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NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

Third Eye Blind returns to campus

Student Union Board's spring concert welcomes one act back, introduces another



SARAH O'CONNOR / The Observer

O.A.R. (Of a Revolution) performs during last year's spring concert on April 8 at the Stepan Center. The concert, which featured hip hop duo Chiddy Bang as the opening act, was sold out.

By AUBREY BUTTS
News Writer

This Saturday, Notre Dame students will get a blast from the past when, for the third time, Third Eye Blind headlines the Student Union Board's spring concert.

SUB concert programmers Lauren Keating and Meagan Guerin, both seniors, spoke enthusiastically about the decision to host Third Eye Blind for a third time.

"When we began the programming process, we went in with a completely open mind. We know the Notre Dame student body has such a diverse musical

taste," Keating said. "Third Eye Blind have stayed popular for so long that it shows they are a great band and will generate a lot of interest."

Keating and Guerin both acknowledged the difficulty of choosing an artist that would appeal to the entire student body, especially in the wake of last year's sold out concert featuring Chiddy Bang and O.A.R.

"We started by asking ourselves who we believed would appeal to most of the Notre Dame student body," Keating said. "Ultimately, we decided that we wanted to entice the overall group enough that they will go to the show and end up

having a great time rather than pleasing a small group a lot."

Hoodie Allen, an independent rapper from New York, will open the concert before Third Eye Blind takes the stage. By pairing an up-and-coming opener with a more established headliner, Keating and Guerin believe this year's concert will match the success of last year's.

"I think we did a good job of keeping the concert on par with last year's," Keating said. "Last year's was perfect because it paired two very different bands and appealed to two different groups. I think we have the same thing going this year. Third Eye Blind is so popular, but we also

have Hoodie Allen, a pretty prominent up and coming hip hop artist."

Allen, a one time Google employee, left his career at the Internet powerhouse to pursue a music career after generating significant interest during his side gigs, Keating said.

"He is someone various people mentioned that they would love to see as an opener," Guerin said. "I wasn't too familiar with him, but he is already generating excitement."

Based on students' reactions thus far, Keating and Guerin expect the concert to sell out.

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ND plans for games at night

By ANNA BOARINI
News Writer

After the success of last year's night game against USC, the Notre Dame football team will add two home night games to the upcoming season. According to a University press release, Notre Dame will host Michigan on September 22 at night, while the game against Miami at Chicago's Soldier Field will also be held at night.

Mike Seamon, the associate vice president for campus safety, said the game day operations team started to prepare for this season's night games as soon as they were confirmed.

"We'll look to build on the successes of last year's night game, while trying to identify any new opportunities to improve the game day experience," he said. "Last year, we had additional staff, fire department personnel, medical teams, parking personnel, police, on hand throughout the day and the night to help all the fans and guests."

Sophomore Kristen Jackson said she is most excited for the night game against Michigan this coming season.

"I'm excited for the Michigan game because my parents went to Michigan for college," she said.

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Professor publishes paper on Fukushima

By DAN BROMBACH
News Writer

On March 11, 2011, the world held its collective breath as the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station in Japan melted down after being incapacitated by the devastating earthquake and tsunami that left over 19,000 people dead or missing.

A year after the tragedy, Notre Dame professor Peter Burns and his colleagues at Michigan and the University of California, Davis have published a paper in which they discuss the interaction of

nuclear fuel on the environment following such an accident.

"The paper looks at what is known, and then lays out a research agenda for understanding how radioactivity is released from damaged fuel in different environments that can happen after an accident," Burns said.

Burns said his paper seeks to build knowledge of the interaction of undamaged fuel with geological repositories. The paper also examines existing knowledge

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Alumnus to launch new website

By KRISTIN DURBIN
News Editor

Notre Dame is not often associated with the phrase "tech startup."

But the Notre Dame-bred creators of the social media website Wikify.me hope to put the University on the tech world's radar with the site's March 26 launch at Notre Dame, Saint Mary's and Holy Cross.

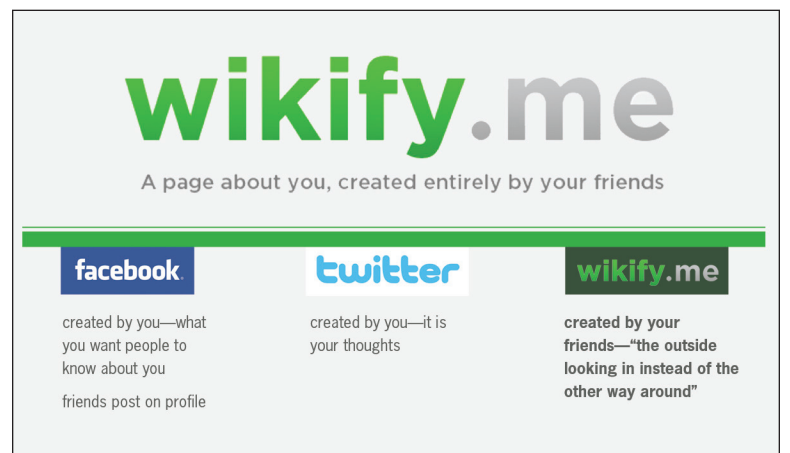
"We're trying to put Notre Dame on the map for a tech startup, to become known as 'that tech startup that came out of Notre Dame,'" founder and 2011 alumnus James Ingallinera said. "Seeing a tech startup out of Notre Dame is pretty unusual, so the idea of the startup being successful would bring

the school into a new domain."

Ingallinera founded Wikify.me in the fall of 2010 with the goal of offering users a "third-person

perspective" on social media by featuring a "page about you cre-

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LISA HOEYNCK | Observer Graphic

HIGH
LOW

Cambodian genocide survivor speaks at DSLC

By KAITLYN RABACH
News Writer

To kick off the Saint Mary's Diverse Students' Leadership Conference (DSLCL), Cambodian genocide survivor Arn Chorn Pond shared his story of survival and healing under the rule of the Khmer Rouge.

"When I was just nine years old the Communists took over the country," Pond said. "My parents were executed and I was forced to watch my siblings crawl ... to a death of starvation. It was very hard for me to feel so powerless and know that I could not help them."

While in the camps, soldiers forced Pond to partake in some of the murders.

"Some times they would force me to help them out,"

Pond said. "I was a prisoner, and they could force me to push others into the graves. If I showed any emotion with the victims I would have been killed."

Pond said his love for traditional Cambodian music, specifically the flute, helped him through his difficult experiences. He and four other prison-

ers in the camp started a music group; only two members of that group are alive today.

"Music got me through," Pond said. "Even today, it still helps me to heal."

In 1980, after living several months alone in the Cambodian jungle, Pond was rescued and adopted by Reverend Peter L. Pond who brought him back to New Hampshire.

"I felt very lucky, but very scared at the same time," Pond said. "It seemed as though no

one in the United States understood me or where I came from."

After coming to the U.S., Pond said he felt anger, depression, resentment and even suicidal at times. His adopted father encouraged him to speak out and share his story to help deal with his feelings. "I didn't know what it meant to be heard," Pond said. "I never thought that white Americans would care about me, but I was wrong."

He started speaking at local churches and today his voice has been heard by Amnesty International groups, the United Nations and even former President Jimmy Carter.

After sharing he began to



Photo Courtesy of Hannah Ziegeler

Arn Chorn Pond, Cambodian genocide survivor, speaks during the opening day of the Saint Mary's DSLC about his experiences in concentration camps as a young child.

share his experience, Pond stepped into a new role: human rights activist. He is the recipient of many international humanitarian awards and founder of several organizations, including Children of War, Cambodian Volunteers for Community Development and Peace Makers.

"I choose to sing and to start different organizations," Pond said. "It is not easy to share my story, but it is part of my healing process. I love the work that I do now because it saves lives and inspires others. This work allows me live."

DSLCL chair Guadalupe Quintana said Pond's talk was a perfect way to kick off events for the conference because his talk will inspire others.

"His story is very capturing and embodies everything that DSLCL represents," she said.

Quintana said DSLCL represents sharing stories that would otherwise go unheard and learning of differences that would often go unnoticed.

Pond expressed the importance of embracing one's roots and one's own unique stories.

"It is our life and our story," Pond said. "Don't deny your differences or your stories, because

then you will be denying your culture."

Pond ended his talk by encouraging the members of the audience to go out in the community and share their voices for social change.

"Do not underestimate one person," Pond said. "Everyone has their own story to share. Everyone has their own pain. Do not spend time comparing pain, just live united. One by one you are the angel that the world needs. Go fly and be that angel."

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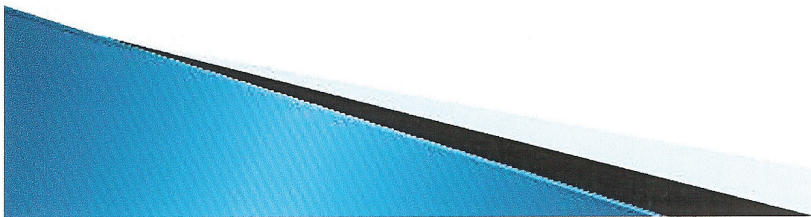
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Legends holds focus group for Saint Mary’s students

By JILLIAN BARWICK
Saint Mary’s Editor

Legends of Notre Dame is a restaurant, bar and club that serves as a gathering place for the Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s and Holy Cross communities. On March 8, the Legends marketing

team held a focus group at Saint Mary’s for students to voice their opinions and concerns. Catherine Flatley, a Notre Dame junior and marketing research manager of Legends, is in charge of coordinating focus groups. “We try to get a better insight

to specifically what students want to see at Legends,” Flatley said. “Focus groups and surveys are held for Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s and Holy Cross students so that we can find ways to better serve our customers’ needs.” By holding a Saint Mary’s focus group, Flatley hoped to learn

how Saint Mary’s students looked at Legends differently from Notre Dame and Holy Cross students, she said.

“By acknowledging the needs of the Saint Mary’s students, we will be able to modify the experiences they have at Legends to make it more enjoyable,” Flatley said.

JoLynn Williams, Saint Mary’s senior and Legends’ branding manager, also assisted Flatley in holding the Saint Mary’s focus group.

“I am the only Saint Mary’s student on the marketing team at Legends, so we felt that my presence in this focus group would be very important to maintaining our goals,” Williams said. “A big part of my job is to make sure we can extend the olive branch to Saint Mary’s students and remind them that while Legends is on Notre Dame’s campus, we cater to the whole community of students.”

Over the past four years, Williams noticed there has only been one promotion driven by handing out flyers, as opposed to posting them in dorms, for a Legends event on Saint Mary’s campus.

“There are usually three to four members of the marketing team on campus [Notre Dame] who hand out promotions for our events happening each weekend,” Williams said. “Saint Mary’s has not seen this much.”

Williams said this type of promotion can help bring people to events.

“The one time I saw this type

of promotion for an event at Legends, it struck me so much that I actually went to the event and enjoyed myself,” Williams said.

By holding the Saint Mary’s focus group, Flatley and Williams hoped to gain constructive criticism to make changes where needed.

“We use more of guideline questions to steer our focus groups so that the participants have a chance to get the dialogue really flowing without being pushed in different directions,” Flatley said. “This is what leads to the constructive criticism, which is what we are looking for.”

When building the focus group, the participants tended to be juniors and seniors, Flatley said.

“The most common thing we heard was Legends being compared to other bars around town and the differences between Legends and other go to places in the community,” she said.

To maintain the constant input from Saint Mary’s students, Williams hopes the marketing team at Legends will have at least one or two students from Saint Mary’s on future teams.

“I know there have been Saint Mary’s students on the team in the past, but currently I am the only one on the marketing team,” Williams said. “It would be truly beneficial to maintain a working relationship between Saint Mary’s, Notre Dame and Holy Cross students in the future.”

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Observer File Photo

Legends of Notre Dame, a popular restaurant, bar and club on campus, held a focus group March 8 to allow Saint Mary’s students to voice their opinions and concerns.

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Nuclear

continued from page 1

of the physical processes that occur during a meltdown and instantaneous release of gaseous radioactivity. “There’s a lot of unknown in between these two scenarios,” Burns said. “We don’t have any real studies of the interaction of water with damaged fuels when the radiation field is intense.”

Although he said it can be useful due to its high melting point, Burns said nuclear fuel is also extremely hazardous to people and the environment if improperly released.

“The fuel going into the reactor is pretty much harmless, but the fuel coming out is at least a million times more radioactive,” Burns said. “Once containment is lost, bad things happen to the popula-

tion.” As director of an federal Energy Research Frontier Center focusing on actinides, Burns said the decision to write this paper flowed more from the requirements of his work than from any private interest.

“It’s just a normal progression of our study and our work [at the Research Center],” Burns said. “I guess I wasn’t so much inspired as I was just doing my job.”

As a review article, the paper could not cite any unpublished work, and thus served to provide new analysis without utilizing new data, Burns said.

“For this type of article, it was more about combining knowledge than it was creating knowledge,” Burns said. “We had to distill all the literature on the subject.”

Burns said he dislikes getting into political discussions about the continued usage of nuclear fuel, preferring to deal

with the facts and leave the debating for others.

“I would imagine that developing nations are going to build a lot of new nuclear reactors, so I don’t see much point in engaging in a debate about whether it’s a good idea, or whether it should happen, because it is happening,” Burns said.

Ultimately, Burns said he hopes the paper will serve as a springboard for future research to address the lack of knowledge of water’s interaction with damaged fuel, thus putting the world in a better position to deal with a future nuclear accident.

“We want to better equip society to deal with the next serious nuclear accident and to minimize its impacts,” Burns said.

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Games

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Sophomore Matt Hayes said he is most excited to watch the Irish play in a large venue in a big city.

“I got to go to the Army game, so I’m really pumped to see us play in a legit stadium at night,” he said.

Seamon also looks forward to another game under the lights.

I enjoyed seeing the University showcased in prime time on national television, he

said. The night game provides the University an opportunity to tell its story to an even broader audience. A game at Notre Dame Stadium under the lights is a pretty special experience.

Even though night games are a fan favorite, they are not going to be heavily integrated into future Notre Dame football schedules, senior associate athletic director for media relations John Heisler said.

“For a variety of reasons, the University is not looking for a steady diet of home football night games,” he said. “However the response to the Notre

Dame-USC game last year proved favorable and that certainly played a major role in consideration of another home night game for 2012.”

Even though the University does not plan on adding more night games in the future, many students would like to see more on the schedule.

“The energy is just a lot better,” sophomore Noah Rangel said. “You have more time to get into the game.”

Freshman Max Brown also wants to see more games played at night.

“A night game is a really cool experience, he said. “I mean, they already have the lights there.”

Contact Anna Boarini at aboari01@saintmarys.edu

“The energy is just a lot better. You have more time to get into the game.”

Noah Rangel
sophomore

Made in God's Image

Mass in Honor of World Down Syndrome Day

Wednesday, March 21, 2012 at 5:15

Basilica of the Sacred Heart, University of Notre Dame

Reception to Follow in Remick Commons, Carole Sander Hall

Sponsored by the Jacques Maritain Center
and the Alliance for Catholic Education's Teaching Exceptional Children Program

Third Eye Blind at ND
previously performed in 1998 + 2006
performing this year at Stepan

Hoodie Allen (opening act)
former Google employee
hip hop artist

LISA HOEYNCK | Observer Graphic

Concert

continued from page 1

“We had a lot of requests for Third Eye Blind,” Guerin said. “We did casual polling and asked students to name five bands they would like to see come to campus. They were included on a lot of people’s list.”

Even though nineties hits “Jumper” and “Semi-Charmed Life” remain the band’s most popular songs, Keating believes the band’s energy will capture the audience.

“They do play their hits, but you don’t have to know every song to enjoy their concerts,” Keating said. “They play all their instruments and sing live, and the lead singer walks around the stage the entire

time and really engages with the audience.”

Guerin said Third Eye Blind has a reputation for engaging concerts.

“They are known for putting on really good, fun shows,” Guerin said. “I’ve heard nothing but good things about their concerts from friends who have attended their shows before.”

Tickets go on sale today at 7 a.m. in the LaFortune box office for all Notre Dame undergraduates. At 9 a.m. Thursday, St. Mary’s, Holy Cross and Notre Dame graduate students cawn purchase tickets. When purchasing tickets, each student can bring up to three ID cards and buy one ticket per ID. The doors to Stepan open at 7:30 p.m. Saturday with the concert beginning at 8 p.m.

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Wikify

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ated by your friends,” he said.

“It’s an alternate perspective to everything out there in social media, which revolves around the first-person perspective,” Ingallinera said. “You are the moderator of your own page, but others can contribute to it. You have complete control of everything on your page, from who can contribute to it to who can see it.”

After enlisting a firm to build the original version of the site, Ingallinera recruited 2011 alumnus Trey Griffith, senior KC Youm, juniors Kyle Buckley and Bobby Thompson and sophomore Michael McDonald to serve as the site’s “house team.” Since graduating from Notre Dame, Ingallinera has quit his job at Bain Capital to pursue development of Wikify.me full-time.

Wikify.me will initially be open exclusively to students at Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s and Holy Cross. Based on the site’s performance and user feedback, the team will decide whether to expand to a larger audience or keep it on “home turf,” Ingallinera said.

“We’re starting here because we feel that the feedback we get would be more useful from somewhere we’re already affiliated with and help us create a successful company,” he said.

Thompson likened the site to a “reverse Twitter” that focuses on users’ thoughts about a given user instead of a user’s thoughts and opinions on others. Wikify.me pages also display a list of contributors on the side of the page, which Thompson said fits in line with the “followers and following” feature of Twitter.

Youm said the current version of the site has been simplified to a few core features but will change according to user feedback.

“We had a bunch of ideas in the beginning and we had to stream-

line it, so we are going to start with as stripped down a version as we can and then build on it based on user feedback,” Youm said.

Ingallinera said user feedback will be especially important in developing the site, which is one of the first of its kind in terms of its unique perspective on social networking.

“It’s a new concept that hasn’t been tested too extensively to date, so it’s kind of a question mark,” he said. “Well over half the people we’ve run the idea by found it interesting and were willing to sign up, so I think it will be pretty well-received.”

In addition to offering users personal pages featuring contributions from other users, Wikify.me will eventually incorporate pages for other organizations based on user feedback, such as restaurants, local businesses and student organizations, Ingallinera said.

“The concept of the site involves the outside looking in versus the other way around,” he said. “We want to start with people but branch out beyond individuals to whatever our users want to see in terms of what everyone is saying about those things.”

Youm and Thompson said they and other team members have been promoting the site among their friends and in related classes, including computer programming and Internet development, and feedback from these promotions has been generally positive.

Based on this initial feedback, Ingallinera and his team said they are optimistic about the future of Wikify.me and its ability to bring Notre Dame into the realm of social media development.

“We hope to help Notre Dame establish a presence in an area that it is largely unknown for ... by building a real company,” Ingallinera said.

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Romney wins Illinois Republican primary

Associated Press

SCHAUMBURG, Ill. — Front-runner Mitt Romney sailed to an easy victory in the Illinois primary Tuesday night, trouncing Rick Santorum in yet another industrial state showdown and padding his already-formidable delegate lead in the race for the Republican presidential nomination.

