

THE OBSERVER

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Professor set to go on trial in June

Observer Staff Report

A Notre Dame criminal law professor will go to trial June 4 on a felony charge of one count of domestic battery.

The case against Stephen Smith has been delayed twice: once in December due to a congested court calendar and a second time in March at the request of Smith, according to court records.

Smith, 44, pled not guilty to the charge in 2011. He appeared in St. Joseph Superior Court Wednesday with his attorney, Dave Newman. During this appearance, Judge Jerome Frese set Smith's trial date for June 4.

University Spokesman Dennis Brown said Notre Dame would not comment on personal matters, but it "will continue to monitor as the criminal justice system addresses the matter."

Smith is still teaching at the University, Brown said.

Police responded to a report of domestic violence

see TRIAL/page 6

Search for cure is personal

Survivors and supporters unite together in Relay for Life



Photo Courtesy of Analise Althoff

Participants of last year's Relay for Life pose in Notre Dame Stadium in April 2011 after walking in support of the organization's mission to end cancer.

By MARISA IATI
Associate News Editor

For Dave Prentkowski, director of Notre Dame Food Services, encouraging members of the Notre Dame community to participate in Relay for Life is about more than just supporting a good cause. It's personal.

Prentkowski is the honorary chair of this year's American Cancer Society fundraiser, which will take place Friday evening through Saturday morning at Notre Dame Stadium.

After being diagnosed with

pancreatic cancer in the fall, Prentkowski is promoting participation in Relay. He said he spoke to team leaders at a meeting in March to show his support and will be involved in various ceremonies at the event.

Prentkowski said he wanted to raise awareness on the fundraising effort, even though the money donated to cancer research might not personally affect him.

"It certainly will affect others down the road and I think that's important," he said. "It could be family members or people you know or people that you don't

know."

Cancer can touch anybody and affects each person differently, Prentkowski said.

"It's not discriminatory," he said. "That's for sure. It doesn't really care who you are or anything like that."

Still, there has been progress in treating certain types of cancer, Prentkowski said.

"You see a lot more people that now say that they're cancer-free," he said. "Now, a lot more people are being able to recover from it."

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Registry collects samples

By CHARITHA ISANAKA
News Writer

Howard Hall and Morrissey Hall will hold a bone marrow drive today in LaFortune's Dooley Room with Be the Match Registry, an organization in charge of the national bone marrow registry.

Event organizer Sarah Calahan said the drive promotes the dedication Notre Dame students have to service.

"We do so much service here to help people and improve the world — this is just another powerful way for you to save a life," Calahan said. "It's a great cause to get involved with so come on by for a free bro tank, free food and to save a life."

Calahan said participants' DNA samples are registered in the national registry after a sample is taken.

"All you have to do is take a glorified Q-tip [and] swab your cheek. If you are matched to a patient, then you can choose to donate your marrow," said Sarah. "It is serious if you are called

see MARROW/page 4

Vigil responds to University

By NICOLE MICHELS
News Writer

In response to the University declining to add sexual orientation to its non-discrimination clause April 25, students held a candlelight vigil on the Fieldhouse Mall on Thursday night. Members of the Notre Dame community expressed their personal reactions to the statement issued by the University on the non-discrimination clause and their resolve.

A University statement released Wednesday stated Notre Dame would not add sexual orientation to its non-discrimination clause, though it would work to increase the degree of inclusion of its lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) members. The University said it would do so by increasing awareness of its existing non-discrimination

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XULE LIN/The Observer

Students hold a candlelight vigil Thursday night in support of the LGBTQ community at Notre Dame.

Pro-life group submits letter to Jenkins, faculty

By SAM STRYKER
Assistant Managing Editor

On Thursday morning, pro-life activist Randall Terry visited Notre Dame's campus to host a press conference and deliver a letter to University President Fr. John Jenkins.

The document was also submitted to over 100 University faculty and professors who signed a letter earlier this week addressing controversial statements made in an April 14 homily delivered by Bishop Daniel Jenky of the Diocese of Peoria, Ill. Jenky is a member of Notre Dame's Board of Trustees and serves as a University Fellow.

In his homily, Jenky compared the dispute over President Obama's healthcare reform to challenges the

Catholic Church has faced in the past. He cited Adolf Hitler and Joseph Stalin as examples.

The letter signed by at least 143 Notre Dame professors and faculty was addressed to Jenkins and University Fellow and Chair of the Board of Trustees Richard Notebaert. It called for a public statement distancing Notre Dame from Jenky's statements. The professors and faculty also requested for Jenky to renounce his statements or resign from his positions at the University.

In Terry's response, he and the 13 other cosigners call on the professors and faculty who submitted the letter to Jenkins and Notebaert to re

see LETTER/page 5

THE OBSERVER

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

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

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor-in-Chief Allan Joseph.

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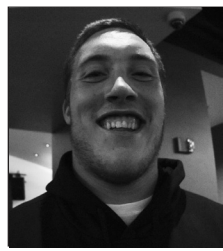
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The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at (574) 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT IS THE BIGGEST MYTH ABOUT NOTRE DAME?



Jordan Stumph

sophomore
Zahm

"That SDH is better than NDH."



Laura Semeraro

junior
Welsh Family

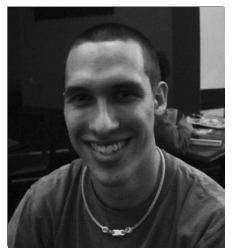
"That Sbarro's is closing ... Psych! It is."



Nick Galasso

senior
Keough

"That South Dining Hall is based on Harry Potter."



Rob Goodale

junior
Keough

"That The Backer is closing, because it is not."

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



SARAH O'CONNOR/The Observer

Junior Ryan Dunbar, right, team captain for SWAG, dribbles past senior Bobby Hoffman of Real Decent during the Elite Eight round of Bookstore Basketball on Thursday.

OFFBEAT

Woman threatens company with bomb for electric bill

OKLAHOMA CITY — Deidra Reed is facing a felony charge after allegedly threatening to blow up Oklahoma Gas & Electric over a \$14 utility bill.

"I remember flipping out, but I don't really remember what was said," Reed told local TV affiliate News9.

According to an OG&E employee who has agreed to testify against her, Reed reportedly called the electric company and said, "I am going to blow OG&E up 'cause y'all are charging me for electric I haven't used."

"The detective actually told me he heard [the call in question], so I can't really

argue with it if it's me," Reed told the station.

"I don't have a criminal record," Reed said. "I'm struggling to pay \$40 a month for rent. How the hell am I [going] to buy some bomb equipment? I don't have [the] know how to make a bomb."

Burglar offers to exchange items with homeowners

BREMERTON, Wa. — Hours after breaking into a Washington State home, a burglar dialed up the victimized homeowners' cousin, asking if he could stop by to swap some of the stolen items in exchange for a few personal items he'd left.

KOMO News reports that

the only thing the alleged burglar asked in return from the homeowners was that they not call the police to report the actual crime.

"It's very unusual," Sgt. Kevin Crane of the Bremerton Police Department told KOMO.

Earlier on Tuesday, the burglar had fled the scene of the crime after he broke into the residence only to find one of the occupants, a former Marine, was at home and holding a gun. "Get out! I have a gun!"

The robber, Shane Jackman, reportedly said, "Yes, sir!" before running away.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Howard Hall and Morrissey Manor are sponsoring the Be the Match Bone Marrow Registry Drive today from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Dooley Room of LaFortune Student Center. To join you need to be between the ages of 18 and 60, be willing to donate to any patient in need and meet the health guidelines.

The Notre Dame varsity baseball team squares off against St. John's today at 5:35 p.m. in the Eck Baseball Stadium. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for youth and seniors.

Notre Dame's Relay for Life starts tonight at 6 p.m. in Notre Dame Stadium. Check-in will be held at the Media Entrance of the Stadium, the opening ceremony will start at 6:30 p.m. and the luminary ceremony will begin at 9:30 p.m. Join the fight against cancer.

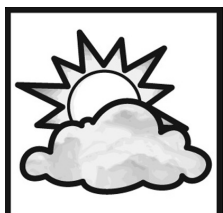
Harmonia, Notre Dame's premiere women's a cappella group, will host its spring concert tonight at 7 p.m. in Washington Hall at the Mainstage Auditorium. Tickets are \$5 at the LaFortune Box Office or at the door.

Notre Dame's Department of Music hosts the opera "Sweeney Todd" tonight and tomorrow evening at 7:30 p.m. in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$7 for students, \$14 for seniors, and \$19 for general admission.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to obsnews.nd@gmail.com

LOCAL WEATHER

TODAY



HIGH 55
LOW 42

TONIGHT



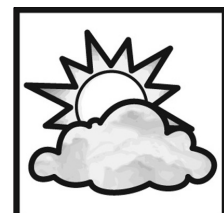
HIGH 48
LOW 42

SATURDAY



HIGH 46
LOW 34

SUNDAY



HIGH 58
LOW 42

MONDAY



HIGH 60
LOW 46

TUESDAY



HIGH 68
LOW 58

Activist speaks on sexual minorities in Uganda

By CHRISTIAN MYERS
News Writer

Winning the Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award has brought activist Frank Mugisha respect in the United States, but in his home country of Uganda, he and his cause still meet with a great deal of enmity.

Mugisha is the executive director of Sexual Minorities Uganda (SMUG) and works to promote the rights of LGBTQ Ugandans. He spoke at the event "Human Rights and Homophobia: A Conversation with Frank Mugisha" in the Andrews Auditorium of Geddes Hall yesterday.

The Progressive Student Association (PSA) sponsored the event in conjunction with the Kellogg Institute's Africa Working Group.

PSA co-president Alex Coccia said Mugisha's work has estranged him from his family and forced him to flee Uganda on repeated occasions. (Editor's Note: Coccia is a Viewpoint columnist for The Observer.)

Mugisha said a pending bill in the Ugandan parliament might criminalize both homosexuality and support for

openly homosexual individuals. There is also a provision in the bill that would create a death penalty for serial offenders, Mugisha said.

"I would receive the death penalty under this bill," he said.

The bill was first introduced in 2009 three months after a group of American evangelicals, including activist Scott Lively, came to Uganda to campaign against homosexuality, Mugisha said. Support for the bill is estimated to be around 85 percent in the parliament and will pass if it reaches the floor.

Mugisha said the bill and propaganda from Ugandan religious leaders has changed the way homosexuals are treated in Ugandan communities.

"Before the bill was introduced we had gay and lesbian people who lived in the community but were not persecuted," Mugisha said.

He said people in Ugandan villages do not always have a sense of the difference between bills in parliament and established laws. He said neighbors turned in one homosexual man who had lived in a community for twenty years. Mugisha said the people only

acted because they believed it was required by law.

There is also a prevalent characterization of homosexuality as "not African," which extends to the leadership of many African nations, Mugisha said. He said many Ugandans, and Africans generally, view homosexuality as a cultural construct of Europe and the United States.

"Almost all African leaders say homosexuality is abnormal," Mugisha said. "Many African leaders say homosexuality is Western, not African."

Ignorance on the subject of homosexuality is the primary reason for homophobia and the main obstacle to his efforts, Mugisha said.

"My biggest struggle is against ignorance," he said. "I wish I could talk to every Ugandan one-on-one and tell them there is no disease they are going to catch."

Mugisha said it is difficult for Ugandans to recognize homosexual rights as a human-rights issue. He said he has to explain that his homosexuality does not harm anyone else while the government claims homophobia does harm others.

Mugisha said he is also frustrated by the opposition to homosexuality in Ugandan churches, which also believe homosexuality is the result of Western influence.

"There are no Western values, Eastern values, Southern values or Northern values when the issue is humanity," he said. "When you are talking about God as love it is all the same."

"There are no Western values, Eastern values, Southern values or Northern values when the issue is humanity."

Frank Mugisha
executive director
Sexual Minorities Uganda



KEVIN SONG / The Observer

Frank Mugisha, right, executive director of SMUG, speaks Thursday in Geddes Hall on sexual minorities and faith in Uganda.

Mugisha said he is a Catholic and urges other homosexual Ugandans to retain their faith.

"I can't wake up in the morning and say 'I don't believe in God,' that's not me," Mugisha said. "Being a gay person, lesbian person, transgender person or bisexual person does not prevent you from being Christian."

SMUG's greatest success is the visibility the organization has brought to the issue internationally and within Uganda, he said.

SMUG has been successful with two legal cases in Uganda, Mugisha said. One was against the government for abuse of homosexuals by police, and the other was against a paper which called for the hanging of perceived homosexuals.

"We've created a visibility in my country. The government can't say there are no homosexuals in Uganda anymore," Mugisha said.

Contact Christian Myers at cmyers8@nd.edu

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Ads are due April 30th

Trial

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at Smith's south side home June 25, according to court documents.

Smith allegedly became upset with his wife after an evening out with friends. His wife told police he yelled at her, knocked her to the ground and kicked her.

Court documents state that the couple's 23-year-old son heard the argument and confronted Smith. The two struggled before the son took his mother and brother to a neighbor's house.

The son told police his 10-year-old brother was present when Smith struck his wife.

Police arrested Smith at the scene, and he posted \$1,000 bond June 30. Court documents state the judge ordered Smith to have no contact with his wife as a condition of his bond.

Domestic battery is a Class D felony. Indiana state law requires a felony charge for domestic battery if the act is committed in the presence of a child less than 16 years old.

Smith's final court appearance has been set for May 21 at 9 a.m. If convicted, Smith could serve up to three years in prison.

Write News.

Email observernewseditor.nd@gmail.com

SMC Tostal features new activities and treats

By CAILIN CROWE
News Writer

After a Sammy Adams concert highlighted Tostal Part One in March, Saint Mary's students celebrated Tostal Part Two on Thursday with stunner shades, YOLO tanks and Dippin' Dots. The Saint Mary's Student Activities Board (SAB) hosted Saint Mary's Tostal and worked to make this year's event unique.

SAB president Liz Kraig said SAB prepared for Saint Mary's Tostal with a conference to discuss ideas

and connect with vendors. Though Tostal has featured lawn inflatables in past years, Kraig said members of SAB focused on other activities this year.

"We decided to do something instead of the inflatables because although inflatables are fun, we think Saint Mary's girls really enjoy the giveaways," Kraig said. "Photos are a great way for students to keepsake their Tostal memories."

Kraig said this year's activities also let students shake off stress with treats from The Sweet Ride Cup-

cake truck, photos from a wild-west photo shoot and a movie screening of "The Vow."

Senior Liz Busam said Tostal provides a study break for students as the semester ends and finals approach.

"I like the break in the day that Tostal offers, especially as we approach finals," she said. "It's a great way to relax and enjoy a beautiful day on campus."

Junior Caitlin Paulsen said the free giveaways were her favorite part of Tostal.

"I love Tostal because I

got to make a lion balloon animal and tie-dye stunner shades," Phelan.

Students like senior Torrie Thompson said they most enjoyed the sweets.

"I was most excited about the cupcake truck," Thompson said.

