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Theologian explores religion

By CHRISTIAN MYERS
News Writer

The interplay between faith and reason is frequently the subject of discussion in theology classes at Notre Dame. However, Tuesday night in the Geddes Hall Coffee House the matter was discussed over pizza by practical theologian Claire Noonan in the talk "Can You Be Faithful Without Being Religious?"

Noonan said there are three reasons she doesn't believe she can have faith without religion: Scripture, sacraments, and saints. She said each is a reason why religion is needed to maintain faith.

"I need Scripture to know the living God, sacraments to communicate with God and saints to struggle alongside," Noonan said.

Noonan said to Scripture is not just traditional canon, but any text inspired by a transformational encounter with God.

"I want to include the cumulative written experience of Christians as Scripture," Noonan said.

Noonan said the importance of Scripture is it helps people to properly direct their faith toward God. Faith in God relies on Scripture.

"Everyone has faith. Everyone has to believe in some things they can't empirically prove for themselves. All faith means is what ultimately you are concerned about," Noonan said. "What I'm trying to be faithful to is God, and without Scripture, I would not know who God is."

An important aspect of Scripture properly directing faith is it counteracts other worldly influences, Noonan said.

"The loudest voices in our culture try to point us in a direction very different from Jesus," she said. "Christianity at its deepest, most fundamental level is different from convention. I wouldn't have found it on my own."

As with Scripture, Noonan said she maintains an expanded interpretation of sacraments.

"By sacraments I don't just mean the seven sacraments

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Professor discusses education



GRANT TOBIN/The Observer

Diane Ravitch, professor of education at New York University, speaks about education system reform during her lecture, "Is There a Crisis in Public Education?" on Tuesday.

By NICOLE MICHELS
News Writer

The United States needs to create stronger public and private education systems, and can do so through decreasing the reliance on standardized testing, according to Diane Ravitch,

professor of education at New York University.

Her lecture, "Is There a Crisis in Public Education?" was the latest event in Notre Dame's year-long Forum, "Reimagining School: to Nurture the Soul of a Nation."

Ravitch spoke Tuesday

night in the Eck Hall of Law, saying our nation must foster a system capable of caring for the needs of all its students.

"Our schools are a reflection of our society," she said. "They are indeed beset by

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Alum launches soccer foundation

By NICOLE TOCZAUER
News Writer

2011 Notre Dame graduate Jeb Brovsky plays soccer for a living in Major League Soccer. Rather than only play for his own paycheck, however, Brovsky hopes to use the sport to create change the world over. To do so, he founded Peace Pandemic, a foundation to promote cross-cultural understanding through soccer camps.

Brovsky said the group was in India last December to host a soccer clinic for children. The foundation not only affected the children, its work affected several others as well, he said. "One day towards the end of the trip, [Manoj, the group's taxi driver] approached me with a soccer ball wrapped in a plastic bag and tears in his eyes," Brovsky said. "My translator told me Manoj was so inspired ... that he saved up 250 rupees to buy his son his first soccer ball. He saw the influence of this sport and wanted his son to feel what these kids [in the clinic] felt."

This weekend, Peace Pandemic will host a two-day 3-on-3 co-ed soccer tournament at Reihle Field next to the Stepan Center to raise

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Photo Courtesy of Jeb Brovsky

2011 Notre Dame graduate Jeb Brovsky teaches children soccer at a clinic in India run through his foundation, Peace Pandemic.

Professor of English dies at 74

Observer Staff Report

James Walton, professor emeritus of English at the University of Notre Dame, died Saturday after a brief illness. He was 74 years old.

A 1959 Notre Dame alum - nus, the Blue Island, Ill.-bred Walton also earned master's and doctoral degrees in English from Northwestern University in 1960 and 1963, respectively, according to a University press release.

Walton joined the Notre Dame faculty in 1963 and taught popular courses on the English novel and 18th-century literature until he retired in 2003. Throughout his career and after his retirement, Walton was a prolific writer of fiction and literary criticism.

He also earned the respect of generations of colleagues and students during his tenure at Notre Dame.

"From his earliest days on the English faculty, Jay had marvelous range," Donald Sniegowski, professor emeritus of English, said. "His major publications included an edition of eighteenth-century correspondence, a novel, 'Margaret's Story,' and a critical study of J. S. Le Fanu. He edited a wonderful anthology of poetry by Notre Dame poets and published numerous scholarly articles. With characteristic wit and self-deprecation, he tried to hide his light under a bushel, but quite a few of us knew differently."

Walton's legacy lasts to the present-day department.

"Jay's contributions to this department are legendary, but the chief one was, and remains, his friendship," Valerie Say



Walton

see PROFESSOR/page 3

HIGH
LOW

Students raise awareness sans shoes in global event

By JILLIAN BARWICK
Saint Mary's Editor

The chill felt around South Bend on Tuesday did not keep Saint Mary's students from spending a day without wearing shoes.

A global event sponsored by the footwear company TOMS, "One Day Without Shoes" is a day where groups of people walk around barefoot to raise awareness for people who cannot afford shoes.

According to the event's website, health and education are major concerns for those without shoes. Millions of children are at risk of injury, disease and soil-transmitted infections, the website said. In some areas, shoes are required for children to attend school.

"Four million people have podoconiosis, a debilitating and disfiguring disease caused by living barefoot in volcanic soil," the website said. "740 million people are affect-

ed by hookworm, a soil-transmitted parasite that can cause intestinal pain, weakness and cognitive impairment."

After learning about the event, senior Hannah Hupp decided Saint Mary's should get involved in "One Day Without Shoes."

"I was just searching around on the TOMS website one day, looking around for possible job openings with the company," Hupp said. "I saw the link to sign groups up to participate and thought that it would be a great event to have at Saint Mary's."

"The website has a tool kit for those who are looking to hold the event with their group," Hupp said. "It was really helpful to have."

After speaking with the Student Government Association, Hupp received the go-ahead to organize "One Day Without Shoes" on campus.

The event included hand-



Photo Courtesy of Hannah Hupp

From left, seniors Hannah Hupp, Alexandra Lowe and Taylor Paton participate in the "One Day Without Shoes" event at Saint Mary's on Tuesday.

ing out T-shirts designed by TOMS to students who entered the Student Center barefoot.

"We had a great turnout," Hupp said. "All 300-plus shirts were gone by 3:30 p.m. to only girls with no shoes on."

Students walked across campus barefoot, some wearing socks and others completely barefoot. While they were not allowed to enter the dining hall barefoot, all other campus buildings were open to those participat-

ing in the event.

"By giving out all the shirts, over 300 girls were braving the bitter cold weather to make a change," Hupp said.

Contact Jillian Barwick at jbarwi01@saintmarys.edu

Professor

continued from page 1

ers, professor and chair of Notre Dame's English department, said. "Our best students, under-

graduate and graduate, revered him as much for his acerbic bons mots as for his personal generosity."

More recently, Walton became involved with Notre Dame's Keough-Naughton Institute for

Irish Studies and the University's Creative Writing Program, according to the release.

Walton is survived by his wife, Carole, his daughter, Ann Caroline Walton, a son, Jack, and four grandchildren.

A funeral service will be held at 6 p.m. Wednesday at Welsheimer Family Funeral Home North, 17033 Cleveland Rd., South Bend. Visitation with the family will take place at the funeral home from 3 p.m. until the ser-

vice begins. A private burial will take place at Cedar Grove Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made to the Community Foundation of St. Joseph County or The Center for Hospice Care.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Responding to God's call,

these seven members of the Notre Dame community plunged into the waters of Baptism...

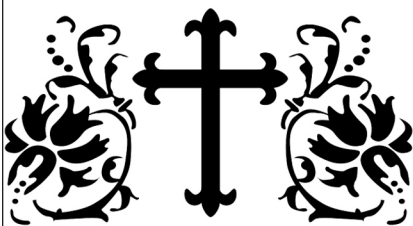
and were raised to *new life in Christ* at the Easter Vigil.

They were then sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit in Confirmation and received the food of eternal life in the Eucharist, completing their full initiation into the Catholic Church. Please join us in welcoming them into our faith community!

Zachary *Matthew* Bloss Aaron *Joseph* Donahue

Shannon *Mary Faustina Kowalska* Hagedorn Rhea *Maximilian Kolbe* Justice

Suzanne *Bede the Venerable* LaVere Dana *Rita of Cascia* Weber



If you are interested in joining the Catholic Church, please contact John Paul Lichon at (574) 631-7800 or jlichon@nd.edu.

STUDENT SENATE

Newly-elected government officials convene for first time

By MARISA IATI
Associate News Editor

At the new student government administration's first Student Senate meeting, the group bestowed emeritus status upon the former student body president, vice president and chief of staff.

Senate also passed a resolution requesting the campus-wide implementation of hydration stations, sustainable water sources with filters and coolants.

Ben Noe, director of internal affairs for student government, said the emeritus resolutions thank former student body president Pat McCormick, vice president Brett Rocheleau and chief of staff Claire Sokas for their service to the student body.

Noe said he thought the resolution bestowing emeritus

status upon Sokas was especially important.

"The chief of staff is the role that is all of the work for very little glory," he said. "It's a tough job because they kind of have to be the rule enforcer and the boss, while at the same time, they have to be your friend as well ... and I think Claire did an outstanding job this year."

The resolution advocating for hydration stations requested the University "implement hydration stations in the remaining residence halls and academic buildings so all students can enjoy clean, fresh-tasting water and the University can continue fulfilling its sustainability goals."

Rocheleau, now student body president, said the hydration stations would cost approximately \$70,000 in



Observer File Photo

In a file photo, then-student body vice president and current student body president Brett Rocheleau looks on during a meeting in the LaFortune Student Center.

total.

"Right now, all dorms next year will have hydration stations in them, so those will be implemented over the summer," he said. "But right now, we still haven't been able to get approvals to get them in academic buildings ... If there were a filtered water source, it would be a benefit."

Contact Marisa Iati at miasi@nd.edu

Speech team looks to expand, build on success

By MICHAEL RODIO
News Writer

When junior Catherine Flatley first stepped on campus, she immediately knew how Notre Dame could gain a competitive edge over other top-20 universities — so she started a competitive speech team.

"If you look at the other top-20 schools, Northwestern is the only other school that has a speech team besides Notre Dame," Flatley said. "I recognized that there was a huge hole in that market ... I wanted to fill that need."

Flatley said a speech team gives students an opportunity to improve public speaking and to travel around the country.

"I started the team because I wanted to help build rhetoric and communications at Notre Dame," she says. "I think this is a really interesting way for individuals to build those

skills and then to convey those skills to the rest of the community throughout Notre Dame."

Sophomore and current team president Michael Appel said the speech team competes in collegiate tournaments around the Midwest and the nation. Competitions have four basic categories of rhetoric and style: oratory, impromptu, extemporaneous and dramatic speech. Each category requires different degrees of preparation, research and improvised humor, he said.

"Each of the events comes back to argumentation writing, research writing and advocacy skills," Flatley said. "College forensics focuses more with real-world issues, policies that need to be addressed or more tangible social issues. As a whole, it's a bit more progressive, [in terms of] politics and its response to social issues and social concerns."

Team members compete

against small groups of speakers from different teams. Each speaker in a group presents a "performance," with judges awarding rankings based on each speaker's success. After two or three rounds, the best speakers in each group move on to semi-final and final rounds, against progressively tougher competition. Each individual speaker's points are totaled, and the team with the best collection of individual scores wins the team title, he said.

Flatley said she started the

speech team during her sophomore year, after competing individually in high school. She said the speech team also has an additional challenge: unlike most collegiate teams, they have no regular coach.

"We're the largest primarily student-run team in the country," she said. "It's challenging because in addition to competing, the team has to organize trips, fundraise, find chaperones, and all the other components of bringing ourselves to tournaments."

Appel said fundraising has been a challenge, although

the University's academic departments have contributed to the team. While the team has grown and this is an encouraging sign, he said a larger team means higher tournament costs.

"The amount of people we got this year was the biggest thing for us," Appel says. "It might not seem like much to other clubs, but from four to a solid dozen is pretty significant."

Freshman Billy McMahon, next year's team president, said he hopes to build on the club's growth and competitive experience.

"For those of us who enjoy speech, we have great fun with it, and the wide variety of events, from the interpretive to public address to limited preparation, keeps it interesting," he said.

Contact Michael Rodio at mrodio@nd.edu

"I started the team because I wanted to help build rhetoric and communications at Notre Dame. I think this is a really interesting way for individuals to build those skills and then to convey those skills to the rest of the community throughout Notre Dame."

Catherine Flatley
ND speech team founder
junior

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Contest reduces food waste

By ADAM LLORENS
News Writer

During mealtimes, students head to North and South Dining Halls to chat with friends and eat without realizing how much food is wasted. Waste-Free Wednesdays is trying to change that.

Senior Elizabeth Davis, founder and chair of Waste-Free Wednesdays, said Notre Dame students wasted 1.25 tons of food and liquids every day in the two dining halls in 2011.

Through a partnership between the Office of Sustainability, Food Services and GreeND, Waste-Free Wednesdays works to create awareness of how each student can make a difference in the amount of food thrown away on a daily basis.

“Before Waste-Free Wednesdays began in November 2011, we were wast-

ing 6.27 ounces per person per meal,” Davis said. “That number has gradually declined. After the last Waste-Free Wednesdays event, we measured food waste and found it to be 4.25 ounces per person per meal.”

The approximate two-ounce reduction in food waste benefits both the environment and the South Bend community.

“Notre Dame students have saved more than 90 tons of food over the course of a year, and 150 tons since the inception of Waste-Free Wednesdays,” Davis said. “In addition, students at the Waste-Free Wednesdays events have contributed over 900 dollars to the Food Bank of Northern Indiana, which provided 6,300 meals.”

Students will have the opportunity to become more conscious of their wasteful habits again this month.

“Every Wednesday for

the month of April from 6 to 7 p.m. in both North and South Dining Halls, students will have a chance to win 100 flex points by not wasting food and liquids,” Davis said. “Whenever a student has zero waste left on their tray, they receive a card that will be entered in a raffle to win 100 flex points.”

Donations to the Food Bank of Northern Indiana will be accepted throughout the month as well.

“With this connection to the greater community, students can donate a dollar, or more, at the Waste-Free Wednesdays booth in front of the dining halls,” Davis said. “Because of the Food Bank’s purchasing power, every dollar that is donated equates to seven meals for local food insecure residents.”

Contact Adam Llorens at
allorems@nd.edu

Saint Mary’s OCSE honors six for service

By MADELINE MILES
News Writer

The Saint Mary’s Office for Civic and Social Engagement (OCSE) recognized six students for their commitment to service Tuesday night. Seniors Emily Kieffer, Remi White, Megan Loney, Alayne Riege and Areli Bautista, as well as junior Maeva Alexander were honored for their efforts at an awards banquet.

“Receiving this award demonstrates to me that I made a difference,” Loney said. “I’m not as proud of receiving the award, as I am that someone nominated me to begin with. Knowing that my service made a difference makes all of the time and energy I spent, worth it.”

Each award represents a specific value from the Sisters of Holy Cross. Kieffer received the award for service in spirituality, White for service in the health field, Loney for service in education, Riege for service with women, Bautista for general service and Alexander for her involvement in the College Academy of Tutoring (CAT) program.

Kieffer has been a member of Women’s Spirituality Group and Campus Ministry, but her volunteer work extends to the Center for the Homeless and St. Adalbert’s Catholic Church.

According to the OSCE press release, White is an active member in the com-

munity. “Whether it is helping with a breast cancer run at Saint Mary’s, putting her nursing training to use in the home of a medically fragile child, practicing as a student nurse at South Bend’s Darden Primary Center, providing blood pressure screenings at St. Margaret’s House, a day center for women and children in South Bend, or mak-

ing rosaries for soldiers, her heart is in helping others,” the press release said.

Loney’s service at Clay High School earned her the award for education.

“My service experiences have ingrained in me a sense of social responsibility

to be aware of issues affecting a community and to do something about it,” Loney said.

Loney said she plans to enter the Peace Corps upon graduation from Saint Mary’s.

Riege, awarded for her service with women, serves as an intern at the Family Justice Center (FJC), a rape crisis and domestic violence resource center in South Bend.

“I love that I get to help women who feel hopeless and alone find their way out of bad situations,” Riege said in the press release.

She also became involved with SOS (Sexual Offense Services), where she works as an on-call advocate assisting women and men who are victims of sexual assault and domestic violence.

Bautista was awarded for her general service throughout her time at Saint Mary’s College.

“I have had countless opportunities to grow and be empowered to make a difference in the world,” she said. “My service has shaped who I am today. I have grown to care for others and do whatever I can to promote social justice.”

Bautista plans to attend graduate school at Indiana University.

Alexander has dedicated more than 650 hours to serving and volunteering for the CAT program.

“Maeva expresses great leadership and creativity in every aspect of the CAT Program. She inspires all of us to think bigger and better when working with our students and each other,” junior Carla Leal, the program’s student director said.

“I want to contribute what I can to the world,” Alexander said.

Contact Madeline Miles at
mmiles01@saintmarys.edu

Waste-Free Wednesdays

ND students wasted **1.25 tons** of food and liquids everyday in the two dining halls in 2011

It is a partnership between the **Office of Sustainability, Food Services** and **GreeND**

Before, the average waste/person was **6.27 oz.** per meal. Now, it is **4.25 oz.** per person per meal.