“What a night,” Romney told cheering supporters in suburban Chicago. Turning his attention past his GOP rivals, he said he had a simple message for President Barack Obama, the Democrat he hopes to face and defeat in November: “Enough. We’ve had enough.”

Romney triumphed after benefiting from a crushing advantage in the television advertising wars, and as his chief rival struggled to overcome self-imposed political wounds in the marathon race to pick an opponent to Obama.

Returns from 47 percent of the state’s precincts showed Romney gaining 50 percent of the vote compared to 33 percent for Santorum, 9 percent for Ron Paul and 7 percent for a fading Newt Gingrich.

Exit polls showed Romney preferred by primary goers who said the economy was the top issue in the campaign, and overwhelmingly favored by those who said an ability to defeat Obama was the quality they most wanted in a nominee.

The primary capped a week in which the two campaigns seemed to be moving in opposition directions — Romney increasingly focused on the general election battle against Obama while Santorum struggled to escape self-created controversies.

Most recently, he backpedaled after saying on Monday that the economy wasn’t the main issue of the campaign. “Occasionally you say some things where you wish you had a do-over,” he said later.

Over the weekend, he was humbled in the Puerto Rico primary after saying that to qualify

for statehood the island commonwealth should adopt English as an official language.

While pre-primary polls taken several days ago in Illinois suggested a close race, Romney and Restore Our future, a super Pac that backs him, unleashed a barrage of campaign ads to erode Santorum’s standing. One ad accused the former Pennsylvania senator of changing his principles while serving in Congress, while two others criticized him for voting to raise the debt limit, raise his own pay as a lawmaker and side with former Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton to support legislation allowing felons the right to vote.

In all, Romney and Restore Our Future outspent Santorum and a super PAC that backs him by \$3.5 million to \$500,000, an advantage of 7-1.

Romney’s victory was worth at least 13 delegates.

That gave him 535 in the overall count maintained by The Associated Press, out of 1,144 needed to win the nomination. Santorum has 253 delegates, Gingrich 135 and Paul 50.

In the long and grinding campaign, Santorum looked to rebound in next Saturday’s primary in Louisiana, particularly given Romney’s demonstrated difficulties winning in contests across the Deep South.

A 10-day break follows before Washington, D.C., Maryland and Wisconsin hold primaries on April 3.

Santorum is not on the ballot in the nation’s capital.

Private polling shows Romney with an advantage in Maryland, and Restore Our Future launched a television ad campaign in the state during the day at a cost of more than \$450,000.

Wisconsin shapes up as the next big test between Romney and Santorum, an industrial state next door to Illinois, but one where Republican politics have been roiled recently by a controversy involving a recall battle against the governor and some GOP state



Former Mass. governor and Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney greets fans after speaking at the University of Chicago on March 19. Romney won the Illinois primary Tuesday.

senators who supported legislation that was bitterly opposed by labor unions.

Already, Restore Our future has put down more than \$2 million in television advertising across Wisconsin. Santorum has spent about \$50,000 to answer.

Neither Newt Gingrich nor Ron Paul campaigned extensively in Illinois.

Gingrich has faded into near-irrelevance in the race, but he was defiant in a statement issued after Romney sealed his victory.

“To defeat Barack Obama, Republicans can’t nominate a candidate who relies on outspending his opponents 7-1. Instead, we need a nominee who offers powerful solutions that hold the president accountable for his failures,” it said.

Gingrich said his campaign will spend the time leading to the party convention “relentlessly taking the fight to President Obama.”

Illinois fell into Romney’s column far more easily than Michigan or Ohio had.

The night’s vote count was plagued by ballot difficulties. Rupert Borgsmiller, executive director, of the Illinois State Board of Elections, said in late afternoon that 25 counties and the city of Aurora were affected by the ballot problem. He didn’t know how many ballots were affected but said “clearly you can say more than hundreds.”

Romney and Santorum campaigned energetically across the state, and not always in respectful tones.

“Senator Santorum has the same economic lightweight background the president has,” Romney said at one point. “We’re not going to replace an economic lightweight with another economic lightweight.”

Santorum had a tart reply. “If Mitt Romney’s an economic

heavyweight, we’re in trouble.”

Anticipating a primary defeat, Santorum’s campaign argued that the race for delegates is closer than it appears.

Santorum contends the Republican National Committee at the convention will force Florida and Arizona to allocate their delegates on a proportional basis instead of winner-take-all as the state GOP decided. Romney won both states.

On Tuesday, about four in 10 voters interviewed as they left their polling places said they were evangelical or born again. That’s about half the percentage in last week’s primary states of Alabama and Mississippi, where Santorum won narrowly. Despite an unusually lengthy race for the nomination, less than a third of those voting said in the polling-place survey they hoped the primary season would come to a quick end even if that meant their candidate might lose the nomination.

Donors contribute to super PACs

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Major contributors to a key Republican political organization founded by political strategist Karl Rove have boosted their financial support for Mitt Romney, signaling that the GOP’s big money may be starting to coalesce around Romney’s candidacy, according to an analysis by The Associated Press of federal election data released Tuesday.

Wealthy GOP donors like Bob Perry, Philip H. Geier Jr. and Jerry Perenchio collectively provided much of the \$6.4 million in contributions last month to the pro-Romney “super” political committee Restore Our Future, mostly from Perry’s \$3 million contribution, according to campaign records submitted to the Federal Election Commission.

The donors also are among the most generous contributors to American Crossroads, the super PAC founded by Rove, who was a top adviser to President George W. Bush. Crossroads is likely to become the pre-eminent GOP group airing negative advertisements against President Barack Obama this year.

The new campaign reports illustrate the financial advantage that Romney —the winner in Tuesday’s Illinois primary —harnessed heading into Super Tues-

day primary elections. Romney, ahead in the count of Republican delegates, was aided by more than \$29 million worth of ads paid for by Restore Our Future, the super PAC supporting his campaign.

That \$29 million figure is higher than spending by any other Republican super PAC or campaign, including Romney’s own campaign. Super PACs, like Romney’s and Rove’s groups, are not permitted under federal law to coordinate directly with campaigns — but the PACs often pay for media campaigns that allow the candidates to concentrate on state organizations and get-out-the vote efforts.

So far, other GOP candidates have struggled to keep up with the financial support that Romney’s candidacy has enjoyed. Gingrich, the former House speaker who won the South Carolina and Georgia primaries, collected only \$2.6 million last month while spending roughly \$2.8 million during the same period, his campaign said. Much of his support has come in the form of ads from Winning Our Future, which received a \$5 million infusion from Las Vegas casino mogul Sheldon Adelson and his wife, Miriam.

The Rick Santorum-supportive super PAC— the Red, White and Blue Fund — brought in \$2.9 million last month, including \$600,000 from longtime support-

er and Wyoming businessman Foster Friess. Santorum’s own campaign pulled in about \$8.9 million in contributions during the same period when he saw a surge in support.

All told, the money flowing to Republican super PACs is expected to counterbalance cash flowing to Obama’s campaign, which has raised more than \$120 million in total contributions as of Feb. 29. The political committee supporting Obama, Priorities USA Action, collected \$2 million last month.

Romney has lost several Southern primaries, but his campaign raised more than \$11 million in February. Helping his campaign — albeit independently under federal law — Restore Our Future has spent millions on attack ads against rivals Newt Gingrich and Rick Santorum.

Perry, 79, previously gave \$1 million to the pro-Romney super PAC in addition to his \$3 million last month. He also gave \$2.5 million to Rove’s group. He heads a major Houston-based homebuilding empire and has been a million-dollar player among GOP fundraisers since the late 1990s, working closely with candidates and causes tied to Rove. Perry was a big money contributor to Bush’s campaigns for Texas governor and was a top bundler for his 2000 presidential race.

Santorum looks for win in Louisiana primary

Associated Press

GETTYSBURG, Pa. — Dealt a resounding defeat in Illinois’ presidential primary, Republican Rick Santorum brushed off the latest loss to rival Mitt Romney and told his supporters on Tuesday to “saddle up like Reagan did in the cowboy movies” and help him narrow a seemingly insurmountable deficit in delegates.

Santorum had hoped to make a real contest of Illinois, the birthplace of actor turned president Ronald Reagan, but he was outspent in advertising by a 7-to-1 margin by Romney and his allies and fled the state before balloting began.

“We’re heading to Louisiana for the rest of the week, then we’re back here in Pennsylvania and we’re going to pick up a whole boatload of delegates and close this gap and then on to victory,” he told a packed hotel ballroom in Gettysburg, Pa., as more than 1,000 supporters waited outside.

Santorum won the Southern states of Alabama and Mississippi last week. Romney has not posted a win in the South since

his January triumph in Florida.

“We’re feeling very, very good about winning Louisiana on Saturday,” Santorum said to cheers.

A 10-day break follows Louisiana before Washington, D.C., Maryland and Wisconsin have primaries on April 3. Santorum is not on the ballot in the nation’s capital, the latest example of his campaign’s struggle to organize.

But Santorum has shown new signs of political life. Aides said the campaign raised more than \$9 million in February and has more than \$2.6 million on hand for a Republican primary that shows no sign of ending soon.

Santorum campaign sought to downplay the Illinois results, instead looking at adding delegates from rural areas to Santorum’s column in any sum.

“Whoever wins the state doesn’t matter as much as who wins the different congressional delegates, so that’s how we’ll be keeping score,” longtime Santorum adviser John Brabender told reporters.

“We’re not even at halftime yet,” he said. “And so, you know, we’ll get through tonight.”

Office of Sustainability hosts energy competition

By ANN MARIE JAKUBOWSKI
News Writer

This March, the Office of Sustainability is working to make sure the buildings on each quad are just as green as the lawns and trees around them. The fourth annual campus energy competition is taking place from March 10 to 30, splitting the 29 residence halls into four teams to collectively “go green.”

Rachel Novick, outreach program manager for the Office of Sustainability, said the project’s goal is to build awareness about energy conservation among students on campus. The office has projects aimed at reducing energy in classroom and facil-

ity buildings, but Novick said the residence halls are also an important target.

“We definitely want to work with buildings across campus to conserve energy, but students have the most opportunity to impact the places where they live,” Novick said. “It’s a great educational tool and provides a way for them to think about sustainability and making more sustainable choices.”

The four teams are South Quad, North Quad, West Quad and Mod/God Quad. The competition takes into account the varying number of dorms on each team, as well as each dorm’s respective size and characteristics.

“Each dorm is ranked online against its own baseline, using data from a few weeks ago to compare conservation rates individually for each dorm in each quad,” Novick said.

The competition’s progress can be tracked online through the Energy Dashboard on the Office of Sustainability’s website, which updates the energy use data for each dorm regularly and shows each team’s current ranking. Novick said the dashboard data will continue to be updated even after the competition so interested students can keep track of how their dorm consumes energy compared to the others on campus.

“The dashboard is a fantas-

tic tool because people can really see the impact of the energy they’re using and see the use in their dorms change day by day,” Novick said.

Similar competitions have been held each year since 2008, but according to Novick, the decision to group the dorms in teams was new for this year.

“We teamed the dorms up in quads instead of having everyone on their own because we thought it would be fun to have quad events as part of the competition, and we also wanted to see more cooperation among the dorms,” Novick said.

Sustainability commissioners from each dorm are in charge of posting flyers to spread news of

the competition, as well as to tell their hall mates about opportunities to conserve energy.

“We definitely encourage students to think about those things or items that sit around the dorm, like a freezer or refrigerator in a break room that might be rarely used,” Novick said. “Clothes dryers might be the biggest energy user in the dorm.”

According to the energy dashboard, South Quad leads in the competition with a 30.6 percent energy reduction as of Tuesday night, closely followed by Mod/God Quad, which attained a 28.4 percent reduction.

Contact Ann Marie Jakubowski at ajakubol@nd.edu

Storms sweep through south central U.S., destroy towns

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Storms shuffled through parts of the south-central United States again Tuesday, bringing more heavy rain, damaging winds and thunder so loud some people in Oklahoma mistook it for an earthquake.

Forecasters said the slow-moving storm system that socked the region Monday could cause more flash floods, hail, strong winds and possibly tornadoes in a corridor stretching from Texas east to Louisiana and as far north as Missouri.

The National Weather Service issued tornado watches for parts of Arkansas, Texas and Louisiana, though the watch in the latter states expired by Tuesday evening. Two tornadoes in the San Antonio area injured at least eight people and damaged about 30 buildings Monday. A twister injured four people and damaged homes near North Platte, Neb., on Sunday.

In central Arkansas, strong winds Tuesday afternoon caused extensive damage in the town of Morrilton and contributed to at least one injury when

a tree fell on a home, authorities said.

“Anytime a tree falls on a house, someone is going to get hurt, but no one went to the hospital by ambulance,” deputy emergency manager Brandon Baker said, adding that “we have lots of houses with trees right through them.”

The city parks complex was destroyed along with the concession stand and exhibit buildings at the Conway County Fairgrounds, Baker said.

In Baxter County in northern Arkansas, several people were be widely felt.”



People search through the debris of flipped trailers and vehicles after a storm passed through Gardendale, Texas on March 19.

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Manhunt continues in Southern France for school shooter

Associated Press

TOULOUSE, France — Police searched southern France on Tuesday for an expert gunman suspected of fatally shooting seven people in the head at close range in attacks that may have been motivated by neo-Nazi ties or grudges against minorities.

The shooter is suspected of carrying out three deadly attacks: leaving four people dead on Monday at a Jewish school in Toulouse, three of them young children; killing two French paratroopers and seriously wounding another last Thursday in nearby Montauban; and fatally shooting another paratrooper in Toulouse on March 11.

All the victims in the school attack were Jewish with dual French-Israeli citizenship, and the paratroopers were of North African or French Caribbean origin. The shots were fired at such close range that the gunfire burned the skin, prosecutor Francois Molins said Tuesday.

“We are confronted with an individual extremely determined in his actions, an armed individual who acts always with the same *modus operandi*,” he said, “in cold blood ... with premeditated actions.”

He added the crimes appear to be premeditated due to the killer’s “choices of victims and the choices of his targets” — the army, the foreign origin of the victims or their religion.

The killer could “act again,” he said.

Interior Minister Claude Gueant described the suspect as “someone very cold, very determined, very much a master of his movements, and by consequence, very cruel.”

However, his suggestion that the attacker was wearing a camera around his neck that could be used to film and post video online was described by the prosecutor as “a hypothesis.”

Norway’s Anders Behring Breivik, the right-wing extremist who killed 77 people in a rampage last year, had suggested in an on-line manifesto before the killings that a camera could be used to film such “operations.” There was no mention in his indictment that he used one.

On Tuesday night, the school attack victims were being flown to Israel for burial there, accompanied by French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe.

A funeral service is being held Wednesday in Montauban for the paratroopers.

All three attacks — which also left a paratrooper and a teenage boy seriously wounded — were carried out by a man on a powerful Yamaha motorcycle who was wearing a helmet and carrying a Colt 45, Molins told reporters in Paris.

But he said other clues to the killer’s identity were scarce.

Molins noted that the attacks had occurred every four days, but said he could not address security arrangements that might be in place Friday — the fourth day after the attack on the Jewish school.

President Nicolas Sarkozy has raised the terror alert for the southwest region to scarlet, the highest level on the four-color scale that automatically added 14 new units of riot police and gendarmes to the region.

Hundreds of extra police will be on duty Wednesday for the funeral



Mourners follow the hearse carrying coffins of the victims after a ceremony at Ozar Hatorah Jewish School, where a gunman killed four people Monday, including a father and his two sons.

services of the three paratroopers and Sarkozy will speak.

More than 200 specialized investigators, including psychologists and profilers, are on the case and “no clue will be abandoned or neglected,” Molins said. Hundreds of people have been questioned, but no one has yet been detained and no searches carried out, he added.

The manhunt took place as friends and family tearfully mourned the four people slain Monday at a Jewish school in northern Toulouse — a rabbi, his two young sons and a young girl.

A “monster” is on the loose in France, Sarkozy declared, vowing to track him down.

“There are beings who have no respect for life. When you grab a little girl to put a bullet in her head,

without leaving her any chance, you are a monster. An anti-Semitic monster, but first of all a monster,” he said.

The focus fell Tuesday on three paratroopers who had been expelled from their regiment near Toulouse in 2008 for neo-Nazi sympathies, a police official said.

The prosecutor said that track was among those being studied. Investigators also are checking the hypothesis that the killer could be a former soldier with psychological issues or with racist and anti-Semitic motives.

The killer has shown he can handle large-caliber guns with expertise, leading some to suspect he had a military or police background.

France was reeling Tuesday after the school attack, the deadli-

est school shooting in the country and the bloodiest attack on Jewish targets in decades. Schools across the country and French schools around the world held a moment of silence Tuesday to honor the victims.

The French Football Federation said that a minute of silence in memory of the victims was being observed before each match in the French Cup quarterfinals on Tuesday and Wednesday night.

In Monday’s shooting, the attacker first gunned down a rabbi and his two young sons, then chased down the daughter of the school principal, shooting her dead at point-blank range. Reports of the children’s ages varied, with the Israeli Embassy saying Tuesday the boys were 3 and 5 and the girl was 8.

Three online dating sites screen for sex offenders

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Three online dating giants agreed to screen for sex offenders and take other safety steps after a woman was assaulted on a date, the California attorney general’s office announced Tuesday.

Match.com, eHarmony and Spark Networks signed a joint statement of business principles intended to provide an example for the industry and help guard against sexual predators, identity theft and financial scams.

“Consumers should be able to use websites without the fear of being scammed or targeted,” Attorney General Kamala D. Harris said in a statement.

Among other things, the companies agreed Monday to check subscribers against national sex registries, supply members with online safety tips, and provide a quick way to report abuses. Some of the companies already are using some of those practices.

The dating services also will provide the attorney general’s office with reports of suspected criminal activity, she said.

The statement is nonbinding and carries no enforcement penalties, but it does publicly hold dating sites to account for their members’ safety, said Lynda Gledhill, a spokeswoman for the attorney general’s office.

“They can’t be sued by private parties based on this agreement. We fully expect that the companies will, in good faith, comply,” she said.

Match.com, based in Dallas, was a pioneering dating website. Owned by IAC/InterActiveCorp, It now operates in 24 countries and territories in 15 languages.

Based in Santa Monica, eHarmony operates in the United States, Canada, Australia and the United Kingdom.

Spark Networks Inc., based in Beverly Hills, runs a number of dating sites geared to specific religions and ethnicities.

Last year, an estimated 40 million Americans used an on-line dating service and spent more than \$1 billion on dating website memberships, according to the attorney general’s office.

In statements, the three companies all said they make the safety of their members a priority and hoped the statement would encourage other companies to adopt similar policies.

The statement was prompted by the 2010 sexual assault of a Los Angeles-area woman by a man she met through Match.com, Gledhill said. Alan Wurtzel had a string of previous convictions for sexual battery.

Prosecutors said that on their second date in 2010, Wurtzel drove the woman to her home, followed her inside and assaulted her.

