

Notre Dame Club of Miami prepares for game

Alumni plan events and activities for Irish fans headed to BCS National Championship Game

By ADAM LLORENS
News Writer



Bill McCaughan, Jr., president of the Notre Dame Club of Miami, said he wouldn't respond to calls or emails about a potential Irish berth into the BCS Championship Game in his city before Saturday's USC game.

"I'm really superstitious so when people started contacting me about planning, I didn't respond," McCaughan said.

But as soon as the defensive line held the Trojans on the

one-yard line on fourth down late in the fourth quarter, eliminating any chances of a USC comeback, the preparations began. For the first time since 1988, Notre Dame held the perfect 12-0 record and would have a shot at the national championship.

And for McCaughan, the days leading up to Jan. 7 will be hectic in anticipation for the big game.

"We had a meeting with board members on Tuesday to

see MIAMI PAGE 7

ALUMNI CLUB OF MIAMI'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP PLANS FOR ND FANS:

Bus between South Beach and Sun Life Stadium

Game Watch at Monty's Bar on South Beach

Pool party on the Sunday before the game
with food, drinks, live music and bagpipes

SARAH SHOEMAKE | The Observer

Sale benefits Nepali youth

By ANNA BOARINI
News Writer

Shopping for Christmas presents can be stressful and overwhelming. Shopping for Christmas presents while also supporting education in Nepal is rewarding.

Today, Badin Hall is hosting "A Conscious Christmas," a sale benefiting Hope Initiative. The sale will take place from noon until 5 p.m. in the Badin Hall large social space. The sale will feature handicrafts and gifts handmade in Nepal by fair trade artisans.

see CHRISTMAS PAGE 6



Photo courtesy of Ann-Marie Conrado

Badin Hall's annual "A Conscious Christmas" sale raises money to benefit these Nepali children through the Hope Initiative's projects.

Alum named U.S. Ambassador

By NICOLE MICHELS
News Writer

Geneva to Quebec City, Lisbon to Maputo, Rabat, Geneva, Port-au-Prince and Guayaquil. Ambassador Douglas Griffiths, a member of the Class of 1986, has traveled the world as a part of the United States Foreign Service corps, representing U.S. interests abroad. President Barack Obama appointed Griffiths to his current post as American ambassador to Mozambique in March of this year.

Griffiths said his skill set allowed him to contribute to the

advancement of U.S. interests in global health, refugee and migration affairs, but of all his time in the corps two periods stand out.

"I was fortunate to work on the South Africa desk at the State Department just after Nelson Mandela's election and during the transition to democracy. I had front row seats for an exhilarating moment in history and had the honor of working closely with an inspiring group of South Africans," Griffiths said. "Serving as Deputy Chief of Mission and

see AMBASSADOR PAGE 6

Students prioritize study abroad experience

By TORI ROECK
News Writer

While most students consider the Notre Dame campus their home away from home, more than half the undergraduate student body during fall 2010, spring 2011 and summer 2011 explored another home through study abroad.

The Institute for International Education ranked Notre Dame ninth in percentage of students who study abroad with

59.7 percent of students participating during the periods of time analyzed, according to a University press release.

Robert Norton, associate vice president for internationalization and a concurrent German and philosophy professor, said he is proud of Notre Dame's 40 international programs in 20 countries.

"One of the reasons why we think it's so important to have a lot of students go abroad ... is that it's very important in terms

of students getting to know not only other cultures but their own, as well," Norton said. "You get to see the American language and culture through the eyes of other people, and I think that's a very important step in learning to have sympathy and tolerance for people of other cultures when you begin to see yourself through the eyes of others."

Norton said Notre Dame has been ranked among the top 10 schools with the highest

percentage of students who study abroad for the past 14 years.

"Notre Dame is willing to invest in study abroad in ways that other schools aren't," he said. "For example Notre Dame has for years paid for the airfare of students who study abroad, which is something no other peer institution has done."

Notre Dame's interest in study abroad reflects the University's Catholic identity, Norton said.

"The Catholic Church is the universal Church, and I think that people can understand what that means in real terms only when they go out into the world and begin to have the experiences that study abroad uniquely offers," he said.

Norton said he is happy with the percentage of students who study abroad, but he encourages as many students as possible to take advantage of the

see ABROAD PAGE 7

SUSTAIN U

CLOTHING COMPANY PAGE 4

Twin Times

VIEWPOINT PAGE 6



LISTEN WHILE THEY'RE YOUNG

SCENE PAGE 10



MEN'S BASKETBALL PAGE 18



FOOTBALL PAGE 20

THE OBSERVER

ndsmcobserver.com

P.O. Box 779, Notre Dame, IN 46556
024 South Dining Hall, Notre Dame, IN 46556

Editor-in-Chief

Allan Joseph

Managing Editor

Megan Doyle

Business Manager

Jeff Liptak

Asst. Managing Editor: Andrew Owens
Asst. Managing Editor: Sam Stryker
News Editor: John Cameron
News Editor: Kristen Durbin
Viewpoint Editor: Meghan Thomassen
Sports Editor: Chris Allen
Scene Editor: Kevin Noonan
Saint Mary's Editor: Jillian Barwick
Photo Editor: Suzanna Pratt
Graphics Editor: Brandon Keelean
Multimedia Editor: Sarah O'Connor
Advertising Manager: Monica McCormack
Ad Design Manager: Sara Hilstrom
Controller: Peter Woo
Systems Administrator: William Heineman

Office Manager & General Info

Ph: (574) 631-7471
Fax: (574) 631-6927

Advertising

(574) 631-6900 ads@ndsmcobserver.com

Editor-in-Chief

(574) 631-4542 ajoseph2@nd.edu

Managing Editor

(574) 631-4542 mdoyle11@nd.edu

Assistant Managing Editors

(574) 631-4541 aowens2@nd.edu
sstrykel@nd.edu

Business Office

(574) 631-5313

News Desk

(574) 631-5323 obsnews.nd@gmail.com

Viewpoint Desk

(574) 631-5303 obsviewpoint@gmail.com

Sports Desk

(574) 631-4543 observersports@gmail.com

Scene Desk

(574) 631-4540 Observer.Scene.Editor@gmail.com

Saint Mary's Desk

jbarwi01@saintmarys.edu

Photo Desk

(574) 631-8767 obsphoto@gmail.com

Systems & Web Administrators

(574) 631-8839

Policies

The Observer is the independent, daily newspaper published in print and online by the students of the University of Notre Dame du Lac and Saint Mary's College. Editorial content, including advertisements, is not governed by policies of the administration of either institution. The Observer reserves the right to refuse advertisements based on content.

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.

Post Office Information

The Observer (USPS 599 2-4000) is published Monday through Friday except during exam and vacation periods. A subscription to The Observer is \$130 for one academic year; \$75 for one semester.

The Observer is published at:

024 South Dining Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779
Periodical postage paid at Notre Dame and additional mailing offices

POSTMASTER

Send address corrections to:

The Observer
P.O. Box 779
024 South Dining Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779
The Observer is a member of the Associated Press.
All reproduction rights are reserved.

QUESTION OF THE DAY:

If you could describe your roommate in one word, what would it be?

Have a question you want answered?

Email obsphoto@gmail.com



Connor Carmichael

senior
Fisher Hall

"I have a single."



Erin Bouquet

senior
off campus

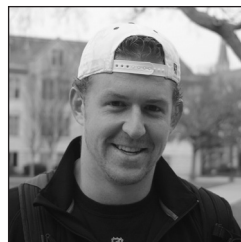
"Spunky."



Paul Hurley

freshman
O'Neill Hall

"Pretty-boy."



Dan Finan

senior
off campus

"Dimples."



Patrick Albright

junior
Dillon Hall

"Canadian."



Kim Mai

freshman
Breen-Phillips Hall

"Quirky."



JULIE HERDER | The Observer

Senior Manti Te'o waves to the crowd at the men's basketball game against Kentucky on Thursday. Notre Dame defeated the Wildcats 64-50, and Te'o was awarded the Awards and Recognition Association's Sportsmanship Award earlier in the day.

Today's Staff

News

Anna Boarini
Ann-Marie Jakubowski
Carolyn Hutyra

Graphics

Sara Shoemake

Photo

Kirby McKenna

Sports

Cory Bernard
Isaac Lorton
Katie Heit

Scene

Carrie Turek

Viewpoint

Laura Rosas

Corrections

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

THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

Want your event included here?

Email obsnews.nd@gmail.com

Friday

"The Death of Socrates"

Eck Visitors Center
3 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Lecture from Kathrin Koslicki.

Riley Family Dinner

Noble Family Dinner Hall
5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
SMC benefit dinner.

Saturday

Aiden Project

South Dining Hall
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Make fleece blankets for patients fighting cancer.

Film: "Sleepwalk with Me"

DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
9:30 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Sunday

Film: "Meet John Doe" by Frank Capra

DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
3 p.m. - 5:05 p.m.
Released in 1941.

"Raising Voices for Urban Poverty"

101 DeBartolo Hall
7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Speaker Mary Jo Bane.

Monday

Advent Bible Study

320 Geddes Hall
ICL Library
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.
Open to all preparing for the birth of Christ.

"Building Traditional in the 21st Century"

104 Bond Hall
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Architecture lecture.

Tuesday

"The Future of the University"

1130 Eck Hall of Law
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Philosophy, education, and Catholic Tradition.

Four: 7

Cavanaugh Hall
8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Catholic fellowship meeting.

SMC plans mentor program for foreign students

Student government will train International Mentors to help students adjust to college life

By **BRIDGET FEENEY**
Saint Mary's Associate Editor

In an attempt to make international students feel more at home while studying at Saint Mary's, the Student Government Association (SGA) is introducing a new peer mentor program, set to start next semester.

Junior Alli Gerths, International Chair of SGA, said the goal of the International Mentor program is to make foreign students feel welcome and fully supported during their time at Saint Mary's.

"It is [SGA's goal] that international students will be

able to better adjust to campus life at Saint Mary's with the help of student mentors," she said. "We hope that by providing a Saint Mary's student, as both a mentor and a friend, she will be able to eliminate some of the stresses international students feel when transitioning into Saint Mary's."

Gerths said the responsibilities of the mentor will ensure the international student feels welcome and included in all academic and social aspects of Saint Mary's.

"Mentors will be asked to participate in orientation at the beginning of the

semester and assist her international students in the move in process and obtaining necessary items," she said. "Mentors are also expected to actively attempt to include her student in social activities and to remain in contact with the international student throughout the semester."

According to Gerths, international students will benefit from having a Saint Mary's student as a mentor because she has already gone through the adjustment to college and the different challenges that come with it.

"SGA feels that it is very important to have student mentors for international students because Saint Mary's students know best how to adjust to life on campus at Saint Mary's," she said. "Each mentor has lived through the challenges of her first semester at Saint Mary's and therefore will be able to effectively answer questions and advise new international students."

The new program is open to all Saint Mary's students who fit the criteria for SGA's idea of what makes a mentor.

"We are looking for students who are passionate about their time at Saint Mary's, which is reflected in

their involvement in clubs and organizations, good academic standing and a positive social life on campus," said Gerths.

While all students are encouraged to apply, Gerths said SGA is looking for applicants who have previously spent a semester or year studying abroad. Gerths said

in Ireland and South Africa, that I feel the personal responsibility to help others to do the same. I figured out who I am and where I want to go in life while I was abroad, and I want the international students that come to Saint Mary's to make the same discoveries about themselves."

When Gerths spent her spring semester abroad in South Africa, she was impacted by her own international peer mentor at the university she studied abroad at. She said she wants international students who attend Saint Mary's to have the same positive experience and friendship with their peer mentors she had when she was abroad.

"I fully support this program because I had a student mentor, Kline, while I was in South Africa," she said. "He was there when I arrived to help me through orientation, but he also became my first native friend there. He played such an important role in helping me adjust to the different ways of life there so I was able to assimilate quickly and focus on enjoying my time, rather than worrying about cultural differences."

While Gerths said she recognizes the many ways the international students grow from having a mentor, she also said she hopes the international student isn't the only one to benefit from this experience. She said she wants the mentors to broaden their knowledge of other cultures and countries through their time spent with the international students.

"We hope that mentors will be able to expand their own cultural horizons by learning about their international students' culture and life back in her home country," she said.

The deadline to apply to be a International Mentor has passed, but Gerths said new applications will be sent out at the end of the spring 2013 semester for students interested in mentoring during the fall of 2013.

Contact Bridget Feeney at bfeene01@saintmarys.edu

"I figured out who I am and where I want to go in life while I was abroad, and I want the international students that come to Saint Mary's to make the same discoveries about themselves."

Alli Gerths
International Chair
Student Government Association

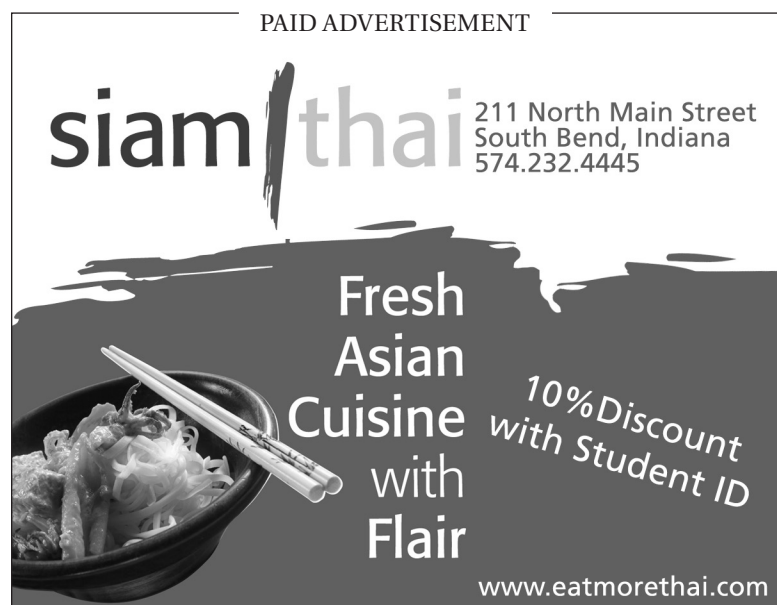
this previous experience will allow the mentors to connect with the international students on a deeper level.

"The reason for this is so that mentors have the ability to understand and identify with what the international student is going through moving to a foreign land to study," she said. "Because the mentors have been through the study abroad experience, they will be able to guide an international student through issues like culture shock and homesickness."

Gerths, who spent her entire sophomore year abroad, said she believes her time away from Saint Mary's at other universities enhanced her understanding of the challenges of transitioning to life at new places with new people.

"Studying abroad has changed my life, and it definitely had a huge impact on my decision to take the International Chair position on SGA," she said. "I learned a great deal about life and grew so much as a young woman during my semesters

PAID ADVERTISEMENT



siam/thai 211 North Main Street
South Bend, Indiana
574.232.4445

Fresh Asian Cuisine with Flair

10% Discount with Student ID

www.eatmorethai.com

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

HOLIDAY BOOK SALE

On sale now
thru Monday,
December 31, 2012

40% discount on all UNDP titles

ONLINE ONLY @
undpress.nd.edu

Use sale code NDEHS12 in shopping cart for discount to apply.

Happy Holidays!



University of Notre Dame Press • Questions: 574-631-4910

Follow us on Twitter.
[@ObserverNDSMC](https://twitter.com/ObserverNDSMC)



Alum starts sustainable clothing company

2003 Notre Dame grad creates SustainU to promote industry developments, green technology

By **KATIE McCARTY**
News Writer

Chris Yura, a 2003 Notre Dame graduate, is revolutionizing clothing production through his company SustainU, which is dedicated to changing the way clothing is made to improve the environment, reinvigorating America's manufacturing sector and educating the world about how clothing can positively impact people's lives.

A native of Morgantown, West Virginia, Yura said he came to Notre Dame to play football as a full-back, and that experience changed the way he looked at clothing.

"The thing that struck me most at Notre Dame was The Shirt," he said. "When I ran out of the tunnel and the whole student body was wearing the same shirt, it was such a powerful symbol of unity."

After graduation, Yura

after the North American Free Trade Agreement outsourced manufacturing jobs outside of the United States.

"When I was in NYC, I wanted to find factories in this area that were still manufacturing," Yura said. "What I found was that not only were there factories that had the infrastructure and trained workforce to produce products but they had also pioneered recycled fiber technology."

Yura asked if he could intern with such factories and learned how to sew, cut and manufacture clothing, which led him to forming SustainU three-and-a-half years ago.

"My parents took out a third mortgage on their house to get collateral to

"We invest in young ideas that are progressive and that can help turn our country around."

Chris Yura
founder
SustainU

help me start the business," Yura said. "We have factories centered in

Tennessee, South Carolina and West Virginia."

The company's mission is to promote social, economic and environmental sustainability, Yura said. The company makes clothing solely made in the United States and from 100 percent recycled materials. For example, the company recently made T-shirts in Bristol, Tenn. for Bonaroo, an outdoor music festival in Tenn., all from recycled materials.

Yura has spoken about SustainU three times at the White House, and even earned a meeting with President Barack Obama, he said.

"I'm going to talk with

the president about different issues that are facing us about green technology," he said. "We will talk about trying to stimulate different parts of the countries that used to make clothing by investing in these areas. It makes so much sense for our country."

Yura said the most rewarding part of his job is the opportunity to advance progressive goals.

"We invest in young ideas that are progressive and that can help turn our country around," he said. "We present a different way of doing business."

Contact Katie McCarty at kmccar16@nd.edu

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

The Future of the University: Philosophy, Education, and the Catholic Tradition

A lecture by John Haldane

Introduction by Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C.

4:30 p.m., Tuesday, December 4, 2012

Room 1130 of the Eck Hall of Law

The lecture is free and open to the public. Reception to follow.



