

Health restored, greeter plans for May return

John Ritschard, five-year South Dining Hall greeter, checks into hospital after bout of pneumonia

By **ANDREW GASTELUM**
Editor in Chief

Like many in the Notre Dame community, South Dining Hall greeter Lila Ritschard started her Easter morning with a prayer.

It was the only way she felt could make a difference. The previous night, her husband John Ritschard stopped breathing on his own and was wheeled into the Intensive Care Unit at St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center.

"It's the only thing I can do," she said. "It comforts us to start

every morning with a prayer."

John Ritschard, 82, regretted missing any time at his week-day job swiping cards during dinnertime at South Dining Hall over the past five years. So much that he spent the last two months at his post shaking hands, handing out candy bars and telling jokes to students while a severe case of pneumonia and a bacterial infection built up in his lungs.

Doctors told Lila most people at his age have a 25 percent survival rate, but all John wanted to do was return to South Dining Hall.

"He told me, 'You just tell [the students] I'll be back in a couple of weeks.' And I [told] him that he won't," Lila said. "But he said, 'I've got to get back to see my kids.' ... They're his life. He really loves being out here and he misses it."

Lila said her husband's health began to wane in January, when he came down with the flu. He started experiencing back pain, which they wrote off as a pulled muscle. Still, his lingering flu gradually turned into pneumonia

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Observer File Photo

South Dining Hall greeter, John Ritschard, has delighted students with his riddles for the past five years.

Francis asks for focus on love, peace

By **MEGHAN THOMASSEN**
Managing Editor

ROME — Pope Francis, the first South American pope in Catholic Church history, celebrated his first Holy Week last week by challenging the faithful to serve one another and calling for global peace.

On Holy Thursday, Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, former archbishop of Buenos Aires, washed the feet of 12 young detainees in the Casal del Marmo, one of Rome's juvenile prisons, according to the BBC.

"Help one another. This is what Jesus teaches us," the pope said Thursday, according to the BBC. "I do this with my heart because it is my duty, as a priest and bishop I

must be at your service. But it is a duty that comes from my heart and a duty I love."

"I love doing it because this is what the Lord has taught me."

Pope Francis led a Good Friday service in Saint Peter's Basilica and the Stations of the Cross at the Coliseum. He read aloud meditations composed by young Lebanese members of the Church, calling for peace in a region "torn apart by injustice and conflicts," according to the BBC.

Pope Francis has brought a new sense of simplicity to the Vatican, according to BBC's David Willey in Rome. He wears plain vestments and

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Photo courtesy of Thomas Graff

Pope Francis washed the feet of two women on Holy Thursday, which many said symbolized the realization of his Holy Week sermon.

Program directs students to felicity

By **MEL FLANAGAN**
News Writer

Students learned how to manufacture personal happiness at Happiness Intervention, an event hosted by the Office of Alcohol and Drug Education (OADE) on Wednesday.

The program, led by University Counseling Center staff psychologist Megan Brown, was the latest installment to the Wellness Wednesday series, an initiative started last semester.

OADE health educator Bridget Hoffman said Wellness Wednesdays was started in an effort to create holistic wellness programs for students.

"The hope was to establish more programs that are holistically based on wellness," Hoffman said. "They cover various topics from stress reduction to fun exercise activities to cooking on a college budget."

OADE developed the concept for this week's program after screening 'The Happy Movie' on the United Nations'

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Shades of Ebony honors coeducation



Photo courtesy of Chizo Ekechukwu

Shades of Ebony honors the achievements of Notre Dame women throughout the University's history during 'Womens Week.'

By **NICOLE McALEE**
News Writer

The women of Shades of Ebony are preparing to celebrate coeducation at Notre Dame with their event '40 Years and Counting,' which will take place Monday through Wednesday celebrating the contributions of women on campus.

Senior Ally Jeter, outgoing vice president of Shades of Ebony, said the group was

already planning a celebration of women on campus when they learned this year is the University's 40th anniversary of coeducation.

"It originally started out as a program we were in called 'High Heels, Higher Standards,'" Jeter said. "We just wanted it to be a celebration of women and all that we do here on campus and then we realized that it was 40

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

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor-in-Chief Andrew Gastelum.

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QUESTION OF THE DAY:

What do you like most about this weather?

*Have a question you want answered?**Email obsphoto@gmail.com***Julia Hermann**

Sophomore
Lewis Hall

“Quad games and studying on the quad is my favorite part of college.”

**Kerry Walsh**

Freshman
Howard Hall

“It’s very mild.”

**Kirsten Fernandez**

Sophomore
Badin Hall

“All of the people out on the quad.”

**Steven Tomasko**

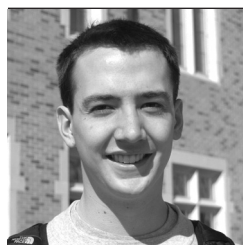
Sophomore
Morrissey Hall

“Nice to leave Morrissey without five layers of clothes on.”

**Mia Womack**

Freshman
Howard Hall

“This is the only place where I would think 55 is warm and everyone is happy.”

**John Brems**

Junior
Morrissey Hall

“The sun.”



LILY KANG | The Observer

Christina Tobias-Nahi, former Director of Islamic Relief USA, addresses students in her lecture, “Crossing Borders: Screening & Cross-Cultural Discussion” in Hesburgh Center Auditorium on Thursday.

THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

*Want your event included here?**Email obsnews.nd@gmail.com***Friday****Relay for Life Blood Drive**

Grace Hall
9 a.m.-4 p.m.
All donors receive a free ND T-shirt.

Men’s Tennis

Eck Tennis Pavilion
4 p.m.-6 p.m.
Match vs. SMU.

Saturday**Hawaii Club Presents: Lu’au 2013**

Stepan Center
5 p.m.-8 p.m.
Food, music, dance and entertainment.

Softball

Melissa Cook Stadium
12 p.m.-4 p.m.
Doubleheader vs. Villanova.

Sunday**Sunday Mass**

Basilica of the Sacred Heart
10 a.m.-11 a.m.
Music by the Notre Dame Liturgical Choir.

Opening Reception: BFA and MFA Student Thesis Exhibition

Snite Museum of Art
2 p.m.-4 p.m.
Awards at 3 p.m.

Monday**Film: “Sun Come Up”**

LaFortune Student Center, Montgomery Auditorium
8 p.m.-9 p.m.
Discussion to follow.

Aase Berg Reading

Eck Visitors Center
7:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
Hear Berg read selections from her poetry.

Tuesday**Men’s Baseball**

Eck Baseball Stadium
5:35 p.m.-7:35 p.m.
Game vs. Michigan

Film: “Switch Energy Project”

Jordan Hall of Science
7 p.m.-9 p.m.
Explores world’s leading energy sites.

Belles study leadership, cultural inclusion

By **TABITHA RICKETTS**
News Writer

The Saint Mary's College Intercultural Leadership (IL) offers students with an interest in social responsibility the opportunity to develop their leadership abilities and learn more about cultural diversity.

The IL Program is a two to three year co-curricular program that combines leadership development with study of diversity and intercultural inclusion.

Intercultural Studies Program Director Mana Derakhshani said the program aims to teach students about leadership and acting for the common good.

"The main goal of the IL program is to provide ... opportunities for students, whether they are involved in formal, traditional leadership roles or not, to recognize their leadership style and develop the skills and knowledge necessary to be an agent of change for the good," Derakhshani said.