The defense at first argued the sex was consensual, but Wurtzel last year pleaded no contest to sexual battery by restraint and was sentenced to a year in jail. He also was ordered to register as a sex offender.

Allen testifies before Congress

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Republicans looking for a political opening to challenge President Barack Obama on national security got little help Tuesday from the top military commander in Afghanistan, who insisted that the White House is heeding his advice.

In his much-anticipated appearance before Congress, Marine Gen. John Allen said shifting the security responsibility from U.S. and coalition troops to Afghan forces is on track more than 10 years after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and after more than a decade of war. The ongoing conflict has divided Congress and increased the public demand to bring the 90,000 U.S. troops home, a call that grew louder in recent weeks after burnings of Qurans and a shooting spree that killed 16 Afghan civilians stoked anti-American rage.

The current plan calls for the U.S. to withdraw its surge force of 23,000 American troops by the end of September, with a complete drawdown by December 2014. Allen told the House Armed Services Committee that he would assess the insurgency threat and the progress of coalition forces later this year before recommending the pace of future withdrawals — a step that pushes that decision past the November elections.

Republicans repeatedly pressed Allen on whether the White House, facing election-year pressure to speed up the drawdown, was at odds with the military commanders, dictating the mission or the size of



The top U.S. commander in Afghanistan, Gen. John Allen, testifies before the House Armed Services Committee.

the U.S. force. Republicans hope to challenge the Democratic commander-in-chief on national security issues, but the killing of terrorist leader Osama bin Laden, a weakened al-Qaida and the end of combat operations in Iraq have given the GOP limited opportunities to criticize Obama.

The president gets high marks in public opinion polls on national security.

Focusing on the narrative that Obama isn’t listening to his commanders, Rep. Mike Conaway, R-Texas, questioned what Allen would do if the administration announces, without his input, what the size of the U.S. force in Afghanistan should be.

“I’ve been given no indications that there is a number that will ultimately be detailed to me to build a strategy around,” Allen said.

One exchange with the chairman of the Armed Services pan-

el, Rep. Howard “Buck” McKeon, R-Calif., underscored that Allen and his commander in chief were speaking from the same page at this stage in the conflict.

“Have you been given assurances by the White House that you can have the forces that you believe you need through the end of the 2013 fighting season?” McKeon asked.

“I have been given assurances by the White House that we’re in a strategic conversation, chairman. There has been no number mentioned. There has been no number that has been specifically implied,” Allen said. “There’s an excellent, I believe, strategic conversation that is going on, that will account for my recommendation, the recommendation of the theater commander, and the Joint Staff in this process. And I’m very pleased, frankly, with where we are in that conversation now.”

INSIDE COLUMN

Mad for March Madness

This year, March brought quite a few surprises to South Bend — sunny skies, green grass, warm weather — but to me, March has always meant one thing and one thing only: March Madness. Already some of my friends are rolling their eyes. After one weekend of competition, they are already tired of the constant presence of basketball in their lives. What they don't understand is that March Madness is hands-down the greatest three weeks of sports in the entire year. Sure, the Super Bowl has its merits, the Masters create an entertaining Sunday afternoon and the All-Star weekend pulls our focus away from the real world for a few days. March Madness, however, is magical. It catches the attention of sports lovers and haters alike, creating a sense of competition between people who might normally not care at all.

People watch every game because they have a personal interest in who wins — they don't want to see their bracket busted only two games in. It's the time of year where anything can happen. No. 15 seeds can defeat top-ranked Missouri (effectively busting one of my brackets). Bad calls can prevent No. 16 teams from making history (I am firmly of the belief that the officials handed Syracuse their first game) and, yes, even Xavier can find some luck and defeat our beloved Irish. It is a time of impossible hope as you place your favorite team in the National Championship round, despite their seventh seed, and you believe with all of your heart that anyone who does otherwise is a traitor. It's the time when Friday and Saturday nights are sacrificed in favor of heart-pounding wins and horrifying losses.

It's one of the only times during the year when it is acceptable to yell at your television. It is a time of empowerment, as you tell the coaches through your TV what exactly they and their players are doing wrong. It is a time when you always know best, more so than your fellow viewers and more so than the experienced coaches and players. I've found that, as the players are now near my own age, I feel much more in the right to yell at them that they're making stupid mistakes and need to start using their brains. It is also the only time of the year where I can enter a sports competition against the Observer Sports department and actually feel like I know what I'm talking about (a feeling that has been proven by my current first-place status).

For all of these reasons and a few more, March Madness is by far my favorite time of year. When the final buzzer sounds after the National Championship in two weeks, no matter who wins the title, I will find myself disappointed. I will also find myself drafting possibilities for next year's bracket.

In the meantime, you can be assured that, come this Friday night, I will be sitting alone in my room, yelling at the television as my KU Jayhawks hopefully save me from another year of shame by advancing to the Elite Eight.

Contact Katie Heit at kheit@nd.edu

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

Katie Heit

Sports Writer

Feeling lonely? Try Lent

Most of us know that we enter into the 40 days of Lent, in part, in imitation of Jesus, who before beginning his public ministry entered the desert for 40 days, where he was tempted by but ultimately overcame Satan. I always begin each Lent with this image of Jesus battling in the desert. Perhaps imagining Jesus duking it out with Satan provides a bit of a spiritual adrenaline rush as my own 40 days begins; but, like most adrenaline rushes, it wears off soon after.

Fr. Lou DelFra

Faithpoint

So here we are, halfway through Lent, with some Lenten resolutions perhaps already by the wayside while others are badly leaking. We stand in need of some motivation, a halftime pep talk, a reinvigorated purpose for persevering in the Lenten promises and self-denials to which we committed with such determination way back on Ash Wednesday.

Recently, I discovered one such source of mid-Lenten motivation. I found it in the Gospel of Luke, chapter 5, verse 16. The verse reads simply: "Jesus often withdrew to lonely places to pray." Despite their simplicity, those words leapt off the page and clung to me throughout the day, stirring up something in my soul that I struggled to grasp. It seems Jesus didn't enter the desert just once at the beginning of his ministry to battle with Satan, defeat him and then get on with his life. Rather, says Luke, he "often withdrew to lonely places to pray." Why this continual disruption of the normal rhythm of his daily life? The question is important to our purposes because if Jesus had to constantly withdraw to the desert, might there not be some motivation for us, in the middle of our forty days, to persevere in our withdrawal and disruption (giving up sweets, meat or whatever) as well?

"Jesus often withdrew to lonely places to pray." For someone who, ac-

cording to the Gospels, so fully revealed in the company of others and was so fully immersed in a life of active service, it's a curious and almost counter-intuitive description. I think in the past I have conveniently misread the line, choosing a more comfortable reading than perhaps is warranted. I usually have interpreted it to mean, "And Jesus would frequently get so tired by his service and the busyness of life, that he needed to withdraw from time to time in order to rest and reenergize."

But there's a problem with this reading. There are many times when Jesus needs precisely to rest and reenergize, which Luke describes differently, without that stark phrase "withdraw to lonely places." The most conspicuous is after the feeding of the 5,000 people, an obvious point when Jesus would have needed a break. Luke 9:10 reads, "After they had fed the crowds, Jesus took his disciples with him, and they withdrew by themselves to a town called Bethsaida." He goes with friends, and there's no mention of that haunting phrase "lonely withdrawal," with all its Lenten connotations of separation, self-denial, discomfort and longing. No, when Jesus needs to rest and rejuvenate, he normally withdraws with his disciples.

So, I wonder if Luke is being very deliberate about his word choice when he says, "And Jesus often withdrew to lonely places to pray"? If Luke is being deliberate, then I wonder if Jesus is not engaging in a continuous spiritual act of Lent in these moments. That is to say, I wonder if he is not momentarily withdrawing to lonely places precisely to feel lonely. Not so that he will become depressed and gloomy, for which the Gospels give no evidence, but so that he can recall and stay in touch with one of our most basic human realities (especially before his death and resurrection). A reality that was hampered home during his initial 40 days in the desert: that at some level, we are cut off from home, separated and

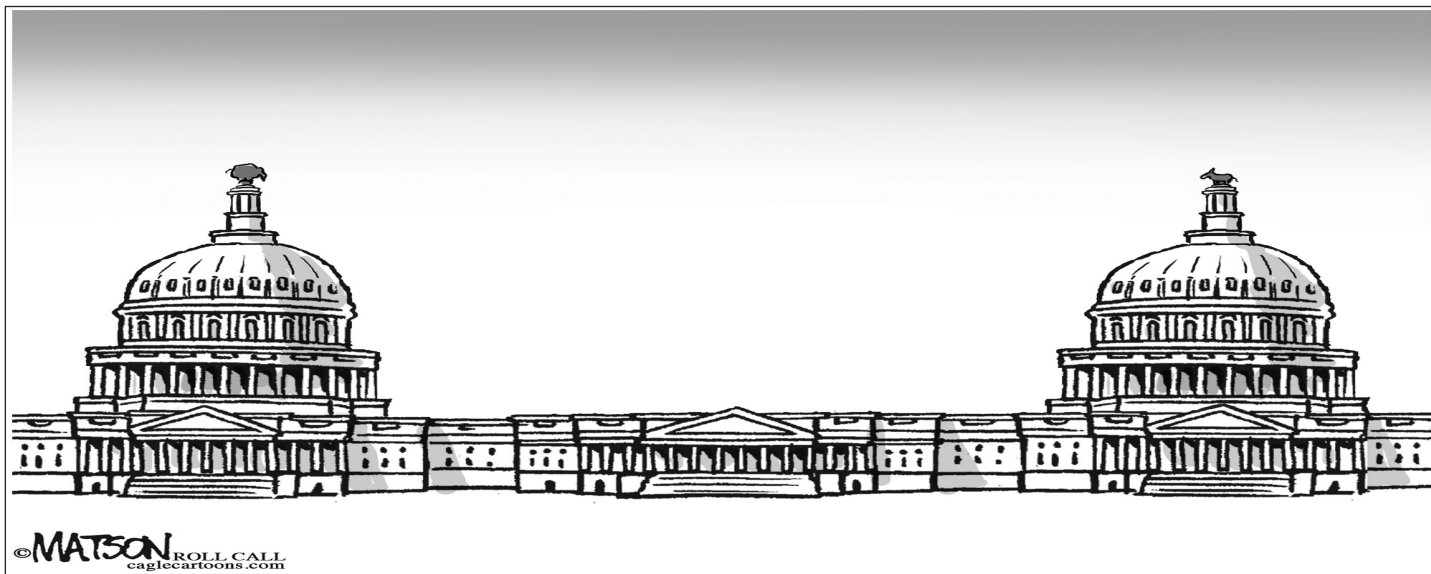
alienated from God, from one another and from creation. And that if we don't have times and seasons when we get in touch with this uncomfortable, agitating reality, we actually become less human, less attuned to an important part of the human condition.

The near-instantaneous connection Jesus has with the alienated, the lonely and the sick throughout the Gospels never ceases to amaze me. From walking into a town square in Samaria and conversing with the troubled woman at the well, to calling out to the alienated thief Zacchaeus in the sycamore tree; from trespassing the purity laws to touch the leper, to standing up for the entrapped woman caught in adultery — when Jesus senses someone who is separated, his compassion wells up and impels him to connect, intervene and save. How is he able to respond so consistently, so fully, so lovingly, to these outcasts?

I wonder if it is not because "often" he himself "withdrew to lonely places" to stay in touch with the deep human reality of our alienation and the even deeper longing to be reconciled. Perhaps this is a reason, in the dog days of Lent, to persevere in our resolutions and discomforting self-denials — so that we too can, so to speak, withdraw momentarily to a deserted place, experience an emptiness or a hunger, recall that we all live with our deepest desires as yet unfulfilled and realize a disturbing percentage of our planet still lives with their most basic desires unfulfilled. In doing so, perhaps we might become more conscious of our longing for God and respond more compassionately when we encounter the lonely and alienated in our lives.

This week's column is written by Fr. Lou DelFra, director of Pastoral Life for ACE and member of Campus Ministry. He can be reached at delfra.2@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

"It takes a great deal of courage to stand up to your enemies, but a great deal more to stand up to your friends."

J. K. Rowling
British author

Submit a
Letter to
the Editor

Email obsviewpoint@gmail.com

WEEKLY POLL

What are you giving up for Lent?

Huddle candy
Facebook stalking
Super Smash Brothers
Naps

Vote by 5 p.m. Wednesday at ndsmcobserver.com

State of disaster

Warren Buffet, America's most famous investor, often says: "You don't know who is swimming naked until the tide rolls out." The Great Recession has revealed many different policy shortcomings in America that were hidden during the 1990s and 2000s by a relatively strong economy. Some such shortcomings are the massive unfunded obligations that states face due to their retirement obligations for public sector workers. While it may not seem interesting or important, this situation is already having a devastating effect upon the states. If left unreformed, it could even lead to a new economic crisis.

Adam Newman

*Scientia
Potentia Est*

According to the Pew Research Center, the 50 states have a combined \$1.26 trillion in unfunded liabilities owed to retirees for pension and health care benefits. This crisis has materialized over past decades as state legislators, eager to gain the support of public sector employee unions, voted to increase pension and health care benefits while lowering the contributions that workers had to make and the age at which they could retire. Meanwhile, most states did not properly fund these benefit increases and promised unrealistic returns on investments made to

pay for the benefits.

My home state, Illinois, is a prime example of how retirement benefits have not only put the state in a bad situation but have also paved a road towards bankruptcy. Currently, the state can fund about 51 percent of its benefit promises, much lower than the 80 percent that the Government Accountability Office recommends. The situation was so bad in 2009 that Illinois was forced to borrow money through bond sales to make the 2010 contribution as mandated by law. Recently, it was projected that the Illinois retirement fund would go bankrupt in 2018, meaning that in 2019, Illinois would be forced to allocate one-third of its budget to make its mandatory retirement benefit contribution. For Illinois and other states, these obligations may have been appropriate decades ago, but are simply unaffordable today.

The most important reform states can take is switching retirement plans from defined benefit (pensions) to defined contribution (401K). A defined benefit plan calculates future retirement benefits based on final salary, years worked and cost of living. Thus, it is possible for state legislators to promise huge benefit increases without allocating funding for them, creating future unfunded liabilities. A defined contribution plan is based on an em-

ployee making ongoing contributions to a retirement fund that the employer then matches. Because of the matching formula, it is not possible to create unfunded liabilities with defined contribution plans, because if state legislators decide to increase retirement benefits for their employees, they must cut spending or raise taxes in the present.

Other necessary reforms include raising the retirement age on state workers (some can retire as early as 50), amending state constitutions so that at least 80 percent of all benefit increases are covered by tax increases or spending cuts and having public employees pay more for their retirement benefits.

The recession and weak recovery has led many Americans who work in the private sector to lose their jobs or take pay and benefits cuts. As more Americans have learned about the perks that public sector employees receive due to the political clout of public sector unions — whether it is early retirement, protection from pay or benefit cuts, lush retirement packages or a job for life — many have begun to harbor bad feelings toward the public sector. This dissent will most likely increase as states raise taxes to pay for the cost of past unfunded promises.

Public sentiment against public sector unions helped propel Republican governors like Chris Christie (New

Jersey), Scott Walker (Wisconsin) and Terry Kasich (Ohio) into power. Even some Democratic governors, like New York's Andrew Cuomo, have taken on the perks and benefits that public sector workers receive.

Tough choices will be forced onto states concerning public sector employee benefits that have been decades in the making, whether states choose to embrace them or not. Public sector employees should work with state governments to solve the crisis. If citizens see this effort, they will be more willing to pay more in taxes. Fighting tooth and nail to protect outdated and unaffordable retirement benefits could be a tragic political miscalculation. It could create a road for bankruptcy for states like Illinois and California and produce more anti-union politicians like Scott Walker. My guess is that the public sector employees will not take this advice. Even still, it is important for them to remember (especially as states begin to make unpopular and painful decisions) that if you do not come to the table, you will eventually be placed on the menu.

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

UWIRE

The politics of food

In his 2008 book *In Defense of Food: An Eater's Manifesto*, Michael Pollan advised people to restore simplicity to food practices. Pollan's message, clearly encapsulated as, "Eat food. Not too much. Mostly plants," resonated strongly with the myriad groups and differentiated movements that have morphed into "the food movement." In stressing simplicity, these recent efforts at food reform have differed from their predecessors by moving past the politics of food production, regulation, and inspection. They focus instead on the diverse ethical, cultural, environmental, and health implications of food. Yet, despite that broad focus, the recent food movement is inherently political. By challenging us to slow down and carefully consider

Beatrice Walton

*Harvard
Political Review*

the consequences of food consumption and creation, the movement and its crisscrossing components challenge us to rethink the role of government in the new "politics" of food.

Though the movement often strives for simplicity in food practices, its debates hardly have narrow scope. In one subset of food politics, health and lifestyle concerns drive efforts to change America's "food culture" and render its defining practices more sustainable. This has given rise to campaigns promoting gardening, composting, healthy cooking, and food literacy. Likewise, as Americans continue to struggle against diet-related illnesses, government health experts are tasked with balancing the country's needs for greater access to quality food (online article) and limiting unhealthy food in programs such as school lunches. This debate is central to efforts to reform the food stamp

program, where ensuring positive health outcomes is more important than ever, given that one out of every seven Americans currently uses the program. In these instances, the food movement has stressed the importance of fostering positive relationships with healthy food.

Elsewhere, there is concern about how governments impact agricultural practices. From subsidies in the U.S. Farm Bill to preferential trade policies for European agricultural producers in the EU's Common Agricultural Policy, debate as to which crops should be supported and what effects those preferential policies have on developing foreign markets. Genetically modified crops, and their potentially controversial environmental effects, are also included in this discussion. Furthermore, political moves to support agriculture at the expense of natural resources have recently come under fire, as with the

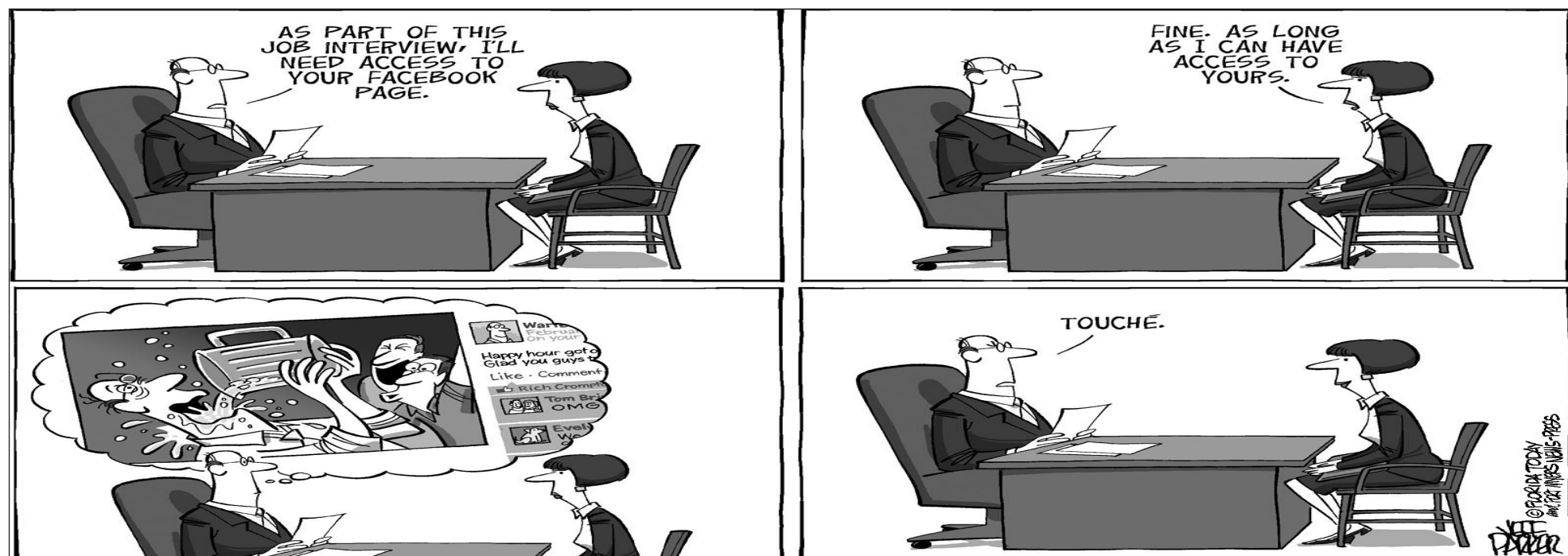
Florida Everglades.

