IBSERVER

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TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2011

Campus reacts to Osama bin Laden's death

Students see justice in end of al-Qaida terrorist leader's life

VOLUME 44 : ISSUE 131

By MEGAN DOYLE News Editor

On September 11, 2001, freshman Beau Dolan's father was among the Pentagon employees responding to the World Trade Center attacks in New York when Flight 77 flew into his office window.

Nearly 10 years later, Dolan held an American flag in front of a crowd at LaFortune Student Center and led a student celebration through campus after hearing the news about Osama bin Laden's death Sunday evening.

"It's never going to be gone, but I felt really relieved yesterday — a weird kind of peace," Dolan said. "This guy murdered my dad, and he has been on the run for 10 years. I never got that sense of justice. After 10 years, I think I deserved to be ecstatic about this.'

Dolan first heard the news when his mother called him from their home in Washington, D.C. Dolan said he was unsure how to react initially.

'When I found out from [my mom], I didn't know what to make of it," he said. "Then I told my friend, and he got really excited, and then I realized that

see STUDENTS /page 5



Hundreds of Notre Dame students spread across campus celebrating with fireworks, flags and "U.S.A." chants after learning of Osama bin Laden's death Sunday night.



President Barack Obama addresses the nation Sunday evening in Washington, D.C., with a statment announcing the death of al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden following a Navy SEALs raid.

ND faculty experts discuss implications for Mid-East region

By SAM STRYKER News Editor

News outlets and social media sites exploded with up-to-thesecond content Sunday evening as President Barack Obama announced an American raid in Abbottabad, Pakistan, killed al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden hours earlier.

Though the nation celebrated, faculty experts on the Middle East said bin Laden's death was not the end of the war on terror, even though it was a significant American victory.

Asher Kaufman, professor of History and Peace Studies, said bin Laden's death is a major accomplishment for the United States, but the event is not critical to America's involvement in the Middle East.

"I don't see it making a major change in the broader sense of things," Kaufman said. "This was a symbolic thing that mattered to the United States' domestic consumption more than anything else.'

Though the pursuit of bin Laden represents one of the greatest manhunts in modern times, Kaufman said his death holds little impact on the American military presence in

see TERROR /page 5

Hesburgh undergoes surgerv

Observer Staff Report

University President Emeritus Fr. Theodore Hesburgh underwent a successful kidney surgery Monday, according to a University press release.

Hesburgh is now resting comfortably after his surgery, the release stated.

The operation, which was performed at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center in Mishawaka. Ind., has been scheduled for several weeks.

Hesburgh, 93, served as the president of Notre Dame from 1952 to 1987.

Students intern with politicians

Bv MARISA IATI News Writer

Notre Dame students will ing his platform. work on both sides of the aisle and learn the nuances of American government as political interns around the country this summer.

Junior Paige Becker, a political science and English double major, will work for Republican Ohio Sen. Keith Faber at the statehouse in Columbus, Ohio.

'I actually worked for him last summer as a campaign worker in his district," she said. 'He's also the President Pro Tempore of the Ohio State Senate, so it will be exciting to be in the office.

Becker said last summer she worked in Celina, Ohio, which is the largest town in Faber's district. She helped Faber campaign for reelection in 2012 by

organizing fundraisers and volunteers to walk in parades, pass out stickers with his name and distribute pamphlets outlin-

She also helped Faber support the campaigns of other local Republican politicians.

"This summer will be different because I won't be in the district office," she said. "I'll be working on constituent services, helping people that call in. I'll also be doing some administrative duties. [Faber's office is] doing the budget this summer, and I'll be picking up some of the workload that the administrative assistants can't do at that time."

Becker said when she first contacted Faber last year, she had applied to various public relations internships but was looking for a job that more

see INTERNS /page 5



Junior Paige Becker poses with Republican Ohio Sen. Keith Faber and other volunteers at a campaign parade last summer.

THE OBSERVER

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POLICIES

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

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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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.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHERE ARE YOU GOING THIS SUMMER?



Kyle Buckley

sophomoreDillon

"Dominican Republic for a week, then back to Georgia.



Johnny Romano

sophomoreDillon

"The dirty



Claire Bourbonnais

sophomore McGlinn

"Home in ATL, then the ND Vision Program."



Gabriella Hernandez

sophomore McGlinn

"Texas."



Briana Cameron

sophomore McGlinn

"Jacksonville, Florida.

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



Students walk to class on South Quad after a night of celebrating the capture of prominent al-Qaida terrorist Osama bin Laden.

OFFBEAT

Lawnmower thief pays the price

EAST LYME, Conn. -Authorities say a man who was drunk and looking for a place to sleep broke into a trailer behind a Connecticut school, then instead stole keys to a lawnmower and went for a joyride during which he mowed his parents'

Police in East Lyme say 22-year-old Nikolaus Trombley was caught on tape early Wednesday stealing the lawnmower from East Lyme High School.

Police say Trombley told them he was looking for the keys to the school when he found the keys to the lawnmower. He rode it three miles to his parents' house, mowed the lawn and started to head back to the school but abandoned the mower on the wav.

He's charged with third-degree larceny and burglary.

New Jersey chickens and roosters regulated

HOPEWELL TOWN-SHIP, N.J. -A New Jersey town has adopted an ordinance that regulates when chickens and roosters can hook up in backyard henhouses.

Roosters must show they're disease-free and they better not crow about their conquests.

Hopewell Township residents can have up to a half-dozen hens on half-acre lots. Roosters would be allowed only 10 days a year for fertilization purposes.

Mature roosters are not allowed because they're too noisy. Any roosters that crow too long can be banned from the property for two years.

Mayor Jim Burd told The Times of Trenton the ordinance is a compromise between today's lifestyle and the township's agricultural histo-

Information compiled from the Associated

IN BRIEF

Pedro Ramos Pinto from the University of Manchester will be giving a talk titled "Crisis, Anxiety and the Colonial Origins of the Welfare State in Portugal, 1928-1944" from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. today in the Hesburgh Center.

Professor Nicolas Wiater from the University of Bonn (Germany) and Visiting Oldfather Scholar in Classics at The University of Illinois will be giving a lecture titled "A Men's World? Violence and the Female in the Iliad" from 5 to 6 p.m. today in O'Shaughnessy

There will be a Jazz Band concert tonight in the **Debartolo Performing Arts** Center at 7 p.m. This program features Notre Dame's Jazz Bands and the New Orleans Brass Band in their final concert of the semester.

weekly Catholic Charismatic prayer meeting will be held tonight in the Alumni Hall Chapel from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Rev. Edward O'Connor will preside over the meeting.

spring playwrighting course will hold an event titled "ND Playwrights Now!" tonight from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the **Debartolo Performing Arts** Center. The event is free but ticketed. Guests can pick up tickets at the Performing Arts Center box office.

Student Ben Stone will be having an organ recital tonight from 8 to 9 p.m. in the DeBartolo Performing Arts

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

LOW

LOCAL WEATHER



TODAY

HIGH 54 46



TONIGHT

HIGH 40 LOW 36



WEDNESDAY

58 HIGH 40 LOW



THURSDAY

HIGH 60 LOW 44



FRIDAY

HIGH 61 LOW 47





SATURDAY

HIGH 64 LOW 51

Professor to testify in Congress

By TORI ROECK News Writer

Kroc Institute Professor David Cortright will try to persuade Congress to end the war in Afghanistan when he testifies before the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission today at a hearing on the quality of life for Afghan women.

Cortright said the war in Afghanistan has done little to improve the lives of Afghan women

"While women have achieved some gains since the

since the fall of the Taliban, the war and the militarized policies are causing a set-



Cortright

back to the status of women," Cortright said. "Most of the women we interviewed want to see an end to the war."

An end to the war will improve the lives of women in the country, Cortright said, and the recent death of al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden could be a key to closing the war in Afghanistan.

"I think it makes a stronger case now for ending the war," Cortright said. "Al- Qaida is weak, and now it's been further weakened with the loss of bin Laden ... The reason we went into Afghanistan is because al-Qaida attacked America ten years ago. But al-Qaida is pretty much a spent force, and yet we're waging this huge war. It's time to declare victory and go

home."

Cortright said he was invited to speak because of his work on the Kroc Institute's report titled "Afghan Women Speak: Enhancing Security and Human Rights in Afghanistan," released in the fall.

"It's been well-received in a number of quarters," Cortright said, "And some of the members of Congress in Washington were interested in having us participate in this hearing."

The hearing will address the effect of the war in Afghanistan on the lives of women in the country and analyze the benefits that would come from a withdrawal of troops. Members of Congress, congressional staff, witnesses and media representatives will attend the hearing.

"Many see [improving lives]

"All you can do is try

to present good

analysis and facts

and hope that

[Congress] will

interpret it well."

David Cortright

Kroc Institute professor

as a reason why we're fighting, supposedly to help liberate the w o m e n , "Cortright said, "And we wanted to look at that and really try to verify what are the facts and what do Afghan women themselves think."

Cortright said

he hopes his testimony will persuade legislators to withdraw troops.

"There are some bills before Congress urging the president to come up with a plan and a timetable for withdrawing troops," Cortright said, "And certainly that would be the kind of legislation we would encourage."

Cortright said withdrawing troops from Afghanistan does not mean the United States should turn their backs on the Afghan people.

"We need to maintain support for development policies in Afghanistan," Cortright said. "As we pull out militarily, we need to maintain economic and social support. We shouldn't be abandoning the people of Afghanistan when we pull out our troops."

The other witnesses present at the hearing will be Rina Amiri, senior advisor on Afghanistan in the U.S. Department of State; Don Steinberg, deputy administrator for the U.S. Agency for International Development; Joanne Sandler, deputy director of UN Women; Dr. Massouda Jalal, physician and former Minister of Women's Affairs in Afghanistan; and

Hon. Marzia
Basel, founder
and director
of the Afghan
Women's
Judges
Association.

Cortright
has testified
b e f o r e
Congress in
the past and
said he understands his testimony will

not necessarily translate into legislation.

"All you can do is try to present good analysis and facts," Cortright said, "and hope that [Congress] will interpret it well."

Contact Tori Roeck at vroeck@nd.edu

Senior Legacy to benefit Kevin Healey fund



BLAIR CHEMIDLIN I The Observer

By MELISSA FLANAGAN
News Writer

in emergency

situations

The graduating senior class will honor a deceased classmate and assist future students in emergency health situations by supporting the Kevin Healey Emergency Assistance Fund with its 2011 Senior Legacy gift.

The Fund will assist students who require financial aid to travel in an emergency situation.

"For example, if a student has a family member sick and they need to get home, this fund will help provide funds for them to buy a flight home," Assistant Director for the Annual Fund Tim Ponisciak

The Kevin Healey Emergency Assistance Fund will also reach out to families living far from the Notre Dame campus, Ponisciak said. If a student becomes ill or hospitalized while at Notre Dame, the Fund will assist family members traveling to South Bend.

The Fund is named in memory of Kevin Healey, who would have graduated this month with the Class of 2011. Healey fell to cancer in April 2009 during his sophomore year at Notre Dame.

Ann Healey, Kevin's mother, said the legacy gift fit for her son's experience at Notre Dame.

"When he started ND as a freshman, he had already been through nearly a year of cancer treatment," she said. "Our family went back and forth between ND and the Cleveland Clinic where Kevin was being treated hundreds of times."

Fundraising for the Legacy is off to a great start, Student Development Committee (SDC) co-chair Maggie Nettesheim

Nettesheim said SDC raises funds for the Legacy in a number of ways. Members of the committee send emails and letters to seniors and their parents, and the University Phone Center calls graduating students and their families for donations as well.

This year, SDC also hosted a trivia night at Legends on March 30 and donated the admission fees to the fund.

"We were completely booked to capacity, and everyone seemed to have a lot of fun," Nettesheim said. "It was at the beginning of the campaign, so it was a really good way to get things jumpstarted and get the word out."

Members of Kevin Healey's hometown will also contribute to the fund. St. Bernadette's, an elementary school in Cleveland, Ohio, will host a day of fundraising May 18. Ann Healey teaches kindergarten at St. Bernadette's and said her students' parents requested to hold the fundraiser.

In exchange for a small fee, students can choose to "dress down" and wear clothes other than their school uniforms. The school will also raffle gift baskets and sell baked goods. All proceeds from the day will be donated directly to the Emergency Fund.

Ann Healey said she and her family plan to present the funds they raise to Notre Dame when they travel to South Bend to receive Kevin's diploma at graduation.

