidental roughing penalties, but Bertuzzi didn't respond when

Eager dropped his gloves and was given a 10-minute misconduct penalty.

Niemi stopped a short-handed breakaway by Darren Helm early in the period and made two nice stops against Zetterberg on a Detroit power play shortly after that. Niemi also had a tough stop on Zetterberg in the final minute, playing more like the goalie who helped Chicago win the Stanley Cup last season than the one who got pulled twice in the first round against Los Angeles this year.

Howard was even better in the second and needed to be as the Sharks controlled the play for much of the period, winning two thirds of the faceoffs and outshooting Detroit 19-9.

Howard robbed Devin Setoguchi and Dan Boyle midway through the period and made a diving stop on Patrick

Marleau at the end of a power play. Even when a puck managed to slip by Howard, the Sharks couldn't score as forward Pavel Datsyuk cleared a loose puck from the goal line after a great effort by Douglas Murray almost led to a goal.

Howard made five more saves during a flurry in the opening minute of the third, stopping Marleau on an odd-man rush and Boyle on a rebound attempt.

The sellout crowd was loud from the start and got more frenzied when the Sharks broke out to a rare early lead this postseason when White beat Howard with a blast through a screen on a power play with Justin Abdelkader in the box for high-sticking.

That was San Jose's first goal in the first period since Dany Heatley scored on the opening shift of the first round against Los Angeles.

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"30 Rock" Quotes:

Liz: [about Kenneth] Well, it was nice of you to let him keep his job.

Jack: The Italians have a saying, Lemon. "Keep your friends close and your enemies closer." And although they've never won a war or mass-produced a decent car, in this area they are correct. In five years we'll all either be working for him... [Kenneth happily bikes away] or be dead by his hand.

MLB

Athletics take down Rangers; Ethier extends streak

Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Even after left-hander Matt Harrison struggled for a third straight start, Texas Rangers manager Ron Washington has no plans to alter his rotation.

After watching his team's shaky defense fall apart again, Washington has bigger issues on his plate.

Harrison gave up four runs in 1 2-3 innings and Texas couldn't get much going against Oakland starter Gio Gonzalez and four relievers, losing to the Athletics 7-2 on Sunday.

"Matt Harrison threw us three pretty good ballgames (and) had two bad ones," Washington said. "He'll get the ball next time. I don't think there's anyone in this clubhouse that feels more bad about not going out there giving their team a chance than Matt Harrison. I'm not disappointed in Harrison, he just didn't get it done."

Coco Crisp doubled on Harrison's second pitch and things went downhill quickly

from there. Two batters later, Crisp scored on Conor Jackson's two-run double down the right-field line, then Kurt Suzuki singled through a drawn-in infield to give the A's a 3-0 lead.

Crisp, back hitting leadoff in Oakland's lineup after missing three games with a sore left quadriceps, made it 4-0 with a two-out RBI single in the second.

Harrison, who lasted just three innings in his previous start against Toronto, was gone two batters later after Daric Barton doubled and Jackson walked to load the bases.

"I've just got to be more focused when I get on the field," said Harrison, who walked two with one strikeout. "I have to keep things simple, not try to think about too much or what's happened these past two starts. When I came into spring training, I trusted my stuff. I don't think I'm trusting my stuff right this second."

The Rangers shouldn't be too trusting of their defense, for that matter.

Texas committed three errors that led to a pair of unearned runs for Oakland. That gave the Rangers 25 errors this season, tied with the A's for most in the AL.

Those miscues helped Oakland break out of an offensive slump and score more than six runs for only the fourth time this season.

Jackson had two hits and two RBIs, Crisp added two hits in his return to the lineup and Suzuki had two RBIs to help the A's, who also got a solid outing from Gonzalez.

Gonzalez (3-2) scattered five hits with seven strikeouts over 6 2-3 innings to win for the first time since April 9. The left-hander didn't give up a hit until the fourth and allowed only three runners past second base.

Gonzalez snapped a three-start skid by holding down the Rangers a day after Texas tagged Oakland ace Brett Anderson for seven runs and nine hits in five innings.

"My last two outings were a little off-balance, kind of like rushing and doing more than I should have been doing in the beginning," Gonzalez said. "Today I tried to stay back and work on attacking the strike zone and working on the glove."

Michael Young and Ian Kinsler drove in runs for Texas, but it wasn't enough against Gonzalez.

It was Oakland's offense — and Texas' shoddy defense — that made the biggest difference.

Crisp provided a spark after sitting out three games with a sore left quadriceps while

Jackson continued his recent tear. Jackson is hitting .360 with four extra-base hits and seven RBIs over his last seven games.

Harrison's quick exit marked the third straight game in which he's struggled after opening the season with consecutive wins over the Red Sox, Orioles and Yankees. His ERA has spiked from 1.23 to 4.59 since then, and his loss to the A's was his first in four career starts against Oakland.

"I've got to keep that confidence level up to forget about what happened and know that I have good enough stuff," Harrison said.

The A's added two runs off Dave Bush in the third after Suzuki reached on a throwing error by shortstop Elvis Andrus to open the inning. Hideki Matsui followed with a run-scoring double, then scored on Cliff Pennington's two-out single to center.

Typical of Texas' day, first baseman Mike Napoli tumbled hard into the Rangers' dugout while chasing Jackson's foul ball in the seventh but was unable to make the catch. He stayed on the ground for a few moments but remained in the game.

Suzuki singled in Willingham two batters later to make it 7-2.

Padres 7, Dodgers 0

The Dodgers managed only three hits off San Diego's Dustin Moseley during his seven innings of work. Fortunately for Andre Ethier, he had one of them to keep his hitting streak going at 27 games.

Moseley got his first victory of 2011, and the Padres beat Los Angeles on Sunday to win their first series since taking two of three at St. Louis to open their schedule.

Jon Garland (1-2) gave up three runs in five innings. He struck out eight and walked four — one more than his combined total in 20 innings over his three previous starts this season. The right-hander spent last season with the Padres, going 14-12 with a 3.47 ERA in 33 starts.

"Jon's a guy who always seems to find a way to keep himself in the game, and he's always been that kind of guy," manager Don Mattingly said. "If he's struggling with something, he'll just basically almost invent stuff and change what he's doing."

Garland's first walk was to Nick Hundley leading off the Padres' three-run second. Former Dodger Orlando Hudson followed with a single, Cameron Maybin drove in Hundley with another single and Brad Hawpe capped the rally with a two-run single that doubled his RBI total for the season.

"What killed me in that inning was the leadoff walk," Garland said. "That gives them the opportunity to put that hit-and-run on. Then they were able to kind of bloop a couple more hits in there that ended up scoring a couple more. They really didn't hit the ball hard that inning at all."

Six of Hawpe's 12 hits this season have come against the Dodgers in 17 at-bats. He is 6 for 54 against everyone else. The seven-year veteran, who

helped lead Colorado to a pennant in 2007 with 29 homers, 116 RBIs and a .291 average, has no homers and just four RBIs in 71 at-bats with the Padres after signing a one-year, \$3 million contract in January as a free agent.

An All-Star in 2009, Hawpe has a .352 lifetime average against the Dodgers and a .362 mark at Chavez Ravine — the second-highest ever by a visiting player with at least 120 at-bats here behind Roberto Clemente's .377 mark.

"I don't know why. I've just always enjoyed playing here," Hawpe said. "I just like this ballpark. Obviously, I may like it here because I've had success. The last two series I've felt really good at the plate, even when I didn't get hits. It's just a matter of grinding it out and turning it around."

Ethier kept his streak alive when he led off the seventh with a single up the first base line and off the glove of Hawpe as he tried to backhand it behind the bag. It is the second-longest streak by a Dodger since the club relocated to Los Angeles in 1958, and is five shy of Willie Davis' franchise-record 31-game run in 1969.

"I was just trying to figure out a way to get the job done and get on base — a walk, error, hit anything that gives us a chance to start scoring runs, especially in a ballgame like that where not much offense is being shown," Ethier said.