Ultimately, moves towards sustainable, grass-grazed, cage-free, and organic foods, as well as improved food access and culture, form the backbone of the modern food movement. Still, as China's example shows, oversight is still necessary, particularly when concerning the deceptive food-marketing tactics of corporations in the developing world. If there is one overarching goal that everyone in the food movement agrees on, it is avoiding exporting past mistakes of the United States' unsustainable and unhealthy food practices abroad.

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



SCENE TAKE

Sweet Sixteen

No. 4 Indiana Hoosiers vs. No. 1 Kentucky Wildcats

Who dat say they gon' beat them Hoosiers? That's not right ... Earlier in the year Indiana pulled off one of the biggest upsets of the season beating Kentucky on a last-second shot. This time around, the Wildcats' athleticism in the paint will out muscle Indiana's reliance on the 3-point shot in a hard-fought defensive struggle. Just kidding, I just pulled some of the most overused headlines from the sports pages of The Observer. Indiana Hoosiers, because Indiana grows corn and I like cornbread. Plus, that Kentucky kid's unibrow is revolting. Get it out.



Photo courtesy of bleacherreport.com

No. 10 Xavier Musketeers vs. No. 3 Baylor Bears

Man has had a longstanding conflict with the bear. Despite years of peace talks and deliberation, bears remain ruthless even with their cuddly appearances. In this battle between man and wild, we must side with the Bears. We could hardly imagine a present-day militia being able to take down a pack of grizzlies, let alone these so called "musketeers" from the 1800's. Baylor Bears by a claw-ful.

No. 4 Louisville Cardinals vs. No. 1 Michigan State Spartans

Every March people remember those overused lines from the movie "300" and proclaim, "This is Madness!" when referring to March Madness. While the immediate reply in the movie is, "This is Sparta!" people forget that the Spartans died at the hand of Xerxes. We're siding with the Persians on this one. Louisville Cardinals by 300.

No. 7 Florida Gators vs. No. 3 Marquette Golden Eagles

The problem with Gators playing basketball is that they aren't very tall nor can they jump very high. Gators are very scary animals and not a good choice to play against in a game of water polo, but for basketball I'm going with the Golden Eagles — they can fly and are golden. Plus, this guy playing for Marquette looks like a robot version of Kanye West. Now, I'm gonna let Florida fight to the finish, and I'm really happy for them, but Marquette will win in one of the greatest NCAA games of all time! Marquette Golden Eagles by 5 platinum albums.



Photos courtesy of stinkpaw.blogspot.com

Elite Eight

No. 4 Indiana Hoosiers vs. No. 3 Baylor Bears

It's a matchup of the new upstarts versus the traditional powerhouse. Not the teams themselves, of course, but the uniform styles. Indiana plays it classic and simple, with the same maroon and white look they've used for decades. It calls back to the good old days of Indiana basketball, when Bob Knight threw that chair at that kid. On the other side, you have Baylor, the flying highlighters. Seriously, the neon yellow needs to go. It's frightening. Indiana wins, mercifully.



Photo courtesy of larrybrownsports.com

No. 4 Louisville Cardinals vs. No. 3 Marquette Golden Eagles

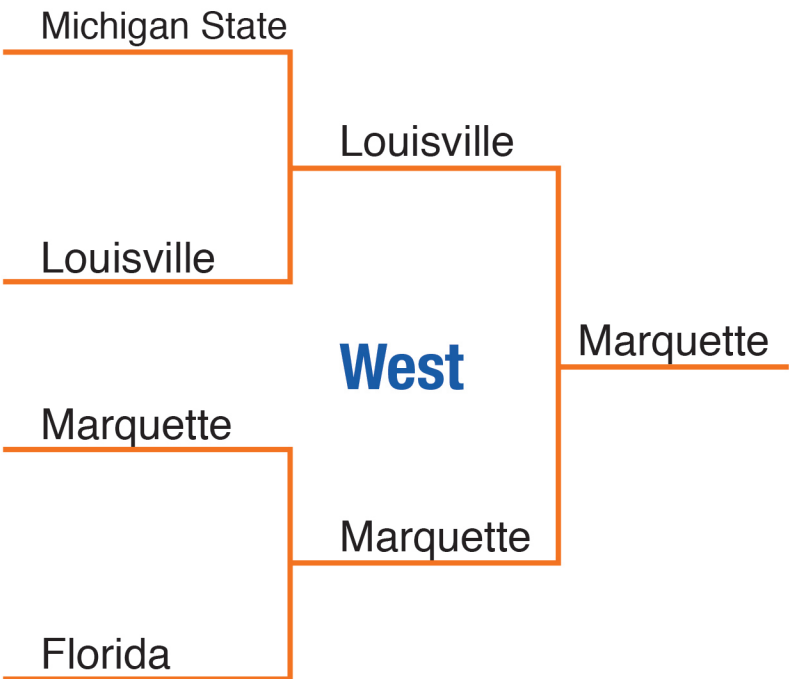
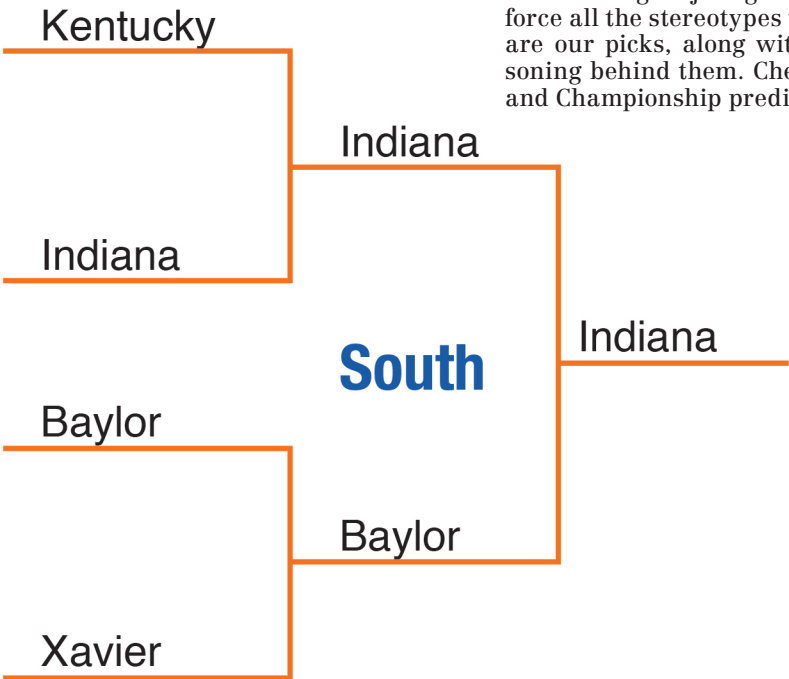
In a classic matchup of the Catholics versus Rick Pitino, I think God wins. Rumor has it the Louisville players didn't even give anything up for Lent. Plus, we flipped a coin ten times and it came up for Marquette on six of the ten. Clearly God is on their side. Marquette wins, by 40 days and 40 nights.



Photo courtesy of iuhoosier.cbsscollegestore.com

Scene Staff Report

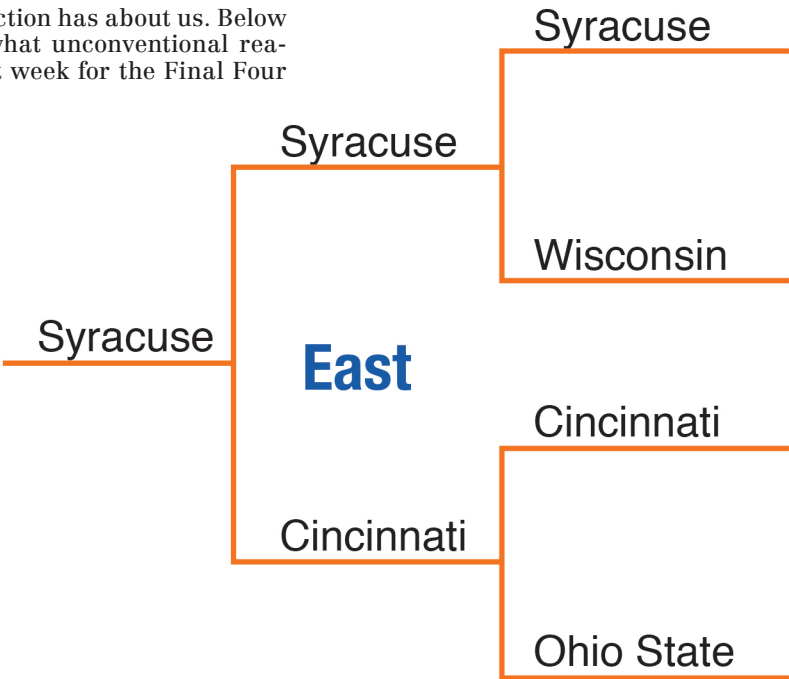
The original Scene bracket, pretty roughed up by the first round, is back. This time, Scene has decided to collectively re-pick the teams and show off its new power. Just kidding. It just gave Scene a chance to force all the stereotypes the Sports Illustrated writers are our picks, along with the stereotypes behind them. Check back for the final Scene and Championship predictions.



ES ON THE



like many others this year, got weekend of games. UNC-Ashe-ly killed us. But the Scene staff pick its bracket based on the re-ts prophetic sports knowledge. e yet another a chance to rein-ports section has about us. Below somewhat unconventional rea-ck next week for the Final Four



Sweet Sixteen

No. 4 Wisconsin Badgers vs. No. 1 Syracuse Orange

Since they're known as the "Orange," Syracuse should have a mastery of orange colored spheres. Contrarily, badgers are probably more inclined towards woodland matters and other small animal things. Syracuse by a bushel.

No. 6 Cincinnati Bearcats vs. No. 2 Ohio State Buckeyes

Skyline Chili trumps any food that has come out of Columbus, Ohio. I mean, has any famous food come out of Ohio (not including Cincinnati, that is)? The Bearcats, fueled by this food of champions, will overcome the odds to beat OSU. Plus, it's no longer the Ides of March, so Brutus and his Buckeyes are doomed to fail. Cincinnati by a Loaded Chili Bowl.



Photo courtesy of crimsoncast.com



Photo courtesy of skylinechili.com

No. 13 Ohio Bobcats vs. No. 1 North Carolina Tar Heels

Michael Jordan played for the Tar Heels. And he played for the Toon Squad. The Monstars, aka Bobcats, don't stand a chance, particularly without Mike's Secret Stuff. My money's on Bill Murray coming in the second half to lead the Tar Heels to victory. North Carolina Tar Heels by a montage of Michael Jordan dunks.



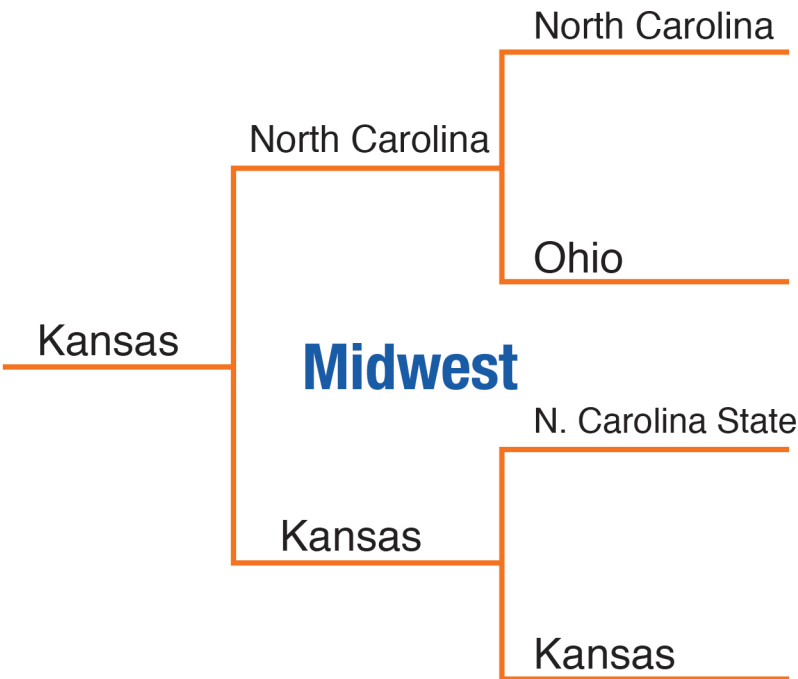
Photo courtesy of mj23.tripod.com

No. 11 North Carolina State Wolfpack vs. No. 2 Kansas Jayhawks

Go Irish! Beat Wolfpack! SUCK IT, WOLFPACK! Go, Irish, go! At least one of us on staff remembers the chants from her first football game freshman year, and now that Charlie Weis is a Jayhawk I like the chances of their offense putting up a lot of points. Kansas Jayhawks by a Golden Tate touchdown.



Photo courtesy of thepenaltyflagblog.com



Elite Eight

No. 1 Syracuse Orange vs. No. 6 Cincinnati Bearcats

It's a slugfest fit for the MGM Grand, with the hideous bright orange of Syracuse up against an upstart challenger, the black and red camo outfits of Cincinnati. No clear loser there. A bearcat versus the color orange? Sounds like a win for the bearcat, until you realize that a bearcat is really just a glorified possum. Well, our editor's roommate is from Cincinnati; he'd love it if he'd get some quiet about it for a day or two. Syracuse, because shut up Andrew.



Photo courtesy of smokingmusket.com

No. 1 North Carolina Tar Heels vs. No. 2 Kansas Jayhawks

What's a Tar Heel? What's a Jayhawk? Nobody really knows for certain. But what I do know is the fighting force in Kansas called the Jayhawkers resisted the Southerners who tried to make it a slave state in the pre-Civil War era. Score one for freedom. Kansas by four score and seven.

SPORTS AUTHORITY

Denver transitions from Tebow to Manning

What have you done for me lately?

The age-old adage continues to apply more and more to the modern world of sports business, which looks more like business than sports too much of the time these days.

Football fans have witnessed an extreme case of the cruelty of business in sports with the Peyton Manning saga.

After 14 seasons with the Colts, the first 13 of which were injury-free, Manning was let go by Indianapolis in early March.

During the past couple weeks, several teams courted the future Hall-of-Famer, before he eventually decided to continue his illustrious career with Denver, which will likely displace another starting quarterback from his perch: the eternally polarizing Tim Tebow.

Tebow won over the hearts of the Broncos' fanbase with a late-season surge (was it Tebow or was it the defense?) that resulted in a playoff berth and a thrilling overtime win over the Steelers.

Regardless, Manning's signing shows Denver has moved on from its young quarterback, whom executive vice president of football operations John Elway never fully embraced.

It's hard to argue with the decisions made by either organization. The Colts have the opportunity to select Andrew Luck with the first overall pick, a player who is ironically regarded by many as the best signal-caller in the draft since Manning or Elway. The team's roster moves over the past couple weeks reveal a team trading its veterans for a fresh start after last season's 2-14 Manning-less debacle.

Rarely does a team have the opportunity to immediately replace a legendary quarterback with one who has the potential to be the same. The Packers represent the exception, not the norm with Aaron Rodgers.

Look at the Dolphins: They still haven't found a quarterback since Dan Marino retired over a decade ago.



Andrew Owens
Assistant Managing Editor

Heck, it took the Lions 50 years after they dumped Bobby Layne to find Matthew Stafford.

With Denver, the shift from the run-happy Tebow to the leadership and precision of Manning was an easy one. Without the passing skills necessary to sustain success in the NFL, Tebow is likely to be a one-hit wonder, whereas Manning instantly propels the Broncos into the Super Bowl discussion.

Regardless of the opportunities Luck and Manning present to the Colts and Broncos, respectively, it is still amazing to think of how quickly these organizations have chosen a new signal-caller, especially with Indianapolis.

Peyton Manning was the Indianapolis Colts. He led the team to playoff berths year after year, including a Super Bowl victory in 2006, the team's first since 1970 when they were known as the Baltimore Colts.

Although the team choked in the playoffs more often than even LeBron James, Manning gave the Colts credibility among the league's elite and was viewed as the class of the National Football League during the past decade, with the likes of New England and Pittsburgh.

Even after owner Jim Irsay declined to pick up Manning's \$28 million option for 2012, No. 18 showed why he is a true throwback in today's NFL. He thanked the Colts and their fans for the opportunity and never complained about being let loose by the only organization he has ever known — something he certainly had the right to do.

No one really knows how the controversial decisions these organizations have made will play out.

Maybe Manning will win a Super Bowl in Denver in the next three or four years before retiring.

Perhaps Luck is next in line in the strong tradition of elite Colts quarterbacks.

Would it even be that surprising if Manning never fully recovers from the neck operations or if Luck fails to live up to the grand expectations?

Only time will determine the success of Manning, Luck and Tebow. But one thing is for sure: If any of these signal callers trip up, the teams will already be on the phone with the next candidate.

Contact Andrew Owens at aowens2@nd.edu

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

NFL

Manning welcomed in Denver

Associated Press

DENVER — Peyton Manning stood next to John Elway, holding up a bright orange jersey with the No. 18 on it.

Yes, that could take some getting used to.

And now if Manning's surgically repaired neck cooperates, these two quarterbacks — one in the Hall of Fame, the other headed there one day — think they might be taking a similar photo together, only next time they'll be holding a Super Bowl trophy.

Manning was introduced as the new quarterback of the Denver Broncos on Tuesday, the four-time MVP taking the spot once held by Elway, who as Broncos vice president engineered the deal to bring the NFL's most sought-after free agent to town.

It's a deal that could also mark the end of Tim Tebow's days in Denver — a bold move, for sure, but one Elway was more than willing to take.