"The parents are rallying behind our family as they have all along," she said. "They want to make a contribution to the Kevin Healey Senior Legacy Fund this year and this is the way they chose to support it."

Earlier this year, Nettesheim and the SDC selected five suggestions from the senior class for the Senior Legacy 2011 gift. The seniors then voted online for one of the five.

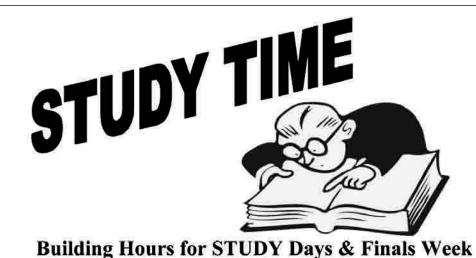
"This fund definitely got a lot of support," Nettesheim said. "I think people were really enthusiastic about it."

Ponisciak said approximately 570 seniors have already made donations, up from the 550 members of the Class of 2010 who donated before their graduation. He said while the Emergency Assistance Fund is the sponsored fund of the class, seniors can choose to donate to other areas of the University as well.

Ann Healey said her family is touched Kevin has not been forgotten and grateful to know this fund will be in place to assist future Notre Dame families going through similar situations as hers once did.

"As Kevin's mom, I would encourage all seniors and their parents to support this fund if for no other reason than being grateful for their four years at Notre Dame," she said. "It really is the most amazing place in the world."

Contact Melissa Flanagan at mflanag3@nd.edu



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 $101\sim$ if you

have specific needs.

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

COMM professors to leave Saint Mary's

"We feel good about

both our

contributions to the

Department of

Communication

Studies, as well as

the larger Saint

Mary's community."

Linda Berdayes

professor

Communication Studies

"It will be a sad loss

to the Communication

Studies Department

when the Berdayes'

depart. However, I

know that they will

have success in the

future wherever they

go. "

Terri Russ

assistant professor

Communication Studies

By JILLIAN BARWICK News Writer

Vince and Linda Berdayes, married professors in the Communication Studies, Dance and Theatre Department at Saint Mary's, will say their final farewells to the College at the end of this semester.

"The most difficult aspect of leaving Saint Mary's for us is

leaving the stu-dents. We know how fortunate we have been to work with such bright, focused and kind people as are our students," Vince and Linda Berdayes said in an email statement. "We really appreciate the value of singlesex education

and will miss teaching at a college for women."

Vince Berdayes accepted a position as department chair of the Communication Studies Department at Barry

University in Miami Shores, Linda Berdayes retired from Saint Mary's subseand quently accepted a position at B a r r y University as the director of Masters Program Liberal

Studies.

During their
16 years at
Saint Mary's,
both Vince and

Linda Berdayes said they accomplished many goals they hoped to achieve.

"We feel good about both our contributions to the Department of

Communication Studies, as well as the larger Saint Mary's community," Linda Berdayes said.

Students from around the College said the pair will be missed in the department and around campus.

"Vince is my advisor and Linda is the advisor for film studies, which is my minor, making me feel lost a tiny bit. I just hope that they can find professors to pick up where they left off, especially because the curriculum has been changed this year. I wish them the best in their new ventures, and they will be missed greatly," Sara Gray, a Communication Studies major, said.

Vince Berdayes served as chair of the Department of Communication Studies, Dance and Theatre the last four years and provided lead-

ership to faculty
in each of the
three disciplines. He
played a key
role in overseeing the revision
of the
Communication
Studies curriculum

V i n c e Berdayes also helped establish the student-run campus television station SMC-TV and

served on the advisory board for the interdisciplinary minor in Intercultural Studies for more than 10 years.

As an influential member of the Communication Studies

> program, Linda Berdayes taught the senior qualitative research sequence of courses the past four years, and her students presented their research at multiple conferences. Linda Berdayes also helped establish the Film Studies minor and served as a past chair for the

the Faculty
Assembly and as a member of
the General Education
Curriculum Committee,
among other positions.

"It will be a sad loss to the Communication Studies Department when the Berdayes' depart. However, I know that they will have success in the future wherever they go," Terri Russ, assistant professor of Communication Studies, said. "I wish the best of luck to both Linda and Vince as they venture to Minmi."

Contact Jillian Barwick at jbarwick01@saintmarys.edu

CAMPUS LIFE COUNCIL

Group discusses safety issues

By JOHN CAMERON

As Campus Life Council (CLC) held its final meeting Monday after a school year that began with a number of highly publicized student arrests, its members discussed the progress made regarding on- and off-campus safety.

Student body president emeritus Catherine Soler recapped a recent presentation she made to the Board of Trustees along with vice president emeritus Andrew Bell and former chief of staff Nick Ruof.

"[We] presented on offcampus relations and the two resolutions that we passed in here, as well as our agreement with the police," she said. "We also talked about sexual assault ... to bring it to their attention that more needs to be done in that area. Obviously with what happened last week it's still a very prominent problem on our campus."

Soler read University Vice President for Student Affairs Fr. Tom Doyle's response letter to a CLC recommendation for Freshman Orientation reform. The letter stated the fall arrests highlighted a need for action regarding student safety education, and the suggestions made by CLC would be considered accordingly.

"The off-campus incidents between our

students and local law enforcement during the summer and fall of 2010 brought into high relief the importance of our being proactive regarding offcampus safety of all of our students, Doyle said in letter. the

"Based on your observations and resolution, leadership from the Division of Student Affairs, together with Mike Seamen and the Department of Campus Safety, will undertake a review of the various dimensions of student safety that are currently part of orientation and hall staff training."

Soler also offered an update on the latest meeting with local and state law enforcement. She said the meeting was the first to include both the former and current student body presi-

dents and vice presidents.

"I think that's just

really a sign of how

much our willingness

to work with the

police will hopefully

pay off for us in the

future."

Catherine Soler

student body president

emeritus

"We had our first meeting with our local law enforcement heads and our new leadership for next year, and we discussed what we want

to do to be proactive this fall and just have better communication off-campus," Soler s a i d . "Everyone was really excited to be working on the same page."

Soler said feedback from law enforcement repre-

sentatives reaffirmed the success of her administration's work with community and police relations.

"One of the heads from the Indiana State Excise Police commented that they'd like to use this model of meeting with students at other universities in Indiana," she said. "I think that's just really a sign of how much our willingness to work with the police will hopefully pay off for us in the future."

Contact John Cameron at jcamero2@nd.edu







Please recycle The Observer.

Terror

continued from page 1

the region. He said leaders always understood there were two separate tasks at hand.

"United States politicians and political thinkers — those who make the decisions — they separated between the manhunt and United States ground strategy with regards to Afghanistan," Kaufman said. "These were two different things."

Despite this separation, Professor of Religion, Conflict and Peacebuilding Emad Shahin said the American military attack which resulted in bin Laden's death might have yielded major results in terms of foreign policy.

"The war against terror will continue but I think the removal of bin Laden could be considered as a major step in ending this war," Shahin said.

Shahin said Western nations should anticipate a violent retaliation from militant organizations in the region.

"It is possible that we should expect some kind of response from radical and terrorist organizations that have been inspired by the teachings and persona of bin Laden," Shahin said. "They might take some violent action against United States and European interests in the region."

Though some extremist groups may look for retribution on the United States, Kaufman said the fractured nature of al-Qaida means bin Laden's death has little impact on how the organization will operate in the future.

"Most intelligence analysts think after he had to hide, Osama bin Laden lost his relevance as a leader. Al-Qaida changed structure completely," Kaufman said. "There are now so many al-Qaida cells around the world that they do not really receive their orders from a central command. The al-Qaida of 2001 is not the al-Qaida of 2011."

Shahin said recent revolutionary movements showed bin Laden's mantra does not hold much traction in the Middle East.

"People in the Middle East have been involved in their peaceful, pro-democracy movements which, in their methods of non-violence, have discredited the violent methods of al-Qaida and bin Laden," Shahin said.

Kaufman said political progress in the region shows its people are primarily concerned with advancing standards of living, not extremist movements.

"These revolutions show they were not motivated by al-Qaida,"

Kaufman said. "These were mostly young people whose prime concern was socioeconomic issues, questions of corruption."

Overall, Shahin said the region recognizes the importance the killing of bin Laden holds for Americans.

"Most people in the Middle East understand the horrendous nature of the attacks of Sept. 11 and the tragic impact they had on the American people," Shahin said. "The killing of bin Laden comes after a decade-long confrontation between the United States and al-Qaida. This all would be understood."

On the domestic front, American Studies Professor Jack Colwell said bringing bin Laden to justice might smooth over relations between Republicans and Democrats.

"I think this is a unifying moment, and there have been few of those, so it is a plus, some progress," he said. "The debt ceiling and the budget will still be a pretty fierce partisan fight, but I think it may prevent some of the nastier personal attacks on the president."

In addition to bipartisan relations, Colwell said Obama might personally benefit as president.

"It's certainly a big plus for President Obama. I think his approval ratings will go up," he said. "Whether they will stay up remains to be seen, but I think it is a big plus for right now."

This political boost will aid Obama as he gears up for reelection in 2012, Colwell said.

"It makes it harder for Republican opponents who are potentially getting ready to run for president to attack Obama as weak and indecisive on national security and foreign policy," he said. "That becomes very difficult to do now because he was not weak in this at all, and clearly not indecisive."

Colwell said bin Laden's death not only benefits the president's political prospects but the spirit of the nation as well.

"I think it gets the country feeling a little better about itself," he said. "It seemed like everything was negative, with the economy and people worrying about whether they will get a job if they are unemployed, sending there kids to college, pension."

America's gloom needed the boost the terrorist leader's demise provided, Colwell said.

"There seemed to be a lot of pessimism and suddenly there is this big positive thing. It really has helped the mood of the country and how it feels about itself. It was a big boost for patriotism."

Contact Sam Stryker at sstryke1@nd.edu



SUZANNA PRATT/The Obser

A student crowd runs into LaFortune Student Center Sunday evening waving flags and cheering in the wake of the president's announcement of Osama bin Laden's death.

Students

continued from page 1

this was something that was worth getting really, really excited about."

Dolan said he called his older sister and was surprised when he became emotional.

"It's finally over," he said to his sister.

Growing up with the full weight of September 11th and its impact on his life was challenging, and Dolan said he typically did not talk to others about his experience.

"It's really hard finding yourself, especially when something that big happens to American and then you are part of it, you never really know how to deal with it," he said.

Now, Dolan said he found a sense of closure.

"Just the fact that Osama bin Laden is dead, I feel like that is a chapter of your life that finally closes," he said.

His father's death and the attacks of September 11th motivated Dolan toward his future career

"It definitely has inspired me for the rest of my life. I want to work for the government, and I'm majoring in Arabic and political science," Dolan said. "I want to work in the Middle East."

Dolan said he wanted the world to understand that Islam is not the face of terrorism.

"I want to be able to go and work against the people that are actually the bad people and at the same time show them that the majority of the 1.5 billion people who are Muslims — they are good people," he said. "From here, I want to work towards that goal."

Kevin Garcia, a 2009 graduate from Notre Dame, was on a 15-day leave from his tour in Iraq when he learned of bin Laden's death. He was visiting his brother, senior Mike Garcia,

on campus when he heard the news.

"It is a win for justice," Kevin Garcia said. "It is a win for America."

Kevin Garcia will return to Iraq May 11.

"It's going to be interesting because it is not a hierarchical organization, al-Qaida," Kevin Garcia said. "It's a network."

He said he built positive relationships with the Iraqi community near his base, and he anticipated the local people would have a positive reaction to bin Laden's death.

"Most of the people in Iraq, I would say 90 percent, are good people," he said. "There are maybe 10 percent who are malicious ... but overall I'm sure their reaction will be good. They are targeted as much as we are."

Kevin Garcia said the success of the mission to find and kill bin Laden would renew the energy back in his Iraqi base.

"I guarantee the morale is pretty high," he said. "We have been searching for this guy for 10 years."

Mike Garcia said he immediately thought of his brother when he heard the news about bin Laden's death.

"That's my brother," he said. "He's an American hero."

Mike Garcia said while he was initially uncertain about celebrating a death, he did celebrate a victory for justice.

"We are celebrating justice, and when we do that I feel that it is good," he said. "It is good to celebrate something ... that will save lives."

Mike Garcia said he worries about an escalation of violence as a result of the terrorist leader's death, but he supports his brother in his military career.

"It has been tough. You never know what is happening over there and [Kevin] can only talk to us every other week," Mike Garcia said. "We just keep praying for him ... We know that Our Lady is watching over him and all the troops."