This was the final Tostal for Saint Mary's seniors. Senior Katelynd Park said she would miss Tostal after graduation.

"I love Tostal because it's a great way to have fun with your friends and celebrate a Saint Mary's tradition," Park said.

Kraig said Tostal was a perfect way to end the year and spend time with friends before exams. She said the positive responses from students made planning for Tostal worthwhile.

"I just love seeing everyone come out and having a good time. It's a great way to end the year, take a picture with friends and enjoy the free snacks," Kraig said. "We like to put on big events that the student body really enjoys."

Contact Cailin Crowe at ccrowe01@saintmarys.edu

Marrow

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[because] you could save a person's life."

This year, the drive chose senior Bridget Dillon and sophomore Scott Dawson as its two spokespeople from the Notre Dame community. Dillon donated bone marrow last year to a pediatric patient.

"I was sitting in my best friend's dorm room when I received a call that I was a possible match for a nine-year old girl with aplastic anemia," Dillon said.

Calahan said though Dillon signed up for the registry during her sophomore year, she was chosen later because bone marrow matches are very rare.

"Out of the 500 people that register every year, Bridget was the only one who was requested to donate her marrow," said Sarah.

Dawson said he was on the other side of the donation process. He said he had leukemia and got a bone marrow transplant during his sophomore year.

"I underwent four rounds of chemotherapy and thank-

fully have been cancer-free since," Scott said. "Although I don't need a transplant at this time, leukemia patients like me rely on generosity of donors through the Be The Match Registry to beat this disease."

Calahan said technological improvements have made bone marrow transplants easier to perform than in the past.

"Bone marrow transplants are not as medically serious now as they were. 75 percent of the bone marrow transplants are non-invasive [and] performed non-surgically," she said. "Blood is drawn from one arm, it is filtered and then put back into the other arm."

Dillon said her transplant was surgically harvested. This exception was made since she was donating to a pediatric patient.

"Bone marrow transplants that were done surgically because no one wanted to go through so much pain for a stranger," she said. "But now it is relatively simpler and so it is easier to save lives."

Contact Charitha Isankaka at cisankaka@nd.edu

"We do so much service here to help people and improve the world — this is just another powerful way for you to save a life."

Sarah Calahan
event organizer

HOWARD HALL & MORRISSEY HALL

BONE MARROW DRIVE

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

LAFORTUNE'S DOOLEY ROOM



MARINA KOZAK | Observer Graphic

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THE RECEPTION OF VATICAN II:

The Contribution of Richard P. McBrien

APRIL 27, 2012

3:00 P.M.

MCKENNA HALL

Speakers:

CHARLES E. CURRAN

M. CATHERINE HILKERT, OP

Panel Presentation:

MODERATOR: ROBERT A. KRIEG

PANELISTS: KRISTIN M. COLBERG, EDWARD P. HAHNENBERG AND BRANDON PETERSON

Vigil

continued from page 1

policies.

The statement stated there are plans to improve training of community members on treatment of LGBTQ issues and enhance the Core Council for Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Students.

Sophomore Mia Lillis, a participant in of Core Council, said in the wake of the statement's release, supporters felt the need to respond collectively.

"We [held] this candlelight vigil to both stand in solidarity with those students who have experienced hardship under the current conditions at the University, and also as a response to the administration to indicate that we don't feel as if this present dialogue is enough," Lillis said.

LGBTQ community members and allies who have been pushing for the addition of sexual orientation to the non-discrimination clause feel this statement is not satisfactory, she said.

"Though the statement seems to have said there is going to be change to come, in reality this statement is saying that little to no change will happen, because the five initiatives outlined at the end of the statement are things that the University has been doing for the past fifteen years," Lillis said. "We have plateaued, it is time to take the next step."

Even more disquieting was the lack of explanation for the decision, Lillis said.

"One of the biggest problems with this statement is that the wording of the University's non-discrimination clause remains in its current form," Lillis said. "It doesn't go into any detail as to why the University decided to deny that request."

Lillis said she believes the University is unwilling to commit to its LGBTQ students, and as a result these members of the community are unable to develop a substantial relationship with the Notre Dame family.

"Obligation is a scary word, but it's the reason that the administration doesn't want to change the clause," Lillis said. "They don't want to be obligat-

ed to their gay students, they don't want to have the obligation to stand up for us."

Senior Samuel Costanzo, secretary of AllianceND, the unofficial gay-straight alliance [GSA] at the University, said he believes if sexual orientation were included in the non-discrimination clause, it would strengthen the sense of connection that LGBTQ students have to the campus community.

"If wording was present in the non-discrimination clause, it would contribute to a sense of trust that I don't have something to fear from the administrative body or from the University as a whole, because legally the clause is there [that states] that I personally am an included party," Costanzo said.

Freshman Lauren Morisseau, co-president of the Progressive Student Alliance (PSA), said LGBTQ students feel they still have to fight to belong to the campus community.

"People would feel safer, more protected," Morisseau said. "I think it is sad for LGBTQ students that to get into this school is not the only acceptance that they're looking for, [because] they also have to fight for another level of acceptance."

This conditional inclusion prompted these students to look for other ways to find a home at Notre Dame, she said.

"When you look at Notre Dame, there is a huge emphasis on the 'Notre Dame family,' but there are a lot of people who feel that they are not included in this [Notre Dame] family for a variety of reasons, but sometimes it's because they are considered a minority for their sexual orientation," Morisseau said.

Sophomore Alex Coccia, co-president of PSA, said those looking to make Notre Dame a more inclusive community have had a variety of successes this year, but the conversation needs to continue. (Editor's note: Coccia is a Viewpoint columnist for The Observer.)

"We have already seen success ... this year has seen more of a push, more of a community-building movement than before," Coccia said. "One of our goals at the beginning of the year was that the 4 to 5 Movement is about getting

people to speak up because we recognize that we are a supportive majority — and we are at that point now."

Coccia said progress has been evident through other initiatives started by both Notre Dame's students and students at other universities. At Notre Dame, the focus should be to work to better embody its claims of community, he said.

"I think that all of [those successes] have contributed to raising awareness on campus, making clear that this should be a campus priority if we are to talk about truly being a healing, unifying and enlightening university," Coccia said.

Lillis said if the administration approves AllianceND's application to gain official recognition as a club, the needs of the LGBTQ community would be better addressed.

"Some students are going to need to seek help from other visible students who are not tied to the administration, who could for example be a part of a [GSA]," Lillis said.

Costanzo said a GSA would enhance the support offered by existing organizations.

"It is sometimes easier to talk with someone who might have had an experience ... or who might have been related to someone that has had a similar experience," Costanzo said. "A student group would be an additional part complementing the pre-existing structures that the University refers to ... some people need one thing, some people need another, and some people need a combination, but that shouldn't preclude the actual club's existence."

Costanzo said he envisions the greatest change to the community atmosphere coming from student efforts to live out the spirit of inclusion.

"The administration can provide important resources, which are good and they have a purpose, but in terms of the student body getting on board and really accepting substantial change in the campus culture to really live out this spirit of inclusion, then everybody has to be engaged so that they think very carefully about how they act and how they treat other people," he said.

Contact Nicole Michels at nmichels@nd.edu



Photo Courtesy of Andrew Beacham

Gary Boisclair, right, speaks at a press conference outside the University entrance Thursday morning.

Letter

continued from page 1

pent or "have the decency to resign."

"You clearly have little honor, and even less regard for innocent human life," Terry's letter stated. "There was not one word — not one syllable — in your letter that condemned or confronted the atrocities being committed by Obama. By your words and your omissions, you show your own treachery against innocent human life, and the teachings of the Church."

In the version submitted to Jenkins and Notebaert, the letter requests "immediate action" be taken against the signing professors and faculty "who have unethically cast aspersions upon a holy bishop."

Gary Boisclair, press agent for Terry and one of the letter's signees, said the visiting group was looking for a response from the faculty who reacted to Jenky's homily.

"[We look to] the faculty's call to repentance and to apologize to Bishop Jenky for their damaging statements to this humble, holy leader of the Church," he said.

Boisclair said the group believes Catholics must protect Jenky and the remarks made in his homily.

"It is necessary for Christians and Catholics to stand up when a bishop proclaims

the gospel of Jesus Christ so clearly," he said. "If they are being calumniated by people within a Catholic institution, it is the Christian's responsibility to stand up and defend the bishop."

As of Thursday afternoon, Boisclair

said the group had not received a response from anyone their letter was submitted to.

"I'm not holding my breath, to be honest," he said.

In addition to hosting a press conference, Boisclair said the group submitted their letter to professors and faculty through the Mail Distribution Center. He said the group also personally delivered a copy to Jenkins' secretary in the University president's office.

University spokesman Dennis Brown declined to speak on the visit or the letters delivered.

"We do not comment on the personal views of our Trustees, or what others think of them," he said. "We do, however, support the First Amendment right of parties on all sides of this issue to express their views."

According to a press release from Randall Terry Media, Terry and his team followed their visit to the University with a press conference in Fort Wayne, Ind., in front of the offices of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend "in solidarity with Bishop Kevin Rhoades."

Six of the signees of Terry's letter, including Terry himself, identify themselves as members of "ND 88," the group of 88 individuals arrested in May 2009 for protesting Obama's commencement address at the University.

Contact Sam Stryker at sstrykel@nd.edu

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Hall to support global nonprofit

By AMY KLOPFENSTEIN
News Writer

Ryan Hall will host a 5-on-5 wheelchair basketball tournament tomorrow afternoon to support the Wheelchair Foundation, an international nonprofit which distributes wheelchairs to those in need across the globe.

Freshman Emily Voorde helped coordinate the event with Bookstore Basketball, SAO and other halls. Voorde, who uses a wheelchair, has played wheelchair basketball with a local team and helped sponsor a similar wheelchair basketball tournament at her high school.

"I thought it would be a good event to raise awareness and funds for a good cause," she said.

Voorde said the rules for regular basketball still apply for the tournament. The hoops, courts and balls are the same size. The only rule change applies to dribbling, she said. Each player must dribble once for every two pushes of the chair.

Voorde said people may

need time to adjust to the game and will have a very different experience in this tournament than they have in others.

"People have a lot of questions because it is not something they are familiar with," Voorde said.

Alick's Home Medical donated 30 wheelchairs for the tournament. Voorde said she worked with the South Bend medical supply store when planning her high school's wheelchair basketball tournament.

Ryan president sophomore Alison Quinn said though the team first hoped to work with a local organization, many South Bend charities focusing on wheelchair distribution already had sponsors. Quinn said they were then drawn to the international mission of the Wheelchair Foundation.

Quinn said she hopes to raise enough money to purchase at least one wheelchair, which costs \$150. She also said she hopes the tournament encourages solidarity and deeper understanding among students.

"It's fun because you get to play basketball in a wheelchair, but it's also demonstrative of what some people go through every day," Quinn said.

Students can enjoy free food and winners will receive prizes at the event, she said. Quinn said she hopes for a high level of student involvement and wants to make the tournament an annual event. "Given it's our first year, we hope to get enough involvement [to continue the event] in future years," Quinn said.

Voorde said students should register to support the charity and have fun with friends.

"It's the same game, same ball, same rules, just on wheels. It's really fun, and I think it will be a great experience," Voorde said.

To register for the tournament, visit www.nd.edu/~ryan and click on the wheelchair basketball logo. Registration is also available through the group's Facebook page.

Contact Amy Klopfenstein at aklopfen@nd.edu

Best Buddies to host first Friendship Walk

By ADAM LLORENS
News Writer

The Best Buddies of Notre Dame will hold their first Friendship Walk and 5K Run tomorrow morning to benefit Best Buddies Indiana.

Junior Elizabeth Klinepeter, president of the club, said the event is designed to spread the impact the organization has on those with developmental disabilities.

"Best Buddies is an international organization and their largest fundraisers throughout the country are state Friendship Walks," Klinepeter said.

She said while state chapters hold a Friendship Walk each spring, Notre Dame is one of three college chapters to host the first collegiate Friendship Walks.

"We will be having a 1.5-mile walk and a 5K run starting at Stepan Center, going around South and God Quads, and ending at Stepan Center," Klinepeter said. "All of our chapter members and their buddies will be walking with us."

Klinepeter said she hopes the walk attracts many people from the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's communities.

Junior Nick Pellegrini,

the event's coordinator, said the proceeds from the Notre Dame event will benefit Best Buddies Indiana.

"This is a fundraiser for chapters, specifically across the state of Indiana, to support people with developmental disabilities in their specific areas," Pellegrini said.

Pellegrini said planning for the walk began last summer and continued through the academic year.

"Most of the planning this semester has been a combination of working with the Best Buddies Indiana Office, our club officers here on campus and [the Student Activities Office (SAO)]," Pellegrini said. "We have weekly conference calls with the state office and, in between them, meetings with SAO to try to prep for the event and make sure the race logistics are organized well."

The event encourages close interaction and brings participants together, Pellegrini said.

"This walk is a good example of bringing our colleges students and buddies together for a fun event and raising awareness on campus by walking through campus," he said.

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Female voters lean towards Obama



President Barack Obama speaks at a White House forum concerning women's issues in Washington on April 6. Polls show Obama taking a sizable lead amongst women over Republican challenger Mitt Romney.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama, polls show, holds a sizable lead over Republican challenger Mitt Romney among women — the country's largest voting bloc.

That becomes important in any presidential election year not only because there are more women voters but also because a greater percentage of the female population historically cast ballots.

For example, in the 2008 presidential election, in which Obama defeated Sen. John McCain, 60 percent of women voted. Just 55 percent of men went to the polls.

The race this year looks to be very close. With just more than six months remaining before the Nov. 6 election, most polls of all registered voters show Obama and Romney neck-and-neck or with the incumbent holding a slight lead.

But the heft and importance of the women's vote is already showing. Among that group Obama is leading Romney by an average of 11.5 percentage points in six major polls. The same polls of male voters show the candidates statistically even in three surveys and with Romney up by an average of 6.6 percentage points in the other three.

Democratic presidential candidates have enjoyed an advantage with women voters for the past

two decades, and political scientists credit that to the party's approach to broad social issues, education, questions of war and peace and economic policy as it affects women and the family.

That's particularly true in these very difficult economic times, said Robin Lauerman, a professor of politics at Messiah College.

Perhaps most damaging in the eyes of women voters will have been his backing for a Republican spending plan written by Rep. Paul Ryan. It calls for deep cuts in government support for many programs that keep an economic floor under poor and low-income Americans, women especially.

The budget proposal does not, however, stop at cuts that affect voters in the lower socio-economic realm. It also alters the government's Medicare insurance program for Americans age 65 and above. Some estimates show the changes would shift the burden of paying for health care to the elderly.

That is particularly important to older women, said Thomas Brogan, political science professor at Albright College. On average, women live longer than men and rely more heavily on the health insurance program that has been a part of the social contract in the United States for nearly a half century.

Obama also has found an ad-

vantage in contrast to Republican positions on issues such as birth control and invasive ultrasound procedures Republicans in some states sought to institute before a woman could have an abortion.