JOHN HALDANE is professor of philosophy and director of the Centre for Ethics, Philosophy and Public Affairs at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. He is chairman of the Royal Institute for Philosophy in London, and consultant to the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Culture in Rome. Prof. Haldane has authored or edited more than 20 books, published nearly 200 scholarly articles, and contributes regularly to numerous newspapers, magazines, and television and radio programs.

The lecture is sponsored by the Office of the President, the College of Arts and Letters, the Nanovic Institute for European Studies, and the Department of Philosophy.



"When I ran out of the tunnel and the whole student body was wearing the same shirt, it was such a powerful symbol of unity."

Chris Yura
founder
SustainU

said he went to Miami for his first job and was soon scouted by Ford Models to be a fashion model in New York City.

"I listened to people talk about where they were getting the clothes and how they were made," he said. "The clothes were coming from third world countries where they did not have enough water to properly make a product, for example. It did not help anything economically or socially ... This got me thinking about making a product that really was better, as opposed to just seeming better."

To learn more about how to make clothing, Yura said he began to write down terms relating to clothing that he heard and then went to the library and did research on those terms. As a sociology major at Notre Dame, Yura said he learned about the devastating job losses that occurred in North Carolina

IRAQ

Bombings kill 43 citizens

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Back-to-back explosions tore through tents housing Shiite pilgrims in southern Iraq on Thursday, the deadliest in a wave of bombings that killed at least 43 people nationwide, officials said.

The attacks in Hillah began with a roadside bombing near tents set up for Shiites commemorating the 7th century death of the Prophet Muhammad's grandson, Imam Hussein. That was quickly followed by a car bomb targeting emergency response teams.

The explosions, which

occurred in a busy commercial area, killed at least 29 people and wounded as many as 90, a police officer said, making it the deadliest attack in the city this year.

Twisted and charred vehicles were left outside damaged stores as shopkeepers collected their strewn merchandise from the bloodstained pavement. Hillah is 95 kilometers (60 miles) south of Baghdad.

Ali Hussein, 44, was walking near his house when he heard the two thunderous explosions near the commercial area about 200 meters (yards) from his house.

"I rushed to the blast site and

I saw burning cars and pieces of flesh everywhere," said Hussein, who owns a grocery store. "There were small blood pools all around the place," he added, blaming the security forces who "should do better in order to protect the innocent people."

Just hours earlier, a parked car exploded near the shrine of Imam Hussein in the Shiite city of Karbala, killing six people and wounding 20, another police officer said.

Karbala, 90 kilometers (55 miles) south of Baghdad, is one of the holiest cities in Shiite Islam and the place where Imam Hussein and his brother, Imam Abbas, are buried. Hundreds of thousands of Shiites flock to their golden-domed shrines every year.

Such religious ceremonies have often been targeted by Sunni insurgents seeking to foment sectarian violence and undermine the Shiited government.

A suicide bomber also drove his explosives-laden car into a police checkpoint in the mainly Sunni city of Fallujah, 65 kilometers (40 miles) west of the capital, killing three policemen and wounding 11 others, a police official in the city said.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT



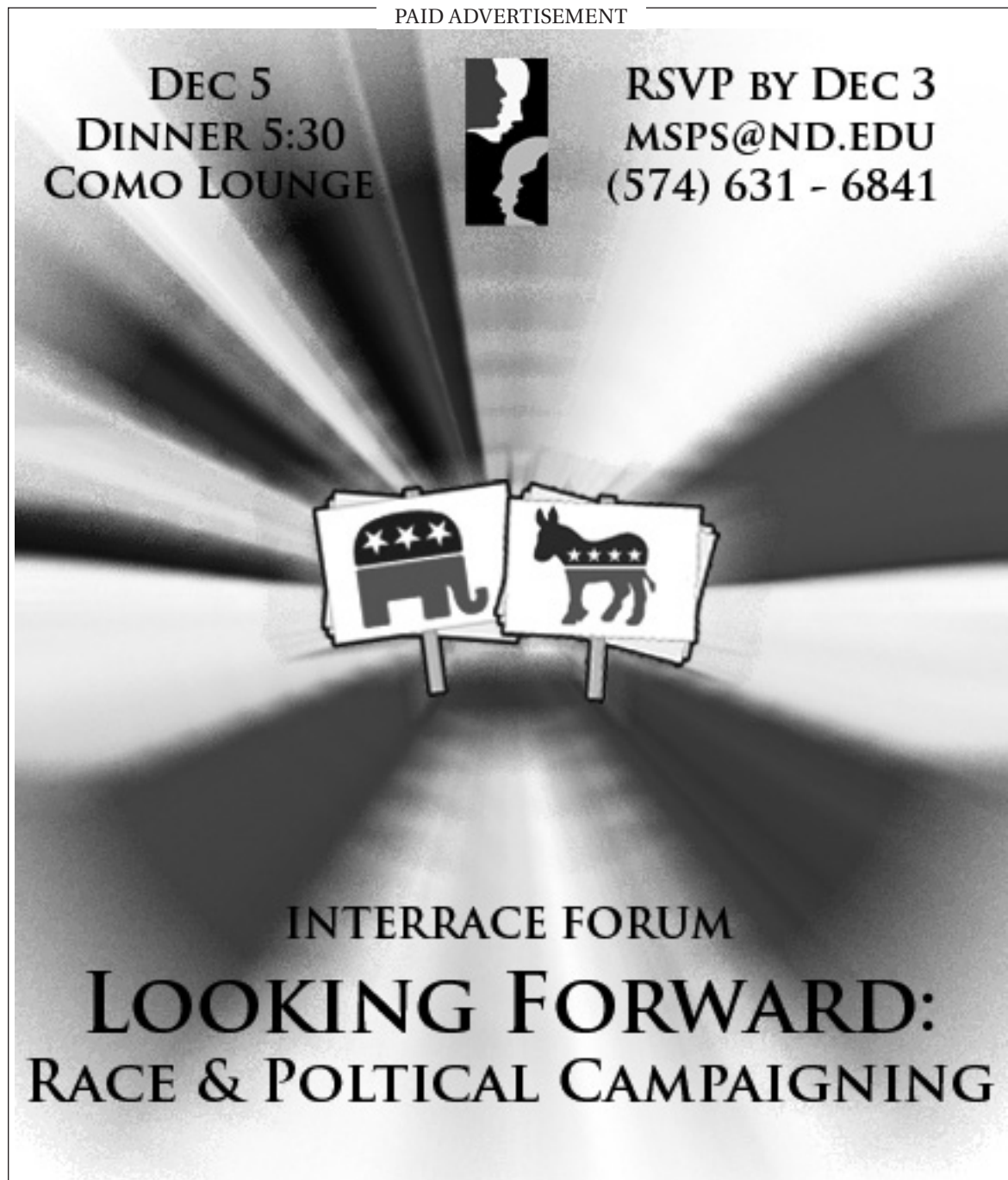
ELIA'S
MEDITERRANEAN CUISINE
Open since 2000!

Our Specialties Include Exquisite
Meat Entrees & Healthy Vegetarian Dishes!

Appetizers • Salads • Sandwiches • Meat Dishes
Vegetarian and Vegan Selections • Desserts • Reservations Accepted

2128 South Bend Avenue
277-7239 • www.eliascuisine.com
Tues - Sat 11am-2pm, 4-9pm
Closed Sun & Mon

PAID ADVERTISEMENT



DEC 5
DINNER 5:30
COMO LOUNGE

RSVP BY DEC 3
MSPS@ND.EDU
(574) 631 - 6841

INTERRACE FORUM
LOOKING FORWARD:
RACE & POLITICAL CAMPAIGNING

Aidan Project supports patients

By PETER DURBIN
News Writer

This Saturday, students can help support pediatric cancer patients in the South Bend community with the Aidan Project.

Aidan Fitzgerald, a Notre Dame alumnus who contracted testicular cancer in 2006, started the Aidan Project to help pediatric cancer patients in need. He is now in remission, sophomore Circle K member Emmie Mediate said.

The event, which was started in 2006 and is hosted by Circle K and Knott Hall, began as a way to provide local cancer patients with blankets.

"Aidan began the project after spending time struggling with cancer and feeling afflicted with cancer as a youth," Mediate said.

Junior Mitchell Lopes, coordinator of the event for Knott Hall and participant for three years, said the idea was to create blankets from pieces of fabric. The blankets are sent to various local hospitals, he said.

"Aidan was looking for a way to give back that was logical, practical, and something that he felt he could undertake with his fellow students at Notre Dame," Lopes said.

Each blanket is coupled with a "Get well" or "Merry Christmas" card, he said.

Since the event started in 2006, it has grown considerably. Lopes said at least half the residents in Knott Hall have participated in the event in the past.

"At first, the project was small, but it quickly grew," Lopes said.

Nearly 2000 service hours are worked in preparation and during the event, with approximately 400 individuals participating in the event last year, Mediate said. Members of Circle K, Knott Hall, the Kiwanis Club and the South Bend community have united to put on the event in the past.

"It's our biggest event of the year, so it means a lot," Mediate said.

Lopes said as the event has grown, a t-shirt sale has been added to provide additional fundraising. Last year, the event raised \$1500 from

making 434 blankets and selling t-shirts.

"Our goal this year is to make 500 blankets and raise \$1800," Lopes said.

As a joint effort between Circle K and Knott Hall, the event resonates in different ways for participants.

"The event has a special significance for myself as I have lost a close family member to

"The best part of the project is being able to deliver the blankets to the hospitals and seeing how much of an impact you are able to have on an individual's well being, especially as they are in the hospital with cancer."

Emmie Mediate
sophomore
Circle K member

cancer," Lopes said. "However, I believe the theme resonates with many guys in the dorm who simply feel the desire to pay forward the blessings they have been given".

For Mediate, seeing the patients receive their blankets is the most meaningful part of the event.

"The best part of the project is being able to deliver the blankets to the hospitals, and see how much of an impact you are able to have on an individual's well being, especially as they are in the hospital with cancer," Mediate said.

The event takes place in South Dining Hall on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. To support the cause, students can make blankets or "Get well" cards.

T-shirts will be sold for \$10 and can be purchased either at South Dining Hall or from the Facebook event '2012 Aidan Project.' The shirts will also be sold in North Dining Hall on Friday.

Contact Peter Durbin at
pdurbin@nd.edu

Write News.

Email us at
obsnewseditor.nd@gmail.com

Christmas

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Sophomore Badin Hall president Cristin Pacifico said the sale is an annual tradition, benefiting Hall fellow and design professor Ann-Marie Conrado's Hope Initiative.

"Basically, we put this sale on every year and all the proceeds, everything we sell goes directly to Nepal and it funds Ann-Marie's Hope Initiative, which is an orphanage house she set up in Nepal," she said.

According to the Hope Initiative website, the mission of the organization is "to uplift individuals in developing countries by focusing on transformative education for youth and adults alike. Hope gives individuals the tools they need to create change in their own lives to escape poverty and dependency."

The money helps send the children living in the hope house to school, Pacifico said.

"They [the kids] tested into one of the best schools in Nepal and that is where they are at school right now," she said. "Ann-Marie comes in and we try to have regular Skype sessions with the kids. It's just a great opportunity to get to purchase some really beautiful goods but also do it in a very responsible way."

Pacifico said the handicrafts are the hard work of Nepali women and their families. "You can bring back beautiful gifts for your family and it's an awesome thing to see that you are helping people," she said.

The Conscious Christmas is not the only event Badin holds to support Hope Initiative, Pacifico said.

"All the other signature events, all the money we raise

also goes to Hope Initiative," she said. "When we come back from break we also have the Polar Bear Plunge, which is a bit more chilly. It's for the more daring."

Wednesday night, girls in Badin Hall were able to Skype the hope house children before they went to school. The children living in the house and attending school are Surya Kandel, Rajesh Nepali, Surackshya Pariyar, Sushila BK, Karan Gurung and Sabin Poudel.

The children in Nepal told the Badin Hall residents how school was going and sang a song in Nepali. When the girls asked if they could send anything to Nepal, the children asked for notebooks and pens. However, Poudel said a PSP [PlayStation Portable.]

Freshman Maddie Caballero said she stumbled across the

Skype session Wednesday night.

"I fell in love," she said. "The kids were so cute and they had so much honesty in their eyes. They were just so happy to see you."

Freshman Kristina Techar also got to Skype with the kids.

"It was very interesting. ... I was expecting kids who were younger," she said. "But it was nice to have kids who were older because you could really talk to them."

Techar said she was surprised to hear the children ask for what they needed, not what they wanted.

"When we asked them what they wanted us to [send] them, instead of saying things like hair bows, they asked for things that they needed, for example a science notebook," she said.

Caballero said she was excited for the sale Friday and to get involved.

"I will probably be wearing the [Badin Hall] frog suit and hold up a giant sign and be really enthusiastic about the 'Conscious Christmas,'" she said.

Contact Anna Boarini at aboari01@saintmarys.edu

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

ERASMUS BOOKS

- Used Books bought and sold
- 25 Categories of Books
- 25,000 Hardback and Paperback books in stock
- Out-of-Print search service
- Appraisals large and small

OPEN noon to six
Tuesday through Sunday
1027 E. Wayne
South Bend, IN 46617
232-8444

Ambassador

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

acting Ambassador in Haiti during its own return to democracy was another high note.

"Although my family was evacuated due to violence and instability, it was a privilege to lead a dedicated group of Haitians and Americans at the Embassy who brought essential services to the Haitian people in difficult conditions."

From 2006 to 2009, Griffiths served as the principal officer at the consulate general in Guayaquil, Ecuador, and since 2009 Griffiths has been the deputy permanent representative to the United Nations in Geneva. Griffiths said this time in Geneva was formative and allowed him to explore his interests in international humanitarian development.

"It was particularly rewarding to advance U.S. interests in global health, refugee and migration affairs and economic development," Griffiths said. "I enjoy the challenge of multi-lateral diplomacy, negotiating complex agreements with a constantly changing constellation of interlocutors."

January will mark his 25th year in the Foreign Service, but his desire to serve others originated much earlier, Griffiths said.

"I studied government at Notre Dame and spent a year in Angers, [France], so Notre Dame gave me great formal preparation for the Foreign Service. ... Notre Dame's emphasis on service very much guided my career choice," Griffiths said. "I learned of the Foreign Service through a dorm-mate who was registering to take the Foreign Service exam. ... Diplomacy has been a perfect match for me, I love changing jobs every two to three years as we rotate around the world."

As American Ambassador in Mozambique, Griffiths said he works to build a prosperous, stable and democratic Mozambique

colleagues joined by almost 200 Peace Corps volunteers," Griffiths said. "We have an ambitious development cooperation program in Mozambique and we are making impressive strides in fostering economic growth, reducing the transmission of HIV/AIDS, stimulating rural development and improving education.

"Mozambique has had a decade of impressive economic growth, therefore we are working hard to improve the prospects for American companies here, leading to job creation in both countries."

The goal for the American Embassy in Mozambique is to help the people recover from a

"With enormous reserves of coal and natural gas, Mozambique is on the brink of significant economic development."

Douglas Griffiths
U.S. Ambassador

long war waged to win independence from Portugal and a brutal civil war, Griffiths said.

"With enormous reserves of coal and natural gas, Mozambique is on the brink of significant economic development. ... Our goal is to help Mozambique invest those resources productively in their people," Griffiths said. "Despite economic growth and investment development in the major cities, human development indicators remain very low. We're collaborating closely with Mozambican officials and private and faith-based organizations to ensure that economic growth translates into improved living standards."

Griffiths said the collaboration with American partners is particularly strong, because all involved parties want to attract American companies to

Mozambique to create jobs in both countries.

Griffiths is based in Mozambique's capital, Maputo. He mostly interacts with senior government officials, business people, opinion leaders and other representatives of civil society. Communicating with community leaders is very easy because the embassy-workers and national partners all speak Portuguese, Griffiths said.

"It is easy to form strong partnerships," Griffiths said. "However, when traveling up country only the most educated people speak fluent Portuguese, so we depend on local partners to communicate in the 13 main indigenous languages. My wife Alicia has started studying Shangana, the dominant language in Southern Mozambique. I'll start in the new year, once I'm finished shaking off the vestiges of Spanish from my Portuguese."

Griffiths said he also makes an effort to travel to the development cooperative sites so that he can see the results of decisions for himself.

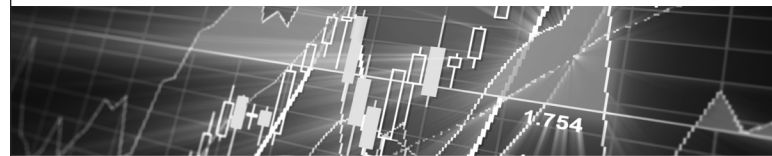
"Last month I drove north to visit some of our aid projects," Griffiths said. "At every site we were greeted with songs of celebration ... with relatively small investments we are transforming lives and communities. I feel very fortunate to see these tangible contributions of American foreign assistance and to feel the gratitude of our partners."

His family has assimilated into the country very easily, Griffiths said.

"The climate is just about perfect, and the capital Maputo is charming. Mozambique is blessed with some of the most beautiful beaches in the world and spectacular savannahs," Griffiths said. "Our two teen-aged daughters, true global nomads, are delighted to be back in an area where community service can be an important part of our lives."

Contact Nicole Michels at nmichels@nd.edu

PAID ADVERTISEMENT



INFO SESSION: MASTER'S PROGRAM – Computational Finance or Predictive Analytics

Derivative Securities Trading
Commodities Merchandising
Asset Management
Structured Products Development
Business Analytics

Risk-Management Consulting
Insurance Underwriting
Sales and Marketing Analysis
Actuarial Data Analysis
Health-care Analytics

If these careers interest you, join us to find out what the master's program in ACMS can do for you!