The program requires students to attend monthly meetings as well as a number of retreats, according to the program's commitment form.

Senior Ambreen Ahmad said

the retreats are important to the leadership development aspect of the program.

"The retreats are an opportunity to see who you are as a leader, to recognize your values and to know what you stand up for," Ahmad said.

Senior Maeya Alexander said, for her, the retreats are

"The retreats are an opportunity to see who you are as a leader, to recognize your values and know what you stand up for."

Ambreen Ahmad
senior

the most enjoyable component of the IL program.

"[My favorite part is] going on the retreats," said Alexander. "Getting to hang out with people who are your peers ... really [challenges] the way we collectively live as leaders. It's really tough, but that's what makes it fun. You really get to bond with a lot of the girls."

Participants must also complete 50 hours of

community-based learning and nine credit hours in intercultural leadership topics, in addition to leading an inclusive leadership project, in order to complete the IL Program.

Alexander said IL participants are instructed to design their projects so other students can continue their projects after they graduate.

"One of the things that we're supposed to accomplish by the end is to create a leadership project that can be replicated and continued at Saint Mary's," she said.

Alexander said past leadership projects have ranged from data comparisons of the status of women in South Bend to the nationwide status of women to comprehensive informative booklets and programs designed to prepare students for study abroad.

Derakhshani said the components of the program help students develop six proficiencies: Recognize the leader within, articulate your ethical and spiritual center, engage and value diversity, dialogue on power and privilege, create inclusive and equitable communities and make your difference in the world.

The choice of service

placement, individual leadership project and where to study abroad are different ways that students can tailor the program to match their personal interests, Derakhshani said.

She said all of the students benefit from the bonds formed through spending time with like-minded peers.

"I think different students appreciate different components of the program, but everyone agrees that an unexpected benefit is belonging

"There is immense value in being a woman and being collaborative and inclusive."

Ambreen Ahmad
senior

to a cohort of like-minded individuals," Derakhshani said. "That bond remains strong throughout their career at Saint Mary's and hopefully beyond."

Derakhshani also said the program challenges students to be more effective in a diverse world and stands out on a resume to employers who understand the importance of

intercultural awareness.

Ahmad said she has learned a lot about collaboration and being a woman through the IL Program

"One big thing that I've taken away is that there is immense value in being a woman, and being collaborative and inclusive," said Ahmad. "It's been a really great experience. I've learned a lot about myself through it."

Alexander said she would recommend all interested students apply to the program.

"I would definitely recommend it for anyone, not only to meet people, but to talk about the issues in our world that people don't always see," Alexander said. "It's given me a lot of confidence to do things that I wouldn't have thought I could do."

Derakhshani said the program is open to rising sophomore and junior students from any discipline. Derakhshani said the application process opens each spring, and this year applications will be accepted through Monday. She said around 10 new students are accepted into the program each year.

Contact **Tabitha Ricketts** at **tricke01@saintmarys.edu**

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SMC to welcome Zimmer as commencement speaker

By **KELLY RICE**
News Writer

Social entrepreneur Kyle Zimmer will be the commencement speaker for the Saint Mary's College Class of 2013.

According to a Saint Mary's College press release, Zimmer, a 1986 graduate of the George Washington School of Law, is the presi-

Kyle Zimmer
First Book CEO



dent and CEO of First Book, a non-profit organization that provides books to children in need. She founded and became president of First Book in 1995, and the organization, under her leadership, has distributed over 100 million books to children nationwide, according to the press release.

Senior Silvia Cuevas, senior

class president, said she is looking forward to Zimmer's address. Cuevas said she expects the commencement address to be memorable due to Zimmer's accomplishments.

"The excitement beams from my face when I think of commencement, and what's to come after Saint Mary's," Cuevas said. "Kyle Zimmer speaking during our commencement will be extraordinary, I am excited to listen about her path to leave a positive mark on the world and become a pioneer for change."

Cuevas said Zimmer's success in business and inspirational career will inspire the Class of 2013 to bring about change.

"My peers and I are hoping to be in her shoes someday, as women who know their potential to create something for the greater good of all," she said. "The college made an excellent choice, the class of 2013 will be itching to go out and be the change ourselves after we hear Zimmer speak."

Senior Dani Haydell said she expects Zimmer's speech to be inspiring because of her career as a woman working for change.

"I am excited for Zimmer to speak at commencement because she is a good example of what women can accomplish when they put their time, effort, and heart into something," Haydell said. "Also, the fact that the company she is president of is working to make the lives of others better is a good example that women definitely are responsible for a huge part in changing the world and making it better."

In 2007, Kyle Zimmer was named the United States' Outstanding Social Entrepreneur of the Year by the Geneva-based Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship.

According to the press release, Zimmer will receive an honorary doctor of humanities degree from the College.

Contact Kelly Rice at krice02@saintmarys.edu

Greeter

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and the couple discovered the persistent back pain turned out to be the result of a lung infection.

On March 21, Lila said she noticed a slight change in her husband's demeanor, which prompted her to request a day off of work for John.

"He wasn't happy with me about that but he didn't have a choice," she said.

That afternoon, she said John collapsed in the couple's Mishawaka home.

"I wouldn't have been there a half hour later, but thank God I was there," Lila said. "So I called the ambulance and they got him stabilized and took him to the emergency room. They did a CAT scan and his whole chest cavity was full of fluid. ... [They found out] the bacteria encased the lung and it was hard for him to breathe. So they had to go in and scrap the lung. They peeled it like an orange."

In the following weeks, John's health became even more complicated, Lila said. Doctors drained over six liters of fluid from his lungs and chest cavity and diagnosed him with congestive heart failure, which led to kidney failure. Meanwhile, his blood-thinning medication eventually led to hemorrhaging.

Yet when her husband came out of surgery, Lila said

she noticed the same John she had known in 13 years of marriage.

"They were trying to settle him down in the ICU. They try to roll him over and he is telling them riddles. That tells me he's okay," she said. "He keeps them in stitches up there [at the hospital]. He seems to be the hit of most of the nurses who take care of him."

John began walking on his own Wednesday and is expected to start rehabilitation by the end of next week. Lila said she hopes her husband will be home to celebrate their 14th anniversary on April 17.

"[The doctors] are all amazed at how he has recovered so quickly," Lila said. "He has been in the hospital only three times in his life, all before he turned 70. This was a lot. It did scare him though."

Despite the scare, Lila said the students he cares about at the University continue to one of her husband's greatest concerns during his hospital stay.

"He always asks, 'Did you see so-and-so? Are they okay? Nobody's telling them jokes,'" she said. "Even as sick as he's been, he's been very concerned with getting back there."

Lila spent 14-hour days at the hospital in the first week of John's stay, but returned to South Dining Hall last week at his request when his condition began to improve.

"He's got a couple more weeks to go at least," she said.

"He'll be [at the hospital] the rest of this week and probably into next week. If anybody wants to go see him or send anything to him they are more than welcome to. He's in Room 5510 on the fifth floor."

"He would be so appreciative. It would cheer him up so much."

If John continues to improve, Lila said she would schedule him to return to South Dining Hall for the last week of school.

"Oh yeah, he always looks forward to it every day," she said. "He always enjoyed being around young people. He just relates to them. He's always got a great sense of humor and never gets upset or angry or anything. He would probably do it even if he wasn't paid. He just enjoys it so much."