"Plan B?" he said. "I don't have a Plan B. We're going with Plan A."

After his photo op with Elway and owner Pat Bowlen, Manning answered many of the questions that have been bouncing around since March 7, when his old team, the Indianapolis Colts, released the quarterback and set in motion one of the most frenetic free-agent pursuits in history.

On the neck injury that kept him off the field through 2011: "I'm not where I want to be. I want to be where I was before I was injured. There's a lot of work to do to get where we want to be from a health standpoint."

On his potential role in being the man who could bring about the end of Tebow's popular stay in Denver: "I know what kind of player Tim Tebow is, what kind of person he is, what an awesome year it was. If Tim Tebow is here next year, I'm going to be the best teammate I can be to him. He and I are going to help this team win games. If other opportunities present themselves to him, I'm going to wish him the best."

On Elway's role in leading him to choose Denver over other suitors, the most serious of which were the Titans and 49ers: "I'm seeing him as the leader of a franchise. I really liked what he had to say. Everyone knows what kind of competitor he is as a player. I can tell he's just as competitive in this new role. That got me excited."

And so, the deal was sealed.

Manning has a five-year, \$96 million contract and plans to retire in Denver. His familiar No. 18



Quarterback Peyton Manning holds a Broncos jersey with his name and number at the Broncos headquarters after signing on Tuesday.

was actually retired — a tribute to Denver's first quarterback, Frank Tripucka, who was more than happy to let Manning bring it out of mothballs. The Broncos, meanwhile, have some protection in the way the contract was formulated. There's no signing bonus. Manning will get \$18 million guaranteed for next season, but must pass a physical before each season, starting in 2013, to get paid.

"I don't consider it much of a risk, knowing Peyton Manning," Elway said. "I asked him, 'Is there any doubt in your mind that you can't get back to the Peyton Manning we know of?' And he said, 'There's no doubt in my mind.'"

It was 14 years ago that Bowlen stood on the podium in San Diego, lifted the franchise's first Super Bowl trophy and proclaimed: "This one's for John."

But this franchise hasn't been anywhere near what it was since Elway retired a year later with a second title in tow.

His return to the front office last year set off a whirlwind of activity that landed the Broncos in the playoffs. But Elway has always been in this to win Super Bowls and he's throwing his hat in with Manning, the 50,000-yard passer who redefined the quarterback position through the 2000s, not Tebow — who seems most comfortable carrying and not throwing the ball.

"Tim Tebow's a great kid. If I want someone to marry my daughter, it's him," Elway said. "Tim is a great football player, but with the opportunity that presented itself

here, we had to take advantage of that."

He said no decision has been made on Tebow's future, but he seemed to be preparing the quarterback's fans to say goodbye.

"That's the tough part of this business," Elway said.

Manning, who turns 36 on Saturday, said he made a quick connection with Elway, who won his two Super Bowls in Denver after his 37th birthday. Since No. 7's retirement, a long string of quarterbacks have come to Denver, trying in vain to replace the unreplaceable. If anyone can get out of that shadow, Manning could be the man.

He's got two trips to the Super Bowl and one title, 11 Pro Bowls and was the fastest player to reach 50,000 yards and 4,000 completions.

Long known as a master student of the game, there are hours of highlights available that begin with Manning standing at the line of scrimmage, surveying a defense, checking out of a play — or two — then calling the right one and getting the Colts to the end zone.

It's expected he'll be able to run his kind of offense in Denver, which reverted to an option-style system to maximize Tebow's potential last year.

One other factor in Manning's decision to play outdoors in the Mile High City: The nearly \$40 million in salary cap room the Broncos have, putting them in the mix for quality free agents, possibly including Manning's former teammates Jeff Saturday and Dal-

CLASSIFIEDS

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	House for rent. 3BR \$600 per bedroom. Utilities included. 506 No ND Ave. Call 574-272-2940			A Baby is a Blessing: Adoption We're both educators who value learning, family and our happy 8 yr marriage. We'll give your child a happy home, a stay-at-home mom and a large, devoted Catholic family (9 cousins and growing!). We very much look forward to talking to you. Call Kim & Robert (855) 788-2810.	The limerick is furtive and mean You must keep her in close quarantine Or she sneaks to the slums And promptly becomes Disorderly, drunk and obscene.
	Faculty or Grad Students. Spacious 2br,2-1/2 ba with LR,DR,fam rm, 4-season rm, AC, Sec Sys, 2-car gar, near campus, bsmt, fen. yrd + utility rm, no pets. \$1500/mo + utilities. 262-332-0015				There once was a dinosaur named Fred Who liked to eat nothing but bread. But it had not been invented So he grew thin and dented And soon he was lying there dead.

NCAA Women’s Basketball

Griner completes historic dunk in Baylor’s rout of Florida

Georgia Tech, Duke defeat Georgetown, Vanderbilt to advance to Sweet 16 of NCAA tournament

Associated Press

BOWLING GREEN, Ohio — Brittney Griner took a pass from a teammate, stepped toward the basket, stretched out her right arm and slammed the ball through.

Then the Baylor star reacted in typically modest fashion.

“I think my team got fired up a little bit more than me. I got a little bit more fired up, I think, on one of the blocks I had,” Griner said. “But it definitely felt good throwing it down.”

Griner became the second woman to dunk in an NCAA tournament game Tuesday night, and top-seeded Baylor rolled to a 76-57 win over ninth-seeded Florida. The 6-foot-8 junior phenom went nearly 12 minutes without scoring at the beginning of the game, but she finished with 25 points.

The highlight, of course, was Griner’s dunk early in the second half.

“That wasn’t just a barely-over-the-rim type of dunk. That was a monster dunk,” Baylor coach Kim Mulkey said. “I think Brittney is so conscious of people writing good or bad about the dunk, that she’s scared to get excited sometimes and celebrate a dunk, because she’s been written about in a negative way. I said, ‘Honey, if I could dunk it, I’d do backflips down the floor.’”

Odyssey Sims added 14 points for Baylor (36-0). Azania Stewart led Florida (20-13) with 14.

Candace Parker of Tennessee dunked twice in an NCAA tournament game in 2006 against Army. Griner’s dunk was her first of the season and sixth of her career. Parker holds the career record with seven.

Baylor led 35-26 at halftime, but Griner was only beginning to assert herself. She scored eight points in the first half, including six in the final 3:56.

“It was hard to get her touches,” Mulkey said. “I go back to what I’ve said all along. I don’t care how you guard Griner. We’ve seen it all. If you guard her with two and three, the other positions are going to be exposed and we will score. If you guard her with one — you saw what happened tonight when they guarded her with one.”

Griner began the second half with a turnaround and a layup. Then Kimmie Hayden came up with an offensive rebound near the basket and passed to an open Griner, who dunked for the first time since Feb. 19, 2011, at Texas Tech.

The Lady Bears led 41-28, although Florida didn’t exactly crumble.

“We talked about it in the locker room. We know she’s capable of doing that. She’s does it in warmups,” Stewart said. “We said that if they make a big 3 or she dunks, we have to get the ball in and out quickly. It didn’t affect us, I don’t think. It’s a great play — most women can’t do that.”

Baylor hasn’t lost since falling in the quarterfinals of last year’s NCAA tournament. The Lady Bears will face fourth-seeded Georgia Tech in the round of 16 on Saturday in Des Moines, Iowa.

Griner began this tournament quietly, playing only 22 minutes in Baylor’s first-round rout of UC Santa Barbara. She delighted the crowd Tuesday with her dunking display in warmups, at one point throwing down a two-handed effort and pull-

ing herself up toward the rim.

When the game started, Griner was called for an early charging foul when she tried to dribble coast to coast following a defensive rebound. She didn’t attempt a shot until about midway through the half and didn’t score until a layup with 8:18 remaining.

The Gators used a zone defense to deny Griner the ball inside, and although Baylor led 26-11 at one point, Florida answered with a 9-0 run.

Griner then scored six quick points for the Lady Bears — two free throws, a putback and a shot from out near the free throw line. The Gators kept answering for the rest of the half, but that stretch was a sign of things to come for Griner.

Griner went 8 of 14 from the field with nine rebounds and six blocks.

Florida beat Ohio State in the first round, defiantly holding off the Buckeyes in front of a partisan crowd in northwest Ohio. The Gators didn’t back down from Baylor either. At one point in the second half, Deana Allen lost her left shoe while going to the basket. She hustled back and played an entire defensive possession without it.



AP

Baylor’s Brittney Griner scores on a layup during the second half of the Lady Bears’ win over Florida on Tuesday in Bowling Green, Ohio.

low Jackets two days after she was held to 11 points by Fresno State. She came to Chapel Hill averaging nearly 19 points.

It got so rough that, after Rodgers missed seven of her eight 3-point attempts, coach Terri Williams-Flournoy told her to stop shooting from beyond the arc.

“I feel bad for ‘Sug’ because she wants it really, really bad, and sometimes as a shooter when the shot’s not falling, it’s hard to think of anything else,” Williams-Flournoy said. “At this point, she had to stop. I don’t ever, ever think it’s anything that a defense has done to Sug. ... I always think that Sugar has to make herself available, Sugar has to go hard off a screen.

“Sugar Rodgers can never be guarded if she doesn’t want to be guarded.”

On this night, she was guarded — by a determined Georgia Tech team that kept changing defenses and giving her different looks.

“We wanted to deny her and just make it tough for her to catch the ball,” guard Metra Walthour said.

It worked, and it helped send the Yellow Jackets to the regional semifinals for the first time.

Freshman Sydney Wallace scored 23 points, and Sasha Goodlett added 14 points and 11 rebounds for the Yellow Jackets (26-8), who shot 50 percent and never let Georgetown get closer than eight in the second half to win for the 15th time in 18 games and prolong the best season in school history.

Up next is their biggest challenge: A trip to Iowa to face Baylor — the tournament’s top overall seed — on Saturday in the regional semifinals.

“We know we’ve never been to the Sweet 16 before, so we want to celebrate,” Walthour said. “But this is not as far as we want to go. We’re here to play, and we’re confident and we know we’re not done yet.”

Tia Magee added 10 points for the Hoyas (23-9), who didn’t get closer than 10 in the final 12 minutes.

Alexa Roche’s jumper pulling them to 64-54 with 6 minutes left. Chelsea Regins followed that with a layup and Walthour added a 3-pointer with about 4 minutes to play to make it 69-54 — the Yellow Jackets’ largest lead to that point.

“We had the right pace going — just at the wrong times we took a

play off,” Magee said. “And No. 23 (Wallace), she did a great job hitting shots. They just hit shots at the most crucial times, and every time we tried to fight back, throw a punch back, we couldn’t get it rolling.”

Walthour finished with 15 points and Regins added 14 for Georgia Tech, which had never won multiple games in any of its previous seven NCAA tournament appearances.

These Yellow Jackets set school records for victories both overall and in the Atlantic Coast Conference (12) and claiming its best-ever NCAA seed, and came to Chapel Hill hoping to make some more history.

“Ever since we came in, we wanted to do something special. We wanted to leave our mark on this program,” said Goodlett, a senior. “We came in thinking, ‘We have to make it to the Sweet 16. We have to take this program somewhere it’s never been.’ We don’t have any excuses. ... We’re not going to let this program drop. We wanted to elevate it, take it a step further.”

Duke 96, Vanderbilt 80

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Losing in the Atlantic Coast Conference tournament seems to have lit a fire under the Duke Blue Devils.

Haley Peters’ career-high 25 points led five Blue Devils in double figures, and Duke turned in its best shooting performance of the season Tuesday night in routing Vanderbilt 96-80 to advance to the Fresno Regional semifinal.

The second-seeded Blue Devils (26-5) trailed only once before a display that included nine straight made baskets in the first half. Duke advanced to its 14th regional semifinal in 15 seasons.

Tricia Liston had 23 points for Duke. Elizabeth Williams had 13, and Chelsea Gray and Shay Selby each had 10.

Not even Memorial Gym, the Southeastern Conference’s oldest gym with no air conditioning, gave seventh-seeded Vanderbilt (23-10) any help on a night the temperature reached 90 by halftime.

The only thing hotter was Duke’s shooting.


Christina Foggie had 26 points for Vanderbilt. Jasmine Lister had 16, Stephanie Holzer scored 12 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, and Elan Brown 13.

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SMC SOFTBALL

Belles split doubleheader on road against Wheaton

By NICK BOYLE
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's split its doubleheader against Wheaton on Tuesday, coming from behind to win the first game 3-2 while falling just short in the second, losing by a score of 5-4.

"I am really pleased with how we played against Wheaton. They are an excellent team and we should have won both," Belles coach Erin Sullivan said. "The pitchers threw really well and we did a great job defensively for the most part. [We made] just a couple of mistakes that cost us game two."

The first game featured a late inning rally by the Belles (10-2), who scored all three of their runs in the sixth inning.

Down by one, freshman outfielder Victoria Connelly drew a leadoff walk and advanced to second on a single by junior shortstop Emily Sherwood. Junior catcher Morgan Bedan doubled, driving in the Belles' first run. Sophomore pitcher Callie Selner and senior second baseman Angela Gillis followed with RBI hits, giving the Belles a 3-1 lead.

That proved to be all the Belles needed, as Selner finished off her complete game to earn her fifth win of the season.

"Selner pitched a great first

game against aggressive hitters," Sullivan said. "She also hit very well, going 3 for 6 with a double."

The second game however, saw a rocky start for the Belles, as Wheaton (12-2) scored five runs in the first three innings, taking a 5-0 lead.

Saint Mary's rallied late and scored two runs in each of the fifth and sixth innings, bringing the game within a run.

Unfortunately it proved to be too little, too late for the Belles, as Wheaton was able to hold on for the win.

Senior captain Lauren Enayati was absent for the games for the Belles due to a class conflict. Though Sullivan was overall happy with her teams' performance, she felt Enayati's presence could have changed the outcome of the second game.

"It was tough not having Enayati," Sullivan said. "We lost our leadoff batter and player with the highest batting average, as well as a senior captain in her, but the team really stepped up."

Saint Mary's next will take on Adrian on Saturday in its MIAA opener.

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SMC TENNIS

Belles get shut-out by Indiana Wesleyan

By AARON SANT-MILLER
Sports Writer

After falling to Indiana Wesleyan 9-0 on Tuesday, Saint Mary's will need to prove its ability to bounce back for the second time this season. Earlier this season, the Belles (6-3) suffered a 9-0 loss in their season opener to Case Western. But following that shutout loss, the Belles were able to put together a five-game win steak, showcasing their ability to move past tough defeats, something Saint Mary's will look to do again following its second shutout of the season.

The Wildcats (15-0) were undefeated entering the match, but despite their opponents' impressive record, the Belles were somewhat optimistic entering the contest.

"I thought it would be a closer match, but it's hard to know the level of competition when you don't have a lot of common opponents," Belles coach Dale Campbell said.

After matching up with the Wildcats directly and getting a closer look at their team, Campbell said he was impressed.

"They were better than I thought today," Campbell said. "They were a very good team."

The Wildcats demonstrated their talent at the top of the lineup and defeated the

Belles' talented No. 1 and No. 2 singles players, sophomore Mary Catherine Fallner and freshman Kayle Sexton. According to Campbell, however, what makes Indiana Wesleyan stand out as a team is its depth.

"They had a lot of depth throughout their lineup," Campbell said. "They were good at all positions."

Still, the Belles said they took away some positives from the tough loss. According to Campbell his squad played better than the results convey.

"I thought we performed fairly well," Campbell said. "Everyone gave it their best. We learned from it and it was a good test for us. It was good for us to see this."

Campbell said his athletes were able to maintain a similar sense of perspective and optimism following the loss.

"I'm sure they're a little bit upset, because you're always upset with a loss," Campbell said. "Yet, overall I think they feel it's good to see such good competition."

St. Mary's will look to use this optimism to kick off another streak on Saturday, when the Belles will take on both Wheaton and Judson at Hanover Park in Elgin, Ill. The Belles take on Wheaton at 1 p.m. and Judson at 5 p.m.

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Novosel

continued from page 24

en Bears to handle.

"We've got three really good guards; they can do so many things," McGraw said. "[Novosel] and [Diggins] really took over."

The Irish and the Bears were evenly matched through the first 10 minutes of play. Diggins hit a shot with 10 minutes remaining in the first half to give the Irish a narrow edge by a score of 17-15. The Irish managed to go on short 4-0 and 5-0 runs. But every time Notre Dame looked ready to pull away, the Golden Bears hit a big shot to quell the fire.

Novosel started hot, scoring 17 points in the first half. She also knocked down nine free throws, driving aggressively and getting to the charity stripe often. For the game, Novosel made more free throws than the entire Golden Bears squad attempted.

"My shots weren't falling for me at first, so I started attacking the basket," Novosel said. "I was able to get comfortable that way."

California freshman forward Reshanda Grey hit a layup with 53 seconds remaining in the first half to put the Golden Bears up 31-29. Novosel answered at the other end with a jumper from the free throw line, sending the teams into the locker room all knotted up at 31. Novosel had her way with the California defense all night.

"Their trying to get up and pressure the ball made it a little easier for me," Novosel said. "It was easier for me to get a step on them."

The Irish broke out on an early 10-2 run in the second half on a putback by graduate student forward Devereaux Peters, a pair of free throws and a jumper by Diggins, a steal and a layup by sophomore guard Kayla McBride and a scoop shot by graduate student guard Brittany Mallory.

"We switched defenses at half



PAT COVENEY/The Observer

Senior guard Natalie Novosel drives to the basket in Notre Dame's 73-62 win over California on Tuesday. She led the team with 29 points.

time," McGraw said. "When the drive came, the guards were attacking the ball a little bit more. I thought that was pretty effective."

"In the first half, we weren't containing the ball at all and the guards were having their way to the basket," Diggins said. "We wanted to make sure we did a better job staying in front of the ball, helping our bigs out a little bit. We were getting outworked. We had to pick up the hustle and I think we did a good job of that."

With 12:29 remaining in the second half, Diggins was fouled hard on a breakaway layup. An intentional foul was called and Notre Dame was awarded two free throws and the ball. On that possession, the Irish pulled ahead by 17 and never looked back. California made a few runs, but the Irish never lost control.

"I was just so pleased with the way we came out in the second half," McGraw said. "I thought we ratcheted up the intensity with our defense."

On the other end, whenever the Irish offense seemed sluggish, Diggins was able to catalyze scoring with a drive, a steal or a quick pass.

"When you've got [Novosel] attacking like she is and so many people

paying attention to her, I'm surrounded by good shooters, and I can throw anything to [Peters] and she'll catch it," Diggins said. "That opens up stuff for me. I think tonight, in particular, my teammates did a good job of finding me."

Peters had perhaps her most complete statline of the year, finishing with 11 points, 14 rebounds, a career-high seven blocks and a game-high five assists.

"To be able to count on her for so many rebounds, and her assists today I thought were phenomenal," McGraw said.

Peters said Notre Dame's experience helped them withstand the Golden Bears' challenge.

"We're an older team, we've been here before," Peters said. "I think we play a lot better when we keep our composure. We know what we have to do to execute."