Senior Christopher Bennet, a native of Pelham, N.Y., remembers the billowing towers of smoke rising from nearby New York City when the World Trade Centers were attacked in 2001.

"Retribution and revenge were not the motivating factors that came out of that day for me," Bennett said. "Rather, I realized that the world can be dangerous. There is a need for people to step up and protect each other, and a need for greater awareness of our surroundings in the increasing globalized world."

Bennett joined the Army ROTC program as a freshman at Notre Dame. He will be commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Tennessee Army National Guard upon graduation and will eventually serve as a Reconnaissance Platoon Leader for his unit in Tennessee.

"Personally, I joined the military hoping to prevent horrific acts like that from happening again and to assist those in need if a devastating event does occur," Bennett said.

Bennett said he learned of bin Laden's death through a friend's Twitter feed and major news outlets.

As he prepares for a future in the military, Bennett echoed Obama's message from his Sunday address that the terrorist leader's death does not end the war on terror.

"There are many service members deployed abroad, far from friends and family. They will not be coming home today or tomorrow," Bennett said. "Rather, they will continue working to make the world a safer place. Please remember them and their efforts, as well as the service members who have been wounded or killed."

Contact Megan Doyle at mdoyle11@nd.edu

Interns

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directly related to politics.

"I called his office and I asked if they offered any internships because he's my state senator," she said. "They gave me a list of options. I went into it planning to eventually try both [the Celina internship and the Columbus internship] because they said that they offered different experiences and different learning opportunities."

Becker said she is looking forward to meeting other local politicians

"Since [Faber] is in the Senate leadership, he works a lot with the directors of the different Ohio departments, in particular, [those in] the Department of Agriculture, the governor and the

lieutenant governor," she said.
"I'm excited to work with other offices outside of the Senate and possibly work with Gov. [John R.] Kasich."

Notre Dame's Department of Political Science prepared Becker for her summer experiences by training her to write effectively and efficiently and by teaching her about governmental structure, she said.

"Last summer I would make campaign materials for [Faber], and it was really useful to be able to whip out a newsletter in an afternoon," Becker said. "The other thing is when you're answering people's questions or trying to figure out what to put in a newsletter, you need to know the structure of how government works. It can be a lot more intricate and complicated than it looks on the surface."

Sophomore and political sci-

ence major Gordon Stanton said this summer he will work as an organizer at the Massachusetts branch of Organizing for America, President Barack Obama's reelection campaign.

"The organization is based out of Boston, but I'll probably be working in my home area, which is New Bedford," he said. "It will be sort of back and forth between the two."

Stanton said he's looking forward to building connections and learning about grassroots organizing and campaign-building. He said he thinks his involvement with the College Democrats of Notre Dame has helped prepare him for the internship.

"I made a lot of phone calls and knocked on doors for [Congressman] Joe Donnelly's [reelection] campaign in the fall, and I've made phone calls and knocked on doors for Pete Buttigieg for the [South Bend] mayor's race recently," he said.

Junior political science and economics major Pete Elliott was an intern for the Indiana State Republican Party in 2008.

"It was called the House Campaign Committee, so I was working for the House of Representatives of the State Legislature for the Indiana General Assembly," he said. "My job there was to help with a candidate's campaign for election. It was 2008, so it was a bad year to be Republican."

Elliott will work as an assistant in the Indianapolis Prosecutor's Office this summer.

"I'd like to work in criminal law someday, so I've been really interested in the criminal justice system, and I figured there's no better way to learn than being part of it for the summer," he said.

Elliot said one of his classes

focused on how the American government enforces laws and prepared him significantly for the internship. He also said his research experience reviewing witness statements and police records from The Troubles, a late 20th century period of conflict in Northern Ireland, has prepared him as well.

Elliott added he is excited to learn how the criminal justice system truly works.

"There are a lot of perceptions that are influenced by media," he said. "You don't get to see how the justice system really works. I've always been interested in how the state enforces rules. I'm also excited to meet some of the people involved in that and hopefully have them get to know me as well."

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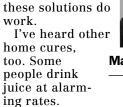
THE OBSERVER IEWPOINT

INSIDE COLUMN

My wonder cure

We all have weird tips and tricks that we wholeheartedly believe have healing powers. My mom prescribes Motrin, a hot bath and an early bedtime for everything from a cold to a

broken bone. My dad loves to tell me to "walk it off," even if "it" is a sprained ankle. And on occasion, these solutions do work.



Others exer-



Mary Claire O'Donnell

Interim Scene Editor

cise or believe in the restorative powers of Brie. Whatever your treatment, no matter how crazy, it helps — even if it's just because you're convinced it does.

My wonder cure is a little unoriginal, pretty much stolen right from the pages of an old wives' tale. To me, though, this gives it more credence and medicinal power and makes me believe more in the magical powers I assign to it, since most tales have a grain of truth to them. My wonder cure is ginger ale.

Most people associate ginger ale with childhood sickness. It was the drink of choice, accompanied by crackers, for any day spent on the couch with a 24-hour bug. Even now, for me, that is what flat ginger ale represents. But straight-out-of-thevending machine bottles mean so much more.

From sore throats to caffeine headaches, chills to dehydration, ginger ale has cured many ailments for me throughout the years, both by placebo effect and the natural qualities of ginger root. There's nothing better to put my mind and stomach at ease than a cold bottle or can of Canada Dry Ginger Ale, even if I can't use my Flex Points to cure anything that ails me.

And coming from a confessed caffeine addict, to count any uncaffeinated beverage among my favorites is a big deal. I've been on a steady caffeine diet since 16 and haven't looked back. But there is something to be said for the cool, carbonated deliciousness of Canada Dry — I've got to hydrate myself somehow.

Although ginger ale works wonders for me, the idea may repulse you. We each have our own magical remedies, so find what works for you. It's all mostly mental anyways, so make something you love work for you. But also, if you're really sick, go to the doctor. No one wants to sit through you sniffling or hacking up a lung in

And beware when you go abroad, the exotic country to which you are traveling may not stock your drug of choice. My friend Ro and I hit up every grocery and convenience store we could in Italy and Spain to no avail; apparently, Europeans haven't discovered the healing powers of ginger ale. And while I comforted myself with more caffeine — when in Rome, drink the coffee, right? — this solution was not ideal. So, if possible, sneak that food in with you. Your body will thank you for that decision

Mary Claire O'Donnell can be reached at modonne5@nd.edu

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

Here we are

Full disclaimer: this is one of those sappy, oh-my-god-I-can't-believe-I'm graduating columns. Feel free to stop reading now if you're not into that.

So ... here we are. Soon, I'm going to be graduating and \dots I made it. Here we are. I have mixed feelings about graduating. Part of me is ready (and has been for quite some

Moment of Inertia

Andy Ziccarelli

time) to move on to the real world, while the other part wants to stay in the relatively shielded Notre Dame bubble forever.

It is funny that I am even in this situation, because I was never supposed to be here in the first place. You know those little kids whose parents dress them up in their alma mater's cheerleading outfits and football jerseys? Yeah, that was me and my sisters. Except we weren't wearing Notre Dame outfits.

But, whether I was supposed to make it here or not, I am. Has it been all fun and roses the last four years? Absolutely not. Have there been times when I wondered what it would be like if I went somewhere else? Definitely (usually as I wandered, unsuccessfully, looking for a dorm party freshman year or spent most of my Friday nights in the library as a junior). But then I think back to all of the people I met and all of the stories I have from the past four years, and those seem like minor speed

We might occasionally lose sight of this fact, but going to Notre Dame is cool really cool. At my internship last summer, I met kids from all over the country, including kids who went to Arizona State and Nebraska, among others. When I told them I went to Notre Dame, their jaws almost hit the floor. We are living out an experience that most could only ever dream about at a place that is real only in the movies or on TV to most people. But it couldn't have happened without so many critical people that I would be remiss if I didn't thank them for everything that they have done for me.

Thank you to Fr. Paul Doyle for making Dillon Hall my home for the past four years, despite the closet-sized rooms.

Thank you to the Dillon Hall Class of 2011, both those that stayed on campus and those who have since moved off. You guys are the brothers that I never had growing up.

Thank you to the Gentleman's Club, for keeping it classy with me the last three

Thank you to all of my professors in the Department of Civil Engineering and Geological Sciences. My biggest concern about coming to Notre Dame out of high school was its lack of a reputation as an "engineering school." I had a number of people question me about my decision to come here as a prospective engineer, and it was unsettling. However, the instruction that I received and the education I gained here far surpassed anything I could have ever hoped for. I am supremely confident in my abilities and that is a direct result of all of the knowledge and hard work of my professors. You guys really are the best, no matter what anyone says.

Thank you to all of the Bengal Bouts captains, coaches and managers for all that you have done over the years. I needed some way to channel my competitiveness and the Bouts provided the perfect outlet for me. Also, thanks to the EMTs for having the patience to stop my bloody noses pretty much every time I ever

Thank you to the morning ladies at Recker's for serving me literally gallons of coffee over the years. I don't know how many lectures I would have fallen asleep

in without you.

Thank you to the dining hall cardswipers and the omelet-makers for the exact same ham, onion and cheese omelet I always get. You are all probably sick of me, seeing as how I am probably the only person on campus that gets breakfast every morning.

Thank you to Robert Hughes for running with such reckless abandon, to USC receiver Ronald Johnson for dropping a surefire touchdown and to Kyle McCarthy for making a game-sealing interception at USC last November. It has been a long time since I have felt that happy at the end of a football game, and it made me forget (for a while anyway) how cold and wet I was in the Coliseum.

Thank you to everyone that maintains campus and keeps it beautiful. We take it for granted, but our campus is one of the most beautiful places in the world, and it is only because of all of your hard work.

Thank you to my wonderful girlfriend for laughing at my goofy jokes, listening to me rant and for always being there for me, no matter what.

And thank you to the staff of The Observer for giving me an opportunity to write. I have loved every minute of it, and I couldn't have done it without the faith and trust that you guys had in me.

There are a million people that I am forgetting, but that doesn't mean that you are any less important. I'm going to miss you all in the real world. It's been my pleasure writing for campus the last few years. Best of luck to the Class of 2011, and Go Irish!

Andy Ziccarelli is a senior majoring in civil engineering. He can be reached at aziccare@nd.edu

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

"God, Country, Notre Dame"

Last night, the world discovered Osama bin Laden was finally hunted down and killed. Notre Dame's campus exploded in revelry and the campus was the most patriotic that I have seen it. Amongst all the celebration and renditions of "Courtesy of the Red White and Blue" and Team America's theme song, it is important to see how this event has affected some of our peers. If you haven't had the honor of meeting my roommate let me introduce you to him.

His name is Robert Dolan III but everybody calls him "Beau." Beau is a fantastic Roman Catholic family man. He has a loving mother and a wonderful sister. Beau is a true Irishman and proves it through his academic prowess. even helped the Otters take the Interhall football championship.

Underlying all these things, Beau has had to live without his father since 9/11. Beau's father was killed in the Pentagon on 9/11 and his life was obviously shaken tremendously. This tragedy has forced Beau to be above and beyond whatever an ordinary son or brother should be. He has held his family together as the only man of the house for almost 10 years. In September of this year, Beau struggled with the fact that it was the half-way point in his life where he had his father for less than half of his life. Last night, however, as America triumphed over the death of one significant antagonist, Beau rose to a whole

Beau joined in with the rest of Notre Dame in celebrating the death of the man responsible for his father's death, but once the celebration reached the Golden Dome, Beau felt moved to speak. Beau, at the feet of Mary the Mother of spoke to hundreds of fellow Irish men and women and told them what this death meant to his family. Beau glowed with patriotism: he spoke his beliefs, his love for America. Toward the end of his triumphant moment, Beau held a moment of silence. He brought the Irish community together and made

"God, Country, Notre Dame" a reality.

Osama is in God's hands now. Beau has found at least a degree of peace in the death of the most infamous mass murder that America has known personally. For one night, I saw my roommate glow with joy knowing that the man who tore his life apart on 9/11/01 could never again harm another human

Now that Osama is dead, I worry about my sister and the retaliation she may face in Afghanistan in the next few months, but I trust in God to do His will - nothing more and nothing less. God bless the Dolan family. God bless the troops fighting terror for the sake of freedom. God bless the Catholic hub of Notre Dame. And lastly, of course bless the light of freedom in the world: The United States of America.

> Johnny Whichard freshman Sorin College May 2

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I object to violence because when it appears to do good, the good is only temporary; the evil it does is permanent."

