

THE OBSERVER

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SENATE

GSA resolution passes

By MARISA IATI
News Writer

Student Senate passed a resolution requesting the University approve an application for a gay-straight alliance (GSA) on Wednesday. The resolution also requested the University offer a public statement explaining its decision on the application.

Twenty-one members of Senate voted to approve the resolution and two members abstained from voting.

Junior Katie Rose, gender issues director for student government and vice president-elect, said student government's records show the possibility of an official gay-straight alliance has been discussed since at least 1989.

Senate entered into closed, executive session for much of its discussion about the resolution. When public discussion resumed, student body

see GSA/page 6

Whole Foods to open in fall

High-end grocer will offer more dietary options to students

WHOLE FOODS will open in Fall 2012

Benefits:

- More organic foods
- More gluten-free options

Drawbacks:

- Expensive
- Not on bus route

By TORI ROECK
News Writer

Health-conscious students will have options beyond the Huddle's limited organic and gluten-free options when Whole Foods opens in Mishawaka in the fall.

After investigating the South Bend area for years, the high-end grocery chain will take over the 24,000 square foot space on Grape Road formerly occupied by Borders, according to the South Bend Tribune.

Sophomore Kelly Cronin

said she is greatly looking forward to shopping at the new Whole Foods.

"There's so much good food there," Cronin said.

Cronin said she suffers from Celiac disease, which restricts her to a gluten-free diet. Although the dining hall offers special meals for her, Cronin said she is excited to take advantage of Whole Foods' vast inventory of gluten-free products.

"Whole Foods has some really great gluten-free breads and muffins, and they're not in the refrigera-

tor," Cronin said. "Whereas the gluten-free stuff — at least at South [Dining Hall] — is in a little fridge, and you have to heat it up."

Cronin said the presence of Whole Foods might also improve the gluten-free options provided in the dining halls.

"[Whole Foods] is going to allow the dining hall to offer more services because they won't have to dig or order or do special things to get us food," she said.

see WHOLE/page 6

LAUREN KALINOSKI | The Observer

Council elections take place

By SAM STRYKER, SARA FELSENSTEIN, KRISTEN DURBIN, MARISA IATI and NICOLE TOCZAUER
News Writers

The Judicial Council approved 10 tickets to run for Class Council. Six tickets are running for Sophomore Class Council, while two tickets are running for Junior and Senior Class Councils each. Elections will take place online today from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

SOPHOMORE CLASS COUNCIL

Juan Rangel, Alison Leddy, Christina Gutierrez, Paul Luczak

Juan Rangel, Alison Leddy, Christina Gutierrez and Paul Luczak hope to unite their class through communication and programming.

"We will ensure that we communicate with the entire class on a regular basis, as well as allow plenty of opportunities for the class to communicate with us,"

see COUNCIL/page 5

Mendoza students aid local Montessori school

By NICOLE MICHELS
News Writer

Four Mendoza College of Business students are applying project management skills learned at Notre Dame to a local Montessori school.

Juniors Stephanie Boggs, Patrick Cotter, Barbara Smith and Devlin Lynch are using professor Corey Angst's Project Management class to help Good Shepherd Montessori School increase enrollment.

Good Shepherd develops a child's love of learning through a unique combination of Catholic social teaching and Montessori teaching methods, according to co-founder and director of community relations Felicia Leon-Driscoll. She and her husband, co-founder Daniel W. Driscoll, established the school after studying at Notre Dame.

"We're doing what Notre Dame taught us," Leon-Driscoll said. "We're applying the principle of Catholic Social

Teaching to our work and our lives, [taking] the preferential option for the poor and [making] the world a place where it is an easier place to be good."

Room exists for improvement and expansion from the 16 students the school had when it opened 10 years ago, Leon-Driscoll said. Good Shepherd wants to increase class size, with the immediate goal of generating enough interest to open a preschool classroom.

"Our goal is to attract 20 new elementary-age students and 15 new preschoolers," Leon-Driscoll said. "That will make a huge difference."

Through the Project Management course, students, including Boggs' group, will apply what they learn in the classroom directly to real world experience after choosing their clients from a list of interested organizations, Angst said.

"We want to send the mes-

see SCHOOL/page 6

SUSAN ASIYANBI ADDRESSES STUDENTS ON THE WORK OF TEACH FOR AMERICA



MAGGIE O'BRIEN/The Observer

Susan Asiyambi, Executive Vice President of the Teacher Preparation, Support and Development team at Teach for America, gives the keynote speech during "The Greater Good Lecture Series" in the Hesburgh Auditorium at the Hesburgh Center on Wednesday.

HIGH	39
LOW	33

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Comedian O’Shea makes College laugh

By ANNA BOARINI
News Writer

Comedian Eric O’Shea had Saint Mary’s students in stitches Wednesday as he performed his routine in Carroll Auditorium, sponsored by the Student Activities Board (SAB).

O’Shea has been nominated for College Performer of the Year five times.

“I say that humbly [referring to his five nominations] — I expect the very best out of myself every show and want to leave a great impression,” he said. “I am very proud to be around after 17 years and to be working so much and, as I say, it is not hard to get there, it’s hard to stay there.”

Along with his five nominations, O’Shea has over 4 million hits on YouTube, has received a rave review from Steven Spielberg and was able to present at the Creative Emmys with Betty White, who he calls, “my golden girl.”

O’Shea said he has performed at colleges around the country for 17 years and has done about 60 shows a year since 1996.

“I became a comic because my thoughts could not survive in a nine-to-five world,” he said. “I’m curiously opinionated.”

Even though O’Shea has performed all over the country, he said he does not have a favorite place to do his act.

“I love what I do and to share my thoughts with young minds,”

he said. “I don’t have a favorite place, although there is nothing like a show where the chemistry is perfect.”

O’Shea said his writing is for everyone — young and old, male and female. While he does not write for the college market specifically, he said his material fits in really well.

“[The college market] seems to be a good fit where they appreciate wit, pg-13, unique humor with a sizzle factor,” he said. “Colleges keep you honest. You can’t get away with cheap club bits and the students are privy to the very best, have a little swagger and have seen it all in terms of entertainment.

“It is a frustrated, self-deprecating look at everyday life with random ideas and thoughts thrown in for fun. It moves fast and keeps you relating.”

SAB member senior Allie Courtney said the group brought O’Shea to campus in an effort to make February a month full of fun.

“This semester we really tried to up our events in February and offer a different event every Wednesday,” she said. “February can be the worst month on campus with the weather and no break so we are just trying to make it better.”

This month, SAB has also shown the film “The Help,” hosted a tie-dye event and will show the film “50/50” next week.

Contact Anna Boarini at aboari01@saintmarys.edu

Recognize Excellence

Nominations are sought for two awards that recognize excellence in teaching and advising.

Dockweiler Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Advising

Student, faculty and staff nominations are sought to identify faculty or professional staff members whose involvement with undergraduates inspires students to reach their academic and career goals. Nominees may be members of the academic advising and career counseling staffs or members of the faculty and staff who:

- Facilitate learning outside the classroom
- Serve as mentors or role models
- Encourage student participation in fellowships, internships, undergraduate research and post –graduate opportunities
- Cultivate relationships with organizations that recruit Notre Dame graduates

Nominations are due Tuesday, February 28. Three faculty or staff will be chosen.

Submit online nominations at provostawards.nd.edu.

The Joyce Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

Student and faculty nominations are sought to identify faculty who:

- Create environments that stimulate significant student learning
- Elevate students to a new level of intellectual engagement
- Foster students’ ability to express themselves effectively within the discipline

Nominations due by Tuesday, February 28. Twenty recipients will be selected.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

Professor researches violence

By ANNA BOARINI
News Writer

While working in Northern Ireland over the past six years, Dr. Mark Cummings' research team found that political violence affects the way families function, which in turn causes behavioral and mental health problems in children.



Mark Cummings

The team's research was published on "Child Development's" website and will run in a future issue of the journal, according to a Feb. 8 University press release.

Cummings, chair of the psychology department, said he first became interested in the conflict in Northern Ireland while he was a Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies fellow.

"I became interested in exploring the impact of political violence on families and children as a way to better understand possibility for peace process," he said. "If you understand those pathways, then you understand more about how you might remediate problems by first understanding what the problems are at that level."

In conducting the research, Cummings and his team worked

with faculty living in Northern Ireland. The researchers from Northern Ireland conducted all the interviews, he said.

"When we started, the children were between 10 and 15," he said. "Now we are on our sixth year studying approximately 1,000 families in Belfast."

Mothers and children were interviewed and filled out a survey to assess the different measures of political violence they encountered, Cummings said.

"We developed measures of sectarian community violence and non-sectarian community violence," he said. "We assessed interparental conflict, family conflict and parenting, especially parents' control over children's behavior."

Cummings said the researchers were also examining the emotional security of their participants, as well as the children's adjustments.

Through interviews and surveys, the research team found that political violence, specifically that of Northern Ireland's political and religious divisions, affects family units, which in turn affects children.

"This violence increases conflict between parents, increases family conflict, and that in-

creases insecurity that children have about their communities and their families," he said. "And that leads directly to them having problems with depression, aggression, anxiety."

The team has also found that social identity matters in this conflict.

"We've found that kids identify as Catholic or Protestant also factors in," he said.

The identification as Catholic or Protestant can be both an indicator of youth resilience and risk, he said.

Cummings said that, while he and his team have only studied one area, their results could be generalized to a certain extent.

"We do think that every society would be different, but different levels of society effect children," he said. "Children's emotional security about their community, their culture and their family's matter to their adjustment."

Cummings said this research would also help understand youth and how political violence affects them everywhere, not just in Northern Ireland.

Contact Anna Boarini at
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"This violence increases conflict between parents, increases family conflict, and that increases insecurity that children have about their communities and their families."

Mark Cummings
professor

SGA

Association prepares for student elections

By KRISTEN RICE
News Writer

Saint Mary's Student Government Association (SGA) is preparing for elections set to take place at the beginning of March.

The Observer reported Monday that SGA introduced a new organizational structure for the 2012-2013 school year. SGA held a meeting Wednesday night for potential candidates running for positions within the new structure in Senate, SGA, Student Activities Board (SAB), Student Diversity Board (SDB), Class Boards and Residence Hall Association (RHA).

SGA chief of staff and senior Emily Skirtich gave attendees information about campaigning, highlighting its positive elements.

"This should be a fun process for everyone," Skirtich said.

Students were informed about campaign platforms, which students will use to advertise their views, beliefs and why they want to run for office.

Any student running for Senate will have their own personal platform, while students with running mates will have one platform for the entire ticket. There are specific guidelines that each candidate must follow in order to participate in elections, Skirtich said.

Concerns about election violations, such as vandalizing another candidate's poster or students vot-

ing for their own tickets more than once, were also addressed.

All candidates must get approval for all campaign materials by the Elections Committee and the Office of Student Involvement, Skirtich said. For Senate and SGA, the last day to get approval is Feb. 24. Any student planning on running for election on a Class Board, SAB, SDB or RHA must get approval by March 2.

Any student who may not get a position in the Senate or SGA still has an opportunity to be involved in one of these activities, Skirtich said.

"There are plenty of ways to be involved, so do not be discouraged if you do not get the initial position that you want," she said.

Changes will be made to the voting process to raise awareness, SGA vice president and senior Jacquelyn Zupancic said. SGA has decided to not only send links by email, but also allow students to vote in the Student Center from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Another informational meeting will be held tonight at 6 p.m. for interested students. Campaigning for office will begin at the end of February.

Voting for SGA and Senate will take place March 1, while voting for Class Boards, SAB, SDB and RHA will take place March 8.

Contact Kristen Rice at
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UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS Q&A Session

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FEBRUARY
20

4:30
TO
5:30

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Please come to an information session to learn more about the position. Current admissions counselors will be there to share their experiences.

Position will be posted in the coming weeks.



School

continued from page 1

sage to the students that you can do good things, support whatever mission you want, if you generate enough revenue to be able to do those things,” Angst said.

Boggs’ group plans to capitalize on Good Shepherd’s strong connection with Notre Dame to help it achieve its goals, she said.

“A lot of the parents at the school are connected to the University,” Boggs said.

One of those parents is Christina Wolbrecht, professor of political science at Notre Dame. Wolbrecht said she chose Good Shepherd because the school embodies a number of values really important to her family.

“The basic teaching philosophy of the school really emphasizes independence, exploration and love of learning,” Wolbrecht said. “What we really like about this philosophy is that it recognizes each child as unique, and lets the child work both at the pace and in



MEGHAN THOMASSEN/The Observer

A teacher works with children at the Good Shepherd Montessori School in South Bend. A group of Notre Dame students is assisting the school through a project management course.

the way that works best for [them].”

Driscoll, who acts as head of Good Shepherd, said his school embodies the Montessori mission to stimulate children’s minds and natural intellectual creativity.

“The first and foremost vision of a Montessori school is

to create a world of peace,” Driscoll said. “We want to create an environment that allows a child to be self-confident, directed, motivated and to love the universe so much that it opens a new type of world.”

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GSA

continued from page 1

vice president and president-elect Brett Rocheleau, a junior, clarified the position of the Office of Student Affairs on the recognition of a GSA.

“They believe that with [the Core Council for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Questioning Students], the pastoral counsel that comes with these questions [of sexuality] is needed,” Rocheleau said. “With a peer-to-peer advocate, they are afraid that this need of the counseling won’t be as well met.”

Morrissey Hall senator and sophomore Cal Belden said if Core Council were the only resource needed by students that identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender (GLBT), more students would utilize it.