Moseley (1-3) walked three and struck out six, allowing just two runners as far as second base. The right-hander was winless in five April starts despite a 1.99 ERA, with his teammates getting shut out in each of his first three outings and totaling just four runs for him altogether — including a pair of no-decisions that went extra innings.

"I've been telling people and telling these guys all along that it's going to happen. It was just a matter of time. But I'm glad it happened today," Moseley said after the Padres put together consecutive victories for the first time since the first two games of the season.

Ethier had 40 hits in April, tying the franchise record for that month, which he shared with Mike Piazza and Rafael Furcal. The All-Star right fielder is trying to become the eighth player since the turn of the century with a hitting streak of at least 30 games during one season. That list includes Jimmy Rollins, Chase Utley, Luis Castillo, Albert Pujols, Willy Taveras, Moises Alou and Ryan Zimmerman.

The Dodgers are scheduled to face Cubs starters James Russell, Ryan Dempster and Carlos Zambrano in a series that begins Monday night at Chavez Ravine. Ethier is 0 for 1 lifetime against Russell, 7 for 19 with a home run against Dempster, and 7 for 16 against Zambrano.

Hawpe's clutch hit was the last by the Padres until the ninth, when they broke it open with an RBI single by pinch-hitter Jorge Cantu, a sacrifice fly by Jason Bartlett and a two-run double by Chase Headley against Mike MacDougal. All four runs were charged to Hong-Chih Kuo, who was activated from the disabled list before the game.

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SMC TENNIS

Belles drop conference title match to Albion

By JACK HEFFERON
Sports Writer

A successful season came to a close for No. 5 Saint Mary's after a semifinal loss to No. 1 Albion, ending its run at an MIAA championship.

The Belles' (13-8, 5-3 MIAA) weekend began with a quarter-final matchup against No. 4 Calvin. In their regular season meeting, Saint Mary's outlasted the Knights (10-11, 5-3) for a 5-4 victory. The Belles were forced to play strong tennis throughout the contest, from two early doubles wins to the late 6-2, 7-5 win by senior Mary Therese Lee that decided the match.

Friday's match was much of the same, as strong doubles play set the Belles up for another 5-4 triumph. This time the early boost was provided by an 8-3 win from the No. 3 doubles team of Lee and senior captain Franca Peluso. The pair went undefeated in tournament play and has been one of Saint Mary's best pairings all year.

"[Peluso and Lee] have great chemistry and they really enjoy playing together," Belles coach Dale Campbell said. "Franca got hurt early in the year, but since then they've only kept improving."

The Belles received late heroics in this meeting as well, this time from senior Kate Grabarek at No. 5 singles. Grabarek, with the season on the line, rallied from a one set deficit to win 1-6, 7-6 (7-5), 6-2. Even when her opponent stood two points from defeating both her and the team, the senior maintained her composure and continued to play her game.

"I was really proud of Kate,"

Campbell said. "That was a huge match for us. Her opponent didn't make a mistake in that first set, but she started to play better and she really came up big."

After that victory over Calvin, only top-seeded Albion (14-2, 8-0) stood between Saint Mary's and the finals. However, the Belles' hopes faded as the Britons quickly took a 2-1 lead in doubles and swept the top three spots in singles for a 5-2 victory.

While the result was decisive, Campbell believes the match was much closer than the score indicated.

"We were very close. It was much tighter than 5-2," he said. "We were about to win the other two matches out there, so it was more like 5-4. You find yourself thinking, 'we just needed one more'."

Despite the season ending too early for their liking, the 2011 campaign was the best the Belles have had under Campbell and marks another step in the right direction for a team that has improved its record for the past three years. Campbell believes the future for Saint Mary's is bright and sees many positives from the successful year.

"We're disappointed, but we're glad we made it to the semifinals and [went] up against the best," he said. "I do feel that we're learning more every season, and this one was the best so far. We had a great group of seniors this year, and it was good to send them out on a positive. We're trying to improve as a program, and we feel like we're definitely on an upswing."

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was joined by Tiz Shadley, Christine Hamma, Blood and Erin McDonnell on Gatsby.

Forr led the Onesies to a 21-10 victory over the Monstarz in the semifinal matchup Saturday, a matchup of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's athletes. Forr and varsity volleyball player Marie Roof joined forces with fellow Notre Dame students Caitlin Hutchison, Laura Philipp, and Kaitlin Robinson to form Number Onesie. Jessica Centa, Kayla Wolter and Katherine Wabler, members of the Saint Mary's varsity basketball team, represented the Belles along with freshmen Malea Schulte and

Anamaria Weikert.

Forr was dominant in the final minutes of the first half, accounting for three of the last five baskets that sent Number Onesie to halftime with an 11-4 lead.

Gatsby defeated the Dominate-Tricks 21-19 Saturday in the other semifinal matchup. Lynch sunk the game-winning free throw to give her team the victory.

Dominate Tricks consisted of Sarah McNellie, Maggie Ronan, Kelley Murphy, Katie Sullivan and Katherine Ferguson. Ronan, Murphy, and Sullivan are all members of the Saint Mary's varsity basketball team.

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PGA

Watson takes Zurich Classic

Associated Press

AVONDALE, La. — Bubba Watson has been working on becoming a better man.

He figures he's probably a better player because of it.

Earlier in his career, a double bogey in the middle of a hotly contested final round might have knocked the combustible Watson off his game.

Not anymore.

Watson overcame a three-stroke deficit over the final eight holes of regulation and beat Webb Simpson in a playoff Sunday in the Zurich Classic of New Orleans for his second PGA Tour victory of the year and third of his career.

"My wife, my caddie and my trainer would say my attitude's in the right spot," Watson said. "This week, I won (by) not getting down on bad shots, just staying focused on what I'm supposed to be doing."

He also had a little luck.

It came in the form of a bad break for Simpson, who remained winless on the PGA Tour and was left to wonder what might have been if not for an unusual one-stroke penalty on 15 when his ball moved as he was addressing it on the green, less than a foot from the hole.

"I better limit my comments on that rule, because I think it's such a bad rule," said Simpson, who seemed to think windy conditions, combined with relatively dry, hard greens, caused the ball to move. "When the wind or other natural things affect the golf ball, the player shouldn't be penalized. ... It was just unfortunate, but Bubba deserves a win, and I'm pretty happy for

him."

Watson, also the winner at Torrey Pines in late January, matched Simpson with a 3-under 69 to finish at 15-under 273 at TPC Louisiana. Both players birdied the 18th on the first extra hole, with Watson making a 12-foot putt to force the second playoff.

Watson opened the final playoff hole with a 329-yard drive that narrowly stayed out of the water and landed in a fairway bunker. He hit his second shot — a 7-iron — 210 yards to the green on the 568-yard, par-5 18th.

Simpson's second shot landed in a bunker short of the green, near the lip, and he blasted out to 12 feet.

After Simpson narrowly missed his birdie putt, Watson made a 3-foot birdie putt for the victory, which earned him \$1,152,000 and moved him up from No. 16 to No. 10 in the world.

K.J. Choi, the 2002 winner in New Orleans, shot a 69 to tie for third at 13 under with Jason Dufner (66) and Tommy Gainey (69). Choi was 14 under after 16 holes, but three-putted for a bogey on the par-3 17th and narrowly missed a birdie putt on 18.

After Watson made his tournament-clinching putt, he hugged his mother, Molly, and wife Angie.

In Watson's estimation, both deserved credit for his latest victory.

His mother, who did not attend his previous two wins, asked him to play in the suburban New Orleans tournament so she could drive from her Pensacola, Fla., area home to

watch him.

"I want to ask mom where else I should play," said Watson, who had or shared the lead at the end of every round at Pete Dye-designed TPC Louisiana. "Hopefully, it means a lot to her that she got to sweat and cry and do everything that I did and all my emotions that went through 18 holes and the two extra holes."

His wife, meanwhile, has been telling him for a while to work on his composure on the course.

"She told me that I'm playing golf for a living, it's a dream come true and ... I've got to act differently," Watson said. "If I'm going to support kids and do charity work, (getting angry on the course) is not a good example."

The best proof of the 32-year-old Watson's maturity came when he got into trouble on the par-3 ninth.

