

ND encourages liberal arts education

By **MARISA IATI**
News Writer

While technology jobs dominate the top 10 of U.S. News' list of the 100 Best Jobs of 2013, Notre Dame continues to emphasize the value of a liberal arts education.

Notre Dame requires students to complete 14 liberal arts courses in different disciplines in order to graduate, according to the University website. In 2010, there were 2,333 students enrolled in the College of Arts and Letters. The College of Engineering enrolled 937 students the same year.

Dean Peter Kilpatrick of the College of Engineering said technology education and the liberal arts do not need to be mutually exclusive. He said a liberal arts background benefits engineers because it is

important they can analyze, think creatively and develop designs.

Engineers with such skills are in a unique position to shape public policy, Kilpatrick said.

"We should have more senators and congressmen and presidents who are engineers, not just lawyers," he said. "I think engineers very much need an appreciation for the social impact of the work that they do in terms of building infrastructure."

Students outside the College of Engineering should be exposed to quantitative analysis, Kilpatrick said. He said several departments within the College of Arts and Letters are starting to introduce these concepts.

"A lot of the engineering students that go into analytics jobs could just as easily

Liberal Arts at Notre Dame

ND requires students to complete

14 liberal arts courses to graduate.

In 2010, there were 2,333 students enrolled

in the College of Arts and Letters.

The College of Engineering had 937.

SARA SHOEMAKE | The Observer

be business students who are properly skilled in analytics or even Arts and Letters students who take coursework in quantifying things, data analytics, that sort of thing," Kilpatrick

said.

Dean John McGreevy of the College of Arts and Letters agreed students with liberal

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Actress speaks at SMC

By **MEAGHAN DALY**
News Writer

Saint Mary's welcomed Tony and Grammy Award winner Audra McDonald on Monday evening at 7:30 p.m. at the Gillespie Center at the Hilton Garden Inn. She took the stage among students, professors, faculty members and other members from the South Bend community.

McDonald was brought to Saint Mary's as this year's Margaret Hill Endowed Visiting Artist. This is an annual event made possible by

see ACTRESS **PAGE 7**

Second fire in almost three months hits College



ALLISON D'AMBROSIA | The Observer

Fire trucks and emergency response vehicles park outside Moreau late Sunday night, trying to control the fire and minimize damage.

By **JILLIAN BARWICK**
Saint Mary's Editor

For the second time in less than three months, Moreau Hall on Saint Mary's campus caught fire Sunday night.

Saint Mary's Security and Notre Dame Fire Department were alerted of a fire in the O'Laughlin Auditorium on Sunday night at 10:59 p.m., according to a press release from director of media relations Gwen O'Brien.

"Security officers were the first to respond to the alarm and found the curtains at stage left on fire," the press

release stated. "The sprinkling system above the curtains was working and a security officer used a fire extinguisher to further contain the fire."

When the Notre Dame Fire Department arrived at the scene, they found the curtains were still on fire, according to the release.

"Clay Fire Territory and the South Bend Fire Department also responded to the call," the release stated. "No one was in the auditorium when security and the fire crews arrived. The cause of the fire is under investigation."

The College notified students of the fire around 7 a.m. Monday via text, email and phone call with an automated voice recording. The messages also let students know that classes in Moreau were cancelled for the day.

Senior Mariah Niedbalski learned of the fire through social media before she had heard from the College.

"Around midnight I saw a friendsFacebookstatussaying 'I survived the great Moreau fire, again?'" Niedbalski said. "Our school didn't send out

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Fr. Lies honored with award

By **CATHERINE OWERS**
News Writer

Fr. William Lies, vice president for Mission Engagement and Church Affairs, has always admired the work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

But for the Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Washington and Catholic Charities USA, Lies himself is

also admirable. The organizations presented him with a "Keep the Dream Alive" award in Washington D.C. on Jan. 12 at Holy Comforter-St. Cyprian Roman Catholic Church.

The award honors King "by presenting awards to contemporary heroes working to keep his dream alive," according to a press release

from Catholic Charities USA.

"I'm humbled and honored to have received [the award], and I accepted it for the Center for Social Concerns and on behalf of Notre Dame," Fr. Lies said, "Especially as it was given in the name of Dr. King who has been a hero of mine and of so

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Election tickets announced

Observer Staff Report

The Judicial Council announced six tickets for the upcoming student government elections for the offices of president and vice president, set to take place Wednesday, Feb. 6.

The following tickets were announced: sophomores Billy Christy and Patrick Roemer; juniors Alex Coccia and Nancy Joyce; junior Michael Masi and sophomore Timothy

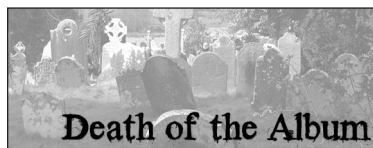
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THE OBSERVER

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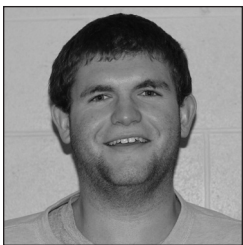
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QUESTION OF THE DAY:

What is your favorite TV show?

Have a question you want answered?

Email obsphoto@gmail.com

Connor Malone

sophomore
O'Neill Hall

“Mad Men.”



Crystal Love

senior
Walsh Hall

“Real Husbands of Hollywood.”



Emily Letkewytte

sophomore
Lewis Hall

“The Office.”



Emma Kusters

sophomore
Lewis Hall

“The Mentalist.”



Jimmy Henke

freshman
O'Neill Hall

“Psych.”



Juan Cancio

sophomore
Duncan Hall

“Suits.”



EMILY KRUSE | The Observer

Temperatures reached a high of 50 degrees Monday, melting most of the snow on God Quad and the rest of campus. Today's teperature is predicted to reach up to 58 degrees before plummeting to below freezing Thursday.

Today's Staff

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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

Tuesday

Diversity Reception

Joyce Center
12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m.
Lecture by visiting speaker Steve Ratner.

Winter Career and Internship

Joyce Center
4 p.m.-8 p.m.
Meet more than 140 employers.

Wednesday

Pink Zone Dodgeball Tournament

Rolfs Sports Recreation Center
3 p.m.-7p.m.
Play to fight cancer.

Men's Basketball

Joyce Center
6 p.m.
Men's basketball takes on the Villanova Wildcats.

Thursday

Christian Unity Prayer Service

Keenan Hall
6 p.m.-7 p.m.
Service in honor of Christian Unity Week.

“5 Broken Cameras”

DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
7 p.m.-8 p.m.
For the ScreenPeace Film Festival.

Friday

Ski and Snowboard Weekend

Rockne Memorial
4 p.m.
Hit the slopes in Harbor Springs, Mich.

Men's and Women's Track and Field

Loftus Sports Center
4 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
Notre Dame hosts the Meyo Invitational.

Saturday

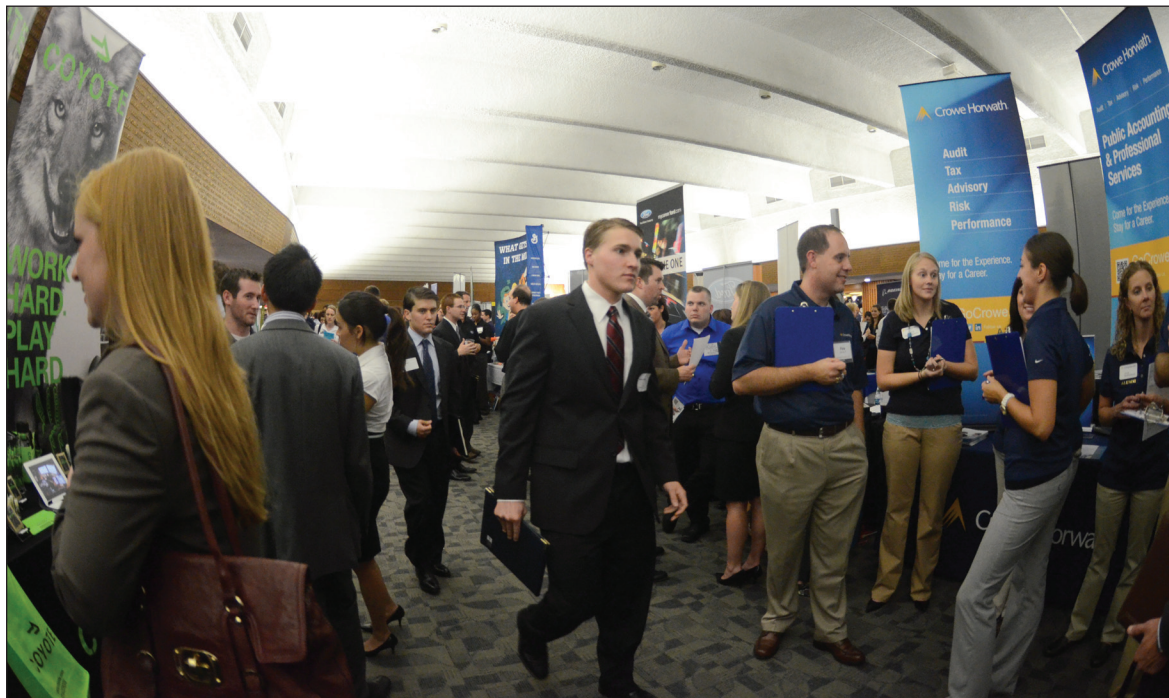
Time to Write Workshop

203 Coleman-Morse Center
10 a.m.-2 p.m.
All writers welcome.

Women's Basketball

Joyce Center
2 p.m.-4 p.m.
Notre Dame takes on Cincinnati during the Pink Zone Game.

Students prepare for Winter Career Fair



MAGGIE O'BRIEN | The Observer

Students and employers converse with one another at the Fall Career Fair on Wednesday, Sept. 5, 2012 in the Joyce Center. Students of all grade levels and majors were encouraged to attend.

By CHARITHA ISANAKA
News writer

Suit up: The Winter Career Fair will bring potential employers to the Joyce Center today to network with Notre Dame students.

This event, which will last from 4 to 8 p.m., is open to all students.

According to Go Irish, the University's Career Center site, 146 firms will be attending the event. They will represent a variety of industries, from healthcare IT, financial, nonprofit, accounting, engineering, marketing, government, higher education, consumer product, sales and other industries.

Kevin Monahan, assistant director at the Career Center, said he is unaware of

other career fairs with such immense opportunities like the University's.

"I don't know of any other career fair that will offer the diversity of employment and internship opportunities as the Winter Career and Internship Fair [today]," he said.

Monahan said Acco Brands, Cerner, Liquidity Services, SAP, Catholic Charities, Jarden Home Brands, Lutron, Nuveen and Greenlee Textron are all new organizations that will be attending the fair this semester.

Thirty-five employers will be interviewing potential student hires the day after the fair and many others will be returning later in the semester, Monahan said.

Prior to the Winter Career and Internship Fair will be the Diversity Reception from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. in the Monogram Room in the Joyce Center.

According to the Career Center website, the Diversity Reception was "created as a venue for organizations that embrace diversity to connect with students through networking, has continued to grow in participation.

The site also advertises the numerous participants in last year's reception.

"Over 150 students participated, along with more than 200 recruiters representing over 100 organizations," the website stated.

"We have a four-part blog series available at irishcareerman.wordpress.com that provides tips on preparing for the career fair," Monahan said. "The series contains steps on how to prepare for the fair, best utilize one's time at the fair, steps to take after the fair and common mistakes."

Visit Go Irish to view the most current list of employers.

Contact Charitha Isanaka at cisanaka@nd.edu

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SCREENPEACE

FILM FESTIVAL

Thursday, Jan. 31

5 Broken Cameras

7 p.m.

A first-person perspective on the nonviolent efforts in a Palestinian village to stop the building of settlements in the West Bank. Discussion led by Atalia Omer, Assistant Professor of Religion, Conflict & Peace Studies.

Friday, Feb. 1

Ai Weiwei: Never Sorry

6:30 p.m.

Chinese contemporary artist Ai Weiwei combines art and activism like no one else. Discussion led by Lionel Jensen, Associate Professor, East Asian Languages and Culture.

How to Start a Revolution

9:30 p.m.

A documentary focused on Gene Sharp, a leading scholar on nonviolent resistance, whose approach has shaped movements worldwide. Discussion led by David Cortright, Director of Policy Studies at the Kroc Institute.

Saturday, Feb. 2

The Loving Story

6:30 p.m.

Tells the story of Richard and Mildred Loving, whose landmark 1967 civil rights case ended race-based restrictions on marriage in the U.S. Discussion led by Richard Pierce, Associate Professor of History and Africana Studies.

Normal!

9:30 p.m.

An unconventional "film within a film" about the challenges facing young people in Algeria. Discussion led by Alison Rice, Associate Professor of French.

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SCREENPEACE FILM FESTIVAL is presented in partnership between the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies and the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

Lecture highlights morality of international law

By CAROLYN HUTYRA
News Writer

Steven R. Ratner, the Bruno Simma Collegiate Professor of Law at the University of Michigan, spoke at Notre Dame Law School Monday afternoon. His lecture focused on the phrase “thin justice” and its association with the morality of international law.