Tuesday, December 4, 2012
4:30 pm to 5:30 pm
154 Hurley Hall



acms.nd.edu

The Master of Science in Applied and Computational Mathematics and Statistics is offered by the Department of Applied and Computational Mathematics and Statistics (ACMS) with specialties in Computational Finance, Predictive Analytics, Applied Statistics and Applied and Computational Mathematics.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT



FILM IS THE ART & SOUL OF NOTRE DAME

Midnight Movies and more are on campus each week. Purchase and print \$4 student tickets at performingarts.nd.edu/cinema

50/50 (2011)
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 6:30 PM

Directed by Jonathan Levine | Rated R, 99 minutes
PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE HARPER CANCER RESEARCH INSTITUTE AND KELLY CARES FOUNDATION

Diagnosed with spinal cancer, 27-year-old Adam (Joseph Gordon-Levitt) navigates the road to recovery. A panel discussion will follow the screening.

SLEEPWALK WITH ME (2012)
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 6:30 PM AND 9:30 PM
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 6:30 PM AND 9:30 PM

Directed by Mike Birbiglia | Not Rated, 90 minutes

When an aspiring stand-up fails to express his true feelings about his girlfriend and his stalled career, his anxiety comes out in increasingly funny and dangerous sleepwalking incidents.

DEBARTOLO
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF
NOTRE DAME



SUZANNA PRATT | The Observer

Students studying abroad in Australia in the spring of 2012 pose at the top of Walga Rock, an aboriginal art site in the Australian outback.

Abroad

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

University's resources.

One especially favorable program is Notre Dame International's Global Gateways, buildings the University has purchased in cities such as Dublin and Rome to extend the classroom abroad, Norton said.

"What we're doing is we're turning these Global Gateways not just into centers for study abroad but also places where Notre Dame as an institution resonates into the larger culture context of the place where they're situated," he said.

Senior Amanda Williams studied in London in spring 2012 through the Notre Dame London Program, and she said the experience opened up new cultural doors for her.

"You definitely dove right

into everything because you were traveling extremely in-

"Just being in London in the first place is a big cultural immersion, but traveling around Europe was also a cultural immersion, even just as far as getting off the airplane and having to find a bus."

Amanda Williams
senior

dependently," Williams said. "Just being in London in the

first place is a big cultural immersion, but traveling around Europe was also a cultural immersion, even just as far as getting off the airplane and having to find a bus."

Williams said she enjoyed living in a "global center" and especially appreciated the good accommodations and knowledgeable professors the University provided for her.

Most of all, Williams said she was grateful to become a true London resident.

"There's a point when you're in London when you stop looking like a tourist, and I think when everyone reaches that point, you're definitely culturally immersed and getting something out of that," she said. "That was probably the best part — being a Londoner."

Contact **Tori Roeck** at vroeck@nd.edu

PAID ADVERTISEMENT



Yoga Teacher Training Program

The Solace Yoga School program is ideal for serious students of yoga and aspiring teachers. It is recognized by Yoga Alliance and comprises four areas of study: The Theory and Practice of Yoga, Yoga Philosophy, Anatomy & Physiology, and The Art of Teaching.

Our yoga teacher training program is aimed at developing teachers who encourage and inspire, who demonstrate sensitivity to the needs of individuals as well as the group. Build the foundation to teach skillfully — with compassion, integrity and safety — as you discover your own unique voice and style.

Students who complete the 200-Hour Teacher Training program will:

- Deepen their practice and understanding of yoga
- Know how to structure and create a cohesive, well-rounded class
- Acquire an understanding of yoga philosophy
- Have the confidence and tools to begin teaching yoga

Students will also receive a diploma which they can use to register with Yoga Alliance and become a registered RYT-200 (Registered Yoga Teacher) and share with prospective employers. Completion of this program will open the door to career opportunities at Solace Yoga Studio and other studios nationally.

For more information visit our website and click on Teacher Training or give us a call at 574-855-4111 • www.solaceyogastudio.com

Miami

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

go over everything," he said. "We began figuring people will get in town either on Jan. 3 or 4, the Thursday and Friday before Monday's game."

McCaughan, a 2004 alumnus of the University, said one of the club's 700 members is in the process of putting together a travel guide for the entire weekend to send to alumni and students. Preparations are also underway for those fans who aren't able to snag a ticket to the big game.

"The Notre Dame Club of Miami has partnered with Monty's on South Beach to provide a site for a game watch for those not going to the game," McCaughan said. "Monty's is also providing drink specials and food specials to Irish fans all weekend."

In addition to hosting Notre Dame students and alumni,

McCaughan said Monty's would also provide other events.

"On the Sunday before the game, they will be hosting a pool party starting at 1 p.m.," he said. "There will be live music, drink specials, raw bar, bag pipers and other things all at their bar and restaurant right on the water and will be going until close."

McCaughan encouraged fans to frequently check the Notre Dame Club of Miami's Facebook page for updates with events around Monty's and transportation to and from the site of the game, Sun Life Stadium.

"Miami is such a spread-out city and the commute is around 40 minutes to Sun Life Stadium from South Beach, about a \$120 cab fare one-way," McCaughan said. "We could look to set up a bus service to the stadium from the South Beach area."

Among the most frequent questions asked to McCaughan thus far deal with an official Notre Dame Club of Miami tailgate and ticket availability.

"It's just too expensive to hold an official tailgate," he

"Miami is such a spread-out city and the commute is around 40 minutes to Sun Life Stadium from South Beach, about a \$120 cab fare one-way."

Bill McCaughan, Jr.
president
Notre Dame Club of Miami

said. "And we believe we will not be receiving any tickets from the University."

The club does not have a rough estimate on the number of alumni and students traveling to the Magic City for championship weekend, but McCaughan said nearly every family member and friend of his is looking for a place to stay.

"A lot of places are all booked up," he said. "I have at least 12 people staying at my place, including one of my former roommates and cousins."

"They are going to be fighting for pieces of the floor, maybe sleeping out on the balcony."

McCaughan said the club usually doesn't draw many people to the game watches, but this year was different.

"We had 100 people at a local bar wake up early to watch the Navy game," he said. "One guy got so excited during the game, he jumped up and shattered a glass chandelier at the bar."

"People have been fired up all year."

Contact **Adam Llorens** at allore@nd.edu

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

CLOSE TO CAMPUS FAR FROM A DORM

BRAND NEW
Now Leasing for Fall
2013

RENEW SOMEWHERE NEW THIS YEAR!

- ▲ All-Inclusive Rates
- ▲ Individual Leases
- ▲ Fully Furnished
- ▲ Resort Style Swimming Pool
- ▲ State-of-the-art Fitness Center
- ▲ Ample Parking

**UNIVERSITY
EDGE**

STUDENT COMMUNITY IS EVERYTHING

UniversityEdgeND.com • 574.387.4086



130 Dixie Highway South, South Bend IN 46637
Location: Take Fightin' Irish Drive to Dixie Highway. We're on the right.



INSIDE COLUMN

Trump's universe

Troy Mathew
Scene Writer

One of the most welcome changes following the presidential election (besides the freedom from political ads on TV) was Donald Trump slithering out of national relevance. I'm not quite sure how he got there in the first place, but it involved initiating the absurd "birther movement," demanding President Obama's college transcripts, openly proclaiming the death of American democracy following the election results and urging the American people to rebel.

Recently, Trump's children visited him and reportedly urged him to tone down his political commentary, as it was damaging his reputation as a real-estate mogul and entrepreneur. While this was a noble effort, especially considering the Trump kids stand to inherit whatever the Donald leaves behind, it was a futile one. Trump is legitimately insane and his election-time antics made that abundantly clear. I just don't think there's such a thing as regaining your reputation after that.

Historically, a popular view of madness has been people who are mad argue right, but from wrong principles. That is, they logically form their thoughts from a set of principles and values, but the principles are insane and the resulting thought is insane. For example, Don Quixote adheres to a strict set of knightly ideals that govern his behavior, but he ends up doing things like fighting a herd of sheep. I feel like this definition of insanity does a pretty good job of summing up Donald Trump.

Trump made a "big announcement" at the end of October, in which he offered to give \$5 million to charity if President Obama would hand over his college transcripts and passport application for Trump's review. According to Trump, Obama's past is more enigmatic than the ethereal, silver wisps of hair that adorn the top of Trump's head. Also like Trump's hair, the President's origin is completely unclear, but is certainly not of this country, if even this universe.

One of the natural laws of Trump's world is that something is true unless it can be irrefutably proven false. What's more, Trump must see that proof for himself, on his own desk. In Trump's universe, the POTUS has nothing more important to do than to hand over obscure documents to anyone who demands them. The president is subject to Trump's wishes and must comply with those wishes in a timely fashion. Trump has full authority to give the president an ultimatum in order to gain documents, and possessing these all-important pieces of information will certainly unravel a massive conspiracy. Further, if the result of some process does not align with Trump's personal beliefs, the process is inherently corrupt and should be overthrown.

When looked at through this set of principles, Trump's deal with the president seems pretty logical. But there's still that hair. Or rather, that swirling mass of hair-like substance with no ostensible beginning or end. I just can't begin to imagine a universe in which that hair makes sense.

Contact Troy Mathew at tmathew2@nd.edu

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

Twin times

Leila Green
Off the Wall

People always ask me, "How does it feel to be a twin?" The response I would like to give?

"How does it feel to be a person?" The response I actually give? "It's pretty cool."

Having an identical twin prompts tons of questions ranging from the logical to the outright foolish. My sister and I receive questions regarding simple things like logistics: "Do you share a room?" to the metaphysical: "What is your twin thinking right now?" These questions have also come up:

Who's older? Do you guys fist fight? Who wins? If I punch her, will you feel it? Who's fatter? Will your kids be twins? Have you guys dated twins? Can I take you and your sister to the dance with me? Do you have the same dad? Same mom? How do your parents tell you apart? How do you guys tell each other apart?

A woman once broke out into tears as we approached her because she had a twin phobia. Some family members can't tell us apart. On our 13th birthday, my parents confessed to us that we were switched at birth. "Don't worry," they said, "Just switch names from now on." Moments later, I found out they were kidding. It was the strangest three minutes of my life.

Sometimes I swear I see people's eyes searching for the scar from our de-conjoining surgery. If you must know, it is on my left, and her right, hip. I'm kidding. But we have done the "conjoined-twin" thing. Being twins and wearing the same color shirt is really conducive to pretending like you're conjoined twins. That was a fun day.

While walking around campus, I get random smiles and waves from strangers. I used to think people at Notre Dame were just really friendly, but no, they just know my sister and think I am her. The same thing happens on the opposite end: people who confront me asking why I didn't say hello. My answer? "That wasn't me, that was my twin sister!" It's really convincing.

Being a twin is oddly entertaining. When we're in public I always wonder why people are staring at me. Then I remember they're not staring at me, but us. Getting stared at is definitely more uncomfortable than ego boosting and is also extremely noticeable. So is unsolicited picture-taking.

We used to switch classes back in high school. It was fun for the first ten minutes, then the fun faded as we realized that we still had to take notes and listen for each other.

For a very awkward period in our lives we wore matching clothes. We don't match anymore because, well, that would be extremely weird. Although admittedly, we did go through a phase where we tried to resurrect the matching thing, only to discover that we don't own any identical clothing.

I think the dynamic of each twin relationship varies. I've encountered identical twins that want nothing to do with each other and barely make eye contact. I've also encountered twins who cannot be weaned off each other. It is interesting how two people who've lived pretty much the same life can turn out so different. My sister and I have similar personalities and interests. Our majors are different and we are involved in different activities, but for some reason, our paths are always intertwined.

Last year we stopped speaking to

each other over a petty disagreement. During that silent week, I ran into her in every nook and cranny of campus. Before that incident, we saw each other daily and seldom randomly came across each other. Eventually, it became too awkward so we started speaking again, but I couldn't help but wonder why that happened. Are we really meant to be together? My hope is we'll always be in relatively close proximity to each other; otherwise I couldn't really borrow her clothes.

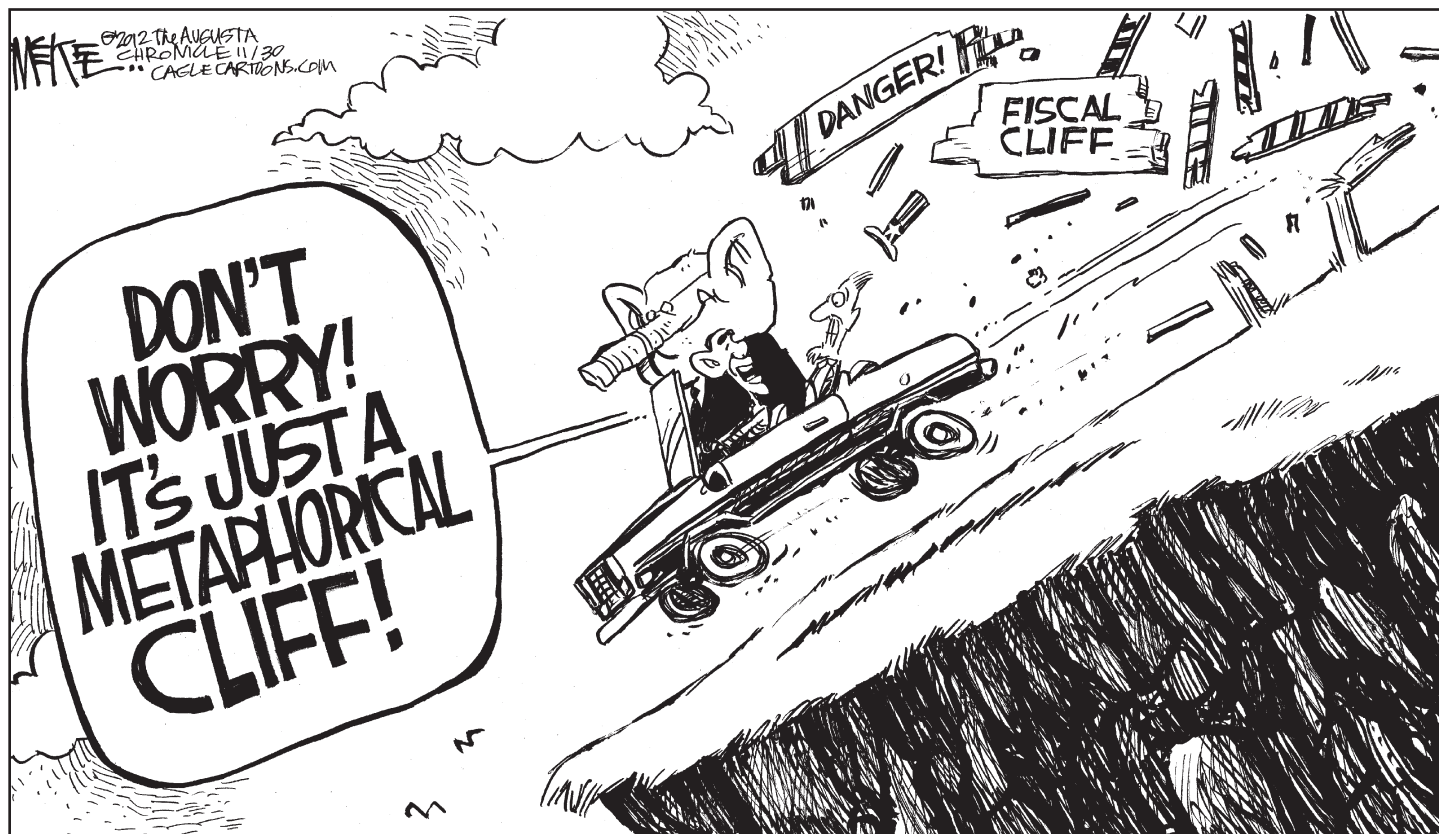
The longest we've ever been apart is eight weeks. We both did a Summer Service Learning Project and they ran congruently. I went to New Jersey and she stayed in South Bend. We didn't go a day without talking to each other and I'm sure I developed a mild case of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome from texting nonstop. I was nervous about being separated for so long. Before the SSLP, our longest separation was only four days. However, I managed. We gained more independence and realized that we aren't just "the twins," but two autonomous individuals. The distance really helped us grow closer and our disputes fell to a new low: a near 75 percent decrease, excluding all texting arguments.

Being a twin has many more pros than cons. I have an automatic lifelong friend, another wardrobe and an endless supply of inside jokes. I wouldn't change it for the world.

Leila Green is a sophomore English major and Portuguese minor. She is also the coordinator of YES, a youth group for at-risk kids in South Bend. If you would like to get involved, she can be reached at lgreen2@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



Submit a Letter to the Editor | Email obsviewpoint@gmail.com

Our class, our team, our final chance

Matthew Suarez and Andrew McDonough

Guest Columnists

As Notre Dame seniors, we have been through many bumps in the road. We have experienced the final remnants of the Charlie Weis era and the false promise of hope it provided, the heartbreak of a 6-6 season coupled with back-to-back 8-5 performances, and the tragedy of losing one of our own, Declan Sullivan. But we seniors limped into our final season with trust in our team, despite a look down our daunting schedule and the opinion of so-called “experts.” As this season progressed our trust has been rewarded but our joy has been mixed once again with heartbreak over the losses experienced by our senior leader, Manti Te’o, and all the trials the senior players have experienced. Counted out from the start, deemed irrelevant, our team has achieved the impossible — a national championship game in Miami.

A cause of this performance is found within the senior class, our unity, our strength and the bonds forged between the senior class and our football team. Together we have pushed through our adversity and together we have emerged on the other side, scarred but unbeaten in our final season. It is to the stands that Kapron turns to after a sack. It is to the stands that Manti salutes. It is not a one-way street, for in the team we find our strength. To the field we bring our hopes and dreams. On a crisp Saturday morning, we wake up early for the promise of the game. In our final season, it is the field and the players on it, wearing the brilliant, flashing, gold helmets that reflect the tradition of our University we look to for a unifying force. We have been everywhere around the world, from Ireland to Oklahoma, from Boston to Los Angeles, for our team, for our University. Nowhere else on earth can this type of bond be forged, but in the fires of tradition here at Notre Dame. Nowhere else can this spirit and the unity move a student body to such great heights.