With the wind gusting and the crowd across the water erupting after Brendon De Jonge holed out from a bunker on 18, Watson backed away from his initial stance.

After stepping back up to his ball, the left-handed Watson attempted a draw that was meant to rise up over the water to the left and curl back into a crosswind toward the front of the green, where the pin was placed. The ball died just a few crucial feet short, plunking the distinctive cypress planks imbedded in the bulkhead along the left side of the green and ricocheting into the water.

Watson then took his third shot from the front of the tee box and wound up with a double bogey, while Simpson made par for a two-shot lead.

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WOMEN'S ROWING

Notre Dame wins Big East



THOMAS LA/The Observer

Irish rowers make their way to the finish line during a win over Tulsa Oct. 29 on the St. Joseph's River. The women's rowing team has the longest conference title winning streak of any team at Notre Dame.

By CORY BERNARD

Sports Writer

Granted varsity status in the fall of 1997, Notre Dame has quickly established itself as a top program. The Irish further cemented their standing as the Big East's top team Sunday, winning their eighth consecutive conference title, a feat no current Big East team in any sport can match.

Irish coach Martin Stone took over the program in its first year and has since built a nationally recognized program. However, he said the culture of the university and the athletes it attracts contributes much more to Notre Dame's success than the efforts of the coaches.

"Notre Dame is such a great school," Stone said. "Just the caliber of the university and its commitment to athletics immediately put us ahead [of other Big East universities]. Also, the individual athletes that come to Notre Dame and their daily dedication matters a lot. Their performance, much more than that of the coaching staff, determines our success."

Held on Mercer Lake in West Windsor, N.J., the championship

was a tight competition between the first-place Irish and second-place Louisville. The Cardinals' varsity eight boat claimed the Big East crown with a time of 6:40.00, beating Notre Dame by 2.8 seconds. However, the Irish won the varsity four and the first and second varsity eight races.

Coxed by freshman Christa Dines and rounded out by junior Ching Ting Hwang and freshmen Kiersten Dehaven, Courtney Gaberino and Teresa Rubinger, the varsity four crew beat first seed Louisville by nearly eight seconds. Stone said many members of his team turned in good performances.

"There was some tight racing out there today," he said. "Everybody contributed — a lot of people stepped up."

Finishing first in three of the five scoring events, the Irish earned 114 points, besting Louisville's 109. Georgetown, the only other school to win a scoring event, finished third with 95 points. The Hoyas took the second varsity four race.

Several Notre Dame rowers also took home individual awards. Seniors Carol Ann Michel and Stephanie Gretsch and freshman Molly Bruggeman

were named to the all-Big East first team. Seniors Emily Crosby and Genevieve Malone and sophomore Stephanie O'Neill made the second team.

Stone said his rowers appreciate the individual recognition, but focus more on team success.

"I would think they enjoy the award," he said. "The team accomplishments are much more important to our team, though. We don't revel as much in individual achievements."

The all-Big East selections allow the winning program no more than six spots on the two teams. Stone said he believes his squad features many all-Big East performers that could not be named to either team.

"We have a lot of kids who put in the effort and could be on the first team," he said. "There are a bunch of kids who are all-Big East in my mind."

Notre Dame hopes to earn its first NCAA berth since 2007 when it finished 12th. The Irish race once more against Clemson and Virginia May 15 before the NCAA selection committee chooses the field.

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TRACK AND FIELD

Irish split squad for Drake, Gina Relays

By MEGAN FINNERAN

Sports Writer

Splitting up into two separate locations, the Irish competed in two relays for their final weekend of competition before championship play begins. A small selection of athletes traveled to Des Moines, Iowa, for the Drake Relays, while a larger group went to Hillsdale, Mich., for the Gina Relays.

"For individual events the weekend definitely had its ups and downs, but overall it was an awesome prep for [the Big East tournament] next weekend," sophomore pole vaulter Chrissy Finkel said.

The highlight of the Drake Relays came with the men's 1,600-meter relay, which consisted of juniors Jordan Carlsson and Johnathan Shawel and sophomores J.P. Malette and Jeremy Rae. The men finished in second place at 16:38.99.

"Some of our runners had great splits in their relays, and I think everyone's feeling more confident," Finkel said. "Placing at the Drake Relays is really exciting."

The men's 3,200-meter relay team also had successful results, coming in third with a time of 7:25.75. The men also sent their 400-meter relay team of senior Edward Hitchler, sophomore Brendan Dougherty and freshmen Jarrod Buchanan and Patrick Feeney, which took 10th place at 3:13.52. Senior shot-putter Denes Veres, the final member of the men's team at the Drake Relays, who took 10th place with a throw of 16.74 meters.

The women sent five individual athletes for four events. Seniors Kelly Langhans and Abby Higgins both competed in the 800-meter run, finishing ninth and 14th at 2:14.78 and 2:16.43, respectively. Sophomore Nevada Sorenson took tenth in the 100-meter hurdles at 13.97, while pole-

vaulter Finkel took 16th with a throw of 3.70 meters. Senior shot-putter Rudy Atang finished 20th with her throw of 13.80 meters.

The Irish sent a much wider field to the Hillsdale Relays, where they had 16 top-five finishes, three of which were first-place.

Forerunners included first-place finishers Megan Yanik in the 400-meter hurdles at 1:00.41, sophomore Rebecca Tracy in the 800-meter run at 2:09.70 and senior Mat Abernethy in the 5,000-meter run at 14:51.93.

Other strong performances came in the women's 1,500-meter run, where two freshmen put the Irish in two of the top five slots. Kelly Curran took second in 4:25.52, followed two seconds later by Alexa Aragon in fifth, crossing the line at 4:27.73.

In the next race, the 5,000-meter run, junior Susanna Sullivan came in second at 16:56.43, trailed less than four seconds later by sophomore Rachel Verde in third at 17:00.03. The final top-five finish in the women's side came with Kelly Burke's 3.70 meter pole vault finish, as she notched a fifth place for the Irish in the event.

The men dominated the hammer throw, where seniors John Belcher and Greg Davis took second and third with distances of 56.75 meters and 54.80 meters, respectively. Similar results came in the shot-putt, as Belcher came in third with a throw of 16.26 meters and junior Andy Hills took fourth with a throw of 16.11 meters. Freshman Peter Kristiansen claimed the final top-five finish for the field events, taking second in the javelin throw at 53.82 meters.

The Irish next compete in the Big East championships beginning May 6 in Villanova, Penn.

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JULIE HERDER/The Observer

Irish sprinter Sean Lindbloom warms up during the Alex Wilson Invitation March 5 in the Loftus Center.

WOMEN'S RUGBY

Season ends with championship loss

By MATTHEW DeFRANKS

Sports Writer

Maybe the glass slipper does not fit.

In its inaugural season as a club sport, Notre Dame fell short of a title, losing to Radcliffe 22-10 in the championship game Sunday afternoon in Pittsburgh, Penn.

"We had an amazing season," sophomore Veronica Ryan said. "This being our first season, most of the girls hadn't touched a rugby ball. It's amazing that we could perform at such a high level."

In the loss, sophomore Ashley Okonta and senior Kayla Bishop scored tries for the Irish.

"They were just a more experienced team and had been competing at that level for a while,"

Ryan said. "We gave it our all, we played a great game, but we're still really inexperienced."

Radcliffe entered the game 8-1, including a 32-14 win in the semifinals over overall No. 1 seed Western Washington. In the national tournament, Radcliffe knocked out the Midwest No. 1 seed Wisconsin-La Crosse, the Northeast No. 1 seed Norwich and the Pacific No. 1 seed Western Washington.

Radcliffe's defense was impressive as well, yielding an average of just seven points per game since the beginning of the tournament. Notre Dame's defense in its semifinals win was just as stellar, allowing a mere 10 points to Stonehill in a 22-10 triumph.

"We played really good defense," Ryan said. "We weren't allowing them to come

through the middle."

Okonta scored three times in the win, while senior Kathleen Stanley chipped in a try of her own.

"I think we have a very good chance of doing this again, maybe even farther," Ryan said. "We just need to start strong in the fall."