Students have also contributed **over \$900** to the Food Bank of Northern Indiana, which provided 6,300 meals

ND students have **saved** more than **90 tons** of food over the course of a year, and 150 tons since the inception of Waste-Free Wednesdays

LISA HOEYNCK | Observer Graphic

Jerusalem

Semester Program Information Session Thursday, April 12th DeBartolo 216 - 6:30pm

Spring 2013

Soccer

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funds for camps similar to the one held in India. Brovsky said the tournament is open to all Notre Dame, Saint Mary's and Holy Cross students.

"The goal of the tournament is to raise awareness and funds for our camps abroad," he said. "This particular tournament [is for] our camp this winter for boys and girls in Guatemala." Senior Will Walsh, the project coordinator, said planning for the event began over a year ago. The Notre Dame Brazil Club as well as men's and women's soccer teams will volunteer at the tournament, he said.

"The tournament itself is set up like the World Cup," he said. "Teams will compete in a bracket on Saturday, and the top ones will advance to finals. On Sunday, those teams will play in a single elimination tournament."

The winners will receive t-shirts and gift cards to a local restaurant, Walsh said. The victors will also have the chance to play in a separate game against five Notre Dame soccer players.

"Soccer is one thing that really permeates through different cultures," he said. "We hope a lot of kids come out and play for a good cause."

Brovsky said the idea for this event and for Peace Pandemic originated during his studies at Notre Dame. Peace Pandemic blended his passion for social change, peace studies, soccer and entrepreneurship into one, he said.

"I saw the enormous potential of soccer to bridge cultural, national, social, economic, ethnic and religious gaps in the world today," Brovsky said.

Peace Pandemic hosted its first international camps in the India this past December, he said. The clinics combined sport and health to teach children basic



Photo Courtesy of Jeb Brovsky

2011 Notre Dame graduate Jeb Brovsky poses with the participants of his Peace Pandemic soccer camp in India.

soccer skills and illness-prevention hygiene.

Brovsky said the camp coached boys in the morning and girls in the evening. At the end of each session, children met with staff in individual health sessions.

"With the boys, we want to focus more on the messages of non-violence and responsibility. We talk about the equality of women with them and the importance of treating [girls] with respect and love," he said. "We want the boys to feel like their aspirations in life are attainable and that they can change the world for the better." Brovsky said the message for girls is tailored toward empowerment. He said he hopes the clinics open them to opportunities in the future.

"The girls were astonished to see Caitlin [Phelan], the manager of our Peace Pandemic medical staff, and hear her speak with such confidence and direction," he said. "They had no idea that a woman could hold that position, let alone go to school for medicine." Brovsky said running an international foundation has its challenges, the rewards are greater than he ever expected.

"After coaching and staying in the slums with these boys and girls, it not only changes their

lives but it changes yours as well," he said. "I know that anyone who is involved internationally with Peace Pandemic walks away with a new perspective, skill and more compassionate outlook on the world."

Brovsky said as the number of soccer camps and tournaments held worldwide increase, the impact they make will grow as well. The tournament at Notre Dame is one small step in building momentum for this progress, he said.

"The more understanding and unity that we bring just through conversation and the sport of soccer moves the world one step closer towards peace," he said. "Obviously this one soccer tournament won't change the course of history, but this one soccer tournament will certainly change at least one young child's life for the better."

Registration will take place this week in LaFortune Student Center on Wednesday and Thursday. Teams of three to five people can register for \$20. More information on the foundation can be found at <http://peacepandemic.blogspot.com/>.

Contact Nicole Toczaue at ntoczaue@nd.edu

Faith

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of Catholicism, but all prayer and ritual," she said.

Religion facilitates a relationship with the living God primarily through sacrament and ritual, Noonan said. The marriage of a friend provides an example of what is lacking without sacrament. Noonan said the friend was faithful, but not religious and elected to hold her marriage ceremony in a restaurant.

"This great occasion in her life was reduced to a functional level," she said. "It was kind of sad."

Noonan said when she talks about saints, she refers to not just canonized saints, but people of faith in her everyday community.

Community, which is provided by organized religion, is important for faith, Noonan said.

"Faithfulness requires community because humans are social creatures," she said. "There is no such thing as the self-made man. Interdependence is the reality of human life."

Noonan said community is so vital to faith, those who forgo organized religion have to find some other type of community in order to maintain their conviction.

"If you're not religious, you'd have to create a religion of your own to have

community," she said.

Three student panelists, juniors John Schommer and Katie Pryor and senior Roman Sanchez responded to Noonan with their own opinions and experiences.

Sanchez said by his senior year in high school he had lost both his faith and his religion. He said he was disillusioned by the disconnect between the message he heard in the Church and the reality he saw in the world around him.

"I'm dissatisfied with the God that was presented to me," Sanchez said. "I guess activism is worship to me. My faith now is in people, relationships and community."

Pryor said her service work experiences have become a part of her faith and worship.

"Jesus repeatedly calls us to serve in the Gospels," Pryor said. "I believe that in serving the less fortunate, worship and justice work together."

Schommer said his experience with secular volunteerism in high school was not as fulfilling as working with Catholic volunteer groups. The difference between the two lies in the perspective towards service and the interaction with those served.

"In seeing the face of Christ in someone, you're seeing their full potential," Schommer said.

Contact Christian Myers at cmyers8@nd.edu

Forum

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problems and they need to improve — but they are not declining, and they are not failing."

Ravitch employed a historical perspective, exploring the causes of current challenges to the system's efficacy and the basis of measures enacted to combat them. She said the No Child Left Behind Act, passed in 2001, is one such key factor.

"In the decade before the passage of No Child Left Behind, most states had already adopted testing and accountability systems," she said. "However, federal and state policy makers just can't seem to get enough data, they want more."

The focus on collecting data prompts policymakers to look at standardized testing to ascertain the worth of a school, Ravitch said. However, she said tests should have a different purpose.

"Tests should be used to diagnose learning problems, except now they are used inappropriately, to judge the worth of teachers, schools and students," Ravitch said.

Because these tests are being used for more than they were designed to evaluate, Ravitch said policymakers and analysts are drawing incorrect conclusions ignoring the real problem.

"Poverty is the elephant in the room. Reduce poverty and test scores would be in-

creased," she said. "The odds are on the side of children who live in affluent and secure communities."

Ravitch said the emphasis on testing impedes the distribution of quality education.

"We don't know how to test the things that matter most," she said. "The more our nation relies on high-stakes testing, the more our educational sense of priorities are warped."

Ravitch said the use of students' test scores to indicate the relative worth of each teacher is a case of scapegoating. She said blame is placed on teachers, while ignoring other factors.

"Tests are indication of many different qualities [at play in the life of the student], and the teacher has little or no control over many of these factors," Ravitch said. "Tests are also subject to statistical error, random error and human error. They should be used for information, but not to reward or punish."

Ravitch said the nation's first priority should be to halt these policies.

"We have to stop doing wrong things before we start doing right things," she said. "The role of the government should be to level the playing field and to make sure that adequate resources are provided for children in poverty. The federal government should not be telling schools how to reform."

Ravitch said the process would be a long one, requiring people to think creatively about possible ways to enhance

American education.

"It will not happen overnight, good things never do," she said. "We will need the work of people who have a vision of how to change the lives of children and families ... there is a lot of work ahead of us all."

Following Ravitch's talk, former teacher Susan van Fleet, recently retired from Penn High School in Mishawaka, Ind., said she felt Ravitch's opinions analyzed the issue of testing accurately.

"Speaking as someone who's been in the system, she has her fingers right on the problem," Van Fleet said. "Our leaders need to stop not listening ... to the people who really understand the facts, not just basing decisions on politics."

Kate Kennedy, administrative assistant at the Center for Research of Educational Opportunity, said she appreciated Ravitch's analysis of the current state of education in America.

"Ravitch put the brakes on, and took a look and what is actually happening. The bottom line is the same between what each Catholic school and public school wants to do: support schools, support teachers, but what is questionable is whether the current methods are serving that goal," Kennedy said. "Ravitch brought a more historical view, saying this is how school started, this is what we have tried, now let's look at what worked."

Contact Nicole Michels at nmichels@nd.edu

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California salons find dangerous toxins in nail polish

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Some nail polishes commonly found in California salons and advertised as free of a so-called “toxic trio” of chemicals actually have high levels of agents linked to birth defects, state regulators said Tuesday.

A Department of Toxic Substances Control report determined that the mislabeled nail products have the potential to harm thousands of workers in more than 48,000 nail salons in California, and their customers.

The use of the three chemicals in nail products is legal if properly labeled. But agency officials said the false claims may violate a state law that requires disclosure of harmful chemicals in consumer products. The state attorney general could decide whether the companies will face legal action, which can include fines and an order to attach warning labels.

Investigators randomly chose 25 brands of polishes that are available only at nail salons, including a number of products claiming to be free of the chemicals toluene, dibutyl phthalate (DBP) and formaldehyde, which are known as the toxic trio. Regulators said exposure to large amounts of the chemicals has been linked to developmental problems, asthma and other illnesses.

Investigators found that 10 of 12 products that claimed to be free of toluene actually contained it, with four of the prod-

ucts having dangerously high levels.

The report also found that five of seven products that claimed to be “free of the toxic three” included one or more of the agents in significant levels.

The agency said it did not have enough data to accurately estimate how many people were being exposed to the chemicals through the products.

“We know there are exposures at salons, both to workers and customers, and we’re concerned about potential harm,” said Karl Palmer, the DTSC’s pollution prevention performance manager who oversaw the report.

“Our strategy first and foremost is to shed light on the reality of what’s in these products and put this information out to everyone.”

Among the products tested that the state says were mislabeled were: Sation 99 basecoat, Sation 53 red-pink nail color, Dare to Wear nail lacquer, Chelsea 650 Baby’s Breath Nail Lacquer, New York Summer Nail Color, Paris Spicy 298 nail lacquer, Sunshine nail lacquer, Cacie Light Free Gel Basecoat, Cacie Sun Protection Topcoat, Golden Girl Topcoat, Nail Art Top-N-Seal and High Gloss Topcoat. The polishes are not sold in retail stores.

At ZaZa, a nail salon near San Francisco’s waterfront ballpark, customers said they were shocked by news of the misleading labels. The salon, which does not carry any of the mislabeled brands, said it uses products la-



Loann Tran, co-owner of Happy Nails in Salinas, Calif., holds up a bottle of nail polish that was tested and found to contain toluene and formaldehyde despite being labeled as free of those toxic chemicals.

beled free of the toxic trio and animal products.

“I’m shocked. I’m a mother now, so I try to stay away from different chemicals,” said Juanita Navarrete, a 27-year-old from San Leandro who was getting a manicure and pedicure. Navarrete said she relies on labels to make choices in buying products and was happy that the state did random testing of nail polishes.

The DTSC said all three chemicals are linked to chronic health conditions when inhaled, and

that the 121,000 licensed nail care technicians who work in the salons, many of them young Asian-American women, are most at risk. Two of the three chemicals tested on humans and animals have shown links to developmental problems, while DBP has only been tested on animals.

The agency said the salons are often poorly ventilated, leading to exposure to a number of harmful chemicals.

Loann Tran, co-owner of Happy Nails in Salinas, Calif., said

she can only control certain elements of workplace safety for the handful of workers and customers in her salon: better ventilation and equipment sterilization. She cannot force manufacturers to accurately label products, she said, and hopes the report will help.

“They have to be responsible for what they are doing with their products, it’s shocking,” Tran said. “We work in this field, and we need this knowledge to help make our environment healthier.”

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Santorum withdraws from Republican presidential race

Associated Press

GETTYSBURG, Pa. — Rick Santorum cleared the way for Mitt Romney to claim victory in the long and hard-fought battle for the Republican presidential nomination Tuesday, giving up his “against all odds” campaign as Romney’s tenacious conservative rival. Santorum’s withdrawal sets up what is sure to be an acrimonious seven-month fight for the presidency between Romney, the former Massachusetts governor, and Democratic President Barack Obama, with the certain focus on the still-

troubled economy. In a preview of the personal attacks that lie ahead, Obama’s campaign manager declared that Americans neither like nor trust Romney, and the Romney camp said the fight had always been about defeating Obama, not GOP rivals. “This game is a long, long, long way from over,” Santorum said as he bowed out of the contest with Romney. “We are going to continue to go out there and fight to make sure that we defeat President Barack Obama.” Santorum had been facing a loss in the April 24 primary in Pennsylvania, the state he represented in

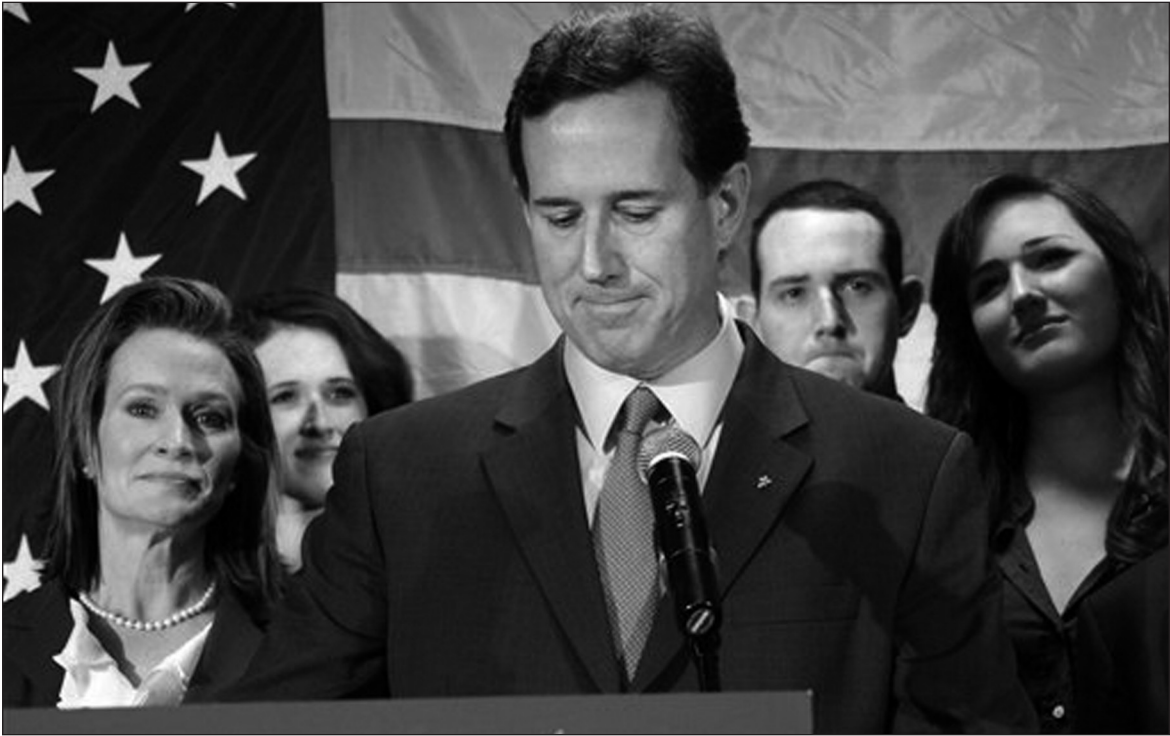
Congress for 16 years, and where the Romney campaign planned nearly \$3 million in ads against him. Whether or not there are lingering hard feelings, Santorum didn’t mention Romney, who has been the front-runner for months and was far ahead in the race for the 1,144 delegates needed to clinch the nomination at the party’s convention in August. Romney has tried to ignore his GOP rivals and campaign against the president since he first entered the race last year with a pitch focused on the recovering but still frail economy. But Romney was forced

to go after Santorum and former house Speaker Newt Gingrich after Santorum showed strength in Iowa and Gingrich in South Carolina early this year. Then Santorum kept on, memorably winning three Southern primaries. Romney’s campaign has long been the best funded, the best organized, and the most professionally run of the GOP contenders. Despite Santorum’s refusal to get out of the race earlier — and Gingrich hasn’t officially dropped out yet — Romney had already begun looking ahead with a unifying message. He told Pennsylvania supporters last week that “we’re Republicans and Democrats in this campaign, but we’re all connected with one destiny for America.”

And Obama has turned squarely to face Romney, recently assailing him by name, as his campaign has worked to paint Romney as a rich elitist who will win the nomination only because he buried his opponents under millions of dollars in negative advertising. “Neither he nor his special interest allies will be able to buy the presidency with their negative attacks,” Obama campaign manager Jim Messina said Tuesday after Santorum left the race. “The more the American people see of Mitt Romney, the less they like him and the less they trust him.” In response, a Romney campaign spokeswoman insisted that “for Mitt Romney, this race has always been about defeating Presi-

dent Obama, and getting Americans back to work.” But Romney still has had to wage a drawn-out nomination fight that’s seen candidate after candidate try to block his path. That has highlighted Romney’s problem with the most conservative voters. As recently as last week, activists huddled with Santorum to try and figure out how to keep him in the race, and Gingrich was still insisting Tuesday that his campaign represents the “last stand for conservatives” as he vowed to stay in the race until the convention. Claiming a victory of sorts, Santorum said Tuesday, “Against all odds, we won 11 states, millions of voters, millions of votes.” That took its toll on Romney. It all started in Iowa, where vote counts initially showed an eight-vote Romney victory — giving him momentum and headlines. But weeks later — after the campaign had moved to South Carolina and Romney was battling Gingrich — Santorum was declared the winner.