And so, now we find ourselves at a crossroads. As students purchase flights and hotels in Miami, we remain hopeful of a ticket, the elusive golden ticket that will allow us to enter the most entrancing of venues, the National Championship game. As seniors, we have

poured our heart and soul out together, players and students, for one final season, one final game. It is to that final game that we seek our one last retribution for the prior tribulations of our careers at Notre Dame. The administration has pledged 2,500 tickets, beyond our wildest expectations. And yet, a source of doubt remains. For there are 2,500 tickets for more than 11,000 undergraduate and graduate students. And recently, we have learned that St. Mary’s and Holy Cross students will be allowed to enter the lottery as well, raising that number to more than 14,000 students. Only 2,500 tickets for 14,000 students is entirely unfeasible for granting we seniors a fair chance to cheer our team on to one final victory.

We ask from the administration the chance that every Notre Dame senior be allowed to purchase one ticket. No one has earned the right to travel to support the team more than us. What we ask is that every senior have the option of buying one ticket solely under their name, to be picked up on site. For every senior that passes on a ticket, that ticket would be entered into the lottery for the rest of the student body to be purchased.

What has allowed our strength and unity to never flag or fail this season is the connection that exists between our players and the Notre Dame student body, especially the bond between our senior class. We eat alongside the players, we live in the same dorms, we take the same classes and we have the same friends. We have pledged our hearts to the team. We have been there through thick and thin, through death and tragedy, through triumph and elation. We have earned the right to represent our University in Miami. We have emerged through all of this as one. We are the senior class. We are family. We are the Fighting Irish. We are ND.

Contact Matthew Suarez and Andrew McDonough at msuarez7@nd.edu and amcdono1@nd.edu

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

UWIRE

The real cost of Walmart

Gianna Misenhelter

Kansas State Collegian

Where’s the only place where one can easily purchase a dress shirt, a basketball and a tomato? The neighborhood Walmart, of course. The company has come to exemplify the distinctly American corporate ethos, yet it is arguably one of the most un-American things that exists today. Consumers may benefit, but don’t let Walmart’s slogan of “Everyday low prices” mislead you. After all, why support local businesses and pay more for a slightly higher-quality good when we can just go to Walmart? Why bother about the plight of the Walmart workers? If these workers find the conditions so difficult, can’t they just leave their jobs and let others who are more willing fill in for them? In the end, Walmart’s just a store, right?

These arguments fuel the Walmart machine. Walmart reaps profits of approximately \$50 million each day and would rank among the world’s 25 largest economies if it were a country. These statistics are the result of Americans’ begrudging acceptance of Walmart as necessary to maintain their standards of living.

But local businesses aren’t the only ones hurt by the perpetuation of this cycle. Employees are made to work unreasonable hours without overtime pay, especially during days like Black Friday. Workers’ health benefits are nearly useless, and their market-driven wages make

it impossible for them to support themselves or their families. As a result, many workers who depend on their jobs at Walmart for sustenance and cannot quit are forced to go on government welfare programs. The Winning Words Project estimates that with a dollar increase in wages for Walmart workers, millions of tax dollars could be saved.

Recent failed nationwide strikes against Walmart indicate that nothing short of a massive consumer exodus from Walmart or government intervention will have any impact on its unchecked growth and dominance which will eventually stamp out the unique characteristics of the places where it sets up shop.

Hopefully Walmart can learn from Jim Sinegal, the chief executive officer of Costco, who takes pride in the retailer’s policy of paying an average hourly wage of \$17 and the fact that it boasts one of the lowest rates of employee turnover for a retail store. Sinegal doesn’t even claim that Costco’s treatment of employees is motivated by “altruistic” reasons. Rather, he said it is simply “good business.” Walmart, by wielding such outsized power, would do society more than enough good by reaching out to the less fortunate and paying their workers a decent wage.

This column originally ran in the Nov. 29 edition of the Kansas State Collegiate, serving Kansas State.

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

‘Twas the night before Miami

Jane McGraw

Guest Columnist

‘Twas the night before Miami, when all through Notre Dame
Not a creature was stirring, everyone ready for the game.
The cleats were flung by the doorway with care,
In hopes that the National Championship soon would be there.

The players were nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of leprechauns danced in their heads.
Brian Kelly in his pajamas holding a nice strong night cap,
Had just settled his brain for a long pre-game nap.

When out on the deck there arose such a clatter,
Bob Diaco sprang from the bed to see what was the matter.
Away to the window Longo flew like a Raven,
Tore open the shutters hoping it wasn’t Nick Saban.

The moon on the breast of the ocean below
Gave the luster of mid-day waking up the echo.
When, what to Kelly’s wondering eyes should appear,
But a single sun ray, and a whole bunch of beer.

With a big old body, so lively and quick,
I knew in a moment it must be Theo Riddick.
So up to the stadium the players, they flew,
With a bus full of boys, and Manti Te’o too.

More rapid than eagles his players they came,
And coach whistled, and shouted, and called them by name!
“Now Motta! Now, Brindza! Now, Martin and Louis Nix!
On, Toma! On, Stockton! On, on Braxton and Hendrix!
To the back of the endzone! Through the uprights with the ball!
Now dash away! Dash away! Dash away all!”

As I drew in my head, and was turning around,
Down the sideline Everett Golson came with a bound.
He was dressed all in all green, from his head to his feet,
And his jersey was soaked with sweat from the Miami heat.

For the whole team he had put on his back,
And he looked like a student-athlete, just opening his backpack.
Jones’ eyes — how they twinkled! His dimples how merry!
His cheeks were like roses, just looking for his next carry!

Shembo’s little mouth guard was drawn up like a bow,
As he tried his best to avoid getting turf toe.
Kapron had a broad face and a big round belly,
That shook when he laughed, just ask Brian Kelly!

Golic was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,
And Jake laughed when he saw him, in spite of himself!
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,
Soon told the crowd they had nothing to dread.

Eifert spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
And scored lots of touchdowns, which was a huge perk.
And laying his finger aside of his nose,
And giving a nod, up the field Goody goes!

He sprang to the endzone, and his team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew storming the field like a missile.
But I heard Manti exclaim, ‘ere he drove out of sight,
“Happy Championship to all, and to all a good-night!”

Contact Jane McGraw at jmcgraw1@nd.edu

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

Follow us on Twitter.
@ObserverViewpnt





By **SAM STRYKER**
Assistant Managing Editor

Some things in life are inevitable, even if we don't know the specific details. We know the Irish will play for a national championship, but we don't know whom against. For us seniors, we know we are going to graduate, but we may not know what our next step is. I know I am going to eat dinner, but I don't know what I am going to have. And one day, we know One Direction will probably break up as a boy band, but we don't know when.

Music groups have a tough time staying together, and One Direction will probably be the same. After all, N*SYNC did it. Destiny's Child didn't last, and neither did the Jonas Brothers (although they still actually are brothers). One day Niall, Liam, Zayn, Harry and Louis will stop performing together and go their separate ways.

But for now, we get to enjoy the infectious ear candy these British teenyboppers produce. Just a year after releasing their first album "Up All Night" the boys are at it again, coming out with their sophomore effort "Take Me Home." For the most part, it's a solid, if not spectacular, effort. With One Direction, you get what you would expect with a boy band. There are catchy tracks, indistinguishable vocals and not a whole lot of substance. That being said, "Take Me Home" is pretty fun when you accept it for what it is.

"Live While We're Young" is the lead single off "Take Me Home" and it is a solid example of One Direction sticking to what they do best. Just like Michael Jordan was great at basketball and James Bond excels at saving the world, One Direction is at their best when they unleash catchy sing-along jams, and "Live While We're Young" is the type of song you get stuck in your head for the day. All in all, it's the strongest song off "Take Me Home."

The second single off the album, "Little Things," is a step in a different direction than "Live While We're Young." Whereas the latter is danceable, flirty and fun, "Little Things" slows things down and tries to be heartfelt but comes across as plodding and tedious. One Direction should stick to their guns and do what they do best — poppy songs that make you want to dance, or at least aren't dreary. For example, "Summer Love" is not a fast track by any means, but it is much more listenable than "Little Things" because it is bright and uplifting.



Image courtesy of tvnz.co.nz

For the most part, One Direction sticks to the formula of bright and flirty songs. Other standouts off the album include "Kiss You" and "They Don't Know About Us." The former is a sunny ode to young

love and the latter starts quietly but builds to a slow jam. If the themes in the song titles seem a bit repetitive, it is because they are. One Direction knows their target audience of screaming teenage girls and aims perfectly.

The songs off "Take Me Home" may be starry-eyed, but they are young and fun. That being said, there is a sort of wink with these songs that acknowledges the boys and their audience are maturing. The album title is one such example, and also on "Live While We're Young" they sing "And if we get together, yeah get together/Don't let the pictures leave your phone."

Adapting to an audience who is growing up with these boys is crucial, and it's a step in the right direction (pardon the pun) for One Direction to go where their audience is going. They can't stay together forever, but they are staving off the inevitable for that much longer.

"Take Me Home" isn't groundbreaking, earth shattering stuff. It's a boy band doing what boy bands do best — singing about young love over slickly produced tracks. That isn't a complaint, just a fact.

Fortunately, One Direction does a pretty good job of executing this task, and teenage girls (and boys, and their moms and so forth) should be forever grateful. One day, Liam, Niall, Louis, Zayn and Harry will no longer be the pop culture phenomenon they are now. They'll grow up, and a new set of fresh-out-the-oven heartthrobs will take their place. But for now, One Direction is the musical flavor of the moment, so you might as well enjoy them while they last.

"Take Me Home"
One Direction

Label: Columbia

Tracks: "Kiss You," "They Don't Know About Us"

If you like: The Wanted, Justin Bieber, Selena Gomez



Contact Sam Stryker at sstrykel@nd.edu



By **MIKO MALABUTE**
Scene Writer

After apparently living underneath a rock this entire time, I was finally turned on to Timeflies and was urged to take a listen to their new album by a friend of mine (Here's your shoutout, Dawson.) With the release of their new EP, "One Night," the feel-good, electrorap duo—or as they describe themselves, the "Electro Hip Hop Pop Dub-Something"—put together a compilation of six tracks to make for a pleasantly surprising and thoroughly enjoyable experience.

The sophomore effort opens with the title track "One Night," as lead vocalist Cal Shapiro sings with an almost distant croon, immediately wearing his heart on his sleeve and baring his feelings to the audience.

He says, "Where are we now/ I can't calm down, I'm dreaming/ They scream so loud/ I don't know how I'm breathing." These emotions feel so raw and desperate (something that I haven't usually found to be characteristic of electro-anything music). Already this mystic atmosphere is painted in the listener's mind — bright, vivid, and painful.



Image courtesy of last.fm

With this, Timeflies makes a very clear case as to why they've captured the attention of listeners all over (and myself as a late arrival to the party): beautiful, haunting lyrics by Shapiro and pensive guitar strings by producer Rob Resnick, which evolve into some fist-pumping synthesizers against the repeated "I need one night!" and boom-claps that really do bring excitement and a multifaceted quality to the track. Mind you, this is just my first impression after the first track.

Immediately after is a complete switch-up, with a shoe-in dorm party song "Swoon." All the most likeable qualities of a good party song are alive and well in "Swoon," with rhythmic blasts of the synthesizer against strings currently making me bouncing in my seat, bobbing my head to the almost smooth whisper, "Let me see you swoon."

With that said, there is no definite categorization of this project as a whole: this is not a "party" album, nor is it exclusively "chill" or otherwise. The inability to limit this to one adjective is where the beauty of this project lies (which shouldn't come as too much of a surprise, seeing as how it is simply an EP): This is easily a project that could appeal to many people, for virtually any mood.

As a first-time listener, I'm immediately sold on Timeflies, as they seem to go against the grain of any typical genre of music — they're not too simplistic and solely bent on being catchy, as average electro music is; they don't drone on and clash horribly with the background harmony, or mangle attempts at melody as how hip-hop sometimes ends up being; and they certainly do not seem to produce the wrangled cacophony that dub-step might give rise to.

Their self-description as "Electro Hip Hop Pop Dub-Something" is precisely what they are. And if you scratch your head at that, then I believe that's the point: They aren't any one genre, but a wonderful combination of so many, indescribable as a category.

Even as an EP, surprisingly there's no sign of any filler songs, only six quality songs, each a standout in its own right.

Timeflies' sophomore effort "One Night" EP is a very solid project, one that I thoroughly enjoyed and one that made me a fan after one time through. It is unlike any of the electro/pop music out there now, in the best sense.

I would be remiss in my duty as Scene writer if I didn't end on either a witty or cheesy note, so allow me this: Let yourself listen to the first song in "One Night" EP, and watch the time fly.

"One Night EP"
Timeflies

Label: Island Records

Tracks: "One Night," "Swoon"

If you like: Chromeo, Calvin Harris, Macklemore & Ryan Lewis



Contact Miko Malabute at mmalabut@nd.edu



DOWNLOAD.



LISTEN.



DISCARD.

By **DAN BROMBACH**
Scene Writer



DOWNLOAD.

Taylor Swift's newest album may carry the label of "country," but if this blatant pop effort can pass as country music, then Nicholas Cage can call himself a groundbreaking actor and I can start telling people I play defensive line for the New York Giants.

For example, "I Knew You Were Trouble" is the typical catchy, sassy, borderline-angsty track Taylor Swift fans have come to enjoy, but its use of dubstep shows the true extent to which "Red" is actually a pop album. "22," Swift's song about living it up and enjoying youth, could have been pulled straight from a Katy Perry album, and will no doubt find its way to the top of the charts soon enough.

Not to harp on this subject much longer, but you certainly wouldn't see an artist like Kenny Chesney do a collaboration with Skrillex. Drop the act, Taylor, you've gone pop.

Acknowledging this reality, "Red" is still a highly enjoyable, download-worthy album. My favorite tracks, "Red" and "All Too Well," are classic Swift "love lost" songs, but without the whiny, passive-aggressive edge that annoyed me early in her career. Swift seems to be maturing in her perspective on relationships, emphasizing the good times and lessons learned rather than the fighting and dysfunction.

The notable exception would be "We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together," a party-ready track telling the story of an on-again-off-again relationship.

By diversifying her sound and subject matter, Swift has expanded substantially into the pop realm. Whether this fact makes you happy, or makes you want to leap off the top of Stepan Center, be prepared to hear "Red" for months to come.



LISTEN.

Some may know Phillip Phillips from his victory on the 11th season of "American Idol," but my first exposure to this talented singer/songwriter came watching last year's summer Olympics. Phillips' hit song "Home," which weaves together soft vocals with the folksy, boot stomping sound of Mumford and Sons, served as the unofficial song of the U.S. women's gymnastics team, and quickly became one of my favorite tracks of the summer.

Why was I watching women's gymnastics? For the same reason every young male across the country tuned in: the beauty... of the sport. Yeah, that's it.

None of the tracks on Phillips' new release "The World from the Side of the Moon"

can rival "Home," but that doesn't mean the album isn't worth a solid listen.

My other favorite song, "Man on the Moon," is a light, jazzy track laced with Phillips' skillful acoustic guitar playing. In both "Man on the Moon" and "Get Up Get Down," Phillips' throaty voice, carefree vibe and suggestive lyrics actually make him sound shockingly like Dave Matthews.

Overall, "The World from the Side of the Moon" is nothing revolutionary, but its lighthearted sound and themes of life, love and self-discovery make the album an enjoyable listening experience.

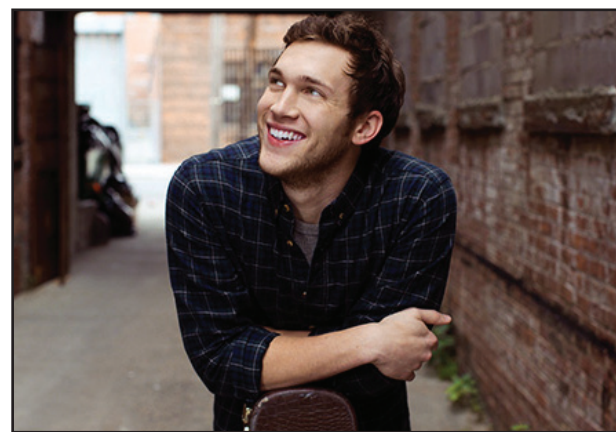


Image courtesy of music-mix.ew.com



DISCARD.



Image courtesy of multivu.com

Kid Rock rose to fame as the king of trashy, generic hillbilly rock, and his new album "Rebel Soul" has done nothing to steer him from this course. The album also did nothing to alleviate my moderate to severe hatred of his music.

Many of the songs on "Rebel Soul," including the eloquently named "3 CATT Boogie" or "Cocaine and Gin," sound like something they would play in the bathroom of a Famous Dave's restaurant, riling up yokels as they pick spare ribs out of their assorted-colored teeth.

I was also slightly disconcerted by the song "Let's Ride," a so-called battle hymn for troops stationed in the Middle East, and its accompanying music video. The song tells troops to pick up their guns and "let their conscience be their guide," accompanied by images of tanks juxtaposed with Muslim women in traditional garb. There's a line between being patriotic and being culturally insensitive, and I'd suggest Kid Rock let this song fade out before visiting the Middle East anytime soon.

Kid Rock's ode to his home of Detroit in the aptly named "Detroit, Michigan" contributes to the album's spectacularly underwhelming nature. I don't have anything against Detroit, but I do have something against bad music.

Maybe my impression was irreversibly damaged by the fact that, upon typing "Detroit, Michigan" into YouTube in an attempt to find the song, the first result was "Detroit, Michigan ghetto."