Notre Dame finishes its first spring season 6-2, including a 112-0 win over Ball State earlier this year. The Irish collected three wins in the national tournament, defeating perennial powers Shippensburg and Stonehill in the process.

The Irish will return for their second season in the fall of 2011 as the program looks to secure its first championship.

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ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Irish claim Big East championship on home court

By MEGAN FINNERAN
Sports Writer

For the fourth consecutive year, the No. 23 Irish captured the Big East title, coming out on top over Georgetown, Marquette and No. 42 South Florida over the course of the tournament this weekend. The Irish (16-9) wrapped up the tournament Sunday, beating South Florida 4-2 after losing 5-2 to the Bulls earlier in the regular season.

"We all wanted revenge on South Florida today and we got it," Irish junior Kristy Frilling said.

Junior Shannon Mathews, nationally ranked 58th, was named Most Outstanding Player of the tournament, clinching each of the three matches with a singles win at the No. 2 position. Mathews' efforts, combined with stellar doubles performances from the No. 2 and No. 3 teams propelled the Irish to the title.

"We went into the weekend excited to play at home and in front of our family and friends," Mathews said. "We took it one match at a time because we knew we were going to have some tough matches against

Georgetown and Marquette."

In doubles competition, the Irish never had to fully utilize their No. 1 junior pair, Frilling and Mathews. The No. 3 freshmen duo Jennifer Kellner and Julie Sabacinski went 3-0 through the tournament, concluding with an 8-3 win over South Florida's Alessandra Bonte and Kate Parker. On the No. 2 court, sophomore Chrissie McGaffigan and senior Kristen Rafael matched the freshmen's perfect record, clinching the doubles point in each match. They took down South Florida's Irene Rehberger and Ecaterina Vasenina in the finals.

"It was really important for us to win the doubles point each day and that gave us a huge momentum boost for the singles play," Mathews said.

While singles competition never let the Irish down, it was not as constant through the tournament as doubles.

The top-seeded Irish began their run to the title Friday against eighth-seeded Georgetown. After securing the doubles point, Sabacinski kicked off singles play on the No. 6 court, taking down Georgetown's Alexandra Landers 6-1, 6-1.

McGaffigan followed at No. 5, defeating Madeline Jaeger 6-1, 6-2. Mathews wrapped up the quarterfinals, winning her No. 2 match 6-1, 6-4 against Lauren Greco.

The semifinals brought a fairly easy 4-0 victory against Marquette (19-10), who the Irish beat 6-1 April 30 during the regular season. After the No. 3 and No. 2 doubles courts wrapped up the doubles point, the first three singles matches concluded in victory, compiling the overall win.

Fourth-ranked Frilling took the first step for the Irish, beating Golden Eagles Olga Fisher 6-1, 6-1 on the No. 1 court. Kellner, ranked No. 112 nationally, followed at No. 3, defeating Rachael Hush 6-1, 6-0. Mathews won the final point when she took down Paola Calderon.

In the final match against South Florida, the Irish began smoothly, with a 6-0, 6-0 victory by Rafael in the No. 4 slot against Alonso Martinez and a 6-4, 6-3 win by McGaffigan at No. 5 against Bonte. With only one point left before the Irish claimed the title, the match seemed easily won.

The Bulls, though, did not surrender, instead rallying to win the next two matches. In the No. 1



ASHLEY DACY/The Observer
Senior Kristen Rafael hits a backhand shot during Notre Dame's 6-1 victory over DePaul April 23 at the Eck Tennis Center.

position South Florida's Rehberger took down Frilling 7-5, 6-3, a loss shortly followed by Kellner's 6-4, 6-4 defeat to Janette Bejlkova on the No. 3 court. With the score set at 3-2, Mathews began play on the No. 2 court, where she was able to defeat Vasenina 6-4, 7-5, winning not only her court, but also leading the Irish to the match and title victories.

"Everyone stepped up and played great, especially [Mathews], who clinched all three matches this weekend," Frilling

said. "We've all just got to get through finals and practice really hard these next two weeks."

Tournament selection for the NCAA championship begins Tuesday.

"The first two rounds of NCAAs will be good matches but I think we all believe we have the ability to make it to the Sweet 16," Frilling said.

The first rounds of NCAA competition begin May 13.

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SMC GOLF

Belles clinch berth in national championships

By MEGAN GOLDEN
Sports Writer

For the third consecutive year, the Belles have powered their way to an appearance in the NCAA Division III championships due in large part to a resilient, all-around team effort this past weekend.

Saint Mary's once again came from behind Saturday to pull off a stunning victory over conference rival Olivet at the Belles' home course, Blackthorn Golf Club. The Belles turned in a team score of 970 in the tournament, beating out second place Olivet's score of 994.

"Olivet is our biggest rival in our conference, and they've been playing really well in the last couple tournaments we've played in," senior Mary Kate Boyce said. "A win because of that makes it a lot more exciting."

Belles freshmen Marin Beagley and Doyle O'Brien stepped up in the clutch and remained focus against challenging competition. Beagley's 78 and O'Brien's 79 — both career-bests — led the Belles to a dominant third round victory, 315-342 over Olivet.

"They're freshmen playing under pressure, and that's tough, but Doyle and Marin did a good job of that," Boyce said. "Marin's been working really hard and working on bringing a positive attitude, and it helped her a lot yesterday. She was able to bring in a low score for us, especially under pressure."

Saint Mary's scoring five all finished in the top-10, and nine individuals secured spots in the top-13 for the Belles. Great scores across the board for the Belles, Boyce said, is an encouraging sign for the future.

"We had two big scorers from the freshmen, and everybody just really stepped up and we got the win," Boyce said. "[Those outside the scoring five] stepped up, too. I know their scores don't count, but just seeing them play well was exciting because we could've gotten to nationals with all of those scores."

Boyce, who shot a 78, said the team worked on remaining focused and not allowing the opposition to be a distraction.

"Before we teed off, we all talked about playing loose, and we knew it's tough to play and not think about the player you're competing against. We all focused on our own game," she said. "[Going to the NCAA championships is] pretty exciting, and looking at the score outside of the top five shows a bright future. There was a lot of pressure at the end, and it makes it so much more exciting to be going to Florida."

The Belles travel to Howey-in-the-Hills, Fla., from May 10 to 13 to compete in the NCAA Division III championships at Mission Inn and Resort's El Campeon Golf Course.

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MEN'S TENNIS

Irish drop Big East title match



CHRISTIE AHN/The Observer
Junior Casey Watt returns a forehand volley during a 4-0 win over Georgetown Friday in the Big East tournament at the Courtney Tennis Center. Notre Dame fell in the title match Sunday.

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

For the second straight season the No. 30 Irish fell to Louisville in the final of the Big East tournament held at the Courtney Tennis Center.

The Irish advanced to the finals with wins over Georgetown and the South Florida while only dropping one match.

Senior Dan Stahl was a big factor in the Irish victories all weekend, going undefeated in singles including earning one of the two wins for the Irish in the finals.

Freshman Greg Andrews also earned a 3-0 record on the weekend in his Big East debut at No. 4 singles.

In the finals against Louisville for the second straight weekend the Irish dropped the doubles point with three close matches.

Junior Casey Watt and senior Stephen Havens picked up the only doubles win for the Irish at No. 2 defeating Alejandro Calligari and Robert Hall.

Junior Niall Fitzgerald and sophomore Spencer Talmadge lost to Simon Childs and Viktor Maksimuck 9-7 at No. 1.

Freshman Greg Andrews and Stahl fell at No. 3 doubles 8-5 to Austen Childs and Adam Donaldson.

Childs defeated Watt at No. 1 to give Louisville a 2-0 advantage with five matches still to play.

Stahl earned his victory over Simon Childs 6-3, 6-2 to pull the Irish within one point of the Cardinals.

Andrews knotted the score at 2-2 with his victory over Hall 6-4, 6-3 at No. 4 singles.

Andrew Carter defeated freshman Blas Moros 6-2, 6-2 to pull Louisville within one point of the championship.