That line of attack blew up into a political storm after offensive remarks made by a conservative radio talk-show personality about a female law student who publicly joined a public battle. The student became a spokesperson for women concerned that birth control not be dropped from health insurance coverage provided to employees of religious institutions, Catholic church-operated hospitals for example.

The contraceptives issue arose from a ruling by the Obama administration that would have forced such institutions to include coverage of birth control as part of their health insurance package for employees. Contraception runs counter to Catholic religious teaching.

Desperate to diminish the president's standing with women, Republicans seized earlier this month on comments by a Democratic strategist, a woman who said on cable television that Romney's wife, Ann, had never worked a day in her life. She was trying to criticize the multimillionaire Romney for being out of touch and relying on Ann for briefings about women's concerns.

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Relay

continued from page 1

Prentkowski said he receives a great deal of support from his wife, who has been an oncology nurse for 20 years.

"Having her with all that expertise has been helpful for me because she's more capable of talking to the doctors and the language they talk than I am," Prentkowski said. "Also, she's certified to do [medical] things, so I avoid having to go back to the clinic ... It's nice to have that kind of support."

Junior Courtney Reinkemeyer said she began participating in Relay for Life in high school because many of her classmates were involved. Once she came to Notre Dame that changed, she said.

"I kind of experienced firsthand the effects of cancer, so that just made it a lot more important to me to participate in it," she said.

Reinkemeyer said she was diagnosed with breast cancer during fall break of her freshman year. After several surgeries, she said she is now cancer-free.

"Back home, my best friend's mom was diagnosed with cancer probably a year after I had been, she said. "My mom and her friends were in a book club, and they started a [Relay for Life] team. It was kind of a combined effort for her as well as me."

Reinkemeyer said she helped promote the team and participated in the Relay event last summer in her hometown, Jefferson City, Mo.

"I think [my experience with cancer has] definitely put a lot more passion into going and just trying to raise awareness about it," she said.

At Notre Dame, Reinkemeyer conducts cancer research with Steven Buechler, associate dean for undergraduate studies in the Department of Mathematics. She said they study the levels of gene expression in breast cancer patients to determine what treatments they need.

"Low expression in some of the genes actually shows that [some] patients don't need chemotherapy, or without chemotherapy, their cancer shouldn't come back," Reinkemeyer said. "It's just trying to find the subset of women that don't need to find extra treatment."

Reinkemeyer said Relay for Life is an opportunity to raise money for cancer research and help develop treatment options.

"I think the most important part is that it just brings hope to so many people, and that's one of the main reasons that I keep going back," she said.

This year, sophomore Laurel Komos said she is participating in honor of her friend from high school who is battling osteosarcoma, a cancerous bone tumor.

"She has pretty much the brightest personality ever and is a pretty big inspiration," Komos said. "Just following her story made me really

want to do it. I'm for '#TeamEvans' ... That's her unofficial Relay team name."

Komos, who is on Pasquerilla West's team, said her friend keeps a blog about her experience battling cancer.

"She just says that every day is a gift, and her whole thing is based on an Andy Grammer song, 'Keep Your Head Up,'" Komos said. "I hope that people kind of get a little bit of that mentality out of it, a better appreciation for our health."

Komos said she hopes Relay participants are inspired by the stories of survivors and people currently battling cancer.

"I never really realized how much cancer changes your life, and I've never really been affected by it until this ... situation," she said. "Watching her optimism and the way she fights through it is really shocking, and it makes you appreciate the things in your life more."

For many years, sophomore Alison Quinn did not know anyone who had cancer. But when she was 16, her close friend was diagnosed with pineoblastoma, a brain tumor.

"That's kind of where my involvement with the American Cancer Society and Relay for Life started," Quinn said. "When she had cancer, we would always do stuff like raise money for her family."

Quinn said participating in Relay for Life at Notre Dame last year was a way for her to honor her friend and give back to her friend's family. After her friend passed away last spring, Quinn said Relay took on additional meaning.

"That's why this year means so much more to me," she said, "because not only do I now know more people who have cancer just through getting older and knowing people, but also I know someone whose story, a big part of it was cancer. By knowing her, it made me that much more involved and makes me want to honor her life and keep fighting for everyone else who is fighting."

Quinn, who is a member of the Ryan team, said Relay is a way for people to visualize how many people cancer affects.

"For some people, cancer is just a concept, it's just a disease, it's just something that's there and that we know happens, but when it gets personal is when it really hits you," she said. "You're connected through cancer. It's kind of like that six degrees of separation type thing."

Honoring specific people who have been affected by cancer is a way to bring the concept of fighting the disease to life, Quinn said.

"There's so much we can do, even if we're not directly involved in a situation where someone has cancer," Quinn said. "We all can be involved, and we can all step up and be a part of something really powerful. And hopefully in the future ... we might find a way to make it better."

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NORWAY

Mass murderer denies insanity



Mass killer Anders Behring Breivik, right, stands in an Oslo courtroom Thursday. Breivik has confessed to committing Norway's worst mass murder, killing 77 people last July.

Associated Press

LONDON — Norwegian mass killer Anders Behring Breivik is insisting in court that attempts to label him as insane are misplaced — and some psychiatrists agree that simply committing such monstrous crimes does not mean a person is mentally ill.

The far-right, anti-Islam Breivik has already confessed to committing Norway's worst mass murder in a bomb-and-shooting rampage that killed 77 people last July. Whether or not Breivik is sane is at the crux of his ongoing trial and will determine how he is sentenced.

"Everyone's first assumption is that Breivik must be insane because he's done such terrible things," said Dr. Simon Wessely, of the Institute of Psychiatry at King's College London. "But it doesn't automatically follow that he must be mad just because what he has done is inexplicable."

In a commentary published Friday in the British medical journal *Lancet*, Wessely writes that explanation is too simplistic.

For the 33-year-old Norwegian to be schizophrenic — as some psychiatrists have suggested — his actions would have to be the result of delusions, or based on beliefs not shared by others.

"As ghastly as his views are,

there are other people in society who believe countries are being destroyed by multiculturalism and Islam," Wessely said.

Breivik's extraordinarily well-organized and methodical massacre also undermines the idea that he was suffering from a serious mental illness.

"It doesn't tally with the kinds of disorganized crimes usually committed by people with mental health problems," Wessely said.

One Norwegian psychiatric report found Breivik to be insane, while a second concluded that he was sane. A panel of judges is hearing weeks of testimony to decide which is correct.

Breivik himself has slammed reports concluding that he is insane, describing them as based on "evil fabrications." He said earlier this week the worst thing that could happen would be for officials to declare he has a mental illness, since that would "delegitimize" everything he stands for.

Breivik claims the attacks were "necessary" and that the victims — many of whom had some ties to the ruling Labor Party — had betrayed Norway by embracing immigration.

Breivik claims to belong to an anti-Muslim militant group inspired by medieval crusaders and working with two other cells in Norway. Investigators have said they don't believe the group exists, and prosecu-

tor Seven Holder noted that the second psychiatric report described it as a "fantasy."

Some experts said the publicly known information about Breivik and his crimes suggest he has a personality disorder, like psychopathy and narcissism. That may also be apparent in Breivik's complete lack of empathy for his victims or his tendency to remain emotionless in court.

"The way he perceives the world is probably within the bounds of normality," said Dr. Paul Keedwell, a psychiatrist at Cardiff University, who has not examined him and was not linked to the *Lancet* commentary.

"But because of the personality disorder, he may be overwhelmed by a sense of strong anger and indignation when he believes people are not listening to his point of view," he said.

Keedwell said it was difficult to know the cause of Breivik's condition without knowing more about his personal history. He hypothesized the crimes could have been the result of a series of bad decisions after Breivik had his mind "warped" by far-right propaganda.

If found guilty and sane, Breivik will face 21 years in prison, though he could be held longer if deemed a danger to society. If declared insane, he would be committed to mandatory psychiatric care.

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INSIDE COLUMN

Why so serious?

Anyone who knows me at all knows that I love to tell jokes. And since I'm all about giving, I think I'll start off this column by sharing with you of one of my all time, absolute favorite jokes/puns.

I wonder ... is President Obama good at basketball? Or is he just an Obamanation to the sport?

Bridget Feeney

Associate Saint Mary's Editor

If you didn't enjoy that, then stop reading. But if you cracked even the tiniest smile, then proceed.

That joke is as much of a play on words as it is a testament to the power of the pun. One of my favorite quotes is by e.e. cummings: "The most wasted of all days is one without laughter." It's so simple, yet so accurate.

Think of the people you surround yourself with every day. Your favorite professors, your best friends, your colleagues. Who are the people that stand out to you? Those who are always in a bad mood, never smiling or happy? No. The people you naturally gravitate towards are those who are clever, fun and enjoyable to be around.

That is why laughter prevails, why movies like "Bridesmaids" and "The Hangover" are blockbusters, why shows like "Saturday Night Live" have been around for over 35 years.

Even on my worst days, where nothing in my life is going the way it should be, one of the very few things that I know is always constant, always right, always true, is laughter.

Ready to greet us at the end of an old day like an old friend, laughter never leaves our lives. Humor is one of the few defenses we have against disappointment, heartbreak and sadness. Just the other day, I experienced the painful feeling of rejection. You see, I submitted ten puns to a pun contest hoping at least one would win, but no pun in ten did. But thanks to humor, I was able to move past that train wreck of a day and focus on bigger and better things.

Something I have noticed in my 21 years of life is most people don't appreciate the simple humor of ordinary people. Don't get me wrong, I love Tina Fey, Chelsea Handler and Will Ferrell. They are true masters of their craft and I have nothing but respect and admiration for them.

But a joke doesn't have to come from a seasoned comedian or blockbuster movie for it to be funny. Sometimes the simpler a joke is, the better. Sometimes all it takes is one punch line and that problem you were stressing about earlier doesn't seem so significant.

So every day, I make it my goal to make at least one person laugh. I don't care if it is at my expense or by accident; I just want someone to have at least one bright spot in their day. I think people who can make others genuinely laugh are pun in a million. Those people are special.

So what if you haven't started writing that term paper that's due in a week, or you skipped class to catch up on Hulu or you called in sick to work when you really just wanted to nap?

It's not too late to do something productive. You can still laugh. Go be that bright spot.

Don't waste today.

Contact Bridget Feeney at bfeene01@saintmarys.edu

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

Jenky should issue formal apology

On April 14, Bishop Daniel Jenky of the Diocese of Peoria, Ill., delivered a homily that touched on the healthcare reform of President Barack Obama's administration. In his remarks, Jenky compared the challenges the Catholic Church is facing today to others it has faced in the past — including the regimes of Adolf Hitler and Joseph Stalin.

In addition to serving as bishop, Jenky is a member of the University's Board of Fellows, the upper tier of the Board of Trustees at Notre Dame. In this role he is responsible for, amongst other things, "[ensuring] that the University maintains its essential character as a Catholic institution of higher learning." His public statements are not just his own — they reflect on Notre Dame as well, and flout his responsibility as a University Fellow.

There is nothing inherently wrong with Jenky's argument — the Church has a duty to stand up for its rights, and the bishop's statement is protected by the First Amendment. However, by comparing a current political figure to the extreme examples of Hitler and Stalin, Jenky compromised any possibility for reasonable discourse. It doesn't matter that Obama or his politics were the subjects of his homily. Jenky could have been speaking about any American politician, Republican or Democrat. Drawing comparisons to such figures as Hitler and Stalin sends a clear and irrevocable message. They are not mere historical figures; they are men who were responsible for the deaths of tens of millions of innocent women, children and minorities — the very people the Catholic Church takes upon itself to protect. These men epitomize evil to the entirety of the international community.

Although Bishop Jenky focused on healthcare policy, what is at risk has nothing to do with politics, but the civil rhetoric we hold so dear as an institution of higher learning. The spirit of Notre Dame fosters an environment of respecting the differences of others and using discourse and cooperation to solve problems. Jenky, one of the highest-ranking members of our community, did not embody this spirit.

Around campus on lampposts and in the dining halls hang signs that read "Heal. Unify. Enlighten." All members of the University's community are responsible for living up to these

words. As students, we are held to this standard every day, whether traveling or studying abroad, working in an internship or participating in community service. Our words and actions reflect the principles of our University. As a University Trustee and Fellow, Jenky should adhere to these same standards, and we as members of the Notre Dame community must demand this from him.

Pursuant to this belief, more than 140 professors and faculty signed a letter calling for Jenky to either renounce his statements or resign from his post on the Board of Fellows.

Jenky's statement was polarizing and offensive, and should in no way be associated with the work done every day by students, professors, administrators and faculty of Our Lady's University. The Diocese of Peoria issued a statement claiming Jenky's statements were taken out of context — but invoking the names of Hitler and Stalin leaves no gray area. Jenky's homily was

offensive and demonstrates a gross disrespect for his responsibilities as a University Fellow and Trustee.

We believe Jenky's remarks reflect poorly upon Notre Dame and the members of its community. As a high-ranking member of the University, the bishop ought to issue a clear, full-fledged and public apology. Jenky must take responsibility for his mistake. If he is unwilling to publicly recognize the vulgarity of his statement, then the bishop should resign from his role as a trustee and fellow. A minority of the Editorial Board believes Jenky should resign regardless of whether he publicly apologizes, as he has compromised his standing as a high-profile and highly influential member of Notre Dame's community.

Notre Dame's mission states "intellectual interchange" is "essential" to a University environment. Unfortunately, Bishop Jenky's aggressive remarks curtail any discourse that might take place concerning the issues he addressed in his homily. His statements reflect poorly on the University, and he, like any member of the Notre Dame community, must be held accountable for his actions.

Only through an uncompromising apology can we maintain the integrity of our University and uphold our mission to maintain intellectual discourse.

THE OBSERVER Editorial

A call to the Notre Dame family

I love Notre Dame deeply and for many reasons. Notre Dame aspires to create a sense of family among all those associated with Notre Dame. This is particularly fitting when one considers that our alma mater begins with the words, "Notre Dame, Our Mother."

With this in mind, I read with great dismay that 95 professors had signed a letter calling for the University to publicly distance itself from the Most Reverend Daniel Jenky and requesting his resignation from the Board of Fellows. I was dismayed both by their mischaracterization of Bishop Jenky's message and by the manner in which they expressed their frustration.

Bishop Jenky provided historical examples of leaders who attempted to minimize or eliminate the presence of the Catholic Church in their countries. First, Bishop Jenky highlighted Otto von Bismarck's attempt to close Catholic institutions in Imperial Germany. Next, he noted that Georges Clemenceau sought the same in France during the early 1900s. Subsequently, he mentioned that Hitler and Stalin just barely tolerated churches remaining open and did not tolerate any competition in other realms of society. Bishop Jenky then contended that President Obama "now seems intent on following a similar path."

I believe it is clear to anyone who reads the homily in full that the comparison is narrowly restricted to various leaders' attempts to limit religious freedom, particularly among Catholics. If I were to write that both Hitler and Martin Luther King, Jr., demonstrated an incredible ability to mobilize people, surely it would be incorrect to suggest that I were

equating Martin Luther King, Jr., who courageously advanced civil rights in this country, with Adolf Hitler. Context matters. The context of Bishop Jenky's comments must be considered.