“Global justice remains one of the most compelling issues of our time,” Ratner said.

He followed by explaining that philosophy, political science, anthropology, history and international law are among a number of disciplines central to de-

“I see global justice as about assigning rights and duties to global actors so that it is clear what each actor is entitled to require to do or to have.”

Steven R. Ratner
professor of law
University of Michigan

bates on global justice. One of the main contributors to the construction of theories on global justice stems from philosophy.

“Philosophers of global justice have more often than not stayed clear of legal institutions, and I think this neglect is unfortunate because international law transforms policy prescriptions and ethical ideas into blinding

norms and implementation processes,” Ratner said.

Unfortunately modern-day lawyers, especially those involved in academia, Ratner said, cast global justice to the side. These lawyers exhibit a tendency to draw a parallel between global justice and those facing marginalization.

“Without ethics the law of global justice is ad hoc,” Ratner said.

Ratner described his project as having a twofold thesis. The first deals with core norms of the international legal system he said he believes are central to laying the foundation for a world order based on justice.

“Even if they came about as a result of political compromise, power of politics, and historical contingencies, [core norms] largely already conform to an ethical vision of justice, one that I term thin justice,” Ratner said.

The second aspect of Ratner’s thesis surrounds present-day laws and institutions. Their fatal flaw rests in their inability, in some cases, to even meet the thin standard of justice, he said. In other cases, they simply exist and function at too great a distance from the thicker standard. In order to better examine the level of morality at which these rules operate, ethical theory can be embraced.

“I see global justice as about assigning rights and duties to global actors so that it is clear what each actor is entitled to require to do or to have,” Ratner said.

“Norms of international law are just if they assign those rights and duties in a way that meets a substantive standard of justice.”

Ratner said two pillars form the basis of global justice. The first states the qualifications international law must uphold in order to be considered just. He said this pillar calls for the necessity of rules to promote or at least not to decrease peace internationally. The second pillar ensures basic human dignity is not damaged.

“There has to be satisfaction of both the pillars for a norm to meet the standard of thin justice,” Ratner said.

The idea of “thin justice” is based on Michael Walzer’s book, “Thick and Thin: Moral Argument at Home and Abroad.” Though Ratner said he does not endorse Walzer’s theories, he did gather his distinction between thick and thin morality from this author.

Ratner said Walzer argues that thin morality is a moral minimum as well as a universal idea that reflects

“Global justice remains one of the most compelling issues of our time.”

Steven R. Ratner
professor of law
University of Michigan

values from cultures worldwide. It is from such cultures that people can form thicker moralities within a community, he said.

Ratner, however, said he believes that society can do better than this thin justice across communities.

“I do think that the justice reflected within international law is thin in the sense that it is less dense and certainly less demanding on individuals than the justice envisioned by philosophers as that needed or domestic societies,” Ratner said.

Though this thin justice is not that toward which the world should strive, it is nonetheless a very real form of justice present in the world today. An example of such thin justice, Ratner said, is the self-determination of core international law.

“Certainly we can and should strive for thicker justice at the international level, but we must first see the moral basis of what international law already has.”

Contact Carolyn Hutyra at
chutyra@nd.edu

Event raises funds for St. Baldrick’s



MACKENZIE SAIN | The Observer

A participant in last year's The Bald and The Beautiful event April 4, 2012 gets his head shaved. This year's event is scheduled for the end of April.

By KATIE MCCARTY
News Writer

In its fifth year, The Bald and The Beautiful event will attempt to shave more heads and collect more donations for cancer research than ever before, senior Betsy McGovern said.

McGovern, who is one of five head organizers for the event, said the charity fundraiser set for April will raise awareness and funds for cancer patients.

“The event began four years ago, when a student named Sam Marks came to campus,” McGovern said. “He came as a freshman knowing he had cancer. He left after a semester, and then later passed away. The Bald and Beautiful was started in Duncan Hall, Sam’s residence, in memory of him.”

A group of freshmen in Marks’ class served on the Freshman Class Council and brainstormed the event, McGovern said, and the event has grown substantially from its start.

“There are three different organizations that we donate to, and depending on how you participate in the event, your money will go to a different organization,” McGovern said.

The first way an individual can participate in the fundraiser by shaving his or her head, McGovern said. Traditionally, this option is more popular among males but in years past, the number of women participating has grown. Last year, 10 girls shaved their heads, McGovern said.

“The people that shave their heads raise money in whatever way they want,” McGovern said. “Many contact family and friends; some even go around campus with a jar and ask students for donations.”

All the money from the head shavings goes to the St. Baldrick’s Foundation, a childhood cancer charity dedicated to finding cures for children with cancer.

Last year, the event raised nearly \$50,000 for the charity.

Students can also participate in The Bald and The Beautiful by buying hair extensions. Students can buy a strand or more of hair extensions, and the proceeds are donated to Memorial Hospital in South Bend, McGovern said.

“Memorial has a close connection with Notre Dame, and a lot of students volunteer there,” McGovern said. “The funds we donate from the event help Memorial to build an outpatient pediatric cancer treatment center.”

The third option to participate in the event is through hair donation. The program requires eight inches of non-dyed hair that will be cut and donated to Pantene Beautiful Lengths, a charity that constructs wigs for cancer patients who have lost their hair during treatment.

“This year, we are trying to expand the event,” McGovern said. “For example, we are trying to have an event with Memorial for the pediatric cancer patients around St. Patrick’s Day.”

However, the main event — head shaving and hair extensions — will happen on April 16, 17 and 19.

“We will have the front two rooms of LaFortune set up for the event,” McGovern said. “A lot of groups come in throughout the day to participate, like sports teams. People can take initiative with regards to how they want to participate in the event.”

McGovern said the event organizers are always looking for volunteers to accommodate the donors and donations.

“The end product is so amazing,” McGovern said. “We have raised nearly \$150,000 for these organizations in the past four years, and this year we want to make the event even more amazing.”

Contact Katie McCarty at
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Students work together with SBPD

By ANN MARIE JAKUBOWSKI
News Writer

Each year, about 400 men and 100 women participate in the Notre Dame club boxing teams. During their off-seasons, volunteers from both teams have joined forces with the South Bend Police Department (SBPD) to teach the sport to local children in a biweekly after school program.

Senior Rose Raderstorf currently serves as the program's president, organizing Notre Dame involvement and working to improve the program further. The students' work is part of a larger SBPD initiative to get involved with the community youth, organizing camps that give kids opportunities to learn new sports and participate in structured after-school activities, Raderstorf said.

Notre Dame students began to volunteer with the SBPD boxing club three years ago, and the program is now known as "Box Like a Champion Today."

"The program developed when the first volunteers saw a need [at the gym] to have better role models and more coaching than what was being provided at the time," Raderstorf said. "The first volunteers were from the men's team, and those guys decided to turn it into

a program for both club teams to get involved with."

The gym, attached to the Grace Community Baptist Church on Harrison Avenue in South Bend, is open Monday and Wednesday. Raderstorf said the program serves both grade school and high school youth, offering cardio workouts and fundamental boxing training.

"The gym itself is split into two segments, with the younger kids first and the older group next," Raderstorf said. "There's a ring set up in there, and we have mitts and punching bags to practice with too."

Most of the younger kids are just looking for a fun workout, but some of the older participants are trained boxers looking for access to equipment, Raderstorf said.

"With the grade school kids, we run laps and do a workout, and afterwards we usually do some form of boxing training, but we try to switch it up to keep them interested," Raderstorf said. "The older group has 7th and 8th grade boys and some young adults who fight in real competitions in South Bend or Chicago, so this is an actual gym for them to train in. They get a much more intense workout."

The police officers that

run the gym know the sport and an outside coach comes in to work with the youth too, Raderstorf said.

Senior Ragan Todd, one of the women's boxing team captains for this year, said she enjoys volunteering in the program and continuing with the sport even after Baraka Bouts ends in November.

"It seems like [boxing] is something that there's an interest in around here, with little kids who just think it's kind of cool and then older guys there who have won Golden Gloves or other titles," Todd said. "We have [Mixed Martial Arts] fighters who are focusing on the boxing aspect of their fighting as well as younger kids who look like they don't do any other form of exercise beyond this."

Both Raderstorf and Todd said one of the program's major goals is to keep kids busy and involved in the community.

"We're looking to give them an opportunity outside of school for a structured program to keep them safe and give them good options to pass the time," Raderstorf said.

"Another goal is to develop good relationships with the South Bend police and their peers, and it's definitely a good way to keep kids out of trouble," Todd

said.

Raderstorf said many of the children are from lower-income families so this is a unique opportunity for them to try a sport like boxing, which requires a lot of equipment and instruction.

"For a lot of them, it's hard to find something to do after school, and the older kids will acknowledge that there are plenty of other things they could be getting in trouble with if they didn't have this to do," Raderstorf said. "The one-on-one mentoring and coaching is really important to them too."

The volunteers and police officers are collaborating on plans to add a tutoring aspect to the program, where participants will be encouraged to bring homework to the gym to do after the boxing workout. Raderstorf said this is a major goal for the upcoming semester now that the volunteer base is more regular.

"Some people think it's strange to teach fighting to kids like this, but it's taught in a very respectful manner so they know how to use the skills properly," Raderstorf said. "It's a sport that demands great respect for your opponent, and that translates into other areas of life as well."

Contact Ann Marie Jakubowski
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Award

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

many who care for the poor." Lies said the award is focused on "advocacy and poverty reduction."

"It was an opportunity to honor Dr. King, primarily, by lifting up people who have fostered the dream he expounded on," he said.

Lies expressed his belief that the award is a reflection on not only his work, but also the work of the faculty, staff and students at the Center for Social Concerns and is ultimately a reflection on the University.

"[And] as you look at the work of the Center, and the ways it tries to inculcate in our students a vision for a just and humane world," he said. "The hope is to open our students' eyes to some of the injustice present in our world, and have it strike them."

Lies said King's vision is derived from the call of Christ, something the University tries to emphasize through the Center for Social Concerns, as well as other programs on campus.

"At some point [we want] to have the undergrads realize what their responsibilities

Fr. William Lies
Vice President,
Mission Engagement
and Church Affairs



Fire

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

an 'emergency alert' until 7:45 a.m. the next day. It's just not safe that our security doesn't alert us when something as major as a building being on fire happens."

Niedbalski called Saint Mary's Security around 2 a.m. to see if classes would still be held in Moreau on Monday.

"They told me that they did not know how bad the fire was but said we

probably wouldn't be allowed in the building today," Niedbalski said. "Which is odd seeing that they are security and should know these things right away."

Once Niedbalski knew her classes would be cancelled for the day, she said she knew the damage was minor.

"All my classes are in Moreau on Mondays but my professors didn't seem too worried since the fire started in O'Laughlin and not any of the classrooms," Niedbalski said.

A building that houses multiple majors, Moreau is

a central location for many students and professors on campus.

Colleen Fitzpatrick, a communication studies professor whose office is located in the basement of Moreau Hall, said she fortunately did not need to enter the building Monday morning.

"I was surprised that it has happened twice in only a year," Fitzpatrick said. "I was notified around 7 a.m. just like the students. The emergency system is up and running, which is always a good sign. I'm hopeful that everything is okay since I have not been in the building yet."

Senior Emily Caltrider, who lives in the Opus Apartments on campus, was still awake when she and her roommates heard sirens coming towards the College.

"We figured there was an accident on 933, but then we saw that the fire trucks were on campus and heading towards Holy Cross," Caltrider said. "We initially thought it was Holy Cross on fire. We were curious as to what was happening, and since we had all lived in Holy Cross the past three years we hopped into the car to see if we could get on the Avenue to check it out."

Caltrider and her

roommates were able to make it to the Avenue where they saw several lights. Once closer to the buildings, Caltrider said she realized it was Moreau that had caught on fire.

"Fire trucks surrounded the building and the doors in the back were opened with smoke spilling out," she said. "The fire in Moreau is an unfortunate event for the Saint Mary's community. It is sad that this is the second fire in that building this year, and that more precautions in preventing such an incident from happening weren't taken the first time that this happened."

Caltrider, like many other students, faculty and staff as well as the rest of the community, said she is curious to find out what actually caused the fire and what certain precautions could have been taken to avoid this incident from occurring.

"I feel for all the [Saint Mary's] students that have made memories over the years performing on that stage," Caltrider said. "We hope that Tostal will still be able to take place this spring."

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OE KENESY | The Observer

A fire truck sits parked outside Moreau on Saturday, Nov. 1, 2012, the day of the first fire at the building.

are before God and faith," he said, as well as their responsibility to their neighbors, both next door and across the globe.

Fr. Lies had been a lay volunteer with the Dominican volunteers for a year after he attended college.

"It was there that I was awakened to that part of the Gospel call, ... Jesus' walking with the poor and calling us to be with them," he said.

He said the passage from St. Paul's letter to the Philippians about Jesus and the power of his resurrection has spoken to him throughout his work.

"If we really knew Jesus and the power of his resurrection, we would be for others in a way that would be really impressive," Fr. Lies said.