Sophomore Gaby Nunez, Cavanaugh Hall senator, said Student Affairs might not understand the value of peer-to-peer interaction.

“In a situation like a gay-straight alliance, if you have a gay student who has come out mentoring a questioning student through the experience, that might be more effective because the student has been there,” she said.

Tom Lienhoop, a Core Council member and sophomore, said a GSA would augment Core Council’s work.

“There’s so much value in having a peer-to-peer organization that is recognized at the University,” he said. “Without speaking on behalf of other Core Council members, that is something that has been expressed before — the fact that a GSA would be a benefit regardless of what Core is already doing.”

Student body president and senior Pat McCormick said the effort to request the recognition of a GSA is not a criticism of the Student Activities Of-

fice (SAO), but rather, an attempt to engage in dialogue.

“I think that as an administration we are also seeking to advance that spirit of inclusion,” McCormick said. “I think the hope of the resolution is that sense that we can do more on this issue, that we can include more fully, and that this resolution isn’t an attempt to criticize the attempts that have already been made, but an attempt to move them forward.”

Rocheleau said the next step is to promote collaboration between SAO and students that file an application to create a GSA.

Senior Joanna Whitfield, vice president of the Progressive Student Alliance, said after the meeting she was glad Senate took time to discuss the resolution and the effects

it would have on the student body.

“I think that this resolution affirms that Notre Dame really is inclusive to all its students,” Whitfield said. “Students really want to further inclusion and they really want to help out GLBT students on this campus ... We’re also really happy that it’s the Student Senate, so it does show that the students really do support this movement.”

In addition to approving the GSA proposal, Senate also approved junior Alexa Shaw as the next student union treasurer and passed two other resolutions.

One resolution changed the transition date for Student Union Board positions from April 1 to May 1, effective this spring. The other resolution imposed restrictions to maintain the balance of the “carry-forward” financial account that exists as a source of emergency funding for student government.

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Whole

continued from page 1

Besides opening up possibilities for the dining hall, Cronin said having a Whole Foods would give her more options for snacks and meals in her room.

“[Whole Foods has] better gluten-free cereal,” Cronin said. “Before I was diagnosed [with Celiac disease], I used to eat a lot of cereal. Gluten-free Chex is great, but sometimes I want something other than Chex.”

Junior Connor White said he is excited for Whole Foods to open because of the variety of organic foods sold there.

“I try to find more organic foods to eat here,” White said. “I’m stoked [for Whole Foods] because that’s where I do all my grocery shopping back home.”

White said despite Whole Foods’ notoriously high price point, organic food is cheaper there than at other local food stores.

“[I’m excited about] getting organic produce that’s not \$5 for an apple,” White said.

“[Whole Foods’ price point] is better than any of the other health food stores around here. Obviously it’s a little bit more expensive than Meijer, but I’m willing to spend that much extra if it’s better food.”

A large part of student body president and vice president-elect Brett Rocheleau and Katie Rose’s campaign platform was opening a high-end grocery in Eddy Street Commons.

Now that Whole Foods is

opening in Mishawaka, Rocheleau said he and Rose are entertaining different ideas for a new store in Eddy Street Commons.

“Now we’re going to ... really open it up to the students and do more surveys to see what the students would like to be on Eddy Street,” he said, “as well as communicate with South Bend and the mayor’s office to see what they think

“[Whole Foods’ price point] is better than any of the other health food stores around here. Obviously it’s a little bit more expensive than Meijer, but I’m willing to spend that much extra if it’s better food.”

Connor White
junior

would be a nice place to open up there.”

Rocheleau said Student Senate’s Constituent Services Committee will send out email surveys to students regard-

ing not only a new store in Eddy Street Commons, but also a new LaFortune Student Center restaurant to replace Sbarro’s when its contract expires next year.

Cronin said she thinks student government should not abandon plans to open a specialty grocery store in Eddy Street Commons.

“Having some sort of grocer would be really nice within walking distance [of

“Now we’re going to ... really open it up to the students and do more surveys to see what the students would like to be on Eddy Street.”

Brett Rocheleau
vice president

campus] so you don’t have to have a car,” she said.

“[Whole Foods] is not on the bus route, which is not so convenient.”

Instead of Sbarro’s, Cronin said she would like to see a Chinese restaurant in LaFortune, such as Pei Wei, P.F. Chang’s or a more health-conscious establishment.

“For those midnight munchies, we already have Reckers and the Huddle,” Cronin said. “I think we’re pretty well set on our high-caloric junk food.”

Contact Tori Roeck at vroeck@nd.edu

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Romney campaigns in home state

Associated Press

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney is wooing tea partyers in his home state of Michigan with a potentially risky strategy: blasting the auto industry bailout that many people credit with saving the state's most vital industry. The tactic seems designed to undermine Rick Santorum's popularity with conservatives who dislike government intervention in business, even when the results appear defensible. It also reinforces Romney's image as an experienced capitalist who understands the pain sometimes involved in making companies work.

Santorum's fast rise in national polls has forced Romney to sharpen his criticisms of the former Pennsylvania senator. Santorum says his team will "plant our flag" in Michigan while also campaigning in other states.

A Romney loss in Michigan's Feb. 28 primary would be hugely embarrassing, or worse, to his campaign. His team has promoted an aura of inevitability for months, but Romney has failed to persuade the party's most conservative segments to embrace him.

Romney's father was a top auto executive and three-term governor of Michigan, and Romney still holds big financial advantages over Santorum, Newt Gingrich and Ron Paul. Thus far, he has bought far more TV advertising time than they have.

When longtime Michigan political analyst Craig Ruff was asked



AP
Presidential hopeful Mitt Romney addresses a crowd of supporters in his home state of Michigan. The Michigan primary will take place next week.

if a Romney loss here is conceivable, he said: "I'm astounded, but yes." Ruff worked for Republican Gov. William Milliken but now is an independent.

He said he was surprised by how vigorously Romney is criticizing the government rescue of General Motors and Chrysler in 2008-2009.

"Many, many Republicans have ties to the auto industry," through investments or current or former employment, Ruff said. "He's got a lot of explaining to do."

Some GOP activists, however, said Romney's actions make sense. He already was on record opposing the bailouts. So his Tuesday op-ed in the *Detroit News* gave him a chance to elaborate, they said. And his stance will appeal to business-oriented Republicans as well as more libertarian-leaning voters who oppose government intrusion in general.

"It may be dicey in the general election, but it's not dicey in the primary," said Lansing-based Republican strategist Steve Mitchell. "Republicans opposed the auto bailout. They opposed other bailouts. They oppose bailouts."

A May 2010 poll conducted by EPIC-MRA for the *Detroit Free Press* found that nearly two-thirds of Michigan adults thought the auto bailout was a good idea. Republicans were more closely divided, with 51 percent calling it a good idea, and 43 percent calling it a bad idea.

Santorum, Gingrich and Paul also criticized the auto industry rescue, but Romney's remarks have drawn more attention because of his ties to the state and the auto industry.

Santorum hopes Michigan's tea party supporters will vote in big numbers, possibly overwhelming Romney's advantage with party insiders. Insurgent candidates have done well here at times. Pat Robertson won the GOP primary in 1988. John McCain beat George W. Bush here in 2000 after then-Gov. John Engler promised Michigan would be Bush's firewall.

Romney made no mention of his GOP rivals or direct references to the auto bailout in an 18-minute speech to several hundred people at a rally Wednesday in Grand Rapids. He stuck to his standard attacks on President Barack Obama's handling of the economy.

The auto bailout started when the Bush administration loaned money to GM and Chrysler to keep them from collapsing during the 2008 financial crisis.

The Obama administration brought the total to \$81 billion, and Obama now calls the results a triumph.

"When I took office, the American auto industry was on the verge of collapse. And there were some folks who said we should let it die," Obama said Wednesday

in Wisconsin in a veiled swipe at Romney. "With a million jobs at stake, I refused to let that happen."

GM emerged from bankruptcy as a considerably smaller company. It has repaid billions of dollars, but the federal government still holds much of the firm.

Chrysler was forced to join forces with Fiat. The federal government and the United Auto Workers union also became big stockholders.

General Motors says it made \$8 billion in profits in 2011. Chrysler claimed profits of \$225 million for the fourth quarter of 2011.

In his op-ed, Romney said the car companies should have gone through regular bankruptcy procedures. Obama rushed in to help pro-Democratic labor unions while putting taxpayers at risk, Romney said, calling it "crony capitalism on a grand scale."

"Without his intervention, things there would be better," Romney wrote. "Managed bankruptcy may sound like a death knell. But in fact, it is a way for a troubled company to restructure itself rapidly."

Steven Rattner, who oversaw the auto rescue for Obama, told the *Free Press* that Romney's remarks were "a complete denial of the facts." There was no private financing at the time to sustain the car companies, which would have been shuttered and sold in pieces in normal bankruptcy procedures, he said.

Many nonpartisan economists agree with that view.

John Feehery, a Washington-based GOP strategist, said Romney is taking a risk. "My own view is that the auto bailout was pretty popular in Michigan, so re-litigating that is stupid," Feehery said.

As for Romney's stakes here, Feehery said: "Losing Michigan could be fatal."

Romney was campaigning in Grand Rapids on Wednesday. Both he and Santorum planned to appear in the Detroit area Thursday.

Michigan voters are just starting to see the sort of TV ads that flooded Iowa, South Carolina and other early states. Romney and Santorum, and the independent committees that support them, are airing or preparing to put up positive and negative ads.

A pro-Romney spot notes he "grew up in Michigan."

An anti-Santorum ad, which ran in earlier states, says Santorum voted five times in Congress to raise the federal debt ceiling, an issue the tea party has turned into a battle cry. The ad calls Santorum a "big spender" and "Washington insider."

Santorum is pushing back with an ad in which a Romney look-alike fires mud from a gun but ends up splattering himself. "Mitt Romney's ugly attacks are going to backfire," the narrator says.

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Photo by Vicky Darnell

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INSIDE COLUMN

Chocolate sentiments

Valentine's Day is a polarizing holiday. Some love it and go all-out every year, wearing pink and red and handing out boxes upon boxes of conversation hearts. Others are extremely anti-Valentine's and can't stand all the gooey sentiment. There's one thing, however, that unites the two factions: candy. Especially chocolate.

No matter where the chocolate comes from, be it a secret admirer, a care package from home or the post-Valentine's candy sale at Martin's, it never fails to make life just that much better. If you happen to be lucky enough to receive a bag of Dove chocolates, even the wrappers can brighten up an otherwise lousy day.

Every delicious, melt-in-your-mouth chocolate square comes with a short message intended to help each chocoholic feel a little bit better about him or herself.

These messages range from good-natured words of encouragement such as "Memo to self: you're the best," to well-concealed advertisements like "Linger over chocolate longer." Sometimes they're a little strange, like my personal favorite: "Draw yourself a bath." Other times, they dispense advice that, frankly, every college student could use and tell consumers to get more sleep. Whatever the wrappers say, though, they always make you look forward to reading the next one.

If you think about it, writing messages on candy wrappers is a pretty good marketing strategy, especially if they're entertaining. I got a bag of Dove hearts in a care package last week, and I always read the messages on the wrappers. The best part is still the chocolate of course (I mean, come on, it's dark chocolate,) but I always look forward to what those little foil squares have to say. If I happen to be eating the chocolates with a group of people, we always read them to each other. The candy is delicious, and a source of entertainment. There is no downside.

As I was eating one of the chocolate hearts earlier today, I began wondering what would happen if I implemented all of the chocolate's advice. If I followed each wrapper's instructions, I would "be more mysterious" and "remember my first crush." I'd "hug someone today." Honestly, that's not a bad plan. I have absolutely no problem lingering over chocolate a bit longer, and I could always use more sleep. Better living through chocolate?

Whether or not you take the advice of those little red foil squares, there's no denying that eating a little (or a lot) of chocolate makes life a little happier. Whether it's in bar form or molded into little hearts, whether it's milk chocolate or dark, it'll brighten up a crappy day. And if that deliciousness happens to come with an entertaining missive to read while you enjoy it, so much the better.

Contact Mackenzie Sain at msain@nd.edu

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



Mackenzie Sain

Staff
Photographer

Reflections from the ring

No other arena compares to that of a canvas square bounded by taut rope. No other environment relates to a brilliant white light thrust upon a timeless clash of muscle, heart and guts. No other atmosphere can imitate the paradox of one man, backed up by so many, standing alone against his challenger.

John Sandberg

Columnist

Three minutes and 45 seconds. For some of us, that's all we get.

I'll never forget the words that coach Tom Suddes spoke to us that one foretelling day at practice. More so than anything else, he told us, it is imperative that we enjoy the training. Enjoy the sore legs, the piercing ab workouts and hundreds upon hundreds of pushups. Enjoy the aching shoulders, the monotonous hand wrapping and the repetitive technique drills, because for exactly half of those who were in the room that day, our version of the 2012 Bengal Bouts would be over after the first fight. More than four months of training would culminate in less than four minutes of battle.

Yet in victory or defeat, the simple realities of life that are reflected in those brief few moments are unlimited.

You learn about strategy. You go in with a plan. And if you're sitting in your corner after the first round with scarlet drops of blood painting your white Nikes, you decide that maybe it's time to rework that plan. You adapt. You sacrifice breathing out of your nose for the next couple rounds

because just plugging up the left nostril isn't going to stop those scarlet red drops from appearing on your shoes. Plans, adaptations and sacrifices, working together to ensure that the fight goes on.