To the Ritschards, the support on campus "means the whole world," as a few students have already visited John during the hospital's daytime hours. But what does one give the man in Room 5510 who gives so much and asks for nothing but a smile in return?

"We don't do it for [money]," Lila said. "We do it because of the blessings. Students are a blessing and we love them. We have been extremely grateful for all the prayers. We always keep all of the students here in our prayers and we're so thankful for theirs."

Contact Andrew Gastelum at agastell@nd.edu

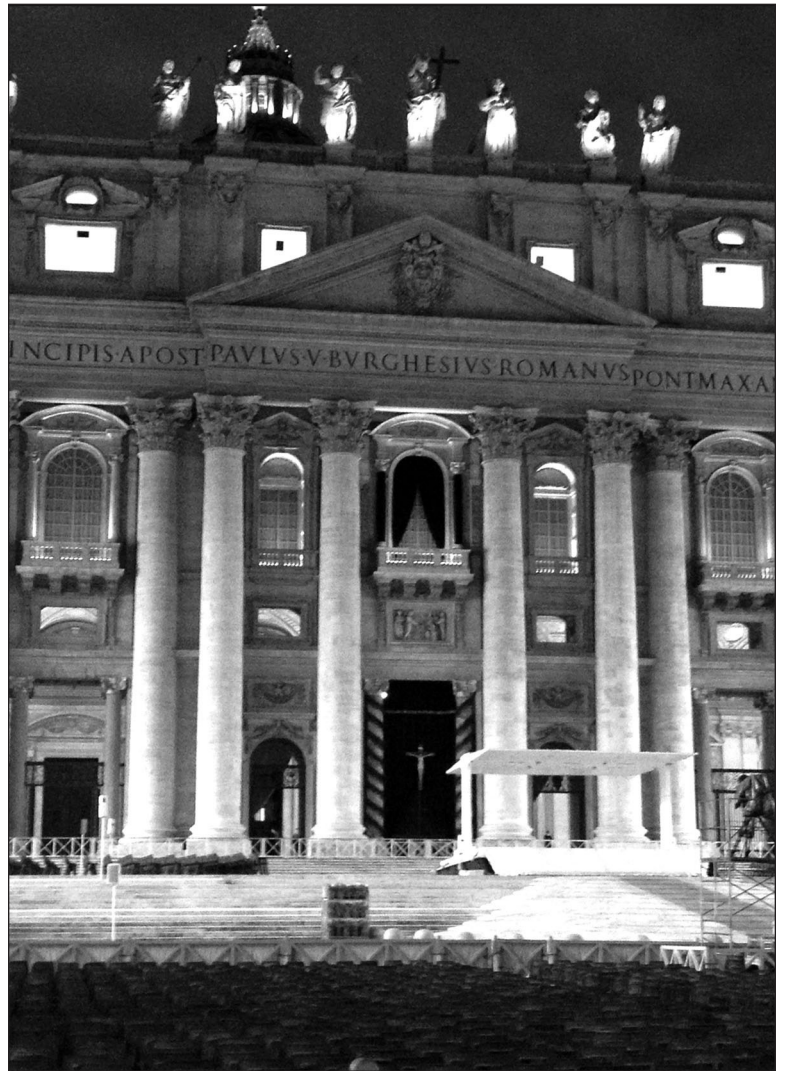


Photo courtesy of Thomas Graff

An estimated 250,000 people showed up to catch a glimpse of Pope Francis as he presided over services during his first Easter as pope.

Holy Week

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

has not taken up residence in the lavish papal apartments.

Saturday night was the Easter Vigil held in Saint Peter's Basilica. Capuchin friar Fr. Raniero Cantalamessa delivered the homily, referencing Franz Kafka's "An Imperial Message" to illustrate the difficulty of spreading the Word of Christ to the worldly, according to the BBC.

"We must do everything to prevent the Church from becoming Kafka's castle, where it is impossible for the messenger to get word out to the world," Cantalamessa said. "So, we must have the courage to knock them down and return the building to the simplicity and linearity of its origins."

Pope Francis delivered his "Urbi et Orbi" message to the city of Rome and to the world after the Mass. He emphasized the importance of love and peace for communities that are needy and war-torn.

"What a joy it is for me to announce this message: Christ is risen! I would like it to go out to every house and every family, especially where the suffering is greatest, in hospitals, in prisons," the pope said, according to the English translation offered by the Holy See Press Office.

The pontiff said Jesus Christ's triumph over death should transform Christians' lives.

"What does it mean that Jesus is risen? It means that the love of God is stronger than evil and death itself," he said. "It means that the love of God can transform our lives

and let those desert places in our hearts bloom."

Pope Francis invited everyone to "accept the grace of Christ's Resurrection" and "become agents of this mercy." He prayed specifically that the conflicts in the Middle East, Iraq, Syria, Nigeria, the Congo, Central Africa and Korea would be resolved.

"Peace in the whole world, still divided by greed looking for easy gain, wounded by

"The love of God can transform our lives and let those desert places in our hearts bloom."

Pope Francis
Bishop of Rome

the selfishness which threatens human life and family, selfishness that continues in human trafficking, the most extensive form of slavery in this twenty-first century," he said. "Peace to the whole world, torn apart by violence linked to drug trafficking and by the iniquitous exploitation of natural resources!"

To conclude his address, Pope Francis quoted a passage from Psalm 117:1-2.

"Dear brothers and sisters, to all of you who are listening to me, from Rome and from all over ... the world, I address the invitation of the Psalm: 'Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever,'" he said. "Let Israel say: 'His steadfast love endures for ever.'"

Contact Meghan Thomassen at mthomass@nd.edu

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Wellness

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

International Day of Happiness a few weeks ago, Hoffman said. Designing follow up sessions focusing on how students could effectively increase their positive emotion level would hopefully improve student happiness, she said.

Brown led the group of attendees through multiple exercises, which ranged from measuring positive emotion and life satisfaction on the subjective happiness scale to writing down three things they are grateful for having in their lives.

"We talked about how that [gratitude] felt — that was the first intervention," Brown said. "Gratitude has been studied in the field of positive psychology as one intervention that helps a lot of people feel more positive."

Brown also shared several studies that demonstrate the benefits of feeling gratitude, including one that asked participants to list five things they were grateful for on a weekly or daily basis.

"[The studies] found rather consistently that people felt better about their lives as a whole, they were more optimistic about the future, they reported fewer health complaints," Brown said. "The gratitude group also spent more time exercising, 1.5 more hours per week."

It is important, however, to distinguish positive emotions like gratitude from happiness, Brown said.

"Gratitude is a positive feeling but you might not be happy," she said. "Things might be going badly in your life, but having gratitude, that positive emotion, still lights up the same area of the brain that happiness does."

Joy, compassion and other positive emotions serve the same purpose, Brown said.

Brown concluded the session by having attendees form a happiness plan for them to move forward. She said students focused on what they could do to improve not only their positive emotions, but also the positive emotions of others.

"The benefits of happiness, of positive emotion in general, are that people are healthier, they live longer and they're more resilient in the face of things that go wrong," Brown said. "Not only are they okay after a tragedy, but they are flourishing. They are better off than if the tragedy never happened."

The Happiness Intervention aimed to increase the overall happiness of students on campus, Hoffman said.

"Students here are set to such high academic standards, which is awesome, but they tend to become anxious and stressed out," Hoffman said. "We were able to just bring the whole idea of being grateful for something different every day rather than just focusing on, 'What are the tasks that I need to accomplish today.'"