"This is really about inculcating in our students that great vision of Dr. King, and some of the others, who, in Christ's image, have called folks to be with the poor and all those on the margins," he said. "Much of what we have to offer the Church and the world as a Catholic university is part of his vision, and that is a more just and humane society."

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Actress

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the generous gift from Hill, a Saint Mary’s alumna and a Broadway producer. The event offers students an entire day to spend with an artist of especially high quality.

McDonald is most recently recognized for her performance on four seasons of ABC’s “Private Practice” and a nine-month run of the opera “Porgy and Bess,” winning her fifth Tony Award over the summer for her portrayal of Bess. She is also the first person under 30 to win five Tony Awards.

The theatre, film, television and recording studio artist was introduced by Saint Mary’s President Carol Ann Mooney and received an overwhelming round of applause welcoming McDonald as she took the stage.

She attributes all the training she still calls upon in her work today to the first theatre she was a part of, from age nine until she graduated high school.

She shared her first on-stage experience in “The King and I” where she had never seen the final run-thru until the night of the dress rehearsal. When the king died at the end, McDonald immediately was shocked and began crying. Lesson learned:

Read the script, she said.

When it came time to apply to college, McDonald said she applied to UCLA, USC, NYU and Carnegie Mellon. After hearing a fellow classmate had auditioned at Juilliard, she decided to audition as well, confident she could do it.

“I loved acting and knew I wanted to be on Broadway, but I thought I better [audition] with my strongest talent, which was singing. ... [Juilliard] laughed at me during my audition and my call back,” she said.

Despite facing ridicule during her audition, McDonald was accepted to Juilliard.

“I thought, ‘Juilliard accepted me, I have to go,’” McDonald said.

McDonald was accepted to Juilliard’s voice program, however, to her dismay, it turned out to be only voice and music while her peers had the opportunity to explore acting and opera, she said. “I do not regret my time at Julliard for one minute. At the time, I thought I was so far away from my road I would never get back to it,” McDonald said.

McDonald said this was more than just disappointing to the eager student she was at the time. During her lecture, she explained how she had attempted suicide during her

time at Juilliard.

McDonald said that after being admitted to a mental hospital and taking some time off, she auditioned for summer performances and began belting out songs in English, something rare among her peers.

While she was there she met a young woman from Boston. This woman went on to work for a casting director. She called McDonald and got her into an audition for her first major role in “The Secret Garden.”Following that performance, she finished up her in the show and graduated from Julliard in May 1993. She was then cast in “Carousel,” which opened on Broadway in the fall of 1994.

“[Carousel] is one of the most special memories I have of any show I’ve ever done because it was the first one,” McDonald said. “This Broadway debut was conveniently located at the Lincoln Center, across the street from Juilliard where I felt untalented and struggled during my time there. It was the first of everything for me. It holds a really special place in my heart.”

McDonald explained that her drive to continue improving led her to spend four years as Naomi on “Private Practice.”“With film and



Photo courtesy of Saint Mary’s College

Tony and Grammy Award winner Audra McDonald, star of ABC’s “Private Practice,” speaks to the community Monday evening.

television, up until that point I was very afraid of the camera and fully letting myself go in front of the camera. I thought, ‘I need to get over that. Let me do a television show,’” she said. As for what comes next, McDonald said she is getting ready to record another album in three weeks, host “Live from the Lincoln Center,” and also begin another Broadway show either this fall or next spring.

“I continue to be curious ...

my motto is I’ll sleep when I’m dead,” McDonald said.

As the evening concluded, McDonald advised the young artists in the room to continue pushing themselves.

“Aside from not putting limitations on yourself, get on stage. Anywhere. You learn something every single time you step on stage,” she sai”.

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Liberal Arts

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

arts majors could work in technological fields.

“A company like Google is hiring lots of people to design programs and applications coming from a liberal arts background because they want the creativity or the ability to think across cultures that they associate with a liberal arts background,” McGreevy said.

A liberal arts background enables students to address life’s big questions, McGreevy said. He said the abilities to write, speak and analyze data prepare students for leadership roles.

“It’s not just about obtaining skills, although skills are important,” he said. “It’s also what kind of society should we have, how do we think about inequality, how do we think about human dignity, how do we think about the environment, does God exist. We want our students who are going to become leaders to be engaged in that conversation.”

Kilpatrick said each of the University’s academic departments should interact more closely with other disciplines to enrich all programs.

“People in civil engineering who are deeply interested in the beauty of the built infrastructure might find ways to interact much more closely with architecture, with industrial design,” he said. “You could do that, presumably, for virtually every discipline.”

The nation needs more engineers, Kilpatrick said. He said many more college students in

China major in engineering or engineering technology than do in the United States.

“We’re going to run the risk of them out-producing the [United States] ... and that could mean problems for our economy,” Kilpatrick said. “We won’t have the command over the market in technological products that maybe we enjoyed in the last part of the 20th century.”

Kilpatrick said Notre Dame is working to ensure students who want to study engineering can complete the coursework. Interest in engineering is also growing, he said.

“We need to be careful that we don’t retain such a high percentage that we don’t enable students to figure out, ‘Do I really love engineering, or am I doing this for the job?’” Kilpatrick said. “We really want students to discern properly, ‘What’s your vocation as a person?’”

Kilpatrick said the University should modernize its general education requirements.

“I think we want to continue to have an emphasis on the human sciences ... but I think we need to refresh it and think about how do we best equip students for the 21st century,” he said. “We live in times that are very different from even 20 years ago.”

Kilpatrick said he suggests instituting an introduction to technology literacy course so students become informed enough to enter the public dialogue about technological issues.

“There are really important decisions that our government

is making that the majority of our country can’t weigh in on because they don’t know enough,” Kilpatrick said.

McGreevy said although he does not see a need for a technology literacy course, he anticipates the University will soon reexamine its core requirements.

“Our core requirements haven’t changed in quite a while ... and they’re there for good reasons,” McGreevy said. “It’s always good to be looking at them and thinking through what set of requirements make most sense at the current moment for a great Catholic university.”

The University aims to prepare students for more than just their first jobs, McGreevy said.

“It’s a lifetime investment, we hope, in developing those writing and reading and speaking skills,” he said.

McGreevy said although skepticism about the value of a liberal arts education exists, he is more convinced than ever of its value.

“Our experience at Notre Dame tells us that liberal arts students get jobs and they get good jobs,” he said. “But even more important, the investment that our students make in becoming better writers, better speakers, better able to analyze data, prepares them for their careers over the long haul and indeed prepares them, we hope, to be better citizens, better people, better capacity to make a real contribution to society.”

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Ticket

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Scanlan; freshmen Austin O’Brien and Nick Boggess; juniors Dominic Romeo and Philip Hootsmans; and freshmen Kevin Salat and Paul Mascarenhas.

The presidential and vice presidential debates are tentatively set for Monday, Feb. 4. Should a run-off election be necessary, a

second debate between the remaining candidates is set for Thursday, Feb. 7, with a final election to take place on Monday, Feb. 11, according to the Judicial Council’s website.

The winning ticket will take office April 1, succeeding current student body president Brett Rocheleau and current student body vice president Katie Rose.

Student Government Election Timeline

Debates Feb. 4

Election Feb. 6

Runoff Debates* Feb. 7

Runoff Election* Feb. 11

Term Begins April 1

*if necessary

INSIDE COLUMN

Honest reporting



Alex Wilcox
Sports Writer

This past weekend I experienced my first March for Life. My friends and I piled into a bus Thursday night and settled in for the 11-hour trek to Washington D.C.

The March for Life covers a mile and a half stretch of land from the National Mall to the steps of the Supreme Court, yet we were told it would take two and half hours to complete. With so much time allotted to cover so little ground, I was left with plenty of time to consider the many questions buzzing around in my head. When is a life considered a life? Will our countries policy on abortion ever change? How long has it been since I could feel my toes? Above all else though: Why have I never heard of this?

I soon realized the answer to this question was the attention — or lack thereof — dedicated to the March for Life by the media. Prior to embarking, all marchers had to attend a pre-March meeting, in which we were told how to handle any reporters or journalists. However, while we were marching, I was shocked at the apparent cold shoulder given to us by the media. There were hardly any cameras, I didn't see a single reporter, nor was I asked a single question.

Year after year the March for Life is held without a single story or report from any major news networks. This year the March reportedly had its greatest turnout yet. With this record attendance, it appeared the March for Life could no longer be ignored, as The New York Times reluctantly reported the “tens of thousands” who came out.

Over 400,000 people participated in Friday's March for Life, more than the amount of people who attended President Obama's inauguration and much more than the 3,200 that showed up in D.C. the day after the March to protest the NRA. Yet the NRA protest was the top story on ABC News that night, while the inauguration made the front page of every newspaper across the country. The March for Life, meanwhile, made the cover of one newspaper, The Observer.

The March for Life dwarfed the NRA protest, but no one watching the news or reading the newspaper would know that. Isn't a protest with half a million followers a bigger story than a protest with just a few thousand? Both protests essentially are fighting for the same issue: life.

So why is it that the media shows such bias? Whether it be to get better ratings or fatter pockets, this trend has to stop. Stop trying to sell screaming headlines and juicy gossip. Give the people the full, unbiased story. Fair and honest reporting used to mean something, and as an aspiring journalist, I hope we can return to that point.

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

The politics of dying: part one

Adam Newman
Scientia Potentia Est

Two things are promised to every person: death and taxes. While most op-eds would focus on the second of these two, I am going to focus on the first: death.

Most Americans believe it is a moral obligation for our country to provide health care at the end of life for the elderly, even at an immense cost. Medicare, the government insurance program for the elderly, spends roughly 30 percent of its budget on care in the final year of life. The amount that we spend on end-of-life care will quickly increase in the future due to the aging of the population and the unsustainable rise in per-capita health care costs. As I have written before, America's long-term debt is driven by health care costs, especially through Medicare. If America wants to address its long-term fiscal health, it has to address health care costs. If America wants to address health care costs, it has to address end of life care.

The very suggestion of curbing the amount that is spent on care at the end of life angers many. Every person will lose loved ones sometime in their life, and to think that their loved one will not receive necessary care is unfathomable.

However, as counterintuitive as it may seem, costs at the end of life can be brought down while simultaneously raising quality. One has to understand that the American health care system is a patchwork of providers that have no incentive to coordinate and are reimbursed based on the quantity of services

rendered, not the quality of outcomes produced. Roughly seven in 10 seniors die from a chronic condition, such as heart disease and cancer. These diseases require many different doctors, treatments, tests and drugs. However, when doctors do not coordinate and have the incentive to utilize many tests and services, the consequence is that seniors undergo costly and expensive care at the end of their life, prolonging suffering and discomfort, while oftentimes ignoring the senior's preferences for their final weeks and days.

Not only do seniors receive poor quality care at the end of life, but they also do not die in their preferred setting. According to the Dartmouth Atlas, 55 percent of the patients who prefer to die at home surrounded by loved ones still die in the hospital. This phenomenon occurs for three main reasons. The first is that fee for service reimbursement creates an incentive for doctors to keep people alive longer and conduct unnecessary and expensive tests and procedures. At the very worst, some doctors are trying to make more money by keeping these patients as long as possible. At the very best, doctors are simply doing what they are trained to do: keep people alive, but without any conversation as to how the patient wants to die.

Second, family members are usually, and understandably so, unwilling to let their loved ones die. Family members usually are in no state to make decisions about the end of life, and usually do not understand how their decisions could hurt their loved ones through painful, invasive, unnecessary medical care.

Oftentimes, people are unable to let their loved ones go, and demand every medical intervention possible without realizing the care they want may have no benefit and can lead their loved one to suffer.

Finally, patients are also part of the problem. Even for those who believe in an after life, death is scary and we usually prefer not to discuss it. Thus, when we are in a situation where we cannot make decisions on our own, it is up to the family members and doctors to make it for us.

Ultimately, the way to lower costs and increase quality for end of life care is to reimburse health care systems, such as Geisenger, to guide seniors and their families through the final years of life by having conversations as to how the senior wants to die, working to coordinate care to avoid unnecessary suffering, and ultimately working to ensure that seniors' preferences for their final months, weeks and days are fulfilled. This helps prevent unnecessary invasive procedures at the end of life while allowing seniors to die in peace and dignity.

However, the destructive nature of the politics of health care, especially related to end-of-life care, make reaching this point politically impossible. In my next article, I will explain why.

Adam Newman is a senior political science major. He can be reached at anewman3@nd.edu

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR



QUOTE OF THE DAY

“The worst tragedy for a poet is to be admired through being misunderstood.”

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My ‘pro-life’ agenda

Anne DeMott
Raising Voices

I believe that every person is endowed by their Creator with human dignity. However, this is often violated by discrimination, violence, labor injustice, inequity of resources and the killing of innocent life. I have a responsibility to oppose actions that contradict human dignity and support those that affirm it. This absolutely means challenging abuses in the labor market, speaking out against racism, denouncing anti-immigrant attitudes and laws and rejecting homophobia. But the way I see it, this is not enough. Pope John Paul II once asked. “How is it still possible to speak of the dignity of every human person when the killing of the weakest and most innocent is permitted?”