You learn about complexity. The constant juggle between being the aggressor while playing defense at all times is a balance that even the most seasoned fighters must find. You learn about misconception, how stumbling on your own feet can look like a knock-down or how it is easy to judge from the sidelines yet once inside those ropes it is an entirely different ball game.

You learn about defeat and how to tip your hat to your opponent when he takes advantage of those three short rounds better than you do. The warning from your trusted veteran coach just a few weeks back, which you never wanted to believe but always knew was possible, appears at the front of your mind. You're glad you took the time to enjoy the training, but the frustration of an immediate end to such a long journey is undeniable.

With that it is time for more strategizing, more adapting and more training, because there will surely be more challenges on the road before then. But no matter what happens between here and there, another fight awaits and it certainly must go on.

The things boxing reveals about life are what make it so enjoyable. Indeed, it is what makes sports as a whole so enjoyable. They speak messages about people that are greater than the competitors themselves. They reaffirm the innate capacity of human beings to rise up to challenges, continue in battle and

find virtue in defeat.

A look at the world outside the boxing ring is enough to produce a sense of hopelessness in even the most optimistic among us. From the indiscriminate killing in Syria to starvation in the Horn of Africa to talks of nuclear build ups between bitter enemies, it is easy to wonder what we have to look forward to in the months and years ahead.

It's unclear exactly what role the U.S. should have in international affairs. It's more unclear how so many worldwide problems have perpetuated for years and yet we've found no way to stop them. However, what is obvious is that something must change. Strategies need to be adapted and sacrifices have to be made. Lessons from yesterday's defeat have to be applied in winning today. The killing and the starvation have to stop. The threats and the fears have to end.

Victory over all evil is unfortunately not entirely possible, but when the alternative to fighting back is indifference, the fight must go on. With so many questions remaining with regard to the misfortunes of the world around us, one question remains above all others: Win or lose, what will the human family choose to make of its lessons learned from three minutes and 45 seconds in the ring?

John Sandberg is a sophomore political science major from Littleton, Colo. He can be reached at jsandbe1@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"A sense of humor is part of the art of leadership, of getting along with people, of getting things done."

Dwight D. Eisenhower
34th U.S. president

Submit a
Letter to
the Editor

Email obsviewpoint@gmail.com

WEEKLY POLL

How are you?

"I'm Sexy and I Know It"
"I'm Rollin' Like a Big Shot"
"Baby I'm a Firework"
"I Found Love in a Hopeless Place"

Vote by 5 p.m. on Thursday at
ndsmcobserver.com

Stuff the Fed says

The Federal Reserve. Ben Bernanke. Monetary Policy.

You're probably about to stop reading this column because it sounds about as exciting as your freshman philosophy lecture. But, if you think what the Fed says only matters to the wannabe bankers in Mendoza preparing for Wall Street interviews, you might want to read on. Monetary policy affects businesses, your parents and, yes, even you.

Grace Concelman
Options and Futures

But first, what exactly is the Federal Reserve?

The Federal Reserve is the central bank of the United States. Its responsibilities range from regulation to providing banks with financial services, but one of its main tasks is to conduct monetary policy, which means it controls the supply of money. The Treasury prints cash, but the Fed gets to decide how much of it should be circulating in the economy.

Controlling the supply of money certainly makes monetary policy sound a whole lot sexier, doesn't it? And Bernanke, the current Chairman, only adds to the effect. (For the record, I'm kidding, although he does have a great beard.)

But does monetary policy really matter to you?

Well, do you buy things? Do you want a job someday? Do you eventually want to take out a mortgage or car loan?

Monetary policy affects all of these things. The Fed manages employment, inflation and how much money is in the economy by influencing interest rates.

If the Fed increases the money supply, the unemployment rate declines, but inflation and interest rates rise. If the Fed decreases the money supply, the unemployment rate rises, but inflation and interest rates decline.

Ideally, there is a delicate balance: employment is high, inflation is stable and interest rates are moderate. However, in extreme situations where the economy is expanding or contracting, the balance is thrown off, and the Fed must intervene.

Since the crisis in 2008, there has been some unprecedented intervention.

The latest mechanism the Fed is using to jump-start the economy is a new communications policy. The goal is clarity, but even clear communication sometimes needs a little interpretation. Here are some excerpts from the Jan. 25 statement by the Federal Open Markets Committee:

"While indicators point to some further improvement in overall labor market conditions, the unemployment rate remains elevated."

Thanks, Ben, you didn't have to tell us that the job market hasn't fully recov-

ered.

Although the national unemployment rate has declined to 8.3 percent from as high as 10 percent in 2009, the rate for people aged 20-24 is higher at 14.2 percent. Good luck with that job hunt, seniors!

"The Committee decided today to keep the target range for the federal funds rate at 0 to 1/4 percent."

The target federal funds rate is the mechanism through which the Fed influences other interest rates. Reducing the rate encourages borrowing, which facilitates the flow of money throughout the economy.

It's like when your professor curves a test to boost everyone's grade. The curve allows more people to pass, increasing confidence. Of course, the danger is grade inflation.

"Inflation has been subdued in recent months, and longer-term inflation expectations have remained stable."

Oh good, inflation isn't an issue, so Professor Bernanke can keep on curving away.

However, barring extra credit, a curve can only go down to zero. It's the same with interest rates. Since zero is as low as the target rate can go, this tool has been less effective, which is why Bernanke is enacting the new communications policy to tell us that these rates are going to be low for a very long time.

The hope is that increased communication and transparency will help the public manage expectations about the future, reduce economic uncertainty and facilitate decision-making. If you know ahead of time what the curve on a test is going to be, it affects how much you study.

"The Committee expects to maintain a highly accommodative stance for monetary policy ... and currently anticipates that economic conditions ... are likely to warrant exceptionally low levels for the federal funds rate at least through late 2014."

Despite a generous curve, the economy is still collectively doing pretty poorly. So, now Professor Bernanke is telling us that he's going to keep the curves coming until the economy starts passing. Actually, more than just a curve, he's going to throw in a couple of review sessions, too, just to make sure that he's being perfectly clear.

Let's just thank goodness this is a finance test and not organic chemistry.

Grace Concelman is a senior majoring in finance and philosophy. She can be reached at gconcelm@nd.edu

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Missing the point

I am writing in response to yesterday's "Both genders can support the Center" article pertaining to Siegfried Hall's Day of Man. I was disappointed that for the second year in a row, a Viewpoint article has been written attacking the fundraiser for having flawed principles. Day of Man is not at all about gender roles. It is about only one thing, and that is helping the homeless.

We men of Siegfried Hall are not trying to make any attempts to prove our masculinity. We are not trying to prove anything to anyone. We are simply trying to help those that are less fortunate than we are. We do not stand out in the cold wearing nothing but shorts and a t-shirt to feel tough. We do it to remind everyone that there are people who don't have many things that we take for granted each day.

Furthermore, the slogan "Be a Man for the Homeless" does not mean to imply that only men are capable of helping the homeless. Such an idea is absurd. Rather the slogan tries to promote the idea that "being a man" has nothing to do with being the stereotypical emotionless tough guy. It is saying that real men are those who are socially conscious enough to go out of their way to help others.

Again, we are not saying that only men can help the homeless. Going into the day, I did not once think about how "manly" I was going to look standing out in the freezing cold. My lone goal was to get out there and help the homeless as much as possible.

Siegfried's Day of Man has proven itself a very effective fundraiser, and therefore we keep doing it. It is no different than any of the other fundraisers and benefit events other dorms put on all the time. When considering these events it is important to focus on the main goal and do what you can to make the world a better place.

John Quinn
sophomore
Siegfried Hall
Feb. 15

'Never' is a strong word

Dear Josh,

You claim, "the Church has never been known to waver on its teaching," ("Church over society," Feb. 14).

We respond: Galileo.

Robert Niehaus
senior
Alumni Hall
Feb. 15

Tony Schlehuber
senior
Alumni Hall
Feb. 15

UWIRE

Twitter policy promotes transparent censorship

Since Twitter's creation in 2006, the website has been a hub of unrestricted news. Now, six years later, Twitter has announced a new censorship policy that could once again change freedom of expression on the web.

Simply put, Twitter's new censorship policy will allow the removal of tweets on a country-by-country basis.

When a government orders that a post be taken down, the post will be replaced by a statement saying, "This tweet from @username has been withheld in: Country." However, the post will remain visible to users in all other countries where no such order was issued.

Twitter is also partnering with the website chillingeffects.org to announce when a post has been censored. The openness regarding censored material is crucial to positively shaping censorship on the internet.

With the introduction of the new policy, Twitter has indirectly urged other websites to follow suit with transparent censorship policies. Transparent censorship, in terms of Twitter's policy, means the company in question promises to be honest about removing posts while ensuring

Braden Kelner
The Tartan

minimal censorship. Secretive censorship will occur rarely, if at all, on Twitter due to the openness of censored posts. Additionally, the fact that posts will not be taken down universally will allow a maximal number of users to see a post. Hopefully other web services like Twitter will alter their censorship policies to create an environment of free speech.

Many critics claim this new policy will entail heavy monitoring of tweets; however, the company will only review content if there are requests to take it down.

The lack of monitoring, in addition to censorship notifications, will increase information availability on the web.

Twitter will adjust its censorship policy to accommodate strict laws and, in doing so, revolutionize censorship.

Both users and governments are accommodated regarding the removal of posts through this transparent policy.

Twitter is once again pioneering a new trend of unrestricted free speech across the globe with the introduction of its transparent censorship policy.

This column first ran in the Feb. 12 edition of The Tartan, serving Radford University.

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



By KEVIN NOONAN
Scene Writer

Yeah, I saw “The Vow” this weekend. Big whoop, wanna fight about it? And you know what? It wasn’t very good. But you know what else? I didn’t mind that much.

As with many things in my life, I walked into this movie with such extremely low expectations, that it would’ve taken a Justin Bieber cameo and a Nickleback inspired soundtrack in order to fail them.

And since neither of these things happened, this was a decidedly average romantic comedy. Of course, and it goes without saying, an average romantic comedy means that’s it’s a pretty terrible movie by regular standards, but that’s neither here nor there.

Rachel McAdams (Paige) is, as always, a likeable leading lady in this film and plays her part, sappy and unchallenging as it is, well.

Channing Tatum (Leo) is, as always, completely ripped, but plays his part, sappy and unchallenging as it is, with a complete lack of acting ability.

On some levels Tatum’s continuing inability to portray any believability or deliver lines without sounding like he’s in a high school drama class production has a certain endearing quality to it. His completely unabashed lack of acting skill gives him an unexpected likability that someone like Ben Affleck (who at the beginning of his career also couldn’t act) lacks.

But on another level, come on. The guy can’t act. And in romantic comedies, despite the fact that many moviemakers see acting ability as optional at best, the ability to make the audience care about your situation is the most crucial factor to success. And if you can’t act, you can’t make anyone care that your wife doesn’t remember whom you are and that your life is really hard.

This movie elicits little to no emotion, and if you’re not going to make me secretly want to cry (à la “The Notebook”), then I’m not going to enjoy your movie very much.

The only time any kind of reasonable emotion is felt is when the resident jerk of the film mouths off to Leo enough that we get to see Tatum, who makes up for all lack of acting ability with his generally shredded physique, break the guy’s

face. I was pretty pumped about that.

The plot isn’t that interesting, but at least the surrounding characters are really, really annoying. Leo’s friends are as stereotypically hipster as it gets. Leo and Paige get married in an art museum using vows they wrote themselves on the back of café menus.

It’s supposed to be endearing and original, but it came off as just kind of pretentious and stupid. But hey, that’s hipster for you.

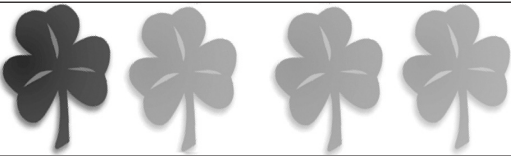
Paige’s family is all wealthy out of their minds and act like it. But they made up for all of their annoying personalities by being completely uninteresting characters.

Despite all of this, this is not the worst movie I’ve ever seen, which surprised me so much that I even decided to give it one whole shamrock. Guys, if you’re in the doghouse because you didn’t do anything for your significant other for Valentine’s Day, there are worse options than “The Vow.” There aren’t many, but I’m sure there are some.