Romney’s campaign left Santorum for dead as he beat Gingrich in Florida and won in Nevada. But he lost three states — Colorado, Minnesota and Missouri — to Santorum on Feb. 7, breathing new life into the former senator’s insurgent candidacy and forcing Romney to compete for two more months. Santorum eventually won contests in Tennessee, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Kansas, Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana.



Surrounded by members of his family, Republican presidential candidate, Rick Santorum announced the suspension of his candidacy for in Gettysburg, Pa. on Tuesday.

Gas prices rise across U.S.

Associated Press

NEW YORK — U.S. drivers will pay an average of 24 cents more per gallon for gasoline during this summer’s travel season, the government said Tuesday. Gasoline will cost an average of \$3.95 per gallon from April through September, an increase of 6.3 percent from the same period last year, the Energy Information Administration predicted. The peak should come in May, when gas averages \$4.01 per gallon, the agency said. Gasoline already has jumped by 20 percent this year to a national average of \$3.922 per gallon, according to auto club AAA’s Daily Fuel Gauge Report. Prices, which are posted on station signs on street corners across America, have both a financial and psychological effect on drivers, experts say. Already, high prices have led to strong sales of gas-sipping vehicles like the Toyota Prius, and they’ve become a major issue in the Presidential campaign. Further price hikes will affect the kind of vacations Americans take, and will likely impact how they feel about the economy. They may even influence how Americans vote in November. “People are going to notice” if the national average crosses \$4, said Fred Rozell, retail pricing director at Oil Price Information Service. “Anytime the price goes up, it’s going to affect

things.” The government said there’s a small chance the price could climb as high as \$4.50 a gallon in June. Pump prices have risen with crude oil, which is refined into gasoline and other fuels. Brent crude, which is used to price most of the oil used by U.S. refineries, has jumped by 14 percent this year. Benchmark U.S. crude has increased by 4 percent. The increase is largely due to a dispute over Iran’s nuclear program that has raised fears of a disruption in Middle East supplies. Americans have responded to high prices by using less gasoline. That should continue over the summer, the government says. But energy forecasters still expect households to spend an average of \$3,410 for gas this year, up \$250 from last year. The tourism industry pays close attention to gasoline prices during the summer since it has such a big impact on their bottom line. Anne Banas, executive editor of the travel website SmarterTravel.com, said that higher gas prices might force travelers to stay at cheaper hotels this summer. They also may decide to cut their trips short. But most won’t stay home. “People will still travel for summer vacation and still perceive a driving vacation as cheaper than flying,” Banas said.



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Passengers board memorial cruise



Laurie and Dan Castaneda of California toast as they board the Titanic Memorial Cruise aboard the Azamara Journey, bound for for Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Passengers dressed in fur coats and wide-brimmed hats strolled the decks of a memorial ship as it began its journey to Canada to visit the spot where the Titanic sank to the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean a century ago.

The ship was packed on Tuesday with history aficionados who have long been obsessed with the doomed ocean liner. Quite a few wore old-fashioned costumes, and one boy in a fake white beard was dressed up as Captain Edward John Smith.

The cruise ship Journey, operated by Azamara Club Cruises, was carrying 440 passengers when it departed a pier on New York's West Side on Tuesday evening, 100 years after the Titanic left Southampton, England. After stopping in Halifax, Nova Scotia, where more than 100 Titanic victims are buried, the cruise will continue on to conduct a memorial

service at the spot in the Atlantic where the Titanic sank. Along the way, passengers will listen to lectures about life on board the Titanic and dine at a costume-themed dinner.

Ticket prices dropped in recent weeks from about \$5,000 per person to \$1,000 per person.

"It's just such a human tragedy that just resonates through the years," said Carol Owens Campbell, 61, of Long Grove, Ill., who was on board with her husband. "What would any of us do if that happened to us?"

There was a festive atmosphere above deck as passengers sipped champagne and explored the ship, which was not decorated in any way to resemble the Titanic and looked like an ordinary cruise liner.

Another ship operated by the same British travel agency is retracing the route of the Titanic. The memorial cruise aboard the MS Balmoral set sail from southern England on

Sunday and made a brief stop in the Irish town of Cobh on Monday before continuing on its journey to New York. The Balmoral had to interrupt its journey on Tuesday because of a medical emergency on board.

At least one person on board the Journey had a very personal connection to the tragedy. Sharon Lee Willing, of Tucson, Ariz., bought a ticket to honor her great-grandfather Herbert Chaffee, a farming magnate from North Dakota who perished in the sinking. Family lore has it that Chaffee and his wife were in Europe on their second honeymoon, Willing said.

"I know it's just going to look like water, but to think of that great ship down there," Willing said, getting choked up at the thought. "It's going to be kind of tough, I think."

Willing's great-grandmother Carrie Chaffee was placed in the last lifeboat to make it off the ship safely.

U.S. coal exports rise for first time in two decades



In this 2006 file photo, a train with coal travels through Wyoming. Data shows U.S. coal exports reached their highest level in two decades last year.

Associated Press

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — U.S. coal exports reached their highest level in two decades last year as strong demand from Asia and Europe offered an outlet for a fuel that is falling from favor at home.

U.S. Department of Energy data analyzed by The Associated Press reveal that coal exports topped 107 million tons of fuel worth almost \$16 billion in 2011. That's the highest level since 1991, and more than double the export volume from 2006.

Much of the increase went to slake the thirst of power-hungry markets in Asia, where rapid development has sparked what mining company Peabody Energy calls a "global coal super cycle" that heralds renewed interest in the fuel.

The AP's analysis showed coal exports to South Korea leapt 81 percent last year to more than 10 million tons. India saw a 65 percent jump, to 4.5 million tons. And Japan bought almost 7 million tons of U.S. coal last year — a 119 percent increase — as the nation sought alternatives to nuclear power after an earthquake and tsunami prompted the Fukushima nuclear complex meltdown.

King Coal faces a tougher outlook in the U.S., where competition from cheap natural gas and costly new rules for power plants are eroding its historic dominance in electricity generation.

Coal's share of the domestic power supply has fallen by more than 20 percent in the past several years, forcing companies to search out new customers or risk having to cut production from U.S. mines that produced almost 1.1 billion tons last year.

Government projections released Tuesday said domestic power sector demand for could dip another 10 percent in 2012. That would drive total U.S. coal use below a billion tons annually for only the second time since 1995.

Utilities burn almost all the coal consumed in the U.S. to produce electricity.

"There's no question that our supplies of coal are adequate. The question is, how do we find new markets for coal to keep the share of electricity generation strong?" said Luke Popovich with the National Mining

Association. "While its use is relatively declining here, it is absolutely soaring in most other places."

Exports also were up to Brazil, China and several European nations seeking high-quality coal for steelmaking, according to the Energy Department data.

The Energy Department forecasts exports to drop slightly over the next two years, then slowly climb to about 130 million tons annually by 2030. Countries worldwide consume more than 6 billion tons of coal annually.

Companies including Arch Coal Inc. have offered far more optimistic scenarios under which exports continue to grow rapidly. St. Louis-based Arch has predicted export capacity could reach 245 million tons by 2015.

To make that happen, companies want new or expanded coal ports on the West and Gulf coasts.

Pending proposals in Washington state would add tens of millions of tons of port capacity for coal that would be mined from the Powder River Basin of Montana and Wyoming.

Port expansions also are envisioned along the East Coast and in Texas, where Kinder Morgan Energy Partners plans to invest \$140 million to expand a coal terminal in Houston.

"The U.S. has lots of coal. It has a wonderful rail infrastructure. But the piece of the logistical puzzle that is weakest is terminals. To get to the next level of growth, the new terminals need to be built," said Jim Orchard, vice president of Wyoming-based Cloud Peak Energy.

Cloud Peak exported 4.7 million tons to Asia last year from its Spring Creek mine near the Montana-Wyoming border — an increase of 42 percent from 2010. Orchard added that the only way export demand would dry up would be if economic growth in China and India came to an abrupt halt.

But many of the port plans are being challenged by the industry's long-time opponents.

Environmentalists who filed dozens of lawsuits over the last decade to block new coal plants in the U.S. have turned new attention to export proposals in recent months. They fear any pollution reductions from reduced domestic coal use could be lost if the fuel is simply burned elsewhere.

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INSIDE COLUMN

Give Griner a break

The women’s basketball national championship was over a week ago. I watched with friends, many of them witnessing our own women’s basketball team compete for the first time all year, as two great sides battled in a very intense game. While many of the people I was with shouted at the television, I was a bit more contemplative. This column may be a week too late, but as they say, better late than never. Here are my two cents.

Laura Coletti

Sports Writer

First, I couldn’t have been more proud to be a student at Notre Dame as I watched these incredible people represent our school. The girls are so tough and unbelievably talented, and to make it to back-to-back championship games is a feat not oft accomplished (unless, of course, you’re UConn). Coach McGraw has an amazing program that will continue to be one of the best in the country.

Now, on Baylor: a few points I’d like to make. This team deserved to win a national championship and yes, when I say “team,” I mean the whole team, not just one player. The group of friends I watched the game with spent a lot of time talking about Baylor center Brittany Griner. Most of the comments were rude and inappropriate, regarding her gender, or rather, questioning her gender. At one point, my younger brother texted me, “Nice Adam’s apple, Brittany Griner.” I’ll admit, I joined in, laughing and teasing, for about the first half or so.

Then I got sort of pensive. I try to see both sides of every equation, and so my thoughts became, “Here is this girl using her talent to do something great, and she’s got hundreds of thousands of people across the nation making fun of her for having a deep voice and a flat chest and for being very tall.” I can’t imagine being in that position and I admire Griner for having such strength amid all the negativity and name-calling.

Secondly, I’ve heard a few ignorant people say that this girl is, “just tall,” and that’s all there is to her game. Yes, anyone with eyes can see that she is tall, but if she were “just tall” she would not be a national champion. After playing basketball at a competitive level for the majority of my life, I know how girls who are “just tall” play. The ball bounces off their hands, they completely miss the rim and they are immobile. My AAU coach called them “stiffs.” Griner is tall and talented. She’s got great footwork and constantly has to work through being double and triple teamed. She’s got a good mid-range jumper and court vision and incredible athleticism. She is not “just tall.”

My third and last point: Griner is not the only weapon the Baylor Bears have. She is not the whole team. If she were, wouldn’t they have won the national championship for each year Griner has been on the team? Point guard Odyssey Sims and the rest of the Baylor team were equally as integral to Baylor’s success and the team could not have reached the success that they did without every player. Yes, Griner was a primary force for the Bears, but someone had to get her the ball.

I realize this is old news and that Baylor may even be facing NCAA sanctions at this point for phone call/text message violations. But lay off Griner, because underneath one of the best basketball players in the country is a heart and soul that doesn’t deserve to be the brunt of insults from a nation of watchers.

Contact Laura Coletti at lcoletti@nd.edu
The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Why fantasy matters

“Fairy tales do not tell children that dragons exist. Children already know that dragons exist. Fairy tales tell children that dragons can be killed.” — G. K. Chesterton

Alex Coccia

Shards of Glass

It is easy to get a sense of isolation as you enter through the main gate into the Terezín concentration camp outside of Prague. Many would leave Terezín after an extended period, being transported eastward, and many would perish in the gas chambers of Auschwitz-Birkenau. If they stayed in Terezín, many would die of disease.

Although isolated, the children of the ghetto were able to draw. This was part of the clandestine schooling system within the ghetto. The world in which these children found themselves was chaotic — a vast deviation from what they had been used to, but also absurd. It was a town-like holding cell in the midst of a horrendous era. But in this absurd world, they drew.

Doris Zdekauerová drew herself as a princess — a beautiful, golden-haired princess with red lips and a bow on her dress. But the rest of the surrounding paper is colored black, perfectly outlining the dress. Beyond the blackness emerges a dragon with green scales, bright colored wings, a myriad of claws and a protruding mouth hurling flames at the frightened princess. I can imagine that Doris was asked to draw how she saw herself at that moment. She drew herself as a princess, as she was in real life, being threatened by the evil of the dragon.

But as she transported from reality to fantasy, she saw a world where good conquered evil dragons. She knew that dragons existed, for they were the reason of her incarceration. She needed to know that the dragons could be defeated. So she entered the realm of fantasy.

So what can we make of fairy tales? What can we make of fantasy?

We oftentimes seem to merge fantasy and reality, perhaps making the reality easier to handle. But instead of merging one fully with the other, we must walk, as Doris did, on the line where fantasy and reality begin to blend. It is on that line, the dawn of one and the dusk of the other, we must tread, because hope lives there.

Fantasy’s interaction with reality does not create escapist hopes, nor is “hope” itself escapist. Fantasy comes from our imagination and the desire to do more, to see more, to feel more or to be more. Fantasy does not neglect reality, as escapist notions do, but instead, fully integrates our desires into our present contexts, and gives us the hope of fulfillment. Whether we are condemned to push a rock up a hill continuously, like Sisyphus, or to shout cries of justice into the deaf and irreverent night, we do so with the hope that we can change things. And sometimes, in fact, many times, we can.

Sometimes that hope creates and facilitates realities we never thought possible. In many cases, these hopes give us the courage to do things we would not otherwise do, to believe in the possibility of things we might not otherwise believe or to appreci-

ate those things we sometimes take for granted. Hope can keep us sane, whether it is hope for tomorrow, for a few years down the road or for a lifetime.

We do well to remember Andy Dufresne’s aphorism in “Shawshank Redemption,” “Remember, Red, hope is a good thing, maybe the best of things. And no good thing ever dies.” Hope can lead us to defy expectations, as Andy did in Shawshank. Hope can leave a legacy, as Harvey Milk did in San Francisco. Hope can move millions, as the Tunisian success inspired another fifteen million to topple their dictator. Hope can redeem the world, as we have yet to see.

Fantasy is invaluable because it creates a sense of certainty for an uncertain future. Hope that we gain from fantasy broadens our perspectives, keeping us grounded in reality but still looking towards the sky.

Doris Zdekauerová did not survive the Holocaust. She died in Auschwitz at the age of 11. Hundreds of other Terezín children did survive, and they drew and they hoped. Everyone needs hope, so everyone needs fantasy. We do not know what that hope will bring. We do not know if we will see success. The only thing we know is that, through everything, those societal, personal or figurative dragons can be defeated.

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Off-campus blues

I always knew my decision to move off campus would create a bit of non-literal distance between the independent off-campus life I wanted and the communal on-campus life I loved, but I never imagined that the immense alienation I have felt this year would be rooted in the dorm of which I still considered myself to be a part.

Declining my housing application for Walsh Hall this year came with the acceptance that I wouldn’t have the opportunity to live the life I grew accustomed to these past three years, complete with section dinners and group watches for trashy television in the 24-hour lounge.

Nonetheless, I still looked forward to the weekly emails of dorm happenings and the opportunities to partake in communal events like interhall sports and dances. However, my enthusiasm to remain active within Walsh, as I had seen my friends with their respective dorms, became quashed in the fall.

I was told that I was no longer considered a Walsh resident, and underclassmen complained until myself, and other off-campus seniors were allowed to partake in flag football.

Even now, this Letter to the Editor may be serving as the official notification to off-campus W.I.L.D. Women that our formal is this Saturday.

So, what exactly does barring us from events and teams accomplish, besides creating a rift in the community and a gap between under and upperclassmen? Should the one year I lived off-campus overshadow the three years I was a Walshie, simply because I lack the physical address?

The disparities growing between off-campus and on-campus residents are certainly becoming an issue. We’re not simply here to provide shelter from parietals. We still have things to offer and things we’d like to partake in. Residence halls should not be deciding what legacy I get to leave behind and what last memories I get to make. The level of involvement in dorm life for off-campus students should be decided by themselves.

All of you senior Walshies, whether on or off-campus, please redefine W.I.L.D. this weekend in solidarity.

Meg Kowieski
senior
off-campus
April 9

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“Now we sit through Shakespeare in order to recognize the quotations.”

Orson Welles
U.S. actor and director

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the Editor

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WEEKLY POLL

Is Haley Scott DeMaria a good choice to be the Commencement speaker??

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Liquidity and flex points

Sitting in the Mendoza basement on a Thursday, you might hear the following conversation:
“Hey bro, I think I’m gonna invest in some liquid assets this weekend.”
“Yeah man, whatcha thinking? Natty again?”
“Nah bro, I’m gonna buy some Treasury bonds.”

Grace Concelman
Options and Futures

Liquid assets in the financial world are those that are easy to convert to cash and can be traded without impacting their price. The most liquid asset type is cash, followed by foreign currency, government bonds and many stocks because they all trade in large, established and fairly stable markets. Assets like real estate are very illiquid because it is difficult to trade them for cash and if you want to sell quickly you usually have to significantly lower your asking price.
People value liquidity because having liquid assets means they can more easily meet immediate financial obligations.