In the same way that it seems senseless for me to oppose abortion without

opposing the many other violations of human dignity, I cannot preach a gospel of human dignity without raising my voice on behalf of the unborn. As this belief obligates me to appreciate racial diversity, promote worker rights, welcome newcomers and love people regardless of their sexual orientation, it so too begs me to stand up for the dignity of society’s most vulnerable members, the unborn.

In response to the recent shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School, President Obama offered insightful words:

“They [the children] had their entire lives ahead of them . . . birthdays, weddings, graduations, kids of their own. This is our first task: Caring for our children. It’s our first job. If we don’t get that right, we don’t get anything right. That’s how as a society we will be judged. Can we truly say we’re doing enough to give all the children of this country the chance

they deserve to live out their lives?

We’re not doing enough. We will have to change. We can’t tolerate this anymore. These tragedies must end. And to end them, we must change. We will be told that the causes of such violence are complex and that is true . . . but that can’t be an excuse for inaction. Surely we can do better than this. If there’s even one step we can take to save another child, then surely we have the obligation to try.”

I am grateful to our president for recognizing the dignity of these children and the value of each of their lives.

Similarly, I am grateful to the hundreds of Notre Dame students and faculty who raised their voices on behalf of our nation’s unborn children by participating in the annual March for Life this past Friday. As a “pro-life” woman, my agenda is about one thing: human dignity. Sometimes, trying to support human dignity

requires change, and sometimes it means holding on to traditional values. Sometimes it means some of each. It is not a liberal or conservative agenda and it is not about vilifying those who disagree with me. Human dignity. That’s all. That’s everything! An important part of affirming human dignity is showing everyone, even those with whom I disagree, respect, celebrating the beliefs we share and working together to better our world. Surely we can do better than this. If there’s even one step we can take to promote the dignity of humankind, then surely we have the obligation to try.

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Choose love over hatred

It is simpler to vilify those who disagree with us rather than to understand them. Mr. Bradley, your viewpoint “Gazing into the Abyss” (Jan. 25), demonstrates a concerning lack of empathy for women who choose abortion. Jesus calls us to love one another without condition, while you gather stones to hurl at those you should regard as sisters.

You claim no “empathetic endeavor” makes the choice to have an abortion make sense. I assert that you lack either imagination or effort, because it is not difficult to place yourself in these women’s shoes. Picture the confusion and fright that a woman experiences, knowing her future is now cast into uncertainty. Imagine survivors of rape, facing the scary reality of bringing a child into the world. Understand the heartbreak of choosing between your life and your child’s. Our society’s not exactly supportive of those who get pregnant too young or without resources. These are not evil people; they are not even bad people. They are frightened.

You suggest that Hitler and company were not “slaughtering the innocent” and were motivated by their ideals. I contend that slaughtering the innocent is exactly what they were doing. They were driven by ambition and hatred, not “ideals.” That you empathize with men motivated by malevolence rather than women motivated by fear is worrisome. Those men did unspeakably evil acts; comparing their actions to abortion not only offends their victims but also alienates women who choose abortion.

Abortion is a tragedy. It breaks my heart to consider the children never born. I commend those who choose life over fear. We are called to love the innocent as well as the guilty. After all, none of us are innocent. We have all sinned. These sins do not make someone any less deserving of empathy, dignity and love. It is not our place to judge others. Certainly we agree that abortion is an evil. However, you believe the women are evil while I maintain that they are only human.

Your condemnation adds nothing. Instead, it sends a message to women who have had abortions: “You are worse than Hitler. You are irredeemably sinful.” Void of love and understanding, your message is a clanging cymbal, drowning out Christ’s declaration that all are welcome.

Let us choose life over death, understanding over condemnation and love over hatred. Let us be kind to one another.

Ashley Currey
sophomore
Ryan Hall
Jan. 28

You’ve read the

VIEWPOINT WARS

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Death of the Album

Mac Hendrickson

Scene Writer

No one buys CDs anymore. Not really. They are not as extinct as say, the cassette tape, but it is safe to say that the birth of Napster, iTunes and the MP3 put a quick end to the reign of the compact disk. So perhaps its time we had a frank discussion about the Bermuda Triangle of music critique, the “concept album.”

As most fans of post-1980s music can tell you, the phrase “concept album” has been overused and misused to the point of futility. The phrase has described anything from Pink Floyd’s “The Wall” to Trick Daddy’s “Thug Matrimony.”

The whole system revolves around the idea that a concept album is a collection of songs united by a theme or idea. Basically, an artist working on a concept album is not simply throwing together the best songs he has written since his last album. Rather, an artist works on the album the way a director shoots a movie. There is a consistent desire for cohesion and flow. In this loose sense of the word, very few musicians since the late 1970s have tried to make anything but a concept album. It’s part of the music culture now. Skits, tracks that flow seamlessly into the next track, intros, outros and interludes are all the illegitimate children of the concept album.

Lesson No. 1 of music criticism concerns the Beatles’ “Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band.” In our early teens, we listen and wonder why this strange artifact is unanimously believed to be the greatest album of all time. It is not nearly as danceable as “Please Please Me” or “Rubber Soul.” It is not as much fun as “The White Album” or “Abbey Road.” What is the big deal? Even ELO made some albums more listenable.

Part of this might have to do with the time it was released. It might be strange to think of an album as a “you had to be there” phenomenon, but that is exactly what it was — apparently. It was an event. It was released in 1967, the most exciting and infamous year for rock and pop music. It was the heyday of Beatles hysteria, right after they decided to stop performing. It was a shift from pop to pop art. It reminded people of Andy Warhol, and made many believe that what they listened to while they made love in the mud was actually something of value. Basically, it was one of the first concept albums.

This isn’t a defense or condemnation of “Sgt. Pepper’s.” Some people get it. Others do not. Some read all about it and then get it. Some pretend to get it to preserve their self-appointed music cred. It really doesn’t matter. “Sgt. Pepper’s” was a big deal either way.

And still is. No matter how old or outdated it might seem, “Sgt. Pepper’s” is still very much part of the discussion. The “concept album” obsession has crossed

over into all popular genres and continues to dominate artists’ work. Consider two of this year’s most popular releases. Frank Ocean’s major label debut “Channel Orange” is filled with TV-sound effects and commercials, giving one the sense that each new track is

a different television channel or program. The themes of sexual alienation and lonely affluence semi-explain the gag, but mostly it feels forced. Such great material does not need the support of a physical cohesion.

Kendrick Lamar’s equally brilliant major label debut “good kid, m.A.A.d. city” has the subtitle “A short film by Kendrick Lamar.” Nearly every track ends with conversation that introduces the next track. Kendrick is presenting excerpts from his life, and the album flows like an indie film.

In a Pitchfork.com article titled “Classic Material,” writer Andrew Nosnitsky argues that “good kid” is really only assessed as brilliant on the basis of its relatedness to Nas’ landmark debut “Illmatic.” The article is spot on and worth the read. But in reality, this whole concern really goes back to “Sgt. Peppers” and the concept album. Both Lamar and Nas’ albums were designed under the pretense that the album is more important than any individual track. Clearly, we are still obsessed with the concept album.

And how foolish to obsess over such an arcane idea.



Image courtesy of rollingstone.com

The concept album was birthed during the halcyon of the LP record. The painstaking process of switching records created a desire for something that worked as a whole — an album one could throw on, sit back and relax. If an album was just that good, one only had to get off the couch once during its duration. And if the album had a deeper artistic intent, it made the whole process more rewarding and defensible. The baby boomers wanted concept albums

for reasons of convenience and validation.

But the LP is dead. So is the CD. And our mothers are using FloRida songs as ringtones. We have nothing to prove and nothing to flip. So why do we still need the concept album?

The introduction of the MP3 was really the introduction of chaos. We can mix and match now. We can create playlists and mixtapes and skip from track two to track seven. If the concern for a concept album was a chef’s concern for the order of the dinner courses, the MP3 made dinner a buffet. The presentation of an artist’s music is just a formality. We really shouldn’t care all that much about the album as a whole.

Let’s put a pin in the concept of the “concept album” for a minute, and talk about Green Day. It was not a particularly dynamite year for the 40-something

stoners, other than the fact that lead singer Billie Joe Armstrong ended up in rehab. Green Day also just happened to release three albums in a four-month span, but anyone who wasn’t paying close attention probably missed this. It was a hot-potato dishing of mediocre

material that more or less fell on its face. The albums were titled, un-entertainingly, “Uno,” “Dos” and “Tre.” Most of the tracks were meh, and the chosen music aesthetic was unimaginative and typical of the band.

But this rapid succession of music release created an interesting possibility. All in all, the band released 37 songs. This isn’t a huge number of songs to be written and recorded in

a year. But all 37 songs were packaged and released — this is unusual. Typically, a band will record a multitude of material, then cut back to somewhere between 12 and 18 tracks. In this way, the band decides what makes the cut. Green Day, in a sense, ended up giving the listeners the choice. The discharge of 37 songs is less of an odious challenge to enjoy a juggernaut of substance, and more of an invitation for the listener to pick and choose. Here are 37 songs. Pick whichever ones you like. If you do not like any, chances are you are not a Green Day fan.

Maybe this was never Green Day’s plan. In fact, it most likely was not. Perhaps Billie Joe thought none of the songs were bad enough to cut. Perhaps he thought none of them were good enough to choose. Either way, Green Day ended up putting the power of the album in the fan’s hands.

I ended up crafting my own album from the collection of songs. I called it “Vamos,” and it featured my 14 favorites. This self-made collection found a surprising amount of play on my iPod. Perhaps part of the allure is the freedom I was afforded in crafting the playlist.

And what a beautiful direction for the album. Maybe in 10 years we will not only be choosing what to pay for albums, but also choosing what songs make up the album. Getting dizzy? Do not worry, I’m sure Bruce Springsteen will still be crafting “concept albums” blaming the rich for all the world’s problems. Albums that Rolling Stone will treat like royalty despite how mediocre the songs actually are. Basically, nothing is ever moving as fast as it seems. It’s 2013 and we are still waiting for the next “Tommy.” We do not learn particularly fast.

So no, the concept album isn’t dead. Perhaps, in a few years though, it will be free. Free from the constraints of its original author. Free from the odious expectation of cohesion. Maybe it’s for time artists to start sending everything our way, so the listeners can decide what makes the cut.

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

RESTAURANT WEEK IN SOUTH BEND

By **MADDIE DALY**
Associate Scene Editor

Already tired of the dining hall's limited stir-fry bar, "authentic" Indian food and wannabe-BWW wings? Need a break from that all-too-frequent serving of mystery meat in your Taco Bell Crunch Wrap Supreme? Thanks to downtown South Bend, you can have a taste of the area's best restaurants at a discounted price during Restaurant Week.

The week started Jan. 21 and will run until Sunday. Participants can visit any of the 11 participating restaurants for either a multiple course meal or dinner for two for just \$30, an average 60 percent discount at these fine dining spots.

Borrowing ideas from larger cities' Restaurant Weeks, such as Indianapolis, downtown South Bend uses its Restaurant Week as a chance to fill empty tables during typically slow weeks in the middle of the coldest days of winter and the lazy summer vacation season.

Mark McDonnell, president and proprietor of LaSalle Grill and president of the Downtown Dining Alliance, said this week is meant "to offer people a great deal or to come in for a trial run of restaurants they might not

usually be able to afford," especially college students, who can barely manage to save enough Flex Points for a whole semester, much less have enough cash for a fancy dinner out.

In addition to newcomers, McDonnell also said the week would be a chance for "foodies who go out on a regular basis to experience all the restaurants South Bend has to offer." These people probably end up spending more than usual but enjoy the experience and still get more for their money, McDonnell said. In fact, LaSalle Grill actually has a new entrée made specifically for restaurant week, adding another perk for regulars and first timers alike. McDonnell said the restaurant just rolled out his new favorite item, steak top sirloin made with steak sauce, for Restaurant Week.

Despite last week's miserable weather conditions and the resulting urge to stay at home and eat Top Ramen and Easy Mac all day, the people of South Bend have taken advantage of this money-saving opportunity by showing record attendance, McDonnell said.

"It's been better than we've ever seen it," McDonnell said, in reference to this year's turnout.

For students hoping to catch a discounted meal in the last few days of the event, McDonnell advised calling as

soon as possible to make a reservation.

"The weekend is pretty crowded, but there are still openings for the next few days," McDonnell said. "[Monday night] typically has 50 tables total, but because of restaurant week there are 150 — that's three times as many people as usual."

Whether it's a girls' night out at The Vine, an anniversary coming up with that special someone at LaSalle Grill or snagging that chocolate fix from the South Bend Chocolate Café, this week is the perfect chance to do so at a college student-friendly price.

In case that's not enough motivation to attend, participation can also provide food for those in need across the state. The Jordan Automotive Group and the Food Bank of Northern Indiana are sponsoring a Food for Kids Pack-a-Backpack program that uses the money from extra servings of food to supply food backpacks for elementary school children during weekends and holiday breaks.