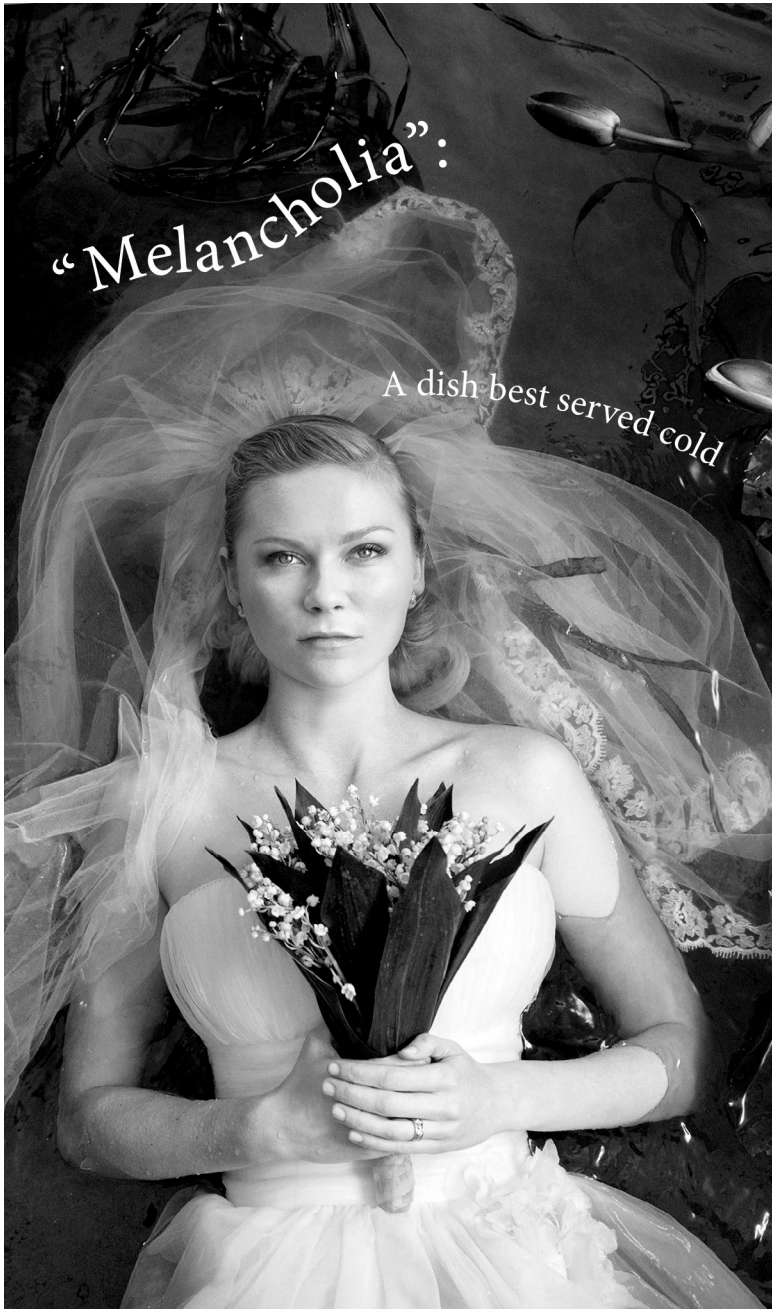
Contact Kevin Noonan at knoonan2@nd.edu
The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

“The Vow”

Directed by: Michael Sucsy
Starring: Rachel McAdams, Channing Tatum, Sam Neill, Scott Speedman, Jessica Lange



“Rom Com Not Worst Movie Ever”



LAUREN KALINOSKI | Observer Graphics

By SHANE STEINBERG
Scene Writer

Self-proclaimed “best director in the world” Lars von Trier has a way of being larger than his films. “Larger” in the sense that despite enormous hype, film festival awards and controversial subject matters, his films always tend to take a backseat to his antics.

His latest film, “Melancholia,” is his latest casualty. It had a successful showing at the Cannes Film Festival, was one of the best-reviewed films of 2011, and had a relatively good box office performance. Despite von Trier’s highly publicized, unsavory remarks at the post-screening interview at Cannes, which prompted his indefinite ban from the festival, “Melancholia” stands on its own.

“Melancholia” tells the story of a family’s last days as they struggle through their strained relationships while watching a strange planet inch closer to colliding with Earth. Kirsten Dunst (whose performance won her the Best Actress award at Cannes last spring) plays Justine, a bride-to-be who goes about her wedding day as if it were a sentencing.

Charlotte Gainsbourg shows once again why von Trier considers her his go-to actress, with a gut-wrenching performance as Justine’s sister. She can’t keep from thinking that the planet, which her scientist husband John (Kiefer Sutherland) insists won’t hit Earth, will in fact do so.

By highlighting the two sisters, Justine with her almost sadistic don’t-care attitude, and Claire (Gainsbourg) whose worrying reflects our fear of our fleeting lives, von Trier paints a claustrophobic view of what it looks like at the end of the world. He draws on our desire to reassure ourselves in the face of inevitability and hang on for dear life much better than other directors have in the recent bevy of apocalypse films. In doing so, he nearly creates a movie that tugs at the strings, if only it were injected with more of a story and more likable characters.

Instead, “Melancholia” suffers from the classic case of style over substance. As the trailers for this film were quick to highlight, “Melancholia” is full of show-stopping shots that would make even Terrence Malick and the team behind “Tree

of Life” awestruck. Yes, the cinematography here somehow managed to do the impossible and be better than “Tree of Life’s.”

However, it also shows that once again von Trier, whose earlier works include “Antichrist,” “Dogville” and “Dancer in the Dark,” crafts highly stylized yet highly polarizing films that some will love and some will hate — mainly for their stories, or lack thereof.

While “Melancholia” is one of those classic “love it or hate it” films, it’s still a film that begs to be watched. Von Trier is a rare talent who somehow gets raw emotion in its rawest form. He serves it cold in the form of visually striking and perplexing films. In that way, “Melancholia” is a dish best served cold — just don’t be surprised if you don’t like it once you take a bite.

Contact Shane Steinberg at ssteinb2@nd.edu

On campus

What: “Melancholia”
Where: Browning Cinema in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center

When: Thursday 6:30 and 9:30 p.m., Friday 6:30 and 9:30 p.m. and Saturday 6 and 9 p.m.

How Much: \$3 for students

Learn More:
<http://performingarts.nd.edu/>

WEEKEND EVENTS CALENDAR

thursday 16

friday 17

saturday 18

sunday 19



Bowling Alley and Lebowskifest Legends
10 p.m.
Free

Only once in a blue moon will you have the opportunity to go bowling on campus. Stick around after bowling some strikes to enjoy "The Big Lebowski." The cult classic about a man who gets caught up in a case of mistaken identity and a host of other zany antics is a must-see for those who've missed it. The Dude abides.



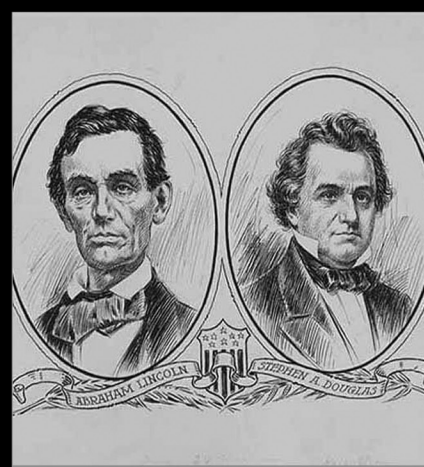
"Melancholia" Browning Cinema
6:30 and 9:30 p.m.
\$3

Lars Von Trier's latest film, loosely about the end of the world, has popped up on top critical lists since its release last year and has won a string of awards, including Best Actress for Kirsten Dunst at the Cannes Film Festival. "Melancholia" will also play at the Browning Cinema at 6:30 and 9:30 p.m. on Thursday and 6 and 9 p.m. on Saturday.



"The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1" DeBartolo 101
7 and 9:30 p.m.
\$3

In case you missed the latest incarnation of sparkling vampires and shirtless werewolves, SUB has you covered. It's wedding time for the star-crossed Edward and Bella, and nothing will be the same when it's over. Prepare yourself for this fall's finale by watching the set-up that has the most shocking conclusion to date.



L.A. Theatre Works presents "The Rivalry" Decio Mainstage
2 p.m.
\$15

"The Rivalry" uses original transcripts from the famed Lincoln-Douglas debate of 1858 to bring to life a heated presidential election. This riveting production will also be presented on Friday at 7 p.m. and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. These presentations will include pre-performance talks with Notre Dame scholars.

By PATRICK McMANUS
Scene Writer

The Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show, the dog world's most eagerly anticipated event, celebrated its 136th occurrence this week. The canine competition took place Monday and Tuesday in New York's Madison Square Garden and was televised on USA and CNBC.

The 2012 winner, a Pekingese named Malachy, is the 10th dog from the Toy Group to win the competition. The Pekingese, known as the "lion dog," reached the height of its popularity during China's Tang Dynasty, when the Emperor exclusively owned the breed.

Many other notable dogs were also in the field. Some were renowned for their work with autistic children and the elderly. One Tibetan Terrier in show was lucky to be alive, having survived a nearly fatal bobcat attack a few months ago. Martha Stewart's dog won Best in Breed.

The Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show is the second oldest continually held sporting event in the United States, having started two years after the Kentucky Derby. Since its first show in 1877, 131 dogs have won the prestigious title Best in Show to become, for the next year, America's Dog.

The Westminster show has sold out the Garden every year since 2005, with another 3 million people watching on cable. That's more than the average Knicks' game before Linsanity!

Twenty-five hundred dogs compete annually. This year that number included six new breeds that have been admitted to compete. The new breed to receive the most attention has been the Xoloitzcuintli, a breed commonly called the Mexican hairless but whose original Aztec name

means "dog of the gods."

Purebred dogs are judged by how well they conform to their breed type, as determined by a judge familiar with the breed. The breed type incorporates both arbitrary physical attributes, like color, and functional qualities, like the task that breed might have been bred for. The best dog in each breed goes on to compete in Group, and winners there get the chance to compete for Best in Show.

An organization known as Dogs Against Romney staged a protest outside of Madison Square Garden, protesting the GOP presidential hopeful's treatment of animals. The specific issue was an oft-told story of how in 1983 the Romney family drove from Massachusetts to Canada with their Irish setter in a dog crate on top of the car. The demonstration drew about a dozen people.

Between the public's continuing outrage with Michael Vick and the popularity of the Puppy Bowl, it seems like man's best friend is as loved as ever in America today. The first annual Golden Collar Awards took place in Hollywood on Monday, honoring the work of dogs in film and television. "The Artist's" Uggie, a Jack Russell Terrier, took home top honors.

For many people, dog shows are nothing more than fodder for Christopher Guest comedies. But millions more will dedicate countless hours to preening over pretty pooches. So, as long as breeding is done in a responsible way, who's to judge (besides the judges, of course)? I have no problem with dogs receiving as much attention as people want to give them, as long as they don't make another "Air Bud" movie.

Contact Patrick McManus at pmmcmanu1@nd.edu

"Dog Days of Winter"



SPORTS AUTHORITY

Take the ESPN Challenge until spring training starts

It's that time of year again, that slow lull when the sports world doesn't quite know what to do with itself. From Super Bowl Sunday to Selection Sunday, fans wade through the eye of the storm as the networks desperately search for anything that can grab our attention.



Chris Masoud

Assistant Managing Editor

2012 was heading in that usual direction until its path was unceremoniously disrupted. SportsCenter was debating the legacy of Tom Coughlin and Eli Manning in the morning and suddenly discussing the sensation of Jeremy Lin by the evening.

But let's assume I can go through the next 560 words without making a single Linsanity pun or reference to the phenomenon. Sports Illustrated, Yahoo! Sports, Fox Sports, ESPN, the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal and every other publication have done a pretty good job of dissecting every remotely possible angle of this story. I will respectfully abstain.

Instead, if the Knicks had lost Feb. 4 — which would have been their sixth loss in seven games — we'd probably be interested in my Most Extreme ESPN Challenge.

Too worried about police finding certain beverages in your backpack to take on Hesburgh Library? Too hungry to accept Waste-Free Wednesdays in the dining halls? Then sit back, take Friday off and tune in to ESPN.

12:00 a.m. The first of 12 straight hours of SportsCenter begins. Scott Van Pelt and Stuart Scott guide you through the NBA and NHL circuit, breaking up the highlight commentary with tweets from LeBron James and Mark Cuban. A brief segment of an exclusive interview with CC Sabathia and a piece on Tom Brady's wife appear amidst the highlights as well.

2:00 a.m. Late-night snack and more SportsCenter.

3:00 a.m. Just as you begin to memorize the lines, the set changes and Neil Everett and Stan Verrett begin hosting SportsCenter L.A. Don't be fooled — they're the same highlights.

9:00 a.m. The set changes again and Sage Steele leads the commentary of the same highlights you saw last night.

The segments are the same. The Top 10 plays are the same. The hair and the tweets are different.

12:00 p.m. No-name hosts lead the broadcast for the next three hours. Fresh sports news has started to come in, and for these aspiring anchors and potential primetime replacements, nothing is more important than delivering the latest and greatest in witty form.

12:45 p.m. Adam Schefter reports Ben Roethlisberger didn't like his breakfast. Bill Belichick bought a new sweater. Tom Brady's wife will be on a photo shoot in the Caymans.

2:30 p.m. Mel Kiper, Jr., and Todd McShay cross-examine each other's draft board. Kiper has Michael Floyd as the No. 3 wide receiver taken off the board. McShay has him at No. 2.

3:00 p.m Veteran Bob Ley begins the broadcast of Outside the Lines. Ley narrates an interesting discussion on concussions in high school football and the implications for the NFL. For the first time since 12:01 a.m., you are listening.

3:30 p.m. Baseball Tonight is airing in February. Opening day is April 4. Wow.

4:00 p.m. NFL Live is on. The Super Bowl ended less than two weeks ago. Wow.

5:00 p.m. Tony Real randomly awards points for whoever talks louder on Around the Horn.

5:01 p.m. You throw the remote control at the television screen when Woody Paige opens his mouth.

5:30 p.m. Finally the only reason you have a television set: Pardon the Interruption. The Emmy Award-winning show features intelligent banter, humorous mini-games and authentic interviews. Kornheiser and Wilbon, we thank you.

6:00 p.m. The most unnecessary hour of SportsCenter comes on. You wish you had a class that began this late.

7:00 p.m. NBA Countdown and live NBA action take you to the end of the night.

As you take out the TV, dinner from the microwave, you resign yourself to the subpar basketball of a 66-game season and live cut-ins to Lob City.