Havens put up a tough battle against Maksimuck after losing the first set 6-2. He battled back to take the second set 6-1, before falling in the third 6-3.

Junior Sam Keeton was also back in the lineup for his match at No. 5 singles for the second straight week but his match against Calligari went unfinished as the teams played to decision all weekend.

At the start of the Big East tournament, Irish coach Bobby Bayliss was forced to drop his roster from his typical nine down to eight players, as senior Tyler Davis was taken out of the doubles lineup.

The Irish will now wait to find out if they have made it into the NCAA tournament when selections come out between 5 and 6 p.m. Tuesday.

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SMC SOFTBALL

Belles fail to clinch berth

By JOSEPH MONARDO
Sports Writer

With a postseason berth on the line, the Belles won five of their six weekend games but fell just short of earning the final spot in the MIAA tournament.

The Belles' (20-13, 9-7 MIAA) regular season was defined by streaks and, ultimately, they were unable to overcome the losing streak that consumed a large part of their season. They started the year strong, winning eight of their 10 games over spring break, only to drop nine of their next 13 games before capturing eight of the final 10 decisions.

"We had an awesome start and an awesome finish [to the season]," senior outfielder Hayley Bojorquez said. "It stinks to look back and wonder why we really did go down in the middle of our season. The reason that we finished so strongly this weekend was that our pitching was stellar, our defense was awesome ... and our offense was back. In the middle of the season, we were sporadic with those three things ... we didn't have all of them put together."

Despite their midseason struggles, the Belles entered the final weekend sitting at sixth place in the MIAA rankings, within reach of the fourth spot necessary to qualify for the conference tournament. Saint Mary's aimed to close out

the season with six wins, but the team came up one win short of completing the week-end sweep.

Only one day after Thursday's doubleheader against Hope (24-13, 12-4), Saint Mary's settled for a split on Friday with visiting Olivet (14-21, 4-12). After finding themselves behind midway through the fourth inning, the Belles came to life with four runs of their own in the bottom of the fourth.

The score would remain 4-4 until the top of the eighth inning, when Olivet took the lead with a solo home run. The Belles were unable to match the score in the bottom half of the frame and dropped the opener 5-4 in extra innings, but captured the 12-0 victory in the second game. After failing to take both of Friday's games, the Belles realized their chances of playing in the postseason were all but lost.

"We knew that we could possibly [qualify], but we knew that our chances weren't high," Bojorquez said.

The Belles took to the field once again Saturday, playing this time not for the postseason but for pride, and dispatched of Calvin (6-28, 4-12) 12-1 and 2-1.

To conclude their stretch of four consecutive days of play, Saint Mary's returned home for senior day Sunday against Albion (17-17, 7-9). The Belles ended the season on a high note when they escaped with a 1-0 victory in game one before

dominating the second game by a score of 10-1.

For Bojorquez, the team's lone senior, the Senior Day victories offered the chance to salvage what was in many ways a disappointing season.

"Our goal today was to finish our season on two wins, to have fun with each other because we knew it would be the last time we'd be this team together. Since we didn't accomplish our goal of making it into the conference tournament, we wanted to accomplish the goal of getting to 20 wins," Bojorquez said. "I think we were all really positive today, really in it, just excited to be out there ... we just wanted to end on a good note."

Under current Belles coach Erin Sullivan, Saint Mary's has registered at least 20 wins in each of the last six seasons. The Belles were able to extend the streak this year despite having only one senior on the team.

"It was really difficult in the beginning [being the only senior], but at the same time the junior class was huge and I looked to them for a lot of help," Bojorquez said. "Even though I was the only senior and the only captain, I think that there were a lot of other people who stepped up and played that role, and helped me out and helped our team get to where it was at the end."

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WOMEN'S LACROSSE

ND clinches spot in conference tournament



KIRBY MCKENNA/The Observer

Junior attack Maggie Tamasitis cradles past an Ohio State defender during Notre Dame's 13-8 loss March 10 at the Loftus Center.

By CORY BERNARD
Sports Writer

One week removed from a big victory in their last home game, the Irish again enjoyed senior day success. This time, the win came at the expense of Louisville's upperclassmen.

Notre Dame (9-8, 6-2 Big East) clinched the final spot in the Big East tournament with a thrilling 16-15 defeat of the Cardinals (10-7, 3-5) Friday. The Irish then completed their regular season with a 17-6 conquest of overmatched Cincinnati (2-14, 0-8) Sunday.

Coming into Friday's contest, Notre Dame was 1-4 in games decided by two goals or less, including two overtime losses. Thanks to sophomore midfielder Jenny Granger's goal with 0.8 seconds left off a pass from junior attack Maggie Tamasitis, the Irish got over the hump and earned their first winning streak of the season.

Irish coach Tracy Coyne said her team finally had the ball bounce their way after a season of agonizing defeats.

"We've had so many close games this year," Coyne said. "Besides just talent, sometimes you need a little luck. We've fought hard this year and I think we finally got that break we've been looking for."

After senior midfielder Kailene Abt picked up a loose ball in the final seconds and fired a shot that went just wide of goal, Tamasitis beat the defense to the end line and gained one final chance for the Irish. The junior then found Granger all alone on the goalie's weak side for the game winner.

Coyne said she never intended to run out the clock after having possession for the final 4:32 of the game.

"We were playing to win," she said. "We ran a play at the

end in order to do that. I told the team after the game even though our execution wasn't there on that play, we had people hustling and getting after the ball, and it worked in our favor. I was really happy with the effort."

With a berth in the conference tournament already in hand, Notre Dame traveled to Cincinnati Sunday. The Irish gained a 10-goal advantage in the first half and cruised to their third straight victory. NCAA rules require a running game clock if one team leads by 10 or more goals. Though the Irish were heavily favored to beat the Bearcats, Coyne said her team still played with focus.

"I feel great about the win — we got a running clock in the first half and everyone was able to play," Coyne said. "We went with a completely different lineup, and I thought after they scored the first goal we never looked back. Overall, we played crisp and sharp."

The Irish head into the Big East tournament with confidence after their late-season streak. Coyne said her team has remained a tight group throughout this season's struggles.

"They stayed positive and they haven't turned on each other," she said of her players. "They show up for practice every day with the right attitude and we're starting to surge and build momentum."

Notre Dame will face Georgetown (9-7, 7-1) for the second time this season Thursday night. The game will be played in Washington D.C., a place Coyne said her team feels comfortable.

"Georgetown is our home away from home — we always play well there," she said. "We're excited."

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BASEBALL

Mancini's walkoff lifts Irish to win

By ANDREW GASTELUM
Sports Writer

Heading into a meeting between the two top pitching staffs in the Big East, it looked as if the series would come down to hitting. And with Notre Dame's top hitter, freshman first baseman Trey Mancini, mired in a slump, the offense looked to be at a disadvantage.

But it took one swing from Mancini to change all of that — a two-out, three-run blast in the bottom of the eighth that cleared the left field fence and gave the Irish (16-21, 7-10 Big East) a 5-4 win in Sunday's rubber match.

"I hit the ball pretty well," Mancini said of his go-ahead home run. "I was looking for a fastball and [Seton Hall sophomore reliever Ryan Harvey] threw it to me, and I was definitely really excited about [the home run]."

With the win the Irish jump from 10th place in the Big East into a tie with Rutgers for eighth, a crucial spot, as the top eight teams from the conference advance to the Big East tournament, which will be played on May 25.

"Winning two out of three in this series was really big for us because we needed to get past Seton Hall (20-21, 7-11) [in the standings] to get into the Big East tournament," Mancini said.

But the Irish got off to a rough start in Friday's opener, which featured an intense pitching matchup between senior aces

Brian Dupra (2-5) and Joe DiRocco (6-0). Dupra — who has given up more than two runs only three times this year — out-pitched the right-hander from New Jersey, but recorded a loss in his solid complete game performance.

The veteran righty gave up only two earned runs on seven hits, but the Irish offense couldn't muster enough run support to give Dupra the victory.