Nevertheless, I recognize it is certainly possible that some might reach a different conclusion. If so, I think it's essential to remember that there is a right way of doing things, particularly in the context of a community or (ideally) a family. Publicly calling on the University to distance itself from Bishop Jenky's comments and suggesting Bishop Jenky is no longer fit to serve on the Board of Fellows is not that way.

I can only imagine the faculty reaction if even a handful of students (never mind dozens) published a letter in The Observer imploring Fr. Jenkins and the University to disavow a professor's remarks and requesting that the professor resign. Both students and faculty members alike would claim that such a letter reeks of self-righteousness and is not only utterly disrespectful but ultimately counter-productive. Instead, the disgruntled students would be encouraged to explore avenues that successfully addressed their concerns and did not involve targeted attacks on a member of the Notre Dame family.

I do believe it's within the rights of faculty members to disagree with Bishop Jenky, but I hope if there were ever any question about the intentions of one of our own, we would seek first to understand rather than to publicly condemn. It is only with such faith in and respect for one another that we can live out the "Notre Dame family."

Matthew Gelchion is a 2009 Notre Dame graduate. He can be reached at Matthew.J.Gelchion.1@nd.edu

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

Matt Gelchion

Guest Columnist

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"A dog owns nothing, yet is seldom dissatisfied."

Irish proverb

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Question #1 How do you deal with finals-week stress?

- Ⓐ Coffee Breaks 38%
- Ⓑ Naps 45%
- Ⓒ Pick-up basketball 0%
- Ⓓ A visit to the Grotto 17%

Total number of votes: 42

Graduating seniors: keep your head up

Like generations before, and many who will follow in generations to come, this year's seniors face both excitement and uncertainty as graduation nears. Their secure campus routines are about to forever change.

An eccentric, uncertain world looms dead ahead — one slowly

Gary J. Caruso

*Capitol
Comments*

rebouncing from a great economic recession while anemically expanding job opportunities. For my soon-to-be graduated and future neighbors, let me offer some advice to relieve your pain and ease your transition.

First, your waking moments will forever change in May. Friends will disperse across the globe. Some will never be seen again, while others will reunite sporadically throughout your lifetime. Some may die early — way too early to prevent your heart from breaking or a gnawing feeling of loss from haunting you for the remainder of your days. Therefore, drink in every remaining campus moment you have until graduation, so that you can slow time and savor your final student seconds on campus. Those memories will burn more vividly as your path away from campus lengthens.

Second, nothing you do can fully restore the antics, weekend parties or casual relationships that dominated your student way of life. Gone is the option to begin the day with a late class

or break your afternoon with a much-needed nap. Your lives are about to be replete with unwelcome, mandatory, yet-to-be-determined regimented sleep and work schedules — that is, once you have accepted a job. Remember, careers rarely begin with the first job out of college. My initial post-graduate position began at Radio Shack.

As unique as national conditions today may seem to seniors, I faced similar factors upon my graduation from Notre Dame decades ago. The trick to succeeding after graduation is in utilizing your optimism and persistence. In fact, searching for a job is a job in itself; so treat any job search as a full-time commitment. Learn to network with anyone and everyone who has the slightest commonality with you. Pick your head up away from your smartphone and interact personally with others. Ask to “have coffee” to individually meet and discuss leads or specific prospects. Offer to drop off your résumé to gain a quick moment of face-to-face time. Coincidentally “run into” someone, but within the limitations of local stalking laws. Mold your opportunities, and your perseverance will eventually pay dividends.

Like my classmates of decades ago, the Class of 2012 will face frustrations and setbacks, sometimes for consecutive years on end. How anyone reacts to adversity determines whether you can become like Rudy, who was allowed to be a hero on the last play of the game, or simply a failure. Be confident, deter-

mined and utilize your innocent bravado to make an impression in the workforce. You don't necessarily need to resurrect your “tell-it-like-it-is” bluntness of youth, but always be honest in your advice and approach. Your character will be built on your professional reputation for being truthful and keeping your head up from your smartphone during meetings.

Within our uber-snarky and anonymously impersonal digital age, always remember the past while you look ahead to what's cool, what's happening or what's the latest in life. Remember that your schoolyard code of ethics was developed instinctively from your own common sense, competitive spirit and natural ability to be reasonable without strict formal rules, nagging coaches, blind referees or overzealous adult supervision. Now that you have fine-tuned that code while on the campus quads and in the campus dormitories, you are ready to face the world. The world that depends not on petty “gotcha” moments, like those played endlessly through presidential political advertising this year. The world — your future, my future, our futures — that depends upon fairness, teamwork and justice. Champion to balance that trilogy of values in your endeavors.

Someday — and it will seem like forever from now — you will sit in my seat, cushioned with retrospection and hindsight. The moments you relished during your last days on campus will still flicker with clarity. You will share the hard-

learned secrets that you utilize each day to reconcile conflict or to merely coexist peacefully with those unlike yourself. You will have mastered the transition of leaving like-minded persons with like-minded values on campus for a peaceful coexistence and respect for your neighbors who are different in both thought and deed. You will have learned that what makes life real are the everyday routines and the ordinary lives we encounter. You will know the advantages of experience.

In the meantime, while your uncertainties abound like land mines on a battlefield, I know that the Class of 2012 will succeed. The old saying indicates that much is expected from those to whom much is given. The opportunity to graduate may have been given to this year's seniors, but graduation was earned through a will to succeed. Through the good and bad, our seniors will succeed by keeping their heads up (away from their smartphones) and focusing on their dreams and ideals.

Best of success to the class of 2012.

Gary Caruso, Notre Dame '73, serves in the Department of Homeland Security and was a legislative and public affairs director in President Clinton's administration. His column appears every other Friday. He can be contacted at GaryJCaruso@alumni.nd.edu

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

On the administration's “enhanced support” for LGBTQ students

We have been told all our lives that actions speak louder than words.

Notre Dame students and faculty have always embodied this, especially in the form of the 4 to 5 Movement, which has been working tirelessly to raise awareness of LGBTQ rights on campus this year. However, the administration's latest response to repeated pleas for equality on campus is the exact opposite of this principle.

They “continue to be committed to” existing policies which do not legally protect every member of the Notre Dame family. They will reinforce existing methods of “creating a safe space” and “raising awareness” without taking action to create a true safe space for LGBTQ individuals and their straight allies on campus — not one that the administration deems to be adequate, but one that the LGBTQ community deems to be adequate.

I love this school and what it stands for in the realm of social justice. However, this is a glaring injustice to the LGBTQ community, and it flies directly in the face of the Church's teachings that homosexuals “must be accepted with respect, compassion and sensitivity,” and that “every sign of unjust discrimination in their regard should be avoided.”

This situation must, must be rectified.

Julia Kohn
junior
Lewis Hall
April 26

What lack of compassion?

Having read excellent columns by Alex Coccia in the past, I was disappointed by his treatment of the Vatican's investigation of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (“Catholic compassion, not condemnation,” April 25). Mr. Coccia's notion of compassion rightly emphasizes social justice and the promotion of equality, but he overlooks the possibility of a corrective compassion, a “tough-love” compassion which seeks the betterment of the other through the cultivation of truth and the correction of error.

It is this sort of compassion for which the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith exists to embody. It is this sort of compassion at which the CDF's investigation of the LCWR aims.

It can be argued that the investigation doesn't hit the mark, but I don't see any substantial argument for that conclusion in Mr. Coccia's column. Changing the “doctrinal problems” explicitly mentioned by the CDF — women's ordination, abortion, euthanasia, public defiance of bishops — would have little effect on the sisters' work of “providing people with the best possible spiritual guidance” and “minister[ing] to people everywhere who are suffering.” For this reason, the investigation, with its corrective compassion, is not tearing down the compassion of social justice. It will preserve what Mr. Coccia agrees is best in the sisters' ministry — namely, serving everyone in accordance with the Gospel.

Mr. Coccia cites problematic trends in the Church. I recommend to him the writings of Pope John Paul II, who preached a “New Evangelization” which sounds very much like the renewal Mr. Coccia recommends.

As for incidents like this one “removing focus from the good work the Church does,” bishops don't exactly choose which of their statements make headlines. As long as one acknowledges that the Church does good work, as Mr. Coccia does, one should criticize the newspapers, not the hierarchy, for giving the Church bad press.

Matt Cole
sophomore
Carroll Hall
April 26

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MARGIN CALL

WALKS THROUGH WALLSTREET

By NEIL MATHIESON
Scene Writer

In 2011, a drama finally attempted to address the convoluted back woods of the finance industry that caused the economic crisis in 2008.

More relevant than ever, the sharp and shrewd "Margin Call" cuts like a scalpel into an often ethically opaque industry few Americans are privy to but are all affected by.

Unfortunately, most people missed "Margin Call" and with it, a genuinely fair but decidedly uncompassionate look into an uncompassionate industry.

This could be due to the film lacking a real leading star or perhaps its "too close to home" subject matter; but for whatever reason, it is one of the year's most overlooked films. "Margin Call" remains overlooked despite being nominated for an Oscar for best screenplay.

Since 2008 it has become popular to demonize Wall-Streeters. Seeing them as nothing but conniving and money-hungry, we are quick to direct our anger towards them. People protest in the streets, seeking restitution from the individuals that managed, gambled and eventually lost their money.

Luckily, "Margin Call" is not a battle cry attempting to galvanize such a movement. Instead it humanizes the events of 2008 so many of us hear about but so little of us truly understand.

The film takes place over the course of day, as a firm realizes that their holdings of mortgage-backed securities are about to go sour. The bottom is about to drop out of the subprime market and in approximately 24 hours the company will be of no value.

The company decides to get out of the market, salvaging what they can while selling their worthless assets to uninformed buyers. The crisis is first

discovered by an analyst on the bottom of the financial totem pole. Over the course of the film, we watch as this piece of information moves its way



Photo courtesy of wthisnerdinglife.com

"Margin Call" gives viewers a look into the inner workings of Wall Street.

up to the top and leaves destruction in its wake. The script, by writer/director J.C Chandor, is an original written with a truncated eloquence.

His father, a former employee at Merrill Lynch, gives Chandor a background to intelligently write about the subject. The dialogue, quick and constant, fascinates the viewer. Its meticulous word choice allows the average non-Wall Street insider a lucid window in without compromising the film's authenticity.

For the characters, every conversation is a chess match, and it's a business deal. The characters enter into a precarious juggling act in which participants must completely protect their interests while practicing rabid opportunism.

Luckily, the cast in "Margin Call" is stacked with talent. It's an ensemble with the ability to take such an impressive creation off the page and run with it.

Jeremy Irons, Kevin Spacey, Demi Moore and Paul Bettany are all present, giving performances that are all busting with restrained energy. Jeremy Irons shines slightly brighter than most, playing the firm's duplicitous CEO. His scenes are an immense pleasure to watch as he orchestrates his character's pragmatism and hubris brilliantly.

Like Jeremy Irons, those at the top rarely get hurt when it hits the fan. Their position often protects their incompetence, and as we see in "Margin Call," it is almost always their professional inferiors that are sacrificed and the public that suffers.

People have growing disdain for the "one percent" who often feel their stature and affluence elevates their value over others.

However, "Margin Call" neither disputes nor proves these sentiments. It is not here to play the blame game or be any sort of arbiter of people's characters. The system and the story is what Chandor keeps the spotlight on — and both are replete with intrigue.

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-KEVIN NOONAN, SCENE EDITOR

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NOTRE DAME *style spotter*



MARIA FERNANDEZ /The Observer

By MARIA FERNANDEZ
Scene Writer

Name: Priscilla Nyankson

Spotted: Grace Hall

Priscilla definitely knows how to combine classic red, white and blue items, creating a chic ensemble for the day. Her white pencil skirt and striped navy blue shirt look great paired with a skinny bright red belt. Her brown booties perfectly complete the outfit. Priscilla looks cool, trendy and ready to take on these last few weeks of school in style.

Contact Maria Fernandez at mfernan5@nd.edu

VANESSA CARLTON COMES TO NOTRE DAME

By ADRIANA PRATT
Senior Scene Writer

She's making her way downtown, walking fast while the faces pass on Saturday night. So stop holding onto your secrets in white houses and head to Legends for what promises to be a fun and nostalgic Vanessa Carlton performance.

The 31-year-old singer and songwriter may have disappeared from the mainstream in recent years, but her tunes are still staples at both dorm and off-campus parties alike.

You would think her whimsical piano ballads draw primarily female audiences, but the number of Notre Dame men who can proudly belt out "White Houses" is astounding.

Carlton's career took off as a young girl, first in the world of ballet and then in front of the microphone. She attended Columbia University, was a waitress in Hell's Kitchen and performed in bars and clubs in Manhattan while still a college kid. And we Domers thought we were overachievers.

Her 2002 Grammy-nominated debut album "Be Not Nobody" went platinum and featured Carlton's first hit single "A Thousand Miles." Both "Ordinary Day" and "Pretty Baby" also came from the successful release and set Carlton's career on a promising path.

"Be Not Nobody's" follow-up record "Harmonium" debuted in 2004 and brought with it a powerful tune about losing one's innocence.

"White Houses," the first single off the album, became somewhat of a cult classic. Co-written by Stephan Jenkins, the lead singer of Third

Eye Blind, it took off amongst teens but didn't fare as well in the mainstream. In fact, MTV censored it for its controversial lyrics about losing one's virginity — yes, you read that right. MTV censored a piano ballad for its non-descript lyrics about sex.

The ties between Carlton and Third Eye Blind didn't end there. The singer opened for the band on tour and dated Jenkins for four years, according to Slate Magazine.

Coincidence that Notre Dame brought both to campus this year? Probably.

Carlton's recent hit, 2007's "Nolita Fairytale" off the album "Heroes & Thieves," harkens back to her past successes and challenges, depicting a singer who has matured. The lyrics speak to conquering tough times, living a real life and finding the fairytale within.

These days, Carlton is promoting her 2011 album "Rabbits on the Run."

She also performed with Gavin DeGraw

earlier this month at the third annual Origins Rocks Earth Month Concert to promote environmental awareness.

As the cherry atop AnTostal's event-filled sundae, Carlton's concert is sure to bring in a mass of devoted fans. And to make the draw even more enticing, Hip-Hop Night will follow the show, hosted by DJ 3J and senior Eugene Staples.

Seniors, remember those underage days when Legends was as hip as our hop got on a Saturday night? Let's bring it back, just one last time.

On a cloudy day, it's more common than you think to head to Legends for a little nostalgia and a lot of fun. Reminisce with Carlton about all the journeys we've been through and anticipate the learning still to come.

Contact Adriana Pratt at apratt@nd.edu



AP

Grammy-nominated singer and songwriter Vanessa Carlton will take the Legends stage this Saturday.