Gandhi Indian political and spiritual leader Submit a letter to the editor at

ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"All truth passes through three stages. First, it is ridiculed. Second, it is violently opposed. Third, it is accepted as being self-evident.

Arthur Schopenhauer German philosopher

VIEWPOINT

Reaction to Osama bin Laden's death justified?

The purpose of my first Letter to the Editor ever as a senior here at Notre Dame pertains to the news broadcasted around the world of Osama bin Laden's death by assassination carried out by the United

States, in particular the reaction of the Notre Dame student body

Gerard T. Orozco

Guest Columnist

and a lot of
Americans. Watching the news on
Sunday night felt like eons as the presidential address to the entire world was delayed numerous times. I first felt scared for the news, apparently about national security, to come until Wolf Blitzer described the address could in fact be good news. There was then a sense of ease put into my mind of the coming news.

When it was announced that the U.S. Military had successfully assassinated Osama bin Laden, I didn't see myself jumping for joy. I heard crowds gathering outside and yelling in the hallways, "America! U.S.A.!" but sat in front of the television puzzled, asking myself if there was something wrong with me for not joining in. I felt something troubling and frankly wrong with the shouting and parading of some Notre Dame students, and the rest of America shown on TV, over the death of

this man. Osama bin Laden was no doubt a carrier of hatred and responsible for orchestrating the deaths of innocent people around the world.

But it makes me wonder, since when is an assasination, regardless of how "bad" someone is, reason for celebration? As a Catholic, the very act of killing is a grave doing, but to act as many Notre Dame students and Americans did last night was arrogant and out of character for a country priding itself on being "better," and a university priding itself on everything.

An article released Monday May 2, 2011 reporting The Vatican's view of such reactions stated, "... the killing of al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden, a man who sowed division and hatred and who caused 'innumerable' deaths, should prompt serious reflection about one's responsibility before God. A Christian 'never rejoices' in the face of a man's death, the Vatican spokesman, Father Federico Lombardi said."As I laid in bed Sunday night images on TV of American "patriotism" reminded me of something I had seen before. I remember seeing images on TV in the past depicting massive foreign crowds burning the U.S. flag or even the hateful hoards of people hitting and shooting already dead downed American pilots. What makes last

night's scenes different? The idea and excuse that "He did wrong to the U.S., so the U.S. retaliation MUST be correct," gets old and only goes so far. In fact, last night's scenes of "patriotism" were only different than the images described above by the flag that was being supported and people carrying it.

Responders to my objections may consider the fact that there was unity in the country. Unity, something so valued in America especially after September 11, 2001. I have no objection to the unity of my country and my fellow Americans, but one must ask, "Does American unity, in a country that lacks such, justify these means?"

I believe not — if the means of such unity are that of bloodshed, I do not care to be united. The belief that American unity was the most important factor in Sunday night's reactions, even if it was the most evident, depicts an American public so fixated on attaining much-needed patriotism and unity regardless of how it was attained. I love my homeland and I love when there is unity, but there has always been a reason to object and stand for individual morals, even against the actions of the United

The killing of Osama bin Laden cannot be said to be a political victory for the U.S., or

even an "advantage to President Obama's re-election campaign." So why are the people of America so happy at this man's death? Never is the assassination and murder of another human being "justice." To think we as men have that ability and right shows our arrogance and fatal flaw as a country and possibly world. Is it so hard not to kill a man that has done wrong, committed atrocities and, before death, gotten away with it?

The truth is that Osama bin Laden is dead but to react in such a way exhibited by some Notre Dame students and some Americans on Sunday night is completely wrong. There is an obsession with control and justice in this country that has led to a lot of Americans thinking it is perfectly okay for the president of the United States to, "give the order" to kill another man. There should be no such thing, and it saddens me that such lack of realization of this reality and more so, support, could ever happen on the campus of Our Lady.

Gererd T. Orozco is a senior studying aerospace engineering. He can be reached at gorozco@nd.edu

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Celebrate death?

While the death of Osama bin Laden is truly a notable event in the history of our country, I do not believe that it is a moment for celebration. Most of us here are U.S. citizens, but we are all citizens of the human race and that obligates us to uphold basic human rights for everyone, especially those that we hate. We as human beings should never celebrate the death of another human being — doing so reduces us to barbarians. Instead, the death of Osama bin Laden should be an opportunity to demonstrate how we are different from the terrorists, in that we do not exult in the deaths of our enemies. The images of us celebrating in the street strongly remind me of the images of the terrorists exulting in the deaths of our armed men and women. When we view these images, we typically reason that these terrorists are inhuman, insomuch as they are celebrating a death. It appears that we are no different from them. The celebration, taunting and Facebook-posting, do nothing more than relegate us to the moral ground that we usually reserve for the terrorists. As the creator of the cartoon "Pogo," Walt Kelly, said, "We have met the enemy, and he is us."

> Timothy Bontrager freshman St. Edward's Hall

On our hands

I read the news this morning that Osama bin Laden was killed yesterday. Am I supposed to be happy? Am I supposed to be thrilled or relieved? As a Christian, how should I feel? Killing is prohibited in the 10 Commandments, and it is something Jesus wasn't a big fan of. Should we have crucified bin Laden instead so that he would feel our pain? Yes, his death might lead to a better chance at world peace, but what would Jesus do? What does Jesus think about this?

I believe it is in times like these that we are asked, what does it really mean to be Christian? Should we retaliate against our enemies as we have? Is that part of the New Testament teachings? This is Easter; this is the time to reflect on our Baptismal vows. I just renewed mine a little over a week ago. So now what? The biggest enemy of the U.S. since Hitler is dead, but the blood is on our hands. How should I feel as a Christian? What should I do next? How do I love my enemies?

I know some people won't have even questioned it, but it is weighing on my heart. I would love to celebrate, but do we celebrate when we put people to death via capital punishment here? As Christians, do we celebrate murder? Just think about it, and maybe we can take a suggestion from the One whose body and blood we take each week.

Robert McKeon Ph.D. Alumni, 2010 Ambrige, PA May 3

"All who take the sword will perish by the sword"

This past Sunday was Divine Mercy Sunday. It was a day to reflect and give thanks for God?s mercy. It was a day in which we remember how Christ, while nailed to the cross, did not curse his oppressors. On the contrary, Our Lord cried out, "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34). Until his last breath, Jesus forgave; he showed mercy. It is for this reason that I was saddened to see Notre Dame students celebrating the death of Osama bin Laden in such an immature manner.

While bin Laden was a man responsible for one of the most tragic events in this nation's history, he was still a human being. Notre Dame administrators and students alike pride themselves in their "pro-life" position. Unfortunately, it appears pro-life only means anti-abortion. A true pro-life position values all life, not just the innocent. We as Christians should never praise death. Death is something that is always regretable no matter the circumstances.

We ought also to remember Christ's words to Peter in the Garden of Gethsemane. Jesus told Peter to put his sword away at the last critical moment. If ever there was ever a justifiable reason to resort to violence it was to save the Son of God. But Christ commanded the exact opposite, "Put your sword back into its sheath, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword" (Mt. 26:52). Christ's words here are telling of what abiding in His Spirit means.

My position here is not that bin Laden was not a man who committed heinously evil actions. Nor am I saying he did not deserve to be brought to justice. My argument is that we should think before we act. Would Jesus Christ have planned a party celebrating someone's death? I think not. Therefore, I cannot in good conscience do the same. If celebrating in another human being's death is patriotism, then I wear the title "unpatriotic" with pride and I urge my fellow Notre Dame students to do likewise. Peace and God Bless.

Brent Modak

senior off campus May 3

Human solidarity lacking

Before any other words are written, let us remember the sons and daughters of America who have sacrificed their lives for our security. Let us pray that we will not be faced with more of our troops' lives being taken away in the future.

"Osama bin Laden is dead."

Facebook helped me conceptualize this "breaking news."

People's index fingers seemed to be on fire as I witnessed record "like" hits on various cheers like "Justice done!" and "KILLLL." Osama bin Laden stands for the al Qaida, 9/11, and the constant fear of terrorists. Borrowing President Obama's words, bin Laden's death "marks the most significant achievement to date in our nation's effort to defeat al-Qiada." At the end of this chase and in the middle of this "war," America stands rejoicing.

We have many emotional and personal ties to this event — some may have lost their families and friends in 9/11 and have loved ones in our troops. Many of us waited for this time of celebration.

However, I am even more afraid than before.

I feel that we are forgetting that we have a future to live. Seeds of hatred have been sown, both by al-Qaida and us.

Because this event only "marks ... achievement," we cannot say that we promote a world with justice and peace. Justice may have been done to bin Laden. But let us not forget the innocent lives, especially of women and children, who perished away during our "operations." Where was justice then? No wonder our international community hesitantly claps along.

In this time of hyper-excitement, we must reevaluate ourselves: Is my reaction actually contributing to building a future in this world? How can we "create a sense of human solidarity and concern for the common good" as our beloved mission states?

Edithstein Cho

freshman Pasquerilla East Hall May 3





By WARD PETTIBONE Scene Writer

"Sucker Punch," Zack Snyder's latest green-screen extravaganza and his first attempt at original material, should have been enjoyable. It has everything that should make a movie appealing to a college-aged male. Yet, amazingly, the combination of explosive action, loud music, attractive actresses and colorful graphics completely fails to entertain. Instead, it is a two-hour exercise in tedium and redundancy.

A young woman (Emily Browning), nicknamed "Baby Doll," is sent to a mental institution after her mother's death. She retreats into a fantasy world - a brothel, of all places — in the days preceding her lobotomy. In this alternate reality, she plans her escape. This plan involves dancing, which somehow sends her and four companions into yet another alternate reality (several of them, actually), where they battle clockwork Nazi zombies, giant demon samurai and other such enemies. This will facilitate their escape from the brothel, and, in turn, from the institution. It's as if Snyder retrofitted "Inception" into a comic book he was planning and decided it would be fun to make a movie out of it instead.

There are five items the girls must recover if they are to escape, and each item is accompanied by a dance (which we see as a battle in a cathedral, on a train, in trenches, etc.). This quickly becomes repetitive and the interludes. which mainly consist of the girls discussing the urgency of their situation, do little to recapture our interest. Other characters from the "real world" institution are present, with some changes, in the brothel-world: a psychologist becomes a dance instructor, an orderly becomes a pimp, a lobotomist becomes a client. The parallels are hardly subtle. but then, no one expected them to be.

Baby Doll's plan follows its course rather predictably, with predictable setbacks and predictable turning points. All of this happens without actually allowing a story to develop. Likewise, despite the valiant efforts of a few of the actors, the characters remain resolutely flat.

Snyder's previous films include "300" and "Watchmen." Both were based on graphic novels, and the material was well served by Snyder's distinctive visual style. "Sucker Punch" reveals that, left to his own devices, he doesn't have much else to offer.

The film plays like a video game, with about as much plot development as Pac-Man. Snyder does his best to deliver twists, but they are awkward and forced. The action sequences are impeccably choreographed but remain disengaging. The dialogue is consistently banal and occasionally cringe-worthy, and character development is nonexistent. Normally, some of these faults could be forgiven. There are plenty of films that are absorbing without being intelligent or even well-crafted — unfortunately "Sucker Punch" is none of these.

The only thing that saves this movie is its visual style. True, it is over-saturated, over-lit and over-stylized in general, but in comparing shot and plot, the camerawork is the lesser of two evils and at times is quite inventive. The soundtrack is serviceable, though most of it is obscured by the mayhem it accompanies. Perhaps the best way to enjoy Sucker Punch is to turn off the sound, watch the pretty pictures and not bother trying to figure out what is going on.

Plot and camerawork aside, Sucker Punch's fatal flaw is its unabashed sexism. Snyder has called it an embodiment of feminism. Take a look at the costumes and then say that with a straight face.

A lot can be done with two hours and \$82 million. Sadly, "Sucker Punch" does very little. It could have been inventive, exciting, memorable — after all, the tagline is "You will be unprepared." Well, allow me to prepare you: the film's most astounding accomplishment is that it has all the makings of a summer blockbuster and still manages to put viewers to sleep.