For example, take Domer, the typical Notre Dame student. Domer has four types of assets: U.S. dollars, Domer Dollars, flex points and dining hall meals. The liquidity of these assets ranges from very liquid to very illiquid.
U.S. dollars are Domer’s most liquid assets. They can be used everywhere from Reckers to O’Rourke’s, and even beyond the Notre Dame bubble. Domer Dollars are less liquid than U.S. dollars because they are only accepted on campus. As anyone who has accidentally handed their student ID card to the cashier at Chipotle knows, Domer Dollars aren’t very useful beyond the bookstore or your dorm’s laundry machines.
Flex points are slightly less liquid than Domer dollars. Since they’re meant to supplement Domer’s meal plan, flex points are only accepted at food service locations. Also, unlike Domer dollars, which can be converted to cash upon graduation, flex points have no cash value. At the end of the semester, unused flex points vanish, which explains the sudden demand for dry goods at the Huddle just as everyone is packing up

to leave for the summer.
Finally, Domer’s most illiquid assets are his dining hall meals. He can’t hand his ID card to the cashier at Waddick’s and say, “I didn’t have time to go to the dining hall this morning, so I’m going to use the meal I have for today’s breakfast to pay for my coffee and bagel sandwich.” He also can’t redeem his unused meals at the end of the semester. Dining hall meals are delicious, but Domer secretly thinks they’re kind of a pain. If illiquid dining hall meals are such a pain, why does Domer bother to buy them? He could just hold dollars and pay for everything he needed on campus without having to worry about utilizing his illiquid assets.
The catch is this: The return on illiquid investments is generally higher than liquid investments because the investor is compensated for having to tie up his money. For Domer, buying a block of dining hall meals at the beginning of the semester is less expensive than if he would buy them individually with dollars or flex points. Domer chooses to forego the freedom of owning more-liquid U.S. dollars for the

savings he gets by buying dining hall meals in advance. The lure of extra return on illiquid assets can sometimes lead to liquidity crises. Say Domer invests all of his money in dining hall meals. If he needs a new toothbrush from the Huddle but all of his assets are tied up in meals, he experiences a liquidity crisis where he cannot meet his financial needs with his available assets.
Liquidity is not the same as solvency. Solvency is the ability to meet financial obligations with any assets. It’s possible to be illiquid but still solvent if you have a lot of long-term assets, like if the Domer runs out of flex points but still has dining hall meals. You can’t, however, be insolvent and still liquid. If Domer also runs out of dining hall meals, he’s illiquid, insolvent and probably pretty hungry.

Grace Concelman is a senior majoring in finance and philosophy. She can be reached at gconcelm@nd.edu
The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Obama jeopardized non-partisan Supreme Court

It’s no secret that the line separating the federal judiciary from the executive is blurry at best. When a partisan president is given the authority to nominate justices to the Supreme Court, the supposedly non-partisan nature of the Court is inevitably jeopardized. Washington will never be able to take the politics completely out of the judiciary. However, the degree to which politics affects the judiciary certainly can be controlled.
President Obama’s remarks this week show a careless and outright attempt to influence a ruling of the Court, which is cause for concern not only among opponents of the health care law, but among all who hold proper respect for the separation of powers.
The issue arose on Monday at a press conference being held with the Mexican president and Canadian prime minister. Asked about the possibility of the Supreme Court deciding that the individual mandate is unconstitutional, President Obama responded that he was “confident that the Supreme Court will uphold the law,”

John Sandberg
Guest Columnist

citing his own reasoning and the opinion “of legal experts across the ideological spectrum...” as his rationale.
Had the President finished here and gone on to the next question, there would not have been a problem. He continued, though, saying how for years the biggest problem in the judiciary over the years has been judicial activism. He ultimately finished the lengthy response by criticizing the idea that “an ‘unelected’ group of people would somehow overturn a duly constituted and passed law.”
With oral arguments on the health care law all wrapped up, the only thing left is to wait for a decision to be handed down in June. It would have been wise for President Obama to pivot to the topic of international diplomacy that was at hand, or at the very least, give a brief answer and leave it at that. Warnings on judicial activism and the susceptibility of an “unelected’ group of people” to make the wrong decision were uncalled for.
Students of American government at the most basic levels will be able to tell that judges are not elected for the very reason that it keeps them independent from the other branches of government,

allowing them to do their duty without letting reelection prospects influence their judgments. The President’s use of the term “unelected” in a critical manner just does not make sense. President Obama clarified Tuesday that the Supreme Court has the ultimate say on our laws and “all of us have to respect it,” but it’s that extraordinary power which has led the Court to show restraint in the past.
Again, the President’s remarks reinforced how unnecessary it is for him to be meddling in this issue at all. Americans do not need to be reminded that the Supreme Court has the final say on our laws and that this is a remarkable power. Addressing the Supreme Court’s decision on health care this week was a purely political move intended to sway the decision in his favor.
On a wide range of issues in the past President Obama has made himself appear as the “only adult in the room,” the most calculated voice in an environment full of screaming heads. This stems in part from his personality, but also from the nature of his office. However, his recent remarks on the Supreme Court’s handling of health care compromised this image. The adult in the room would have shown

proper respect for the authority of the Supreme Court. The temptation to use his office to go public and try to affect the Court’s opinion, rather than let it do its job uninfluenced, shows how President Obama can resort to playing the same partisan games which he so often accuses his counterparts of doing.
Many times I feel right-wing conservative critics are unfair in their criticisms of the President. This is not one of those times. Such a clear attempted violation of the separation of powers cannot be tolerated and it is right for critics to criticize him.
In a federal government full of gray areas, it is indeed noteworthy when an actor blatantly oversteps his boundaries. Yet this is exactly what President Obama did on Monday, and it has not gone unnoticed by Americans who appreciate the foundational principle of separation of powers.

John Sandberg is a sophomore English major. He can be reached at jsandbe1@nd.edu
The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

GRC event just a bandage on a bullet wound

In “Dating at Notre Dame: The Remix,” (April 3), Dr. Moss addresses how a hookup culture exists in place of a dating culture on campus, and he speaks to the efforts that the Gender Relations Center (GRC) has undertaken to initiate a shift to a culture of healthier relationships.
However, while the GRC’s end goal is noble, and their efforts are to be commended, their plan of action that has been demonstrated seems naïve at best. For example, the GRC recently gave out coffee vouchers to encourage students to go on coffee dates. The idea behind this was to encourage a movement away from the hookup culture.
However, much like haphazardly slapping a cheap plastic bandage on a bullet wound to the heart, GRC events seem to have not thoughtfully and objectively addressed the real problem: questions of identity and how those identities are formed by not only popular culture, but the Notre Dame image as well.
My critique of the GRC might best be

illustrated by a personal experience. Last semester, I attended a “speed dating” event sponsored by the GRC. I went only for the discussion panel, as I have been in a happy relationship for nearly two years. One panelist cited the rising number of younger people having sex, compared it to data from previous decades and used this to support an argument that popular culture is contributing to sex at a younger age.
During the Q&A period that followed, I asked if the discrepancy in the data might be attributed to participant bias. Instead of answering the question, or even acknowledging that participant bias is always a concern in any survey data, the panelist responded with rhetoric that continued to uphold the argument, but was unrelated to the question. This response was lazy at best, and unethical at worst, as even the best data and methods will always disclose shortcomings.
If the GRC wants to solve tough issues, they must also ask tough questions. This

includes an objective critique of their framework of understanding the Notre Dame hookup culture, as informed by the idealized Notre Dame image. It seems that social problems at Notre Dame, such as an unhealthy hookup culture, tend to be blamed on greater trends in American culture. While popular culture does indeed influence decisions, I feel that the GRC is missing a very important opportunity to critique how Notre Dame’s image and students’ relationship with our Catholic branding might contribute to gender relation problems at Notre Dame.
I am not suggesting the GRC look to criticize the Catholic faith. Rather, the GRC should also objectively investigate if the pressure students feel from trying to uphold Notre Dame’s pure and chaste Catholic image might negatively manifest through unhealthy activities such as “slut shaming” (we’ve all unfortunately have heard at least a St. Mary’s joke at some point in time) or even participating in the hookup culture.

Such participation may be fueled by an unhealthy Madonna/Whore dichotomy that students are reacting to, and characterizing each extreme in different settings.
Certainly, the Catholic faith is a strong foundation for building relationships with one another. However, if the GRC would like to find a comprehensive solution to Notre Dame’s hookup culture, the GRC may also want to investigate and critique how Notre Dame’s image is affecting students, beyond the obvious and easy task of critiquing the effects of popular culture. The Pulitzer Prize winning playwright August Wilson once wrote, “Confront the dark parts of yourself, and work to banish them with illumination and forgiveness. Your willingness to wrestle with your demons will cause your angels to sing.”

Melissa Jordan
junior
Ryan Hall
April 4

BFA + MFA Theses on Display at the Snite

By BRIGID MANGANO

Scene Writer

As a proud Double Domer, I have had the opportunity to attend and participate in a wide variety of campus performances and competitions, from the Keenan Revue and Glee Club concerts to the Holy Half Marathon and the Collegiate Jazz Festival. Time and again, the talent and originality of my fellow students astounds me. This is especially true at the annual exhibition of BFA and MFA candidates' theses at the Snite Museum of Art, one of only two events that I have not missed once over the past five years.

This spring, the culminating projects of eight seniors and five third-year graduate students are on display until May 20. Broaching topics as diverse as childhood fitness, the romanticization of cyberspace and the under-regulation of the cosmetics industry, they promise to appeal to a broad audience.

Children may gravitate towards "Stray," a video game created by Amanda Carter that tells a heartwarming story about a bipedal sheep seeking to rescue his shepherd from a pack of wolves. Players must rely upon the skills of other members of the flock to reach the cave where the shepherd sits tethered. With its anti-bullying message and likable cast of characters, "Stray" is a welcome departure from the many violent video games on the market.

Those who constantly experience noise pollution will be intrigued by "Hush," a hybrid device conceived by Ryan Geraghty. By combining sound-masking techniques and directional speakers, the device drowns out unwanted or harmful noise. One of the strengths of the display is its interactive component; viewers who step on a carpet square will suddenly become aware of an overhead buzzing sound.

New mothers may be drawn to Meghan Corbett's "Koala Karrier" and Becca Huffer's "PAC." The former addresses the problem of how to safely transport an infant and offers a lightweight alternative to car seats that double as carriers. Eschewing plastic, Corbett created a wool-felt carrier which has a button tree design to add a nice aesthetic touch. "PAC," short for the Personal Accessibility Cart, is a multifunctional walking aid that serves as everything from a stroller to a grocery cart. Presented as a lifelong companion, its rota-

tional capacities and adjustability are impressive.

Parents and grade school teachers will appreciate "TRAKS" by Amanda Jonovski, a program that embraces technology in order to encourage physical exercise from a young age. (Editor's note: Jonovski is the ad design manager at The Observer.) Students can earn points for the activities they log and challenge classmates to sports contests. By shifting the attention away from weight loss and customizing the appearance to reflect each school's mascot, Jonovski transforms exercise into pure fun.

Internet users will see opportunity for self-reflection in "Neighborhoods" by Laura McGinn. In a series of four paintings, she depicts clusters of floating shapes that are intended to recall computer graphics. Many vaguely resemble buildings, and one cannot resist comparing a red-and-yellow checked shape to a Rubik's cube. For McGinn, paint was the ideal medium to challenge contemporary attitudes towards cyberspace.

Avid readers will pause before "En Route" by Jackie Emmanuel, a sequence of six digital paintings that accompany a chapter book written by the artist. The story's protagonist is Lorenzo Ibycus, the son of a government official who must journey to his homeland to save his family's reputation. In one illustration, a buxom blonde asks directions, while behind her a winding path leads to a precipitous island evocative of Mont Saint-Michel. Viewers will leave wishing they could open the novel and read.

Philosophy majors and all those who muse about the nature of time and human existence will enjoy "Light Painting" by Nicholas Gunty and "The Temptation to Exist" by Jackson Zorn. In the former, Gunty explores light as a metaphor for the organic and spiritual worlds. Using long-exposure photography, he tracks different light sources across a moving frame and recreates the images in seven oil paintings. One of these, "Entanglement," is loosely reminiscent of orange octopus legs.

In the latter, viewers encounter nine graphite drawings of bone fragments, organs, insect casings, antlers and fur. These sundry components are blended to produce bizarre-looking creatures, with the message that life always finds a way to flourish. The largest of the drawings calls to mind a famous Georgia O'Keeffe paint-

ing of a cow skull.

Women for whom primping is a sacred morning ritual should check out "Fierce Cosmetics" by Marie Yvonne Bourgeois. In a humorous but highly informative campaign, Bourgeois draws attention to the alarming levels of skin irritants and toxins that are found in many beauty products. Well-known slogans associated with Cover Girl and other big-name brands are turned on their heads, and Bourgeois' process video shows exactly how she used lipstick, foundation, and mascara in her printmaking techniques.

Nirvana fans will empathize with "Kill Yr. Idols" by Benjamin Funke, a project dedicated to the life and death of Kurt Cobain. Funke deliberately distorts and silences the music videos that Nirvana filmed during their contract with Geffen Records, as a way of symbolizing the perversion of their message by the music industry and the loss of Cobain's voice. The muted sound is especially noticeable due to the loud hum of six simultaneous projectors.

The final two projects both address the nature of recollection, albeit through markedly different means. In "Youthful Days," Jessica Zekus considers the way in which our minds remember significant childhood events. Her staggered clay sculptures portray four boys and three girls in multifarious poses; one raises her hand as though waving to a friend, while another leans on his knees like an outfielder awaiting a fly ball. Viewers will smile at the playful titles, such as "See You Later Alligator."

Memory is also foregrounded in "Re: Collections" by Christine Hinz Lenzen, a labor-intensive project in which old photographs were doused in wine, wrapped in cheesecloth and dipped in wax. Many of these were sewn together to create "Tapestry," a sprawling quilt hung over a wooden drying rack. Others are bottled and arranged on shelves or scattered in a shallow trough. Viewers will find themselves searching for images that repeat and squinting to make out the details in those that were soaked the longest in red wine.

This year's exhibition of MFA and BFA candidates' theses cannot fail to please. Students and faculty should make time to view the work of some of the most creative minds on campus.

Contact Brigid Mangano at bmangano@nd.edu



BRIGID MANGANO/
The Observer

Baking with Brenna: Fluffer-Nutter Brownies



By BRENNA WILLIAMS
Scene Writer

I learned two lessons this week. The first: never start baking until you're 100 percent certain you have all of the ingredients that you need. The second: when life gives you copious amounts of peanut butter, create a new recipe.

I set out this week to make rocky road brownies, thinking I had the walnuts the recipe called for hidden away in my pantry. Unfortunately, when I discovered that I was either wrong or our house elf had hidden them somewhere, the brownies were already in the oven and I had to think fast. I could either serve my co-workers and friends boring, plain box brownies or I could go ahead and get creative, using things I had to spruce up box brownies to make "semi-homemade" maven Sandra Lee proud. I had marshmallow fluff and peanut butter, which naturally led to this week's creation: Fluffer-Nutter Brownies.

If you're not familiar with the Fluffer-Nutter sandwich, I can understand why. They were a thing of legend at my elementary school lunch table — no way would our mothers send any of us out of the house with something that sugary in our lunchboxes! The Fluffer-Nutter combines peanut butter with marshmallow fluff, in a perfectly sweet, perfectly gooey concoction that lends itself easily to the top of a brownie. They couldn't be easier!

Ingredients:

- 1 box of brownie mix and the oil, egg, and water called for on the box
(Tip: I used the low-fat Betty Crocker mix made for a 13x9 pan. You can also be an over-achiever and make brownies from scratch.)
- ½ cup peanut butter
(Tip: If you want some extra texture, go ahead and use crunchy peanut butter)
- ½ cup marshmallow fluff
- ¾ cup of chocolate chips
- ¼ cup mini marshmallows (optional)

Instructions:

- Preheat oven as instructed by the box. Mix together eggs, oil, water and mix as instructed. Add chocolate chips to batter and mix well.
(Tip: If you like fudgy brownies, use one less egg than instructed)
- Spread batter on the bottom of a lightly greased baking sheet and cook as directed.
- As soon as the brownies are done baking, switch the oven over to the broiler function on a low setting. Layer the fluff and peanut butter on the top of the brownies, taking care not to tear the top up too much. Don't worry about fully spreading them. If adding optional marshmallows, sprinkle them on top.
(Tip: Only you can know what your perfect peanut butter/fluff ratio is, so it's up to you if you want to add more or less of either of them. There's no such thing as too much of a good thing!)
- Place the pan back in the oven for 2-3 minutes, allowing the peanut butter and fluff to warm up and become more easily spreadable.
- Remove from oven and fully spread the toppings on top of the brownies with a knife or rubber spatula. Let the brownies cool for at least an hour — they need to be completely cooled for the toppings to stay in place. Cut into pieces and enjoy!
(Tip: If you want to speed the cooling process up, place the brownies in the freezer for 45 minutes)

Five steps, store-bought mix and a learning experience are the ingredients for a delicious throwback to your childhood. There was no way I was going to finish the peanut butter I had in my pantry before graduation, and this was a perfect way to keep from being wasteful.

This proved to me that baking — that culinary art that you're not supposed to improvise on — is not as cut-and-dry as the baking-wary might believe. Luckily, my experiment turned out to be edible.

Contact Brenna Williams at bwillia9@nd.edu



BRENNA WILLIAMS/The Observer

Style with Sean

Despite my usual focus on clothes, this week I have decided to focus on something just as important in style: grooming. More specifically, the grooming of your chest hair.