The Irish bats did chase DiRocco from the game after recording nine hits in 6.1 innings but still left 10 on base, as Notre Dame's only run came from a sixth-inning RBI single by junior center fielder Alex Robinson to bring the score to 2-1.

Pirates sophomore closer Ryan Harvey relieved DiRocco and recorded the save by pitching the final two and two-thirds innings, but not without some controversy in the ninth.

After senior pinch-hitter David Casey lined a leadoff single into right field down one run in the bottom of the ninth, sophomore designated hitter Adam Norton laid down a sacrifice bunt that caused Harvey to stumble while fielding it. Harvey made an errant throw that hit Norton in the back, but Norton was called for interference as he was ruled to be out of the baseline.

Casey was then ordered to return to first on a play that would have put runners at the corners with no one out. Harvey proceeded to strike out the next two batters to seal the 2-1 Seton

Hall victory.

In the second game of the series, the Irish found themselves on the winning side of a 2-1 result, as freshman left fielder Eric Jagielo hit a walk-off RBI single with two outs in the bottom of the 12th inning off sophomore reliever George Fernandez.

Notre Dame left another 11 runners on base, only managing an RBI double in the second inning by sophomore second baseman Frank DeSico, who had a multi-hit game against Pirates sophomore starter Jon Prosinski.

The Irish were led by another stellar nine-inning performance, this time from senior right-hander and Lowe's Senior Class Award finalist Cole Johnson. Johnson took a no-hitter into the seventh inning before it was broken up by a ground-ball single from sophomore second baseman Mike Genovese.

"[Dupra and Johnson] have been outstanding all year long," Irish coach Mik Aoki said. "They did a good job of throwing strikes, competing and making big pitches when you had to. Those guys have done that all year."

The Irish will take to the road to start a home-away series against Michigan Wednesday at 6:05 p.m., before heading to Rutgers for a crucial series that will weigh heavily into who claims the final spot in the Big East tournament.

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Irish

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coach Deanna Gumpf started each of the seniors on the squad in the final game of the weekend.

In the doubleheader Saturday, senior outfielder Brianna Jorgensborg went 4-of-4 at the plate, recording three home runs and seven RBIs. Senior captain Heather Johnson had five hits and three RBIs, while seniors Sadie Pitzenger and Lex Clay each had triples in the crucial second inning of the second game. The Irish did not strike out a single time during the first game, and the second ended with a walk-off home run from Jorgensborg.

The third game of the series saw senior pitchers Jody Valdivia and Shannon Kelly combine to throw a no-hitter, a special feat made all the more impressive by the fact that Sunday was the official senior day.

"Everyone played very well," Valdivia said. "Starting the eight seniors in the lineup was a special moment and everyone performed all around, offense and defense."

The no-hitter was the second recorded by the Irish this week, as freshman pitcher Laura Winter etched her place in the record books in a 1-0 victory over

South Florida Wednesday.

Valdivia also drove home a run in her first ever at bat, capping off a productive day on both sides of the ball. Jorgensborg scored three runs and senior utility player Erin Marrone led the team with four RBIs.

When the games were over, the seniors were able to reflect on a solid four-year run and think about some of the memories that made their time at Notre Dame special.

"When I think about my career here, my best experiences have been with my teammates," Valdivia said. "On or off the field they have always been the greatest to be around. Playing with them for four years has been such a privilege."

As the season wraps up and the playoffs draw near, the Irish are dedicated to remaining focused. After playing at such a high level, the players have decided not to lose sight of what is immediately ahead because of big events in the future.

"We are excited to get to our postseason games but we are ready to finish our conference and head to the Big East tournament," Valdivia said. "We take it one game at a time."

Notre Dame will host Valparaiso Tuesday at 5 p.m.

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Rudolph

continued from page 20

that it was more likely that not that I would go yesterday, but my dream has come true and I'm in the NFL now," Rudolph said after he was drafted Friday. "It was definitely tough because my hamstring is not an issue anymore. The MRI shows it's 100 percent healed and all the doctors dug and prodded on it and they can't find anything."

Rudolph will be competing with three other tight ends for playing

time in the fall, and while the Vikings were aware of their glut at the position, they felt that Rudolph's talent was impossible to pass up.

"When he fell to us, we felt that he was too good of a player to pass up," Vikings Vice President of Player Personnel Rick Spielman said. "I know we have three tight ends on our roster right now, but when you have a player like that, it's just too good to pass up. I know we'll sort it all out as we get there."

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Saturdays

continued from page 20

successfully. Graduate student Alex Klupchak led the way with six points, while Bush and Flynn each contributed five. Senior Aaron Nichols added four and law student John Rompf also scored a bucket.

Alexander's Grill, on the other hand, did not have as much offensive variance, relying primarily on senior guards Tyrell Atkins and Sean Reed, who combined for nine of the 13 total points. While senior forward Buchi Offodile and former football offensive lineman senior Matt Romine were extremely productive on the defensive end — Offodile finished with five blocks and Romine racked up 11 rebounds — neither contributed much offensively. Romine finished with just two points and Offodile did not tally a bucket.

"It's definitely a disappointing end to the whole thing, but this year was fun," said Alexander's Grill senior captain Dan Crisman who, along with Reed, won the tournament last year. "We had a brand new team that we got together basically at the last minute and we had a fun ride throughout the tournament. It's a great tournament and it's just a really great experience."

Both teams advanced to the championship game with wins Saturday. Alexander's Grill defeated No. 7 Team Nice 21-16, with Reed and Atkins again leading the way offensively, finishing with

eight points each. Alexander's Grill was only up 11-10 at halftime, before going on a 5-1 run midway through the second half to go up 18-13.

"It feels great [to be going to the finals]," Crisman said after Saturday's game. "We've played a lot of good teams this year. I know tomorrow's not going to be easy."

Saturdays in America did not have as difficult a time against No. 4 Siegfried Pizzeria — The Delivery Boys, going up 11-4 at the half and winning 21-10. But they were not content with just making the championship game.

"I made it [to the finals] my sophomore year and we came up short," Nichols said after the semi-final victory. "But we're going to turn our luck around this year and come out on top."

Ultimately, Nichols' prediction was correct. Bush had an even more special bookstore experience than most, because of the adversity he faced in reaching the finals. Bush, whose father attended Notre Dame, was not accepted to Notre Dame for undergraduate studies or law school originally and had to transfer in before he could get a chance to compete in the famed Bookstore Basketball tournament.

"First thing basically when I told my dad I got accepted to transfer here, [he said], 'You better get a good bookstore team.' So [winning the tournament is] a really good feeling and I don't know if I can describe it," he said.

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JULIE HERDER/The Observer

Irish senior midfielder David Earl takes a check from a Villanova defender as he drives toward the goal during Notre Dame's 12-8 victory over the Wildcats April 2 at Arlotta Stadium.

Syracuse

continued from page 20

tage over the Irish in the third quarter, as Orange senior attack Stephen Keogh netted his third of four goals on the night, energizing the Syracuse crowd and making it a four-point game.

The Orange came storming out in the final quarter, scoring two goals on Irish sophomore goalie John Kemp, who collected nine total saves in the game. An 11-5 Orange lead would not stop the Irish, though, as junior attackman Sean Rogers and senior midfielders David Earl and Brenneman added goals with under five minutes remaining.

The Irish more than doubled the Orange's turnovers (17-8), but they won the faceoff battle (14-9), gathered more man-up opportunities (2-1) and tied Syracuse in shots on goal with 33. Despite holding their own in these categories, the eventual Irish rally was not enough to come back from the first quarter deficit.

Brenneman said he was happy with the Irish effort, but he said he wishes they had decided to

play aggressively a little sooner than the final quarter.

"I'm proud of our guys because we were down 11-5, and we battled back. It stayed close and I loved that about our team," he said. "Just kind of getting down early is something we can't do because we don't function well down early. Earlier this season we've been able to come back from deficits like that, but we don't like to put ourselves in that position."

The Syracuse midfield is stacked with player-of-the-year nominees, and Saturday night the Irish witnessed an offensive system that role plays and creates opportunity as well as any team in the country.