Contact Ward Pettibone at wpettibo@nd.edu

"Sucker Punch"

Directed by: Zack Snyder **Starring:** Emily Browning, Abbie Cornish, Jenna Malone, Vanessa Hudgens, Jamie Chung, Carla Gugino

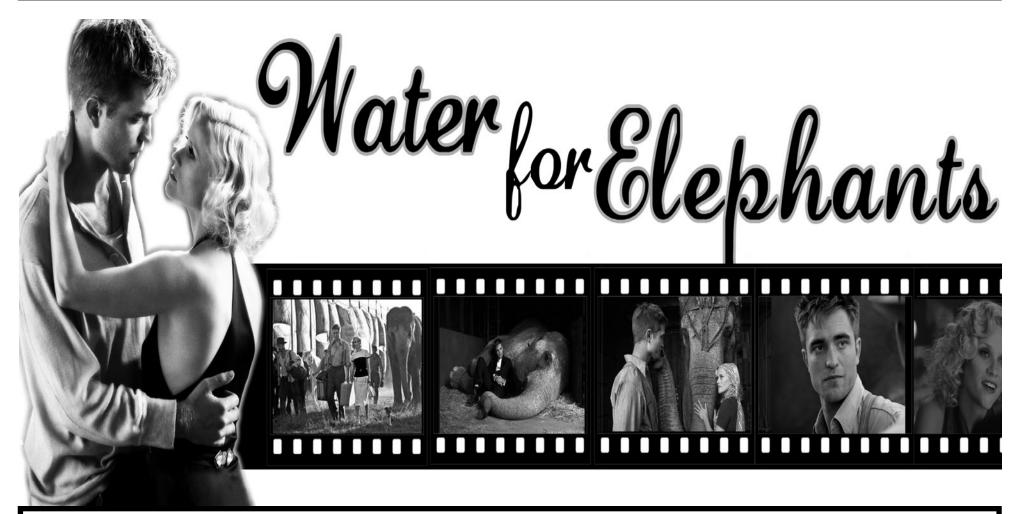


by Claire Stephens 1 Dynamite - Taio Cruz 2 I Like It - Enrique Iglesias feat. Pit Bull 3 Teenage Dream - Katy Perry 4 Haven't Met You Yet - Michael Buble Club Can't Handle Me - Flo Rida feat. 5 David Guetta Like a G6-Far East Movement feat. 6 Cataracs & Dev Animal - Neon Trees 7 Secrets - OneRepublic 8 Magic - B.O.B. feat. Rivers Cuomo 9 10 Yeah 3x - Chris Brown 11 Blow - Ke\$ha 12 Closing Time - Semisonic That time of year has come around again: classes are ending, we're cram ming for finals, seniors are graduating and summer is approaching. Take a fond look back at the past two semesters with a playlist of the school year's hits. Forget finals for a while and remember what you were doing when you heard these songs: relaxing on the guad, hanging out with friends, raging at a crowded dorm party or spending a hazy evening at Legends' Top 40 night.

Listen online at ndsmcobserver.com/scene

Closing Time: 2010-2011

THE OBSERVER CENE



By COURTNEY COX Scene Writer

Set in the visually stimulating context of a circus traveling by rail, "Water for Elephants" is a sweeping romantic tale that invites audiences into a time of simple entertainment. Based on the novel of the same name by Sara Gruen, the film is a slow but beautiful testament to the pain of forbidden love.

The film begins with an older Jacob Jankowski visiting the director of a modern day circus. Hal Holbrook, the quintessential cute old man, plays Jacob and could not be more perfect in a bow tie with a quiet enthusiasm for everything circus-related. The director asks Jacob to talk about his experience at the Benzini Brother's circus. Thus starts the retrospective into Jacob's youth.

Robert Pattinson plays the role of Jacob in his early 20s. He is the only son of Polish immigrants and a student at Cornell University, studying veterinary medicine. This, of course, comes to a halt following the tragic death of both of his parents. He leaves behind everything he knows for the adventure

of a lifetime. He hops on a moving train, in effect becoming a member of the circus.

Pattinson proves a much more reserved and pensive actor than the "Twilight" films would lead one to believe. Though the film is full of drama, Pattinson's performance never borders on melodrama. It is the first film in which he appears to be a true actor as opposed to simply an attractive face.

Perhaps Pattinson stepped up his game because he was surrounded by incredibly accomplished actors in this project, Christoph Waltz being one of them. Best known for his Academy Award Winning portrayal of the twisted Nazi general in "Inglorious Basterds," Waltz proves even more sinister in the role of August, the director of the cir-

August is cruel to all involved in the show, animals and humans alike. He forces everyone to work until they cannot go on. This is seen most clearly when he punishes the newest member of the circus, an elephant named Rosie, for running away during a show. His brutality crosses over into his personal

life and affects his relationship with his

Academy Award winning actress Reese Witherspoon plays Marlena, the star attraction of Benzini Brother's Circus and August's wife. Her gentle mannerisms are a stark contrast to her husband's and from the moment she arrives on-screen, she escalates the sheer beauty of the film. Through their time working with Rosie, Marlena and Jacob fall in love, but it is a feeling the two hesitate to act upon. Jacob's journey to protect and fight for the woman he loves sets the stage for the rest of the plot.

The best moments of the film are ones in which the audience is overwhelmed with the elegance of the image in front of them. The costume design is simplistic for all thecharacters except Marlena. She is truly the perfect mannequin for a wardrobe that consists of dated styles in modern silhouettes. She is often seen in racerback dresses, high waisted shorts, even jodhpurs. Her perfect 1920's fingerwave curls enhance the movie's period-

The landscapes captured as the cir-

cus travels are also incredible. The train serves as a means to truly see the country. It is not, as it is today, just a way to commute from suburban sprawl to the city. It brings back the true romanticism trains invoked during this time period.

The film captures a touching story of love and the struggle to achieve it, and it does so with an eye for the beauty that can be manifested in something as simple as a circus.

Contact Courtney Cox at ccox3@nd.edu

"Water for Elephants"

Director: Francis Lawrence **Starring:** Robert Pattinson, Reese Witherspoon and Christoph Waltz







By ANKUR CHAWLA

Universal Pictures is hosting a on-campus prescreening of their new movie "Bridesmaids" at he Browning Cinema in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center Thursday. Come see what looks to be a hilarious hit from producer Judd Apatow of "Superbad" and "Knocked Up.'

Kristen Wiig and Maya Rudolph of "Saturday Night Live" star in this comedy, which looks into the inner workings and nuances surrounding the humbling role of being a bridesmaid.

Annie (Wiig) leads the colorful crew as the maid of honor, trying to make sure her best friend Lillian (Rudolph) makes it down the aisle and enjoys her last days of freedom. Though lovelorn and broke, Annie dives into all of the required rituals and tries to fake her way through the festivi-

Annie gets to know the other ladies in the bridal party, including one particular rival, Helen (Rose Byrne, "28 Weeks Later"), who is perfectly poised to fulfill all the duties Annie struggles through. As one might expect, Annie and the bridesmaids have their share of adventures and mishaps while growing and bonding from their experiences.

Don't miss your chance to take a hard-earned study break during reading days and see this film before it is released in theaters. Official tickets will be handed out at DPAC starting at 6 p.m. Thursday on a first-come, first-serve basis. Come by The Observer office for a chance to win a free t-shirt and to find out more information about the prescreening.

Contact Ankur Chawla at achawla@nd.edu

On campus

What: "Bridesmaids" Prescreening Where: Browning Cinema in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center

When: Thursday, May 5 at 7 p.m. **How much:** Free for students, tickets are available an hour before the show at the

DPAC ticket office See the trailer and more:

bridesmaidsmovie.com

NBA

Kings to remain in Sacramento for another season

Associated Press

The Kings and the NBA gave Sacramento one last chance to prove it deserves to be an NBA city.

Now it's up to Mayor Kevin Johnson and the business community to come up with a viable plan for a new arena after so many failed attempts in the past.

"This is one of the proudest moments of my life because the community believed when no one else did," Johnson said Monday. "We kept believing. And if you believe, anything is possible."

The decision by the Maloof family to keep their team in Sacramento rather than apply for relocation to Anaheim, Calif., is only temporary. Co-owner Joe Maloof and NBA Commissioner David Stern made clear that the team will leave after next season if an arena plan is not in place.

"We spent 13 years and millions of dollars to try to get an arena built," Maloof said. "We don't have the answer. The mayor has the answers and we're willing and able to listen. He's got to have a plan. We never want to be untruthful to the fans of Sacramento. There is a sense of urgency, and that's up to Mayor Johnson and his political team."

Stern praised Johnson, a for-

mer NBA All-Star, for his Herculean effort at mobilizing the community to keep the team. Stern's support for another chance for Sacramento is a far cry from his stance during the All-Star break in February, when he said the league would spend no more time trying to get an arena built in California's capital city.

At that point, the Kings' departure seemed almost inevitable. But after two extensions of a March 1 deadline for relocation, and Johnson's efforts to arrange \$10 million in sponsorship pledges from the corporate community, the city gets another chance.

Stern said he is sending a team of nine league officials to Sacramento this week to assist with marketing, tickets and the arena.

"We're going to put all of our efforts in Sacramento and make it happen and make it succeed," Stern said. "But if it can't and this becomes yet the fifth or sixth or seventh, it will be the last as far as we're concerned, for an effort in regards to an arena. I pledged support for a move to another market."

A feasibility study for a new arena in Sacramento is scheduled to be completed later this month. There has always been a divide between Kings fans and the broader public on how to finance a facility.

Four California lawmakers, including the leader of the state Senate, sent a letter to Stern last week pledging to work with local leaders over the next year to try to build a sports and performing arts complex to replace the Kings' outdated arena.

Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg, a Democrat from Sacramento, said he would use his clout to make sure his district gets its share of state bond money that could go to build the complex.

"We came away with a strong sense that this was worth the additional year because it seemed to us to be so important to the leaders of Sacramento that they would not allow the opportunity to pass without getting it done," Stern said.

Sacramento was once a thriving NBA franchise that produced sellout streaks of 497 and 354 straight games. The building formerly known as Arco Arena provided one of the most notorious home-court advantages in the league, a place where fans clanked cowbells so loud opposing coaches and players pleaded to have the noisemakers banned.

The Kings won an NBA-best 61 games in the 2001-02 season

behind Chris Webber and Vlade Divac, losing to the eventual champion Lakers in the Western Conference finals at home in a decisive Game 7.

Sacramento, with budget deficits and heavy job losses during the economic downturn, has turned down initiatives for years to contribute public dollars to replace or upgrade the aging arena.

"If we want to be a major league city, you have to have major league facilities," Johnson said. "And what you saw happen today and over the last couple of weeks, is the community stepped up and said we can make big things happen."

If Johnson's plan doesn't come to fruition, Anaheim could once again be an option for the Kings next year with the Honda Center and its luxury suites waiting in Orange County.

Anaheim's City Council already issued the bonds needed to entice the Kings to move, but the Maloofs decided to give Sacramento one more chance.

"I think it's the fair thing to do," Maloof said. "We've always said we think Sacramento has the best NBA fans in the world. Their overwhelming show of support was incredible. But now they realize that we're giving them another opportunity and

we're anxious to play basket-

Maloof said he appreciated the support and encouragement from Anaheim officials and said he believed the city would get an NBA team in the future.

Anaheim Mayor Tom Tait said his city proved it's "NBA-ready" and should be considered its own market separate from Los Angeles, which already has the Lakers and Clippers.

Stern praised Anaheim's efforts and said he believes the city will one day have an NBA team.

"This process only moved it along, rather than detracting from it," Stern said.

The Kings are coming off their fifth straight losing season, finishing 24-58. With a core of young players led by 2009-10 Rookie of the Year Tyreke Evans and big man DeMarcus Cousins, the team believes the future can be bright. The Kings should have another high draft pick and room in the salary cap to add key pieces necessary to get back to the postseason.

"Our future is very bright on the basketball court because of our young up-and-coming team," Maloof said. "We're going to have a top five pick and then we're going to have a great amount of money to spend on free agents."

NHL

Lightning remain cautious despite 2-0 series lead over Caps

Associated Press

The Tampa Bay Lightning aren't impressed with their surprising 2-0 NHL playoff lead over the Washington Capitals.

Coach Guy Boucher and his players know there's still much work to be done to pull off an upset in the Eastern Conference semifinals.

With the top-seeded Capitals vowing to find a way to overcome their slow start in the best-of-seven matchup, the Lightning know first-hand why they can't take anything for granted when the series resumes with Game 3 on Tuesday night

Tampa Bay rallied a 3-1 deficit to eliminate the Pittsburgh Penguins in the first round.

Boucher shrugged off a suggestion Monday that his team finds itself in a reverse role returning home after winning twice on the road to begin the series.

"It's because for me, the roles are not reversed. For me, it's one game, and every game's a championship game," the first-year coach said.
"That's what we try to do all year long. We never try to look at standings. We never stressed where we were in the big picture. We kept it very limited to what we have to do.