Contact Mel Flanagan at mflanag3@nd.edu

Ebony

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

years of women specifically this year, so we wanted to incorporate that and capitalize on that and make it even grander. It's ... a celebration of women in the past, here in the present and also women in the future at Notre Dame, and all of our accomplishments and what we've contributed to the University."

Freshman Chizo Ekechukwu, historian and Diversity Council representative for Shades of Ebony, said the group's events will begin Monday afternoon with a service event.

"We have our service event on Monday at Saint Margaret's House for us to give back to the community [and] we have an ice cream social with them," Ekechukwu said.

Ekechukwu said there

will be an opportunity for group members and faculty from various departments to gather for dinner and engage in discussion at the Joyce Center's Club Naimoli on Tuesday night. She said they will discuss important topics for women in American society during the dinner.

"The dinner is with 75 women," Ekechukwu said. "We have nine different tables and nine different topics and we'll talk about different issues, from the representation of women to women in sports and things like that."

On Wednesday, a prayer service in Ryan Hall and a 'Girls' Night In' in the Coleman-Morse Center lounge will close out the '40 Years and Counting' celebration, Jeter said.

Jeter said the prayer service is open to anyone, but the 'Girl's Night In' is restricted to women.

"[The prayer service] is open to everyone on campus. It will just be reflecting on the role of spirituality and being a woman here on campus," Jeter said. "'Girls' Night In' is specifically for women, just to have a place to go in fellowship after the prayer service."

According to the group's website, Shades of Ebony was officially recognized by the University in 2002 as a group for African American women on campus to discuss their experiences, foster sisterhood and perform service.

Freshman Ray'Von Jones, Shades of Ebony president-elect for the 2013-14 academic year, said the group's goal is to help women on campus develop a positive self-image.

"We're basically trying to help promote positive self-image between African American and other women on campus," said Jones.

Jeter said the organization has transformed from just a group for discussion into one that fosters service alongside dialogue.

"It started in the basement of Walsh Hall as a place for discussion ... and then it became more of a service-based and discussion-oriented initiative," she said.

The group meets every other Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the South Lounge of Walsh Hall. Ekechukwu said all women are welcome to join the group's dialogue and service.

"We are open to everyone. I think a common misconception with Shades is that it's only for black women, and it's not. It would be nice to see women of all races and sexualities," Ekechukwu said.

Contact Nicole McAlee at nmcalee@nd.edu

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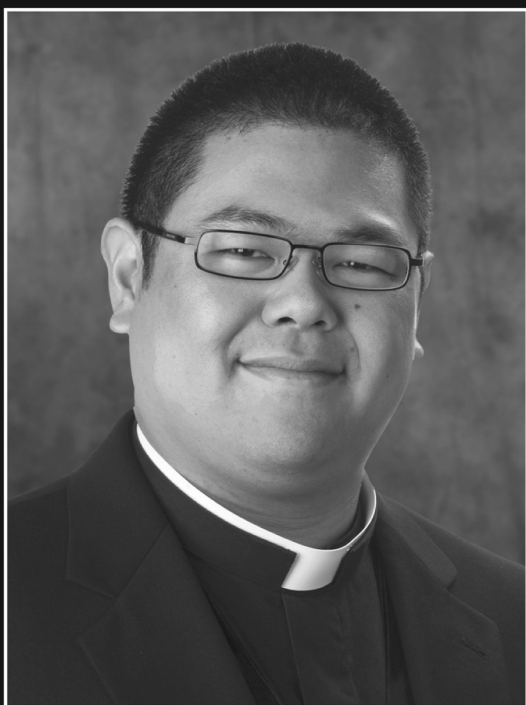
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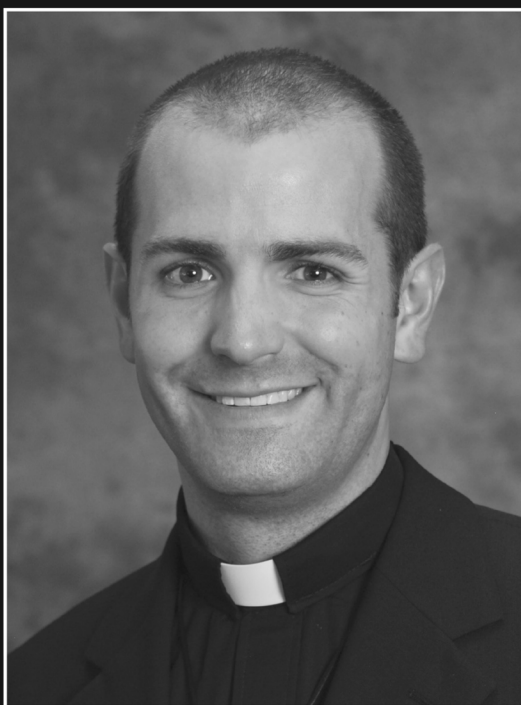
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INSIDE COLUMN

My Notre Dame bucket list



Ankur Chawla
Scene Writer

With the school year and my last semester here quickly (I'm sure you'll all agree too quickly) reaching its end, more and more nights have been spent reminiscing about the past four years: the things we've done and the things we hope to do before we leave. Here's a snapshot of a few things on my bucket list I've either been lucky enough to check off or hope to in the next month and a half.

10. Make a bucket list. It's self-explanatory to say one needs to make a bucket list before trying to check things off of it...

9. Win a Bookstore Basketball game. While this may come easy to most of the athletic population on campus, my 5-foot-6 self would be better suited for a bookstore tennis match. My last shot is this Friday at 5:30.

8. Study on every floor of the library. Though you may be partial to the renovated fishbowl or the tables on the second floor, make the hike up to each floor and discover something new about medieval history or corporate law.

7. Spend time abroad. Whether it's a full semester, summer or even spring break in Mexico, take the time to see the world and immerse yourself in a different culture.

6. Do a CSC seminar. Few things are more rewarding than spending a fall or spring break in Appalachia making close friends and helping others.

5. Eat a quarter-dog

4. Regret eating a quarter-dog

3. Meet a Notre Dame celebrity. On the list: Father Hesburgh, Regis Philbin, Austin Swift...

2. Start a tradition. Make crepes for your friends on Sunday afternoons, they'll love you for it. Or drink white wine on Wednesdays solely for the al-literation. Start something for yourself and your friends and you'll feel like you've added to the already rich traditions of this university.

1. Graduate. While I'm dreading the day as much as everyone else, it is a testament to our time here and the culmination of the nights spent in the library and the Backer alike.

Contact Ankur Chawla at achawla@nd.edu

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

Is Virginia for loathers?

Gary Caruso
Capitol Comments

For nearly 45 years, the Commonwealth of Virginia lured tourists through an iconic slogan, "Virginia is for Lovers." The brainchild of Richmond advertising company Martin and Woltz, the slogan launched in 1969 for the Virginia State Travel office and has been copied in various iterations by other tourist organizations. Part of the slogan's allure is the tolerant and accommodating feeling one derives when associating Virginia with tourism. Unfortunately, the GOP state legislature and governor have tarnished that imagery of brilliant openness in Virginia with another new legislative intrusion — this time permitting campus organizations to discriminate.