BOOKSTORE BASKETBALL

No. 1 The Legacy of Alex Klupchak heads to Final Four

Mendozer Bulldogs, Hoops We Did It Again and SWAG advance to next round of play



PAT COVENEY/The Observer

Graduate student John Rompf of No. 1 The Legacy of Alex Klupchak goes up for a shot in a Bookstore game April 26.

By ERNST CLEOFE and PETER STEINER

Sports Writers

The Legacy of Alex Klupchak def. You Knew It

Relying on its size and experience, No. 1 The Legacy of Alex Klupchak narrowly avoided the upset, taking down No. 8 You Knew It 23-21.

The game was even from the start, as both teams exchanged baskets from fast breaks and strong post play. The Legacy of Alex Klupchak jumped out to a 3-1 lead, but You Knew It returned fire with points in the paint from senior Taylor Williams and points off drives from senior J.T. Breveard.

Due to the windy conditions, players were forced to drive to the basket or make put-backs off of offensive rebounds. As a result, the physicality of the game escalated quickly.

"It got really physical, but everybody just played hard and that's the reason it got that physical out there," Breveard said.

Both teams racked up fouls near the end of the first half. Consequently, You Knew It made four-straight shots from the charity stripe to head into the half up two.

Free-throws proved to be the difference in the second half, as both teams entered the bonus by the time the score was tied 14-14. The Legacy of Alex Klupchak, composed of graduate students Bryan Pasciak, John Rompf, Zander Shadley, Fritz Shadley and Mauri Miller, combined for five free-throws in the second half, including the game-winner by Pasciak.

"Defense and free-throws wins championships," Pasciak said. "Zander Shadley hit a very big free-throw down the stretch, and that's what you have to do to win games."

The game swung back and forth, with nine ties and four lead changes in the second half alone. Despite strong play from Holy Cross students Williams, Breveard, junior Yama Kader, sophomore Brendan Burke and senior Zac Cook on You Knew It,

six points from Pasciak led the top-ranked team to victory.

"That was a very good team," Pasciak said. "It was a great test for us and a great way to get us ready for the Final Four."

No. 1 The Legacy of Alex Klupchak will look to take one step closer to a tournament title when it faces No. 4 SWAG on Saturday at 3 p.m. in the Final Four.

Mendozer Bulldogs def. One More Time for Old Times' Sake

After the tough loss, tenth-seeded One More Time for Old Times' Sake senior Joe Idaszak could only describe the No. 2 Mendozer Bulldogs' effort in the 21-6 win with two words.

"They're good," Idaszak said.

The Bulldogs featured three seniors in Chris Jung, Griffin Naylor and captain Patrick Kelly, as well as sophomores Thomas Hickey and Tyler Sonsalla. The Bulldogs dominated the game on the defensive side of the ball and converted that energy into instant offense. The Bulldogs had suffocating defense using switches on the ball.

"We played really solid defense and we turned that into points on offense," Hickey said. "During the entire tournament, our goal has been to stop the other team from scoring."

One More Time for Old Times' Sake was made up entirely of seniors in Idaszak, Corey Scott, Ed Redden, Wes Howard and captain Brian Schafer. One More Time had difficulty breaking down the opposing defensive switches.

"Today wasn't our best effort, but we weren't meant to make it this far anyway," Schafer said. "But either way, we played hard and I'm really proud of our team."

The Bulldogs used their defensive acumen and size and ball-handling capabilities to dominate the paint on the offensive side. Combined, their skill on both ends of the floor was enough to overwhelm One More Time.

One More Time tried breaking the defense with isolations late in the game, but good footwork and defense in the paint from the Bulldogs prevented any runs.

"Honestly, I think they're the best team left in the tourna-

ment," Schafer said. "They have size, defense and great ball-handling. They have everything you need to win this."

SWAG def. Real Decent

In a brutal physical matchup that featured tough calls prompting crowd outrage, fourth-seeded SWAG earned the victory by forcing No. 5 Real Decent to commit turnovers and turning them into offense.

SWAG — comprised of juniors Tebo Barnett, Ryan Dunbar, Nate Carr, Mike Broghammer and senior Tim Van Harmelen — focused on taking advantage of its size and pounding the ball down low. Dunbar and Van Harmelen provided balance with good outside shooting coming off of screens.

"Our size was definitely our biggest asset," Carr said. "It helped us get easy buckets on offense."

Seniors Will Gesicki, J.P. McCabe, Bobby Huffman, Joe Mezyk and captain Garrett Quinn made up Real Decent. The team struggled to get the ball on the inside against the 2-3 zone from SWAG, but in total, their energy and quickness kept the team in the game.

"It was tough out there with Broghammer and all the size they have," Quinn said. "But we still did a pretty good job out there on defense. We definitely beat up on Broghammer and Dunbar a bit."

Each team played physically throughout the game and throughout the first half defense dominated the game. Although SWAG's size started to pull away late in first half, two loud blocks from Gesicki turned into fast break points to keep the score close.

In the second half, the physical play continued, and the referees were forced to make tough calls. The crowd heavily supported Real Decent and almost stormed the court.

Midway through the second, SWAG's defense became the difference-maker. With Real Decent struggling to score inside against SWAG's height, Dunbar and Van Harmelen became aggressive and forced turnovers on the perimeter that led to five second-half points that helped seal the victory, 21-16.

"Our offense was directly sparked by our defense," Dun-

bar said. "That was a big part of our win."

Hoops We Did It Again def. The Killer Fraileys

Freshman Darrell McIntyre's emphatic dunk to finish the Elite Eight matchup exemplified the type of game Hoops We Did It Again played all night — aggressive and dominating.

Utilizing their length, leaping ability and transition offense, Hoops We Did It Again defeated The Killer Fraileys 21-8 to move onto the Final Four.

Hoops We Did It Again sprinted out of the gate, going on a 6-1 run to start the game. The Killer Fraileys struggled to keep up with Hoops We Did It Again's transition offense, which generated a majority of its points throughout the game.

"We are pretty upset with the way we came out," Killer Fraileys junior Ryan Robinson said. "We started out the game flat. We thought we came out in the second half better, but they are a real good team."

While Hoops We Did It Again headed into halftime with an 11-3 lead, the Killer Fraileys, composed of juniors Robinson, Chris Herlihy, Brian Dunlap, Kevin Dunn and senior Steve Brown, displayed its resiliency in the second half by trading baskets with Hoops We Did It Again until the score increased to 15-7.

But Hoops We Did It Again pulled away, making use of its length and athleticism to close the passing lanes, get steals and contest any shot by The Killer Fraileys.

"I think we rebounded well and got some steals and played solid defense," McIntyre said. "We were missing a lot of easy shots. We covered the lane more, and tried to get rebounds and try to get the ball out."

Freshmen McIntyre, George Stainko, Alajowon Edwards and Zoe Bauer and Notre Dame Sports Properties employee Beau Bauer make up the No. 3 Hoops We Did It Again, whose goal for the tournament is very clear.

"It's tough competition but we expect to win the whole thing," McIntyre said.

Contact Ernst Cleofe at ecleofe@nd.edu and Peter Steiner at psteiner@nd.edu

Captain

continued from page 20

when he was tabbed by the Vikings at No. 29 overall. Smith controlled the Notre Dame defensive backfield en route to recording 90 tackles in his senior season. He joins former Irish tight end Kyle Rudolph on the Minnesota roster.

"Harrison Smith is one of the best leaders I've ever had on any of my teams," Kelly said. "He is an intelligent and instinctual player on the field, and a true student of the game off the field."

The 2012 NFL Draft continues Friday at 7 p.m., with a handful of former Irish players still awaiting selection.

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SMC SOFTBALL

Belles propel forward with doubleheader victory

By NICK BOYLE
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's swept their doubleheader Thursday, defeating Manchester by scores of 3-2 and 9-8.

The wins mark a near-record number of wins for the Belles (26-10, 9-6 MIAA).

"I'm very proud of our girls' accomplishments this season," Belles coach Erin Sullivan said. "This is the most wins we have had since 2007, second-most in program history."

The first game proved to be a close contest dominated by pitching.

Saint Mary's struck first,

scoring in the top of the second. Freshman first baseman Michelle Duncan came through with an RBI single for the visiting Belles, putting them up 1-0.

Manchester (18-20, 7-7 Heartland) responded by tallying runs in the second and fourth innings to claim a 2-1 lead.

Down to their last at-bats, Saint Mary's rallied back to take the lead. Senior centerfielder Lauren Enayati drove in the tying run with an RBI single. Sophomore pitcher Callie Selner followed with a bases-loaded walk to push across the winning run for the Belles.

Selner then closed out the

game on the mound, finishing off her complete-game win. She allowed no earned runs, while only giving up five hits.

"Game one was a real pitcher's duel," Sullivan said. "Selner threw a great game for us — gave up only 4 singles."

The second game was much more of an offensive contest, with 17 total runs scored.

Saint Mary's jumped out to an early lead, and after three innings held a slim 5-4 advantage. The Belles then plated three in the fifth inning, taking a four-run lead.

The Spartans came back to tie the game at 8-8 entering the seventh inning. Selner came up

big once again for Saint Mary's, hitting a two-out double to drive in the winning run in the top of the seventh.

"We showed great mental toughness entering the seventh inning, down a run in the first game and tied 8-8 in seventh inning of the second game," Sullivan said.

The Belles next take on Alma at home on Saturday. It will be senior day for the Belles, and a win will secure a berth in the MIAA tournament. First pitch against the Scots is scheduled for 2 p.m.

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WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Irish excited to honor seniors, fight cancer at game

By JACK HEFFERON
Sports Writer

Coming off a devastating 17-7 loss to No. 1 Northwestern on Wednesday, No. 6 Notre Dame will look to bounce back, honor its seniors and help find a cure for cancer in a single game against Cincinnati on Saturday.

After besting some of the top teams in the nation this season, the Irish (12-3, 5-2 Big East) were excited for the chance to take on the Wildcat dynasty. Northwestern has won six of the last seven national championships. The Wildcats were able to force Notre Dame out of its usual game though, and overpowered the Irish's upset efforts.

"Everybody was disappointed with the final outcome, especially when we made mistakes that were uncharacteristic of

us," Irish coach Christine Halfpenny said. "We had some turnovers we typically don't have, we had some opportunities we just didn't finish on. It's just tough."

After the tough loss and a late return from Evanston, Ill., — not to mention four games in 11 days — Halfpenny elected to give her team the day off on Thursday.

"[Thursday] was a day to take stock in what an awesome journey it's been to this point, relax, rejuvenate and come back ready to take another step forward," Halfpenny said. "We want to close out the regular season on a high note."

Notre Dame will look to cap off the season against Cincinnati (3-11, 0-6), a team that has traditionally fallen at the bottom of the conference standings. The Bearcats have yet to

win a conference game since joining the Big East in 2008.

Despite their in-league struggles, Halfpenny said Cincinnati will still pose a physically-imposing challenge to her players.

"They have a lot of heart," she said. "These guys battle, they've got nice speed and they're very athletic. Plus they'll be looking for their first-ever Big East win, so that's something you can't look past."

Notre Dame is coming off an important game, and will be playing a weak opponent. Throw in the fact that Notre Dame is locked into the No. 3 seed for the Big East playoffs, and Saturday's matchup might appear to be a classic trap game for the Irish.

However, Halfpenny said her team will be as motivated as ever when they take the field.

"I think we've done a really good job — especially our leaders on the field — in keeping the team focused and remembering that lacrosse is a game of momentum," Halfpenny said. "Cincinnati has done a good job of scoring on everybody this year, and we know what they're capable of. I'm excited to see how hungry they are when that first whistle goes off."

The Irish will also draw inspiration from two other celebrations associated with the season finale. Notre Dame will raise funds and awareness for cancer research as part of its second annual "Lax for the Cure" festivities.

In addition, the team will celebrate its eight seniors before the game as part of their last regular season home match.

While this may be Halfpen-

ny's first year with the program, she said she has already formed a lifelong bond with her senior leaders.

"This is going to be a really special group for me throughout the remainder of my career at Notre Dame," she said. "They have embraced all the change that was necessary for us to succeed this season, and they've showed such great leadership. These eight will always have a special place in my heart ... They've laid the first brick of this new foundation, and I'm really excited to honor them on Saturday."

On a Saturday full of lacrosse at Arlotta Stadium, Cincinnati and Notre Dame will face off at noon.

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MEN'S GOLF

Notre Dame ends regular season with momentum



ASHLEY DACY/The Observer

Senior Ryan Coughlin watches his ball travel during the Battle at the Warren on April 22. The Irish took first place.

By CONOR KELLY
Sports Writer

The Irish started the spring regular season with a tournament victory. With their win at the Battle at the Warren last weekend, they ended it with one as well. Now, the Irish hope to continue their winning ways as they head to the Big East tournament at the Reunion Resort Watson Course in Orlando, Fla.

After a spring of competing against the top competition in the country, the Irish will be in the unusual position of tournament favorites as they descend on the Sunshine State, Irish coach Jim Kubinski said.

"I think I'd consider us and South Florida as co-favorites going into the tournament," Kubinski said. "I think GolfStat has us a couple spots above them, but I consider us pretty even. We're going to have to put up good scores."

Registering four solid scores has been an issue for the Irish all spring, with the lineup get-

ting murky after its clear-No. 1, senior Max Scodro. Sophomore Niall Platt has shown flashes of brilliance, but it is getting four top scores that has kept the Irish from challenging top teams like Arkansas and Alabama.

"Especially after last weekend, we're feeling very good about our team going into the tournament," Kubinski said. "I thought our guys did a great job in cold and windy weather. It will be much nicer to be 87 and sunny in Orlando."

In order to defend their 2011 Big East championship, the Irish will have to stave off a slew of challengers in Louisville and South Florida, amongst. In addition, Kubinski said there is always one team that steps up and challenges unexpectedly at the Big East tournament.

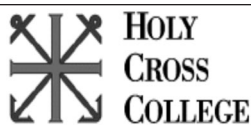
"It's all about getting hot at the right time," Kubinski said. "We're obviously very focused on South Florida and Louisville, but there's always someone who comes out of the woodwork."

The Irish will return to the Reunion Watson Course, the site of February's The Match Play tournament in which the Irish claimed the first of their two victories on the spring. The team's added experience will be important, given the Irish need at least a second place finish to advance to NCAA tournament.

"Right now, the NCAA is looking at taking about 71 teams for the national tournament, and right now we're sitting at about 68 or so," Kubinski said. "We're probably one of the last four in. I don't know if [ESPN basketball analyst] Joe Lunardi does bracketology for collegiate golf, but we're definitely right on the bubble. If we finish second, we may drop down a couple spots and still get in, but if we don't finish in the top two, I don't like our chances."

The Irish begin the Big East championships April 29 in Orlando, Fla.

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continued from page 20

on ESPN.

This is exactly how lacrosse should be. It should be played in front of sold-out stadiums, broadcast nationally and be the highlight of a spring weekend in sports. But across the country, that is not necessarily the case.