"I think it's basically like walking on a tightrope. If you think you're high and you look down, you'll start wobbling. If you look up because you think you're not good enough you start wobbling, too, and you'll be shaky," Boucher added. "You just look ahead, and if you focus on the task and what you need to do ... you tend to do things the right way."

Vincent Lecavalier's goal 6:19 into overtime gave the fifth-seeded Lightning 3-2 victory Sunday night and left the Capitals searching for answers to what it will take to get the team's sputtering power-play on a track before the series gets away.

The Lightning had Monday off, mindful that it needs to conserve as much energy as possible with the next two games being played on consecutive nights at the St. Pete Times Forum

The Capitals held an optional skate before traveling to Florida. Only about a half-dozen players who appeared in Game 2 participated

Ovechkin was not among them and did not speak to reporters before the team flight. Coach Bruce Boudreau and Ovechkin's teammates echoed the two-time league MVP's contention that the Capitals not only are capable, but confident of bouncing back.

"Well, they have to win four. And we have been in tough situations this year, and we've bounced back. And we're going in there to win Tuesday night," Boudreau said. "I think the games have been so close that, I mean, it's one move here, one move there. ... It's not like we're going to go in there and throw in the towel. We're ready to play."

The Capitals outshot the Lightning in each of the first two games, however they're 0-for-11 on power-play opportunities and Ovechkin has been limited to a single point on the goal he scored with

just over a minute left in regulation to send Game 2 into overtime.

Lightning goaltender Dwayne Roloson continued to sparkle, stopping 35 of 37 shots while also helping Tampa Bay's penalty-kill unit extend its success in the playoffs.

"Pittsburgh was 1 for 35. We're 0 for 11. So they've got to be doing a good job," Boudreau said. "But I still think we could generate more opportunities to score."

The coach rejected the notion, though, that Ovechkin has to do more if the Southeast Division champions are going to come back to win the series.

"Everybody wants more from Alex. I think he's trying out there. He's working hard," Boudreau said. "What are you going to say? ... We need more from everybody. We don't just need more from Alex."

Tampa Bay's power-play has produced a goal in each of the first two games. Lecavalier scored twice and Martin St. Louis, a finalist for league MVP, had his first goal of the series as the Lightning claimed Game 2

despite playing without injured left wing Simon Gagne and defenseman Pavel Kubina, who remain day to day.

Washington endured an eightgame losing streak in December and insists there's no reason to panic.

"You've just got to keep plugging," left wing Jason Chimera said.
"We've been there before — this team's won 14 in a row and nine in a row, so we can do it."

The Capitals even feel the series schedule, which does not include a day off between Games 3 and 4, could work to their advantage.

Provided they first win Tuesday

"If there's a team that can do it, it's our team," defenseman John Carlson said. "We got the guys in here — the workhorses in here — to do it. And I think back-to-back games will be good for us. We get hot here, and then it's back (to Washington) for Game 5. We've got to do the same thing that they did to us. really."

CLASSIFIEDS

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

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COME ON EILEEN by DEXY'S MIDNIGHT RUNNERS

Poor old Johnny Ray Sounded sad upon the radio, he moved a million hearts in mono. Our mothers cried and sang along and who'd blame them. Now you're grown, so grown, now I must say more than ever. Go Toora Loora Toora Loo-Rye-Aye and we can sing just like our fathers.

Come on Eileen, I swear (well he means) At this moment you mean everything, With you in that dress my thoughts I confess verge on dirty Ah come on Eileen.

These people round here wear beaten down eyes Sunk in smoke dried faces they're so resigned to what their fate is, But not us, no not us we are far too young and clever. Remember Toora Loora Toora Loo-Rye-Aye Eileen I'll hum this tune forever.

NFL

Study of brain sheds light on Duerson suicide

Associated Press

BOSTON — Dave Duerson, a former NFL player who committed suicide in February, had "moderately advanced" brain damage related to blows to the head, according to the researcher who made the diagnosis.

"It's indisputable" that Duerson had chronic traumatic encephalopathy, a disorder linked to repeated brain trauma, Dr. Ann McKee said Monday.

The findings were announced as part of an effort conducted by the Center for the Study of Traumatic Encephalopathy at Boston University's School of Medicine. The CSTE Brain Bank has the brains of more than 70 athletes and military veterans, with football players comprising more than half of the athletes.

Duerson played safety in the NFL for 11 seasons, seven with the Chicago Bears, and was chosen for four Pro Bowls before retiring in 1993.

"Dave Duerson had classic pathology of CTE and no evidence of any other disease," McKee said, "and he has severe involvement of all the (brain) structures that affect things like judgment, inhibition, impulse control, mood and memory."

The body of Duerson, who was 50, was found in Sunny Isles Beach, Fla., on Feb. 17. He left a note asking that his brain be given to the NFL's Brain Bank. He shot himself in the chest, "presumably" to preserve his brain for study, said Chris Nowinski, co-director of the CSTE

The other co-directors are

McKee, Dr. Robert Cantu and Dr. Robert Stern.

Duerson's case was "moderately advanced," McKee said. "The likelihood is that if he hadn't had the CTE, he wouldn't have developed those symptoms that he was experiencing at the end of his life and perhaps he wouldn't have been compelled to end his life."

Cantu said that such results normally are published first, but the Duerson family wanted them released earlier. Duerson's former wife, daughter and three sons attended the news confer-

"We have been given the gift of closure," said his son, Tregg. "We accept this gift with great humility, as we are mindful of other families that have lost loved ones and still bear the burden of unanswered questions."

Duerson had at least 10 concussions in his NFL career, according to his family, and lost consciousness during some. However, he never was admitted to a hospital for them, Stern said. But he said it's also important to address hits to the head that don't cause concussions.

CSTE, created in 2008, is a collaboration between the BU School of Medicine and the Sports Legacy Institute, headed by Nowinski. The center has been aggressively researching head trauma in sports, and has received a \$1 million gift from the NFL, which it has pushed for better treatment of concussions

"We hope these findings will contribute more to the understanding of CTE," the NFL said in a statement. "Our Head, Neck and Spine Medical Committee will study today's findings, and as a league we will continue to support the work of the scientists at the Boston University Center and elsewhere to address this issue in a forthright and effective way."

Duerson was a third-round draft choice by the Bears out of Notre Dame in 1983. He played safety on the team that won the Super Bowl in the 1985 season. He moved to the New York Giants for one season in 1990, playing in another Super Bowl, then spent his last three NFL years with the Phoenix Cardinals.

Cantu said there is no treatment for CTE and research is being done to find ways to identify it in living people.

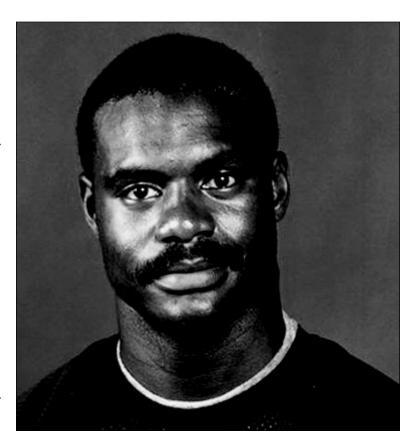
McKee compared the condition of Duerson's brain to those of other NFL players studied by the CSTE.

The damage wasn't as severe as that seen in the brains of Wally Hilgenberg, a Minnesota Vikings linebacker who died at 66 of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or Lou Creekmur, a Detroit Lions lineman who died at 82 of dementia, she said. The damage was about the same as that in the brain of former Houston and Miami linebacker John Grimsley, who died at 45 of an accidental gunshot wound.

Nowinski said "the latest version of the NFL's guidelines (on concussions) are well thought out. And, I think, with the state of the science today, it's about the best we can do."

But he said the problem starts much earlier, in youth football.

"The 6-year-olds are playing the same games as the pros



Former Notre Dame and Chicago Bears safety Dave Duerson committed suicide in February due to head trauma sustained during his career.

when we know that their brains are far more susceptible to this damage," he said. "My next focus is how do we change youth football so that a kid doesn't show up in the NFL with 10,000 hits to their head already?"

The NFL said it will "advocate for the passage of Lystedt laws in all states" to protect athletes from concussions.

The Lystedt law was adopted by the state of Washington, effective in July 2009, and 15 states have passed similar legislation since then, the league said.

The Washington law requires school districts and leagues using school property to remove from games or practice players that are suspected of having sustained a concussion. It also prohibits them from returning until authorized by a doctor trained in concussions, and mandates that parents and athletes sign concussion information sheets.

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MLB

Cards send Freese to DL after wrist surgery

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Cardinals third baseman David Freese will have surgery on his broken left hand and is expected to miss nine to 12 weeks, his latest extended setback.

Freese was hit in the hand by a pitch from Atlanta reliever Scott Linebrink in the sixth inning Sunday. Freese was batting .356 with two homers and 14 RBIs in 25 games.

Freese was put on the 15-day disabled list Monday and infielder-outfielder Allen Craig was activated from the DL.

"We'll make do," St. Louis manager Tony La Russa said. "It's just a tough break for David. We're going to miss him. Brutal"

Freese's surgery Tuesday will likely require a metal plate to speed the healing. The Cardinals hope Freese will be back in the lineup before August.

"Things happen. That's all I can say," Freese said. "Obviously it's happened continuously for a couple years now, but I'm not going to look in the past. I'm going to keep going, keep plugging away."

NCUA

Craig, who can play all four

corner positions, was activated before the start of a four-game series against the Florida Marlins. General manager John Mozeliak said Craig would likely have been activated in any case, but he's down the list of potential third base fill-ins because he hasn't gotten that much work at third.

Daniel Descalso started at third Monday night and La Russa can also use Nick Punto and Tyler Greene, although Punto was hobbled by tightness in his left hamstring after getting removed in the fourth inning Sunday. Albert Pujols played third base for the first time since 2002 after Freese's injury on Sunday but is unlikely to see any more action there.

"Probably not something we would like to do," Mozeliak said. "But clearly it's always an option."

Freese was limited to 70 games last season by injuries to both ankles, and didn't play after June 28. He underwent surgery on the right ankle on Aug. 5 after being injured running the bases during a rehab assignment, and had arthroscopic surgery to remove a bone spur from his left ankle on Sept. 8.

NFI

Owners look to stretch lockout

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — With its players again barred from work, the NFL told a federal appeals court Monday the fight over whether the lockout is legal won't get in the way of the 2011 season.

The rest of the labor fight? That's anyone's guess.

The league filed an 18-page brief with the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in St. Louis, arguing that the lockout should remain in effect permanently while appeals play out.

The appeals court put U.S. District Judge Susan Richard Nelson's order lifting the 45-day lockout on hold temporarily last week. The owners reinstated the lockout a few hours later, and they want a more permanent stay of Nelson's order so they can argue that it should be overturned altogether.

A decision from the appeals court is expected soon.

The players have argued there is no guarantee appeals can be wrapped up in time for the regular season, but the NFL said the process — thanks to a request for an expedited hearing — is more a matter of weeks than months.

Still, the St. Louis Rams announced via Twitter they're pushing back the deadline for renewing season tickets to June 1 to give fans "flexibility given the current labor uncertainty." Other teams have previously adjusted prices and renewal plans to account for the lockout.

A Detroit Lions season-ticket holder from suburban Detroit, Bill LaFleur, said he's already renewed for a fourth year despite the uncertainty.

"It was due in a couple weeks and the Lions told me if I didn't pay it by the deadline, I could possibly lose my seat," LaFleur said.

The players have a federal antitrust lawsuit against the NFL pending before Nelson. But the legality of the lockout has essentially become the fight for now, with both sides arguing over whether Nelson has jurisdiction in the case and the notion of irreparable harm — a claim that has been prominent in nearly every court filing since the collective bargaining agreement fell apart March 11 and the NFL stumbled into its first work stoppage since the 1987 strike.

Nelson agreed with the players that they were suffering such harm when she lifted the 45-day lockout on April 25.

The league has argued, and did again Monday, that Nelson's order must be stayed or it "would irreparably harm the NFL by undercutting its labor law rights and irreversibly scrambling the eggs of player-club transactions."

"Absent a stay, there will be trades, player signings, players cut under existing contracts, and a host of other changes in employment relationships" between hundreds of players and the 32 NFL teams, the league's attorneys wrote.

Players have argued that they are at the highest risk for harm through the postponement or cancellation of free agency, offseason workouts and the like.

The NFL disagreed, saying players would not lose their

opportunity to play for the team of their choice once the league year begins, even if that's in late June or early July instead of early May.