But why are the Knicks on again this week?

Contact Chris Masoud at cmasoud@nd.edu
The views expressed in this Sports Authority column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

NCAA FOOTBALL

Police arrest four TCU players

Associated Press

FORT WORTH, Texas — Authorities arrested 17 students at Texas Christian University on Wednesday as part of a six-month drug sting, an especially embarrassing blow to the school because it included four members of the high-profile football team.

Arrest warrants painted a startling picture of the Horned Frogs, with a handful of players who allegedly arranged marijuana sales after class or around practice and who told police that most of the team had failed a surprise drug test just two weeks ago.

According to police, players sold undercover officers marijuana during the season and as recently as last week.

"There are days people want to be a head football coach, but today is not one of those days," coach Gary Patterson said in a prepared statement. "As I heard the news this morning, I was first shocked, then hurt and now I'm mad."

The 17 people arrested were caught making "hand-to-hand" sales of marijuana, cocaine, ecstasy and prescription drugs to undercover officers, police said. They said the bust followed an investigation prompted by complaints from students, parents and others.

TCU has an enrollment of about 9,500 students, but the athlete arrests drew the most scrutiny. The bust came just one day after a thrilling overtime victory by the men's basketball team over a ranked opponent and less than 24 hours after TCU released its football schedule for next season, its first in the Big 12 Conference.

Three prominent defensive players on the team were arrested: linebacker Tanner Brock, the leading tackler two seasons ago, defensive tackle D.J. Yendrey and cornerback Devin Johnson. The other player is offensive lineman Ty Horn.

While school Chancellor Victor Boschini said he didn't think TCU had a "football problem," the arrest affidavits raise the possibility that other players were involved.

In November, a Fort Worth police officer was informed that Horn was selling marijuana to "college students and football players at Texas Christian." The officer allegedly bought



AP

TCU Chancellor Victor Boschini gives a press conference in Fort Worth, Texas, on Wednesday to announce player arrests.

marijuana that day, Nov. 3, two days before a road game at Wyoming, from both Horn and Yendrey.

Officers during the next several months allegedly set up drug deals with the players outside restaurants, a grocery store and other areas around campus. On Jan. 19, Brock allegedly sold an officer \$200 worth of marijuana after Yendrey ran out.

"After a short conversation about the marijuana, Brock and I exchanged phone numbers, telling me to come to him from now on instead of (Yendrey)," according to the affidavits.

Horn and Johnson scoffed at the Feb. 1 team drug test ordered by Patterson, police said. Brock allegedly told an undercover officer that he failed the surprise test "for sure," but that it wouldn't be a problem because there "would be about 60 people screwed."

Horn had looked through the football roster and "said there were only 20 people that would pass the test on the team," Brock said, according to the warrant.

And six days after the test, Johnson allegedly sold an officer \$300 worth of marijuana. Asked about the test, he said: "What can they do, 82 people failed it."

In response to that allegation, TCU cornerback Kolby Griffin posted a tweet on his personal account Wednesday that read, "This rumor about 82 of us failing a drug test is false completely false."

TCU released a statement late Wednesday afternoon that said the school tests its athletes for drug use "on a regular basis."

"The comments about

failed drug tests made by the separated players in affidavits cannot be verified simply because they were made in the context of a drug buy," the school said. Patterson declined to answer questions beyond his prepared statement.

Phone messages left at the homes of Horn, Johnson and Yendrey were not immediately returned. Brock did not have a listed home number. All of the players are 21 except for Yendrey, who is 20.

Brock was being held on \$10,000 bond at the Mansfield city jail. Johnson and Horn were being transferred to the jail on Wednesday afternoon and Yendrey had not been arraigned.

Police said they had yet to determine if other football players were involved or would be charged.

Officials said the students had been "separated from TCU" and criminally barred from campus, but it wasn't clear if the players had been kicked off the team. But their names had already been removed from the football roster posted on the school's athletic website.

"I expect our student-athletes to serve as ambassadors for the university and will not tolerate behavior that reflects poorly on TCU, the athletics department, our teams or other student-athletes within the department," athletic director Chris Del Conte said. "Our student-athletes are a microcosm of society and unfortunately that means some of our players reflect a culture that glorifies drugs and drug use. That mindset is not reflected by TCU nor will it be allowed within athletics."

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NCAA FOOTBALL

Deaf fan wins lawsuit for closed captioning at UK

Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Charles Mitchell won't be able to hear the crowd noise or announcements when he goes to a University of Kentucky football game this fall, but he will be able to track announcements and read the words to "My Old Kentucky Home."

Mitchell, a deaf football season ticket holder from Lancaster, and the university have settled a lawsuit over closed-captioning

at Commonwealth Stadium. The parties told U.S. District Judge Joseph M. Hood on Tuesday they had reached an agreement.

One of Mitchell's attorneys, Laren Knoll of Columbus, Ohio, told The Associated Press that captions for all public address announcements, including play-by-play and player introductions, should be on the scoreboard and ribbon boards, as well as televisions in the concourse areas when the Wildcats kick off on

Sept. 8 against Kent State. Knoll said the practice started late last year, but should be fully implemented by the 2012 season.

"It's a good start," Knoll said. "Hopefully, he feels more included this year."

University of Kentucky spokesman DeWayne Peevy said the school added the captioning when it spent \$6.5 million to install new scoreboards and ribbon boards at the stadium last year. Peevy did not have a specific cost

for adding closed-captioning to the boards.

"We put it all in together," Peevy said.

Mitchell sued in May seeking to force the Southeastern Conference school to put captions for all game announcements on the scoreboards of the stadium under the Americans With Disabilities Act, which bars discrimination against people with disabilities. The suit was similar to cases brought against Ohio State

University of the Big 10 Conference and the NFL's Washington Redskins.

The Kentucky lawsuit arose about a year ago after Mitchell sent an email to the University of Kentucky requesting the school provide captioning at Commonwealth Stadium for home football games. Knoll said the school didn't respond to that request and denied a similar request from individuals who were deaf or hard of hearing.

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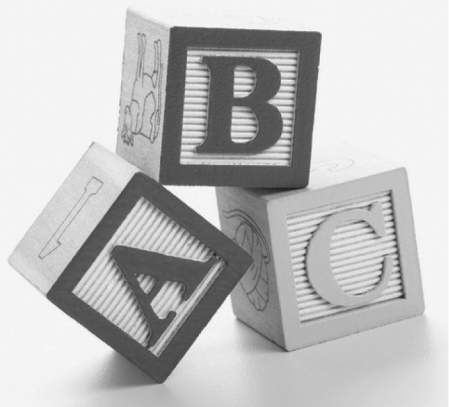
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NFL

Measles outbreak blamed on Super Bowl events

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana is battling its second measles outbreak in two years, even though its vaccination rate exceeds the national average. Health officials say the cases, traced to a Super Bowl event, illustrate just how vulnerable the public is to exposure from sources at home and abroad.

The 13 cases confirmed this month have been confined to two counties, Boone and Hamilton. But all cases are linked to two infected people who visited the Super Bowl Village together on Feb. 3, prompting Indiana officials to reach out health departments in New York and Massachusetts for fear that the outbreak could cross state lines.

Concerns about a widespread outbreak are well-founded, said University of Minnesota professor Kristen Ehresmann, who was part of a research team that studied the disease's spread across a large sporting event. In 1991, a track and field runner from Argentina participating in the Special Olympics in Minneapolis unknowingly started an outbreak of measles, infecting spectators, athletes and event organizers.

"This was kind of Murphy's Law of disease transmission, with a

highly infectious disease in a very, very crowded place so as to spread the disease as much as possible," Ehresmann said.

The Super Bowl setting has the same potential to spread the notoriously infectious disease, even though health officials in 2000 declared endemic measles — cases of the disease that originated in the United States — to be eliminated, due largely to increasing vaccination rates.

About 90 percent of all Americans are vaccinated against measles, said Dr. Greg Wallace of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. And in Indiana, more than 92 percent of children ages 19 months to 35 months received the vaccine in 2010, the latest year for which figures are available.

But concerns over the vaccine's safety have kept some parents from immunizing their children. In 2005, an outbreak of 34 measles cases in Indiana were traced back to a group of parents who didn't vaccinate their children because they believed it caused adverse health effects, according to a study published in the New England Journal of Medicine. Ehresmann said claims that the vaccine causes conditions such as autism were debunked in several major studies.

In other countries, vaccination rates are dropping, raising the risk of exposure. The number of cases in Western Europe has particularly spiked, with France reporting the third-highest number of measles cases in the world. More than 750 people have contracted measles in an ongoing outbreak in Québec, Canada, despite the country's high immunization rate.

The U.S. typically sees about 50 cases of measles each year. There were 223 cases in 2011 — a 15-year high. Officials said the increase was due to Americans picking up the disease while abroad. Three-quarters of U.S. measles cases can be traced to importation, with the rest originating from contact with a visitor from another country, Wallace said.

Indiana's outbreak has prompted state health officials to issue near-daily updates on the number of cases and places visited by those infected in hopes of stopping the disease's spread. In Noblesville, where a suspected measles case has been reported, school officials have been cleaning classrooms and canceling evening activities. Spokeswoman Sharon Trisler said 98 percent of Noblesville students are immunized against the disease, and the rest are being asked to get the vaccine.

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OLYMPICS

Group demands Saudi Arabia end Olympic discrimination

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A human rights group called on the International Olympic Committee to require that Saudi Arabia’s participation in Olympic sporting events, including the upcoming London Games, be contingent upon the Arab country allowing girls and women to play competitive sports.

Human Rights Watch issued a report Wednesday saying that Saudi Arabia is violating the IOC charter’s pledge of equality. The country has never sent a woman to compete in the Olympics.

Neither has Brunei or Qatar, although Qatar said last summer it hopes to send up to four female athletes to the 2012 Games.

In interviews with Saudi women and international sporting officials, the group found that Saudi government restrictions put sports beyond the reach of almost all women in the Gulf nation. The few women who play sports are limited to exercising at home or at expensive gyms, or playing in segregated underground leagues.

Within a year, the group wants Saudi Arabia to start introducing physical education for girls in all schools, and allocate money for women’s sports in the youth ministry, the Saudi national Olympic committee and Saudi sports federations. Human Rights Watch says such steps are necessary to prove the Saudis’ efforts to end discrimination against women in sports and allow the country to be represented in Olympic events.

“It’s not that Saudi Arabia doesn’t have the money to do this or women who want to,” said Christoph Wilcke, a senior researcher in Human Rights Watch’s Middle East and North Africa division who authored the 51-page report titled “Steps of the Devil.” “We have listened to Saudi promises for decades. This is not good enough.”

The report’s name comes from the comments of some Saudi government clerics who oppose sport as “steps of the devil” that would lead women to un-Islamic behavior and moral corruption.

The IOC has previously criticized the Saudis for failing to send women athletes to the Olympics. However, according to Human Rights Watch, the IOC hasn’t attached any conditions to the nation’s participation in the games.

The IOC charter states that sports are a right for everyone and bans discrimination in practicing sports on the basis of gender.

“The IOC strives to ensure the Olympic Games and the Olympic Movement are universal and non-discriminatory, in line with the Olympic Charter and our values of respect, friendship and excellence,” IOC spokesman Mark Adams said in a statement.

“NOCs (national Olympic committees) are encouraged to uphold that spirit in their delegations. The IOC does not give ultimatums nor deadlines but rather believes that a lot can be achieved through dialogue.”

A senior sports official in Saudi Arabia told The Associated Press that the rulers in the kingdom are not opposed to women’s participation in sports, but changing mindsets in the deeply conservative Muslim country that is the cradle of Islam is hard work that takes a lot of time.

“We are supporting women here to be in sports but that means fighting deeply entrenched traditions in Saudi Arabia,” the official said in a phone interview Wednesday.

“We are trying to overcome them and we are seeking support from the IOC to have a woman in our delegation at the London Games,” the official added. He spoke to the AP on condition of a n o n y m i t y because of the sensitivity of the issue.

Wilcke said the Saudis have no women currently prepared for Olympic-level competition; however, he urged the government to nominate women for slots available in track and field, where the competitors don’t have

to be top-level. There are slots available in swimming, but Wilcke said the Saudis would not tolerate women wearing swim suits in public.

He noted that equestrian Dalma Rushdi Malhas attracted widespread attention in Saudi Arabia after winning a bronze medal in show jumping in the 2010 Youth Olympic Games. Human Rights Watch said Malhas may be invited to participate in the London Games by an international sports federation, and it said the Saudi national Olympic committee has indicated it won’t interfere with a female athlete attending after being invited.

Adams said the IOC has been in regular contact with national Olympic committees of Saudi Arabia, Brunei and Qatar.

“As a result of fruitful discussions, the three NOCs included women in their delegations competing at the Youth Olympic Games in Singapore last summer,” he said, citing Malhas. “We are very pleased with this evolution, which can only be seen as a promising development leading towards London 2012.”

Sarah Kureshi, an American-born Muslim with Pakistani parents, supports allowing Saudi women to have equal participation in sports, whether on a competitive or recreational level.

A former distance runner at the University of Central Florida, Kureshi was the first U.S. woman to compete in the Islamic Women’s Games in Iran in 2005. She wore pants when she ran, in adherence to her religious beliefs.

“They didn’t understand how I could be American and Mus-



Sarah Kureshi, an American-Muslim Olympic athlete, speaks at a news conference held by Human Rights Watch on Wednesday. She discussed Saudi Arabia’s involvement in the upcoming Olympic Games.

lim at the same time. It was another contradiction to people,” said Kureshi, who chose not to compete in a traditional headscarf or long sleeves.