The Irish travel to Raleigh, N.C., on Saturday for a matchup with No. 5 St. Bonaventure.

en Bears to handle.

"We've got three really good guards; they can do so many things," McGraw said. "[Novosel] and [Dig-

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BASEBALL

Eagles no match for ND offense

ANDREW GASTELUM
Associate Sports Editor

Just four days after playing in the NCAA men's basketball tournament, Irish freshman pitcher Pat Connaughton took the mound for his collegiate debut in Notre Dame's 11-4 win over Eastern Michigan on Tuesday.

On a limited pitch count of 31 pitches, Connaughton impressed in his 1 2/3 innings pitched, topping out at 94 mph in front of his basketball teammates, Irish coach Mike Brey and Notre Dame basketball coaching legend Digger Phelps. All five of the freshman's outs came from strikeouts, often blowing past opposing hitters with a steady diet of fastballs and the occasional, deceptive curve.

"I was really excited, and I knew coach Brey and all the basketball kids were coming," Connaughton said. "I tried not to think about the loss with basketball and this kept me occupied."

"I got the call Saturday afternoon from [Irish coach Mik Aoki] about what their plan was and seeing if it was ready and alright ... We have beaten a few good teams, so I am just trying to help out any way I can."

Aoki said Connaughton's performance was right on par with his expectations and plans to allow the right-hander plenty of time to find his rhythm.

"I thought Pat did well," Aoki said. "He did as I would expect. There were some pitches that were big misses

of the strike zone and then he made some quality pitches. The way I have always seen Pat is when you put him up against the wall ... he has a knack of making good pitches."

"31 pitches allows him to be available this weekend against Pitt and it gets his feet wet on the mound. Right now we have got to get him consistent outings so he can get his pitch count up. Maybe at one point we decide he needs to be a weekend guy for us."

The Irish (11-7) gave Connaughton the early lead with a two-run first inning highlighted by back-to-back two-out RBI singles from sophomore first baseman Trey Mancini and junior catcher Joe Hudson. The heart of the lineup for the Irish — consisting of sophomore third baseman Eric Jagielo, Mancini and Hudson — combined for eight hits and six RBIs to lead Notre Dame to the comfortable victory.

"They have given us quality at-bats all year long and today was no exception," Aoki said. "To be honest if those guys aren't going well we as a club are kind of scuffling along."

Aoki pulled Connaughton — who was in line for the win — towards the end of the second with a 2-0 lead, replacing him with senior left-hander Steve Sabatino. The Irish pulled out to a 4-1 lead following three-straight doubles in the third, but the Eagles (5-13) came back to tie the game at four in the top of the fifth. Sabatino was shaky in his 2 2/3

innings of relief, giving up four earned runs.

But the Irish responded quickly in the bottom half of the fifth with two runs to take a 6-4 lead after a deep blast to right from Jagielo for his team-leading fourth home run of the year. Jagielo finished 3-for-5 and was a triple short of the cycle.

Meanwhile up two in the sixth, Aoki summoned senior southpaw reliever Ryan Richter to get the Irish out of a one-out bases-loaded jam, the Eagles' last threat to the Irish lead.

"It was big because we kind of lost control of the game," Aoki said. "I don't know if [Eastern Michigan] ever took control of it but it was a jump ball at that point ... Ryan getting us out of that inning was a big part of us starting to pull away from them a little bit."

In the bottom of the seventh, Notre Dame exploded for a six-run outburst to put the game out of reach, assisted by two errors and a wild pitch. Freshman left fielder Conor Biggio opened the floodgates with a two-run double to deep left-center as the Irish went through 10 batters in the inning.

Notre Dame will try to build a winning streak with a 5:35 p.m. home game today against IPFW at Frank Eck Stadium.

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NBA

Granger's scoring leads Pacers past Clippers



Danny Granger attempts a shot in the Pacers' 102-89 victory over the Clippers. Granger led the Pacers with 25 points.

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — First, there was a layup.

Then, there was a 30-foot 3-pointer. Then another layup.

In a 2-minute span in the second quarter, Leandro Barbosa showed Indiana Pacers fans why the team traded for him last week. Barbosa scored 12 points in 18 minutes in his Pacers debut, and Indiana beat the Los Angeles Clippers 102-89 on Tuesday night.

Barbosa, acquired in a trade with Toronto, relishes his role as a reserve on what he considers a promising team.

"I think my teammates really helped me to be out there and be comfortable," he said. "I'm very happy to get the first win at home. I'm very excited to come in and play with the second group. It's the energy group and they run like crazy, so it was enjoyable."

Even though Barbosa is in his ninth year, he was concerned about fitting in on a team that had been successful before he arrived.

"I was nervous," he said. "As soon as I got the first basket, I was OK to finish the game."

Reserves Barbosa, Tyler Hansbrough and George Hill led a bench that outscored the Clippers' reserves 50-23. Hansbrough scored 17 points and Hill had 15.

Hansbrough was glad to see Barbosa get hot right away.

"I think Leandro is going to be a big lift for us, he's just going to feed into the energy that I bring off the bench, and the fast break style we bring this year," Hansbrough said.

Hill made 6 of 7 shots and had six assists.

"I think George Hill was definitely the game-changer tonight," Los Angeles guard Chris Paul said. "I don't remember him missing. He shot lights out."

Hansbrough made 7 of 10 field goals, helping the reserves make 21 of 35 shots. The bench supported Danny Granger, who led the way with 25 points.

Granger was thrilled to see the bench perform so well.

"They kind of came in like a pit bull tonight," he said. "When you have a group that plays really well together and you have scorers and you have rebounders on the second unit, that's really a luxury a lot of teams don't have."

Blake Griffin had 23 points

and 10 rebounds, and Paul added 16 points and eight assists for Los Angeles. The Clippers made just 9 of 20 free throws while the Pacers made 24 of 26. Griffin made 2 of 7.

"We have to keep trying to get better," Paul said. "The free-throw line is where you can win or lose games. We have to get better as a team."

It was a chippy game in which players had to be separated several times but no punches were thrown. Hansbrough and Griffin were involved in the most intense confrontation.

"It was nothing," Hansbrough said. "It was a just a physical game. Some things happened, so that was that."

Granger had been in a scoring slump, managing just 20 points combined in consecutive losses to the New York Knicks. He shot 7 for 17 against the Clippers, but added eight rebounds and made all eight of his free throws.

Indiana led 54-46 at halftime on the strength of 32 points from its bench. Hansbrough had 15 points and Barbosa added nine.

Los Angeles got going early in the third quarter. Griffin's two-handed jam off a lob from Paul brought the crowd to life and left the backboard shaking. Paul followed with a 3-pointer and a jumper that cut it to 56-55. The Clippers tied it at 62 on Nick Young's 3-pointer.

Hibbert had a three-point play, and Granger hit a pair of 3-pointers to give the Pacers a 71-62 lead. The Pacers held the Clippers scoreless for 4:10 during the 11-0 run.

Indiana led 78-66 at the end of the third quarter. Granger scored 10 points in the period, and the Pacers held the Clippers to 8-for-22 shooting in the quarter.

A 3-point play by Barbosa pushed Indiana's lead to 90-72 with just under 8 minutes to play. The Clippers rallied once more, but Hill's 3-pointer with just over 3 minutes left pushed Indiana's lead to 98-84.

"We just stopped making shots," Griffin said. "A lot of shots that we normally hit did not go down, and that's going to happen. That's why we need to rely on our defense, and it hasn't really been there. That's what's going to happen until we get it figured out."

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APPLICATIONS DUE THIS FRIDAY

ND Women’s Tennis

Big comeback marks team’s time in Hawaii

By KATIE HEIT and VICKY JACOBSEN
Sports Writers

The Irish hit the beach, attended a luau and visited Pearl Harbor during their week in Hawaii, but the most memorable part of their spring break trip might be the 4-3 win over Texas Tech that took eight hours, three venues and a furious doubles comeback.

The first surprise of the day for No. 17 Notre Dame (12-4, 1-0 Big East) came on the No. 3 doubles court. Junior Chrissie McGaffigan and sophomore Jennifer Kellner fell behind 0-7 before winning the next eight games and eventually claiming the match with a score of 9-8 (7-4), securing the doubles point for Notre Dame.

“I’d never seen that before,” Irish coach Jay Louderback said, referring to a doubles team coming back from a 7-0 deficit. “They needed to win — we lost at No. 1 doubles and won at No. 2. We think they were down six match points during that time, but they came back.”

The No. 1 ranked doubles team in the country, seniors Shannon Mathews and Kristy Frilling, had already lost their match 9-7, despite battling back since trailing 7-4 earlier in the match. But sophomores Julie Sabacinski and Britney Sanders squeezed in a 9-8 victory before the beautiful weather turned bad.

“Just as we finished the doubles there were some clouds that came in and as we were ready to start singles it rained,” Louderback said. “We just went and got lunch, got away from the court.”

But when the team returned from lunch, the rain showed no sign of stopping and the umpire suggest they move the contest to public courts at Diamond Head, where it was not raining.

The No. 18 Red Raiders (11-3, 1-0 Big 12) won three of the first five singles matches to finish: Texas Tech sophomore Samantha Adams took down No. 73 Frilling (2-6, 6-0, 6-4), junior Caroline Starck defeated No. 102 Sanders (6-2, 6-3), and freshman Kenna Kilgo beat Sabacinski (7-6, 6-0).

No. 52 Mathews earned a point for the Irish with a 6-2, 7-5 win over No. 123 junior Elizabeth Ullathorne and McGaffigan dispatched sophomore Nikki Sanders, but the sun started to set on the unlit courts as Kellner and sophomore Rashmi Telumbde entered the third set of their match, which would decide the overall contest. Kellner eventually took the win, 2-6, 7-6, 6-3 in her third facility of the day.

“It was awesome to clinch the match. I could tell how much everyone cared and it was by far the most exciting tennis experience I have had here yet,” Kellner said. “The conditions were different [from South Bend] and Tech had been in Hawai’i for almost a week before we got there, so they had a little bit

of an advantage.” Frilling agreed that the win was particularly sweet. “It was tough because we had to adjust to so many elements and always be ready to play,” Frilling said. “Jennifer Kellner stepped it up for us and got that final point — she was definitely the all-star of the day. It was an important win because they were ranked ahead of us.”

Mathews said that beating a team with Texas Tech’s talent was crucial in improving the confidence of the team as a whole.

“Being able to beat such a high caliber team was really exciting,” Mathews said. “It was especially important heading into this weekend.”

For the remainder of the week, the weather provided a calmer playing environment for the Irish. The occasional mist provided a relief from the warm weather as the Irish rounded out their trip to Hawaii with two more victories, a 6-1 win over No. 58 Hawaii (8-7, 0-1 WAC) and a 7-0 defeat of No. 59 Wyoming (8-6).

Although Frilling and Mathews lost two of their three doubles matches while they were in Hawaii — they also fell to junior Simona Synkova and sophomore Veronica Popovici of Wyoming, 9-8 — they moved up to No. 1 in the national doubles rankings.

“It’s exciting to be ranked No. 1, but it is just a number,” Frilling said. “I think it motivates us more to keep winning all of our matches and prepare for NCAAAs.”

The Irish will head to Ann Arbor today to take on No. 20 Michigan (7-5, 1-0 Big 10), a team that has traditionally proved tough competition. Louderback said the week in Hawaii will likely help the team in their first outdoor matches on the mainland.

“They played really well [in Hawaii], especially for our first three outdoor matches,” Louderback said. “We’re excited because we’re going to play outdoors again. It’s supposed to be 80 degrees at Michigan, so we’re really excited to be playing them outside. They’re a good team, but they’re very, very good indoors.”

Mathews and many of her teammates said they were looking forward to facing the Wolverines, who have become tough rivals for the Irish even though Notre Dame has won 22 of the teams’ 32 meetings.

“It’s always been a big match for us,” Mathews said. “We like to always come out pumped up and so do they. It’s going to be a great battle.”

The Irish will make the last stop on their road trip today at the Varsity Tennis Center in Ann Arbor, Mich., beginning at 4 p.m.

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NFL

Smith close to deal with 49ers

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Alex Smith and the San Francisco 49ers were working Tuesday night to finalize a three-year contract, a person with knowledge of the negotiations said.

The person, speaking on condition of anonymity because no announcement had been made, said Tuesday night final details were still being worked out and it could be complete as soon as Wednesday.

“Oh, I’m excited,” tight end Vernon Davis said in a text message. “I’m glad. Alex deserves all good things that come his way.”

NFL Network first reported the sides had agreed on a new deal. Earlier in the day, Peyton Manning was formally introduced in Denver after the 49ers pursued the four-time NFL MVP. Coach Jim Harbaugh worked out Manning at Duke last Tuesday.

The 27-year-old Smith had met with Miami on Sunday but ultimately decided to stay put with the storied franchise that drafted him first overall in 2005.

Smith had a breakthrough season last year, helping San Francisco reach the NFC title game.

“Welcome Back (hashtag) AlexSmith. Let’s get the train rolling now,” tweeted 49ers defensive lineman Ricky Jean Francois.

Both sides made it clear after the Niners’ 20-17 overtime loss to the eventual Super Bowl champion New York Giants in the NFC championship game they planned to work out a new deal.

It just took a little while longer than expected after Manning briefly entered the picture.

While Smith told the South Florida Sun-Sentinel on Sunday he was surprised Manning became a free agent, he said he understood the business side of the NFL — so perhaps it won’t take long for Harbaugh and Smith to get over San Francisco’s week-



Alex Smith talks with coach Jim Harbaugh during a Dec. 19 game against the Steelers. Smith is close to a new contract.

long courting of Manning.

“It’s a very strong relationship,” Harbaugh told reporters while leaving team headquarters Tuesday, noting nothing had changed in Smith being “our guy.” He declined to discuss negotiations.

Last spring, Harbaugh handed over his playbook to Smith during a brief lifting of the lock-out — a show of confidence in the QB even though he wasn’t under contract. Smith wound up re-signing for \$4.9 million, then earned a \$1 million bonus for making the playoffs as the 49ers ended an eight-year stretch without a postseason berth or winning record.

“I don’t think there will be any bad blood because he went to Miami for an interview,” former 49ers running back great Roger Craig said Tuesday. “That’s part of the process, it’s the nature of the beast. He has to do what’s best for him and his family. I’m pretty sure the 49ers are going to work something out. Players love him, fans love him. I love him.”

“I think Alex wants to get this put to bed so he can focus on having a great year, an All-Pro year this year,” Craig said.

“He doesn’t want this dark cloud over him. It’s really his time, and he understands the business. He knows it’s a good situation.”

49ers CEO Jed York had said the team’s three-year offer still stood despite the pursuit of Manning, and it was just up to Smith to sign.

Long booed by his home fans at Candlestick Park, Smith threw for 3,150 yards and 17 touchdowns with only five interceptions last year as San Francisco went 13-3 to win its first division title since 2002. That was a remarkable turnaround under first-year coach and 15-year NFL quarterback Harbaugh — the NFL coach of the year — who declared his confidence in Smith as a winner from Day 1 when hired away from Stanford in January 2011.

San Francisco went 6-2 on the road and won four of those games in comeback fashion — and Smith rallied his team from behind five times in all, not to mention a 36-32 victory against the favored Saints in the NFC divisional playoffs. Smith completed a 14-yard touchdown pass to Davis with 9 seconds left to seal it after Drew Brees had put his team ahead.

ND Women’s Golf

Irish secure season-best fifth place

By DREW PANGRAZE
Sports Writer

The Irish secured a spring season-best fifth place finish over the weekend at the inaugural Clover Cup tournament at the Longbow Golf Club in Mesa, Ariz.

Freshman Ashley Armstrong led the Irish on the first day of the tournament with a career-best, five-under par 67 to beat her previous best (71) by four strokes. It was the third-lowest round in Notre Dame school history and placed Armstrong in second place for the individual standings.

Armstrong credited her performance to a great round of putting, which helped her take full advantage of the course.

Notre Dame finished Friday’s opening round with a tally of 288, putting the team on par and in second place behind Colorado. It was just the fourth time in program history that the Irish have shot an even-par total or better in a single round — the record is a three-under 281 in the second round of the 2008-2009 Heather

Farr Memorial.

The squad’s stellar play continued on Saturday with the Irish shooting an eight-over par 296. This positioned the Irish in third place overall after 36 holes with an eight-over par total of 584. Sophomore Kristina Nhim led the Irish on day two with her second-straight even-par round, placing her 10th in the individual standings. Armstrong finished the day fifth in the individual standings with a two-over-par 74 in her second round.

Sunday’s final round brought chilly weather, rain and even brief periods of hail. The team completed the weekend with a final-round total of 321, giving the Irish a 54-hole mark of 905 to finish fifth in the 12-team field.

Colorado finished first in the tournament with a 54-hole total of 855, 31 strokes better than second-place Oklahoma. Notre Dame’s Armstrong and Nhim both struggled on Sunday, firing an 83 and 80, respectively.

“Play was difficult on Sunday because of the cold temperatures, rain and even brief periods

of hail, but that isn’t an excuse for my poor round,” Armstrong said. “I have played in those conditions before and I know what to expect. Going forward, as a member of the team I need to work on finishing my last round strong.”

Senior Becca Huffer ended up as Notre Dame’s top finisher in the tournament with a five-over par 221, giving her a tie for eighth place in the individual standings after rounds of 72, 75 and 74.

“The team played pretty well over parts of the weekend, but as a whole we just did not finish well on Sunday,” Armstrong said. “[Huffer], however, posted three solid rounds.

“The team and I have a week to practice and work before our next tournament and about a month before Big East.”

Next on the schedule for the Irish is the Liz Murphey Collegiate Classic at the University of Georgia Golf Club, beginning March 30.

Contact Drew Pangraze at apangraz@nd.edu

ROWING

Irish win 10 at opening invitational

By JOE WIRTH
Sports Writer

The Irish showed no signs of rust in their first spring competition, as they came home with 10 wins from the Oak Ridge Invitational at Melton Lake in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

The team recorded seven wins Saturday and registered three more in Sunday's races. With the likes of Louisville, Tennessee and Virginia competing, the Irish came out on top against some of the strongest programs in the country.

"The competition was definitely intense this weekend," junior Abby Meyers said. "Because this was the first round of racing of the season, we didn't have any idea how fast the other teams were going to be. Especially towards the end of the weekend in our races against Tennessee, our competition was faster, but in most cases we were able to ultimately come out on top and really show our speed and our mental toughness."

Meyers was on the first victorious varsity eight boat on Saturday morning, which defeated Louisville and Jacksonville handily. She was then on Notre Dame's last boat to win on Sunday afternoon with a six-second victory over Tennessee.

The first competition of the

year always brings many unknown factors. Meyers said, however, there were mostly positive surprises in the opening races and she was impressed to see some of the improvements in the team since the fall season.

"Overall, I think the team had a great start to the season," Meyers said. "We raced well against some tough competition and individual boats gained a lot of valuable experience racing together. I was very pleased with how well the rowers in the varsity eight and I worked together. I think we surprised ourselves a little with just how strong we can be both mentally and physically when we are down off the start of a race."