Overall, "Rebel Soul" is the definition of white-bread hick rock. Unless that kind of music floats your boat, or I guess I should say floats your tractor, steer clear of this album.

Contact Dan Brombach at dbrombac@nd.edu

SPORTS AUTHORITY

Championships hold no weight



Matthew DeFranks
Associate Sports Editor

Conference championships were always something teams set as a preseason goal. It was a source of regional pride, a badge of honor for the teams that roughed up the team literally around them.

But this year, they don't matter so much.

With the exception of the SEC Championship game, all the others hold little to no weight and carry minimal national interest. So, yes, the country's eyes will be on the Georgia Dome to watch No. 2 Alabama battle No. 3 Georgia. They won't even bat an eyelash at the ACC Championship that features Florida State and insert-eligible-ACC-Coastal-Division-team-here.

It seems that this year, conference championships have been more of a preliminary bowl game than a game that carries any real importance. Let's just start with the BCS conference title games.

In the ACC, it really seemed like no one wanted to be there. Coming in to the season, Florida State eyed this game as a mere stepping-stone on their way to a possible national title. But one bump in the Tobacco Road and a loss to Florida have made this a matchup of the underwhelming Seminoles and Georgia Tech.

Yes, Georgia Tech. The Yellow Jackets are 6-6 overall and a mediocre 5-3 in the conference. But thanks to NCAA missteps by both North Carolina and Miami, the Ramblin' Wreck punched their ticket to Charlotte despite a three-touchdown drubbing from Middle Tennessee State on Sept. 29. Georgia Tech is like your fat little brother that you dreaded playing two-on-two basketball with. They aren't very good and they shouldn't be playing.

Does this team really deserve a shot at the Orange Bowl? If Georgia Tech does not deserve an Orange Bowl berth, maybe their possible opponent from the Big East deserves it even less.

Not a single Big East team is ranked in the current BCS Standings, behind the likes of Kent State, Northern Illinois, Utah State and San Jose State. And this is all with two 9-2 teams under their belt.

The voters — and computers — have treated this conference even worse than a mid-major one. Even when Louisville was undefeated,

the Cardinals were still behind a handful of SEC schools simply because the Big East is populated by 3-8 South Florida, 4-7 Temple and 5-6 Connecticut.

For the second consecutive season, the Pac-12 champion may not be the best team in its conference it just won. Last season, USC, who finished ranked in the top 10, was held out of the championship game because of NCAA sanctions.

This year, the Trojans underperformed and Stanford upset Oregon, setting up a Stanford-UCLA matchup this weekend that just happened ... last weekend, when Stanford topped UCLA.

The argument can be made that the Pac-12 championship was two weeks ago, when the Cardinal and Ducks played to an overtime slugfest.

But instead, the conference and its television partners will put Stanford and UCLA on a pedestal reserved for a BCS champion Friday night. Wait, Friday night? Yeah, a big-time college football game will be played on a Friday night. Come on Pac-12, have some respect for yourselves.

In the Big Ten, preseason top-10 Wisconsin somehow managed to sneak into the conference championship game behind a stellar 4-4 league record and 7-5 overall mark. Why? Because undefeated Ohio State and rebuilding Penn State above them are both ineligible.

The worse thing is that conference championships, as watered down as they are now, will hold more weight in the future, when a four-team playoff is in use.

In a four-team playoff, it is likely imperative to win your final game (at the very least), which, in most cases, will be for a conference crown. As conference realignment continues to be all the rage, leagues will become a collection of teams in the same region rather than a true conference.

Teams vying for the conference title will likely not play in the regular season and the divisions within a league could be vastly different, creating an imbalance.

So while conference championships matter to schools like UCLA, Georgia Tech and Wisconsin, they should not matter to the rest of us.

Contact Matthew DeFranks at mdefrank@nd.edu

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

NFL

49ers' Smith questions backup role

Associated Press

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — Alex Smith is trying to understand how he lost his job as starting quarterback of the San Francisco 49ers a month after being named NFC Offensive Player of the Week.

It's not an easy thing for the NFL's fifth-ranked quarterback to deal with this week, even though Smith already has experienced plenty of ups and downs in his tumultuous career since the 49ers made him the No. 1 overall selection of the 2005 draft.

Smith spoke with the media Thursday for the first time since coach Jim Harbaugh made Colin Kaepernick the team's starting quarterback for Sunday's game against the St. Louis Rams, a rematch of the last game in which Smith appeared.

Smith is now completely healthy from the concussion he suffered in that Nov. 11 game and has been medically cleared to play.

But he'll be Kaepernick's backup for the second consecutive week. Smith is uncertain what Harbaugh's decision means for him the rest of this season.

"I feel like the only thing I did to lose my job was get a concussion," Smith said.

Smith was playing some of the best football of his career when he was injured and left early in the second quarter of the 24-24 tie with the Rams.

He completed 7 of 8 passes with a passer rating of 143.8 against St. Louis, throwing for his 13th touchdown of the season on his final pass. The week



San Francisco coach Jim Harbaugh watches quarterback Colin Kaepernick practice in Santa Clara, Calif.

before, Smith completed 18 of 19 for 232 yards and three touchdowns during a win over Arizona, setting an NFL record with a 94.7 completion percentage for a quarterback with a minimum of 15 attempts. He was named NFC Offensive Player of the Week for the first time two days later.

Smith ranks fifth in the NFL with a passer rating of 104.1 and leads the league with a 70.0 completion percentage.

"You kind of state your case with your play and I felt like I've done that," Smith said. "It's tough. It stings the most just because I really felt there was something special going on here and you sacrifice and invest so much time. I felt like I was playing good football. I have no idea what's going to happen from here. All I can do now is just prepare and get ready."

Smith was in limbo the past

two weeks after suffering his concussion, practicing every day with the 49ers in a non-contact black jersey. The 49ers did not announce during either week who would be their starting quarterback until game day against Chicago on Nov. 19 and New Orleans last Sunday.

There's no uncertainty this week. Kaepernick, San Francisco's second-round draft pick last year, took away the starting job from Smith with strong performances in decisive victories over the Bears and Saints.

Smith has lost his starting job and dealt with injuries and adversity several times before with the 49ers. He was beaten out for the role in training camp in 2008 by journeyman J.T. O'Sullivan, then began the 2009 season behind veteran Shaun Hill before starting the final 10 games of that season.

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.

FOR SALE

Snow plowing, salting. Reasonable rates. Excellent references. Fully insured. Call 574-309-8517 or cmbraden@hotmail.com

FOR RENT

House for rent. Close to campus on Napoleon. 2BR 1BA. Available 1/1/13. \$590 month. Yard, room for storage. Call 219-629-5483.

WANTED

WINTER BREAK WORK Great Pay winterbreakwork.com

PERSONAL

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY? Don't go it alone. Notre Dame has many resources in place to assist you. If you or someone you love needs confidential support or assistance, please call Ann Whitall at 1-0084 or Karen Kennedy at 1-5550. For more information, visit ND's website at: <http://pregnancysupport@nd.edu>

"Spread Too Thin" by The Dirty Heads

I, I'm spread way too thin
Everybody wants to know what's happenin
I, I'm spread way too thin
What's the big rush now, tell me why you're rushin
I, I'm spread way too thin
Everybody wants to know what's happenin
I, I'm spread way too thin

What's the big rush now, tell me why you're rushin
Why you rushin
Why you rushin
Well everybody's callin, but I just need some time
Yeah I just need some room to breathe again
A way to clear my mind
You don't need to be here
All up in my face
We need to find the right solution
To put you in your place
I said hey, I got a lot to say to you
Hear what you say it's not true
So this is what I'm gonna do
Look at me I'm gonna let you know
I, I'm spread way too thin
Everybody wants to know what's happenin
I, I'm spread way too thin
What's the big rush now tell me why you're rushin
Why you rushin
Why you rushin

MLS

Beckham to remain involved in MLS

Associated Press

CARSON, Calif. — After six seasons as the worldwide face of Major League Soccer, David Beckham believes nobody should doubt it's a major league.

It's the third word in MLS that still bugs the English midfielder.

"Even after six years, I'm still personally getting used to calling it soccer," Beckham said with a grin Thursday. "I still have my moments of saying football. To me, it will always be football, but I have adapted myself over the years. I think I've done pretty well, maybe, in the last year."

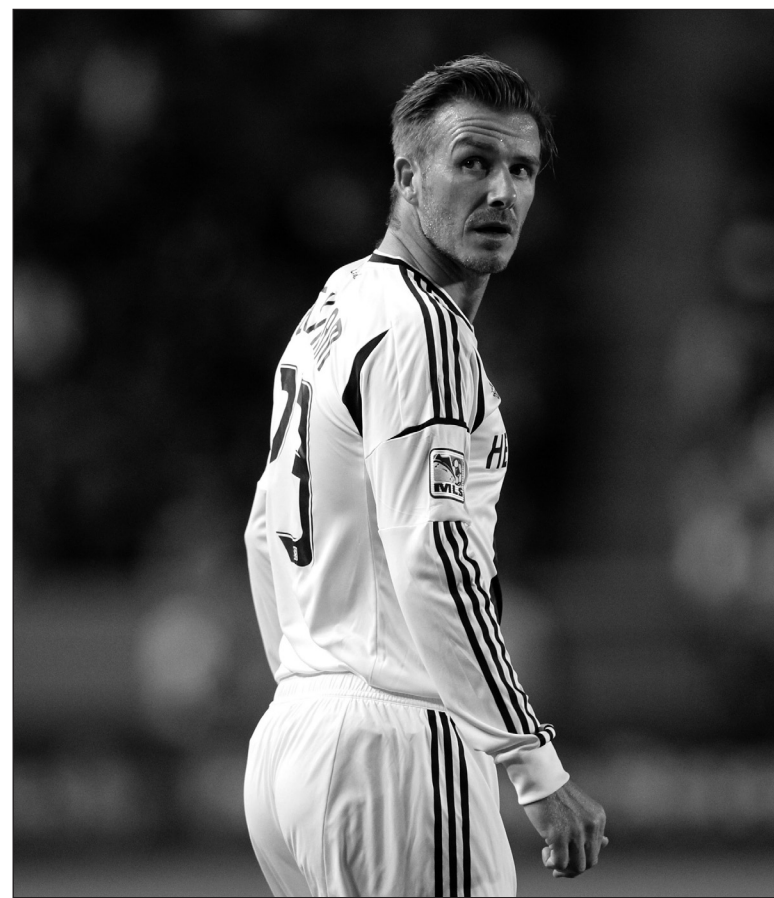
Although Beckham is

leaving the Los Angeles Galaxy after Saturday's MLS Cup, he plans to play a major role in the league's growth indefinitely. He began his last few competitive days in a Galaxy uniform with a training session for the defending champions' final match against the Houston Dynamo.

Beckham still won't say where he plans to play next, coyly deflecting the latest rumors of interest everywhere from Sydney to Monaco. But he reiterated his commitment to MLS, both as a future team owner and a cheerleader for North American soccer.

And while Beckham is the biggest name to wear an MLS jersey, he believes the wave of international stars heading stateside will only grow. He informed Robbie Keane of MLS' virtues before the Irish national team captain joined the Galaxy last year, and he didn't deny he'll help Los Angeles to recruit his own replacement as a designated player next season, whoever it might be.

"When I came over here, I committed to this team and I committed to growing this league," Beckham said. "Just because I'm not playing here after the weekend, my commitment stays the same. I will do anything to



Galaxy midfielder David Beckham looks up at the crowd while playing against San Jose during a MLS playoff match Nov. 4.

keep these players coming over like Robbie Keane, like Thierry Henry. Anything I can do on that side of things, I want to do."

Beckham's legacy is the subject of even more discussion than the MLS Cup this week, and that's fine with the league's top brass. After a rocky start to his MLS tenure when he struggled with injuries, pursued European loans and got booed by his own fans in Los Angeles, Beckham has emerged as the on-the-field beacon that MLS expected to get when he arrived in 2007.

"Oh, I would love David to stick around forever," MLS Commissioner Don Garber said. "It's been a great experience for everyone. But it's up to him to decide what his personal and family goals are. ... When David came here, people overseas described us as a retirement league. We've proven over the last six years that it's a very competitive league, and David has been a big part of that. Hopefully more players will be coming over here at a younger age."

Garber can rattle off a list of ways his league has improved in the past six seasons, from arena deals to television contracts. He also realizes Beckham could have a loud voice in MLS affairs after his playing days.

"I think he would be a great member of the MLS ownership," Garber said. "He's a serious guy. I don't think people understand what a business mind he has. He's always thinking about marketing, about branding, about everything that makes a successful business. I think

he'd be a great addition to MLS."

Beckham again confirmed he isn't leaving the Galaxy because of any problems with the management or coaching staff, saying only that he loves a challenge. He nearly wrapped up his Galaxy career last year after raising the trophy, but decided he still had unfinished business.

By reaching his third MLS Cup final in four years while playing at an elite level deep into his 30s, he believes he addressed it.

"I think I've matured," Beckham said. "As you get older and you play more years in this game, your mind gets a bit quicker, to be honest. The legs might be a little bit slower than they were when I was 21 years old, but I've always said it, I've never been a quick player. Speed and pace have never been an issue for me in my game. You become more clever with your mind over the years."

While deflecting widespread speculation he could become a significant investor in the Galaxy soon, he acknowledged he's proud of the effect he had on the franchise's growth and the league's maturity.

"It was challenging the first couple of years, but a challenge I knew I was going to be up against, and I knew I would succeed," Beckham said. "Off the field, we've done a lot of hard work — not just myself, but the people around the league. They're the kind of foundations that this league needs. That's what happens in Europe, in the best leagues in the world. And the future is going to be bright."

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

ONLY 3 MINUTES FROM CAMPUS

Little Caesars®

HOT-N-READY

LARGE PIZZA

\$5

CHEESE OR PEPPERONI

•Original Round •Carry out •Plus tax

NOW OPEN! 933 & CLEVELAND • 855-4009

HICKORY CROSSING PLAZA
3601 Edison Road at Hickory • 243-4680

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Congratulations to the Fighting Irish! The #1 team in the nation!
Now meet our winning team!



THE TEAM!



* BONUS *

EARN \$1,000 FOR YOUR HOME IF YOU SIGN WITH US BEFORE CHRISTMAS!

WHAT DO WE HAVE TO OFFER?

- > A Bar and/or Kegerator in Every Home!
- > 2-10 Bedroom Homes
- > Large Common Areas
- > Fenced in Backyards
- > Corby Row
- > Houses on the Bricks
- > ADT Monitored Security Systems
- > PigTostal!!!

SOUND LIKE FUN YET? COME FIND OUT!

Call now or visit our interactive website for availability and pricing!

SMC SWIMMING AND DIVING

Saint Mary's finishes first day in ninth

By **PETER STEINER**
Sports Writer

After the first day of competition, the Belles sit in ninth place at the Calvin Winter Invitational.

Thursday's events included the 800-yard freestyle relay and the 1,650-yard freestyle.

Composed of senior Ellie Watson, sophomore Sarah Thompson, freshman Megan Knobloch and freshman Carolyn Neville, the Belles 800-yard freestyle relay team finished 20th with a time of 8:20.51. Senior Liz Palmer took home the Belles' top finish in the 1,650-yard freestyle, placing 29th with a time of 11:43.49.

The Calvin Winter Invitational is a benchmark event for the team, Belles coach Mark Benishek said.

"[This meet] is an evaluation point for us," Benishek said. "We are at midseason and it gives us a point to see where we are at."

"At the point we are at, we are always hoping for some fast times and for looking for everybody to keep moving"

With the invitational

occurring over a three-day span, Benishek recognized the need to tailor his team's training schedule to the event.

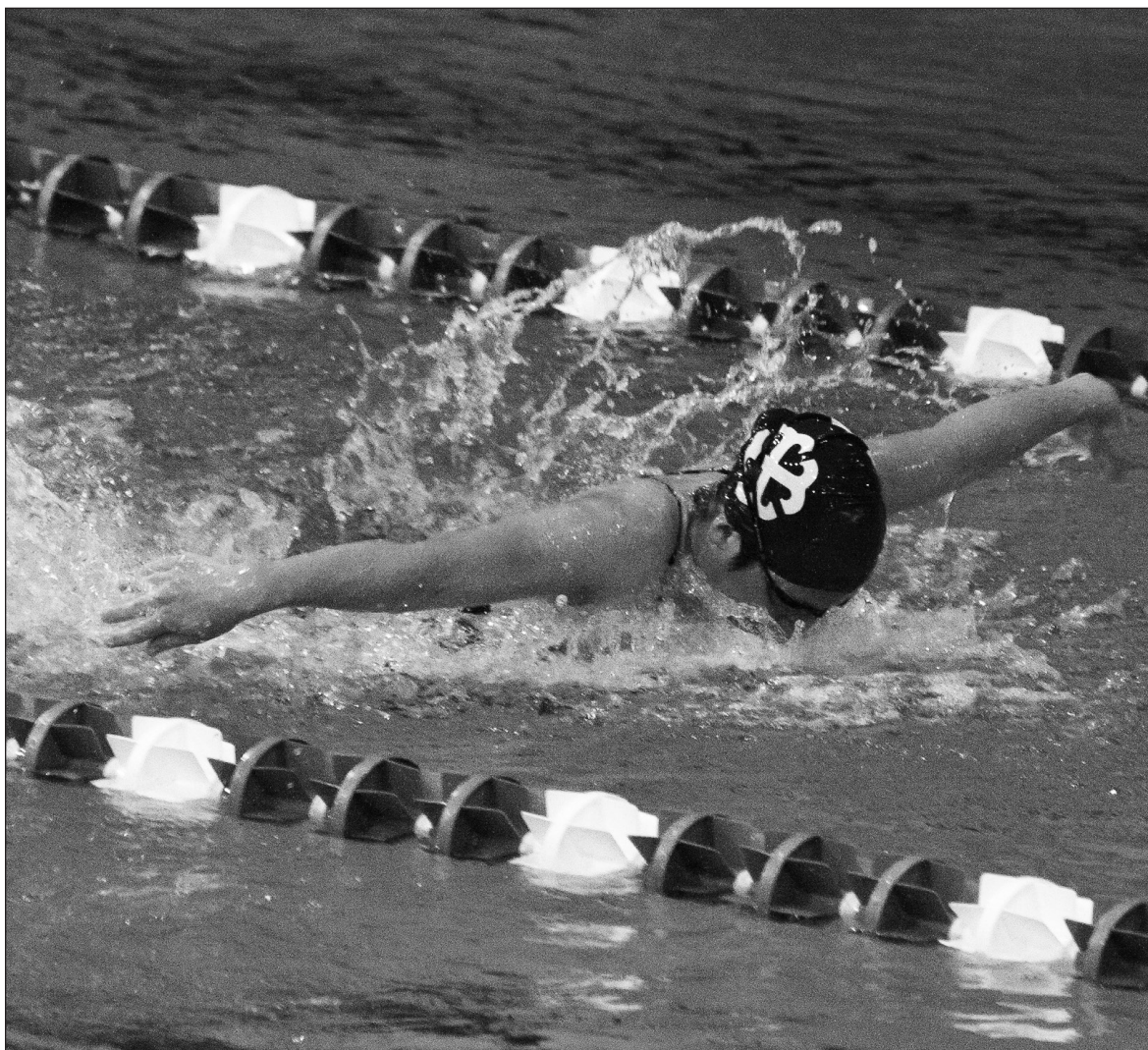
"The girls got some rest over Thanksgiving break and we went a little bit lighter in our training in the three days leading up to this meet," Benishek said. "They've got plenty of rest for this one."