“It was really powerful to have that opportunity to go and educate them. They’re not mutually exclusive. That was the question I got from everybody in terms of foreign policy in our country. I was able to say as an American I don’t have to agree with all the foreign policy in my country. This country allows me to practice my religion.”

Kureshi, a family practice doctor who teaches at Georgetown University, said she knows people working in Saudi Arabia who say that strides are being made.



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UEFA SOCCER

AC Milan shuts out Arsenal

Associated Press

MILAN — The most highly anticipated matchup of the Champions League’s first knockout round was hardly even a contest.

AC Milan outclassed Arsenal on Wednesday to plant one foot firmly in the Champions League quarterfinals, beating the English club 4-0 in the first leg of their round of 16 series.

Zenit St. Petersburg also secured a slimmer advantage by beating Benfica 3-2 at home earlier, but Milan produced the most convincing display of the knockout round so far as the meeting of two top teams turned into a rout.

Robinho scored twice at the San Siro after Kevin-Prince Boateng had given Milan the lead with an unstoppable volley, and Zlatan Ibrahimovic all but finished off the Gunners with a penalty in the 79th as the hosts repeatedly exposed Arsenal’s weakness in defense.

“We played a perfect match, especially in defense,” Milan coach Massimiliano Allegri said. “We played very well as a team, we didn’t give them any goalscoring chances. We deserved this night, this win. It’s the best game we’ve played this year.”

The result puts the Italian club on the verge of its first quarterfinal appearance since it won the tournament in 2007, and goes some way toward erasing the memories of the team’s struggles against English teams in recent years. It was eliminated by Premier League clubs at this stage of the Champions League in three of the past for years.

For Arsenal, it was another let-down in a season that has already seen it fall out of the Premier League title race and struggling



Arsenal striker Robin Van Persie, center, challenges for the ball during Arsenal’s 4-0 loss Wednesday at San Siro.

to secure a spot in next season’s Champions League.

“We were never in the game,” Wenger said. “We were very poor offensively and defensively. It was shocking to see how we were beaten everywhere. It was our worst performance in Europe by far. Not once in the 90 minutes were we in the game.”

It also provided a disappointing finish to Thierry Henry’s loan spell at Arsenal, as he played his last game before returning to the New York Red Bulls.

Henry came on as a second-half substitute but could do little to inspire a lackluster Arsenal, although his neat flick-on set up Robin Van Persie for the visitors’ best chance in the 66th. Van Persie unleashed a hard shot that forced a stellar diving save from Christian Abbiati, who pushed the ball just wide.

By then, though, Milan had already decided the game.

Boateng, making his first start

in a month after tearing a thigh muscle, put Milan ahead in the 15th after received a pass from Antonio Nocerino on the edge of the area. The midfielder downed it with his chest and then unleashed a fierce volley from a tight angle that sailed in via the crossbar past a stunned Arsenal goalkeeper Wojciech Szczesny.

Milan was just getting started, and repeatedly harassed Arsenal’s defense on quick counterattacks. Ibrahimovic was at the center of many of them, and it was the Sweden striker who set up Robinho for both of the Brazil forward’s goals.

Ibrahimovic streaked down the left flank in the 38th before crossing back to Robinho, who headed the ball past Szczesny inside the far post to make it 2-0.

Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger put on Henry for the ineffective Theo Walcott after the break to chase an away goal, only to see Robinho add the third just four minutes after the restart.

NBA

Harvard capitalizes on Lin’s rise to fame

Associated Press

BOSTON — Jeremy Lin majored in economics, enjoyed video games and didn’t care much for the spotlight. He also was his college’s best basketball player.

But at Harvard, a school known more for its GPAs than points per game, that only gets you so far.

“He wasn’t a nerd,” current captain Oliver McNally said. “He was just normal. You take out basketball and he’s a very normal student at any school.”

There’s nothing normal about what Lin has done for the New York Knicks, though, with at least 20 points and seven assists in each of his first five starts.

Back on campus, Crimson coach Tommy Amaker expects Lin’s run to help him recruit new players. That, and Harvard is pretty good, too.

In fact, at 21-3 overall, the Crimson lead the Ivy League with a 7-1 record. With six games left, four at their 2,196-seat homecourt with fold-out bleachers, the school that had its last NBA player 48 years ago would reach the NCAA tournament for the first time since 1946 if it finishes atop the conference.

And now Lin has taken the NBA by storm with his surprising success.

In short, Harvard’s hot, folks.

“He is so deserving of it. He is such a good kid,” said McNally, Lin’s teammate in the backcourt for two seasons. “There’s no better representation of Harvard basketball or Harvard University to be at such a big stage.”

Lin’s meteoric rise and nonstop publicity can be a huge recruiting tool, even more important than Harvard’s third straight 20-win season.

Lamar Reddicks helped recruit Lin, who received no athletic scholarship offers coming out of Palo Alto High in California. Harvard doesn’t offer them and Reddicks, who said he knew Lin would be good, recalled him as a weak “stringbean.”

The NBA? The last Harvard player to get there was Ed Smith. And he lasted just 11 games with the Knicks in 1953-54.

But by Lin’s senior year, he was Harvard’s strongest player. And last Friday, he scored 38 points against the Los Angeles Lakers in Madison

Square Garden.

“It really does help recruiting,” said Reddicks, now athletic director and basketball coach at Milton Academy, a high school just outside Boston. “Those same kids that don’t think that they can reach the NBA from Harvard, that they need to go to the big-time schools, now might take another look.”

Keith Wright, Harvard’s other captain, has caught a close-up glimpse of the Linsanity.

“Everywhere I go it’s like, ‘Did you play with Jeremy?’ or ‘Have you talked to Jeremy?’” Wright said. “I’ll be out at Target. They see me (with) a Harvard basketball shirt on and oh, like, ‘Jeremy Lin’s doing awesome.’”

Amaker didn’t know much about his players when he became coach in 2007-08, Lin’s sophomore season. His background had been at major basketball schools — point guard and assistant coach at Duke and head coach at Seton Hall and Michigan.

Now, he’s in the Ivy League, coaching back-to-back games on weekend nights, a conference tradition.

“One of the things you learn right away about Jeremy is how much he loves basketball,” Amaker said. “It’s pretty cool and it’s pretty neat to see how he has kind of become somewhat of a global figure and a global star, but he has many layers to him. ... being a Harvard grad, being an Asian-American kid, being an outstanding basketball player, being a person whose faith is very important to him, being an incredible person, being a great teammate.”

“You can go on and on about this kid.”

Reddicks does.

He remembers his first season after leaving Harvard to become an assistant at Boston University when Lin, then a sophomore, went there for a game. He chatted with Reddicks while other players were warming up.

“He comes over and he doesn’t leave,” Reddicks said. “Finally, I’m like, ‘Jeremy, go get warmed up, man, you’ve got a game.’ And he goes, ‘Coach, I have 30 games this year. I only have one where I get to see you, so I’m going to spend as much time as I can with you.’

“My eyes start to water.”

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NFL

Jaworski cut from ESPN’s Monday Night Football

Associated Press

BRISTOL, Conn. — “Monday Night Football” is switching to a two-man booth.

Analyst Ron Jaworski has signed a five-year contract extension to appear on other programming on ESPN and will no longer join play-by-play announcer Mike Tirico and color commentator Jon Gruden on Monday nights, the network said Wednesday.

Jaworski, the former Philadelphia Eagles quarterback, will work various ESPN studio shows year-round, often focusing on his specialty of breaking down video.

“With him doing one game each week, we don’t necessarily believe we were getting the best Ron Jaworski had to offer to the

network,” executive vice president Norby Williamson said.

Jaworski called “Monday Night Football” games the past five seasons. Gruden, the former Raiders and Buccaneers coach, joined MNF in 2009 and agreed to a five-year extension in October. This is the first time in 15 years ESPN has used a two-person lead team on its NFL game coverage.

“There was nothing broken about ‘Monday Night Football,’” Williamson said.

He said network executives believed Tirico and Gruden worked well as a two-man booth and there was no need to add a third person.

“I fully expect Mike Tirico and Jon Gruden to be together for the foreseeable future,” Williamson said.

PGA Tour

No. 1 Donald returns to Riviera hoping to repeat success



Luke Donald plays a ball out of the sand at Liwa Desert at the Abu Dhabi HSBC Golf Championship in Abu Dhabi on Jan. 24.

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Luke Donald was on the practice range at Riviera before dawn Wednesday, so dark that only temporary floodlights allowed him to see where the ball was going. It was a snapshot of the perks that come with being No. 1 in the world, and what got him there.

The best player gets his choice of tee times for the pro-am, and the early spots go first. Along with being No. 1 in the world, Donald sits atop both the PGA Tour and European Tour money lists, the first player ever to lead the two biggest tours.

As for the work ethic? Getting to the top wasn't an accident.

"I think the best part of being No. 1 is knowing that my best golf is good enough to get me to that No. 1 spot, just from a confidence and mental standpoint," Donald said.

"That's gratifying to know that the hard work is paying off."

The hardest part might be the encore.

Donald is coming off a year he won't ever forget, and it all began at Riviera with a round he would like to erase from his memory. In his first event, he shot a 79 in the second round to miss the cut.

Toward the end of his season, he had won a career-best four times, including the most exciting finish this side of a major when he birdied six straight holes to start the back nine at Disney and closed with a 64 for a two-shot victory. It gave him the double money title, and was enough to make him a landslide winner of PGA Tour player of the year.

Off the course was joy and grief.

His father, Colin, died of heart failure just a few days before Donald's wife gave birth to their second daugh-

ter.

"Obviously, a decent amount of my work had already been done," Donald said. "I'd had a great season up until that point. And in a way, those couple weeks were very tough. I think the birth of my second daughter helped shed a little bit of grace on the whole situation. It helped with the passing of my father. And I think I came out of it a stronger person with a little bit more perspective."

His father rarely went to golf tournaments. He was proud of his son more as a person than just a golfer. The last two years had been a struggle, as his father went from double knee replacement to an addiction to pain killers, then bouts of depression.

One moment stands out for Donald, and he wasn't even there.

He was at Wentworth, fighting a flawed swing to stay in the hunt long enough to get into a playoff with Lee Westwood, beat him on the first extra hole and replace him as No. 1 in the world.

Donald's brother, Christian, was home that weekend with their father, watching it unfold on television.

"He looked in Chris' eye, and it was a proud moment," Donald said. "He's always been proud and supportive, more proud of the person I turned into."

Donald opened his season in Abu Dhabi with a tie for 48th, the first time since August that he did not finish among the top 12. That's still better than missing the cut, as he did at the Northern Trust Open a year ago.

Riviera is where Donald comes full circle.

He leads a field at the Northern Trust Open that features two-time winner Phil Mickelson, coming off his six-shot

comeback to win last week at Pebble Beach; a pair of Aussies in Jason Day and Adam Scott, who are playing the PGA Tour for the first time this year; and Pdraig Harrington, who started to show some long lost form at Pebble Beach.

Also playing is Sergio Garcia, a regular partner of Donald in the Ryder Cup. Garcia once talked about winning money titles on both sides of the Atlantic, and he was impressed — as was most everyone — that Donald got it done.

"Very remarkable," Garcia said. "It's never really been done by a guy that is a member of both tours, so it shows you how difficult it is to do it. For a guy like Luke to be able to do it, as well as No. 1, it was great to see."

Donald finally is getting the respect for his feats, especially his world ranking.

Westwood got the same questions, mostly from an American audience — how can a guy be No. 1 without ever winning a major? Those questions mainly were born out of comparisons to Tiger Woods, who had been No. 1 for 10 years of his career, and who won majors with regularity. The world ranking is about accumulating points, and no one was more consistent than Donald.

By the end of the year, there were no questions about who was No. 1 in the world.

"I think the way in which I won in Disney helped, and winning both money titles," Donald said. "People, especially my peers, realized what an accomplishment that was,

playing a limited schedule and pulling off both money titles. I think I went up in the estimation of my peers."

As for the majors?

That's a priority.

The Masters is two months away, and Donald is building toward that. He'll play the next two weeks, including his first title defense at the Match Play Championship, then play consecutive weeks in Florida at Doral and Tampa.

Donald talks about a strong will to succeed, and there's no reason to think that won't apply during the four biggest weeks of the year.

"I feel like my game is good enough right now to win majors," Donald said. "I don't feel like there's a huge weakness. If I can win four times in a year, I should be able to win a major. There are still things I can improve on to give myself better opportunities."