For a full list of all 11 restaurants, visit eatdrinkdtsb.com

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'MEMORIAL DAY': A NEW TAKE ON THE WAR FILM

By **GABRIELA LESKUR**
Scene Writer

Hollywood, from time to time, will come out with a war film full of pomp and circumstance that makes us think, "Wow, that's cool." A quiet, awe-inspiring movie theater will fill with the noise of battle as great special effects, heart-wrenching storylines, lots of Nazi butt kicking and extraordinary acts of valor light up the screen.

It's easy to forget while watching such a movie that for many Americans with family members serving in our armed forces, war is much more than that.

1991 Notre Dame graduate Marc Conklin's touching film "Memorial Day" does well to remind us of that fact.

At the beginning of the film, a young boy, Kyle Vogel, finds a footlocker of his grandfather's, hidden away in the family barn.

As he opens the box, the contents are nothing more to him than meaningless objects.

"Memorial Day" illustrates through Kyle's bond with his Opa ("grandpa" in German), that the objects in the footlocker are treasured souvenirs and represent memories of World War II.

Young Kyle Vogel chooses three souvenirs from his grandfather's footlocker and each formerly inanimate object comes to life as Opa recounts his days as a soldier.

Kyle Vogel looks expectantly at his Opa on this hot Minnesota Memorial Day — counterintuitive, I know — and poses an important question with the footlocker at his feet: "It's Memorial Day. What am I supposed to

remember?"

At first, this may seem like a silly and cliché question. Yet, I am ashamed to admit, I was just as clueless as little Kyle Vogel as to what I am supposed to remember.

Heart warming and at times heart wrenching, Opa tell his grandson the horrors of war and voices his hope that Kyle will never have to experience war for himself. However, as an adult, Kyle is deployed to Iraq. It is there that Kyle truly appreciates the lessons of his Opa acquires souvenirs of his own.

The truth is that though our country holds our veterans in high esteem, many times their experiences and the immeasurable value they hold are never shared. For the people who have actually gone to war, it is far more difficult to share their stories than it is for us to watch them fictionalized on screen.

What allows for "Memorial Day" to abandon the stereotypes of the modern-day war action film is that the plot centers not simply on what happens on the battle field, but how those crucial moments of war affect soldiers even when they have returned safely home.

"The truth is that times change," Conklin said in an interview with The Observer. "The theaters of war change, the equipment changes. But a soldier's basic experiences have a continuous thread that binds them together."

The film not only forms an obvious and impenetrable bond between Kyle and his Opa, but the film's road to production and sudden rising fame display the impressive bond the film has made with audiences across the country.

Veterans Jeff Traxler and Kyle O'Malley, two men of imposing stature who had both fought for the United States, approached Conklin with a simple plan for a film: two generations, two wars, one story.

Conklin explained at first he felt he was not fit for the job. When asked, "Do you have any military background in your family?" Conklin responded, "Sir, I'm holding a latte."

And yet, a latte-loving Minnesota screenwriter and two vigilant war veterans took an unorthodox war story and brought it magnificently to life against all odds. With no funding and a lot of heart, the small film grew to include Academy Award-nominee James Cromwell ("Babe," "The Artist"), the assistance of the Department of Defense and permission to use restored original World War II fighter planes.

The independent film went on to win Best Narrative Feature at the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Film Festival and Best Feature at the G.I. Film Festival in Washington, D.C. — all from an amazing story from an ordinary Opa on Memorial Day.

"Most vets actually want to tell their stories," Conklin said. "They're just waiting for someone to ask, even to insist. And it almost doesn't matter who's on the other end of the conversation, just as long as they're listening."

"Memorial Day" is a perfect way to start the conversation and start listening.

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SPORTS AUTHORITY

Tradition always rules Rose Bowl



Sam Gans
Sports Writer

Editor's note: This is the second in a 10-part series discussing the best event in sports. In this installment, Sam Gans argues for the Rose Bowl.

When people debate the best events in sports, they usually think of events that determine a champion.

But the greatest event in sports normally does not.

The Rose Bowl defines college football. Not just because of the game itself, though it is normally one of the top matchups of the entire season too. But there is so much more beyond the game that makes the college football experience. The pageantry, the bands, the tradition — that is what distinguishes college football from every other sport on the planet, most of which also have supreme athletic feats but do not have the “intangibles” NCAA football does.

And the Rose Bowl epitomizes all of those intangibles.

It is the oldest bowl game in college football, with its first contest in 1902, and it set the stage for the bowl system that has defined NCAA football for a century. “The Granddaddy of Them All” has been played every year since 1916, and all of its games have taken place in Pasadena, Calif., except for the 1942 Rose Bowl, played at Duke in the wake of Pearl Harbor.

It is a place where college football powerhouses have emerged. Notre Dame won its first national championship in the 1924 season, which concluded with a 27-10 Rose Bowl win over Stanford on Jan. 1, 1925. It was also Notre Dame's first bowl game, and the only one in which the Irish participated until the 1970s. Just one year later, Alabama won its first national championship with a victory in Pasadena in its first bowl game, defeating Washington 20-19. Those two games were more than 75 years ago, and yet, as you may recall (or might be trying to forget), those two programs played a pretty important game against each other earlier this month and are still among the elite.

Other top football programs, including Ohio State, USC and Michigan have played in numerous Rose Bowls, raising the game's prestige as the game itself raised those programs' prestige. And arguably the greatest game of all-time was the 2006 Rose Bowl, when Vince Young and Texas managed to topple the “unbeatable” 2005 Trojans.

But it is more than just a football game. The Rose Bowl's typical place on Jan. 1 marks it as the top matchup on an unofficial college football holiday. (Sometimes, the game is played on Jan. 2 when the New Year falls on a Sunday — the NFL is still king in American sports.) But the official New Year's Day holiday for many people is defined by the Rose Parade, broadcasted nationwide, which is a morning spectacle consisting of floats and bands, including those of the two schools participating in the game.

Watching the Rose Bowl takes one back to a simpler time, much like entering Notre Dame Stadium does. Unfortunately, the Rose Bowl fell into the contemporary trap and added a video board in 2011, but one still gets a feeling of history watching the Rose Bowl and seeing the sun setting over the San Gabriel Mountains in the distance.

There is, I should admit, some bias from nostalgia. Growing up in the Midwest as a fan of a Big Ten school, participating in the game that traditionally pits the Big Ten champion versus the Pac-12 champion was always seen as the pinnacle of a great season.

But even if not a fan of a Big Ten or Pac-12 school, the possibility of a fan's team playing in the Rose Bowl, if the Big Ten or Pac-12 champion participates in the national championship and a spot opens, provides chills. And the television ratings show the Rose Bowl is huge and meaningful beyond the Midwest and West Coast.

The easiest argument against the Rose Bowl as the best event in all of sports is that it's not even the best event in its own sport. How could it be when the BCS National Championship Game exists? But there's a difference between “game” and “event.” The national championship consists of the two best teams, but it doesn't have the same tradition — after all, the BCS didn't emerge until 1998 — as the Rose Bowl, the same pageantry, the same consistency in site location or the same feeling of “pureness.”

So that's why, even if it's not the biggest game in college football each year, it will always be the biggest event in college football.

And that's also why it's the best event in all of sports.

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

NCAA BASKETBALL

Cardinals escape Panthers to end losing streak

Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Russ Smith and Gorgui Dieng combined for 34 points and sealed the game with four free throws in the final 12 seconds as No. 12 Louisville ended a three-game losing streak with a 64-61 victory over Pittsburgh on Monday night.

Louisville, which has slumped since being No. 1 two weeks ago, saw an 11-point second-half lead cut to 60-58 on Tray Woodall's 3-pointer with 13.3 seconds remaining. That was one of seven 3s by Pitt over the final 13:18.

Dieng made two free throws with 12.7 seconds left for a four-point lead, and after the Panthers' Lamar Patterson shot an air ball with 6 seconds left, Smith followed with two more free throws for a 64-58 lead with 4.2 seconds left.

Woodall, who had 14 points, drained a long 3-pointer in the final second.

Smith finished with 20 points while Dieng had 14 points, 12 rebounds and five blocks for the Cardinals (17-4, 5-3 Big East).

Pittsburgh (17-5, 5-4) had its four-game winning streak stopped.

Louisville shot 45 percent (23 of 51) but didn't make a basket in the final 4:34. Pittsburgh shot 44 percent (25 of 57) and outrebounded the Cardinals 35-33 but couldn't complete the comeback as Woodall missed the front end of a 1-and-1 with 43 seconds left, leading to two free throws by Chane Behanan that put Louisville up 60-55.

Behanan finished with 12 points.

Louisville won without starting forward Wayne Blackshear and guard Kevin Ware. Blackshear is out for a “short period” after



AP

Louisville guard Peyton Siva attempts to steal the ball from Pittsburgh guard Tray Woodall during the Cardinals' 64-61 win.

spraining his shoulder in practice on Sunday, while Ware was suspended indefinitely for an unspecified reason.

The absence of Blackshear and Ware created another lineup shuffle for Louisville, which started forward Luke Hancock ahead of leading scorer Smith in Saturday's 53-51 loss at Georgetown. Smith returned to the starting lineup on Monday night with Peyton Siva, Hancock, Dieng and Behanan.

Their mission was slowing an athletic Panthers squad coming in on a roll, having won five of their past six. Pitt went from a 1-3 start in Big East play to third place behind Syracuse and Marquette and in the process matched or surpassed last year's win totals.

Being back in familiar surroundings appeared to help

the Cardinals regain their flow, at least in the first half. Trailing 9-6, Smith's first 3-pointer sparked Louisville's 12-0 run for an 18-9 lead and set the tone for an active first half.

The Cardinals scored in the halfcourt offense as well as transition and even got a 3-pointer from Tim Henderson, playing more minutes out of necessity, as they built a 32-20 lead with 4:49 remaining in the half behind Smith's 13 points.

But Louisville went cold after that and settled for a 32-26 halftime lead preserved by its defense, which limited Pitt's scoring chances and forced the Panthers into shot clock and 3-second violations down the stretch. Pitt committed 11 turnovers but stayed close with 12 of 26 shooting (46 percent) and a 19-17 rebounding edge.

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.

Happy (almost) birthday, Catherine!

Wisdom from Charles Barkley:

“I remember sitting down with the Rockets and saying, ‘Yeah. I’m going to retire.’ They said, ‘Well, we’ll give you \$9 million.’ And I said, ‘You got a pen on you?’”

“I know why his name is DMX. Because his real name is Earl. Imagine if his name was Earl the rapper.”

On the goal of the ‘92 Olympic Dream Team when playing Panama in the Tournament of the Americas : “To get the Canal back.”

“Yeah Ernie, it’s called defense, I mean I wouldn’t know anything about it personally but I’ve heard about it through the grapevine.

“We are in the business of kicking butt and business is very, very good.”

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 Whittall at 1-0084 or Karen Kennedy at 1-5550. For more information, visit ND's website at: <http://pregnancysupport@nd.edu>

NBA

Rudderless Celtics move on without Rondo

Associated Press

BOSTON — Rajon Rondo was having his best season for the struggling Boston Celtics.

He's averaging career highs in points and rebounds. He leads the NBA in assists and triple-doubles by big margins. He was voted the starting point guard for the Eastern Conference in next month's All-Star game.

"He's our guy that's orchestrating everything for us," guard Courtney Lee said. "He's our leader."

Not anymore.

Rondo is out for the season with a torn anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee that requires surgery. So coach Doc Rivers must find a replacement from a group short on point-guard experience amid a widespread feeling that the Celtics' already shaky playoff prospects are over.

He doesn't believe it.

"You can write the obituary," Rivers told reporters after Sunday's 100-98, double-overtime win over the Miami Heat. "I'm not. You can go ahead, but I'm not. We won (Sunday) and so the way I look at it is we're going to stay in there."

Lee could fill in at Rondo's position. Or Jason Terry. Or Leandro Barbosa. Or, less likely, the Celtics could sign a free agent or trade for a point guard. Their first practice without

Rondo is Tuesday.

"When something like this happens, someone will find someone that's already in our locker room that's going to play terrific," Rivers said. "And I have no idea who it is."

Sunday's victory moved the Celtics (21-23) ahead of the Philadelphia 76ers by 2½ games for the eighth and final playoff spot in the East. Their first full game since Rondo was ruled out for the season is Wednesday night at home against the Sacramento Kings.

Rivers' players needed a break after their second straight double-overtime game and their third game in four days so he gave them Monday off.

In the first two — losses to the New York Knicks in Boston and the Hawks in Atlanta — Rondo had triple-doubles to bring his season total to five. No other player, not even LeBron James, has more than two. But the Celtics' losing streak reached six games, their longest in six seasons.

On Sunday, Rondo was a late scratch with what the team first said was a hyperextended knee suffered late in the Atlanta game.

But after MRI results were read, the Celtics announced that he had a torn ACL.

Still, they overcame fatigue and Rondo's absence to beat James and the defending NBA



Celtics guard Rajon Rondo splits a pair of Memphis defenders during Boston's 93-83 loss to the Grizzlies on Jan. 2 in Boston. Rondo has a torn right ACL and will miss the remainder of the season.

champions.

"That wasn't our mindset going out there, showing that we can play the game without him," Lee said. "It was us

coming together and fighting till the end. ... It just shows that we are capable of playing without him."