Two weeks ago, Notre Dame alumnus and Republican Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell ('76) signed the so-called Student Group Protection Act into law. The measure maintains funding for student organizations that limit membership based on religion, sexual orientation or personal beliefs. In an attempt to apparently protect a campus group's ability to discriminate, Virginia's reactionary initiative is a direct response against and attempt to reverse a 2010 U.S. Supreme Court decision, *Christian Legal Society (CLS) v. Martinez*. The high court affirmed that requiring college student groups to adopt an "all-comers" policy is not a violation of that group's First Amendment rights. The CLS at the University of California had sought to limit its membership based on a requirement that its members subscribe to a statement of beliefs as well as refrain from practicing behavior outside the statement. Members were further prohibited from advocating beliefs considered contrary to the statement, and in this case, restricted those who merely supported a gay rights campus group.

While it is disheartening that a Notre Dame alumnus elected to a high statewide office can support such a narrow-minded policy of exclusion, in this instance it is not surprising. When McDonnell worked on his joint law and public policy degree from the Christian Broadcasting Network University (currently Regent University), his 1989 thesis reveals the roots of his restrictive thinking. Entitled, "The Republican Party's Vision for the Family: The Compelling Issue of The Decade," McDonnell wrote that "government policy should favor married couples over cohabitators, homosexuals or fornicators." He additionally characterized feminists and career women as detrimental to the family structure.

McDonnell also responded to a 1965 Supreme Court decision that legalized the use of contraceptives. He said that "man's basic nature is inclined towards evil, and when the exercise of liberty takes the shape of pornography, drug abuse or homosexuality, the government must restrain, punish and deter." Like any slick politician, McDonnell has brushed off his past academic thoughts by saying Virginians will judge

him on his nearly 20-year record of public service rather than on his academic exercise. However, his record is not one of inclusion for Virginians.

Last year McDonnell virtually eliminated himself from GOP vice presidential consideration with his awkward initial support of a legislative proposal mandating every woman in Virginia considering an abortion must submit to a vaginal ultrasound examination. In another obvious attempt to circumvent the current law of the land decided by the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Roe v. Wade* four decades ago, McDonnell asserts a severely hard pro-life stance since he does not support the standard abortion exceptions for cases of rape or incest. Paradoxically, while he openly supports babies, he virulently executes convicts — most notably the September 2010 execution of Teresa Lewis, judged to have an IQ of 72 (U.S. law prohibits the execution of persons with a 70 IQ or less) who was the first woman in nearly a century executed in Virginia. Appeals had come to McDonnell's desk where only he, as governor, could have commuted her execution. He refused to be pro-life with Lewis who prayed and held hands with her chaplain and lawyer during her final moments before her execution. At the time, McDonnell's decision had many question whether he was among those who truly stand for life in all situations including capital punishment and unnecessary war deaths.

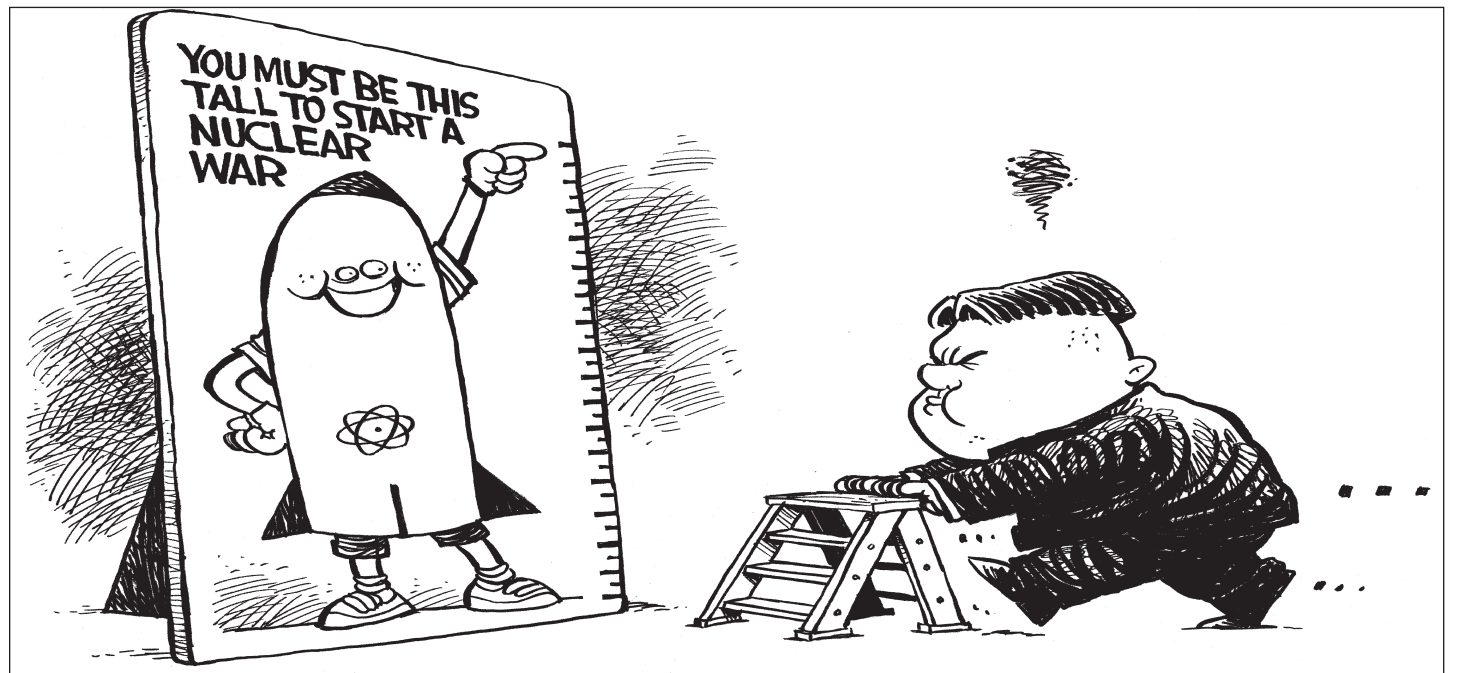
During the past few years, the GOP agenda in Virginia is but one of many examples how out-of-touch and selectively exclusive statewide Republicans have attempted to overturn current law. Time and again, political conservatives pick and choose how the government should "protect" certain narrow group thought over the expansive freedoms granted in our Constitution. Their candidates avoid revealing their true socially restrictive thinking during a campaign in order to win office, and then, while in office, rear an ugly prohibitive stance against those who may think differently. It is no wonder the GOP was handily rejected in the last presidential election.

Anybody can get elected at least once, especially if the opposing party nominates a country bumpkin with lesser communications skills and considerably less political savvy. McDonnell never signaled his restrictive nature during his run for governor in 2009 but stressed jobs and economic issues. This year, his hopeful GOP successor will have no such stealth advantage. For now, anyway, we can sadly say, "Yes, Virginia, there is a separation clause."

Gary J. Caruso, Notre Dame '73, serves in the Department of Homeland Security and was a legislative and public affairs director at the U.S. House of Representatives and in President Clinton's administration. His column appears every other Friday. Contact him at: GaryJCaruso@alumni.nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



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

A love letter to baseball

Jack Rooney

The Liberal Medium

Though you might not be able to tell by the weather, the return of Major League Baseball this past Sunday night unequivocally heralds the arrival of summer. Indeed, the “boys of summer” have returned and they will eventually bring the warm weather with them. Aside from the knowledge that summer is on the way, Opening Day also gives life to English poet Alexander Pope’s words that “hope springs eternal.” Even hopelessly dejected fans in Houston, Miami and even the North Side of Chicago can find some solace in the unparalleled hope offered by Opening Day and a fresh start (full disclosure: my allegiance lies on the South Side of Chicago with my beloved White Sox). But more than hope and the imminent arrival of warm weather and sunshine, baseball remains one of the few things in my life that never fails to amaze and inspire me.