"It's a great feeling to know all the hard work that the whole team put into training indoors during the winter is producing positive results so early in the season. We still have a lot of speed to tap into, and that will be the team's focus as we move forward and prepare to face even tougher opponents."

Meyers said the success the team had this weekend gives Notre Dame an opportunity to ride some momentum into the upcoming races and beyond.

"As a team, we still have a lot of potential to tap into," Meyers said. "We were successful this past weekend,

but there is always room to improve. Each boat will use the experience they gained racing together, whether or not that experience involved winning their individual race, to continue to improve and prepare for another intense round of races against Ohio State, Louisville, Indiana, and Purdue this weekend."

Meyer said she hoped Notre Dame's success would just be the start to a strong season.

"Every race is an opportunity to show just how fierce, aggressive and fast we are as individual boats and as a collective team," she said. "We need to take advantage of every single opportunity we have to show the NCAA selection committee that we deserve a bid to this year's national championship regatta. I think our team has a lot of talent and strength, and I'm excited to see what we can accomplish together this season."

The Irish will travel to Columbus, Ohio on Saturday to face Ohio State and then to Indianapolis, Ind., on Sunday to compete in a four-team regatta against Purdue, Indiana and Louisville.

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MLB

A-Rod has three RBIs in Yankees victory

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Alex Rodriguez kept rolling, Michael Pineda made a quick change and the New York Yankees beat the Pittsburgh Pirates 10-3 on Tuesday night.

Rodriguez had two hits — raising his batting average to .333 — and three RBIs, while Pineda impressed manager Joe Girardi with his response after a tough start.

Andrew McCutchen hit a two-run homer in the first inning on a slider from Pineda, who allowed two runs and three hits in three innings.

After making a mechanical adjustment with pitching coach Larry Rothschild, Pineda struck out all three batters he faced in the second.

"The first inning I opened my left shoulder a little bit," Pineda said. "I'm happy with the adjustment."

Pineda ended up with five strikeouts and one walk in a 72-pitch outing.

"It's a good thing to see a young pitcher make an adjustment," Girardi said. "You don't see that from young pitchers. You have to know how to correct things when you're struggling."

Rodriguez had an RBI sin-

gle during a two-run third and drove in a pair with another single in a five-run fourth that put the Yankees up 7-2. A-Rod has driven in nine runs over 10 games.

Pittsburgh left-hander Erik Bedard gave up four runs and five hits in 3 2-3 innings. Jo-Jo Reyes relieved and allowed three runs, three hits and two walks without recording an out.

"Threw all my pitches, trying to get the pitch count up," said Bedard, who made 68 pitches. "I just tried to mix it up, and you've got to work on everything. (I feel like) I'm in the middle of spring training. When you're not at 100 (pitches) yet, it's hard to say."

Bedard split last season between Seattle and Boston, going 5-9 with a 3.62 ERA in 24 starts after missing 2010 with a shoulder injury.

Yankees closer Mariano Rivera struck out one during a perfect fourth and extended his streak of not allowing an earned run in spring training to 25 consecutive innings dating to 2008.

New York shortstop Derek Jeter remained sidelined by a stiff left calf. Jeter, who hasn't played since last Wednesday, could return on Friday.

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FENCING

Irish stand out at Midwest Regional

By MIKE MONACO
Sports Writer

For the second consecutive tournament the Irish took on their regional foes and for the second consecutive weekend the squad turned in a slew of top results.

After hosting the Midwest Fencing Conference championships on March 3 and 4, the Irish finished with seven top-three results at the NCAA Midwest Regionals in Cleveland, Ohio on March 10 and 11. Irish coach Janusz Bednarski said he was satisfied with the results given his team's youth and inexperience.

"We did pretty well for such a young team like us, where about three-quarters of the team are starters who have never been through NCAA qualification," Bednarski said. "They fenced without the collegiate experience, so [the results] are great for them."

The women took to the strips on day one and a quartet of fencers finished in the top-three of their respective events.

The foilists led the way, as freshman Madison Zeiss and junior Grace Hartman came in second and third, respectively. Sophomore Adriana Camacho, senior Radmila Sarkisova and sophomore Rachel Beck accompanied them in the top half of the leaderboard with finishes in sixth, seventh and 10th.

Freshmen Ashley Severson and Nicole Ameli continued their strong rookie campaigns by placing third and fifth, respectively, in the women's epee. Between Severson, Ameli and Zeiss, Bednarski said he was pleased with how his freshmen performed.

"We wanted to get them to the top and they did just that against experienced fencers from other competitive teams such as Ohio State and Northwestern," Bednarski said. "They have shown the potential to be good fencers. Of course it was not easy but they got through the struggles and had great results."

In addition to Zeiss, junior sabreur Lian Osier also claimed a second place result. After breezing through pool play with a 14-1 record, including a 5-2 win over Ohio State senior Margarita Tschomakova, Osier fell 5-3 in the championship bout to

Tschomakova.

The men's squad was not to be outdone as it took the floor on day two and followed the lead of its seniors.

The male foilists matched their female counterparts with two podium finishes of their own. Seniors Reggie Bentley and Enzo Castellani claimed second and third, respectively, a week after leading the foilists to a gold medal at the conference championships.

Senior sabreur Keith Feldman placed third behind two Buckeyes after going 14-2 in pool play. Redshirt junior Max Stearns and sophomore Rhys Douglas each beat Feldman 5-4 in fence-offs to win the top two spots.

Bednarski said he was expecting such top results from his seniors, but the finishes are impressive nonetheless.

"They are our leaders," Bednarski said. "We expected a great showing but you never know on any given day. They showed very good form and they showed our younger fencers how to perform."

The Irish sent four epeeists to Cleveland, and all four finished consecutively in the top 10. Sophomore Michael Rossi took sixth, juniors James Kaull and Jack Piasio finished seventh and eighth, respectively, and freshman Dale Purdy came in ninth.

Following the Regionals, the NCAA Fencing Committee announced the Irish qualified the maximum 12 fencers for the NCAA championships. Although this is the fifth straight year Notre Dame has qualified 12 fencers for the championships, Bednarski said this year is different since his squad is certainly not one of the favorites.

"We are the underdog [this time around]," Bednarski said. "We are not the favorite for this competition. We are the underdog who can bite [other teams] and we will bite whenever we have a chance."

The NCAA championships begin with the women's competition Thursday and Friday and continue with the men's events Saturday and Sunday in Columbus, Ohio.

Contact Mike Monaco s at jmonaco@nd.edu

ND WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Reaney and Ryan lead ND at NCAAs



ALEX PARTAK/The Observer

Freshman Emma Reaney swims the 200-breaststroke during the Shamrock Invitational on Jan. 28. Reaney and sophomore Kelly Ryan helped the Irish to their best finish in the NCAAs in 10 years.

By BRIAN HARTNETT
Sports Writer

The Irish concluded their season with a strong showing at the NCAA Swimming and Diving championships in Auburn, Ala., on March 15-17. Led by the performances of sophomore swimmer Kelly Ryan and freshman swimmer Emma Reaney, the Irish finished the meet in 22nd place, the best showing for a Notre Dame team since 2002.

Competing in the NCAA championships for the first time, Ryan excelled in the 200-yard backstroke, finishing the race in a time of 1:53.67 to shatter her personal record in the event by two seconds and finish seventh in the event. For her performance in the 200-yard backstroke, she earned prestigious All-American accolades, awarded to swimmers who finish in the top eight of the finals for an event.

Ryan also competed in the 100-yard backstroke, finishing 27th in the overall field, and in the 100-yard freestyle, finishing 44th in the event.

Ryan attributed her success in the championships to enthusiastic support from her teammates, especially her counterpart in the championships.

"I think one of the keys to my success was definitely the support of my teammate, Emma Reaney," Ryan said. "We were the only two swimmers that made it, but she's one of my best friends on the team and her support really helped, since we always train together and she's pushed me throughout the year. I also felt really prepared by my coaches and confident that my training would help me be on the same level as some of the fastest swimmers in the country."

Reaney turned in a stellar showing of her own, as the freshman wracked up three Honorable Mention All-American accolades, given to swimmers that finish anywhere from ninth to 16th in an event. Reaney began her championships by finishing ninth in the 200-yard individual medley on March 15, breaking her own school record with a time of 1:55.67.

Reaney finished 11th in the 100-yard breaststroke the following day with a personal best time of 59.81, and capped her streak of impressive performances by finishing 14th in the 200-yard breaststroke on March 17.

Ryan said that Reaney's top-notch showing on the national level is only a

small part of her contribution to the team, as she has also developed into a key leader in her first year.

"Emma is a really big asset to the team," Ryan said. "She is a leader by example and by word who has really helped our team improve this year, so it's been great to share this season with her."

The combined performances of Ryan and Reaney helped the Irish earn 30 points overall, allowing the team to finish 22nd in the field of 49 teams.

Junior diver Jenny Chiang also competed in the championships for the Irish diving team, finishing 17th in the 1-meter dive event with a score of 289.50. Chiang missed qualifying for the 16-person finals by a narrow margin of two points, but her performance represented the highest finish for an Irish diver since 2005.

Chiang qualified for the NCAA championships after placing second in the 1-meter event at the NCAA Zone C Diving championships on March 9. She earned an impressive score of 598.05 points to place second in the talented field of 61 divers.

Contact Brian Hartnett at bhartnett@nd.edu

Rogers

continued from page 24

seconds to play to beat the Buckeyes in Arlotta Stadium. Rogers was also the hero Sunday with a goal in the third overtime period to give Notre Dame the sudden death win over the Athletics.

Rogers, a tricapitain, has been a catalyst for the Irish all season, tallying a team-high seven goals and adding an assist. Sophomore midfielder Jim Marlatt is the leading scorer for the Irish with seven goals and three assists.

On the defensive side of the field, Notre Dame has been led by senior tricapitain Kevin Randall, and the Irish have allowed only 26 goals on the

season. Junior goaltender John Kemp has made 56 saves, resulting in the nation's best goals allowed average (4.97) and save percentage (.683).

The Irish faced some early adversity when they fell in overtime at home to Penn State on Feb. 26. But since then, the Irish have battled back with a home victory over Denver and road wins over Drexel and No. 19 Hofstra.

The Irish face off against the Buckeyes today at 4 p.m. in Columbus, Ohio. The game is the last nonconference matchup for Notre Dame before it begins its Big East schedule.

Contact Matthew Robison at mrobison@nd.edu

SMC GOLF

Belles stand out before departing

Observer Staff Report

Saint Mary's traveled to the Phoenix Invitational at the Westbrook Golf Course in Peoria, Ariz., over the weekend. The No. 26 Belles turned in a stellar performance on day one but had to leave to catch their flight before completing play on the second and final day of competition.

After the first day of competition the Belles had shot a 331,

good for third place going into the second round. Saint Mary's trailed behind two top-notch opponents — No. 2 Washington University with a 294 and No. 7 George Fox with a 295.

Senior captain Natalie Matuszak led the Belles with a 79 on the first day, along with freshman Janice Heffernan and sophomore Paige Pollak, who both turned in rounds of 82. Senior Christine Brown added an 88 and junior

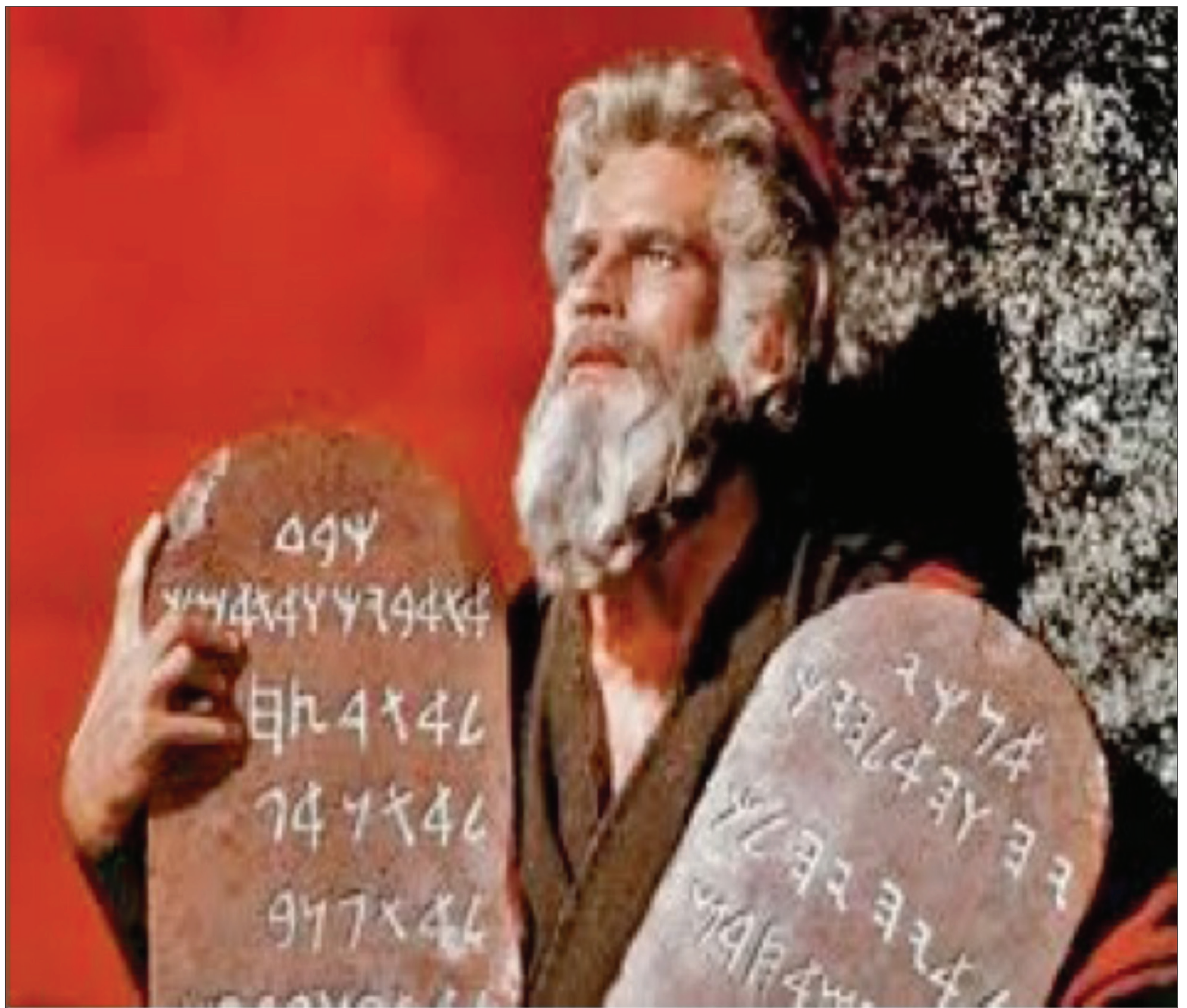
Jessica Kinnick rounded out the scoring with a 90. Sophomore Alexi Brown played as an individual, but tallied an impressive 84.

The second day of the tournament saw Washington fall to George Fox, who fired a 299 on day two to claim the team title with a final score of 595.

Saint Mary's will return to action April 9-10 at the Southwestern Invitational in Georgetown, Texas.

Check out more coverage at ndsmcobserver.com





Hot Off The Press!

Do you know?

The University of Notre Dame has a new booklet available to help students understand the university's policy against Sexual Harassment in every form. Check it out today at:
<http://csap.nd.edu/policy/sexual-harassment-policy-and-grievance-procedures/>

Diggins

continued from page 24

including Notre Dame's only three-pointer of the night.

On the season, the Irish are shooting 34.9 percent from beyond the arc, good enough for 25th in the nation but almost certainly well below what McGraw had envisioned at the season's start. Notre Dame has found other ways to get it done, though, and ranks in the top three nationally in overall field goal percentage, scoring offense and scoring margin. Against California, the Irish offense evolved (or, some might say, devolved) into a high paced, hard-nosed and quick-handed machine. Sharp cuts, strong finishes and disruptive defense fueled the victory, as they have so many other times this season for the Irish. No three-point shots needed.

After beginning the second half even with the Golden Bears at 31 points, the Irish rode their guards through a frenzied stretch of basketball. Repeatedly, the Irish utilized their superior speed and athleticism to turn the Bears over and get out in transition.

The old adage in basketball is that when a shooter finds herself in a funk, the best course is to shoot herself out of it. The Irish opted to take a different course — one that led them right down the lane and straight to the basket.

The Irish converted 10 second-half steals into quick and easy baskets as they opened up a commanding lead that would sustain them until the final buzzer. California's offense was effectively erased, and the Irish simultaneously found themselves a ready-made offense.

If you were watching the game, you might have said to yourself, "How is Notre Dame only up three?" If you looked at the statistics, you might have said to yourself, "How is Notre Dame still in the game?"

At halftime, the Irish were shooting 34.5 percent from the field, including 0-of-6 from three. The Bears, meanwhile, were converting 46.4 percent of their shots, including 4-of-8 three-pointers. Even after capturing the 11-point victory, the Irish lost the shooting battle to Cal, most notably from distance.

The one thing that they should have been able to hang their hat on, according to their own coach at the beginning of the season, was providing the Irish nothing but frustration and long rebounds. While this fact serves as a mild cause for concern for the top-seeded Irish moving forward, the fact that they were able to make their own offense is a source of optimism.

Further, that created offense seems to be more reliable than one predicated on draining a large number of jump shots. Novosel successfully attacked the paint, finishing a number of contested layups and converting 18 or 20 free throws. Diggins took over down the stretch, scoring 15 of her 21 points in the second half, many after she squeezed herself into an impossibly small window. When their ability to shoot the ball consistently failed them, the Irish turned to their athleticism, where they will almost always hold an advantage.

As they move into the Sweet 16, the Irish would certainly like to improve on their 11.1 percent shooting from three-point range. But it is just nice to know they will not have to.

Contact Joseph Monardo at jmonardo@nd.edu

Kelly

continued from page 24

in a timely fashion, coming out accurately, and then good decisions being made with the football [is what I'm looking for]."

Kelly said protecting the football is even more of a concern in the red zone, where Notre Dame often struggled last season.

"We'll be looking at good decisions but aggressive decisions, as well," he said. "I don't want them to have to tuck it and run every time because they're afraid to make a mistake."

In order to give all four candidates — sophomores Tommy Rees and Andrew Hendrix and freshmen Gunner Kiel and Everett Golson — an equal footing in trying to win the starting job, the staff will simplify the playbook, Kelly said.

"We've kind of taken a step back and really looked at our offensive structure, and we're going to make it so all four of the guys that are here can compete at a fair level, because [Rees] has got, as you know, the best knowledge base," he said. "But if we started the spring with page 50 of the playbook, Tommy would be ahead of everybody. So not to put him at a disadvantage but to give it an equal footing for all, we've kind of scaled it back, so the spring, it's going to give all the quarterbacks, including a midyear in [Kiel] and of course [Hendrix and Golson], an opportunity to truly compete for the position."

While there is no timetable for a starter to be named, Kelly said the goal is to have one quarterback named the starter, as opposed to a rotation, once the season begins.