With two days left in the invitational and the remaining conference season to prepare for, the Belles still have many unanswered questions, Benishek said.

"After the meet we will evaluate each other as a team, especially me as the coach in my first year," Benishek said. "What do we need to tweak? What comes from their training schedule on a daily basis and how do we prepare for the championship portion of our season and our conference finals in February?"

The Calvin Winter Invitational continues today at 6 p.m. at the Venema Aquatic Center in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Contact Peter Steiner at psteiner@nd.edu



GRANT TOBIN | The Observer

Belles senior Genevieve Spittler competes during Saint Mary's 152-50 victory over Defiance on Nov. 12, 2011. The Belles look to improve their ninth-place standing in the Calvin Winter Invitational on Friday at 6 p.m.

SMC BASKETBALL

Belles take on veteran team

By **BRENDAN BELL**
Sports Writer

After falling to Adrian College 66-58 Wednesday night, Saint Mary's will try to rebound and break its three-loss skid during Saturday's game against Olivet College. The Belles (2-4, 0-1 MIAA) opened up their MIAA conference schedule with an eight-point loss to the Bulldogs (1-3, 1-0). Saint Mary's found itself trailing by 16 points with 15 minutes remaining in the game. Belles head coach Jennifer Henley said she was proud of her team's performance, but also said they need to get better starts in order to prevent playing from behind. "My team had a great second half against Adrian," Henley said. "They never quit during the game despite being down 16. We need to do a better job with our decision-making on the offensive end to start the first half."

Saint Mary's junior guard Shanlynn Bias lead the way for the Belles in the losing effort, scoring a career-high 20 points, but it was not enough in the second half to close the large deficit.

The Belles now turn their attention to an experienced Olivet team coming off a win over Trine College in its MIAA opener. Junior guard Kelsey Campbell led Olivet (3-1, 1-0) with 22 points in the win and is averaging double-digits this season. According to Henley, the Belles will look to contain the Comet's shooters, as well as their high-powered offense in the post.

"Olivet is a veteran team who scores a lot points in the paint," Henley said. "They will look to spread the floor and take you off the drive."

Henley continued to stress the importance of defense in the game on Saturday, as the Belles will need to keep the game close and give themselves a chance in the second half. "They have a few kids that can knock down the '3,' so we need to be sure we find their shooters on a kick out," Henley said.

Saint Mary's will host Olivet on Saturday, with action beginning at 3 p.m. in the Angela Athletic Facility.

Contact Brendan Bell at bbell2@nd.edu

Cooley

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

they played. They grounded us and that's how we play when we get up."

Notre Dame held Kentucky's top two scorers, Goodwin (19 points per game) and Poythress (18.4 points per game), to six points on 2-for-8 combined shooting. Poythress ran into foul trouble after picking up two fouls just over five minutes into the game.

The Irish went into halftime with a 36-25 lead on a 30-13 run, hitting nine of their last 10 shots as Kentucky went six minutes without a field goal. Notre Dame held an 18-11 rebounding edge and a 20-12 advantage in points in the paint in the first half.

"My whole thing is you can play poorly and still defend and compete," Kentucky coach John Calipari said. "In other words, two teams just battling it out and Notre Dame wins. This is not what this was. This was Notre Dame throwing around Kentucky and winning."

Down by as much as 20 in the second half, the Wildcats went on an 8-1 run with 9:41 left behind two 3-pointers from graduate student guard Julius Mays and tenacious defense from the six-foot-ten Noel. Mays led Kentucky with 16 points on 4-of-6 shooting from beyond the arc



JULIE HERDER | The Observer

Irish junior guard Eric Atkins drives to the basket during Notre Dame's 64-50 victory over No. 8 Kentucky on Thursday.

while Noel added 10 points and seven rebounds.

With 2:35 left in the game, Noel cut the lead to 10 with a powerful dunk over his defender, but Notre Dame scored four straight points on layups from Cooley and Atkins to seal the upset victory.

The Irish had four scorers in double-figures, including Grant (13 points) and freshman forward Cameron Biedscheid (10 points), while graduate student forward Scott Martin added eight second-half points.

The win, Notre Dame's fourth in eight days, gives Brey his

third-straight win over a top-10 opponent in his 400th game as Irish head coach.

"I'm really proud of our group," Brey said. "We really prepared like an experienced team the past two days. I thought we played like an experienced group, defended excellently for 40 minutes and got into our offensive rhythm when we really needed to."

"Something for us to build on, but we need a little bit of rest now because that's been a busy stretch for us."

Contact Andrew Gastelum at agastell1@nd.edu

ND VOLLEYBALL

McHugh to focus on defense against Buckeyes

By **JOE WIRTH** and
LAURA COLETTI
Sports Writers

The Irish look to bounce back from their current three-game losing streak as they open up NCAA Tournament play on Friday against Ohio St.

Before their latest slide, the Irish were one of the hottest teams in the country. They had won 11 straight games and finished third in the Big East standings.

The Buckeyes will provide a formidable challenge. They are currently ranked no. 14 in the country and finished in fourth place in the Big 10.

Junior outside hitter Andrea McHugh said making the tournament is a great accomplishment, but the team's work is far from finished.

"This is a step in the right direction," McHugh said. "Making the tournament has been one of our goals this season, but we are not satisfied with just making it, we want to go deep into it."

This season marks the first time the Irish have made the tournament since 2009. The

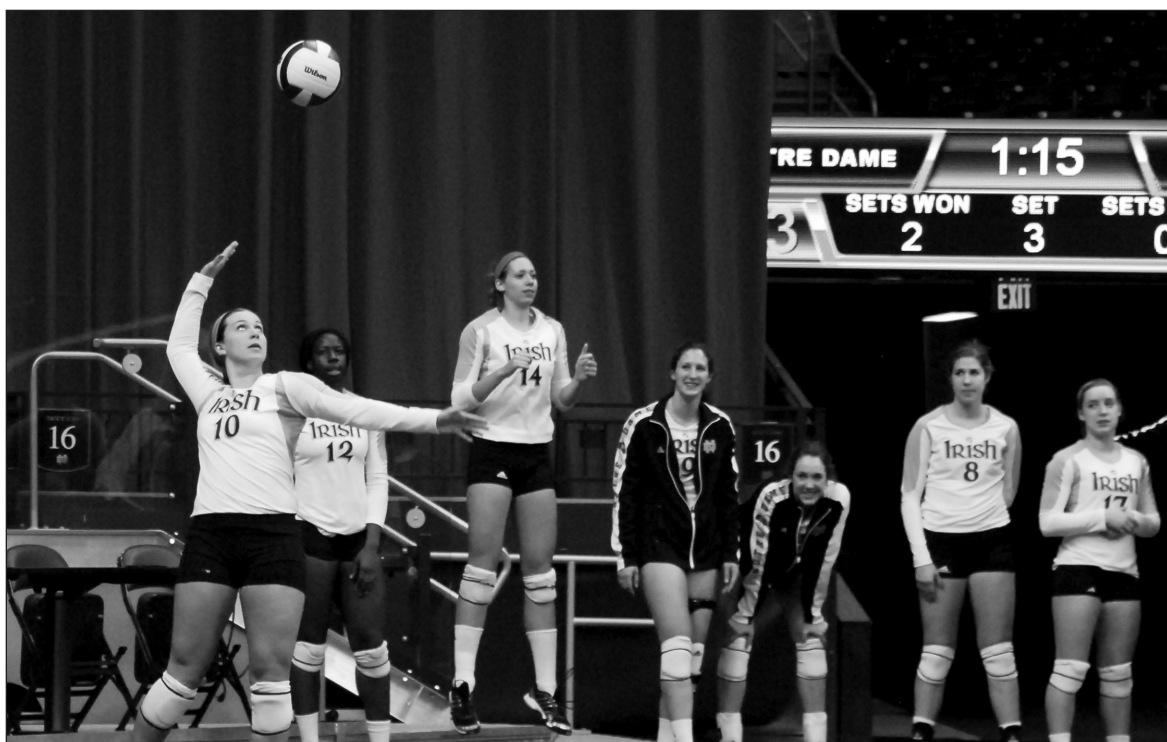
current seniors were freshman on that team and their influence down the stretch of the season has helped the team get over the hump and into the tournament.

"Both our seniors, Marie [Roof] and Hilary [Eppink] are really proud of the team for making it to the NCAA's and want to finish the season and their own careers on a high note," McHugh said.

The Buckeyes have an upperclassmen-lead and are led by senior Mari Hole who leads the team in kills with 331 and has a 4.36 kills per set ratio. Junior Kaitlyn Leary is also a key contributor with 243 total kills on the season and a 3.20 kills per set ratio.

"Ohio State is a very good team," McHugh said. "They have a lot of experience and are dominant on the pins. It is going to be crucial for us to stop both their outsides and their talented right side.

"Because Ohio State is a dominant pin hitting team, we have been focusing on playing defense against the outside as well as setting up a solid double block on the pins."



LILY KANG | The Observer

Irish sophomore defensive specialist Kathleen Severyn serves as teammates watch during Notre Dame's 3-1 victory over St. John's on Oct. 7. The Irish will face the Buckeyes on Friday at 5 p.m.

Although the season did not end the way they envisioned, McHugh said the Irish look at the tournament as a tremendous opportunity to make a name for themselves.

"We have nothing to lose,"

McHugh said. "It is a great opportunity for us to upset teams and surprise a lot of people. It's tournament time and anything can happen...go big or go home."

The Irish will tipoff against the Buckeyes Friday at 5 p.m. at

Memorial Coliseum on the campus of the University of Kentucky in Lexington, Ky.

Contact Joe Wirth at jwirth@nd.edu and Laura Coletti at lcoletti@nd.edu

ND WOMEN'S DIVING

Divers compete with small squad

By **VICKY JACOBSEN**
Sports Writer

While the Notre Dame women's swimmers get a weekend away from action, the divers will be facing some of the country's best competition at the Hawkeye Invitational.

Although the University of Iowa is hosting both swimming and diving events, the Irish are only sending five divers: seniors Jenny Chiang and Kimmie Lisiak, sophomores Allison Casareto and Molly Geraghty and freshman Emma Gabourty.

Lisiak said competing as a split squad won't adversely affect the divers this weekend.

"Competing away from the swimmers won't be to different because we don't practice with them," Lisiak said. "We do check in with each other so we know how our team is doing. It is important to support all of our teammates, swimmers and divers alike. We're one team no matter how many states we are away from each other."

No. 22 Michigan, Denver, Nebraska, Northwestern, Washington State, and Wisconsin-Milwaukee will all be sending athletes to the meet, and there will be 36 participants in the women's diving events.

"Right now Michigan is No. 1 in the country [in diving] so it will definitely be tough competition," Lisiak said.

Iowa hosted the Big Ten Championships last season, and Lisiak said the university's facilities make events held there much more enjoyable.

"I am really excited for this meet," Lisiak said. "The Hawkeyes' pool is one of the nicest and newest pools in the country, and I love their diving well."

The Irish have been working on new dives in this first portion of their season, and they are using this meet as an opportunity to practice and evaluate their progress so far.

"Our team has been working really hard [at] learning new dives, many of which will be competed this weekend," Lisiak said. "As we mature through the season, competing these new dives is a great way to practice for championship season in February."

The Irish will dive into the three-day competition at the University of Iowa's Campus Recreation and Wellness Center Pool on Friday. Meet events begin at 10 a.m. C.S.T. each day.

Contact Vicky Jacobsen at vjacobse@nd.edu

MEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

Dyer leads Irish to Iowa

Observer Staff Report

Notre Dame will travel to Iowa this weekend to partake in the Hawkeye Invitational in the Wellness Center Pool at the University of Iowa.

The invitational will serve as the final meet of the fall season for the Irish (5-0), who will look to continue their winning streak.

Four other teams will join the Irish in Iowa, including Denver, Wisconsin-Milwaukee and host team Iowa. No. 1 ranked and defending Hawkeye Invitational champions Michigan will

round out the field.

The Irish finished in third place at last year's Hawkeye Invitational, and will look to improve on that result this year.

Notre Dame has been led this year by All American junior swimmer Frank Dyer. Dyer has already won multiple awards this year, including NCAA Division I Men's Swimmer of the Week for November 14th to go along with back-to-back Big East Athlete of the Week awards for the weeks of November 7th and November 14th.

The Irish have also relied

on sophomore diver Nick Nemetz for results in the diving competition. Nemetz has delivered, winning both the one-meter and 3-meter dives multiple times for the Irish this year.

This will be the last meet for Notre Dame until after winter break. The Irish will return to competition January 18th at Cleveland State.

Notre Dame will look to keep its win streak alive when they take on the field at the Iowa Hawkeye Invitational starting at 6 p.m. on Friday night.

Write Sports.

Email Chris at
callen10@nd.edu

HOCKEY

Jackson coaches against former team

By **SAM GANS**
Sports Writer

After a hard-fought split against North Dakota last weekend, the No. 6 Irish return to CCHA action when they host Lake Superior State this weekend.

Notre Dame (9-4-0, 5-1-0-0 CCHA) will face a Laker squad that is also coming off a split last weekend against Ohio State. Lake Superior State (7-7-0, 4-4-0-0) has split every series this season.

Irish coach Jeff Jackson said the Lakers are a better team than the one that finished seventh in the CCHA a season ago.

"They're a team that could have legitimately finished in the top half of our conference. I think they've got good goaltending, they've got a solid defensive corps and they're getting some good scoring throughout the lines, so I don't want to look at them any different than we have any opponent we've played here in the last month," Jackson said. "They're just as much of a threat as anybody we've played, because that's the way

our league is.

"There's no easy outs, and plus we have to prove we can play well at home consistently, that's the other big challenge, so to me it's a lot more about us than it is about them."

The Irish are coming off weekends during which they played big names Boston College, Michigan and North Dakota consecutively. Jackson said he hopes his squad will not take the Lakers lightly.

"I'm relying on the fact that this was a different year than it was a year ago," Jackson said. "The three points on Friday night mean as much to them as the three points at Yost mean to them. And if we don't, we get beat and we learn more lessons. But I'm hoping that this year's team is different in that approach, because that was kind of our 'M.O.' last year. We could play a great game against Boston College or Boston University and lose games that we probably shouldn't lose.

"So hopefully we've grown up a bit and that we're better prepared a bit to respond and play our game at the same level against any opponent.

As far as I'm concerned, Lake Superior's a great name. They've won a lot more national championships right now than Notre Dame has, so I'm not looking at them lightly."

This weekend's series will mark the first time the Lakers have visited the Compton Family Ice Arena, as the Irish traveled to Lake Superior State last season. It will also be the final regular-season CCHA matchup between the two teams as the CCHA disbands next season.

Jackson, who led the Lakers to two national championships as head coach in the early 1990s, said he feels more emotion than most other games when the Irish face the Lakers.

"I still have friends that are part of the staff and the administration, the radio announcer," he said. "I have a lot of great friends up there and I still have some close ties to the university, and I want to see them do well when we're not playing them. I still root for them ... It's a tiny little school that did some incredible things in the '90s and late



JULIE HERDER | The Observer

Irish sophomore defenseman Robbie Russo attacks the goal during Notre Dame's 3-1 loss to Boston College on Nov. 9.

'80s."

Jackson also noted sophomore right wing Austin Wuthrich likely will not play this weekend. Wuthrich was scratched from Saturday's game against North Dakota with an upper-body injury and, as of Wednesday, had not practiced this week.

The Irish and Lakers are set to face off in a two-game series at the Compton Family Ice Arena this weekend. Friday's game starts at 7:35 p.m., while the puck drops Saturday at 7:05 p.m.

Contact Sam Gans at sgans@nd.edu

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL | ND 72, CMU 63

Irish continue dominant streak



LILY KHAN | The Observer

Irish sophomore guard Whitney Holloway shoots during Notre Dame's 88-28 victory over Edinboro on Nov. 1. The Irish continued their undefeated season Thursday with a 72-63 win over Central Michigan.