The Case for looking like Chewbacca:

I remember when I grew up

that the coolest dudes ever had the greatest chest hair. Who didn't love Austin Powers, or dream of being the next Sean Connery or Magnum P.I.? But here's the kicker — Chuck Norris had chest hair. Therefore, chest hair is the greatest thing ever.

The boy with chest hair no longer feels like a little kid; he has progressed into manhood. The acquisition of chest hair is the modern man's proof that he is no longer a boy, but a man. He is the man's man. He cuts down trees with an ax in his spare time. He fights with his bare knuckles. He knows how to start a fire with two sticks. He could survive in the wild with a hatchet. He loves football. And everyone knows not to mess with his woman.



SEAN FITZGERALD/The Observer

Sophomore Brian Scope models the "Chewbacca" look.

The Case against Chewbacca:

But, becoming your inner Paul Bunyan can get a little out of control. Imagine all of the things that get lost in there. At certain lengths, small little critters have been known to bury themselves in there for the harsh winters in South Bend. If this man unbuttons two buttons on his shirt, it starts to escape, causing some to mistake

him for a South American drug lord. Despite being the man's man, he has often been confused with mystical creatures such as Chewbacca, bears and Bigfoot. He should be wary of his overwhelming hair, even if it could be used as a pillow.

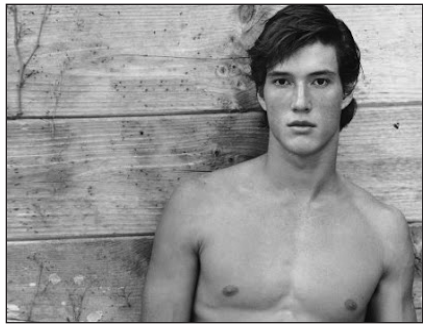


Photo Courtesy of abercrombieandfitchmodels.blogspot.com

2011 alumnus Justin Schneider modeled for Abercrombie & Fitch.

The Case for looking like the Abercrombie & Fitch Model:

Unfortunately, not all men have been blessed with the ability to grow a forest on their chest. Here comes the A&F model. Ladies swoon to him and his washboard abs. Every muscle is clearly defined. He lacks a single hair except for the lightly gelled ones on his head. He could be as dumb as an ox, he couldn't survive a second in the wild, but he always gets the girl. He relaxes by the beach and his job is to stand there and just look good. He is a woman's dream date.

The Case against the A&F Model:

But, he looks like a little boy. Did he ever reach puberty? Where was this man when I was growing up? He seems to be the antithesis of the man's man; he is the woman's man. He is a pretty boy who can't do hard work. Other than his large hairless chest and awe-inducing muscles, what else does he have to offer? He spends his days removing miniscule amounts of hair from his body, he spends exorbitant amounts of time on styling what hair he has on his head and he probably isn't even an ambi-turner.

I don't know which one is better or which one is worse. I grew up seeing the man's man as my hero. But, where has he gone? When was the last time anyone saw a male model with chest hair? Someone, please start a Viewpoint war on this, because it would be hilarious.

Contact Sean Fitzgerald at sfitzge3@nd.edu

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

SPORTS AUTHORITY

Too early in the year to panic, baseball fans

All around me, the sounds of spring ring loud and clear. The leaves rustle in the wind and birds sing cheerfully. The sweet sounds of baseball join in the seasonal refrain, adding to the song organ tunes, the crack of a bat and the roar of a crowd.

But simultaneously, in my head, voices scream, fire tears through the streets and alarms ring. Disaster has struck, panic is running rampant.

After a long offseason and months of eager expectation, baseball season is back. And my Atlanta Braves kicked off the 2012 season by crumbling at the feet of the Mets three times and falling to the lowly Astros.

The pitching was subpar, the offense was almost nonexistent and the star players disappointed. On opening day at Citi Field, the Braves failed to tag Johan Santana in his first game since 2010 and fell 1-0. In the second game of series, R.A. Dickey controlled the Braves and Lucas Duda knocked two homers in the Mets' 4-2 victory. Jonathon Niese took a no-hit bid into the seventh inning of game three and a late Atlanta rally wasn't enough to steal the win as the visiting team fell, 7-5.

The Braves began the season with their first 0-3 start since 2003 and now sit at 1-4 after committing four errors in their first game against the Astros. After their loss at Houston on Monday night, the Braves had racked up nine straight losses dating back to their late-season collapse of a year ago.

And it is not just the Braves' early-season failures that have me worried. In both of my fantasy baseball leagues (don't frown upon me), my teams suffered thorough routs. My pitching was disastrous, my offense was atrocious and my scores were generally embarrassing.

I am not the only one whose faith was shaken by the opening weekend of the MLB, either. Both Yankees fans and Red Sox fans were left shaking their heads after 0-3 starts. The Pinstripes dropped three straight to division-foe Tampa Bay, an unwelcome sign for New Yorkers hoping to buy AL East Champions merchandise this fall. The Red Sox, meanwhile,

blew two saves during an 0-3 start against the Detroit Tigers, inciting speculation about Daniel Bard's return to the bullpen.

In another disappointing start, Ozzie Guillen began his career at the helm of the Miami Marlins by making controversial remarks about Fidel Castro and making public his habit of drinking and sleeping at the hotel after games ("I don't do anything else," he said).

So clearly, there is plenty for baseball fans to fret about, whether it be slow starts or controversial beginnings.

And yet, there is nothing for baseball fans to fret about. Four or five games into a 162-game season, nothing has been established. This is what I need to keep telling myself.

The last times the Braves began the campaign 0-3, in 2003, they finished with 101 wins and won the NL East. More recently, in 2007, the Braves inaugurated the season with a three-game sweep of the Phillies, only to watch Philadelphia capture the division title at season's end. Regardless of how terrible a team looks or how disappointing its results are in the season's opening week, the sheer size of the baseball season offers reason for hope.

The Braves will be fine (I hope). Their talented pitching staff will lead the way as the offense pieces together some semblance of consistency and productivity. While a playoff berth will be a tall order, Atlanta is certainly in the running.

For the Red Sox and the Yankees, as well, the wins will start to pile up as they both join the Rays in a three-team battle for two playoff spots.

As for Ozzie Guillen, I think we can pretty much accurately predict what the larger trend will be from the sample size already. If he manages to move past this rather large impediment, he will probably talk his way into the line of fire again quite soon.

For the rest of us, at least, there is hope.

Contact Joseph Monardo at jmonardo@nd.edu
The views expressed in this Sports Authority column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.



Joseph Monardo
Sports Writer

MLB

Dodgers take home opener, 2-1



Dodgers right fielder Andre Ethier watches his tie-breaking home run in the eighth inning of Los Angeles' 2-1 victory over Pittsburgh on Tuesday at home.

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The Pittsburgh Pirates faced four of the NL's elite starting pitchers in their first four games of the season, yet still emerged with a split. That impressive result didn't feel particularly comforting to the Pirates after Andre Ethier set off a celebration at Dodger Stadium at their expense.

Ethier hit a tiebreaking homer off Jason Grilli with two outs in the eighth inning Tuesday, sending the Los Angeles Dodgers to a 2-1 victory on Dodger Stadium's 50th anniversary. Pittsburgh opened a nine-game trip with just five hits against Clayton Kershaw and the Dodgers' bullpen. After Grilli (0-1) yielded the decisive homer, Andrew McCutchen grounded into a game-ending double play.

Yet the disappointment of a dramatic loss didn't erase the satisfaction of another strong effort under difficult circumstances for the Pirates — and their veteran setup man certainly wasn't fazed by his failure. "I love the adversity," Grilli said. "If I don't, then I shouldn't be doing this. But I relish it. I mean, I'm not happy about what hap-

pened today, but I can't wait to get the ball the next time, because I'm going to win that battle. I guess the good thing about being a reliever is that you can come back out tomorrow and redeem yourself and be a hero." Pittsburgh didn't get caught up in the party around the Dodgers' home opener, either. Kevin Correia shut down Los Angeles' offense after Matt Kemp's RBI groundout in the first inning until the Pirates evened it in the seventh on Matt Hage's run-scoring groundout. Correia yielded four hits and two walks over six innings in his season debut for Pittsburgh after missing the final six weeks of last season with a strained

oblique, matching Kershaw's seven-inning effort for the Dodgers. "It's a small sample, but we've been pitching great," Pirates catcher Rod Barajas said. "But we've had some tough matchups: (Roy) Halladay, (Cliff) Lee, (Cole) Hamels, and then we get Kershaw, but we're competing day in and day out. So no matter who's on the mound, we're going to battle. Hopefully we come out on top more often than not."

Kenley Jansen (1-0)

Andre Ethier
Dodgers right fielder

"Everybody is excited about what's going on right now and rightfully so ... The vibe in this stadium today, that's an addicting feeling."

pitched the eighth, and Javy Guerra pitched the ninth for his third save.

"This is the kind of game we're going to have to play," Pittsburgh manager Clint Hurdle said. "I don't expect to see us get blown out, and I'm not so sure we're going to blow out a lot of people, so right now there's not much margin for error. There's really no safety net. You've got to earn victories up here, and they earned one today."

Exactly 50 years after Dodger Stadium opened, Ethier hit a solo shot before emerging from the dugout for a curtain call that didn't seem out of place, even in early April. After two years of mediocrity on the field and increasingly bizarre developments in the front office of Southern California's much-loved team, the Dodgers are off to a 4-1 start to their first season since resolving Frank McCourt's messy ownership tenure.

"Everybody is excited about what's going on right now, and rightfully so," said Ethier, starting his seventh season with the Dodgers. "The vibe in this stadium today, that's an addicting feeling. We had that for several years here, and then it went away, and part of that was how we were playing on the field. It felt good to look up and see that support again."

Kershaw allowed four hits and struck out seven, bouncing back from his first start last week in San Diego, which ended after three innings because of an illness that lingered until recently. He failed to win at home for just the third time in 14 starts, but still hasn't lost at Dodger Stadium since early last season.

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PERSONAL

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This Day in History:
1783- After receiving a copy of the provisional treaty on March 13, the U.S. Congress proclaimed a formal end to hostilities with Great Britain.

1898 - U.S. President William McKinley asked Congress for a declaration of war with Spain.

1921 - The first live sports event on radio took place this day on KDKA Radio. The event was a boxing match between Johnny Ray and Johnny Dundee.

1947 - Jackie Robinson became the first black player in major-league history. He played in an exhibition game for the Brooklyn Dodgers.

1968 - U.S. President Johnson signed the 1968 Civil Rights Act.

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

NCAA FOOTBALL

Petrino loses job over controversy

Associated Press

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. — Arkansas fired coach Bobby Petrino on Tuesday and scathingly dressed him down for hiring his mistress and intentionally misleading his boss about their secret relationship that was laid bare by her presence at a motorcycle accident that ultimately cost him his job.

Athletic director Jeff Long announced his decision at an evening news conference and laid out a stunning laundry list of misdeeds against the man he hired away from the Atlanta Falcons four years ago.

They included ignoring multiple chances over the past 10 days to come clean to Long about the relationship that had crossed the line from infidelity into workplace favoritism.

“He made the decision, a conscious decision, to mislead the public on Tuesday, and in doing so negatively and adversely affected the reputation of the University of Arkansas and our football program,” Long said, choking up at one point as he discussed telling players that their coach was gone. “In short, Coach Petrino engaged in a pattern of misleading and manipulative behavior designed to deceive me and members of the athletic staff, both before and after the motorcycle accident.”

The 51-year-old Petrino, a married father of four, maintained an inappropriate relationship with 25-year-old Jessica Dorrell for a “significant” amount of time and at one point had given her \$20,000, Long said.

Long would not disclose details of the payment, or when

the money changed hands, but said both parties confirmed the “gift.” Kevin Trainor, a spokesman for Long, said the money came from Petrino, not university funds.

Petrino issued a lengthy apology and said he was focused on trying to heal his family.

“All I have been able to think about is the number of people I’ve let down by making selfish decisions,” he said. “I chose to engage in an improper relationship. I also made several poor decisions following the end of that relationship and in the aftermath of the accident. I accept full responsibility for what has happened.”

Dorrell, a former Razorbacks volleyball player, worked for the Razorbacks Foundation before she was hired by Petrino on March 28, four days before their accident on a winding rural road. Long said she was one of three finalists out of 159 applicants and got the job after a time frame he said was shorter than usual.

Petrino never disclosed his conflict of interest in hiring Dorrell or the payment and she had an unfair advantage over the other candidates, Long said.

“Coach Petrino abused his authority when over the past few weeks he made a staff decision and personal choices that benefited himself and jeopardized the integrity of the football program,” Long said.

Petrino has built Arkansas into a Southeastern Conference and national power over four seasons, including a 21-5 record the past two years. But Long made it clear that the success on the field was overshadowed by repeated deceptive

acts and that no one was more important than the program itself.

Long said Petrino was fired “with cause” — meaning he will not receive the \$18 million buyout his contract called for — and there were no discussions about ways to keep Petrino at Arkansas.

Long said he met with Petrino on Tuesday morning to inform him there were grounds for termination and that the coach was “concerned” about that. Long sent Petrino a letter Tuesday afternoon to formally notify him he had been fired.

Long said he has not spoken with Petrino since sending the letter.

“I chose to do it in writing because that’s the terms of his contract,” he said.

Long declined comment when asked about Dorrell’s job status.

She was “at one point” engaged to Josh Morgan, the athletic department’s director of swimming and diving operations, according to a person with knowledge of the situation who spoke only on condition of anonymity because the details have not been disclosed. The person said Morgan was still employed at the university.

Petrino finishes his tenure at Arkansas with a 34-17 record in four seasons, leading the Razorbacks to a No. 5 final ranking last season and a Cotton Bowl win over Kansas State. There was talk of Arkansas challenging the two powerhouses in the SEC West, national champion Alabama and national runner-up LSU.

And maybe the Hogs will. But they won’t do it with Petrino.

NBA

Celtics shoot by Heat behind Pierce, Rondo



AP

Celtics forward Paul Pierce puts up a shot in Boston’s 115-107 win over the Heat on Tuesday at the American Airlines Arena.

Associated Press

MIAMI — A week ago, the Boston Celtics beat the Miami Heat with defense. This time, they did it with offense.

Paul Pierce scored 27 points, Kevin Garnett added 24 points and nine rebounds, and the Celtics made their first eight shots of the fourth quarter to hold off the Heat 115-107 on Tuesday night.

Rajon Rondo posted double-digit assists for the 18th straight game, extending the NBA’s longest such streak in 20 years with an 18-point, 15-assist effort. Brandon Bass added 12 points and 10 rebounds, while Avery Bradley scored 11 for the Celtics, who shot a season-high 61 percent and survived two possessions where Miami could have tied the score in the final quarter.

“We talk about it in fighting terms,” Celtics coach Doc Rivers said. “We told them today before the game, you’re in a boxing match, you expect to get hit. They’re going to hit you. They did and we withstood it. I thought that was important for our team.”

LeBron James finished with 36 points, seven rebounds and seven assists for Miami, which got 20 from Dwyane Wade and 18 from Mario Chalmers. Chris Bosh finished with 13 on 5-for-13 shooting for Miami, which has gone 5-5 in its last 10 games.

The Celtics beat Miami 91-72 in Boston on April 1, a game the Heat called “unacceptable” after establishing season-lows in scoring and shooting.

This one won’t sit much better with the reigning Eastern Conference champions, who ousted the Celtics in five games from last year’s playoffs and could see them in the second round of the upcoming postseason. No team had shot better than 55 percent against the Heat this season, and Boston’s 115 points were two shy of matching a season-high against Miami.

“We left Boston feeling awful at our performance,” James said. “I don’t feel as bad tonight. Those

guys, they were locked in. Not only did they make their open shots, they made their contested shots. ... When you’ve got it going like that, just tip your hat off. We tip our hat off to them tonight. They won it.”

Boston improved to 18-7 since the All-Star break, and dealt Miami a blow in the race for the No. 1 seed in the East. The Heat fell 2 1/2 games behind Chicago, which played later Tuesday at home against the New York Knicks.

“It took a while,” Rondo said, “but we’re peaking at the right time.”

A layup by Wade got Miami within 108-103 with 2:22 left, before Garnett made a high-arching jumper that dropped softly through the net, his 11th make in 14 shots. That pretty much described the night. Whenever Miami got close, the Celtics found a way to hold them off.

“It’s a game of runs,” Pierce said. “You have one of the best teams in the NBA at home. You know they’re going to make a run. That’s what makes them who they are. They know how to turn it on. We did a good job of holding their runs to a minimum.”

Miami had two shots to tie early in the fourth after being down by as many as 18 earlier, before Garnett made jump shots on four straight possessions, the average length of those makes being 19 feet.