As a Baltimore native, I grew up surrounded by lacrosse. The league in which my high school played was consistently one of the best in the country, and I had the luxury of being able to watch great college lacrosse on TV every Saturday.

While I knew the game was primarily an East Coast phenomenon with pockets of presence in places like Colorado, Ohio and California, I never realized the lack of awareness for the game until I came to Notre Dame. Some people

had never seen it played, and still others had never even heard of it.

But I am happy to see how quickly the game is spreading. I am always hearing from friends that their high schools just started programs, that students have decided to start playing interhall lacrosse even though they have no experience and that people are coming to the games because they are interested in learning about the sport.

It has fast-paced, hard-hitting precision and brute force style. It should appeal to anyone who likes hockey, football or basketball.

Saturday evening will be a perfect opportunity to watch two of the nation's best go head to head. The Irish (10-1, 5-0 Big East) stand atop the Big East standings and have a chance to finish the conference schedule undefeated. Their only loss came to a solid Penn State team in overtime back in February. Syracuse (7-6, 3-2), on the

other hand, has had a relatively rough season. I say "relatively" because many programs would love to be ranked, playing on ESPN and in the running for an NCAA tournament bid. But as it is, the Orange have 11 NCAA national championships, four pre-NCAA national championships and 25 Final Four appearances in their history. They simply are not accustomed to entering their final regular season game with six losses and as a severe underdog.

The Native Americans invented lacrosse as a ritualistic war game with teams of up to 1,000 men on fields up to three kilometers long. While the Irish and the Orange will be limited to the 110-yard by 60-yard parameters and 10 members on the field, we can still expect an absolute battle in Arlotta on Saturday.

And that is just the way it should be.

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SPORTS AUTHORITY

Arkansas made poor choice hiring Smith

8-5, 5-7, 5-6 and 4-8. The four preceding sets of numbers were the records for the Michigan State football program from 2003-2006.

The Spartans were led those years by coach John L. Smith. And now, Smith is back in the BCS head coaching ranks. After coaching special teams at

Arkansas from 2009-2011, Smith left to become head coach at his alma mater Weber State this offseason.

When Razorbacks coach Bobby Petrino was fired for his now infamous scandal, Smith headed back to Arkansas, this time as head coach. He was introduced to the media by Arkansas athletic director Jeff Long on April 24.

The Razorbacks made the wrong decision.

The line of thinking behind the hire probably was that Smith is familiar with the program after his three seasons there, unlike Taver Johnson, an offseason assistant hire who was briefly the interim coach for two weeks after Petrino's firing. Additionally, Johnson has zero head coaching experience. Smith's knowledge of Arkansas and head coaching experience made him the choice.

It sounds like sound logic on the surface, but it fails.

Smith has had success as a head coach before at non-BCS stops, including Idaho, Utah State and Louisville (which was in Conference USA during Smith's tenure). But there's a difference between winning at non-BCS schools and winning in one of the "Power Six" conferences.

Some coaches have the ability to take success at lower levels of college football and translate it to the BCS level. Some don't. And Smith's failure with the Spartans shows he doesn't have it. It wasn't the program he was at, either. After making just one bowl in four seasons under Smith, Michigan State has gone bowling each of the past five years under Mark Dantonio and came just short of

the Rose Bowl last year.

As big of a step up as the Big Ten is from non-BCS conferences, the SEC is an even greater challenge. If Smith couldn't succeed at Michigan State, how will he in the best conference in college football?

There is a reason he was out of a coaching job for three years after his time at Michigan State. There is a reason that when he reentered coaching, it was not as a head coach or even a coordinator, but as a special teams coach. There is a reason he is more famous for both a meltdown halftime interview during the Spartans' 2005 loss at Ohio State and slapping himself in the face following a 2006 collapse against Notre Dame (both great YouTube clips) than he is for his coaching ability.

Of course, Arkansas may be thinking the 2012 season is now lost without Petrino and hired Smith to be a temporary solution. After all, he only signed a 10-month contract. There will likely be a search for a permanent coach after the season, and Smith is simply leading Arkansas through the turmoil.

But if the year is now a throwaway — which would be a shame for a team that's widely regarded as one of the top 15 in the country — then why not just go with Johnson and see if he's a potential permanent option? On the opposite end of the spectrum, if the Razorbacks are seriously trying to contend for an SEC championship, then again why not choose Johnson? Smith has shown he cannot do it. Maybe Johnson could have.

We will never know now. What we do know is the fate of the Razorbacks this year is in the hands of a man who hasn't been responsible for anything on a football field besides special teams in the past five years. And the last time he was, the results were disastrous.

Good luck, Arkansas.

Contact Sam Gans at sgans@nd.edu

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



Sam Gans

Sports Writer

MLB

Rangers lead MLB standings



Rangers outfielder Josh Hamilton greets teammate Ian Kinsler after Kinsler scored during a game in Seattle. The Rangers currently are in first place in the MLB with a 15-4 record.

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — The Texas Rangers are sending a clear message to anyone wondering how they would recover from that crushing World Series loss.

There is no hangover effect from being so agonizingly close to winning it all.

The Rangers (15-4) entered Thursday's off day with the best record in the majors. The two-time defending American League champions have won their first six series in a season for the first time in franchise history. They lead the majors in hitting, with a .295 average and 31 home runs, and have one of the top pitching staffs as well.

"It tells you that they've put the World Series behind them and they're dealing with this season, and they feel like that they're as good as any team in baseball," team president Nolan Ryan said. "And I think they want to prove that."

Only six months ago, the Rangers were twice within a strike of a World Series-clinching victory before losing Game 6 in extra innings at St. Louis. They jumped to a 2-0 lead in the first inning of Game 7 before losing that game as well.

"Yeah, it hurt at the time. Of course it did," second baseman Ian Kinsler said. "But it has no bearing on the games we're playing now. We all love to compete and we want to win as many games as possible."

At their current pace, they would win 128 games this season.

While it's highly unlikely they will reach that total, the fast start reinforces what the Rangers consistently said throughout the offseason and during spring training. They are focused on 2012 and trying to get to the World Series again, not what happened last

October.

"We're a confident group. We go out to win every day, we kind of expect to go out there to win and play a good game on defense, offense and get good pitching," catcher Mike Napoli said. "We're playing good team baseball right now. We're playing how we want to play. We expect to play good, so I don't think it's surprising that we're having a good start. But we're glad we're off to this start."

Texas already leads Oakland and Seattle by 5½ games in the AL West. The Los Angeles Angels, one of the preseason favorites, are off to a rough start and are nine back.

"It's good to see the guys with the same mentality and attitude that they had last year," said Rangers star Josh Hamilton, who is hitting .390 with eight home runs and 19 RBIs.

Manager Ron Washington is basically using the same everyday lineup he did last season, since the top-hitting team is unchanged.

"We have a good understanding of what we expect out of each other," said Kinsler, the leadoff hitter whose new \$75 million, five-year contract through 2017 makes him one of league's top-paid second basemen.

After a career-best 30 homers last season, Napoli already has seven this year. Michael Young, the longest-tenured Ranger in his 12th season, is hitting .356.

The Rangers have scored a majors-best 107 runs, more than twice as many as the AL-low 52 runs they have allowed. That means they're outscoring teams by an average of nearly three runs a game.

They're the only team this season that hasn't lost consecutive games — the only time they have since losing three in a row against Boston last August were those final two World Series games. They have won a franchise-record 12 consecutive

regular-season series, dating to last season.

C.J. Wilson, who signed with the Angels in the offseason, has been replaced in the starting rotation by Yu Darvish (3-0, 2.42 ERA), who has gotten better in each of his four starts. The Japanese standout, the Rangers' big offseason acquisition, struck out 10 in 8 1-3 scoreless innings against the New York Yankees on Tuesday night.

Matt Harrison (3-0, 1.66 ERA) and Colby Lewis (2-0, 2.03 ERA) are off to solid starts. Derek Holland (2-1), the 25-year-old left-hander who got a new five-year contract during the offseason, has a team-high 4.78 ERA only because of one rough outing against the Yankees.

The Rangers' 2.62 ERA is the AL's best. Only one other time have they gotten this far in a season with that number so low, back in 1983.

Joe Nathan, their new closer who came from Minnesota, has five saves and bounced back from two early losses. Rookie Robbie Ross (4-0), the only lefty in the bullpen though he wasn't even really in the team's plans before his impressive spring, was tied for the major league lead in victories. He is first pitcher in the majors since at least 1918 to earn four relief appearances.

Along with the hitting and pitching, the Rangers have made only seven errors. Shortstop Elvis Andrus has been flawless in his 82 fielding chances, and has gone 51 games without an error.

"We're playing good baseball. ... We're just playing complete baseball," Washington said. "Our mindset is let's try to play the best game we possibly can that day, try to do the things the game asks us to do, and you find out that you'll have more fun than that. And we're having fun."

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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TRACK AND FIELD

Irish prepare for last chance to qualify for championships



GRANT TOBIN/The Observer

Sophomore Ann Marie Kelly, left, senior Sasha Blanchard and freshman Carly Loeffel, right, warm up on the hurdles during the Blue and Gold Meet at home Dec. 2.

By BRIAN HARTNETT
Sports Writer

With the Big East outdoor championships set to begin next weekend, Notre Dame will look to make its final preparations toward its goal of a conference title at a pair of relays this weekend. Several team

members will travel to Hillsdale, Mich., to compete in the Hillsdale Gina Relays, while select Irish relay teams and athletes will journey to Des Moines, Iowa, to participate in the famed Drake Relays.

Notre Dame will send a large contingent of runners, throwers and jumpers to Hillsdale,

a meet featuring hundreds of competitors ranging from the Division I level to NAIA teams. Although the Irish have set the majority of their squad for the Big East meet, Irish coach Joe Piane said good performances at the Hillsdale Gina Relays will allow some team members to punch their ticket to Tampa for

the conference championships.

"[The Hillsdale Gina Relays] is going to help some kids ensure a spot at the Big East," Piane said. "It will also help some [team members] who have qualified and may need to run a little bit better in order to ensure an opportunity to go to the Big East."

Piane said he is looking forward to watching sophomore sprinter Jarrod Buchanon compete in the 400-meter hurdles and observing several long-distance runners, particularly sophomore Meg Ryan in the 1,500-meter event and senior Susanna Sullivan in the 5,000-meter race.

A significant component of Notre Dame's competitors at Hillsdale will be the Irish field team, a crucial part of the recipe for capturing a Big East title. The Irish will send their entire squad of throwers to Hillsdale and will have multiple entries in the pole vault, long jump and hammer throw, among other field events. This team helped contribute to Notre Dame's eight victories at the Polytan Invitational in Bloomington, Ind., last week, as senior pole-vaulter Kevin Schipper and freshman jumper Keith Mesidor won the pole vault and long jump events, respectively, for the men. On the women's side, sophomore jumper Kelly Burke took home a victory in the triple jump.

Meanwhile, several Irish relay teams will participate in their final tune-ups for the Big East meet against tough competition in Des Moines. The men's 4x100-meter, 4x400-meter and 4x800-meter relay teams will all race, while

the women's 4x400-meter and 4x800-meter relay teams will also compete in the relays. Although the relay teams haven't competed often in the outdoor season, the progress of the individual members on the relay teams gives the Irish much confidence, Piane said.

"To be candid, we haven't run the men's or women's 4x800 [relays] since the indoor season, so it's really up to how each of the individuals have progressed," Piane said. "They've done a very good job — this is the best women's 4x800 team we've had in probably forever, and the men feel very confident they can run roughly 1:50 a man [in the 4x800-meter relay]."

In addition to the relay teams, several of Notre Dame's top athletes will compete at Drake, including Schipper in the pole vault, senior multi-event athlete Maddie Buttinger in the long jump and sophomore jumper Logan Renwick in the triple jump.

As the regular outdoor season winds to a close for the Irish, Piane said the Irish are committed to their goal of winning a conference title.

"That's always the goal for both genders," Piane said on winning the Big East championships. "The women need to improve vastly on what they did indoors, and the men will face their biggest competition from Connecticut, who is very good."

The Irish commence competition at the Drake Relays and the Hillsdale Gina Relays today, and both meets conclude Saturday.

Contact Brian Hartnett at
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SMC TENNIS

Belles seek final win despite lost MIAA hopes

By ISAAC LORTON
Sports Writer

Now mathematically eliminated from qualifying for the MIAA conference tournament, Saint Mary's will not be backing down in its final conference match against conference-leading Hope on Saturday. The Belles (10-8, 3-4 MIAA) are playing for the win against the Flying Dutch (15-7, 7-0 MIAA) as they always do, Belles coach Dale Campbell said.

"You never know," Campbell said. "We know it's an uphill battle and that we can't make the tournament but we will always play for the win."

Campbell said that in order to beat the Flying Dutch, the Belles will need to continue their strong play in doubles and get some key wins in singles, as well.

"[The Flying Dutch] are pretty equal across the board in singles from what I've seen," Campbell said. "I think our best chances are at the top and [we'll] try to exploit any advantage we can get."

As his team heads into the last conference game of the season, Campbell believes the Belles have reached certain goals set for the season, but failed to accomplish their main goal.

"We did fall short of our goals, yes," Campbell said. "The five-four

loss to Alma was tough and we want that one back. The six-three loss to Kalamazoo was tough too. We were up by three and they just outplayed us in singles."

There is a silver lining to the Belles' season, Campbell said.

"We have never folded under pressure and for this freshman-dominated team, that's an accomplishment," Campbell said. "Also, we aimed for a winning season and so far we have accomplished that."

Campbell is pleased with how his three sophomore captains — Margaret Boden, Mary Catherine Faller and Sarah Monte — have become better leaders as the season has developed.

"Our leaders have learned, and still are learning how to lead," Campbell said. "They are only sophomores."

Campbell said the team has grown a great deal, and the entire lineup will be returning next year.

"We have two and three years left out of our players," Campbell said. "With the way they played this year, it is a great sign for next year."

The Belles will host the Flying Dutch, as they look to sink the undefeated conference leaders Saturday at 4 p.m.

Contact Isaac Lorton at
ilorton@nd.edu



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ROWING

Irish hope to carry on hot streak at invite

By JOE WIRTH
Sports Writer

After turning in strong showings in back-to-back nonconference matchups, the Irish look to continue their success against some familiar foes at this weekend's Big East Invite.

The Irish began their current hot streak with an impressive showing at Virginia Invite, where they won seven of 12 races. They continued their strong rowing last weekend with three race victories against Stanford and USC, two of the top programs in the country.

This weekend's event is the last regular season race for the Irish and they hope to send a message to the rest of the conference with their performance.

Sophomore Molly Bruggeman said it is crucial for Notre Dame to stay in good form, because this weekend's event is the last race before the Big East Championships. She also explained how the Irish have to remain sharp if they are going to defend their Big East title.

"This weekend's races are really just a preview for the Big Easts in a couple of weeks," Bruggeman said. "It is just another step in our

season. We have raced the last couple of weeks and races well. If we want to repeat as Big East champs, we have to continue to race hard this week. We are excited for the opportunity we have to show our stuff this weekend."