The simplicity and beauty of the game, whether played in a beat-up backyard on a warm summer night or under the bright lights of a big league stadium, is still enough to take my breath away. It has been six years since I have played organized baseball, but my love for the game remains as strong and passionate as it was the day I first picked up a baseball. Some say lower impact games like tennis and golf are “lifelong sports,” but I contend that, if you let it, the game of baseball can provide a lifetime of cherished memories and invaluable lessons.

I cannot help but shake my head when someone says any sport, let alone baseball, is “just a game” because it is so much more than a mere game to so many people. As journalist (and avid baseball fan) George Will said, “Baseball, it is said, is only a game. True. And the Grand Canyon is only a hole in Arizona. Not all holes, or games, are created equal.” Baseball is one of life’s great learning experiences as it is often one of the first games we learn as children. It teaches us how nine people need to work to become one team in order to accomplish anything. It teaches us to persevere through whatever obstacles may cross our paths. It also teaches us that it is okay to fail. After all, there are few other endeavors in life in which one can fail seven out of ten times and still be considered great.

For me, baseball has provided innumerable life lessons, but only a few make for good stories. Perhaps the best of these stories occurred in the summer of 2001 when a small, seven-year-old Jack Rooney got the unexpected invitation to try out for the Ridge Beverly Little League All-Star Team. Several days after the tryout, I waited inside on a gorgeous evening waiting for a phone call that I expected to bring good news. When my parents broke the unfortunate news that I did not make the team, my entire, tiny world collapsed in on me. But, after a few tears and plenty of hugs, I found myself back in my backyard, playing baseball with my brothers and neighbors.

Baseball also taught me to persevere through unexpected challenges, despite the urge to give up. When I was 10 years old and playing catcher for

the Little League Florida Marlins, my head had an unfortunate collision with the ball while warming up the pitcher prior to the start of a playoff game. Needless to say, I was not wearing my catcher’s mask and a portion of my forehead ballooned to twice its normal size, all before the start of the game. Nevertheless, I proceeded to catch the entire game, which went into extra innings, on a brutally hot early June day, goose egg on my head and all. Earlier in that same season, also while catching, I made the bold decision to step in front of the plate as a runner barreled down on me. I refused to let him score, though, and I held on to the ball as we both tumbled to the dirt. When I popped up, ball in hand, I took off my mask to find that one of my teeth was ready to fall out. So, without a second thought, I pulled out the tooth, handed it to my dad on the bench, and proceeded with the rest of the game (which, for the record, we won).

In life, we experience bumps in the road much more severe than bumps on the head and teeth falling out, but from an early age, baseball conditions us for the greater challenges, none of which we ever expect. And when those bigger challenges do arise, I, for one, know I can always find comfort and release in the simplicity of a game of catch, the awesome power of the crack of the bat and the sheer, unparalleled beauty of baseball.

Jack Rooney is a freshman studying political science. He can be contacted at jrooney1@nd.edu

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

UWIRE

I’m not converting

Kate Winkle

The Rocky Mountain Collegian

I don’t drink, I don’t smoke and I don’t stay out late. More than once in my life people have noticed my rather ascetic life and asked (or told) me: “You’re Catholic, right?”

No, I am not Catholic. I choose to be boring according to today’s standards. My definition of “fun” whilst traveling abroad is visiting art museums and touring cathedrals, not partying like a rock star. Besides, Catholicism is not synonymous with “dreary fun-hater.”

Many of my friends and family wondered if I’d convert to Catholicism after four months in Spain. After all, Spain is a Catholic country, they said.

That’s not exactly true. Spain certainly was a Catholic country until 37 years ago. From 1936 to 1975, Francisco Franco’s dictatorial regime mandated the morals of the country, emphasizing military involvement, family and faith. Effectively, everyone was Catholic because they had no choice otherwise

Historically, too, Spain has a strong Catholic tradition. The Reyes Católicos, “Catholic Monarchs” Ferdinand and Isabella, besides funding Christopher Columbus’ voyage to America, were also responsible for the expulsion of Jews and Muslims from Spain and the Spanish Inquisition.

Unsurprisingly, Catholicism has rather a bad reputation because of its past abuses of power, as can anything marked by error. Despite this history, 73.1 percent of Spaniards identify as Catholic, according to a 2013 survey by the Centro de Investigaciones Sociológicas. However, 58.5 percent of those who identify as religious stated they almost never go to church compared to 13.4 percent who said they attend almost every Sunday.

My host mother is part of the even smaller 2.2 percent that attends church multiple times a week. My first day in Spain we discussed religion and she informed me that although she was raised Catholic she now attends an Evangelical Baptist church.

The disparity between those who identify as Catholic and those who actively practice Catholicism can be attributed partially to a reaction that persists today against the Franco dictatorship, which created an altogether more liberal and laid-back society.

Nowadays, Catholicism in Spain seems more cultural and less life-changingly spiritual (although spirituality does exist). There is still a huge emphasis on tradition. Semana Santa, Holy Week, is especially culturally rich, and draws many tourists to well-known regions of Spain. Sevilla’s processions of large statues depicting scenes from the Bible this year are as likely to draw crowds of sincere worshipers as camera-clicking culture seekers.

The great thing about modern Spain, and about life, is a person doesn’t have to be Catholic to be a believer. One can be, one has that choice to belong to the Catholic Church, but a person has the same right to attend a Protestant-branch church where the worship-leading guitarist looks a bit like a Beatle. Equally, people have the right to not attend church or to not believe anything.

That is the crux of modern society: choice — and accepting that not everyone makes the same choices.

This column originally ran in the March 30 edition of The Rocky Mountain Collegian, serving Colorado State University.

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Getting serious about unplanned pregnancies

On Tuesday, the Observer ran its traditional satirical edition of the Absurder. Listed in the Classifieds page was a personal ad claiming: “UNPLANNED PREGNANCY: You’re going to have to go it alone. This is Notre Dame, stupid.” This poor attempt at humor is very disappointing, considering both the facts of the matter and the Observer’s own history in condemning this kind of behavior.

Last September, the Observer staff wrote an editorial condemning the jokes that resulted from NDSP’s reporting of “forcible fondling” attacks on students. The staff wrote “For one person on campus, each crime alert wasn’t a joke. It was a reminder of a situation that was probably scary and scarring. And that’s an alliteration that isn’t quite as hilarious.” While the situation is different from a sexual assault, for a woman facing an unplanned pregnancy, a joke in the student newspaper about a lack of support can only deepen anxieties about a situation that is scary and potentially scarring.

Notre Dame has gone to great lengths to promote and strengthen its resources for unplanned pregnancies. It has stressed that while Notre Dame is a Catholic university that promotes the Church’s teachings regarding sexual morality, it will make every effort to help students in unplanned pregnancies with “caring, non-judgmental, professional assistance and support.” The administration has particularly stressed that you do not have to leave Notre Dame, that the university will not press disciplinary action and will make every effort to accommodate a students needs with coursework and housing.