The NFL also complained that Nelson ignored evidence that many players, including two of the 10 plaintiffs, Vincent Jackson and Logan Mankins, skip team-organized workouts in the offseason. Jackson and Mankins both held out into the start of the 2010 season, the league noted, "indicating that missing time in the offseason is not irreparable harm."

Attorneys have routinely used comments from the other side in their arguments and it happened again Monday when the NFL cited Pro Bowl players Ray Lewis and Wes Walker in suggesting some players were all too happy to have the extra time off.

Welker said recently at a youth football camp, "Let's do a lockout every year," according to the NFL's filing, a statement he preceded with an in-all-seriousness assessment of the unscheduled respite forced by the lockout.

Said Lewis after an autograph signing, according to the league: "To me, this is probably the greatest window of opportunity I've ever had in my life. It's been 25 years of my life that I've never had a summer to myself."

In a letter filed Monday about four hours after the NFL's response, a lawyer for the players wrote to "correct a misstatement" by the league and said Nelson had already determined the lockout is damaging the players.

MITR

Jones, Snyder fuel Pirates win

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Manager Clint Hurdle had simple instructions for his Pittsburgh Pirates heading into the opener of a three-game series against the San Diego Padres at spacious Petco Park.

"Look for the grass," Hurdle

The Pirates did better than that. Garrett Jones and Chris Snyder each hit a two-run homer in the first inning to back James McDonald, and the Pirates beat the San Diego Padres 4-3 on Monday night.

"We hit two out and we didn't see a whole lot of grass," Hurdle said, referring to the Pirates winning with just six hits. "I think we shot more balls into the dugout than we did out in the field for hits. We played a complete game. We had two hits after the first inning and our pitching held up."

The Pirates snapped a ninegame losing streak to San Diego dating to 2009. They've won four of six overall, including consecutive games for the first time since April 17-18.

The Padres, coming off two straight wins at Dodger Stadium, still haven't won three straight this season. San Diego had the potential tying run on third base with two outs in the ninth before Will Venable hit into a force play.

The Padres wore their camouflage jerseys to honor the military a day after President Barack



Pirates catcher Chris Snyder tags out Padres first baseman Brad Hawpe during Pittsburgh's 4-3 win Monday in San Diego.

Obama announced that terrorist leader Osama bin Laden was killed by U.S. forces in Pakistan. The Padres normally wear the jerseys for Sunday home games. They gave two free tickets to any active or retired military personnel who showed proper ID.

McDonald (2-2) allowed two runs and five hits in six innings, struck out five and walked one. Joel Hanrahan pitched the ninth for his ninth save in nine chances.

The Pirates hit Aaron Harang (4-2) hard in the first inning to take a 4-0 lead, and the pitcher hurt himself with an error.

Xavier Paul singled with one out and Jones followed with a shot into the seats down the right-field line, his sixth. Neil Walker singled and advanced to third on Harang's errant pickoff throw to first with two outs. Snyder followed with a shot into the left-field seats, his first.

Floyd

continued from page 16

Floyd's arrest before making any decisions, Stanley said, but the attorney expects an eventual guilty plea.

In accordance with courthouse procedures, the court documents for Floyd's case currently list a "not guilty" plea because Floyd has not yet entered an official plea on his charge. Floyd was arrested March

20 on campus after he was pulled over by the Notre Dame Security Police at the intersection of Angela Boulevard and Notre Dame Avenue for running a stop sign. Floyd failed three field sobriety tests and was then administered a breathalyzer test, which recorded .19

grams of alcohol per 210 liters of breath. Indiana's legal driving limit is 0.08.

Irish coach Brian Kelly suspended Floyd indefinitely from all football activities beginning March 21. After attending a meeting with the Office of Residence Life in April, Floyd remained suspended from football but was allowed to continue his education as he prepares to graduate next spring.

The 2010 Football Most Valuable Player became Notre Dame's all-time leader in touchdown receptions (28) and second all-time in catches (171) last season. He was elected captain before spring practice began, but Kelly stripped Floyd of the title after the March 20 incident.

Contact Megan Doyle at mdoyle11@nd.edu

NBA

Rose named youngest MVP in league history

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Chiacgo Bulls star Derrick Rose is the NBA's MVP, becoming the youngest player in league history to win the award, a person familiar with the situation told The Associated Press.

The person spoke Monday night on the condition of anonymity because a formal announcement has not been made. That could come Tuesday, with a formal presentation before Game 2 of the Eastern Conference semifinals.

The news is hardly a surprise. Rose is the second Bulls player to win the MVP but has a ways to go before he catches Michael Jordan, who won five — but he sure is off to a good start. In his third year, the dynamic point guard led the Bulls to their best season since the Jordan-Scottie Pippen championship era.

"If I get it? It'll be nice, unbelievable, a goal that in the beginning in the year I said I wanted to achieve," Rose said recently when asked what the award would mean to him. "It would be huge, not only for me, but for the city."

He ended the two-year MVP reign of LeBron James, who spurned the Bulls and bolted

from Cleveland to form a superstar triumvirate with Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh in Miami. The 22-year-old Rose also supplanted Wes Unseld as the youngest MVP. He was 23 was the rookie of the year and MVP with Baltimore Bullets for the 1968-69 season.

A product of Chicago's South Side, Rose continued his impressive rise this season.

He established himself as one of the top players in the league after going from Rookie of the Year to an All-Star in his first two seasons with one of the best all-around performances by a point guard.

He averaged 25 points and 7.7 assists while leading Chicago into championship contention.

For all the groaning over the Bulls missing out on James, Wade and Bosh in free agency, they did quite well for themselves anyway.

Looking for more after back-to-back 41-win seasons and first-round playoff exits, they fired coach Vinny Del Negro and replaced him with Tom Thibodeau. Then, they landed Carlos Boozer and supporting players like Kyle Korver, giving the Bulls the inside scoring presence they were lacking and one of the deepest rotations.

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Women's Water Polo

Irish to host championships

By JOSEPH MONARDO Sports Writer

As the No. 5 Irish prepare to host the Women's National Collegiate Championship, the Midwest division champions are hopeful they can play their way into the title game.

Notre Dame (16-4) has experienced sustained success throughout the season, recording eight straight victories at one point and never suffering consecutive losses.

Teamwork has helped the Irish consistently perform well, senior goalie Eileen Flanagan said.

'We're definitely a teamoriented team," Flanagan said. "Some teams have one strong player who they center their entire strategy around and that's how they try and win games, where one player tries to be the all-star. Six people who are working together will always beat a team where one person is trying to beat all of us."

Notre Dame's teamwork is especially important on defense, where the Irish have allowed an average of 6.2 goals per game.

"Our defense is what makes us successful," senior 2-meter Ali Durkin said. "We play a really efficient team defense, and when our defense is on, we are pretty much unstoppable."

The Irish hope their team play, coupled with the momentum gained from their 15-3 victory over Miami of Ohio in the April 17 regional championship game, will propel them deep into the national tournament.

If they are to make a title run, the Irish will have to maintain their focus throughout the weekend, as the tournament's 16-team field consists of division winners from all over the country. The seeding is based on the 2010 championship results by divi-

"One of the biggest things for us is going to be making sure that, mentally, we're prepared, we're excited, that we're ready to go as soon as the game starts," senior driver Liz Casazza said. "We've been working hard all season and I think that that's really going to show."

The Irish will face No. 12 Texas for the first time in program history in their first round match up.

'We've never played Texas before, so we have no idea how good they are or what to expect," Flanagan said. "All we know is that we're focused on beating them right now. We treat every team that we play like they are the best team in the entire country."

No. 1 Cal Poly headlines the field after capturing the last three national titles, but the Irish are confident they are prepared for the level of competition they will face in the tournament.

"Every year we take a Spring Break trip out to California, and that's because the best teams are from California, so we've seen this level of competition before," Flanagan said. "That being

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When leaving campus, there's no need to close your account,

said, we haven't seen them since March, and all sides have gotten better, so this should be a really good test of our abilities and how much we've improved over the sea-

Still, Notre Dame will have to get past Texas before shifting its focus to the other teams in the field.

"We're kind of just trying to take it one game at a time, so right now we're thinking about our first game on Friday against Texas," Durkin said. "We're trying to not really think beyond that, because if we can't get past Texas, then we won't get very far at all."

For Flanagan, Durkin, Casazza and fellow senior Lizzy Gormley, the privilege of hosting the national tournament is a special finale to their water polo careers. The Irish hope their position as the home team will provide them with a significant advantage.

"There is definitely the comfort of playing in your home pool with all the supporters, friends and family there cheering you on," Flanagan said. "At the same time, there's pressure to do well — you have to defend your home territory. We're definitely excited about this National.'

Games begin Friday at 9 a.m. in the Rolfs Aquatic Center, with the title game scheduled for 12:45 p.m. Sunday.

Contact Joseph Monardo at imonardo@nd.edu

Assists

continued from page 16

a feeder and playing behind the net," Tamasitis said. "I never played from behind in high school so it took some time to get comfortable with my role."

Tamasitis also carries with her a 35-game point streak, dating back to the beginning of the 2010 season. She does not, however, let the streak impact

"I guess it's not really that big of a deal to me," Tamasitis said. "When I'm playing, it's never a goal of mine to keep it going.'

The streak stands as the fourth longest in Notre Dame history, 16 games away from Caitlin McKinney's 51-game stretch that ended in 2008. Tamasitis has already passed Irish great Jillian Byers' streak and is closing in on recently graduated Gina Scioscia's

"I played with Jill [Byers] and Gina [Scioscia]. When I was a freshman, Jill was my mentor — she kept me sane," Tamasitis said. "To see my name with hers is very bizarre, and I will never put my name in her category.'

Tamasitis credits her teammates, who have converted on many scoring opportunities, for her lofty stats.

"I owe everything to my teammates. All of the credit goes to them," Tamasitis said. "There's not a single thing I could do without them."

On the team, Tamasitis says her fellow juniors are her best friends — and the goofiest.

"We're known as the loudest people on the team, by far. Just hanging out with them is a good time," Tamasitis said. "We love doing silly things. We can have fun doing anything."

The Film, Television and Theater major also lists Disney movies among her favorites. With the Big East tournament this weekend, the question remains whether or not Notre Dame will have a storybook

"I don't see [our three-game win streak] stopping. I don't see us going back to losing at all," Tamasitis said. "If we win six in a row, we're national champions. That's my mindset.'

The Irish open the tournament Thursday against Georgetown in Washington D.C.

Contact Matthew DeFranks at mdefrank@nd.edu



Junior attack Maggie Tamasitis evades the Buckeye defense during Notre Dame's 13-8 loss to Ohio State March 10.

O'Leary

continued from page 16

no clique like other teams where you have to earn your

O'Leary came to Notre Dame with the goal of turning around the program, and according to O'Connor, he has certainly lived up to

Our coach is one of the best in the U.S., if not the best. He's the reason we're in the top-31 teams O'Connor said.

In honor of the 50th Anniversary of the Notre Dame rugby program, alumni traveled to South Bend this weekend to watch their alma mater dismantle the Volunteers. Current Irish players had the opportunity to chat with the former athletes at a banquet.

"Apparently they [alumni] won the championship in 1965, and they were the first rugby team ever put on the cover of 'Sports Illustrated'," Mitchell said. "This weekend we got a chance to actually meet the people who are donating that money — the people who are supporting the team and driving the team.'

Sevens consists of 16 of

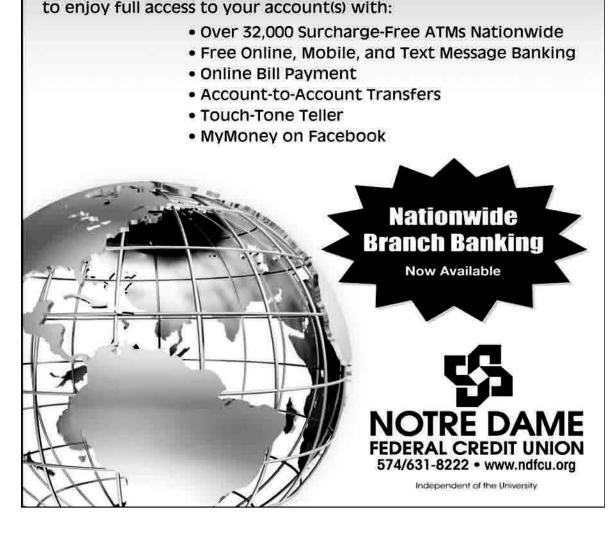
the country's most renowned schools, all of which will compete to win the cup. Each team opens competition on the first day against opposition within its pool. The top-two finishers within each pool advance to a bracket-style tournament on the second day. For the 2011 Sevens, the Irish are in a pool alongside Boston College, Dartmouth and

Run by NBC, Sevens was created a year ago when Utah upset rugby-powerhouse California to win the

With only seven guys on the field as opposed to fifteen, and fourteen-minute games instead of eightyminute games, a tournament contest is played with a different strategy than a regular rugby match. Notre Dame will work with twoyear Sevens coach Kruger Van Biljon, who will select 12 players to travel to Philadelphia for the invita-

Irish travel to The Philadelphia, Penn., from June 4 to 5 to compete in the 2011 USA Sevens Collegiate Championship at PPL Park.