The Big East Invite also provides an opportunity for the whole team to compete. Most boats will be racing and it will allow some new members to show what they can do in the water.

"This weekend's races are really just a preview for the Big Easts in a couple of weeks."

Molly Bruggeman
Irish sophomore

"This weekend will be the first time some girls, especially those who came in the fall, will be able to race. It will be a little different, but it is great for some of the news girls to get some experience" Bruggeman said.

With a good showing this weekend, the Irish will solidify their role as one of the favorites heading into the Big East Championships in two weeks.

The races will begin Saturday in Indianapolis.

Contact Joe Wirth at
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BASEBALL

ND set for series with St. John's



GRANT TOBIN/The Observer

Junior catcher Joe Hudson returns a pitch in a 6-2 Irish loss to Cincinnati on April 15 in Frank Eck Stadium.

By JACK HEFFERON
Sports Writer

Fans at Frank Eck Stadium will be in for a treat this weekend, as two of the Big East's top teams will square off in a key midseason series.

The Irish (22-17, 9-6 Big East) currently sit fourth in the Big East standings after winning five of their last six games in conference. They will host conference-leading St. John's (25-16, 11-4) for a Friday doubleheader and a series finale on Sunday.

Irish coach Mik Aoki said that he thinks his team may have begun to hit its stride in conference play, and hopes it can continue its solid run of league play against the Red Storm.

"I thought that at Georgetown we had turned a little bit of a corner there," Aoki said. "Between the Cincinnati and Georgetown series we had won five of six so [we've] started to feel a little more positive about ourselves."

Despite its recent dominant play in the Big East, Notre Dame will come in with something to prove after a loss to Central Michigan on Wednesday. The Irish jumped out to a 3-1 lead after the first inning, but the Chippewas (18-24, 7-8 Mid-American) stormed back and shut down the Irish lineup en route to a 9-4 win.

Aoki said his team will need to improve in nearly every aspect of the game after such a disappointing defeat.

"We have got to play a hell of a lot better," he said. "We have got to pitch a lot better. We have got to defend a lot better. And we have got to hit a lot better. So that probably covers it."

In addition to their own issues, the Irish will also need to deal with the Red Storm's depth. St. John's has seven regular players batting over .300, and also boasts the reigning Big East Pitcher of the Week, junior Kyle Hansen. Hansen led St. John's to a sweep of Cincinnati last weekend through a dominant complete-game shutout on Sunday, in which he walked no batters and had a career-high 16 strikeouts.

With such a tough opponent, Aoki said that the Red Storm will not allow the Irish to succeed if Notre Dame repeats Wednesday's mistakes.

"We have got to play better than [we did against Central Michigan] in order to be where we want them to be at the end of the year," he said. "And if we play like that, we are not going to be. If we play like that this weekend we are going to lose three games."

The heated conference matchup will begin at Frank Eck Stadium with a doubleheader on Friday. The first game will start at 2:35 p.m., with the second following 30-40 minutes after the final out. The rubber match is slated for Sunday, where first pitch is scheduled for 1:05 p.m.

Contact Jack Hefferon at
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Clark

continued from page 20

Clark and the Irish will have another opportunity for a stunning snapshot tonight, when they take on Mexico's under-20 team at Alumni Stadium.

The scrimmage against Mexico will be the final contest slated in a busy spring season for the Irish that began with a 2-2 draw against Major League Soccer's Columbus Crew. Notre

Dame has also faced Michigan and Indiana, among others, this spring.

Clark said the Irish have used the spring to try and rebuild their back line, now left empty by departing players Michael Knapp, Aaron Maund and Greg Klazura.

"These are holes we need to fill," Clark said. "[The Mexico game] will really test us [on defense]. This is a really good testing game to see where we are."

The under-20 roster will fea-

ture five players that were on the World Cup-winning under-17 Mexican national team. Clark said one of the Mexican players, Carlos Guzman, even had to leave the team suddenly because of an injury on his club team, Monarcas Morelia.

This game will mark the seventh time in eight years the Irish will host a Mexican national team. Notre Dame carries a 4-1-1 mark all-time against those teams that includes a 2-1 setback to the under-17 team last year.

"[The United States is] their main opponent. I think the more experience they can get against younger U.S. players, the better," Clark said. "They enjoy it. They come play us and then go down and play Indiana, which are two really good teams."

The Irish and the under-20 Mexican national team will kick off tonight at 7 p.m. in Alumni Stadium.

Women's Soccer vs. Haiti

Before the men's soccer team takes the field against the U-20 Mexican national team, Irish coach Randy Waldrum will lead the women's team against the Haitian national team at 4:30 p.m.

Usually the Irish face the Mexican national team each spring, but things quickly changed when the Mexican team qualified for the 2012 London Olympics. Waldrum, however, said he welcomes the change to Notre Dame's spring slate, especially because of the way it benefits the visiting team.

"I am excited for a couple of reasons," Waldrum said. "The first thing is with the disaster with the earthquake and all that the county has gone through, it is a great opportu-

nity to get out of the country and tour."

Haiti is led by former Indiana FC coach Shek Borkowski, who led Indiana FC to Women's Premier Soccer League titles in 2005 and 2007. Waldrum admitted he didn't know much about the Haitian team, and said Borkowski has been around Indiana long enough to know how to play the Irish.

"[Haiti] has been training here and typically they don't have a lot of funding," Waldrum said. "They have so very little, but bringing them over here was a great idea. And they have been playing together and training, so I expect them to be pretty good."

"They know our team well, with Shek being from the area. And I know close to zero about their players. Everything is just word-of-mouth."

The Irish lost six seniors from last year's squad, including three-time All-American forward Melissa Henderson as well as two other captains. And with an outstanding incoming class of freshmen, the Irish are in need of a bona fide leader.

"We are pretty thin this spring, down to 13 players," Waldrum said. "It has been a good spring getting to know the team, but it is not the team we had in the fall. Some of the players are stepping up to take that leadership position. Although I don't think anyone really has any international experience, so they are really looking forward to this one."

The Irish will host the Haitian national team at 4:30 p.m. today at Alumni Stadium.

Contact Matthew DeFranks at
mdefrank@nd.edu and Andrew Gastelum at agastell1@nd.edu



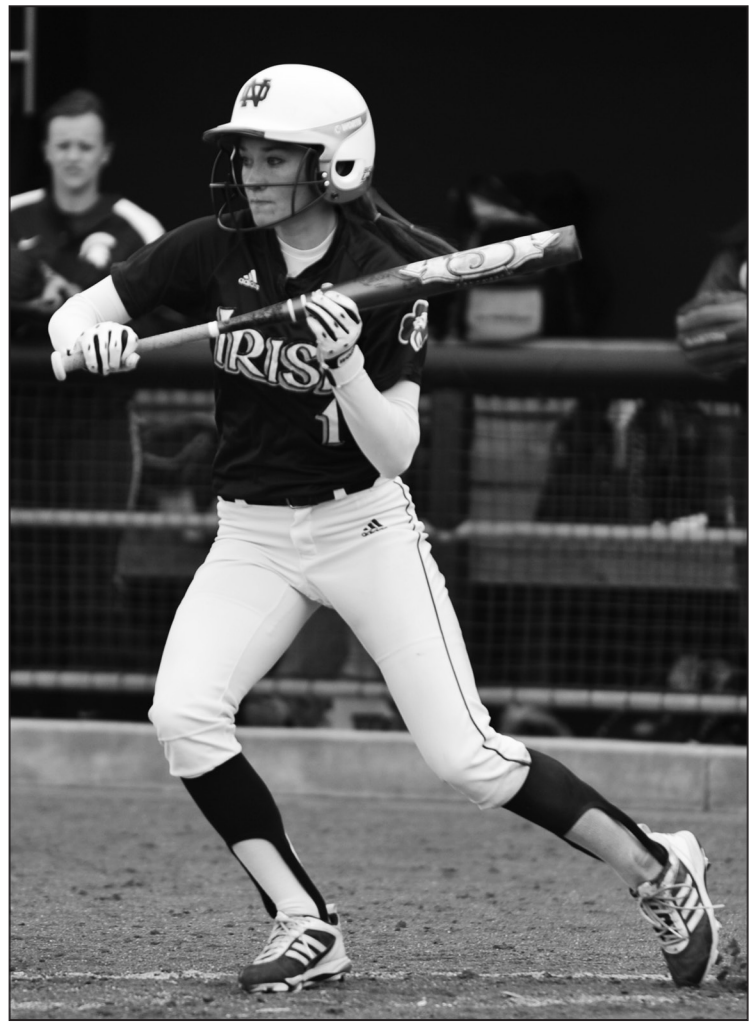
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ASHLEY DACY/The Observer

Junior outfielder Kelsey Thornton bunts during an Irish 7-1 win over Michigan State on April 24.

Friars

continued from page 20

from the Big East advance to the conference tournament, and the Friars currently find themselves in 10th place with six games to go. Gumpf said Notre Dame needs to stay in control against its feisty opponent by scoring runs.

"[Providence] is better than their record shows," Gumpf said. "They beat Seton Hall — who we just beat — in two out of three games ... They're scrappy and they have a good offense but we need to attack the ball offensively. We need to score a lot so we can stay in control of the game."

The Irish will likely face senior pitcher Alicia Grosso and junior pitcher Corinne Clauss over the weekend. The Notre Dame offense has averaged just over five runs a game during its recent eight-game winning streak. Gumpf said the key to scoring runs against the likes of Grosso and Clauss is putting runners on base.

"We really have to have a great offensive team threat," Gumpf said. "When we get runners on we score. We've done that against everyone for the most part but it's really important down the stretch so we can let our speed take over."

The Irish have excelled in putting runners on base recently, and senior first baseman Dani Miller has been driving them in. The California native, who has homered in each of her last three games and five of her last seven, now leads the team with 12 home runs, 83 total bases and a .680 slugging percentage.

"There's never a day that [Miller] isn't working to better her swing a little bit," Gumpf said. "She's never satisfied. She has been focused on making a few adjustments and it's been huge. She looks like

a different hitter because she has been working hard with hitting coach Lizzy [Lemire]."

While the offense has been steady for Notre Dame, the pitching and defense have been equally consistent during the last month, a time span in which the Irish have won 18 of 21 games.

Sophomore pitcher Laura Winter — who threw a no-hitter Saturday against DePaul — has been the workhorse of the staff, completing 19 of her team-leading 27 starts. Winter is 20-8 with a 1.95 ERA and is looking to continue her recent success, Gumpf said.

"Right now it's at the point where every outing has to be a good one, if only to stay consistent coming down the stretch," Gumpf said.

Gumpf said the team is also hoping junior pitcher Brittany O'Donnell can pick up right where she left off against Seton Hall on Wednesday.

"I'm expecting more from [O'Donnell]," Gumpf said. "She dominated Seton Hall in those last few innings so that was good to see. We really need to get outings like that from her."

The Irish square off with Providence on Saturday at 12 p.m. and again at 2 p.m. at Raymond Field in Providence, R.I. The teams return Sunday to conclude the series at 12 p.m.

Contact Mike Monaco at mjmonaco@nd.edu

SMC GOLF

Belles travel for anticipated meet

By ANDREW CARDOZA
Sports Writer

The Belles will travel to Marshall, Mich., for the final two rounds of the MIAA NCAA qualifier today, the biggest meet of their season thus far. The team with the lowest three-round score will earn the conference's automatic spot in May's NCAA Division III championship.

"This meet gives us the ability to allow our season to continue," Belles coach Mark Hamilton said. "We have had a long season and we now know what it takes to stick with some of the top teams in the country."

In this qualification meet, the Belles will face very competitive play from conference rivals and host, Olivet, as well Hope, Calvin, Adrian and Trine. The Belles have seen most of their opponents throughout the season tournaments and conference play.

"This will be a great meet to see how we match against some of the best teams in the region," Hamilton said. "This weekend will allow our school to get one step closer of achieving our season goal. I expect nothing but big performances and a fantas-

tic finish to this weekend."

Hamilton will look for a strong team performance as well as growth rather than focusing on the individual play. This will be the second qualification tournament for the Belles this year.

"We need to just apply what we have worked on in practice and use it to your strengths on the course this weekend," Hamilton said.

"We need everyone to play well and give it their all. The beauty of a this meet is we control our destiny of continuing our season and reaching our ultimate goal of a championship."

The Belles are coming off a strong performance from the first round of the NCAA qualifier — held two weeks ago in Holland, Mich. Saint Mary's will

hold a significant advantage heading into this weekend's action, as it dominated the field in the opening round and now leads by 21 strokes over second-place No. 21 Olivet. The Belles hope to grow from that strong start and use it to their advantage in the final two rounds.

"Everyone on the team knows that they each have an important role," Hamilton said. "We will learn a lot from this meet, and hopefully we will find ourselves coming out of this meet with an opportunity at a national championship."

The conclusion of the MIAA NCAA qualifier will be played Friday and Saturday at the Medalist Golf Club in Marshall, Mich.

Contact Andrew Cardoza at acardoza@nd.edu

Mark Hamilton
Belles coach

"This meet gives us the ability to allow our season to continue ... We have had a long season and we now know what it takes to stick with some of the top teams in the country."

Orange

continued from page 20

the thing that concerns me the most," Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said. "You recognize their athleticism."

Syracuse and Notre Dame play with opposite offensive styles. The Irish typically run set plays and wear down the defense with long possessions, while the Orange prefer to attack on the fast break and score in transition.

Corrigan said Syracuse's athleticism will challenge the Irish defensively.

"We have to do a good job in defending them in all the variety of situations where they're really good and their athleticism is really effective, where they're almost [impossible to defend]," he said. "They're very effective in transition and situations where they catch you four-on-four or five-on-five and kind of athletically take advantage of you."

Syracuse's unconventional offense will face a Notre Dame team that leads the country in scoring defense, allowing an average of just 5.73 goals per game.

Irish junior goalkeeper John Kemp said he believes defense is the key to winning games.

"I think you have to have a good defense to get far, especially in playoffs. That's brought us pretty far, and the offense has done quite well recently," he said. "Defense has

been important late in the season because that's what wins championships."

The Orange have won seven titles over the past 20 seasons, and four of those championships have come in the past 10 years. The Tewaaron Trophy has been awarded to a Syracuse player three times since the honor was founded in 2000.

Corrigan said his team will treat the Orange just like every other team it has faced thus far, despite Syracuse's championship heritage.

"They've been one of the top three or four programs in the history of our sport. That's their legacy," Corrigan said. "The good thing is we don't have to face all those [former Syracuse] teams. We just have to play the one we meet on Sat-

urday. Their program is almost unparalleled."

Corrigan said the Irish are excited to play in front of a packed house at Arlotta Stadium.

"I think more than anything else it's a great experience for our guys," he said. "How many chances do you get to play in front of a sold-out crowd and a national television audience? They're excited about the experience, but we've played in a lot of big games the last few years, and we intend to play in more."