They've done it six times this season and are 3-3. With Rondo, they're 18-20.

But the seven-year veteran is the most important player on a team with Paul Pierce and Kevin Garnett, still outstanding but past their primes.

Rondo draws defenders to him on drives to the basket, then dishes off. He's averaging 11.1 assists per game. Chris Paul of the Los Angeles Clippers is second with 9.7.

Among guards, Rondo's 5.6 rebounds per game lead the NBA and his 48.4 field goal percentage ranks third. And he's averaging 13.7 points.

Rondo "is becoming the heart and soul of this team," Garnett said. "He's coming into his own. He's had some bumps in the road, but we're trying to be supportive for him. It was a blow."

The former first-round draft choice has a reputation for being moody and stubborn. He was the subject of trade talks before the 2010-11 and 2011-12 season, even being mentioned in a possible deal for Paul, who later was traded by the New Orleans Hornets to the Clippers.

Now he's the Celtics' most indispensable player.

Without him, Pierce almost certainly will handle the ball more.

"It just depends on who's pressuring," Rivers said after Sunday's game. "We had the one lineup with (Barbosa and Terry). Neither one of them really want to handle the ball until

the ball gets across half court, so we let Jeff (Green) bring it up, or Paul. It's what we are."

Garnett advised Rondo not to rush back before he's ready.

"That's the first thing I told him, 'Do not play Superman,'" Garnett said.

Rivers is hoping Rondo will be ready at the start of next season. He could be, if the recovery of Chicago Bulls point guard and former league MVP Derrick Rose can serve as a guide.

Rose tore the ACL in his left knee last April 28 in the final 90 seconds of the opener of a first-round playoff series against the 76ers. He underwent surgery on May 12. He's been increasing his workload and could be ready to play in the next few weeks. That would be less than 10 months since his injury.

Then there's Minnesota running back Adrian Peterson. He tore the anterior cruciate and medial collateral ligaments in his left knee on Dec. 24, 2011 and had surgery six days later. He was back for the Vikings opener on Sept. 9, less than nine months later, and ran for two touchdowns in that game. He led the NFL in rushing with 2,097 yards, just nine short of Eric Dickerson's NFL record.

So Rivers is hopeful.

The NBA season usually starts in late October, giving Rondo about nine months to recover.

"We've got a guy in the NFL that we can look at in Adrian Peterson," Rivers said, "and whatever he did, that's what we want to do. Because that was amazing. And that's what Rondo will do."

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PGA TOUR

Tiger continues dominance with win at Torrey Pines



Tiger Woods watches his tee shot on the 10th hole during the fourth round of the Farmers Insurance Open on Monday in San Diego.

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Tiger Woods is a winner again at Torrey Pines, and the only question Monday was how long it would take him to finish.

Woods stretched his lead to eight shots in the Farmers Insurance Open before losing his focus and his patience during a painfully slow finish by the group ahead.

Despite dropping four shots over the last five holes, he still managed an even-par 72 for a four-shot victory on the course where he has won more than any other in his pro career.

He won the tournament for the seventh time, one behind the record held by Sam Snead, who won the Greater Greensboro Open eight times. It was the eighth time Woods won at Torrey Pines, which includes his playoff win in the 2008 U.S. Open.

This one was never close.

Woods built a six-shot lead with 11 holes to play when the final round of the fog-delayed tournament was suspended Sunday by darkness. He returned Monday — a late morning restart because CBS Sports wanted to show it in the afternoon on the East Coast — and looked stronger than ever until the tournament dragged to a conclusion.

Having to wait on every tee and from every fairway — or the rough, in his case — Woods made bogey from the bunker on the 14th, hooked a tee shot on the 15th that went off the trees and into a patch of ice plant and led to double bogey, and then popped up his tee shot on the 17th on his way to another bogey.

All that affected was the score. It kept him from another big margin of victory, though the message was clear about his game long before that.

One week after he missed the

cut in Abu Dhabi, he ruled at Torrey Pines.

It was his 75th career win, seven short of the Snead's all-time tour record.

"It got a little ugly toward the end," Woods said. "I started losing patience a little bit with the slow play. I lost my concentration a little bit."

He rallied with a two-putt par on the 18th hole to win by four shots over defending champion Brandt Snedeker and Josh Teater, who had the best finish of his career.

Like so many of his big wins, the only drama was for second place.

Brad Fritsch, the rookie from Canada, birdied his last two holes for a 75. That put him into a tie for ninth, however, making him eligible for the Phoenix Open next week.

Fritsch had been entered in the Monday qualifier that he had to abandon when the Farmers Insurance Open lost Saturday to a fog delay.

Woods effectively won this tournament in the final two hours Sunday, when he stretched his lead to six shots with only 11 holes to play. Nick Watney made a 10-foot birdie putt on the par-5 ninth when play resumed to get within five shots, only to drop three shots on the next five holes.

Everyone else started too far behind, and Woods wasn't about to come back to them.

Even so, the red shirt seemed to put him on edge. It didn't help that as he settled over his tee shot on the par-5 ninth, he backed off when he heard a man behind the ropes take his picture.

Woods rarely hits the fairway after an encounter with a camera shutter, and this was no different — it went so far right that it landed on the other side of a fence enclosing a corporate hospitality area.

Woods took his free drop,

punched out below the trees into the fairway and then showed more irritation when his wedge nicked the flag after one hop and spun down the slope 30 feet away instead of stopping next to the hole.

He didn't show much reaction on perhaps his most memorable shot of the day — with his legs near the edge of a bunker some 75 feet to the left of the 11th green, he blasted out to the top shelf and watched the ball take dead aim until it stopped a foot short.

He failed to save par from a bunker on the 14th, and he hooked his tee shot so badly on the 15th hole that it traveled only about 225 yards before it was gobbled up by the ice plant. He had to take a penalty drop and wound up making double bogey.

More than his 75th career win, it was a strong opening statement for what could be a fascinating 2013.

Before anyone projects a monster year for Woods based on one week — especially when that week is at Torrey Pines — remember that he just missed the cut last week in Abu Dhabi.

Woods said he wasn't playing much differently, and would have liked two more rounds in the Middle East. Instead, a two-shot penalty for a bad drop sent him home.

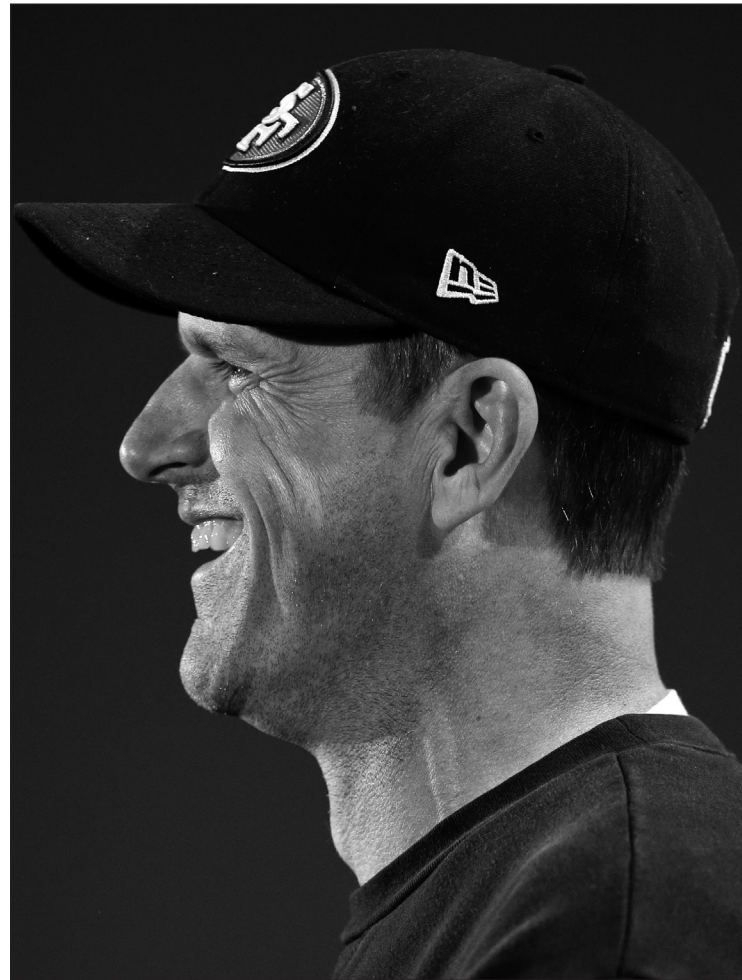
Still, in healthier and happier times he usually was sharp coming after a long layoff. Throw out the trip to the Arabian Gulf, and he is.

Was this a statement?

Woods was eight shots ahead with five holes to play when he stumbled his way to the finish line, perhaps from having to kill time waiting on the group ahead. Erik Compton, Steve Marino and Fritsch had an entire par 5 open ahead of them at the end of the round.

NFL

49ers respond to Obama's concerns



San Francisco coach Jim Harbaugh laughs during a news conference Monday in New Orleans.

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Aldon Smith was among several players preparing for the Super Bowl who doesn't see anything wrong with their kids playing football.

Responding to President Obama's comments questioning the safety of the game, the 49ers' All-Pro linebacker and a few teammates said they'd allow their sons to follow them into the sport.

"It's not like we signed up and thought we were going to play tennis," Smith said Monday. "It's a physical game. Everybody plays hard. And guys get hit sometimes. That's what we all know coming into the game. We all signed up for it."

"We came out to play football."

Guard Alex Boone was adamant that football has to be "physical," while adding he believed the league and the players association were attempting to make the game safer.

"If he wants to play, he can play. He can do whatever he wants," Boone said of having a son pursue footballs. "With little kids, you don't really have to worry about them that much. But as you get older, you have to understand the game better."

"I think the NFL is doing a great job with that right now with the little kids, try to teach them now, young, so that they understand. But, it's just football. It's going to be physical."

While acknowledging he's a

football fan, Obama told The New Republic he's concerned about the violent nature of the sport — enough so that if he had a son, he'd think twice about allowing him to play.

"I think that those of us who love the sport are going to have to wrestle with the fact that it will probably change gradually to try to reduce some of the violence," he said.

"In some cases, that may make it a little bit less exciting, but it will be a whole lot better for the players, and those of us who are fans maybe won't have to examine our consciences quite as much."

49ers cornerback Tarell Brown called football "a dangerous sport," but not one he would dissuade anyone from trying.

"I can understand what President Obama is saying, but at the same time, the league is putting in things (for safety)," Brown said. "It is a physical game if you are passionate about it and are trained the right way."

San Francisco coach Jim Harbaugh joked about allowing his son Jack, now 4 months old, to follow in his footsteps; Harbaugh was an NFL quarterback for 14 seasons.

"If President Obama feels that way, then (there will) be a little less competition for Jack Harbaugh when he gets older," said Harbaugh, whose older brother John coaches the Niners' opponent, the Baltimore Ravens. "That's the first thing that jumps into my mind, if other parents are thinking that way."

NCAA BASKETBALL

Izzo and Spartans look to take next step

Associated Press

EAST LANSING, Mich. — Michigan State coach Tom Izzo often lamented what his team lacked when it won 17 of its first 20 games.

A day after the Spartans lost by five points at Indiana, Izzo was more encouraged than discouraged.

And, he even said the team has a chance to go from good to great.

“That is one thing I would’ve taken out of that game,” Izzo said. “That was a pretty good basketball game to watch. I liked our competitive attitude.

“We had a couple inside guys play good and one outside play well. If we can get it to two and two, we have a chance to get even better.”

The Spartans (17-4, 6-2 Big Ten) stayed at No. 13 in The Associated Press’ poll on Monday. They host Illinois (15-6, 2-5) in their only game during a nine-day stretch.

Izzo give his players a “mental day” on Monday by having them only watch film, plans to give them Friday off and perhaps dedicate a day next week to working on individual skills before preparing to play Minnesota at home on Feb. 6.

“I think this break will be perfect,” he said.

Even though the Fighting Illini have slumped to a ninth-place tie in the Big Ten, Izzo hopes the third-place Spartans realize they are playing a team that was talented enough to beat Ohio State, Gonzaga and Butler — all by double digits.

“We’re in for a dangerous week,” Izzo said.

In the 75-70 loss to the third-ranked Hoosiers, Michigan State post players Adreian Payne and Derrick Nix were dominant at times and freshman guard Gary Harris perhaps played his best game. They helped the Spartans have a shot to win — trailing by two points late in the game — despite leading scorer Keith Appling being on the bench with five fouls and two points.

Payne had 18 points, nine rebounds, blocked a shot and had a steal. Nix scored eight points, made a game-high six assists, grabbed five rebounds and had two steals.

Harris scored 21 points — one short of his season high — and made five 3-pointers while playing sound defensively.

“Gary Harris took a major step again,” Izzo said.

The crowd taunted Harris, the 2012 Indiana Mr. Basketball

award winner, and he insisted he didn’t hear the jeering fans.

“I didn’t even notice it to be honest with you,” Harris said. “I just tried to block it out.”

Branden Dawson, who is also from Indiana, contributed 12 points and eight rebounds.