If the editors of the Observer really do care about students in unplanned pregnancies, they should seek to promote the resources available for those students, instead of encouraging false stereotypes. Regardless of your opinion of the University’s stance on Catholic sexual ethics, we can all agree that women in unplanned pregnancies require the love and support of the entire Notre Dame community. Making a joke out of unplanned pregnancy is not okay.

To take a page from the editors, “That’s not who we are. That’s not Notre Dame.”

Andrew Lynch
senior
off-campus
Apr. 4



By **JUAN RAMON CANCIO VELA**
Scene Writer

As I was waiting for “The Lion in Winter” to start, I couldn’t help but notice how welcoming the Washington Hall Lab Theatre felt. The Lab Theatre is not very big, but it offers a stage that promises to deliver a very intimate theatrical experience. The stage lights darken and leave me in complete darkness as I am suddenly transported to the King of England’s quarters where he is speaking with his beautiful mistress about the current troubles that his kingdom faces.

During their conversation the characters happen to provide the audience with a line that ultimately sets the stage for the rest of this wonderful play. Alais, the King’s mistress, asks the King if she should ever trust a word of what he says; The King coolly responds “Always!...even

when I lie.”

The story takes place in 1183 inside King Henry II’s castle as he and his family reunite for Christmas. The King has apparently ended up in the arms of his son’s betrothed wife, but he is more consumed by questions about the future of his vast kingdom. The King is ready to do everything in his power to keep his empire from splitting; unfortunately for him, he has three sons and only one throne to pass on. His estranged wife also shows great interest in deciding who is to succeed the King because she sees a chance to finally avenge her betrayal. What better way to avenge herself than to ensure the King’s preferred son does not ascend to the throne?

The play presents the inner workings of a royal family who is at odds with one another, and shows us how seemingly normal their struggles can be. The royal family is host to sibling

rivalries and favoritism just like any other, with the one very important difference being that the future of an empire hangs in the balance. This is a story of deceit and how each member of this family plots his or her individual success with little to no regard for anyone who stands in their way. This drama is paralleled by cunning word play that provides the audience with comic relief throughout the play, but also humanizes these characters even further. The petty jibes between a jealous queen and her lustful king are shown on full display, along with how a prince brags to his brothers about how he is the favorite and therefore the only logical option for the next king.

I had the opportunity to meet with the director of “The Lion in Winter” and saw how anxious she is to show off her work to the rest of the student community. Lauren Palomino is a Senior majoring in Political Science

and she could not help but radiate excitement as she told me about her favorite play. She admitted to me that this was a bitter sweet opportunity because although she was finally getting a chance to direct her favorite play, it would also be the last time she would have the pleasure of directing here at ND. She has done a great job with this interesting political drama, and I am sure any who attend the play will leave the theatre satisfied after an evening of great entertainment.

This play offers the audience an entertaining story of a fight for the line of succession and power, which turns brothers into enemies and husband and wife into competing puppeteers. It will be on tonight at 7:30 p.m. and tomorrow afternoon at 4:30 p.m. in the Washington Hall Lab Theatre.

Contact **Juan Ramon Cancio Vela** at jcancio@nd.edu



By **MARGARET WAICKMAN**
Scene Writer

The fifth consecutive semester of WVFI’s Notre Dame’s Humans versus Zombies games begins next Tuesday, April 9. Humans versus Zombies is an epic, five-day game of tag. “Zombies” attempt to tag all “humans” and turn them into zombies; humans avoid getting tagged and defend themselves using Nerf guns and socks, which can stun zombies.

If Nerf guns, zombies, and tag aren’t enough enticement for you to sign up, then consider signing up for the opportunity to meet new people. Sean Brady, junior, and Alexandra Amorati, sophomore, joined Humans versus Zombies for the fun, but ultimately got a relationship out of this large-scale

game of tag.

Sean Brady has been playing Humans versus Zombies since his freshmen year. He and his roommates have become Humans versus Zombies veterans. They go all out for the games. They buy three hundred Nerf gun darts, stay away from the dining halls all week, and research Nerf gun shooting distances. The walls of their dorm rooms are covered in zombie posters and a map of campus clearly marking the locations of their allies. “We take it seriously,” said Brady. For this quad, playing the game seriously yields in serious fun and serious wins. Spring semester last year, Poseidon and Apollo (the HvZ aliases Sean and a roommate go by) won Humans versus Zombies.

Alexandra Amorati is newer

to the game. Her first serious HvZ was last spring, when Poseidon and Apollo won. During the game, Amorati and her friends got to know Poseidon and Apollo and their rather extreme tactics. Once the game concluded and the boys took home a victory, Amorati was determined to beat them in future. Amorati and friends attempted to find out as much as possible about these mysterious figures. They were able to uncover Poseidon and Apollos’ year and dorm, but were unable to figure out their real names.

The pair remained a mystery until Amorati and her friend spotted Poseidon and Apollo at Reckers late on Friday night. Amorati was sure that the two were the infamous Poseidon and Apollo, because, even though

it was weeks after the game, Poseidon was still carrying the orange bandana sported by all HvZ players in his jeans pocket.

Brady recalled, “As I was leaving Reckers, I heard people yelling my Humans versus Zombies call sign.” Amorati and her friend proceeded to relay all the information they had gathered about Poseidon and Apollo. They all ended up exchanging phone numbers. “Within a couple days, he asked me on a coffee date. We started hanging out, and the rest is history,” said Amorati. Brady and Amorati, now a year later, are still dating.

When asked why students should get involved in HvZ, Amorati said, “Definitely for the people. Sure, there are people like Sean and his friends who take it super

seriously, but there are also casual players. Chill people who are willing to go out at night carrying Nerf guns. People who just don’t care that much what other people think about them. That’s who everyone wants to be friends with.”

Students interested in playing tag, acting like a zombie, and making new friends can sign up at wvfi.nd.edu/hvz. Registration is open until midnight tonight. The game runs from Tuesday, April 9 to Saturday, April 13.

On the fence about signing up? Don’t overthink it. Just do it. Follow Sean Brady’s advice, “It’s always fun to play with Nerf guns. And, you never know. You might meet someone.”

Contact **Margaret Waickman** at mwaickma@nd.edu

TIMEFLIES AT SAINT MARY'S

By **MADELINE DALY**
Scene Editor

Wednesday afternoon I nervously walked straight from class into the O'Laughlin Auditorium at Saint Mary's College, excitement filling my stomach as I awaited my interview with my favorite YouTube newcomers, Cal Shapiro and Rob "Rez" Resnick, together known as Timeflies. I have been following their weekly Timeflies Tuesday videos since the very beginning, so finally meeting the guys was no ordinary interview for me.

As I wandered into the auditorium, empty except for Cal and Rez's groupies starting up sound check, I couldn't help but audibly squeal and run to the very front row. I took my seat and casually pretended to play cool, "texting" on my phone when actually sending Snapchats of the stage to my incredibly jealous friends. Once Cal and Rez sauntered onto the stage, my eyes became completely affixed, and I was unaware of anything besides the fact that Timeflies was basically giving me a private concert (well, it was their sound check and I was the only one in the audience but that still counts in my opinion).

After 30 minutes of running through the beginnings of each song, the band's manager Jared Glick, sporting a vintage 80s Notre Dame jacket, motioned to me and said to meet downstairs. My heart was racing uncontrollably as

I stood up and went down to the basement, passing dressing rooms labeled Sylvia Yacoub, the Saint Mary's sophomore from "The Voice" who opened for the duo, Timeflies, and Timeflies Crew.