By **MATTHEW ROBISON**
Sports Writer

The Irish do not like pleasant mountains.

Twice No. 5 Notre Dame has played road games in cities named Mount Pleasant, and twice the Irish (5-0, 0-0 Big East) have narrowly escaped with a victory. Notre Dame started sluggishly against Central Michigan on Thursday, but hung on for a 72-63 win in Mount Pleasant, Mich. Their first trip to Mount Pleasant resulted in a tight 57-51 win over Ohio State in the Carrier

Classic in Mount Pleasant, S.C. "[Central Michigan is] a really good team," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "They play well at home. They get up for big games. They had a great crowd, it was a great atmosphere."

Senior guard Skylar Diggins led all scorers with 25 points and added four rebounds and four assists. She was the offensive and defensive catalyst for the Irish all night.

"She was just amazing," McGraw said. "She knew exactly what to do in late-game situations. She attacked the

rim, she got to the foul line. Everything you would want your point guard to do, she did it."

Diggins shot 12-14 from the free throw line.

Junior forward Natalie Achonwa recorded another double-double with 11 points and 10 rebounds. Perhaps most surprising was the play of junior forward Ariel Braker, who had a breakout performance with 10 points and eight rebounds.

"I thought Ariel really played well," McGraw said. "There just were so many times when

I wanted her in the game and needed her during the game for her defense, for her rebounding. I think that was, without question, her best game of the season."

Notre Dame faces Baylor on Dec. 5 in Purcell Pavilion in a rematch of the 2012 national championship game in which the Irish fell 80-61. With the UCLA game and the much-anticipated grudge match bookending Thursday's game, the Irish could easily have overlooked the Chippewas (2-3, 0-0 Mid-American Conference).

But McGraw did not think her team did so. Instead, she said her relatively young squad faced its first true road test, and its inexperience showed. Because of the football team's game against USC the day after the UCLA game, Notre Dame had a huge fan presence in Pauley Pavilion. So Notre Dame didn't quite get the road game atmosphere.

"It was a road game, but with all the people out there for the football game we had a pretty good crowd," McGraw said. "This was the first really true crowd getting into the game. I think it threw us a little bit."

While Diggins, Achonwa and Braker handled the hostile road environment, the younger members of the team did not fare so well. Freshman guard

Jewell Loyd was averaging 14 points per game coming into Thursday's contest, but she managed only seven points on 3-for-9 shooting. Sophomore guard Madison Cable did not score during her 16 minutes on the court, missing all five of her shots.

"We looked a little young at times," McGraw said. "We had some people in that sort of situation for the first time. Skylar stepped up and made big plays when she had to. We could have been a little better, but it's a good win on the road."

Late in the second half, Notre Dame went on a run to stretch the lead and it held on. The man-to-man defense was not effective, so the Irish switched to a zone.

"We went into a '2-3' in the second half," McGraw said. "I thought the zone was good. We played it a little bit and we found the shooters. We were about to contain the shooters

Baylor is up next for the Irish, and if they're going to beat the No. 2 Lady Bears, they'll need to shore up their defense.

"We need to work on our man-man-defense," McGraw said.

The Irish face Baylor on Dec. 5 in Purcell Pavilion at 7 p.m.

Contact Matthew Robison at mrobison@nd.edu

Georgia

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

have a better performance than we had a year ago in Atlanta," Richt said. "I think the celebration wasn't quite as hard as it was a year ago."

The two teams did not play this year. Crimson Tide coach Nick Saban said Alabama will still know what to expect from the Bulldogs.

"We've played against Mark Richt coached teams before," Saban said. "They've played against us before. Even though it is different and they do have different players, philosophically, it's not like they are completely different than what you played against before."

Junior quarterback Aaron Murray has thrown for 3,201 yards, 30 touchdowns and seven interceptions this season. The Bulldogs also use a pair of running backs on offense — except they are both freshmen.

Running backs Todd Gurley and Keith Marshall have combined for over 1,800 yards and provide a lightning and thunder combination, Saban said.

"Todd is a little bit like our guys. He is big, physical, he can inside or outside, can make you miss. He also has power," he said. "Their second guy is a very good back in all those regards, but he is a very



Georgia quarterback Aaron Murray directs his team against Georgia Tech during the second half of an NCAA college football game.

fast guy, so there is a little change of pace there that the players have to be aware of."

On defense, junior linebacker Jarvis Jones paces the Bulldogs. Despite missing two games, Jones has racked up 10.5 sacks and 72 tackles.

"You certainly have to have a plan to try and help the players that have to block him, so hopefully he can't just get in one on one situation where it's a difficult circumstance for somebody," Saban said. "That's part of the planning that you need to do. There have

been games this year where he has made a phenomenal amount of plays, like sacks causing fumbles."

Irish senior linebacker Manti Te'o said he will be watching the game to get a sneak peek at his next opponent.

"I'll enjoy it as a fan and as a future opponent," Te'o said. "Just watching them and how they work and tendencies. My main thing is finding out who we're going to play."

Contact Matthew DeFranks at mdefrank@nd.edu

Alabama

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

potential championship matchup would look to be a low-scoring game.

Yes, on the field, there is not much to separate a Notre Dame-Alabama game from a Notre Dame-Georgia game. This much is certainly true — Notre Dame will be up against a wave of public opinion in favor of its SEC

What could be a more fitting way for Notre Dame to finish its ascension to the throne of the college football universe than by taking the crown from Saban and the Tide directly? If it is the Bulldogs who show up to play the Irish in Miami, even a victory would have a small minority of doubters wondering, "What if?"

The 2012 Irish have shown they can line up across the

This is an Alabama team coached by a man who is regarded with an aura befitting a three-time national champion — Nick Saban.

opponent regardless of its identity.

But it should hope to play Alabama.

This is an Alabama team coached by a man who is regarded with an aura befitting a three-time national champion — Nick Saban. Just three weeks ago, many wondered aloud if Alabama was good enough to beat an NFL team. The Tide are the reigning champs after a dominant 21-0 victory in last season's title game.

field with the confidence to beat anybody. It's time for them to show it by beating the best. A win by Alabama on Saturday sets up arguably the biggest game of the century thus far.

Would the Irish have it any other way?

Contact Chris Allen at callen10@nd.edu

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

Heisman

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

November.

The biggest knock on Manziel is that he failed to impress against elite opponents more times than not. His performance at Alabama — 24-of-31 for 345 total yards and two touchdowns — will go down in Aggie lore, as it should.

It was a Heisman moment against the top-ranked scoring defense, but the problem is the rest of his résumé doesn't shout, "Heisman!"

Outside of Alabama, Texas A&M has played two elite opponents this season. In his first collegiate start, Manziel totaled 233 yards and a rushing touchdown at home against Florida.

In the Aggies' second home loss of the season, Johnny Football completed only 29 of 56 passes for 276 yards and three interceptions against LSU. The Tiger defense also curtailed Manziel's rushing attack, holding him to 27 yards on 17 carries. His average yards per pass — 4.9 — and yards per rush — 1.6 — just didn't cut it.

Color me underwhelmed.

Thirteen of his 24 passing touchdowns came in four non-conference games against Southern Methodist, South Carolina State, Sam Houston State and Louisiana Tech. In SEC play, he hurled 11 touchdowns to six interceptions — not exactly the type of digits you see out of Heisman hopefuls. Even 19 total rushing touchdowns aren't enough to make up for that.

Te'o, on the other end, has played at a high level each week

and saved his best performances for the biggest stage. He recorded two interceptions with a heavy heart under the lights against Michigan as the Irish rendered Wolverines quarterback Denard Robinson useless en route to surrendering just six points.

In October, Te'o led the charge in the first of several noteworthy goal-line stands this season to secure a 20-13 win against Stanford. The Cardinal, who can win the Pac-12 with a win this weekend, failed to reach the end zone on offense.

Two weeks later, he clinched a victory over Oklahoma with a late interception of Sooners quarterback Landry Jones and added another in the season finale against USC, not to mention another legendary goal-line stand.

Watching the Irish play, you see the impact Te'o has on his teammates. Without him, Notre Dame still has an excellent defense, but not an elite defense. Not a national-championship caliber defense. Certainly not a legendary defense.

Voters: This is a call to throw conventional wisdom out the window. The Heisman winner need not be another quarterback. If the award stays true to its description, it will go to a defensive player this season.

It will go to Manti Te'o.

Contact Andrew Owens at aowens@nd.edu

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

Award

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

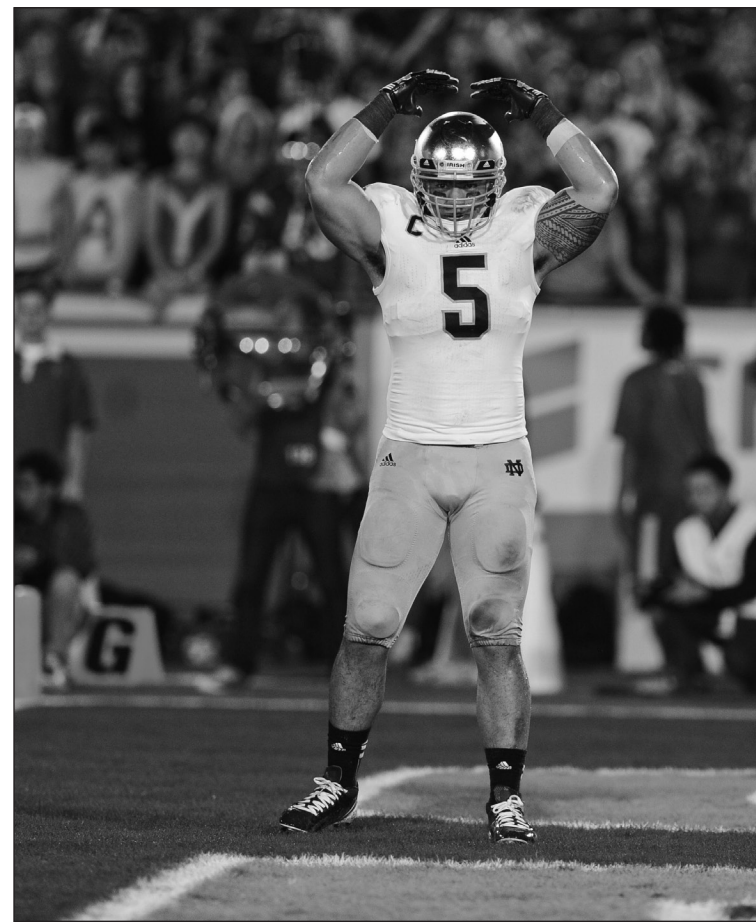
on-field performance and community service. Two days later, he will head to Buena Vista, Fla., for the Home Depot College Football Awards where he is a finalist for the Maxwell Award for most outstanding player and the Chuck Bednarik Award for defensive player of the year. The trip culminates in a return trip to New York City for the Heisman Trophy ceremony on Dec. 8, pending an expected invitation.

But the captain said his main focus since ending the season 12-0 has been on something entirely different.

"My attention has been on just taking advantage of every day," he said. "All I have been thinking about is the time I have left at school with my peers, with my classmates. I'll be gone all of next week so this is my last week of school. It's just hard for me to realize it's coming to an end, a beautiful end."

Te'o's main competition in the Heisman race comes from Texas A & M freshman Johnny Manziel, who is the first freshman to throw for 3,000 yards and rush for 1,000. But as far as Te'o is concerned, he remains a fan of 'Johnny Football.'

"I've seen Johnny Manziel play," Te'o said. "[He is a] dynamic player. Really, really good playmaker. He can make something out of nothing. He's definitely someone that's Heisman material. I'm a real big fan."



SARAH O'CONNOR | The Observer

Manti Te'o exhorts Notre Dame fans before the goal line stand at USC on Saturday. The Irish went on to win 22-13.

Although he refrained from giving away his rooting interest, Te'o said he will be a balanced viewer of Saturday's SEC championship game between No. 2 Alabama and No. 3 Georgia. The winner will meet Notre Dame in the BCS National Championship Game on Jan. 7.

"I'll enjoy it as a fan and as a future opponent," he said. "I'll just watch and learn and see how they work and their tendencies in that game. My main thing is finding out who we will play and get a sneak peek of what to look forward to."

With his near-unprecedented four-year Notre Dame career coming to an end, Te'o said he will always share a special connection with his university.

"I love Notre Dame. I love this place. This place is definitely special. It's not a school, it's a family," he said. "It's a place you'll always be connected with for the rest of my life. I wouldn't want to be anywhere else and I couldn't picture myself anywhere else."

Contact Andrew Gastelum at agastel@nd.edu

MEN'S BASKETBALL | ND 64, KENTUCKY 50

Notre Dame defeats No. 8 Kentucky with ease

By **ANDREW GASTELUM**
Associate Sports Editor

When Notre Dame football is ranked No. 1 in the country, attention to other sports comes sparingly. But for just one night, basketball reigned supreme.

In front of an electric sellout crowd at Purcell Pavilion, Notre Dame upset defending national champion No. 8 Kentucky, 64-50.

"It was just a special night. I think we were prepared for it and we just really wanted to play well," said senior forward Jack

"I expected that we wouldn't play well. It is the first time out of the gate. I'm disappointed that we didn't compete."

John Calipari
Kentucky coach

Cooley, who notched his third-straight double-double with 13 points and 11 rebounds. "With all the football stuff happening, we kind of want to make a statement now that Notre Dame is going to beat the SEC."

Ten months after the Irish upset No. 1 Syracuse, Heisman trophy candidate Manti Te'o led

the "blackout" crowd's in rushing the court after unranked Notre Dame (7-1) — 41-1 in its last 42 home games — held an inexperienced Kentucky team averaging 85.2 points per game to its lowest scoring output in over six years.

"Our crowd was definitely our sixth man tonight," Irish coach Mike Brey said. "That building was electric and having our football guys there was great, but it was a tough atmosphere to play in. When our atmosphere's like that it's hard to play, young or old it's going to be tough to win here."

Junior guard Eric Atkins led the charge for the Irish, matching a season high with 16 points on 7-for-9 shooting to go with four assists and three steals in 38 minutes. The captain scored 11 of the team's first 15 points by the midway point of the first half.

In his last three games, Atkins has been a model of efficiency, recording 21 assists and just one turnover. With under 11 minutes to go in the first half, Atkins knocked down a three from the wing to give the Irish a lead they would never relinquish.

"[Junior guard Jerian Grant] really set me up early with a couple of curls and I got going," Atkins said. "So I just wanted to keep that up and keep myself



JULIE HERDER | The Observer

Irish junior guard Eric Atkins charges down the court during Notre Dame's 64-50 win over No. 8 Kentucky on Thursday. Senior forward Jack Cooley and junior guard Jerian Grant both had 13 points during the contest.

rolling and it worked out ... When I hit a few early, my confidence was at a high. After that, I pretty much felt like I could do anything."

After losing all five starters to the 2012 NBA Draft, the Wildcats (4-2) came into the season ranked No. 3 in the country, led by three five-star freshman recruits in forward Nerlens Noel, forward Alex Poythress and guard Archie Goodwin. But the Wildcats shot 37.5 percent from the field in the first half, despite coming into the game leading

the country in field goal percentage (55.8 percent).

"I expected that we wouldn't play well. It is the first time out of the gate. I'm disappointed that we didn't compete," Kentucky

coach John Calipari said. "[...] You have to give Notre Dame credit. What a great crowd, with their student body, and the way

see COOLEY **PAGE 14**

Irish win sends a message



Matthew DeFranks
Associate Sports Editor

During pregame warm-ups, No. 8 Kentucky practiced alley-oops. They had high-bouncing H-O-R-S-E passes to slam and they had lobs above the rim. They pounded them home emphatically before getting emphatically pounded by the home team — a team no one had seen before.

Notre Dame, in its first marquee contest of the season, took down the young defending champions 64-50, showing both Notre Dame fans and the nation who they really are.

The Irish are a tough, savvy group of veterans. They are streaky 3-point shooters. They are masters of team defense. They are rugged rebounders.

And they are just getting started.

The Irish, who came into the season ranked No. 22 after returning all five starters from a 22-win team, had not performed like that all season. They had let inferior teams hang around before blowing them out. They had lost to St. Joseph's on the biggest stage they had. And they had not faced a team like the Wildcats.

But that all changed Thursday night when the Irish built a 20-point lead on a top-10 team.

"This is the team we thought we were and this is the team we know we can be," Irish senior forward Jack Cooley said. "We're going to be this team going into the Big East. It was good to see it for everyone to know that this is who we're going to be and they have to come in prepared for this type of team."

Notre Dame did not just win this game — they dominated. They led for 30 of the 40 minutes in the game and suffocated the potent and talented Wildcats.

Each and every year, Kentucky and coach John Calipari rent first-round talent, trot them around the nation as show ponies and ride them to Final Four appearances. But this was not March. This was November, when freshmen still act like freshmen and inexperience on the road really shows.

But should this game really have been a surprise? Yes, the Irish had not performed at this level all season, it was Kentucky and it was big, bad Calipari. But, it was a home game in November (Notre Dame has now won 49 straight) and it was against a top-10 foe (the Irish are 4-0 in their last four meetings with such teams).

Irish coach Mike Brey always seems to get his squad up for big

games. Just look at Notre Dame's win over Syracuse in January, when they were a lowly Big East team without its best player welcoming in the top-ranked team in the country. You know what happened next.

After the game, Brey and the players did not act any differently. Their attitudes seemed unfazed by the big win and their egos seemed in check. They knew this team had to show up at some point, they expected it to.

So, no, it really should not come as a surprise the Irish won. But the way they won was shocking.

They won without any points from Pat Connaghton and with only 13 assists. But they relied on their defense, their home crowd and their experience to perform the way everyone, including the team, expected them to.