Notre Dame will try to extend its winning streak to 10 games when it hosts Syracuse at 5 p.m. at Arlotta Stadium. The game will be televised on ESPNU.

Contact Megan Golden at mgolde01@saintmarys.edu

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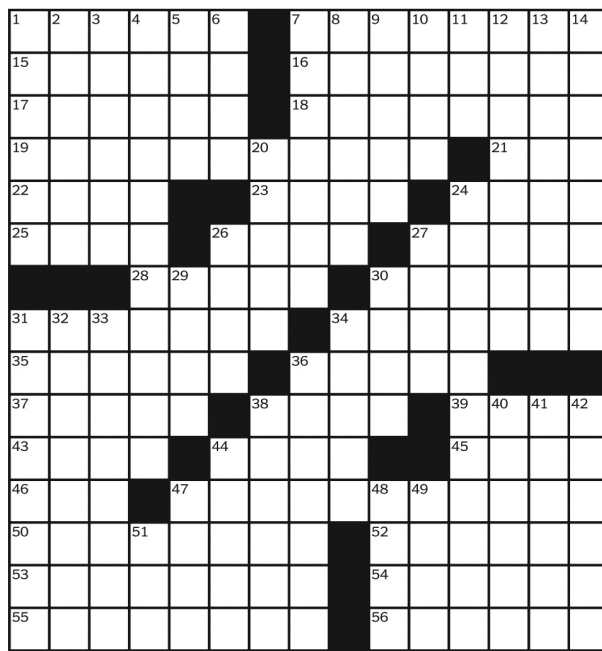
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CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- 1 Aunties' sisters
 - 7 Gold medal
 - 15 Fly
 - 16 Prepare to take off, perhaps
 - 17 Evers of civil rights
 - 18 Quick seasonal greeting?
 - 19 Ice cream gobbler's woe
 - 21 A.L. East team, on scoreboards
 - 22 Ear-relevant
 - 23 Old Norse work
 - 24 Orange exterior
 - 25 United entities before 1991: Abbr.
 - 26 "Get Smart" enemy agency
 - 27 2008 Israeli political biography
 - 28 Beater of a full boat in poker
 - 30 Naturally bright
 - 31 Develops
 - 34 C6H6
 - 35 Stilted-sounding "Consider it done"
 - 36 "The Godfather" enforcer who "sleeps with the fishes"
 - 37 "Cheers" alternative, in a letter
 - 38 Providers of inside looks?
 - 39 "Minnie the Moocher" feature
 - 43 Archer of film
 - 44 In a day, say
 - 45 Solving aid
 - 46 End of a line in England
 - 47 Hit MTV series starting in 2009
 - 50 Double grace period?
 - 52 Start operating, datewise
 - 53 Vronsky's love
 - 54 Stoolies, often
- Down**
- 1 Relatives of merengues
 - 2 Heads off
 - 3 Where trapeze artists connect
 - 4 Ancient talisman with mathematical properties
 - 5 ___ advantage
 - 6 One bound to do work
 - 7 Ball wear
 - 8 Popping Prozac, perhaps
 - 9 Common statue setting
 - 10 Ask
 - 11 Legendary raptor
 - 12 Figure skater
 - 13 Directed attention (on)
 - 14 Runs over
 - 20 Goes over
 - 24 Source of false returns
 - 26 Film critic
 - 27 Magazine articles
 - 29 E-tailing specifications
 - 30 They can get choppy
 - 31 "Ponyo" writer/director
 - 32 In unison
 - 33 Booms
 - 34 Pickle
 - 36 Pierce with lines
 - 38 "West Side Story" Oscar winner
 - 40 Like the I.B.M. PC, often
 - 41 Light show?
 - 42 Minute
 - 44 Four enter them, but only two survive
 - 47 Tennis star
 - 48 Over there, to bards
 - 49 Practice with gloves on
 - 51 Once known as



Puzzle by Steven Riley

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



- 29 E-tailing specifications
- 30 They can get choppy
- 31 "Ponyo" writer/director
- 32 In unison
- 33 Booms
- 34 Pickle
- 36 Pierce with lines
- 38 "West Side Story" Oscar winner
- 40 Like the I.B.M. PC, often
- 41 Light show?
- 42 Minute
- 44 Four enter them, but only two survive
- 47 Tennis star
- 48 Over there, to bards
- 49 Practice with gloves on
- 51 Once known as

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HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

Happy Birthday: Put more emphasis on what you can accomplish. Complaining will not help you gain the confidence of those around you. Strive for stability and greater security, and refuse to let emotional matters impede you or lead you astray. The choices you make now will influence your life for years to come. Your numbers are 8, 17, 20, 25, 33, 44, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Curb your response. You don't want to come across as unpredictable or difficult to deal with. Emotions will be hard to control, and it's important that you lead with charm, grace and good intentions if you want others to respond favorably.★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Do something nice for someone you love and you will get something nice in return. Sharing, caring and participating will lead to a host of new opportunities and friendships. Aggressive pursuits will pay off and show your leadership ability.★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Do something that will lift your spirits or build your confidence. A personal change to your image or the way you do things will draw positive attention. Avoid emotional situations that can lead to unfounded guilt and unnecessary hand-outs.★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You'll find it hard to keep the peace. Don't let someone's lack of tact pull you into an argument. Take the high road and focus on creative projects that will enhance the way people view you and what you have to offer.★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Make changes that enhance your position. You can do things your way if you can prove you have a better strategy in place. Your input will be met with opposition, but if you use a little Leo charm you will win the battle.★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You have the knowledge and expertise to turn any situation in your favor. Get busy making things happen instead of just thinking about it. Call in favors from people you have worked with in the past and something interesting will develop.★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You'll have plenty to think about and discuss when it comes to personal or professional partnerships. Iron out any problems before you move forward or spend money that can add to your stress. Love is in the stars.★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Invest in a plan that allows you to use your skills and knowledge strategically. Networking will lead to an opportunity to expand something you are already interested in pursuing. Don't let someone's jealousy stand between you and your goals.★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Put more time and effort into your home, family, and most of all, your love life. It's important that you are on the same page when it comes to personal changes that can alter your lifestyle. Compromise will satisfy everyone involved.★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You can learn from someone else's mistake. An investment, residential move or expansion of personal interests will play a positive role in your future plans. Expect someone from your past to have an influence on the choices you make.★★★

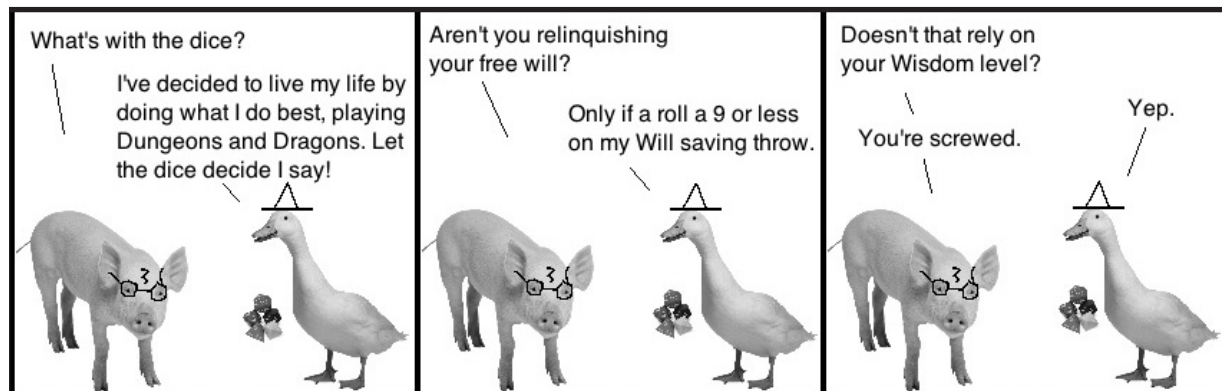
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Discuss your plans for the future and make lifestyle changes that are conducive to greater security and stabilization. It's up to you to call the shots and make the adjustments required to reach your goals.★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Let experience help you make better personal choices. Avoid getting into a no-win situation that ends in a loss of friendship. Reconnect with people you miss or have lost touch with. Express your regrets and your hopes for the future.★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, proud, creative and hardworking. You are a humanitarian.

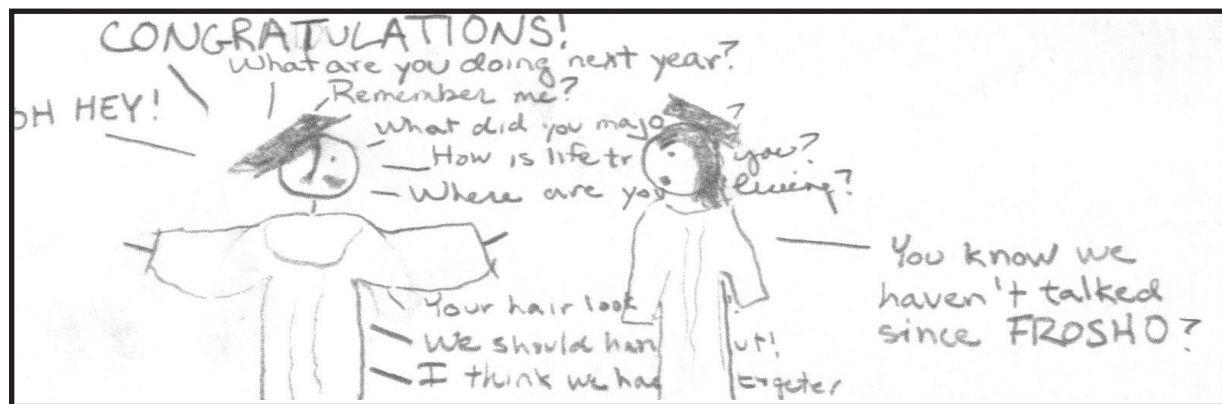
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CLAMMY HANDSHAKE

KELLY LYNCH and JOE MILLER



JUMBLE

DAVID L. HOYT
JEFF KNUREK

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

CHAWT
○○○○

NDRIG
○○○○

BUTARP
○○○○

NISETV
○○○○

Answer here: "○○○○" ○○○○

(Answers tomorrow)
Yesterday's Jumbles: SOUPY FIGHT CAVITY GLITCH
Answer: After getting to the emergency room, he was hoping for some — HOSPITALITY



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MEN'S LACROSSE

Big finish

Irish host Syracuse to close regular season

By MEGAN GOLDEN
Sports Writer

No. 3 Notre Dame will take the field against No. 17 Syracuse on Saturday as it looks for its 10th consecutive win in its final Big East game of the regular season.

The Irish (10-1, 5-0 Big East) are coming off yet another impressive defensive outing against Villanova, a team that outscored the Orange (7-6, 3-2) on March 25 by a score of 11-10.

Notre Dame's offense has heated up over the past five contests, averaging over 10 goals per game. The Irish will face a Syracuse team that ranks fifth in the country in forced turnovers, causing an average of 9.38 turnovers per game.

"They are a big, strong athletic team, and that's probably

see ORANGE/page 18



GRANT TOBIN/The Observer

Junior midfielder Pat Cotter carries the ball in a 9-1 Irish win against Providence on April 7. This weekend, Notre Dame looks to win its tenth-consecutive game against Syracuse.

Lacrosse fever spreads through South Bend

As No. 3 Notre Dame prepares to take on Big East rival No. 17 Syracuse on Saturday in Arlotta Stadium, I

can't help but think that this is exactly the direction in which the game of lacrosse should be heading.

Tickets have already sold out for the 5 p.m. start time, and students must go to the ticket office two days in advance to secure a seat in the stadium. Two of the country's premier programs will square



Matthew Robison

Sports Writer

see TICKETS/page 13

ND SOFTBALL

Providence to challenge recent string of success

By MIKE MONACO
Sports Writer

On the road again.

The Irish, coming off an 11-game homestand in which they won nine games, head to the East Coast this weekend to take on Providence in the penultimate conference series of the regular season.

While the confines of Melissa Cook Stadium have been particularly friendly — the Irish (29-13, 10-3 Big East) are 16-2 at home and have won their last eight games there — the team hasn't played an away game since a 7-6 loss to Rutgers on April 11.

Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said road games are

important as preparation for the Big East tournament as well as the NCAA tournament.

"We just need to start playing really well on the road coming down the stretch," Gumpf said. "Every game is critical in Big East play and we want these games to prepare us for the conference tournament and also for a potential at-large bid for the NCAA tournament."

Although the Friars (15-31, 6-9) come in having lost 13 of their last 15 games, Providence will be looking to knock off the Irish with a postseason berth at stake. The top eight teams

see FRIARS/page 18

ND SOCCER

Teams to play against Mexico, Haiti

By MATTHEW DeFRANKS
and ANDREW GASTELUM
Associate Sports Editors

Irish coach Bobby Clark has a very simple recruiting tool hanging in his office — a photograph. What makes the photograph special, though, is who is in the picture.

Featured in the photograph are former Irish players Michael Thomas and Justin Morrow challenging for a header against former Mexico under-20 forward and current Manchester United star Javier "Chicharito" Hernandez.

"Every time a recruit comes in, you just say 'Do you want to be in that photo?' He usually doesn't know Michael Thomas and he usually doesn't know Justin Morrow but he does know Javier Hernandez," Clark said.

see CLARK/page 17



PAT COVENEY/The Observer

Junior forward Ryan Finley goes for the ball in a 1-0 loss to Villanova in the first round of the Big East championships on Nov. 3, 2011.

NFL

Cardinals, Vikings take Floyd, Smith in first round

By CHRIS ALLEN
Sports Editor

Two former Notre Dame players joined professional rosters after being selected in the first round of Thursday night's 2012 NFL Draft, as wide receiver Michael Floyd and safety Harrison Smith became the first Irish teammates to be selected in the first round in the same year since 1994.

Floyd was selected No. 13 overall by the Arizona Cardinals and Smith was chosen 16 picks later at No. 29 overall by the Minnesota Vikings.

Floyd became the second wide receiver to be selected in the Draft, held in New York, after his name was called by Arizona. After a record-breaking career in an Irish uniform that included more receptions and receiving touchdowns

than anyone in program history, Floyd became the highest-drafted Irish player since standout defensive tackle Bryant Young went No. 7 overall in 1994. The Minnesota-native Floyd returned to Notre Dame after his junior season and led the Irish with 100 receptions and nine touchdown receptions.

"I could not be happier for Michael and his family," Irish

coach Brian Kelly said. "I've said many times I have never coached a person as talented as Michael, and his selection tonight shows that. Michael's work ethic and passion for football are unparalleled, and fans of the Cardinals will love the productivity he'll bring to Arizona's offense."

In Arizona, Floyd will have the opportunity to feature in the same receiving corps as

fellow Minnesota native and personal friend Larry Fitzgerald, a six-time Pro Bowler.

"It's exciting just knowing [Larry is] on the opposite side of me, one of the best receivers in the game," Floyd said.

Smith, the lone captain of the 2011 Irish, became the highest-drafted Notre Dame defensive player in 15 years

see CAPTAIN/page 14