No Tee party

Kelly said he is unable elaborate on what the reasons were for early enrollee cornerback Tee Shepard to leave the University due to federal privacy laws. Shepard returned home to Fresno, Calif., last week and will not return to Notre Dame.

"You know me; I'd love to talk for 45 minutes on it, I'm just not allowed to," Kelly said. "From our standpoint we love

Tee Shepard, and it's unfortunate but he's no longer with us, and we have to move on."

Position changes

Several players have changed positions for spring practice, Kelly said. Freshman Matthias Farley has moved from slot receiver to safety, freshman Troy Niklas has shifted from outside linebacker to tight end and Cam McDaniel will join the secondary as a cornerback after spending his freshman year as a running back.

"We felt like [Niklas] is a young man we want to get on the field, and it gives us a lot more flexibility with [junior tight end] Tyler Eifert," Kelly said. "Now you could possibly see [Eifert] moving to a number of different positions [in different offensive sets]."

"We thought initially that [Farley] was going to be at the safety position, but our numbers were so low at wide receiver last year that we had to take a load, and we had an idea ... that he was not going to play this year."

Injury updates

Notre Dame suffered a blow at running back when freshman Amir Carlisle broke his ankle in a non-contact drill last week and will miss all of spring practice, though Kelly said he should be ready for summer conditioning in June.

Kelly said freshman linebacker Anthony Rabasa and freshman offensive lineman Tate Nichols have both been cleared to practice after recovering from shoulder injuries. He said freshman linebacker Chase Hounshell has not yet been cleared, however, he is expected to participate in spring drills at some point.

Sophomore running back Cam Roberson is not 100 percent yet, but Kelly said he will participate in spring practice at some point after missing all of 2011 with a knee injury.

Kelly said senior defensive end Kapron Lewis-Moore has been fully cleared and has no restrictions, while senior center Braxton Cave is progressing to the point where he might be able to play in the Blue-Gold Game on April 21, though the staff will be cautious with him.

The Irish begin spring practice 8 a.m. Wednesday at LaBar Practice Field.

Contact Andrew Owens at aowens2@nd.edu



ASHLEY DACY/The Observer

Freshman Tyler Wingo hits a shot during the Warren tournament on Sept. 26. The Irish finished 12 in last weekend's tournament.

Tide

continued from page 24

with aggregate scores below par. The Irish finished at 18 over par, beating out Minnesota and North Carolina State.

Friday saw the Irish sitting in ninth place after 18 holes, led by senior Max Scodro's three-under 69, but the team failed to improve over the final two rounds. Saturday, the Irish carded the field's highest score at five over par and were particularly hindered by poor play around the greens. Though Scodro finished one-under at 71, no other Irish golfer managed to come within two strokes of par. Sunday brought another lackluster round as the Irish slipped into 12th place where they would remain.

"Obviously we were pretty disappointed with the performance," Platt said. "It was one of those weeks where we didn't play horribly, but we needed our best to win, and we didn't have it."

Scodro finished in the

top 25 for the sixth straight tournament, but the most encouraging performance might have come from an Irish golfer whose score was not counted. Sophomore Andrew Lane, who has been on the fringe of Notre Dame's lineup all year, carded an even par three-round score of 216, good for 27th place individually. Competing as an individual, Lane's score was second only to Scodro among the Irish golfers.

"We're all pretty happy for Andrew," Platt said. "He played pretty well when most of us didn't. Coach [Irish coach Jim Kubinski] said he'll definitely be in the lineup next week."

The Irish will return to Georgia on Friday for the Linger Longer Invitational at Reynold's Plantation Great Water's Course, a course the Irish played in the week leading up to the Schenkel.

"We're just looking forward to getting more rounds outside," Platt said. "We haven't played that many tournaments outside, and it really showed this weekend. We'll get rounds in at the Warren this week, and we'll be ready to go."

Contact Conor Kelly at ckelly17@nd.edu

Cheerleading & Leprechaun Tryout Information Meeting

5:30-6:30p.m. March 21, 2012 - Gym 2 - Joyce Center (above Gate 10)

Men: NO Cheer Experience Necessary

Strength Workouts in the GUG

We will teach you how to Stunt

Come Learn about ND Cheerleading

Everyone is Welcome

Make Life-Long FRIENDSHIPS

Please pick up forms to complete at Gate 3 Reception Desk with Jennifer. You may complete them and return them to Jennifer or bring them to the Information Meeting on March 21st.

Questions: (Courtney) Courtney.E.Leader.9@nd.edu or (Meghan) mmcmaho2@nd.edu or (Nick) Nicholas.T.Nowotarski.2@nd.edu

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**

1 They may be kept on you

5 Massenet opera

10 Memo subject header

14 Stationery shade

15 "Care to?"

16 "Way cool!"

17 Capping

18 Herr Schindler with a list

19 Start of some carrier names

20 Manufacturers

22 Dangerous place

24 Tide competitor

25 "Apollo and Daphne" sculptor

26 ___ Marino

28 Three-way joint

30 Research aids

33 Beehive State player

34 Was out

37 Choir accompaniment
- 38 ___ fides (bad faith)

40 ___ water

42 Mother of Apollo

43 Chariot race site

45 One of the Munsters

47 Gen ___

48 Study of government

50 New England's Cape ___

51 Poetic preposition

52 Place to see a flick?

55 Bruins legend

57 Kind of well

59 Mythological figure being kissed in a statue at the Louvre

62 Old geezer

63 Spark producer

65 Parliament

66 Suffix in many store names
- 67 Botanist's concern

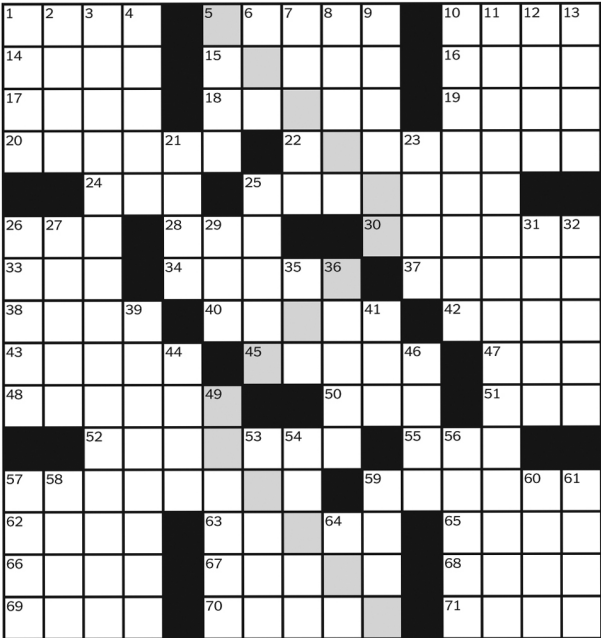
68 Salinger title girl

69 Scottish Gaelic

70 Aligns, briefly

71 Gym count

- Down**
- 1 ___ U.S.A.
- 2 ___ fool (be silly)
- 3 Possible reason for [see shaded letters]
- 4 Apartment 1A resident, perhaps
- 5 Infrequently seen bills
- 6 Suffers from
- 7 Place for an electronic tether
- 8 Where there are "bombs bursting," to an anthem singer
- 9 Polynesian wrap
- 10 All tangled up
- 11 Possible reason for [see shaded letters]
- 12 Like a blue lobster
- 13 School attended by King's Scholars
- 21 "Peanuts" expletive
- 23 Robert De ___
- 25 Geoffrey of fashion
- 26 "Poison" shrub
- 27 Producer of the 2600 game console
- 29 Musician/record producer Bobbv



Puzzle by Peter A. Collins

- 31 Stereotypical K.P. item

32 [So boring!]

35 High degree

36 "Hurry up!"

39 Liqueur served with coffee beans

41 Pewter component
- 44 Essen expletives

46 Son of Seth

49 Leaves a 0% tip

53 Ninth-inning excitement, maybe

54 OH- or Cl-, chemically

56 Truck rental company
- 57 Climber's goal

58 Zoo sound

59 H.S. supporters

60 Rope material

61 Verb with "vous"

64 Reactor-overseeing org.

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

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jake Weber, 48; Bruce Willis, 57; Glenn Close, 65; Ursula Andress, 76.

Happy Birthday: Don't backtrack this year unless you have really checked out the potential consequences. It's important to know what you are up against if you don't want to face setbacks. Work and play with people who have something to offer you in return. Strive for equality and you will find the happiness you deserve. Your numbers are 3, 7, 13, 22, 26, 37, 49.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Embrace change and let your emotions guide you. Understanding what you need most will enable you to make choices that will influence your future and bring you greater security. Don't be afraid to use a little force to get your way. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Stick to what you know and do best. You'll learn a difficult lesson if you let someone take advantage of you. Don't tempt fate when it comes to traveling or following rules and regulations. Open your heart, not your wallet. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't let others slow you down. Size up your situation and push forward with your plans. The influence you have will win points and lead to advancement. A favor granted will make a huge difference to the way you progress. ★★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't let a last-minute change upset your world or your future. Be creative and you will come up with a plan that will help you stay on course. You can learn a lot if you observe how others handle responsibility. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You'll be intuitive regarding money and health matters. Follow your gut feeling and do the responsible thing when it comes to home and family. Sticking to a budget and keeping things simple and moderate will pay off in the end. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Put more emphasis on how you treat others and how you want to be treated in return. Networking will bring good results, and a partnership with someone special will help you stabilize your life and your future. Love is highlighted. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Find ways to compromise. Avoid overindulgence. Let your intuition guide you and you will make choices that bring greater security. An older friend or relative will offer you something you cannot refuse. Old goals can now be achieved. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Home is where the heart is, and with a little finagling you can make alterations that will add to your comfort and security. Love is on the rise, and making special plans geared toward a better partnership will pay off. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't guess. It's crucial to be absolutely sure before you make a move. Rely on experience and call in favors from reliable people. Domestic changes will give you a new lease on life. ★★★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Take your time. Jumping to conclusions will lead to a mishap that can affect your reputation. Concentrate on building your equity and putting more time and effort into your surroundings and relationships. Love is in the stars. ★★

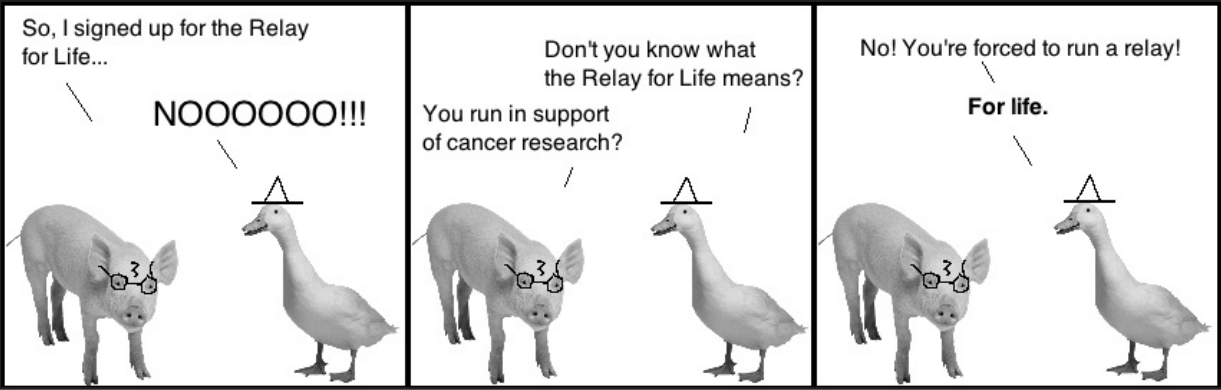
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Someone will let you down if you are too trusting. Don't share your secrets or take on too much. Keep things simple and steer clear of anyone who is overindulgent physically or financially. Make choices for the right reason, not for someone else. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Dream a little dream and make it a reality. Be creative and follow a path that allows you to be unique and original. Someone you consider to be gifted will want to contribute to your goals. A partnership will pay off. ★★

Birthday Baby: You have pizzazz, charm and good work ethics. You are adaptable and progressive.

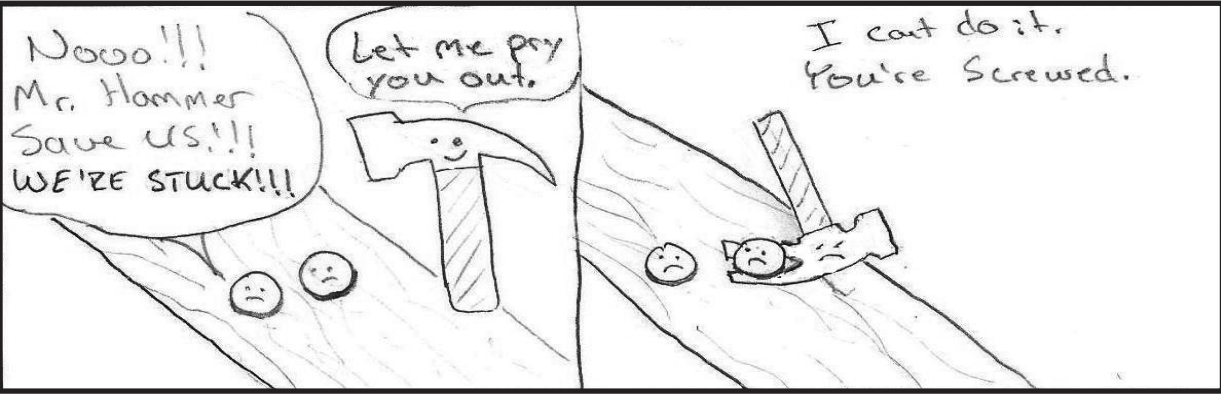
THE LONDON EXPRESS

LEE HAGGENJOS AND ALEX GRISWOLD



CLAMMY HANDSHAKE

KELLY LYNCH



JUMBLE

HENRY ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

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

CNUED

□ □ □ □ □

MPCAH

□ □ □ □ □

SCITHW

□ □ □ □ □

QAHUSS

□ □ □ □ □



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

Print answer here: □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's | Jumbles: HUTCH ADAGE BEACON SORROW
Answer: After a long day of making cartoons, the Jumble artist did this — DREW A BATH

THE OBSERVER

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Bearing down

Irish get a scare, but advance to Sweet 16

By MATTHEW ROBISON
Sports Writer

Led by a 28-point, nine-rebound performance by senior guard Natalie Novosel and 21 points from junior guard Skylar Diggins, the top-seeded No. 4 Irish took down California by a score of 73-62 Tuesday in Purcell Pavilion to advance to the NCAA tournament's Sweet Sixteen.

California gave the Irish a run for their money in front of more than 6,000 fans, but Notre Dame was able to build a lead and maintain it.

"We knew this game was going to be a challenge," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "They gave us everything we could handle."

Junior guard Layshia Clarendon led the Golden Bears with 17 points, while sophomore forward Gennifer Brandon added nine points and 12 rebounds.

But on the defensive end, the combination of Diggins and Novosel was simply too much for the Gold-

see NOVOSEL/page 16



PAT COVENEY/The Observer

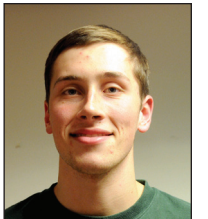
Junior guard Skylar Diggins goes up for a layup in Notre Dame's 73-62 victory over California on Tuesday. Diggins recorded 21 points and led the Irish to a Sweet 16 matchup against St. Bonaventure.

Irish survive poor shooting performance

The same group Irish coach Muffet McGraw repeatedly referred to as the best 3-point shooting team to come through Notre Dame in the past 25 years failed to convert a 3-pointer for the first 27 minutes and 43 seconds of Tuesday's contest. Notre Dame's inability to score from deep — the count was 1-of-10 — was surprising, startling and almost inexplicable.

But it wasn't damning.

And it wasn't a product of poor guard play, either. Diggins was dazzling, Novosel poured in plenty of points and Kayla McBride made a number of big shots,



Joseph Monard

*Sports
Writer*

see DIGGINS/page 22

MEN'S LACROSSE

Irish prepare for midweek game against Buckeyes

By MATTHEW ROBISON
Sports Writer

Coming off a thrilling triple overtime home victory over No. 8 Denver on Sunday, the No. 7 Irish hit the road today to take on Ohio State. The midweek showdown is a change of pace for the Irish (4-1), as all of their other regular season matchups fall on either Saturday or Sunday.

In that case, the Irish usu-

ally have a full week to prepare for an opponent. This time around, Notre Dame had only one day between games, which makes preparation a much more condensed exercise.

"The biggest thing is it means most of your preparation is mental, because you don't have the time between recovering from this game and trying to prepare for that game," Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said. "You just

don't have the field time and the ability to get your guys out there and go full speed against the stuff they're doing."

The majority of preparation happens in the film room reading through scouting reports, and on the field in walk-through exercises, Corrigan said.

"Hopefully our guys can handle that kind of preparation because it's different than what we've been able

to do for every other game," Corrigan said.

The Buckeyes (3-4) started the season strong, going 3-0 with victories over Detroit, Mercer and Denver. Since then, the Buckeyes have dropped four straight, losing to No. 3 Massachusetts, No. 17 Penn State, Robert Morris and No. 1 Virginia.

But the slide is not indicative of a weak team, Corrigan said. The Buckeyes are consistently one of the top teams

in the country, and this season is no different.

"They're a very, very good team and a team we went down to the last seconds with last year," Corrigan said. "So we know we've got another dogfight on our hands on Wednesday."

Last year, senior attackman Sean Rogers netted the game-winning goal with 33

see ROGERS/page 20

MEN'S GOLF

Irish struggle as low scores abound in Georgia

By CONOR KELLY
Sports Writer

With favorable conditions leading to abnormally low scores at Forest Heights Country Club, Notre Dame had to make birdies to be competitive at the Schenkel Invitational in Statesboro, Ga. over the weekend. The Irish struggled with their short game, however, and limped to a frustrating 12th-place finish in the 14-team field. Alabama, breaking the tournament record with a 47-under-par mark, took first.

"Everybody seemed to feel like they were hitting the ball pretty well," sophomore Niall Platt said. "We just weren't making putts. That was certainly the case for me."

With no wind and temperatures in the 80s all weekend, the course surrendered a record number of low scores. Though the Crimson Tide were the chief beneficiaries of the course conditions and ran away with a 12-stroke victory, seven teams finished

see TIDE/page 22

FOOTBALL

Quarterback battle at forefront

By ANDREW OWENS
Assistant Managing Editor

Spring has arrived at Notre Dame, and so has another battle for the starting quarterback position.

After a turnover-plagued 8-5 season in 2011, the coaching staff will emphasize fundamentals on offense, Irish coach Brian Kelly said at Tuesday's press conference to officially begin the spring season.

"We threw way too many interceptions last year for me to be comfortable with," Kelly said. "I'm not used to seeing that kind of turnover rate, and it certainly affected our win-loss record. The ball coming out



GRANT TOBIN/The Observer

Irish coach Brian Kelly speaks with the media during a press conference Feb. 1. Kelly opened spring practice by meeting with the media Tuesday.

see KELLY/page 22