Notre Dame sent a message during Thursday night's win: this is who we are, Big East, get ready. And they also sent one to opposing teams — do not practice alley-oops on our rims.

Contact Matthew DeFranks at mdefrank@nd.edu

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

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Dublin Village

Student Housing from \$550 per bdrm

www.DublinVillage.info 574-298-4206

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

"As You Wish"
Imports



- WALLETS - SCARVES
- PURSES - CHANGE
- INCENSE PURSES

LOADS OF SILVER & BEADED JEWELRY,
SILVER RINGS AND TOE RINGS,
TAPESTRY WALL HANGINGS/ BEDSPREADS
AND MUCH MUCH MORE

LOW PRICES! GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFTS!

Guatemala - Bolivia - Peru - Mexico - Thailand - India

Lafortune - Sorin Room

Nov. 26 - Dec. 1 (Sat.) 11-5pm M-F Eves 7:30-10pm

Proceeds from sales of jewelry guarantee the loving hands of Guatemalan families 3 times their average salary, as well as funds for their education

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Royal Excursion
GoREEL.com
Express service to Midway Airport
& Downtown Chicago!

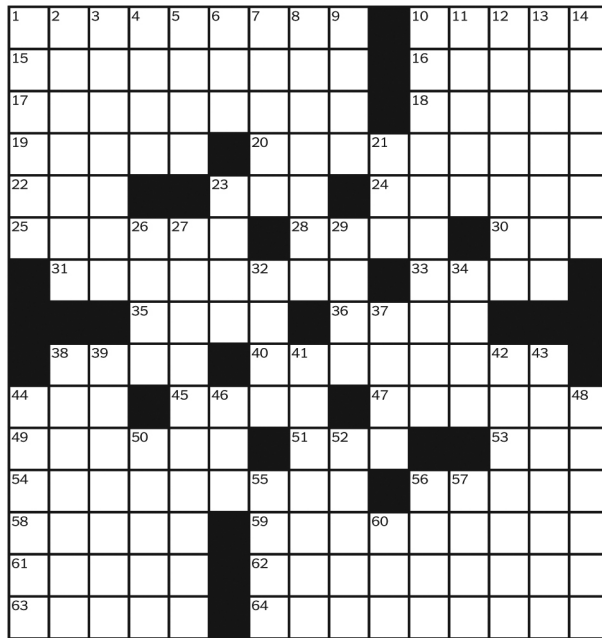
Depart	Fairfield Inn & Suites - South Bend (1220 East Angela Boulevard)	4:55am ET
Arrive	Midway Airport	6:10am CT
Depart	Fairfield Inn & Suites - South Bend (1220 East Angela Boulevard)	10:40am ET
Arrive	Midway Airport Express	11:55am CT
Depart	Midway Airport Express	12:10pm CT
Arrive	Fairfield Inn & Suites - South Bend (1220 East Angela Boulevard)	3:05pm ET
Depart	Fairfield Inn & Suites - South Bend (1220 East Angela Boulevard)	5:10pm ET
Arrive	Midway Airport Express	7:30pm CT
Depart	Midway Airport Express	7:45pm CT
Arrive	Fairfield Inn & Suites - South Bend (1220 East Angela Boulevard)	10:50pm ET

WiFi
on-board

View the full
schedule &
book your
seat online:
GoREEL.com

CROSSWORD | WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- 1 Potential misfit
 - 10 Darken
 - 15 Iranian export
 - 16 Actress Hubbard of "Akeelah and the Bee"
 - 17 Abbot's attribute
 - 18 Goliath's master of old TV
 - 19 Showiness
 - 20 Private chat
 - 22 Ref's call
 - 23 Secret rival
 - 24 Santa Maria's chain
 - 25 Number retired for Steve Largent and Jerry Rice
 - 28 One hanging in una iglesia
 - 30 Truncated parlor piece?
 - 31 Some costume cutouts
 - 33 Figure in red
 - 35 Sitcom mom of Cheyenne and Kyra
- DOWN**
- 36 There's nothing in it
 - 38 "I have had a perfectly wonderful evening, but this wasn't it" speaker
 - 40 Kewpie doll features
 - 44 What a brat might throw
 - 45 Display some guns
 - 47 Fen frequenters
 - 49 Painting the town red
 - 51 Crack at a contract
 - 53 It can be felt on felt
 - 54 Things placed during a political campaign
 - 56 Two-time Italian prime minister Giuliano
 - 58 Filler of some cavities
 - 59 Short, curly hairdo
 - 61 Eye: Prefix
 - 62 Heyday
 - 63 Four-bagger
 - 64 Ready to be posted, say



Puzzle by Peter A. Collins

- 34 Radon's lack
- 37 Let pass
- 38 Mahon is its largest city
- 39 When it's approximately
- 41 Dark reddish brown
- 42 Some bridge holdings
- 43 Reputation
- 44 Left behind
- 46 N.Y.C. luggage tag letters
- 48 Thing placed during a political campaign
- 50 Work measure
- 52 "... despise not thy mother when she ___": Proverbs 23:22
- 55 Green org. for women?
- 56 Out of harm's way, in a way
- 57 ___ Journal (magazine)
- 60 E. Germany, before 1990

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

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



HIGHLY PUNLIKELY | CHRISTOPHER BRUCKER

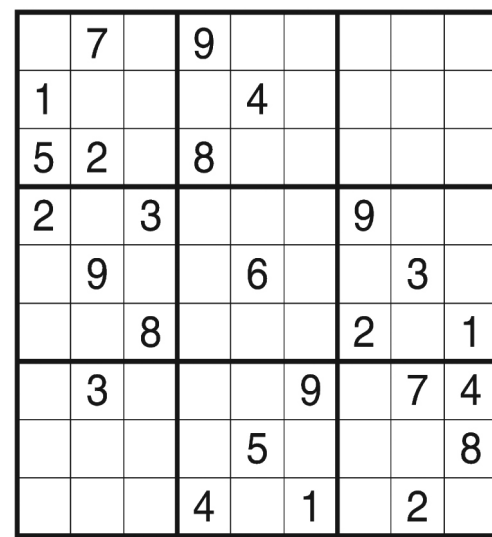


LOWER YOUR EXPECTATIONS | LENNY RAGO & PATRICK CROSS



SUDOKU | THE MEPHAM GROUP

Level: 1 2 3 4



SOLUTION TO THURSDAY'S PUZZLE 11/30/12

2	8	7	1	4	3	5	6	9
3	9	6	8	5	2	1	4	7
4	5	1	6	7	9	8	3	2
7	3	5	9	2	1	6	8	4
8	4	9	5	6	7	2	1	3
6	1	2	4	3	8	9	7	5
5	7	4	2	1	6	3	9	8
9	6	3	7	8	5	4	2	1
1	2	8	3	9	4	7	5	6

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

© 2012 The Mepham Group. Distributed by Tribune Media Services. All rights reserved.

HOROSCOPE | EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Anna Faris, 36; Don Cheadle, 48; Andrew McCarthy, 50; Howie Mandel, 57.

Happy Birthday: Partnerships can make or break you personally and professionally. A willingness to try new things and to embrace those in need will enhance your reputation, giving you more power and higher rank over others. Finding unique solutions and calling in favors will ensure you reach your goals. Your numbers are 9, 15, 24, 27, 31, 42, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Listen to what's being asked of you. Don't let anger take over. Assess what you are dealing with and minimize any negativity by focusing on what you can accomplish and the people who are willing to work with you instead of against you. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Speak up. There is plenty you can do to secure your position or find a new one. Traveling and communication will allow you to promote what you have to offer. Educational pursuits add to your resume and lead to interesting connections. Love is highlighted. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Someone from your past will help plug you into a good group of people in your chosen field. Share your creative ideas. Expose a plan you have and you are likely to get great input and a proposal as well. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Consider how you can earn more money. Update your resume and discuss future prospects with people you have worked with. Don't let what others think or say deter you from doing what will make you happy. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take a closer look at your personal situation and you will discover something that may help you avoid a turn of events that will cost you emotionally or financially. Compromise can make a difference as long as it is reciprocated. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Step away from anyone pressuring you. Take a serious step toward making your life better. Getting involved in an event that will enable you to meet new people will help you adjust to a new way of life. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Make a point to contact someone you want to get to know better. Interacting with friends, new and old, and stepping out of your comfort zone will lead to an unusual change in the way you move forward or the lifestyle you choose to live. Love is enhanced. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Money matters will cause uncertainty. An impulsive move to overcome your lack of funds will set you back. Sticking to a budget and drumming up extra work will help relieve stress. Time is of the essence, so don't procrastinate. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Size up any relationships that are causing you concern. It's time to weed out some of the people who are either costing you too much or causing you grief. Be truthful regarding your motives and you will avoid an unsavory situation. ★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Do whatever is necessary to get ahead. Live up to your promises and take control of whatever you face. You have everything to gain by speaking up and getting whatever troubles exist out in the open. It's time to move forward. ★★★

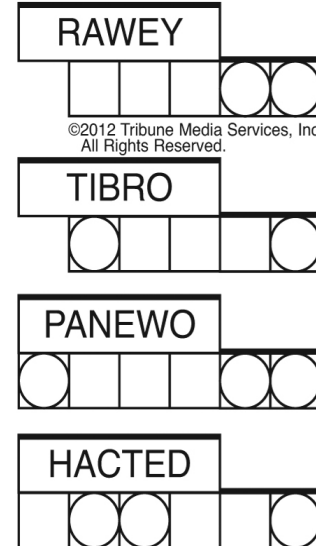
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Do what's expected of you and you will avoid backlash. Show responsibility and you will gain respect. Change your living arrangements and you will make your environment less stressful. Say less and do more. You will make a good impression. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Implement your ideas and plans. You can make some favorable changes at home that will influence your financial situation as well as your relationship with those you live with. Romance and sharing with someone special will be fulfilling. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are aggressive, intent and challenging. You are secretive, productive and admired.

JUMBLE | DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

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



Answer here: [Circled letters: R, A, W, E, Y]

(Answers tomorrow)
Yesterday's Jumbles: GOOSE CURVE WEAKEN MANNER
Answer: The children's birthday party turned every section of the house into a "WRECK" ROOM

WORK AREA



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

THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community.

Join the more than 13,000 readers who have found The Observer an indispensable link to the two campuses. Please complete the accompanying form and mail it today to receive The Observer in your home.

Make checks payable to and mail to:

The Observer
P.O. Box 779
Notre Dame, IN 46556

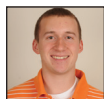
- Enclosed is \$130 for one academic year
- Enclosed is \$75 for one semester

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

FOOTBALL

Manti for Heisman?

Te'o earned the Heisman over Manziel in season's biggest moments



Andrew Owens
Assistant Managing Editor



When the Heisman Trophy is awarded in 10 days, yet another quarterback will probably step to the podium and be honored as college football's most outstanding player.

But, like many before him, Johnny Manziel won't be deserving of the award. Yes, he is college football's greatest offensive player, but he isn't college football's greatest player.

As Irish coach Brian Kelly said at USC on Saturday, the award should undergo a name change if Irish senior linebacker Manti Te'o doesn't take home the hardware.

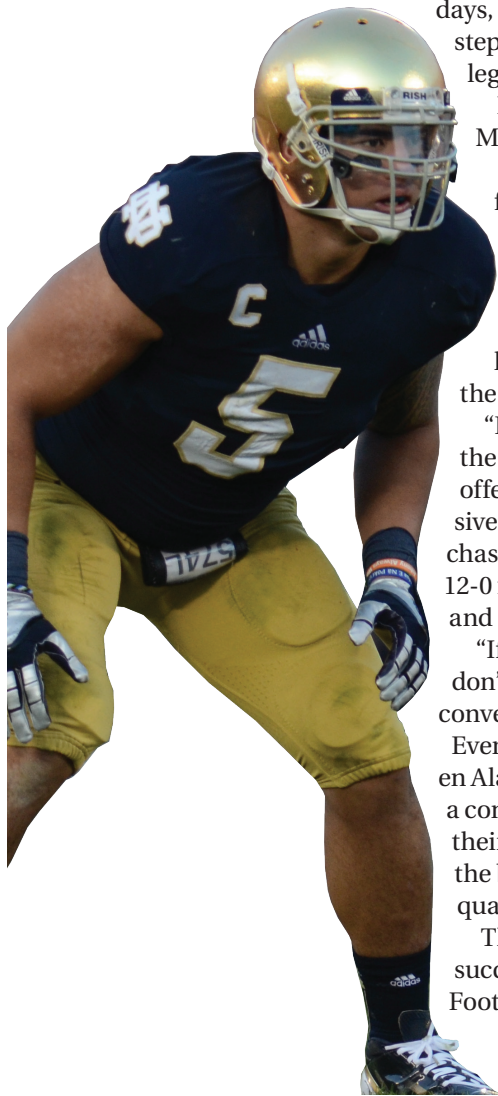
"If a guy like Manti Te'o's not going to win the Heisman, they should just make it an offensive award and just give it to the offensive player every year and let's just cut to the chase," Kelly said. "He is the backbone of a 12-0 football team that has proven itself each and every week.

"If the Heisman Trophy is what it is, I just don't know how Manti Te'o is left out of that conversation."

Ever since Texas A&M toppled then-unbeaten Alabama, there hasn't even been much of a conversation. Voters are so quick to sling their support behind an offensive player that the best remaining option is a freshman quarterback from a 10-2 football team.

This isn't an attempt to diminish a wildly successful freshman year from 'Johnny Football,' the game's hottest name during

see HEISMAN **PAGE 17**



Linebacker continues to fill trophy case with national awards

By ANDREW GASTELUM
Associate Sports Editor



All-American senior linebacker Manti Te'o's nation-stretching award show itinerary resembles that of a movie star's, with Te'o up for 14 different awards in college football. But the tour kicked off Thursday in the humblest of locales in South Bend, as Te'o received the Awards and Recognition Association's Sportsmanship Award.

"It is hard to imagine a more deserving candidate of an award that carries the characteristics of this one than Manti," Notre Dame Director of Athletics Jack Swarbrick said. "Preeminent sports brands are rare. Even rarer is an athlete that perfectly captures the essence of a sports program.

"We have been incredibly privileged at the University of Notre Dame during the past four years culminating in this year to have a student-athlete who so perfectly captures the values of this institution."

For Te'o, the award was as much a complement to his work off the field as it was on the field.

"It definitely means a lot to me. I draw comparisons to my Eagle Scout award," he said. "This is something that is focused on football or my athletic ability, it is something that is focused on the individual and who they are as a person."

Te'o's circuit includes a trip to New York on Dec. 4 for the Campbell Award ceremony, given to a player combining academics,

see AWARD **PAGE 17**



Alabama and Georgia seek SEC Championship

Squaring off with Alabama in Miami would make this improbable season complete



Chris Allen
Sports Editor



For a 12-0 campaign, 2012 has really been the year of "can't" for Notre Dame.

It started with Michigan State — can't stop Le'Veon Bell. Then it kept going. Can't beat Denard Robinson. Can't cover Miami's receivers. Can't be physical with Stanford. Can't contain Landry Jones. Can't go into the Coliseum and beat USC.

All those things the Irish were told they couldn't do, but they sit at 12-0.

With one more test remaining before glory, Notre Dame should hope to play Alabama in the BCS National Championship Game. The Irish will be up against the biggest "can't" they have faced

all season — beat the mighty Crimson Tide and there will be no one left to impress.

From the very second the clock ran out against USC and the Irish knew they would be playing in the national championship, the eyes of most of the fan base turned to the Georgia Dome in Atlanta for the eagerly anticipated matchup between SEC powers Alabama and Georgia. The same media naysayers who have doubted the Irish ascension all season have anointed the winner of the SEC Championship Game the sure winner of the matchup with the Irish on Jan. 7. By beating either the Bulldogs or the Crimson Tide, Notre Dame would complete what many would call a big upset. But while Georgia is a worthy opponent, beating Alabama

would be a fitting end to a storied season.

On the field, there are some striking similarities between the two potential SEC opponents. Both have impressive junior signal-callers — Bama's A.J. McCarron and Georgia's Aaron Murray would be among the best quarterbacks Notre Dame has faced all season. Both, like the Irish, have a stable of running backs that split the load and keep each other fresh in the backfield. Georgia's freshman duo of Todd Gurley and Keith Marshall will give the Irish coaching staff fits if the Bulldogs are to prevail and move on to Miami. Both have stout defenses — though Alabama's was exposed by Manti Te'o's main Heisman competition — and either

see ALABAMA **PAGE 17**

Crimson Tide, Bulldogs face off in de facto national semifinal game

By MATTHEW DeFRANKS
Associate Sports Editor



On Saturday afternoon at 4 p.m., No. 1 Notre Dame will be 700 miles away from the game with the most impact on them — the SEC Championship Game between No. 2 Alabama and No. 3 Georgia.

The Irish (12-0) have secured their spot in the BCS National Championship Game in Miami on Jan. 7 and the SEC champion figures to grab the other spot.

"It's a game that I think everybody across the country wants to watch," Bulldogs coach Mark Richt said. "Of course, this game in particular, because everybody's sitting there saying that the winner is going to go play for the national championship.

"The last six or seven years, the winner (of this game) has gone on to play for the national

championship, so it's not all that new."

The Crimson Tide (11-1, 7-1 SEC) held the top spot in the rankings for the first 11 weeks of the college football season before losing 29-24 to then-No. 15 Texas A&M. Alabama's defense ranks first in the country in scoring, yielding only 9.3 points per game.

Alabama, led on offense by junior quarterback A.J. McCarron, junior running back Eddie Lacy and freshman running back T.J. Yeldon, won the national title a year ago despite not even playing in the SEC championship game.

Georgia (11-1, 7-1), meanwhile, lost to LSU last season 42-10 in the very game they're in this weekend.

"I think they're hungry for some more, and we just want to

see GEORGIA **PAGE 17**