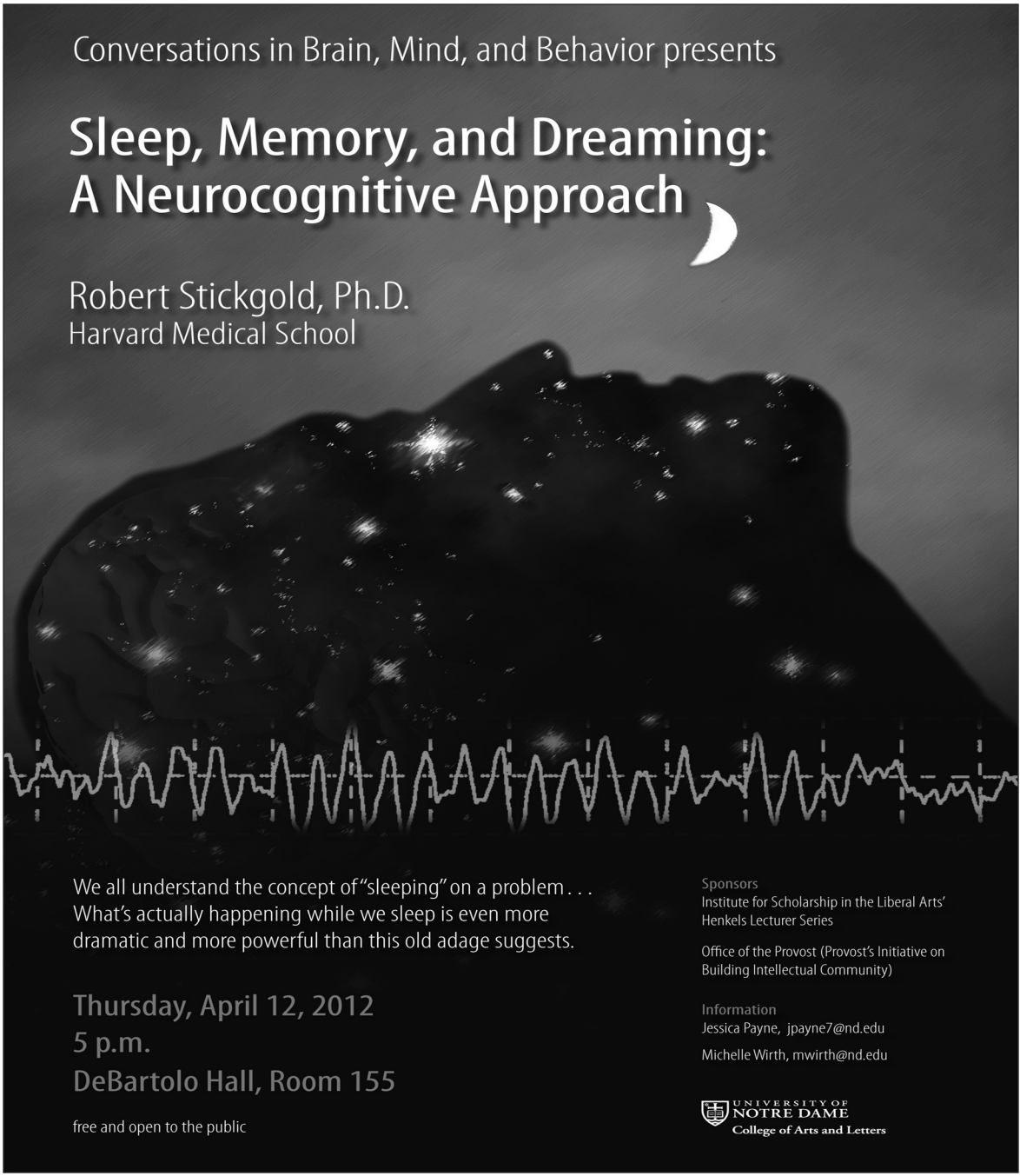
A 10-0 run early in the first quarter gave Boston a quick lead — and that wasn’t even the Celtics’ best run of the opening period. Boston scored the last 11 of the first, the run actually becoming 13-0 when Garnett scored to open the second quarter, and Boston’s lead was 35-22.

Everything the Celtics wanted, they got. Boston shot 61 percent in the first quarter, 62 percent in the second. Celtics coach Doc Rivers used eight players, all of them making multiple shots by halftime. Of them, the only one who failed to make at least half his shots was Bass, who more than made up for that with six first-half rebounds.

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ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

Carroll leads 10-man Liverpool over Rovers



Blackburn coach Steve Kean directs his team in Rovers' 3-2 loss to Liverpool on Tuesday at Ewood Park Stadium.

Associated Press

BLACKBURN, England — Andy Carroll scored an injury-time header to give 10-man Liverpool a 3-2 win at relegation-threatened Blackburn on Tuesday, but the Reds lost another goalkeeper to suspension ahead of this weekend's FA Cup semifinal.

Liverpool looked headed for an easy victory after Maxi Rodriguez scored twice to leave the visitors up 2-0 by the 16th minute. But the game changed completely when Liverpool goalkeeper Alexander Doni was given a straight red card for bringing down Junior Hoilett in the area after the Blackburn player pounced on a sloppy back pass from Jon Flanagan.

While substitute goalkeeper Brad Jones stopped Ayegbeni Yakubu's tame spot kick, the striker made up for it by scoring twice to draw Blackburn level by the 61st. Jones was lucky not to get sent off himself when he pushed Yakubu over in the area for another penalty that led to the second goal.

But Carroll's leaping header in injury time gave Liverpool the win and left Blackburn mired in the relegation zone.

Liverpool, however, was left with its own worries.

With Pepe Reina already serving a suspension, Doni's red card leaves Liverpool without its top two goalkeepers for Saturday's FA Cup semifinal against crosstown rival Everton at Wembley.

While Jones had a perfect start to his first Premier League appearance with the club — saving Yakubu's pen-

alty with his first touch — the substitute was at fault for the equalizer. He first sent a poor clearance straight at Yakubu, and then failed to hold on to the ball after it bounced high up in the air and came down close to the goal line.

Jones pushed the ball weakly straight out and then bundled Yakubu over as they both went for the loose ball. Jones was allowed to stay on the field, however, as referee Anthony Taylor settled for a yellow card on that occasion.

That proved to be a key decision as Liverpool gradually took control of the game again and pushed for a winner. It came when Daniel Agger met a long ball into the area and headed it down toward Carroll, who dove forward to push it high into the net.

Liverpool had opened the scoring on a quick counter attack as Martin Skrtel's long ball from well inside his own penalty area reached Craig Bellamy on the right and he charged forward before delivering a cross for Rodriguez to convert with a close-range finish.

Rovers barely had time to recover before the Argentine struck again. Jonjo Shelvey stole the ball from David Dunn and ran 50 yards to force Paul Robinson to parry his low shot into the path of Carroll. The striker's effort was blocked by Bradley Orr into the path of Rodriguez, who smashed in a first-time volley with his weaker left foot.

After Yakubu missed his first penalty, he made amends 11 minutes later by heading in Dunn's free kick.

MLB

Ozzie suspended five games

Associated Press

MIAMI — A contrite Ozzie Guillen sat in the heart of Little Havana seeking forgiveness for what the Miami Marlins manager called the biggest mistake of his life — saying he admired Fidel Castro.

This wasn't some offhanded insult about a sports writer, the type of thing that got the outspoken Guillen in trouble in Chicago. This was personal to the fan base that the Marlins rely on so much that they built their new stadium in the middle of the city's Cuban-American neighborhood.

Castro is the sworn enemy of those fans.

So after being suspended for five games Tuesday, the Marlins manager tried to quell the tempest.

"I'm here on my knees to apologize," Guillen said.

"I'm very sorry about the problem, what happened. I will do everything in my power to make it better ... When you make a mistake like this, you can't sleep."

A chastened Guillen, who has a history of polarizing comments about gays and immigrants, among others, spoke without a script and made no disclaimers. He said he'll do whatever he can to repair relations with Cuban-Americans angered by his praise of the Cuban dictator, remarks he said he didn't mean.

Guillen, who is Venezuelan, told Time magazine he loves Castro and respects the retired Cuban leader for staying in power so long. In response,

at least two Miami politicians said Guillen should lose his job. Callers on Spanish-language radio in Miami agreed and 100 demonstrators picketed Marlins Park toting signs like "NO APOLOGIES FIRE HIM NOW."

"He is full with hypocrisy," said Luis Martinez, who has lived in Miami since the late 1950s. "I don't accept any kind of pardon from him. They should get him out."

The team didn't consider firing Guillen or asking him to resign five games into his tenure, Marlins president David Samson said.

Guillen was hired to help usher in a new baseball era for the Marlins, saddled in recent years with mediocre teams and worse attendance. The team was to rely on South Florida's large Cuban-American population to help rebuild its fan base with the \$634 million ballpark that opened last week.

At the hourlong news conference Tuesday morning, there was little evidence of Guillen's roguish charm or quick wit, which have made him a favorite with fans and reporters since he became a major league manager in 2004. Speaking somberly, he took full responsibility for his comments, but said they were misinterpreted by Time's reporter.

"It was a personal mistake of the thing I had in my mind and what I said," Guillen said in Spanish. "What I wanted to say in Spanish, I said in English in a wrong way."

Guillen said he doesn't love or admire Castro.

"I was saying I cannot believe somebody who hurt so many people over the years is still alive," he said.

Time said Tuesday it stands by its story.

Guillen said the uproar he created has left him sad, embarrassed and feeling stupid. He said he accepted the team's punishment.

"When you're a sportsman, you shouldn't be involved with politics," he said.

"I'm going to be a Miami guy for the rest of my life. I want to walk in the street with my head up and feel not this bad, the way I feel now."

Cuban-born Atlanta Braves manager Fredi Gonzalez, a former manager of the Marlins, said he watched some of the news conference and could tell it was difficult for Guillen.

"He came out and faced the music," Gonzalez said. "It's going to take awhile, but hopefully he can win those people back somehow."

Guillen has gotten in trouble before on issues ranging from sexual orientation to illegal immigration. Just last week, he boasted about getting drunk after games.

Those episodes quickly faded. But on South Florida's scale of political incorrectness, praise for Castro is a home run, and it was unclear how long it would take for anger toward Guillen to subside.

Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig said the remarks "have no place in our game" and were "offensive to an important part of the Miami community and others throughout the world."

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SMC SOFTBALL

Belles sweep struggling Calvin in doubleheader

By MATT UNGER
Sports Writer

A doubleheader sweep over Calvin on Thursday highlighted by a walk-off win vaulted Saint Mary's back into contention in the MIAA. The Belles (15-7, 2-2 MIAA) took advantage of a struggling Calvin squad (5-13, 0-2) to win two games at home, 1-0 and 7-5.

Game 1 featured a dominant pitching performance by Belles sophomore Callie Selner. She pitched seven shutout innings, allowing only four hits while striking out three and walking none.

"[Selner] threw really well and was very effective in working ahead on batters," Belles coach Erin Sullivan said. "Her curveball was not working well, but she was smart in adjusting."

Selner had no margin for error, as Calvin sophomore pitcher Lina Avila matched her in silencing the Belles bats until the seventh.

After the Belles put runners on first and second to start the seventh, junior shortstop Emily Sherwood dropped a sacrifice bunt to advance them to second and third with just one out. Senior Kristen Nelson then drove a ball to deep right past a drawn-in outfield for a game-winning, walk-off double.

"Nelson has been amazing recently as she has sparked our offense," Sullivan said. "She fights off pitches and puts up strong at-bats."

Selner (7-4), with the win, dropped her ERA to a team-leading 2.30 and finished her 11th complete game of the season in just 12 starts.

The second game of the afternoon proved to be a back-and-forth, high-scoring affair. After Calvin took an early 1-0 lead in the first, Saint

Mary's answered in the top of the second with two runs. With two outs, Nelson laced an RBI triple to deep right field and then scored on senior center fielder Lauren Enayati's single.

The Belles then extended their lead to 4-1 in the top of the fourth on a RBI single by freshman outfielder Victoria Connelly. Junior catcher Morgan Bedan, who went 3-for-4, followed with an RBI double to right field to plate the second run of the frame.

However, Belles senior starter Angela Gillis ran into trouble in the bottom of the fourth as the Knights scored three to tie the game. After walking two straight batters with one out, the Knights scored twice on fielder's choices. Their only hit of the inning was a single to center, which scored the game-tying run.

The Belles again responded with a three-run fifth to seize control of the game. After opening the inning on singles by Gillis and freshman first baseman Jordie Wasserman, the Belles decided to move the runners to second and third on a sacrifice bunt. Gillis then scored on a wild pitch, while Wasserman scored on Nelson's second RBI of the game — a sacrifice fly.

"It was nice to respond with big innings," Sullivan said. "We were doing that early in the season, and we got our confidence back with this game."

The third run of the inning scored on an error, and the Belles would hold on to win, 7-5. Gillis evened her record at 2-2 while pitching all seven innings for the win.

The Belles travel to Hope College today for a doubleheader starting at 3:30 p.m.

Contact Matt Unger at munger3@nd.edu

NBA

Cuban talks Odom departure



AP

Then-Dallas forward Lamar Odom, center, and Spurs guard Manu Ginobili, left, scramble for a rebound during the first half of a Mavericks home game March 17.

Associated Press

DALLAS — Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban had noticed Lamar Odom's uninspired play numerous times before, and kept hoping things would change.

It took one reply by Odom during a heated halftime exchange in his last game, when Cuban questioned the player's commitment to the team and Odom told him to quit playing games, to realize it was time for the two

sides to part ways.

"Just his response to it. Everybody goes through ups and downs. Every player does. We tried to put him in a position to succeed ... It didn't work," Cuban said Tuesday night, his first public comments since the team confirmed a day earlier that Odom was done in Dallas.

Their halftime exchange came after Odom played an uninspired four minutes Saturday night at Memphis.

"I just asked him, does he want to go for it or not. Is he in or is he out? I think he thought we were playing poker. I just didn't get a commitment. And that was the end," Cuban said. "This was a big game for us, and he wasn't connecting to that. And if you're not positive energy, you're negative energy."

When asked if that was the first time he noticed Odom having such a demeanor, Cuban responded, "No, but the first 17 times, I decided to try to help him and turn it into a positive."

That never happened.

Odom's averages of 6.6 points, 4.2 rebounds and 20.5 minutes in his underwhelming 50-game stint in Dallas were career lows. He was also often late for team activities such as practices and meetings.

The Mavericks didn't release him and instead said Odom would be listed inactive for their remaining nine games. That started with Tuesday night's game against Sacramento.

"He didn't want to play. He decided to go elsewhere or do something else. Now we regroup and go forward," Cuban said. "We kept on hoping things would turn out right. It just got to the point where there weren't enough games in the season to try to find out."

The defending NBA champion Mavericks were only one game ahead of ninth place in the Western Conference standings going into the game against the Kings.

Dallas acquired the NBA's reigning Sixth Man of the Year from the Los Angeles Lakers just before the lockout-shortened season. It was a low-risk deal for the Mavericks, who

gave up a first-round pick and the trade exception from a deal that sent Tyson Chandler to the New York Knicks.

The Lakers seemed compelled to move the 6-foot-10 forward, who made \$8.9 million this season, after trying to send him to New Orleans in a Chris Paul deal that was nixed by the league. There were also the personal issues for Odom, whose 24-year-old cousin was murdered last summer only days before the player was involved in a fatal car accident that killed a teen pedestrian after the car he was riding in as a passenger collided with a motorcycle.

Cuban said the Mavericks knew about Odom's fragile emotional state when they got him.

"Yeah, but we thought we could fight through it," Cuban said. "We knew that's why he was available."

Cuban insisted that he failed in trying to make the situation work, and that he didn't have to talk to anyone else to know the end had arrived.

"If I'm going to be the guy who smiles with my hand on the trophy, I've got to be the guy who takes the responsibility," Cuban said. "It was just my initiative, just paying attention. ... I was working with him, tried to get him back on the horse. When I failed, it was my job to recognize it, and deal with it."

Odom, the husband and reality TV co-star of Khloe Kardashian, still has a year left on his four-year contract. Any team that has the 13-year veteran on its roster on June 29 must give him a \$2.4 million buyout or be responsible for the full \$8.2 million he would be due in 2012-13.

"The way his contract is structured, it will hopefully create some opportunities for us," Cuban said, acknowledging he thinks Odom is tradeable. "Absolutely. It's in his best interests to get his act together, and I'm sure he will. Lamar is still a talented basketball player. He just went through some issues this year. We thought we could work through them with him this year and we weren't able to. Next."

The new dance documentary by Wim Wenders (*Wings of Desire*)

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CLUB SPORTS

Men’s volleyball wins championship

Women’s squad finishes as runner-up at IAAA nationals

Special to the Observer

Men’s Volleyball

Having lost a year ago in the finals, the Notre Dame men’s volleyball team came into the season with one goal in mind: win the national championship. And the Irish believed they had the talent and depth to make it a reality. After a dominant first two days, in which the Irish dispatched Cal State Sacramento 25-22, 25-21, Northern Arizona 25-18, 25-16, Rutgers 25-20, 25-19, UC-Davis 25-16, 25-18, and James Madison 25-18, 25-20, the Irish entered Saturday’s pool play as the No. 3 overall seed.

The path to the championship was littered with familiar foes, and the Irish started with a nailbiter against UW-Milwaukee, dropping their first set of the weekend, but ultimately winning 25-20, 21-25, 15-9. After a long wait, Indiana was the next team to fall to the Irish, and in a thrilling three-set match, the Irish fought back to advance to the final four behind the strong play of middles Scott Canna and Steven Walsh, 22-25, 25-23, 15-9.