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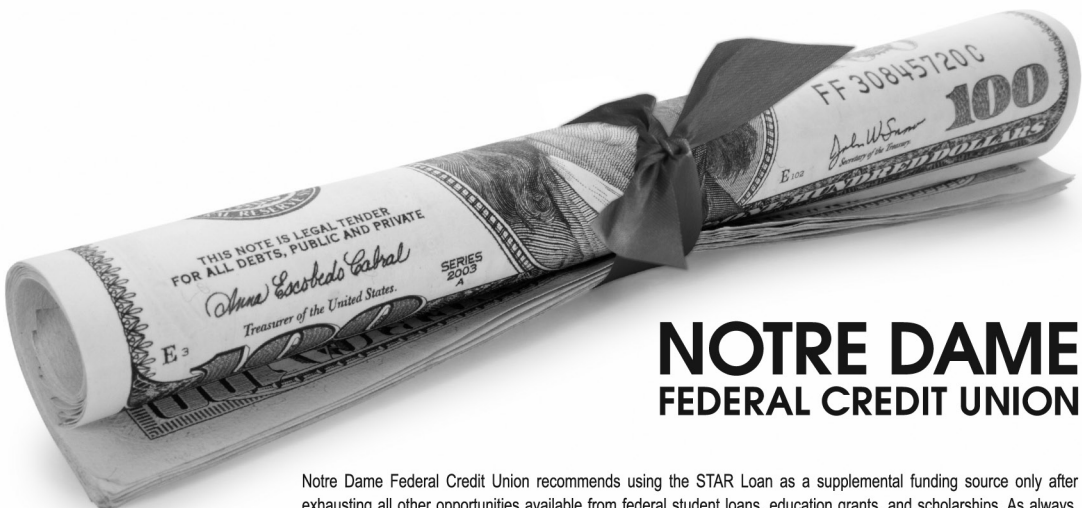
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SMC SWIMMING AND DIVING

Belles rely on senior leadership at MIAA championships

By JOE WIRTH
Sports Writer

Despite three straight losses, the Belles can turn around a mediocre season with a strong performance at this weekend's MIAA championships.

The conference championships take place in Holland, Mich., and give the Belles an opportunity to establish themselves as one of the elite squads in the MIAA.

Throughout the season, coach Mark Benishek has lauded the leadership of his seniors, which he said the Belles will need this weekend.

"Our senior leadership has been a strong point all year. [Seniors] Katie Donovan, Megan Price and Audrey Dalrymple have all had strong performances," he said. "Their senior leadership has been great and they have backed it up with strong swims. We know we

can always count on them for motivation."

Sophomore Alex Kane, who swims the breaststroke for the Belles, agreed with her coach.

"I would say leadership is just as, or even more important in an event like this," Kane said. "The seniors have worked so hard this season. Without their leadership and drive, our team would not be where we are today."

Though she won't participate in the conference championship, Kane said she understands how important it will be for her teammates to keep an even keel leading up to the event.

"Like any athlete, you have to just think that this is just

any other sporting event," Kane said. "If you think too much about it, you might psych yourself out. Usually before an event all of us just listen to music that gets us pumped up."

"If you think too much about it, you might psych yourself out. Usually before an event all of us just listen to music that gets us pumped up."

Alex Kane
Belles sophomore swimmer



GRANT TOBIN/The Observer

Freshman Julianne Divine races in the breaststroke during Saint Mary's crushing 152-50 victory over Defiance on Nov. 12. The Belles will complete their season with the MIAA championships, which begin today.

Kane said her teammates see the championships as a chance to show how far they have come since the beginning of the season "This event will just show how much work the team has

put into every practice," Kane said. "The team is going to do well at this meet without a doubt. We have worked so hard and have come this far, too, and now it's time to show how hard we have worked."

The MIAA championships will begin Thursday and go through Saturday at Holland Aquatic in Holland, Mich.

Contact Joe Wirth at jwirth@nd.edu

SMC BASKETBALL

Knights lay siege to Saint Mary's

By BRENDAN BELL
Sports Writer

The combination of poor shooting and rebounding is usually a bad omen for a team. It was no different when Saint Mary's fell to No. 5 Calvin 73-52 on Wednesday.

Calvin (23-1, 15-1 MIAA) outrebounded Saint Mary's (12-12, 8-7) by a 38-27 margin. Going into the game, Belles coach Jennifer Henley emphasize the importance of winning the battle on the boards.

"I would like to say our rebounding has come along, but I wasn't happy with it against Adrian," Henley said of the Belles' last game.

The Knights grabbed 25 defensive rebounds compared to the Belles' 16. One contributing factor to the Knights' defensive rebounding margin was accurate shooting. Saint Mary's

struggled shooting from the floor, only making 20 field goals on 35 percent shooting. Calvin, on the other hand, shot 50 percent for the game.

Despite Calvin's dominant statistics, Saint Mary's managed to lead in the first half. With 3:22 remaining before halftime, the Belles scored to go up 20-19. Calvin responded quickly and scored eight unanswered points to

take a 27-20 lead before the half.

In the second half, Saint Mary's made another push to close the gap, making it a six-point difference.

The Knights proved to be too much, though, as they responded with

a 14-0 run. From that point, Calvin never relinquished control.

The Belles utilized a balanced attack from senior guards Patsy Mahoney and Maggie Ronan, who scored 11 and 10 points, respectively. Saint Mary's senior forward

Kelley Murphy led the team in scoring with 12 points.

Despite the tough loss, the Belles still look forward to their final regular season game and the conference tournament, Henley said

"We are at least fourth in the conference," Henley said. "I'm not so sure we can get any higher than fourth but we definitely can't do any worse than fourth."

From 3-7 and under .500 in the league to fourth place at 12-12, the Belles have displayed an upward trend in their performance over the second half of the season, and with the fourth-place finish earned the final spot in the conference tournament.

"It's a goal of everybody in this league to make the top four teams as this is the first year they have switched to this format," Henley said. "I think our kids took care of some business down the stretch here to ensure that we are one of those top four teams so I think it's a testament to them."

Before the MIAA tournament, the Belles return home Saturday for Senior Day against Kalamazoo at 3 p.m.

Contact Brendan Bell at bbell2@nd.edu

Medley

continued from page 20

1:40.94. Their finish time was the squad's fastest on the year by over two seconds.

"The times dropped because our swimmers were well-rested and ready to go," Irish assistant coach Kate Kovenock said. "Both our relays were strong, but we were pretty keyed up and need to get our emotions under control."

Each relay swimmer also earned All-Big East honors with a top-three finish in an event, and Prestinario and Reaney each earned two.

"[Prestinario] has really developed into a true leader since the beginning of the year," Kovenock said. "And [Reaney] has a tremendous learning curve and poise, especially for her first time at this kind of meet as a freshman."

The Irish must have a balanced effort to catch the first

place Cardinals, as 15 Notre Dame swimmers will compete in scoring events today. Only six competed Wednesday, Kovenock said.

"We need to have a balanced lineup and take advantage of all opportunities," she said. "We also must realize that [success at this meet] requires a whole team effort."

The events today kicked off the swimming portion of the Big East championships, as the diving competition

spanned last Friday through Sunday. Entering the day, Notre Dame was second with 71 points, trailing first-place Louisville by only three points.

The Irish continue the second day of the Big East championships with four events at Trees Pool at the University of Pittsburgh. Preliminary races for the 500-yard freestyle, 200-yard Individual Medley, 50-yard freestyle and 200-yard freestyle relay begin at 10:00 a.m. with the finals starting at 6 p.m.

Contact Matt Unger at munger3@nd.edu

"We need to have a balanced lineup and take advantage of all opportunities. We also must realize [success at this meet] requires a whole team effort."

Kate Kovenock
Irish coach

Write Sports.

Email Allan Joseph at ajoseph2@nd.edu



JULIE HERDER/The Observer

Irish sophomore guard Jerian Grant drives to the basket during Notre Dame’s 71-53 win over Rutgers on Wednesday. The win marked the seventh consecutive victory for the Irish.

Cooley

continued from page 20

The Irish struggled out of the gate offensively in the first half, but kept Rutgers (12-14, 4-9) in check with a strong defensive showing that led to eight Scarlet Knight turnovers in the first half.

Notre Dame’s defensive pressure was a stark contrast from the Jan. 16 matchup in Piscat-

away, N.J., a 65-58 Rutgers victory, Brey said.

“I thought our defense was fabulous, and that was the key,” he said. “We could not guard them a month ago and I thought we were very efficient offensively.”

Brey said one of the qualities of the team that makes him most proud is its continued hunger to keep winning.

“One of the things [the coaches] ... reinforced with this group: Since the Syracuse win, they’ve

never really kind of rested on their laurels or been distracted,” he said. “This is the first game they’ve played as a ranked team ... They continually ... want to get better and want the next challenge, and that’s a great sign of maturity.

The Irish return to action Saturday when they travel to Villanova for a 9 p.m. tip-off.

Contact Andrew Owens at aowens2@nd.edu

Tsipis

continued from page 20

told him she did not want him to feel as though he needed to change anything in his coaching style. However, he said he noticed a difference in how his new team adapted to his guidance on the court.

“They pick things up quicker than when I was trying to say some of the same things on the men’s side,” Tsipis said. “The fundamentals of basketball are the same, but it’s different in the approach. To me, it’s what makes the women’s game a more pure game.

“I feel like I don’t deal with a lot of the same ego problems that I had on the men’s side. I think that end goal is different for them. For the men, no matter if they start or if they sit the bench, they still think they’re going to play professional basketball. That was something on the men’s side that I had to do, I had to tell people they maybe weren’t as good as they thought they were. I quite enjoy not working with egos and teaching people to have great self-confidence.”

Tsipis attended North Carolina and graduated with a bachelor’s degree in pharmacy, but could not ignore his

passion to be a coach. While in college he worked on the men’s basketball staff at Duke under prestigious head coach Mike Krzyzewski, before moving through the coaching ranks at Le Moyne College in New York, Cornell, Elon and UNC-Greensboro before ultimately arriving at Notre Dame.

For the Irish, Tsipis works specifically on season scheduling, building recruiting classes and mentoring specific players — namely fifth-year senior guard Brittany Mallory and senior tri-captain guard Natalie Novosel.

“I really enjoy the player development and the mentorship part of my job,” Tsipis said. “Seeing them coming in as freshmen, helping their game expand and recruiting them has been a big part of my job at Notre Dame.” Aside from the mentoring, Tsipis said he enjoys his annual assignment of forming the team’s schedule.

“I really enjoy taking on some of the best teams in the country, preparing the film and getting everything for the game plan ready to present to coach McGraw,” Tsipis said. “When we play the [Connecticuts], the Dukes and the Tennessees of the world and are successful doing that, we need to be well-prepared in

that sense, and it’s great to be given that responsibility.”

Contact Molly Sammon at msammon@nd.edu

Big East

continued from page 20

sophomore Bertie Nel, freshman Cameron Miller, Johnson and junior Bill Bass surpassed last year’s Big East conference record of 1:28.86. They touched the wall at 1:28.73 to take third place behind Louisville and Pittsburgh.

With only a small portion of the

championships underway, the Irish continue to look forward.

“Tomorrow the rest of the guys get their first chance to compete. It’s important for us to come out swinging, and I know we can do that,” Johnson said.

Competition kicks off today at 10 a.m. with the 500-yard freestyle.

Contact Megan Finneran at mfinnera@nd.edu

Lorenz

continued from page 20

aren’t going our way, is that you can yell and scream all you want but when it comes down to it, as long as you’re working hard and trying to lead by example, that’s when they’re going to follow you the best.”

Entering the second-to-last series of the regular season, the Irish head to Ohio to take on Miami in a crucial pair of games. To turn around its recent struggles, the team will need to find the back of the net more consistently, a facet of the game Lorenz said would come

from the Irish playing within themselves.

“We all want to win and it’s frustrating,” he said. “Sometimes you start to grip the stick a little tighter and try to force plays. We can’t do that unfortunately.

“You’ve just got to play the game like you can and play relaxed and that’s how you’re going to come back and kind of bounce back out of this cold streak.”

Lorenz will lead his team onto the ice for a 7:05 p.m. puck drop Friday night in the opener of a two-game set against Miami in Oxford, Ohio.

Contact Chris Allen at callen10@nd.edu

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WILL SHORTZ

- Across**

1 La _____ (Argentine city)

6 Irksome

10 Blacken

14 Museum piece

15 Name of countries in three states, all crossed by I-90

16 Loosen (up)

18 Amicable

20 Abridge

21 Windhoek-to-Pretoria dir.

22 "Beloved," in operas

23 Begin energetically

24 Player of Mark Antony in 1953's "Julius Caesar"

27 Sing

30 Epithet for France's Louis VI, with "the"

31 Singer Alan or Anita

32 Weather line

34 Abbr. in classifieds
- 35 Andries Pretorius, e.g., who gave his name to a national capital

39 What each of the 10 abbreviations in this puzzle's answer stands for

43 Bloom support

44 Jimmy

45 Electorate

46 Gas brand north of the border

48 Pet rat in a 1972 #1 song

49 Medium bra specification

50 Old name of the San Jose Sharks' arena

55 Kind of push-up

56 Muckraker Jacob

58 Clinton's veep and his father

61 Gain knowledge

62 Skateboarding ramp
- Down**

1 Like many a sniper

2 Runners

3 Veld flower

4 Uncle José, e.g.

5 Hybrid, in a way

6 Inspect

7 Wrongdoing

8 Less than 1%

9 "Assuredly"

10 Author Beverly

11 "Broom-_____"

12 Much-advertised sleep aid

13 Fixed up

17 Where Harrah's started

19 Sushi bar sauce

23 The L.A. Sparks play in it

25 Not all there

26 Frankfurt an der _____

27 They're flicked

28 Exam for future attys.

29 Have _____ to pick

30 It'll pass

33 "Pow!"