Contact Megan Golden at mgolde01@nd.edu



Rivalry

continued from page 16

Irish in a similar home-andhome series last season. This season, however, the Wolverines have fallen well short of program standards, struggling to a .246 team average at the plate. Irish coach Mik Aoki said Michigan's struggles at the plate have mirrored those of his own team.

"I think they are somewhat very similar to the type of squad that we are," Aoki said "They have pitched fairly well and struggled with the bat like we have. It's just not your typical Michigan type of year. We lost a close one to them last year and they beat us up pretty good here in our yard."

The Irish offense will face a Michigan pitching staff that has been inconsistent, garnering a 5.16 staff ERA on the season compared to the 2.92 ERA for the experienced Irish staff. Wolverine sophomore starting pitcher Bobby Brosnahan has particularly struggled, posting a 1-8 record with a 7.71 ERA in 11 starts.

The offensive attack for Notre Dame came to life late in its series with Seton Hall this past weekend. After scoring three runs in the first 27 innings of the match-up with the Pirates (20-21, 7-11), the Irish erupted for five runs in the final three innings of the series on two home-runs, stealing the rubber game of the series in the process. Aoki said the offense will try to turn the corner perma-

nently in the mid-week series with Michigan, though he said the pitching and defense will continue to be crucial.

"I think it's the same recipe all the time [in preparing for opponents]. We need to make sure we pitch and defend well and get some timely hitting," Aoki said. "[Last game] we were able to change our mentality as the game went on, which is something we have not been able to do all year long, so it was definitely encouraging."

The series begins tonight at 6:35 p.m. in Ann Arbor, Mich., and concludes Wednesday at Frank Eck Stadium with a scheduled 5:35 p.m. first pitch.

Contact Chris Allen at callen 10@nd.edu



ASHLEY DACY/The Observer

Irish senior pitcher Brian Dupra delivers a pitch during Notre Dame's 2-1 loss to Seton Hall April 29.

TRACK AND FIELD

Men and women throwers establish unique chemistry

By JACK HEFFERON Sports Writer

When one pictures the recent successes of Notre Dame on the track, images of sub-four minute miles, record-breaking jumps and Big East championship trophies all come to mind. There is another part of the squad that often goes unnoticed, however.

They do the dirty work and heavy lifting, literally, behind the scenes. Whether they are hurling a hammer, discus or shot, the Irish throwers are a dynamic force in competition and a tight-knit group outside of it.

While most of the team hits the track every day, the throwers are often on their own, doing their own specialized practices. Under the guidance of assistant coach Adam Beltran, the athletes practice every day in the fall,

winter and spring.

"We go down to the rings and throw almost every day," junior thrower Andy Hills said. "We've got a different practice routine depending on where we are that week, and in addition

to that, we're in the weight room three days a week."

With all that time spent together, the men and women of the throwing team form a unique bond as a small, dedicated

group of athletes. Between practice, meets and travel, the members have gotten to know each other very well and have build a unique chemistry between them.

"We're probably one of

the closer teams on campus," Hills said. "In the past, [Irish coach Joe] Piane has called us [a] cult. We have our own inside jokes, and we always eat together on trips."

That unity has the helped throwers in "We've got a different competition, practice routine and they have made a signifdepending on where we icant impact are that week, and in on the overall addition to that, we're track and

field

this year.
On the women's side,
Rudy Atang, a s t a n d o u t hurler, has been a leader for the squad

team

in more ways than one.

"Rudy has had a really great year," Hills said. "She set school records in the indoor and outdoor seasons in the shot put, but she still works as hard as anybody

in practice and the weight room. She also really tries to help the underclassmen improve, especially the freshmen."

The throwers have also been a huge piece in the recent successes of the men's team, winning two of the past three Big East men's regular season titles. In their outdoor conference victory last year, the throwers put Notre Dame, which sat in fourth heading into the final day, over the top.

Senior Denes Veres won the shot put with a throw of 18.57 meters, and Irish throwers took five of the top eight spots in the hammer throw to help lead the charge.

"We had a huge impact on the men's team at the Big East meet last year, and we had a large number of guys step up for us there," Hills said. "We like to think we've been a pretty big part of our team's success over the past couple of vears."

Heading into this year's edition of the outdoor Big East championships, which will take place this weekend in Villanova, Penn., the Irish throwers once again seem primed to make a difference. After a series of strong performances, the group is peaking at the right time, and they may need another elite performance.

After losing to Connecticut by less than five points at the indoor championships, the outdoor Big East title may come down to a single throw.

"Everyone is practicing pretty well," Hills said. "It's been an up-and-down season for us, but we seem to be riding a high right now, and that's what you want heading into these big championship meets."

Contact Jack Hefferon at wheffero@nd.edu

Big East

continued from page 16

ing Maldonado and senior captain Heather Johnson.

"Everything has really been clicking for us lately, from hitting to defense," freshman pitcher Laura Winters said. "All around we have come together to make great plays on defense and string hits together to push in runs."

With this week's games drawing the regular season to a close, the Irish are looking to finish strong and go into the Big East tournament with the momentum they've gained.

"We are in a great position now to make some impressions on teams not only in the Big East, but all across the board," Winters said.

"We are the most ready [for the postseason] we've been since I've been here at school," Maldonado said. "We're ready to make history and take this program to the next level."

The Irish will play Valparaiso at home in Melissa Cook Stadium today at 5 p.m.

Contact Jack Yusko at jyusko@nd.edu



in the weight room

three days a week."

Andy Hills

junior thrower

SARAH O'CONNOR/The Observer

Irish senior infielder Katie Fleury takes a swing during Notre Dame's 10-3 victory over St. Johns April 30.





CROSSWORD

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WILL SHORTZ

HOROSCOPE

JUMBLE

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,

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. Include 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

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Uncertainties regarding your financial situation will be immerving. 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.

HENRI ARNOLD

MIKE ARGIRION

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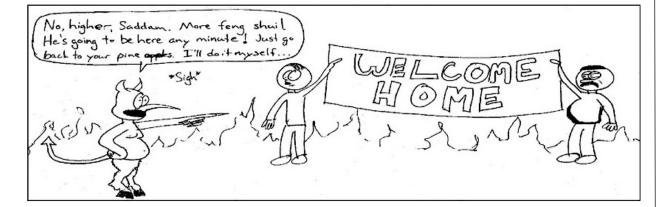
62 Italian article

61 The sun,

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THE MATING RITUAL



DAVID MOMONT

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, 11/2 to form four ordinary words. He took us for \$5,000 VOCEL He seemed like such a nice man ©2010 Tribune Media Services, Inc. HEWEL DECAFE WHEN THE CON MAN PULLED THE WOOL OVER THEIR EYES, THE COUPLE WAS --DEECES Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

The Observer

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THE OBSERVER

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BASEBALL

Rivalry renewed

Notre Dame to begin series with Wolverines

By CHRIS ALLEN

Sports Writer

In the midst of a stretch of crucial Big East weekend matchups, Notre Dame will travel out of conference tonight to take on long-time rival Michigan in a homeand-home series. The teams will play in Ann Arbor, Mich., today before traveling South Bend

Wednesday's game.
The series between the Irish (16-21-1, 7-10 Big East) and Wolverines (13-28, 6-9 Big Ten) dates back nearly 100 years and spans 125 games. Since the first meeting between the teams in 1892, Michigan has controlled the series, posting an record. Wolverines have won six of the last seven meetings, including a sweep of the

see RIVALRY/page 14



ASHLEY DACY/The Observer Irish sophomore designated hitter Adam Norton takes a cut during Notre Dame's 2-1 loss to Seton Hall April 29. The Irish take on rival Michigan in a home-and-home series this week.

FOOTBALL

Floyd to plead case in June

By MEGAN DOYLE Sports Writer

Junior wide receiver Michael Floyd will appear in court at 8 a.m. June 7 to face charges of operating a vehicle while intoxicated after his court date was rescheduled from Monday.

Defense attorney William Stanley appeared on Floyd's behalf Monday as the state officially brought its charges against him and presented the court documents for the case. Floyd faces a misdemeanor charge for operating a vehicle while intoxicated and was not required to appear at the hearing. He could receive a maximum sentence of one year in the St. Joseph County Jail and a \$5,000 fine.

The defense must still review the police narrative of

see FLOYD/page 12

MEN'S RUGBY

Sevens tournament presents opportunity for revenge

By MEGAN GOLDEN

Sports Writer

For the second consecutive year, an emerging Irish squad will travel to the USA Sevens Collegiate Rugby Championship. The team will battle to send the seniors off with the cup, seeking revenge against a team that ended its run a year

The Irish (3-3) compete in the Mid-South Conference,

one of four conferences in the Collegiate Premier League, which consists of the country's top-31 teams. The Irish finished third in their conference, just short of entering the playoffs as

one of the top-two teams.
Coming off a dominating victory against Tennessee, the Irish are confident in their talent across the board. The team credits their success this season to the strenuous practices they have endured

over the offseason, including 6 a.m. workouts in the snow.

'The first game we won against LSU — showed our strength of fitness," senior scrumhalf and team captain Andy O'Connor said. "They just died, tired out and they were up 11-0 at halftime. We came back and won, and it showed that we could still push it.

The experienced Irish feature 19 seniors, each of whom has witnessed drastic changes within the Notre

Dame rugby program. The Irish switched from Division II to Division I after their freshman season and were met with immediate success behind Irish coach Sean O'Leary.

The seniors have made it clear everyone on the team has an equal chance to compete for playing time.

'On this team, it's more merit-based. If you're good enough to play on the first team, then you will be playing no matter how old you

are," senior center Sean Mitchell said. "Just because we're seniors doesn't mean we're going to get playing time."

The senior leadership on the field has translated into outstanding team chemistry amongst all they players.

"We're pretty much friends with everyone," O'Connor said. "I'm friends with freshmen. Everyone hangs out with everyone, and there's

see O'LEARY/page 13

Women's Lacrosse

Tamasitis builds point streak

By MATTHEW DEFRANKS

Leonardo DiCaprio has starred in over 30 movies but that still is not enough for junior attack Maggie Tamasitis.

"I love Leonardo DiCaprio,' Tamasitis said. "I have a huge celebrity crush on him. If he's in [a movie], I usually like it."

Much like DiCaprio in "The Aviator," Tamasitis acts as the team's pilot, directing the Notre Dame offense. The junior from Boyertown, Penn., has tallied a team-high 39 assists and scored 21 goals. She has guided the Irish (9-8, 6-2 Big East) to a fourth place finish in the Big East and she ranks fourth in the country in assists.

"I've gotten comfortable being



Irish junior attack Maggie Tamasitis roams behind the net looking for teammates during Notre Dame's 13-8 loss to Ohio State March 10.

SOFTBALL

Squad set to face non-conference foe

By JACK YUSKO Sports Writer

The No. 22 Irish, who have won 21 of their last 22 games, look to extend their seven game winning streak and kick off a six-game week right with a victory against Valparaiso today.

Notre Dame (38-8, 14-1 Big East), currently sitting in second place in the Big East, is coming off a three-game sweep of conference opponent St. John's this weekend, winning each game by at least seven runs. Valparaiso (30-18, 10-6 Horizon) recently took a series 2-1 against Green Bay and is tied for first in the Horizon League.

"Teams that come to play us always bring their top game," junior outfielder Alexa Maldonado said. "As long as we stick to how we've been playing and put them away early, we will beat them with ease.

The Irish are confident in their abilities, and for good reason. Their impressive performance this past weekend earned senior outfielder Brianna Jorgensborg Big East Player of the Week honors. Jorgensborg hit .600, scored eight times, drove in nine RBIs and recorded two stolen bases. She is the third player this year to be awarded the honor, join-

see BIG EAST/page 14

see ASSISTS/page 13