No. 2 Illinois was waiting for Notre Dame in the final four, and looking for revenge after losing two matches to the Irish this season, both in tournament finals. The Illini brought

a large contingent of student support, which played a role in the second set loss. But that support was no match for the big swings of Kevin Padden and Rob Bauer. The Irish defeated the Illini 25-19, 23-25, 15-12 to advance to the national championship for the second consecutive year.

Cal won its semifinal match in shocking fashion over UW-Oshkosh, after the Titans had 10 chances at match point, thus preventing a championship rematch. The Golden Bears wouldn’t make it easy for the Irish, but behind the stellar play of National Player of the Year Bauer, and first-team All-American Liam Gallagher, Notre Dame won its first-ever national championship, defeating Cal in straight sets, 25-23, 25-22. Brian Bucciarelli made a number of key digs in the match, and his counterpart for the front row, Tom Johnson, had huge block after huge block to end and runs that Cal was making. The decisionmaking of setter and club president Josh Rehberg was a deciding factor in the Irish victory.

Women’s Volleyball

Notre Dame’s women’s volleyball club participated in the national club championships in Kansas City this weekend. Having been recognized only

two months ago, the club has progressed rapidly and the results were evident on the court.

The Irish competed in a 32-team draw in the DIAAA division. In Thursday’s opening round pool play, the team dropped a very close first match to Gonzaga, 17-25, 25-23, 15-12. The Irish rebounded to defeat the College of New Jersey 25-21, 23-25, 17-15, and closed the round with a 25-18, 25-21 victory over TCU.

Friday, the Irish advanced by defeating Wisconsin Stout 25-4, 25-21; SMU 25-17, 25-19; and Brown, 25-17, 23-25, 15-11. The Irish advanced to Saturday’s championship round.

Facing Creighton in the first match, the Irish won 25-17, 24-26, 15-10, advancing to the semifinals. Yale was a formidable opponent, but the Irish were once again victorious, 25-23, 16-25, 15-11. In the finals, the Irish faced Gonzaga. The Zags proved to be too much on this day, 25-13, 25-22, as the Irish had to accept the runner-up trophy.

Seniors Lauren Jepson and Kaitlyn Howard garnered first team all-tournament honors. More importantly, their leadership established the framework for future club play and set a standard of excellence.

SMC GOLF

Belles finish fourth

Observer Staff Report

At the Southwestern Invitational in Georgetown, Texas, Saint Mary’s competed against three nationally ranked teams among other competition while placing fourth overall.

The Belles combined for a total score of 687, 20 strokes behind the winner, No. 10 Mary Hardin-Baylor. The Belles found themselves behind 11 strokes to the host, No. 19 Southwestern, after Monday’s competition. Mary Hardin-Baylor rallied past Southwestern on Tuesday afternoon, but the other schools, including Saint Mary’s, remained in their positions.

Saint Mary’s put itself in contention after the first day of competition thanks to sophomore Paige Pollak’s low score of 81. Pollak shot the second-best score on the front nine for the entire day with a 38. Belles senior captain Christine Brown followed closely behind Pollak with an 85, which was good enough to get her into 10th place going into the second day of competition. Saint Mary’s sophomore


Doyle O’Brien shot an 87 in the first round, giving her the third lowest score for the Belles after day one.

O’Brien heated up on Tuesday, shooting a 79. O’Brien’s second round was the second lowest round score of the entire tournament. O’Brien’s strong performance gave her a combined score of 166 over two days, as she jumped up to 7th place overall on the individual leaderboard.


Pollak came back on Tuesday to shoot a 90, which while not as strong as her first day, was still good enough to give her a combined score of 171, putting her in 12th place overall. She shot an 88 on Tuesday, giving her a 173 for the tournament. Overall, the Belles shot a 342 on Tuesday, three strokes better than Monday’s performance.

Saint Mary’s will get back into action over the weekend at the Illinois Wesleyan Spring Fling in Normal, Ill. This will be the last chance the Belles have to tune up their game before the NCAA qualifiers begin next Tuesday. Saint Mary’s will tee off Saturday morning at Ironwood Golf Club.

Write Sports.



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This seminar examines major works of literature from the Roman imperial era and the political and ideological contexts in which they were written, with an emphasis on the relationship between literature and authority.



ND Women's Tennis

Ranked teams challenge Irish



LAUREN FRITZ/The Observer

Sophomore Britney Sanders prepares to return a volley during Notre Dame's 4-3 loss to Northwestern on April 4 at the Courtney Tennis Center. Sanders won her individual match 6-1, 6-0.

By VICKY JACOBSEN
Sports Writer

The Irish lost control of a close match with Northwestern and fell to Baylor in front of rowdy crowd, but redeemed themselves Monday when they closed out a three-game stretch against top-25 opponents with a 6-1 victory over Texas A&M.

"I think the win over Texas A&M was important for us in our momentum going forward," sophomore Jennifer Kellner said. "Although we lost to Northwestern and Baylor, I think they are both teams we are very capable of beating and we hope to play them in the NCAA tournament."

No. 18 Notre Dame (15-7, 3-0 Big East) swept the doubles point to begin its April 4 home match against No. 14 Northwestern (13-7, 3-0 Big Ten) and won two of the first three individual decisions as sophomore Britney Sanders beat sophomore Veronica Corning, 6-1, 6-0, senior Shannon Mathews fell to junior Kate Turvy 6-3, 6-2, and senior Kristy Frilling beat sophomore Belinda Niu 6-1, 6-4.

But the Irish couldn't close out their final three contests on the Courtney Tennis Center courts as sophomore Julie Sabacinski, junior Chrissie McGaffigan and Kellner all lost their individual matches, and the Wildcats went home with a 4-3 win.

Although the Irish arrived in Waco, Texas, for their April 7

match ready to get back to winning, the No. 12 Bears (19-5, 3-1 Big 12) swept them in doubles, ending Notre Dame's streak of 11 straight doubles wins. The match didn't get much better during the individual matches, as Kellner picked up Notre Dame's only point in the 6-1 loss when sophomore Jordaan Sanford retired while trailing Kellner 6-1, 3-2.

"We got to Baylor and had a tough match with them," Mathews said. "We always do, and they always seem to have a really rowdy crowd when we play them at Baylor, which they did."

Mathews said that Notre Dame's struggles, especially in doubles, were probably an aberration.

"We definitely didn't play up to our potential against Baylor," Mathews said. "We really struggled with doubles, which is very uncharacteristic of us, and it's something we don't want to dwell on too much because we've been playing such great doubles throughout the season, so we'll be able to bounce back."

But the Irish recovered Monday with a 6-1 win over No. 21 Texas A&M (13-3, 4-1 Big 12). After sweeping the doubles matches to take a 1-0 lead, the Irish won five individual matches, three of them by straight sets. Kellner defeated senior Lauren Santacrose 6-1, 6-2, McGaffigan beat senior Sheri Olivier 6-2, 6-3, and Sabacinski shut down freshman Ja-

nine Erasmus 6-3, 6-4 for the match-clinching point. It took Sanders three sets to beat junior Wen Sun, 2-6, 6-4, 7-5, and as the match had already been decided in Notre Dame's favor, Mathews was able to claim victory over No. 7 junior Cristina Sanchez-Quintanar, 3-6, 6-4, 1-0 (13-11) in a tiebreaker instead of playing a full third set.

Sanchez-Quintanar is the highest-ranked player Mathews has beaten in an individual match during her Notre Dame career.

"It was a really long, long match," Mathews said of her contest with Sanchez-Quintanar. "I think our first game of the match, some people were already in their fifth game. We had really long points, and she's a really good player and we had a really great match. It was a grueling one, that's for sure."

Although the Irish were on the road for Easter, they didn't miss the opportunity to celebrate.

"For Easter, we went to mass and went to a special brunch that was a lot of fun," Kellner said. "While we couldn't be with our families on Easter, it was fun to spend it with the team."

The Irish will jump back into Big East action against South Florida at the Courtney Tennis Center at 3:30 p.m. Friday.

Contact Vicky Jacobsen at vjacobse@nd.edu

Track and Field

Impressive finishes abound in California

By BRIAN HARTNETT
Sports Writer

Notre Dame made the most of its West Coast trip over the weekend, as the Irish won two events and captured numerous top-three finishes at the Stanford Invitational in Palo Alto, Calif.

"I think our team was really focused and knew what they needed to do," Irish coach Joe Piane said. "A lot of kids wanted to get qualified for our region meet and we got that done."

Freshman thrower Emily Morris brought home the sole Irish victory Friday by winning the women's shot put with a throw of 14.71 meters. The Irish men's 4x400-meter relay team of junior sprinter Brendan Dougherty, sophomore sprinter Patrick Feeney, senior middle distance runner Mitchell Lorenz and freshman sprinter Chris Geisting captured first place the following day with a time of 3:08.82, 26 seconds faster than runner-up Minnesota.

Morris's victory marked one of several accomplishments for the Irish field team at the invitational. Sophomore jumper Logan Renwick turned in a pair of second-place performances, finishing as the runner-up in the men's long jump and triple jump. Senior pole-vaulter Kevin Schipper continued his string of impressive performances with a second-place finish in the men's pole vault, while freshman thrower Dominick Padovano finished second in the men's discus event.

On the women's side, Notre Dame took two of the top three spots in the discus, with junior thrower Madeline Casanova taking second place and sophomore thrower Vivien Devaney finishing in third. Senior multi-event athlete Maddie Buttinger placed third in the long jump with a personal-best mark of 1.76 meters,

while sophomore jumper Kelly Burke and sophomore thrower Amanda Chamblee turned in third-place finishes in the pole vault and javelin, respectively.

Notre Dame also enjoyed a successful weekend on the track, receiving strong performances from indoor All-Americans junior middle distance runner Jeremy Rae and senior middle distance runner Johnathan Shawel in their spring track debuts. Rae and Schawel kicked off their spring seasons by finishing second in their respective heats for the men's 1500-meter event. Elsewhere, Geisting held off Feeney to win his heat in the men's 400-meter event, while Dougherty recorded a second-place finish in his own 400-meter heat.

For the women, the Irish recorded two-top finishes in the 400-meter hurdles, as freshman sprinter Kaila Barber placed second and sophomore sprinter Megan Yanik followed one spot behind in third. Sophomore middle distance runner Kelly Curran took the top spot in her 800-meter heat, while sophomore sprinter Michelle Brown finished second overall in the 400-meter dash.

Several performances at the invitational met NCAA region qualifying standards, allowing multiple Irish athletes the opportunity to compete at the NCAA East Regional in May. Piane said approximately 25 Notre Dame athletes have qualified for the regional meet thus far, with additional opportunities to qualify still remaining on the schedule.

Notre Dame will head to Louisville, Ky., next weekend to compete in the Louisville Border Battle, an event that pits Louisville and Kentucky against Indiana and Notre Dame. Despite the unique nature of the event, Piane said the goals for Notre Dame will remain the same.

"It's a different twist on a meet, and it should be a lot of fun," Piane said. "We expect another weekend full of good performances and getting more kids qualified for our region meet."

Contact Brian Hartnett at bhartnet@nd.edu

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Purdue

continued from page 24

O'Donnell said Rutgers will be a challenge for the streaking Irish, who have won their last eight games by two runs or more.

"They come out hard every time we play them," O'Donnell said. "Right now Rutgers is a hot team and we can't take them lightly.

Miller said she isn't relying on any specific player to step up and outperform the rest.

Instead, she said the reason the Irish have been successful lately is due to the strong team atmosphere.

"We all have been playing consistently well and taking turns coming up to clutch," Miller said. "It's great because if one of us is struggling, I know someone else is going to step up and help."

The Irish face Rutgers in a doubleheader Wednesday at 12 p.m.

Contact Katie Heit at kheit@nd.edu



LAUREN FRITZ/The Observer

Senior Niall Fitzgerald returns a volley during Notre Dame's 7-0 sweep of DePaul on April 4 at the Courtney Tennis Center.

Comeback

continued from page 24

ning the remaining three singles matches to take the overall match.

"I think [the win against SMU] translated into Texas A&M because we had a few guys come from behind again against Texas A&M," Andrews said. "We got down 0-1 again, but we knew that we could come back from that deficit. Again, we just fought really hard and it was closer that time, but it was just a really good fight from the whole team."

Watt's 6-3, 6-4 victory over No. 29 senior Alexis Klegou was the highlight of an impressive night for the Irish. Klegou is the highest ranked opponent Watt has defeated since he took down No. 7 Moritz Baumann of Wisconsin in 2010.

With one regular season

match left, the Irish have peaked at the right time. Since losing to South Florida on March 17, the Irish have won five straight matches — their longest winning streak of the season.

"I think [these victories] were really important for our confidence," Andrews said. "After the loss to South Florida, all of us were bit down, but we all knew that we were good enough to beat a team like [Texas A&M.] Just the fact that we went out and did it, I think is really important for us moving into the Big East and the NAAs."

Before heading to the post-season, the Irish will face off against Louisville in their last regular season match Saturday at the Courtney Tennis Center.

Contact Peter Steiner at psteiner@nd.edu

MEN'S GOLF

Irish finish 13th at Woodlands

By CONOR KELLY
Sports Writer

With less than a month separating the Irish from postseason play, Notre Dame headed to Houston for its last road tournament of the regular season. In a 15-team field featuring six teams ranked in the top-25, the Irish took 13th place at the All-American Intercollegiate at the Woodlands Course, finishing in a tie with Lamar. No. 10 Arkansas won the event.

"We're obviously somewhat disappointed with the result," Irish coach Jim Kubinski said. "We were hoping for a higher finish, but it's hard to come down to Texas and beat these teams. Four of the top five squads were from Texas, and obviously the champion Arkansas is another Southern school. It was a very tough field."

Over the 54-hole tournament, Arkansas finished 23-below par, 46 strokes better than the Irish but just one in front of runner-up North Texas. Texas A&M, SMU and Baylor rounded out the top five. The Razorbacks

placed five golfers in the top-15 and their four counting scores in the top-10, providing a level of consistency that Kubinski has yet to see from his own team.

"We're always talking about how we need to get four strong scores instead of just one or two," Kubinski said. "We know [senior Max Scodro] is going to get his scores, but it's about getting all of the complementary scores. I was actually encouraged by our performance today in the sense that we had some other guys stepping up."

While Scodro posted the low score for the Irish on the tournament at two-over, he had competition in fellow senior Chris Walker and junior Paul McNamara, who finished one and two strokes behind Scodro respectively. Scodro helped his cause with a three-under third-round finish, but it was Walker who headlined the Irish effort for most of the tournament. Playing on his home course, the Woodlands, Texas native took a one-under mark into the final round before a rough Tuesday knocked

him behind Scodro.

"I was encouraged by the fact that Chris and Paul were right up there with Max," Kubinski said. "We know that [sophomore Niall Platt] will play better than he did, and we know that [senior Tom Usher] certainly has the talent."

According to Kubinski, the main problem for the Irish has been a lack of precision on scoring shots — strokes taken from inside 100 yards.

"If you look at other teams in the field, you'll see that they're killing us on scoring shots," Kubinski said. "We're as good as anybody when it comes to striking the ball. It's the putts and short game that tends to hurt us."

The Irish will have one more tune-up before heading to the Big East championships in Orlando, Fla., at the end of the month. Notre Dame will host the Battle at the Warren tournament at Warren Golf Course on April 22.

Contact Conor Kelly at ckelly17@nd.edu

Pitchers

continued from page 24

tie the game late. In the 10th, the Irish held a 4-3 advantage, but again let the lead slip away. In the 11th inning, an error at first base brought a Seton Hall runner home for the 5-4 win. It was more of the same in the second game of the series, as the Pirates slipped by with a 3-2 victory in 11 innings, despite lights-out pitching by the Irish. Freshman right-hander Pat Connaughton started the series finale Saturday, but was forced to leave after 1.1 innings due to a blister on his hand. Seton Hall sophomore right-handed pitcher Brian Gilbert kept all but four Irish batters from earning hits, throwing a complete-game shutout for a 2-0 win, extending the Notre Dame losing streak to three games.

Irish freshman right-handed pitcher Matt Ternowchek lost his first game of the season against the Spartans (20-10, 3-3 Big Ten) on Tuesday, allowing five runs in four innings. Chase said the freshman still gave Notre Dame a chance to win.

"I thought Matt actually threw really well today," Chase said. "There were just a couple plays that didn't go his way. We didn't make the right defensive play behind him, and that set up Michigan State for a big inning. It wasn't really a matter of him struggling, I thought he really threw the ball well."

Michigan State started making contact early in the game and jumped out to a 2-0 lead at the end of the first. In the fifth inning, with the bases loaded for the Spartans, Michigan State junior outfielder Torsten Boss hit a three-run triple to extend the lead to 5-0.

By the end of the fifth inning, the Irish were scoreless, courtesy of a strong performance by Spartans freshman right-handed pitcher Mick VanVossen's 6.1 innings of shutout ball. However, Irish freshman reliever Scott Ker-



JULIE HERDER/The Observer

Junior outfielder Charlie Markson heads to first base during Notre Dame's 7-3 home win over DePaul on April 3.

rigan kept the Spartans' offense in check late in the game.

"I thought Scotty looked great today," Chase said. "I was really impressed with him coming in and being able to throw the way he did in his first time out. It was really exciting to see him do that."