Even though that was a solid performance from a sophomore less than a year removed from major knee surgery, Izzo said the forward will prove to be one of a few pivotal players this season.

“For us to go from good to great, (Dawson) has to keep taking steps,” Izzo said. “I think Denzel (Valentine) and Travis (Trice) are very important parts. We can’t do it with four or five players.”

Izzo said top-ranked Michigan and Indiana, who are tied for first place in the Big Ten, are definitely better than every other team in the conference.

The Spartans will have two more games left with the rival Wolverines — the first is in two weeks at home — a rematch with the Hoosiers along with a trip to Ohio State during the second half of the Big Ten schedule.

“We do have a chance to get better, but that could still mean a couple losses,” Izzo said. “I don’t say that to protect myself,



AP

Michigan State coach Tom Izzo instructs his team during the second half of a 59-56 win over Ohio State on Jan. 19 in East Lansing, Mich.

but I do it realistically because this league is very, very good and you don’t get many off days.”

While Izzo acknowledged being more pleased with his team than he was just a few days ago,

he vowed that it’s not because he believes in moral victories.

“It’s because we did get more guys playing well,” he said. “And, we did some things we wanted to do.”

NCAA BASKETBALL

Minnesota struggles through another slide



AP

Minnesota head coach Tubby Smith watches the second half of the Gophers’ 45-44 loss to Wisconsin on Saturday in Madison, Wis. The Gophers are currently on a four-game losing streak.

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Minnesota has developed a troubling pattern since hiring coach Tubby Smith: a midseason slide.

The Gophers are counting on a return home this week to help restore their rhythm and turn the current four-game losing streak into an aberration rather than a trend.

“It’s mostly mental. We have to just keep having faith,” center Trevor Mbakwe said. “We all still believe we’re one of the best teams in the country. Now we’ve just got

to go out and play that way.

In six years with Smith, Minnesota has lost only eight non-conference games. Regardless of the quality of those early victories, the Gophers have always taken plenty of confidence and momentum into Big Ten play.

But whether the cause was injuries to irreplaceable players, disruptive off-the-court issues or simply tougher competition that exposed some flaws, they have always faded — be it in mid-January, early February or a late skid into tournament time in March.

The Gophers reached as high

as eighth in The Associated Press poll, but they tumbled from 12th all the way to 23rd in the latest rankings released Monday after losing on the road last week to Northwestern and Wisconsin.

“Nobody likes to lose, but it happens. That’s part of sports. We’ve got to fight through it as a team,” swingman Austin Hollins said.

They had myriad chances to win both times, but a two-game total of 92 points and a pattern of untimely fast-break-squelching turnovers led to defeats that dropped their record to 15-5

including 3-4 in the conference.

One of their problems has been a lack of production from the reserves, but in the last two games starters Joe Coleman, Hollins and Rodney Williams combined for 27 points and together shot 9 for 39 (23 percent) from the field.

“I’ve got to be more aggressive, more vocal. It didn’t help that I wasn’t hitting any shots,” Hollins said. “I thought I did a decent job on defense, but at the same time that can always get better.”

Williams had a breakthrough season as a junior, but since Big Ten play began the kind of passive offense and inconsistent scoring that hampered him his first two years has returned to the court. He’s one of the most athletic players in the country, but at power forward he’s thinner than most of his opponents and has been getting bumped around. The Gophers tried moving him to the wing, where he played as a freshman and sophomore, some against Wisconsin.

“We know that he’s a great player. People go through slumps like that. Unfortunately he’s gone through a little slump, but I wouldn’t be surprised if tomorrow he goes for 15 or 20 points,” Mbakwe said. “He’s a competitor. I know he’s been taking a lot of criticism. It’s not all Rodney.”

Williams was unavailable

to reporters after practice on Monday.

“Something’s getting him off his game. That’s one thing that always concerns me, just staying mentally focused and not letting one play affect you in another couple of plays,” Smith said. “I just think he needs to be more active going to the glass and creating more opportunities.”

Minnesota hosts Nebraska on Tuesday and Iowa on Sunday, and after a tough trip to Michigan State returns to Williams Arena for games against Illinois and Wisconsin. While the goal of a Big Ten title might be all but gone, plenty of time remains for the Gophers to re-establish themselves as one of the best in this stacked-as-ever conference and get in position for that elusive NCAA tournament win under Smith.

Smith has been sharply critical of his players after several of these recent losses, but this week his tone has been more upbeat.

“Our job as a coaching staff is to tell ‘em we love ‘em, tell ‘em how good they are and how much better they can be,” Smith said.

He added: “I still have a lot of confidence in them, if you’re asking that question. We still haven’t peaked yet. We have a lot of basketball left to play. We’ve got a lot to do. Nobody’s happy when we lose. I know I’m not.”

SMC BASKETBALL | KALAMAZOO 63, SMC 59

Belles surrender lead, fall to Hornets

Observer Staff Report

Despite a strong start to the game, Saint Mary's ultimately fell to Kalamazoo in a close 63-59 contest on Saturday.

The Belles (5-15, 3-8 MIAA) failed to get the victory, while the Hornets (2-17, 1-10) secured their first league win of the season.

Halfway through the first half, Saint Mary's went on an 11-0 run and pulled away for the largest lead of the game, a 24-13 advantage, with 6:55 remaining before the intermission.

Kalamazoo countered that run with a three-pointer, which Saint Mary's freshman guard Maddie Kohler answered with another deep three-pointer. The Belles finished the first half with a 30-27 lead.

Roughly seven minutes into the second half, the Hornets tied the game at 41.

The second half consisted of back-and-forth action between the teams and a tied scoreboard.

With just over two minutes left in the game, the Belles held a 59-53 lead.

However, the Belles could not finish on any of their last possessions. The Hornets scored the final 10 points of the game to secure the 63-59 victory.

Freshman forward Eleni Shea recorded season-highs with 16 points and five steals, while fellow freshman forward Krista Knapke poured in 11 points. Kohler also added 11 points and five rebounds off the bench.

The Belles turn their focus to their next opponent, Trine, whom they defeated 59-43 on Jan. 9.

Saint Mary's takes on the Thunder on Wednesday at 6 p.m. at Hershey Hall in Angola, Ind.

MEN'S SWIMMING

Strong Big East tests Irish

By MEGAN FINNERAN
Sports Writer

In 1983, Pittsburgh won the Big East title. Then it won again and again until 1993, when Villanova finally put a stop to the streak. By 2004, the Panthers had taken control once again, stretching their consecutive top finishes to an eight-year stretch that started in 1997. Between 1983 and 2004, all but three of the 22 Big East championships had gone to Pittsburgh.

Notre Dame had won none.

In 2005, the Irish finally won the Big East crown. The following year, they again finished victorious. In 2007, five points stood between the Irish and the top of the podium. In 2008 and 2009, they won the title back-to-back years, capturing the third and fourth for the program, respectively.

In 2010, when the current seniors were freshmen, Louisville took its first title. The Cardinals returned to the top again the following year.

"Louisville is always our toughest competition," senior Chris Johnson said.

Last year, in 2012, the Irish swept the Big East. Notre Dame took top honors by winning the conference, current senior Bill Bass earned the title of Most Outstanding Swimmer, Tim



JODI LO | The Observer

Irish senior Tylor Gauger races during the Shamrock Invitational at the Rolfs Aquatic Center on Saturday. Notre Dame split the meet.

Welsh was named Swimming Coach of the Year, current sophomore Nick Nemetz was named Diver of the Year and Caiming Xie won Diving Coach of the Year.

This year, the Irish return nearly all of last year's successful competitors. Bass won two races at last year's meet and has continued to lead the squad this season. Current sophomores Brennan Jacobsen and John Williamson also contributed top finishes to last year's win.

Louisville, the most recent team besides the Irish to capture the Big East title, stands at No. 14 in the most recent polls. Notre Dame just dropped out of

the top 25, falling from No. 20 after Saturday's loss to Harvard.

Despite the recent loss tarnishing their undefeated record, the Irish look forward optimistically.

"As we get closer to Big East, training tapers off as we start resting," Johnson said. "When the week of Big East comes, we are primed, rested and ready to go off."

The Irish next compete at the Northwestern Invitational on Friday and Saturday before the Big East championships begin Feb. 27 in Indianapolis, Ind.

Contact Megan Finneran at mfinnera@nd.edu

NHL

Blue Jackets rally to defeat Stars

Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Vinny Prospal scored from a hard angle at 1:22 of the third and Sergei Bobrovsky had 24 saves to lead the Columbus Blue Jackets past the Dallas Stars 2-1 on Monday night, ending a four-game losing streak.

It was the Blue Jackets' first victory since opening night in Nashville in a shootout. They had been outscored 16-6 since while mustering just a point in a shootout loss to Detroit in the home opener a week ago.

Derek Dorsett also scored for the Blue Jackets.

Philip Larsen had the Stars' goal with Kari Lehtonen stopping 25 shots.

The Blue Jackets took the lead for good when Prospal collected the puck in the right corner and fired a shot along the goal line that appeared to catch Lehtonen by surprise, slipping into the net.

Bobrovsky preserved the lead with a terrific stop on Michael Ryder's one-timer from the right hash midway through the period, just before Columbus' Adrian Aucoin hit a post with a slap shot.

Jamie Benn saw his first action of the season for the Stars, who have lost three in a row. He signed a five-year, \$26.5-million contract last week and had missed the first five games during negotiations for a new deal

and while awaiting a U.S. work permit.

Jaromir Jagr, needing just one goal to break a tie with Luc Robitaille (667 goals) to move into 10th on the all-time list, returned to the Dallas lineup after missing one game with a bad back.

The second period was filled with frustration for the Blue Jackets, but ended with them getting a loud ovation as they came off the ice.

Larsen scored his first goal of the season on the power play at 4:13, rocketing a shot from the right point that slipped between two players to befuddle Bobrovsky, who was screened on the play. Benn picked up an assist.

Soon after, Vernon Fiddler picked up two minors for a hook and high sticking on the same sequence. Then Tom Wandell gloved the puck in the defensive zone and was called for delay of game — giving the Blue Jackets 2 minutes of a 5 on 3 advantage.

The Stars' defense completely shut down the power play, limiting Columbus to passes back and forth out front, but no real scoring chances.

There was a smattering of boos when Dallas killed off all the power plays.

Despite generating no offense when they had a man advantage, the Blue Jackets then tied it at even strength.

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TRACK AND FIELD

Freshman Swanberg prepares for heptathlon

By GREG HADLEY
Sports Writer

For Brent Swanberg, competing in the multi-events is all about one thing: stamina.

The freshman from Manhattan, Ill., has been entering decathlons and heptathlons since he was a junior in high school and even advanced to the USA Track & Field national championships his senior year.

Swanberg will compete in his first collegiate heptathlon at the Big East indoor championship in less than a month alongside veteran seniors Ted Glasnow and Dean Odegard.

The indoor men's heptathlon consists of the 60-meter dash, 60-meter hurdles, 1,000-meter run, long jump, high jump, pole vault and shot put. The competition takes place over two days, testing the full range of each athlete's ability.

While Swanberg's favorite discipline is the high jump, he said the event doesn't favor one

skill set over any other.

"The person who is most technically sound almost always comes out on top," Swanberg said.

To achieve this technical prowess, the Irish multi-eventers spend copious time training on each event.

"The key is logging a bunch of hours during the week in train-

"It's also really important to spend the most time on your worst event."

Brent Swanberg
Irish freshman

ing," Swanberg said. "It's also really important to spend the most time on your worst event."

Not many meets offer the full event, so to prepare for the championships, Swanberg and Glasnow each competed in the high jump, long jump and 60-meter hurdles at the Indiana Relays this past

weekend. Glasnow also ran the 400-meter.

Jim Garnham coaches the Irish decathletes with the wisdom of his extensive experience coaching multi-events and field events for 12 years. Under his tutelage, Irish multi-eventers have earned all-Big East honors nine times. Last year, at the indoor championships, Glasnow and Odegard finished fourth and ninth, respectively.

"He really knows what he's doing," Swanberg said of Garnham. "To be successful, you need a good coach and good facilities, and we definitely have both of those here at Notre Dame."

The Irish next compete Friday and Saturday at the Meyo Invitational, the biggest home meet of the season.

The multi-eventers will make their heptathlon debut at the Big East indoor championships on Feb. 16 and 17.

Contact Greg Hadley at ghadley@nd.edu

NCAA BASKETBALL

Orange freshman will have surgery



AP

Syracuse freshman forward Dajaun Coleman tries to grab a rebound during a 57-55 win over Cincinnati on Jan. 21.

Associated Press

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Syracuse freshman forward Dajuan Coleman will have a surgical procedure on his left knee Tuesday, the university announced in a release.

The 6-foot-9, 288-pound Coleman, who has started all 20 of the sixth-ranked Orange's games this season, is expected to miss four weeks. He was averaging 5.0 points and 4.3 rebounds.

Coleman injured the knee in practice before Syracuse's game

at Villanova on Saturday. He started, but played only 7 minutes in a 75-71 overtime loss. He played 7 minutes the previous game, a 57-55 home win over Cincinnati.