"They know exactly what they're best at, and their coach and their players do a great job at putting them in a position where they're going to flourish," Brenneman said. "These guys are all going to play major league lacrosse next year."

Brenneman, who will most likely join them in the majors next season, showcased his talent under pressure and in front of the crowd of 14,751. The Irish captain completed a hat trick in

the team's come-back attempt during the fourth quarter Saturday.

"[Brenneman] was shooting the ball well. He was able to dodge a couple short sticks, and he was able to get in position to score," Earl said. "He's a big aggressive dodger that likes to give a good run at people, and he has one of the best shots in the country. He's just one of the best shooters in the country and that's what makes him one of the [Tewaaraton Trophy nominees]."

The mood in the Notre Dame locker room following the loss made it clear to their co-captain that the Irish were ready to get back on the practice field.

"After the game, it was one of those things where we realized we need to get back to work. We're not invincible; we have a blemish on our record," Brenneman said. "I don't think there's any quit in this team, and I'm excited to figure out what we need to do."

The Irish return to action in their final game Friday at North Carolina at 8 p.m.

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STUDY TIME



Building Hours for STUDY Days & Finals Week

DeBartolo Hall

May 5, 6, 7, 8 : 7am to 3:00am

Finals Week: May 9-12: Rooms available except when

scheduled by the Registrar's office. See Building Support Personnel Room 103/104 ~ if you have specific needs.

May 13: DeBartolo Hall closes at 5:00pm.

Coleman-Morse

May 5, 6, 7: 7am-4am

May 8-11: Como 1st floor OPEN 24 HOURS!

2nd Floor: 7:00am-3:00am daily

3rd Floor: 7:00am-12am daily

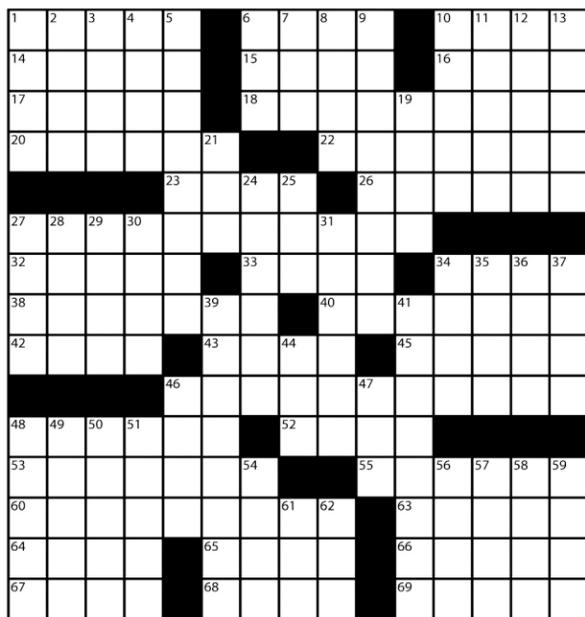
Finals Week: Rooms available except when scheduled by the Registrar's office. See Building Support Personnel Room 101 ~ if you have specific needs.

May 13: Coleman-Morse closes at 5:30 pm

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- 1 Pisa has a leaning one
 - 6 Landlocked African country
 - 10 Numbskull
 - 14 Wear away
 - 15 With 8-Down, "Shane" star
 - 16 Zenith
 - 17 Expert
 - 18 Much-used dinnerware
 - 20 More than sufficient
 - 22 Branch off
 - 23 Disaster preparedness org.
 - 26 Move to another location, as in a restaurant
 - 27 Centers of casino action
 - 32 Force out of the country
 - 33 Apple computer
 - 34 Fawn's father
 - 38 Food thrown to lions
 - 40 Height
 - 42 Control+Z on a PC
 - 43 Scottish caps
 - 45 Add up
 - 46 Places to drink and play darts
 - 48 Spanish discoverer of the Pacific, 1513
 - 52 It may be lifted at a wedding
 - 53 Loving
 - 55 2001's "Ocean's Eleven" or 2010's "The Karate Kid"
 - 60 They're shrugged
 - 63 Voice below alto
 - 64 Diplomat Annan
 - 65 Fairy tale starter
 - 66 Playground retort
 - 67 Copiers do it
 - 68 Black-hearted
- Down**
- 1 It may be measured in F. or C.
 - 2 Spoken
 - 3 Used a loom
 - 4 Genesis garden
 - 5 Like living with Mom and Dad, perhaps
 - 6 China's Zedong
 - 7 Completely
 - 8 See 15-Across
 - 9 Not as the crow flies
 - 10 First, second, third and home
 - 11 Yellowish shade
 - 12 Alpha's opposite
 - 13 Assail
 - 19 St. _____, place in a children's rhyme
 - 21 "You ain't seen nothin' ___!"
 - 24 Tiki bar order
 - 25 Defensive weapon, for short
 - 27 Land conquered by Conquistadors
 - 28 Yoked pair
 - 29 English pirate captain
 - 30 Tickle Me _____
 - 31 TV collie
 - 34 "Freeze!"
 - 35 Ballerina's skirt
 - 36 Bedouin, e.g.
 - 69 Things that 18-, 27-, 46- and 60-Across may have



Puzzle by Robyn Weintraub

- 37 Dippy-do and others
- 39 Haphazardly
- 41 Part of N.C.A.A.
- 44 "Yo! ___ Raps"
- 46 Heat to 212°
- 47 Title for Walter Scott
- 48 Lies in the sun
- 49 Kind of committee
- 50 Natural scrubber
- 51 Boston N.H.L.'er
- 54 Chromosome part
- 56 Fit together
- 57 Prefix with disestablishmentarianism
- 58 Surgeon general under Reagan
- 59 Cupid, to the Greeks
- 61 Zenith competitor
- 62 U.S. legislator with a six-yr. term

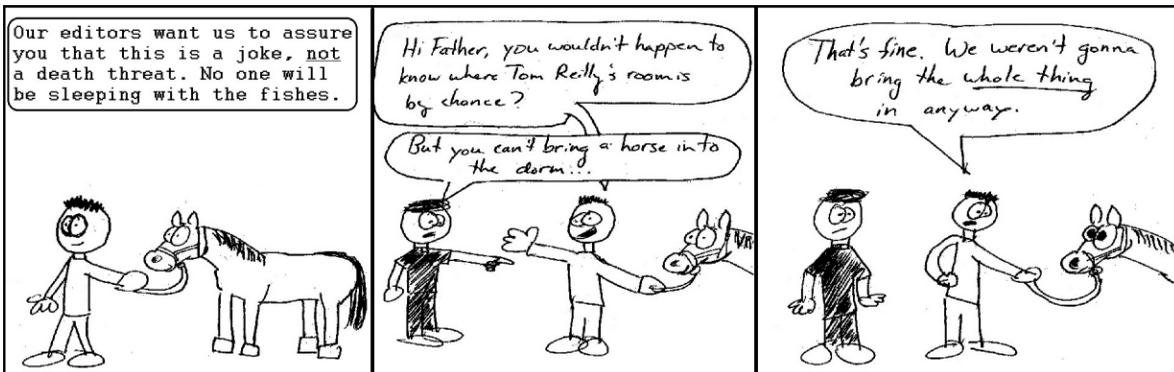
For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. AT&T users: Text NYTX to 386 to download puzzles, or visit nytimes.com/mobilexword for more information.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

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



PLEASANDVILLE

JAMES SOLLITTO, CODY ECKERT and JOHN FLATLEY



TUESDAY VARIETY SHOW

LAURA MCGINN



HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Wes Anderson, 42; Tim McGraw, 44; Rita Coolidge, 67; Judy Collins, 72

Happy Birthday: Moderation and simplicity are the keys to achieving your goals. Now is not the time to withdraw or to expect things to be done for you. Take the initiative and make sure everything runs smoothly by taking matters into your own hands. Balancing your personal and professional goals will make your life easier. Your numbers are 6, 14, 20, 22, 31, 38, 45