While a rally started in the seventh inning with consecutive Notre Dame singles, the Irish were only able to squeeze out two runs and the score remained at a four-run deficit. The Spartans scored two more runs to expand the lead to six, winning 8-2.

Notre Dame will look to improve offensively and get back on the winning track when

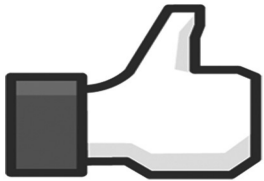
they return home Wednesday to Frank Eck Stadium to face Western Michigan.

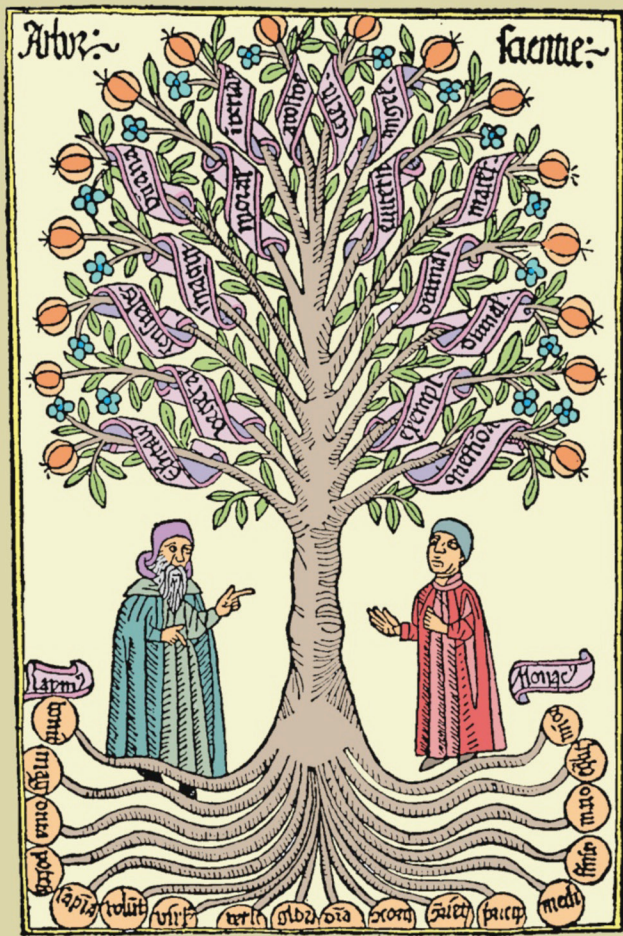
"I think that we like playing at home we're comfortable there," Chase said. "A little bit of it does have to do with the fact that we're away and out of our comfort zone. But I really think it just comes down to playing better, and being more assertive and more aggressive, and trying to go out and take games on the road."

Notre Dame will face Western Michigan at home on Wednesday with the first pitch thrown at 5:35 p.m.

Contact Brendan Bell at bbell12@nd.edu

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Registration is now closed for the “Conceptions of Truth” conference...BUT...you can still attend individual sessions and presentations.

For a complete schedule, brief biographies of presenters, and more information, see ndias.nd.edu.

Conference Reception

Thursday, April 12, at 4:30pm
in the McKenna Hall Atrium

The conference will be simulcast on the NDIAS Web site (www.ndias.nd.edu) and broadcast to local viewers on the University of Notre Dame cable channel.

Details for each day's schedule will be printed over the next three days, beginning today with Thursday's schedule in the next column.

For questions, please call 574-631-1305.

Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study

“**Conceptions of Truth and the Unity of Knowledge**,” a major international and interdisciplinary three-day conference, will begin Thursday, April 12th at 8:30 a.m. in the University of Notre Dame Conference Center in McKenna Hall.

Speakers include:

- National Medal of Science biologist and philosopher
Francisco J. Ayala, University of California, Irvine
- Sinologist **Nicola Di Cosmo**, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton NJ
- Literary scholar and philosopher **Carsten Dutt**, University of Heidelberg
- Ethicist **Allan Gibbard**, University of Michigan
- Philosopher of the mind **Robert Hanna**, University of Colorado, Boulder
- Eminent mathematician and Fields Medalist
Laurent Lafforgue, Institut des Hautes Etudes Scientifiques
- Philosopher **Keith Lehrer**, University of Arizona / University of Miami
- Psychologist **Zygmunt Pizlo**, Purdue University
- Theoretical physicist **Lee Smolin**, Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics
- Historian **Aviezer Tucker**, University of Texas, Austin / University of Cologne, Germany
- Medical ethicist **Osborne Wiggins**, University of Louisville

University of Notre Dame faculty presenting at the conference include:

- Biologist and theologian **Celia Deane-Drummond**
- Philosopher **Vittorio Hösle**
- Architect and Dean of the School of Architecture **Michael Lykoudis**
- Biochemist **Thomas Nowak**

Schedule for THURSDAY, APRIL 12

All conference sessions are held in the Notre Dame Conference Center in McKenna Hall. All conference meals will be served in the Morris Inn.

Registration and Continental Breakfast (8:30am)
Introductions and Welcome (9:45am)

First Session: 10:00am to 12:30pm

Laurent Lafforgue (Institut des Hautes Études Scientifiques [IHÉS])
Speculation and Narration in Mathematics

Coffee Break (McKenna Hall Atrium)

Allan Gibbard (University of Michigan)
Could normative insights be sources of normative knowledge?

Coffee Break (McKenna Hall Atrium)

Lunch (12:30 to 2:00 p.m.)

Second Session: 2:00 to 5:30pm

Thomas Nowak (University of Notre Dame)
A Molecular Glimpse at How Mother Nature Can Regulate Our Being

Coffee Break (McKenna Hall Atrium)

Francisco J. Ayala (University of California, Irvine)
What light does biology shed on the social sciences and the humanities?

Coffee Break (McKenna Hall Atrium)

Reception (4:30pm, McKenna Hall Atrium)

Dinner (6:00 to 8:00 p.m.)



Senior midfielder Eric Keppeler looks for a teammate during Notre Dame's 9-1 home win over Providence on Saturday.

Defense

continued from page 24

offense.”

The Irish did not have problems generating opportunities, as the offense reeled off 37 shots. Sophomore attack Westy Hopkins scored twice in the first half and fellow sophomore attack Ryan Mix added another to give Notre Dame a 4-1 lead heading into halftime.

Hopkins matched a career-high with his third goal of the day to start the third quarter and freshman attack Conor Doyle snuck a bounce shot into the back of the cage roughly six minutes later to give the Irish a 6-1 lead.

Hopkins, Doyle and the rest of the Irish attack paced the offense throughout the game as Providence focused on denying Notre Dame's midfield opportunities. The attack, led by Hopkins' play from behind the net, shouldered the load with seven of the nine goals.

“I think [guys like Hopkins] are figuring out our offense,” Corrigan said. “There's a yin and yang to the midfield and attack play – when teams try to take away one you hope you can execute on the other and vice versa – and [the Friars] were clearly focused on our midfielders and taking those guys out. They left our [attack] on an island and our guys were able to take advantage of that.”

Notre Dame continued to capitalize on its opportunities early in the fourth quarter, as Doyle and junior midfielder Ryan Foley added goals to make it an 8-1 game. With just over three

minutes to go sophomore attack Alex Eaton ripped an unassisted goal into the back of the net to put the finishing touch on the win.

Corrigan said Providence has had more opportunities to win this season than its record would otherwise indicate, and as a result the Irish needed to respect their opponent.

“I think we respected [the Friars],” Corrigan said. “We respected the kind of game they were going to play ... We didn't get silly with our possessions and our turnovers trying to make good plays and we didn't get undisciplined defensively and try to do things that we're not built to do. So we stayed very much in character and within ourselves and yet we executed at a high level.”

The Irish will need to respect their upcoming competition as their final three regular season games are against the top teams in the Big East. Heading into the final haul, Corrigan said the Irish need to stay focused on consistent improvement.

“Last year at this time we were undefeated going into the final stretch and I thought we got a little bit protective, a little concerned with winning instead of improving every day,” Corrigan said. “If we can just stay focused on coming out every day and getting better then the games will take care of themselves.”

Notre Dame looks to win its eighth game in a row when it faces off against Georgetown on Sunday at 1 p.m. in Washington, D.C.

Contact Mike Monaco at jmonaco@nd.edu



Freshman middle Caitlin Gargan tries to get past her opponent during Notre Dame's 18-5 victory over Villanova at Arlotta Stadium on Saturday.

Orange

continued from page 24

would not come any closer, as Syracuse sealed the win with three goals in the final five minutes.

Junior goalie Ellie Hilling totaled ten saves for the Irish in a losing effort. As a team, the Irish totaled fewer shots than the Orange, 31-20, and lost the draw control battle, 18-9.

“I think winning the draw controls ended up giving Syracuse the possession they needed to gain the momentum they wanted and to generate the amount of looks they ultimately got on the cage,” Halfpenny said. “We both scored about 50 percent of our shots, but their amount of looks and time of possession was directly related to the draw control.”

Against Villanova (2-9, 0-3) on Saturday, the Irish scored

three goals in the first five minutes and added another to jump out to a 4-0 lead before the Wildcats scored their first goal nearly halfway through the period. The Irish responded with another three-straight goal outburst before surrendering two scores to Villanova in the final minutes of the half. The Irish took a 7-3 lead into halftime.

“I mean, that is something we have to fix — under two minutes we shouldn't be giving up goals,” Halfpenny said. “I think we need to play more solid defense, I think we have to dig in a little bit more, but ... they both came on cards so we have to tighten that up under two minutes ... we don't want to give away momentum like that.”

Villanova notched the opening goal of the second half to pull within three. However, the Irish answered with an offensive explosion, outscoring the Wildcats 11-1 in the last 21 minutes of play and registering the final seven goals of the game.

“Once we got in motion, got the ball moving, I think we

found a lot more success,” Halfpenny said.

Sophomore attack Lindsay Powell led the Irish with five goals, and sophomore attack Lauren Sullivan recorded a career-high four goals. With Hilling out due to illness, freshman goalkeeper Allie Murray collected nine saves and picked up her first career win in net for Notre Dame.

“At late notice before the game, she got the call that she was going to step in there and start for us ... She knows that her job is to be prepared,” Halfpenny said. “She fights every day and I think that because she fights every day and works on her game, is why we saw this performance today. So I wasn't surprised, but I am really, really proud of her.”

After ending their two-game losing streak, the Irish will retake the field and continue their Big East campaign Saturday at Connecticut.

Contact Joseph Monardo at jmonardo@nd.edu

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MEN'S LACROSSE

Defense halts Providence

By MIKE MONACO
Sports Writer

The last time the Irish gave up just one goal or fewer in a game, it was 1989. Twenty-three years later, No. 6 Notre Dame matched that mark Saturday with its seventh consecutive win, a 9-1 victory over Providence on Saturday at Arlotta Stadium.

Sophomore midfielder Jim Marlatt scored his team-leading 13th goal of the season on a man-up shot just over five minutes into the game to get the scoring started, and Notre Dame (8-1, 3-0 Big East) never looked back in its rout of the Friars (1-9, 0-4).

The consistently staunch Irish defense shut down the Providence attack, as the Friars recorded their first shot of the game with 4:52 remaining in the first quarter. Providence managed to net its lone goal when senior midfielder Pete Wujciak scored with 11:57 to play in the second quarter, but the Notre Dame defense shut out the Friars the rest of the way.



GRANT TOBIN/The Observer

Sophomore midfielder Tyler Brenneman evades an opponent during Notre Dame's 9-1 home victory over Providence on Saturday.

"Our defense was outstanding," Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said. "[Providence] had a hard time beating us in individual matchups and sometimes when that happens your guys get a little sloppy off the ball, but we didn't do that. When they

couldn't get by us then they had to create plays with ball movement but our off-ball defense was very, very good as well so it became difficult for them to generate much

see DEFENSE/page 22

ND SOFTBALL

Miller deals Purdue first home loss of season

By KATIE HEIT
Sports Writer

Senior infielder Dani Miller led the Irish to a sound win over Purdue on Thursday, ending the Boilermakers' seven-game home winning streak.

Miller went 3-for-3 on Thursday, grabbing a home run, two RBIs and scoring two runs herself in Notre Dame's (19-10) 8-6 victory. Despite the success, Miller said she is reluctant to take too much credit for the win.

"It was a really good day for everyone overall," Miller said. "I think that we just wouldn't give up, and that's why we won. Our game plan was to win every inning and we pretty much did that."

Junior pitcher Brittany O'Donnell said that the win, which was the first home loss

for Purdue (23-10) this season, was primarily a team effort.

"As a team we just go out and play hard every inning every game," O'Donnell said. "It's a great feeling when our hard work pays off with a win."

During Thursday's game, eight of the nine Irish players grabbed a hit. Sophomore pitcher Laura Winter pitched the first four innings before O'Donnell relieved her, striking out five Boilermakers in 2.2 innings.

Next, the Irish will play two games against Big East opponent Rutgers (14-18). O'Donnell said Notre Dame is stressing focus in the games to come.

"We just have to stay focused and sharp offensively and defensively," O'Donnell said, "especially after coming off a weekend with no games."

see PURDUE/page 20

MEN'S TENNIS

Irish topple two Texas squads over Easter break

By PETER STEINER
Sports Writer

The Irish entered the Lone Star State last weekend with four losses against teams ranked in the top-25.

Just a few days later, the Irish (17-7) left Texas brimming with confidence after defeating SMU, 5-2, and taking down their first top-25 ranked oppo-

nent this season: No. 25 Texas A&M, 4-3.

While the Irish prevailed over the Mustangs (9-10) on Saturday, the victory didn't come without a fight.

"Against SMU, we got down pretty early," sophomore Greg Andrews said. "We lost the doubles point and then actually lost four first sets and five of the matches ended up going

to three sets.

"But we ended up winning five [singles matches], so I thought that we all did a good job of fighting really hard even though we maybe weren't playing our best."

Besides a three-set loss by senior Casey Watt at No. 1 singles, the Irish earned victories in every singles match to defeat the Mustangs, 5-2.

The Irish then travelled to College Station, Texas, to face off with Texas A&M (12-11) on Monday. Entering the match, the Irish were confident in their ability to take down the No. 25 Aggies, Andrews said.

"[The Aggies] are ranked high and they are a good team, but we all definitely expected to win," Andrews said. "We looked at their lineup and up

and down the whole lineup, we knew that we were better and we knew we could win those matches and we did."

Similar to their day against SMU, the Irish started out poorly — dropping the doubles point as well as two of the first three singles matches. But the Irish came roaring back, win

see COMEBACK/page 20

ND WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Team splits games during brief homestand

By JOSEPH MONARDO
Sports Writer

Returning to Arlotta Stadium for a brief two-game homestand, No. 6 Notre Dame found itself on both ends of routs last week. The Irish struggled mightily in a 16-10 loss to No. 2 Syracuse on Thursday before cruising to a dominant 18-5 victory over Villanova on Saturday.

The Irish (9-2, 3-2 Big East) traded goals with the Orange (8-2, 3-0) early, as each team found the net twice in the first six minutes of the game. After the early goals, the Irish offense struggled to add to its total, suffering a 13-minute scoreless stretch while Syracuse went on a 4-0 run. After senior midfielder Kate Newall broke the Irish scoring drought with a goal at the 9:37 mark, Notre Dame surrendered two more goals before senior Irish midfielder/defense Megan Sullivan found the net on

a last-second attempt, cutting the deficit to 9-4 at halftime.

Irish coach Christine Halfpenny said the team's scoring woes resulted mainly from sloppy play on the offensive end.

"I think we had some errors that Syracuse didn't even force us into," Halfpenny said. "We were throwing the ball away and doing things we just don't do. I think we just lacked some energy."

As the second half began, any momentum the Irish gained from Sullivan's goal quickly reversed as the Orange reeled off four goals in a span of 2:28 to stretch their lead to nine. After the visiting team's initial outburst, the Irish held the Orange scoreless for 23 minutes and scored four goals to cut the lead to 13-8 in the process. Notre Dame

see ORANGE/page 22

BASEBALL

Losing streak stretches to four

By BRENDAN BELL
Sports Writer

Notre Dame struggled offensively over the weekend against Seton Hall and Tuesday against Michigan State, as the team's losing streak extended to four games.

Prior to Tuesday's game, Big East opponent Seton Hall swept the Irish (17-14, 4-5 Big East) in a three-game series over Easter weekend. With continuing offensive struggles, Irish senior captain and infielder Tommy Chase said the team is at a critical junction.

"I think we just need to keep grinding through this little slump that we've been in the past games, and really make a decision on how we want the rest of the season to go," Chase said. "We can continue to play like we have been, or we can make a concerted effort to be more aggressive and try to make plays. It's really a turning point right now in our sea-



JULIE HERDER/The Observer

Junior pitcher Patrick Veerkamp delivers a pitch during Notre Dame's 7-3 win over Toledo on April 3 at Frank Eck Stadium.

son, so hopefully we can get our minds right and turn it around."

One positive coming from the Notre Dame dugout was the pitching staff. The Irish arms were firing on all cylinders against the Pirates (16-14, 5-4 Big East) during

Thursday and Friday's games, maintaining no-hitters into the eighth and sixth innings, respectively. In the first game, the Irish took a 3-2 lead through 8.2 innings, but the Pirates managed to

see PITCHERS/page 20