With Coleman out, Syracuse (18-2, 6-1 Big East) is down to seven scholarship players. Senior forward James Southerland has missed the past four games after being declared ineligible on Jan. 12.

Coach Jim Boeheim has said he is hopeful that Southerland can return to the team, but there is no time frame.

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SAP®



Irish senior guard Skylar Diggins drives past Tennessee junior guard Meighan Simmons in the second half of Notre Dame's 77-67 victory over the Lady Volunteers in Knoxville, Tenn., on Monday night.

AP

Diggins

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

but then we made a nice run in the second half. We didn't handle it late particularly well, but managed to hang on. You know, we missed some free throws down the stretch which we don't normally do. But overall, [with the] hostile environment and a lot of emotion on the Tennessee side, we handled it well."

Notre Dame led by as many as 19 points in the second half, but saw its lead cut

in herself, she uses the ball screen well, you know, she knows when we really need her, and when to get the ball up, so she just has that great basketball IQ."

Cable made an important contribution to the Irish victory. Although she entered the game averaging 17.5 minutes per game, she played 26 minutes Monday, including many during the Lady Vols' second-half run. Her nine points and five rebounds continued a recent trend, as Cable had averaged 9.8 points

"I thought Skylar was magnificent ... I mean, career-high in front of that crowd, in that environment, with great defense? She was magnificent."

Muffet McGraw
Irish coach

to 69-64 with 3:54 remaining. However, Tennessee never got closer than that five-point deficit. A layup by sophomore guard Madison Cable and a three-pointer by Diggins pushed the Irish advantage to 10 points, and the lead never again dipped below eight.

"I thought Skylar was magnificent," McGraw said of her senior guard. "I mean, career-high in front of that crowd, in that environment, with great defense? She was magnificent."

"She's got a lot of confidence

and five rebounds over the previous four contests.

"She was so important in the win," McGraw said of the sophomore guard. "I thought she had just great minutes, terrific job off the bench, played well in so many different stretches for us and made some huge baskets when we really needed them."

The Irish return to Big East play Saturday when they host Cincinnati at Purcell Pavilion.

Contact Cory Bernard at
cbernard@nd.edu

Fab Five

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

around," Lawson said.

After coming back from winter break early for two-a-day practices, the five freshmen solidified the "Fab Five" by creating a Twitter account (@NDFabFive) to document the group's play on the court and its shenanigans off it.

"It started as a joke," Lawson said. "We made a Twitter account ... and we were taking pictures and tweeting them, just ridiculous stuff. It pretty much took off from there."

While the Twitter account provides some good laughs and shows off the freshmen's humor, it also serves another greater purpose, Monaghan said.

"It's more to attract attention to us and the tennis team," Monaghan said. "We think we could become something special as a team, especially later in our careers. The more followers we get, the more support we'll have and that can only help us."

For example, on Jan. 19, the "Fab Five" garnered attention for the team's opening match of the spring season.

"Wake up and smell the tennis balls!!! Men's Tennis season starts today! See you at the Eck pavilion at 11 #ProtectTheEck," the "Fab Five" tweeted.

With home matches against

No. 5 Duke and No. 2 USC on the Irish schedule, the freshmen and the rest of the team hope the Twitter account can continue to get fans to come support them at the Eck Pavilion.

"There are definitely some big matches that we are looking forward to and trying to get people to come out for," Lawson said.

With three and a half more years left in their collegiate ten-

"We think we could become something special as a team, especially later in our careers."

Quentin Monaghan
Irish freshman

nis careers, the "Fab Five" have some lofty goals in their sights.

"We would like to finish in the top 8 in the country and go from there," Monaghan said. "And as a group, once we are juniors and seniors, [we want] to carry the program along."

But Lawson chimed in with one more goal — 1,000-plus Twitter followers.

If the "Fab Five" and the Irish can reach their tennis goals first, their other goal is likely to follow.

Contact Peter Steiner at
psteiner@nd.edu

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CROSSWORD | WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**

1 Kinnear of “Little Miss Sunshine”

5 Turned red, say

9 Turned white

14 Streetside shout

15 Verne captain

16 “___ the other reindeer” (common mishearing of a Yuletide lyric)

17 Cookie baker

18 Eye carefully

19 Turn into mush

20 1966 Johnny Rivers hit

23 ___ Bator

24 Anthropologist Fossey

25 Create skid marks, perhaps

32 ___ crab

33 Malt-drying 17-Across

34 World workers' assn.
- 35 Judith of “The Devil’s Advocate,” 1977

36 Early gig for Chase and Belushi, for short

37 Prison, informally

38 Prison, informally

39 Mentally together

41 “Stop right there!”

43 One with lots of experience

46 El Prado works

47 Lofty verses

48 Certain holiday mail ... or what 20-, 25- and 43-Across have in common

54 “Me, too!”

55 Visionary sort

56 Untrusting

57 Dispute, as a point

58 Diva’s delivery

59 Falco of “Nurse Jackie”

60 Is introduced to
- 61 Shades at the beach

62 Beavers build them
- DOWN**

1 Old muscle cars

2 Four-star piece, say

3 Corp. higher-up

4 Game with sets and runs

5 Like some coffee and potatoes

6 Take back, as testimony

7 ‘Zine on the Net

8 Agreement that’s now sure to go forward

9 Kellogg’s snack since 1964

10 Bryn Mawr grad, e.g.

11 Old currency abbreviated “L.”

12 Squared up

13 Actor Billy ___ Williams

21 Race in an H. G. Wells novel

22 Ballpoint tips

25 Armada units

26 Corps of Engineers project

27 Where competitions take place

28 Made sharper

29 Parkgoer on a windy day, maybe

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

L	A	S	S	E	S	B	O	A	T	S	T	E
E	M	P	I	R	E	E	A	V	E	A	I	D
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J	A	B	S		S	T	E	E	L	W	O	O
I	D	O		D	D	T	B	Y	L	I	N	E
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57						58				59				
60						61				62				

Puzzle by ELLEN LEUSCHNER AND VICTOR FLEMING

- 30 Doolittle played by Audrey Hepburn

31 Philosopher Kierkegaard

36 Shows disdain for

37 Changed one's mind again and again
- 39 Combat pilots' missions

40 Stud fee?

41 Felt toppers

42 GPS suggestions: Abbr.

44 Did not play

45 Elect

48 The stuff of legends
- 49 Living on the ___

50 Inoculation fluids

51 Nothin'

52 Decorate, as a Christmas tree

53 Roll-call calls

54 Texas patriot Houston

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HIGHLY PUNLIKELY | CHRISTOPHER BRUCKER



LOWER YOUR EXPECTATIONS | LENNY RAGO & PATRICK CROSS



SUDOKU | THE MEPHAM GROUP

Level: 1 2 3 4

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

SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE

1/29/13

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

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

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HOROSCOPE | EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Ariel Winter, 15; Elijah Wood, 32; Sarah McLachlan, 45; Frank Darabont, 54.

Happy Birthday: Face whatever problems come your way head-on. The longer you let things fester, the harder it will be to move forward in a positive direction. Make this year count by turning it into a transitional period that leads to your victory. Be honest, creative and determined to do what's best for you as well as those you love. Your numbers are 8, 10, 16, 24, 31, 38, 43.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Look at the relationships you are in and decide which are complimentary and which are not. Call in favors and make the most of the connections you have developed in the past. Put your dreams, hopes and wishes at the top of your list. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You are likely to face opposition. You will have to do things on your own if you want to reach your goals without interference. Not everyone you meet will be honest regarding motives or what they have to offer. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Pick and choose what you do according to your needs, not someone else's. It's important to express how you feel if you want to get ahead. A personal matter can easily get blown out of proportion. ★★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You have more options than you realize. Don't settle for less when you clearly want more. Use your imagination and you will find a way to get what you want. Take the initiative to make things happen. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Change is heading your way. Embrace what's being offered and you will end up in charge. Be honest about your financial position and don't promise what you can't deliver. Everything will ride on how practical and reliable you are. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Emotions will surface and truth will be of utmost importance. Pick up all the information you can that will help you avoid looking unprofessional. Don't be afraid to give anything you pursue your own unique touch. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Emotions will surface and truth will be of utmost importance. Pick up all the information you can that will help you avoid looking unprofessional. Don't be afraid to give anything you pursue your own unique touch. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You can afford to be different. Walk away from anyone who wants you to conform or give in to a lifestyle that doesn't work for you. Don't limit your possibilities by trying to please others. It's up to you to do your own thing. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Travel, communication and trying your hand at something you would like to do for a living will all play in your favor. Embrace any alterations being made in your personal life and you will impress someone you love. ★★★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Money, health and legal matters must be taken care of. Unforeseen change will make it difficult for you to get what you want if you have too much clutter in your life. Stay on top of every situation you face. ★★★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You'll have to address past regrets before you can move forward. Discipline will be required in order to pursue new goals. Focus on home, family and future security. Don't let emotions stand in the way of what must be done. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19- March 20): Not everyone will be upfront with you. Ferret out secret information in order to keep the upper hand. Love is in the stars, but honesty regarding your current situation will be necessary if you want to start something new. Face facts head-on. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are intuitive, motivated and a humanitarian. You demand attention.

JUMBLE | DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

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

NURPE

○ ○ ○ ○ ○

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DPUPE

○ ○ ○ ○ ○

RIPTEM

○ ○ ○ ○ ○

SUEERM

○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Ans: ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

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(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's | Jumbles: PROWL PURGE SEESAW CHANGE

Answer: What do you call a rabbit on the lawn? — A GRASS HOPPER

WORK AREA



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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL | ND 77, TENNESSEE 67

Rocky Topped

Diggins scores a career-high 33 points as the No. 2 Irish down Lady Vols in Knoxville for first time ever



Irish senior guard Skylar Diggins brings the ball upcourt as she's defended by Tennessee senior guard Kamiko Williams during Notre Dame's 77-67 win over the Lady Vols on Monday in Knoxville, Tenn.

By CORY BERNARD
Sports Writer

Immediately after No. 9 Tennessee honored legendary coach Pat Summitt with a banner before tip-off Monday, an Irish star continued making the case for a banner of her own.

Senior guard Skylar Diggins, the newest member of Notre Dame's 2,000-point club, scored a career-high 33 points to go along with five assists and four steals, and the No. 2-ranked Irish defeated the Lady Vols (16-4, 7-0 SEC) 77-67 at Thompson-Boling Arena in Knoxville, Tenn. Freshman guard Jewell Loyd added 10 points and junior guard Kayla McBride contributed nine points and 10 rebounds.

Diggins has now led the Irish (19-1, 7-0 Big East) to three straight wins in their series with Tennessee after Notre Dame dropped its first 20 matchups against the women's basketball powerhouse. With the victory,

the Irish became the first program ever to defeat both Connecticut and Tennessee in three straight seasons. Irish coach Muffet McGraw said she enjoys being in the same elite group as the Huskies and Lady Vols.

"It's good to be in that elite company," she said. "I think that's where we want to be and so we're really proud of that."

In the first half, the game looked every bit like a top-10 matchup. Notre Dame entered the locker room holding a 33-29 lead after both teams played a clean, defensively tenacious 20 minutes of basketball. However, the Irish wrested control of the momentum early in the second half with an 11-0 run to build a 16-point lead.

"I was really pleased with the way the game went in the second half," McGraw said. "I thought the first half, our shot selection was not as good as it could have been,

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MEN'S TENNIS

Tight-knit 'Fab Five' seek followers via Twitter

By PETER STEINER
Sports Writer

They might not have quite taken collegiate athletics by storm yet as their Twitter account states, but the "Fab Five" have brought new energy and plenty of attention to Notre Dame this season.

The "Fab Five" consists of the five freshmen on the Irish roster and the group has already made big strides on the court, off the court and in the world of social media.

Quentin Monaghan, Alex Lawson, Nicolas Montoya, Kenneth Sabacinski and Eric Schnurrenberger make up this freshmen contingent of the Irish squad. But before these rookies joined the Irish and became the "Fab Five," they already knew each other through other tennis avenues, Lawson said.

"The four American freshmen knew each other pretty well from junior tournaments and national tournaments, even though we weren't close living by each other," Lawson said. "Eric is from Switzerland and he's so nice and friendly. He fit right in."

Because they spend many hours each day together, the

five freshmen have become a close-knit group that does more than just play tennis together, Monaghan said.

"We are just always around each other," Monaghan said. "It's practice every day and then we eat dinner together. We continue to hang out and we just enjoy being around each other and working hard."

In addition to adjusting to normal college life, the freshmen have also adapted to the collegiate tennis format — something much different than they experienced in high school, Monaghan said.

"It's much different," Monaghan said. "While playing matches there are fans and the atmosphere is team-oriented. In juniors, it's just pretty much all you. You care a lot more about the team. They'll pick you up if you lose, but if you win you're really helping out the team."

This team aspect of college tennis has been something the freshmen particularly enjoy, Lawson said.

"We have a really close team and all the guys are really tight, so it's a great group to hang

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Irish freshman Alex Lawson lungers for a ball during his doubles match against Western Illinois on Jan. 19 at the Eck Tennis Pavilion. Lawson is one of five freshmen on the Notre Dame squad.

SUZANNA PRATT | The Observer