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't be too abrupt. Physical activity will help defuse any anxiety you feel. Energetic entertainment should be planned for the evening hours. You will attract someone who will complement your outgoing and confident attitude. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Your stress level will be significant if you are holding everything in and not expressing the way you feel to those causing you concern. Indulge in little things that can make you feel good -- like a massage or physical activity. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Social events or taking part in a fundraiser will lead to interesting new acquaintances. A new hobby can put your talent and skills to the test. The more you do and the more people you meet, the greater your chance to prosper financially, personally and professionally. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't count on anything until it's signed, sealed and delivered. An emotional, moody and nagging interlude will develop if you indulge in a no-win situation. Spend time with people who have interests similar to yours. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Opportunities to travel must be taken advantage of, no matter how short or long the distance. Mix business with pleasure. You will learn through the experiences you encounter while en route. Your persuasive manner will win you all the support you need. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Uncertainties regarding your financial situation will be unnerving. Get involved in activities that will ease your stress and help you feel more confident. It's time to do more for yourself. Update your image. ★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): This is not the best day to bring up situations that are bothering you or to try to change the way someone does things. Your situation may be unclear and your household disruptive. Make personal changes but don't try to change others. ★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Getting together with colleagues socially will enhance your professional reputation. Be ready for adventure if the opportunity arises but be aware of delays if you have to travel. Don't limit opportunities by staying home alone. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Open your doors to friends and relatives. Entertaining will put you in a good position to get some needed help. You will meet a prospective partner while promoting your ideas or talking about solutions. ★★★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Focus on yourself. The busier you are, the less likely you are to face opposition. Refrain from erratic behavior. Don't blow situations out of proportion. Difficulties while traveling will lead to problems with authorities. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Expect someone to give you a hard time. You must stand up for your rights, especially if this person wasn't fair to you in the past. Romance can turn your night into something memorable. ★★★★★

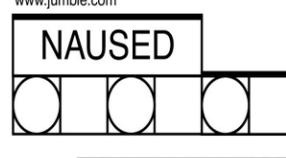
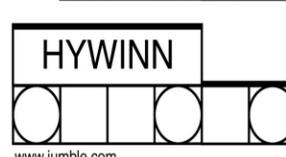
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Be reasonable when it comes to entertainment or self-improvement. You will get taken advantage of by a sales pitch that claims the impossible. A partnership with someone who thinks the same way you do will develop if you take part in an event dealing with an interest or hobby you have. ★★★

Birthday Baby: You are determined, a high achiever and a strong competitor. You are versatile, charming and unafraid to stand alone.

JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

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



A: " ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ " ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CIVIL CREEL GOATEE ALPACA
Answer: When the skinny little convict gained weight in prison, he was — AT "LARGE"



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

THE OBSERVER

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MEN'S LACROSSE

Orange crush

Syracuse ends Irish bid for unbeaten season

By MEGAN GOLDEN
Sports Writer

In a matchup featuring many of the country's top talents, the top-ranked Irish struggled offensively, as they fell 11-8 to east-coast rival and Big East regular season champion No. 4 Syracuse.

The Irish (10-1, 5-1 Big East) opened the game with two goals from sophomore attack Ryan Foley and senior midfielder Zach Brenneman to take a quick 2-0 lead. Notre Dame's defense fell apart with six minutes remaining in the first quarter, and Syracuse (13-1, 5-0) scored four consecutive goals to end the quarter with a 4-2 lead.

Brenneman responded with his second goal several minutes into the second quarter, but the Orange answered once again with two goals of their own, taking a 6-3 lead into halftime.

Syracuse recorded a 3-2 advan-

see SYRACUSE/page 18



JULIE HERDER/The Observer

Irish senior midfielder Zach Brenneman looks to shoot during Notre Dame's 12-8 win over Villanova April 2 at Arlotta Stadium. Brenneman had three goals in an 11-8 loss at Syracuse Saturday.

FOOTBALL

Rudolph drafted by Minnesota

By ALLAN JOSEPH
Sports Editor

Notre Dame players had a disappointing weekend at the NFL Draft, with only one player – tight end Kyle Rudolph – selected. In addition, due to continuing collective-bargaining issues between the owners and players, none of the Irish players who went unselected were able to sign any free-agent contracts, as is customary for undrafted but desirable players.

Rudolph was selected by the Vikings in the second round of the draft Friday after no team selected him in the first round Thursday. Lingering issues about the health of Rudolph's hamstring, which he injured last fall, may have contributed to Rudolph's fall to the second round.

"I was under the impression

see RUDOLPH/page 18

WOMEN'S BOOKSTORE BASKETBALL

Number Onesies win crown over Gatsby and Frosted Flakes

By CORY BERNARD and VICKY JACOBSEN
Sports Writers

Despite trailing most of the first half, No. 6 seed Number Onesies continued to battle, eventually finishing off No. 4 Gatsby and the Frosted Flakes 21-18 for the Bookstore Basketball championship.

Led by the excellent ball handling and quick feet of sophomore Connaught Blood, Gatsby and the Frosted Flakes

continually penetrated the lane for easy hoops. Their relentless attack earned them an early 5-1 advantage.

Number Onesies senior Mary Forr said her team never panicked, knowing their shots would eventually fall.

"We we're just missing shots in the first half," she said. "I had a couple that bricked. We knew they were going to fall, though."

True to form, Number Onesies quickly charged back to tie the game at six.

However, Gatsby remained consistent and finished the half leading 11-8.

The game remained competitive throughout the second half as both teams traded buckets. The offenses slowed down as the game wore on and the afternoon heat set in. Blood said fatigue played a role toward the end of the contest.

"We were dogging it out there," she said. "It's been a lot cooler recently so we're not used to it. Yesterday's

game was really tough and went right down to the wire, so I think we were feeling that today."

With the game tied at 18, Onesies tightened up the defense, blanking Gatsby for the next several possessions to secure the victory.

Onesies graduate student Caitlin Hutchison said her team's defense of Blood keyed the win.

"[Going to Blood] was really how they ran their offense," Hutchison said. "She has a

strong left, so I just tried to force her right and get help defense. I also kept the ball away from her as much as possible."

Blood concurred, saying she had to work hard just to touch the ball.

"It was harder to even get a handle on the ball [in the second half]," she said. "I was running around trying to get open."

Team captain Caitlin Lynch

see BOOKSTORE/page 14

ND SOFTBALL

Pitchers combine for no-hitter

By JACK YUSKO
Sports Writer

Superb performances from seniors at Melissa Cook Stadium, including the second no-hitter this week, made Notre Dame's three-game sweep of Big East opponent St. John's on senior weekend all the more sweet, winning 10-3, 11-1 and 14-0.

"Senior day was sort of surreal," Irish senior pitcher Jody Valdivia said. "We have watched three other classes through it thinking our time would never come and once it did it was filled with such excitement."

No. 22 Notre Dame (38-8, 14-1 Big East) improved upon its stellar conference record due in large part to the performances from the eight seniors. Irish

see IRISH/page 18



GRANT TOBIN/The Observer

Irish senior pitcher Jody Valdivia delivers a pitch during Notre Dame's 8-0 victory over Loyola April 13 in Melissa Cook Stadium.

BOOKSTORE BASKETBALL

Saturdays in America takes Bookstore title

By SAM GANS and MATTHEW DeFRANKS
Sports Writers

The seventh day of the week may have been the inspiration for No. 1 seed Saturdays in America, but it was Sunday that resulted in the team's true one shining moment.

Saturdays in America concluded an impressive run to the Bookstore Basketball championship by defeating No. 3 seed Alexander's Grill 21-13 Sunday when law student Chuck Flynn grabbed the rebound off a blocked shot and dished a pass under the basket to fellow law student Brendan Bush for the game-clinching layup.

Saturdays in America got off to a fast start in the contest, scoring the game's first four baskets and pushing the margin to 6-1 early. Setting the tone early was critical, according to Bush.

"I felt like if we'd come out and play physical and get up a few buckets, they might roll over and I don't think they did," Bush said. "They played tough the whole game and it was a really hard-fought battle. But I just thought if we played physical and pushed it up the floor, the odds were pretty solid [in our favor]."

Utilizing a wide variety of playing styles, Saturdays in America used both up-tempo fast breaks and a strong half-court offense

see SATURDAYS/page 18