34 Subject of the 2005 book "Conspiracy of Fools"

35 Drill part

36 Year in the reign of the emperor Augustus
- 65 American Shakers founder

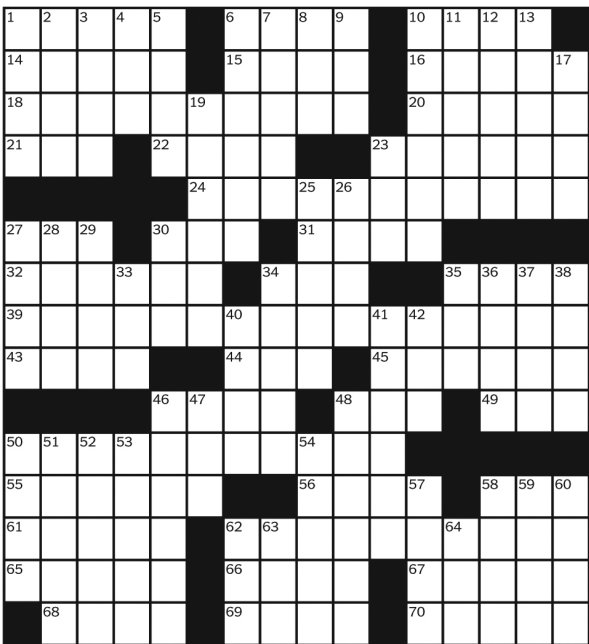
66 Language that's written from right to left

67 Popular Italian scooter

68 Not natural

69 Map magnification

70 Kindle file



Puzzle by Gareth Bain

- 37 Napkin shade, maybe

38 Party in a legal proceeding: Abbr.

40 Part of St. Paul's

41 No longer bothered by something

42 Baron _____ Richthofen

46 Like some runs
- 47 Small area meas.

48 City once divided by the Green Line

50 Mixer choice

51 Seemingly ceaselessly

52 With cruelty

53 Gay _____

54 Plumbing, e.g.
- 57 Golf's Ballesteros

58 Lhasa _____

59 Quick weight loss method, for short

60 Command eliciting barking

62 On the _____ vive

63 Mantelpiece pieces

64 Johnny _____

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HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jonny Lee Miller, 39; Beverly D'Angelo, 60; Sam Waterston, 71; Ed Asner, 82.

Happy Birthday: Stay on top of your to-do list. Put honesty first and speak from the heart. People from your past will show an interest in what you are doing. An unusual turn of events will alter your domestic environment. Your numbers are 8, 15, 22, 24, 30, 37, 43.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Do what you can to improve your home and domestic life financially and emotionally. You'll face criticism if you are too busy pleasing outsiders instead of the ones who are always in your corner. Do something nice for the ones you love. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Short trips are highlighted. Engage in conversation that brings you knowledge about something you want to pursue. Getting the OK from people you love will be easy if you are straightforward about the details. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Your desire for change may not make everyone close to you happy. Your best bet is to inch your way in the direction you want without making a big splash. Once you have things in order you can share your plans and your success. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Share your feelings. Added responsibilities can be lifted if you are honest about what you can and are willing to do and what you are not. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You need a change of pace and a change of scenery. Make plans that will allow you the freedom to interact with people who can contribute to some of your ideas and plans for the future. Love is highlighted during the evening hours. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Be careful how you approach touchy topics when dealing with friends, relatives or your lover. Expand your interests if it will help you share a special moment with someone. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Not everyone will be on your side. Be careful when sharing your ideas and plans, especially with colleagues or someone who can make an impact on your future. Allow a little time for something entertaining. It will lift your spirits. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Question anyone who is dubious. It's up to you to ferret out any information that you need to know before making a decision, especially if it has to do with your income. Someone from your past may be the ideal partner in your future. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Work behind the scenes. Finish your work before you reveal what you are trying to accomplish. It's better to surprise everyone than to fall short of the expectations you have raised in others. ★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Getting along with others will be half the battle. Put your time and effort into building a strong and stable base at home emotionally, financially and physically. Spend time with the people who really mean something to you. ★★

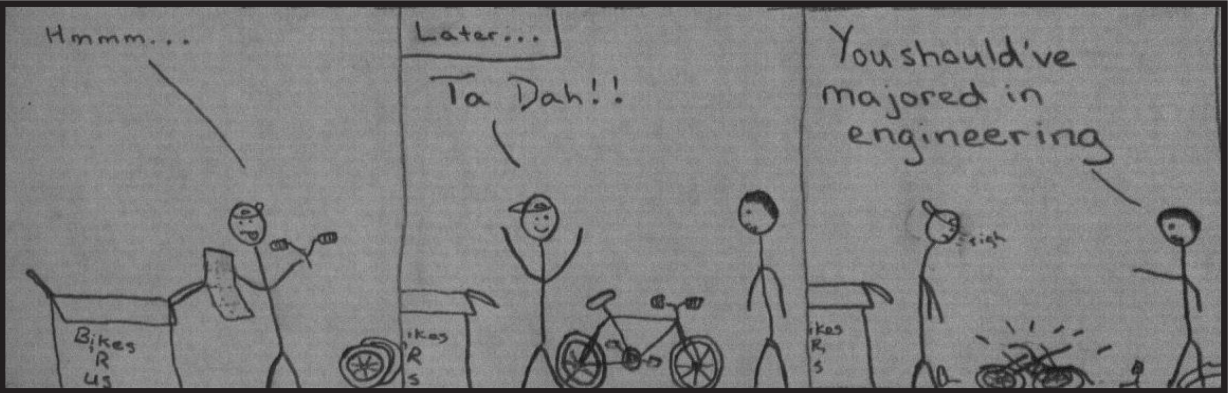
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Communication can resolve misunderstandings. Engage in heartfelt communication and you will find out where you stand with people in your personal and professional world. Diplomacy and charm will help you win trust as well as favors. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Watch what you say if you socialize. Not everyone will share your opinion, and you may be judged harshly. Greater effort put into earning a living or finding ways to subsidize your income will bring positive results as well as praise. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are creative, caring and intent on following your own path.

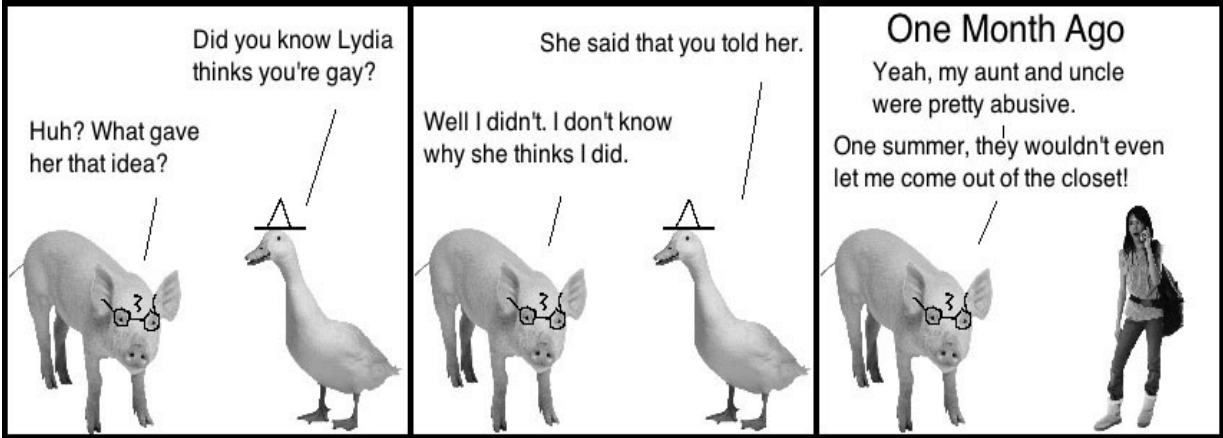
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JEFF KNUREK

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RECCAS

FLAWEF

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

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(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: YUCKY PRIZE UNFAIR CATTLE

Answer: Some people thought the Wright brothers were just — "PLANE" CRAZY



THE OBSERVER

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Cool comeback

By ANDREW OWENS
Associate Sports Editor

Sparked by a 17-point second-half performance from junior forward Jack Cooley, the Irish pulled away in the second half to win their seventh consecutive game, 71-53 over Rutgers.

Cooley scored 22 points and snatched 18 rebounds — a career-high — for No. 23 Notre Dame (18-8, 10-3 Big East). Until sophomore guard Eric Atkins made a layup and was fouled with 11:57 to play in the second half, Cooley had made every Irish 2-point field goal with the exception of one.

"We like throwing it in to him," Irish coach Mike Brey said. "Their speed bothered him at first. They got underneath him.

"But he does a good job of playing off of Eric and [sophomore guard Jerian Grant's] drives, and we certainly want to go to him. He's the go-to guy when he gets offensive rebounds. He gets us extra possessions."

Brey said he was worried Cooley might be less motivated as his performance improves, but that has not been the case.

"I think at times when he was a younger player he could take a day off and maybe not be as engaged, but I wasn't as engaged in him because he was the seventh guy," Brey said. "Now that he's a main guy, he's more of the focal point, but I've been very pleased to see when Jack has had success, he wants to have more."

Cooley, the reigning Big East Player of the Week who accounted for 18 of the team's 37 rebounds, said the play of the Irish guards has enabled him to produce offensively.

"The whole program has helped me to become what I am right now," he said. "Everyone's



JULIE HERDER/The Observer

Irish sophomore guard Eric Atkins dribbles the ball Wednesday during Notre Dame's 71-53 victory over Rutgers.

getting me the ball well, the coaches helped me get my cardio back up, and everyone's giving me confidence. Confidence is key for any basketball player, and ev-

everyone's filling me with so much confidence it's hard to not play well."

see COOLEY/page 18

MEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

Irish leading Big East going into day three

By MEGAN FINNERAN
Sports Writer

Notre Dame entered Wednesday's Big East Championships at Trees Pool in Pittsburgh with hopes of carrying on the top finishes by freshman diver Nick Nemetz, and the Irish did not disappoint. They currently lead the finals with 197 points, followed by Pittsburgh with 132 points.

Defending-champion Louisville is tied with West Virginia for third with 110 points.

"We're in a better position than we were last year," junior Chris

Johnson. "We are riding the momentum of two school records into tomorrow."

In Wednesday's two races, the Irish racked up new school records in two relay events. The team of sophomores Frankie Dyer and Colin Babcock and juniors Kevin Overholt and John McGinley beat the previous school record of 6:27.19 from a 2009 meet in Indianapolis, coming in second at 6:24.11 behind Louisville in the 800-yard freestyle relay.

In the 200-yard medley relay,

see BIG EAST/page 18

ND WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

Strong relays leave ND competitive in Big East

By MATT UNGER
Sports Writer

In the opening events of the Big East Championships, the Irish saved their best season times for the finals of each relay race. Notre Dame took third in both the 800-yard freestyle relay and 200-yard medley relay.

The Irish sit in second place with 135 points in the team standings, only nine points behind first-place Louisville.

In the 800-yard freestyle, the Irish team of senior Amy

Prestinario, sophomore Kelly Ryan, and freshmen Suzanne Bessire and Emma Reaney finished third with a time of 7:15.31. They beat their previous top time on the season by more than six seconds. First-place West Virginia set a meet record with a time of 7:06.87.

Meanwhile, junior Kim Holden, sophomore Sarah Dotzel, Prestinario, and Ryan also earned third in the 200-yard medley, finishing in

see MEDLEY/page 17

HOCKEY

Lorenz named finalist for Lowe's Senior Class Award

By CHRIS ALLEN
Sports Writer

The 2011-12 Irish season has been a campaign of remarkable highs and lows, with last-second victories balanced by big losses at home. Amid the inconsistency, senior defenseman and captain Sean Lorenz has been a consistent force on the blue line and in the locker room.

As a tribute to his leadership and performance on and off the ice, Lorenz was named one of 10 finalists for the Lowe's Senior Class Award in hockey. The award is considered the premier honor given to a senior student-athlete in each sport. The defenseman from Littleton, Colo., said the nomination came as a surprise.

"It's a great honor. I didn't find out until [hockey sports information director] Tim Connor told me about it," Lorenz said. "I'm very honored to be thrown into a group with names of [former Irish

players] Calle Ridderwall, [Erik] Condra and [Jordan] Pearce and some of those kinds of guys. So it's an honor, definitely."

On the heels of a 2010-11 season in which he received the CCHA Defensive Defensemen of the Year honor, Lorenz was named co-captain of the squad, along with fellow senior right wing Billy Maday. The duo has faced a difficult assignment as captains, having to guide a young Notre Dame squad through a pressure-packed campaign.

The No. 13/9 Irish (16-13-3, 11-10-3-0 CCHA) sit seventh in the CCHA standings with only two regular season series left to play. Lorenz said he and Maday have adjusted their leadership style in the midst of recent struggles.

"I think [Maday] and I have kind of both talked about it. We just try to lead by example," Lorenz said. "I think that's the best way to lead a team when things

see LORENZ/page 18

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Assistant coach stresses team play

By MOLLY SAMMON
Sports Writer

When Irish associate head coach Jonathan Tsipis arrived at Notre Dame nine years ago, he had never coached a women's basketball team. After helping the Irish program improve its all-time winning percentage to .728 and come within six points of a national championship, he has no intentions of going back to the men's game any time soon.

"I like the teaching aspect of the women's game better," Tsipis said. "There is this great learning curve that the women's game has, and the game has really grown. We're getting faster, stronger, bigger athletes now, but it is still more of a team-based game. Every year it's getting better."

Tsipis said he favors the cohesive technical structure of the women's game and dislikes the trend of the highly-individualized play he noticed on the men's side.



SARAH O'CONNOR/The Observer

Irish junior guard Kaila Turner drives past a defender during Notre Dame's 66-47 win over Providence on Tuesday.

"There are five people involved in almost every play," Tsipis said. "That's only in the women's game. And with that involvement comes a team chemistry that you see with

the women over the men."

When he started with Notre Dame in 2003, Tsipis said Irish coach Muffet McGraw

see TSIPIS/page 18