I finally arrived in a cozy room with three couches and a table of every kind of snack food you could ever crave where Rez, Cal and Jared sat, Cal eating beef jerky like he hadn't eaten in days and Rez sipping on a blue Gatorade. They stood up when I walked in, shook my hand and introduced themselves (like I don't already know your names, your birthdays, where you live, where you went to school ... should I continue?) as I told them my name, hoping to make a memorable impression. As we started the interview, I leaned back on the couch and started talking to them like we had already known each other, just four college kids hanging out talking about our love for music.

After watching countless videos of them goofing around, drinking and partying, I had to ask if they miss college or if they felt like they were still in it.

"I feel like I'm still in college," Rez said with a smirk, leaning back in his chair.

"Just yesterday we were in Nashville and our friend took us into a dorm room there," Cal said. "I hadn't been to a dorm in forever but those were some great memories. I think I do miss college, it's a lot of friendship."

Since they are graduates of Tufts University, the next question I had for them was whether or not they planned a concert at their alma mater on this tour.

"No," Rez said quickly. "We did play at Tufts like a year and a half ago."

"It was the worst," Cal said. "Tufts isn't that fun by itself. I mean, we had fun but college is what you make it. Unless you go to a huge awesome school, college kind of makes you. But even in that situation, it's up to you."

When asked about their hopes for Wednesday night's concert, the guys expressed excitement and curiosity.

"First of all, awesome shoes," Cal said, referring to my aqua blue Tory Burch flats, my favorite part of the interview. "Second of all, I don't think we do many seated auditoriums, so that should be interesting. The ones in the past have been awesome, but one time we performed at [Boston College] and they made everybody sit down even when they tried to stand up. But we are so excited to kick our tour off here. We don't know much about [Saint Mary's], but playing at an all girls school is a lot better than playing at an all dude's school. We did perform for all guys once, it was a lovely time."

After giving me a less-than-enthusiastic "Go Irish", it was time for Cal and Rez to start prepping for the show, meaning I had to leave their presence to go wait in line for the concert.

On my way out I tweeted about Cal complimenting my shoes and nearly started jumping up and down from excitement, thinking that nothing could top those 10 minutes.

However, only a few hours later Timeflies managed to impress me once again. With my press pass I was allowed in the very front row, hands on the stage with only inches of air standing between Cal and myself. The vibe of the concert was amazing, with hundreds of students screaming, dancing and waving glow sticks towards the stage, singing along with Cal and staring in amazement during his freestyles. He even did a Notre Dame/Saint Mary's freestyle, inserting phrases like "Domer Fest," "Manti Te'o," and "Go Belles" into his on-the-spot rap.

I was in a complete state of euphoria after the concert ended, flipping through the pictures on my iPhone, discovering one of Cal reaching for my hand (my absolute favorite part of the concert). Basically, if you were doing anything besides staring at Cal and Rez last night you seriously missed out. This duo really knows how to own a stage and work the crowd, and if you ever get the chance to see them live, you definitely should. And try to get in the front row, because it is an experience you will never forget.

Contact Madeline Daly at mdaly6@nd.edu

THE KICKBACK



Andrew Gastelum
Editor-In-Chief

Week Two, but I guarantee you this is no sophomore slump. It's just too good.

With my search for new music, the past two weeks have been pretty good to me, which makes this spot pretty competitive. After The Strokes' "Comedown Machine," Tyler, the Creator's "Wolf" and Cold War Kids' "Dear Miss

Lonelyhearts," there was plenty to choose from.

But OneRepublic's "Native" takes the crown. It's 14 tracks of pure anthem. It may annoy the hipsters because of how mainstream it is, but nobody can deny a catchy track, let alone a catchy album.

You may have heard the two incredibly addicting singles off the album: "If I Lose Myself" and "Feel Again." But if you listen to the entire album, you get 12 more boppers (my term for

any song that just naturally gets you to bob your head). Plus, OneRepublic has always done a mesmerizing job with using strings.

The album kicks off with some incredible opening lines from my favorite track: "Counting Stars." But it doesn't diminish from there. It's top-notch through and through, straight until the end. Meanwhile, "Preacher" and "Burning Bridges" do the opposite of meat-of-the-order tracks are supposed to do: gets the people going.

The album covers it all, from airy to ardent and alternative to rock. And with that, the group has gone from the dudes that did "Apologize" or "Good Life" to an iconic band with a track record to prove it. With three fantastic albums, it's music that just sounds good.

That's all that we can ask for, and that's all OneRepublic gives us.

-Ch Holt



"Native"

Artist: OneRepublic

Record Label: Mosley, Interscope

Genre: Pop Rock



SPORTS AUTHORITY

A fitting end to the Madness



Mary Green
Sports Writer

As college hoops faithful convene for Final Four festivities, all eyes will be on Atlanta this weekend. But while these fans gather around the television in their living rooms, in their favorite sports bars or, if they're lucky enough, in the Georgia Dome, they will also celebrate and reflect on the past five months of college basketball. Oh, what a season it has been.

We started out thinking that Kentucky, laden with John Calipari's annual crop of one-and-dones, would actually be good — that was as big a mistake as Nerlens Noel chose to play for the Wildcats over the Orange. On the other end of the spectrum, Miami, led by AP Coach of the Year Jim Larranaga, started the season unranked, receiving exactly eight votes in the preseason AP poll. It seems like those writers finally got it straight with their balloting a few months later.

And then there was the poll itself once the season began. No team could keep a grip on its ranking for more than a few weeks, and top-five squads dropped like flies each Saturday.

But with all the turbulence that highlighted this season of college basketball, it is only fitting that four teams in particular headed down to the Peach State earlier this week. In a season marked by unsteady rankings, a five-overtime showdown and overall craziness, it almost appears as if destiny has given Michigan, Syracuse, Louisville and Wichita State the opportunity to play for their "One Shining Moment."

Take a look at the Wolverines. What better team to play in the Final Four than one that appeared in one of the most bizarre championship games of all time? The last time Michigan made it to the final matchup, it essentially lost the title on a timeout — or lack thereof — as Chris Webber was called for a technical after requesting a timeout when none remained. Ironically, that loss and the rest of the Wolverines' 1992-1993 season was erased from their history when NCAA investigators discovered Webber received payments from Michigan boosters while he was a student. Guess money really can't buy time.

And what about the current group of Wolverines? They're definitely one of the most interesting teams in the country. They start three freshmen, sophomore AP Player of the Year Trey Burke and junior Tim Hardaway, Jr., son of former NBA All-Star Tim Hardaway. Plus, they don a rather sunny shade of maize that makes them look like highlighters running up and down the court, so you can't ask for much more fashion-wise.

Turn to their opponent, Syracuse. Has any team been more controversial year after year in the past

decade? NCAA investigators must have purchased some land in beautiful central New York because it seems like they're there every winter with new accusations. Jim Boeheim's squad has faced allegations of players competing while academically ineligible and had players accused of sexual assault and failed drug tests, along with the Bernie Fine abuse controversy. But while the Orange are consistently under fire, they also consistently win, making their storyline heading to Atlanta one of the most attention-grabbing.

To juice up the Orange's plot even more, this year marks the 10th anniversary of the team's only championship. And who is currently the hottest player in the NBA? Carmelo Anthony, the once-freshman who led that squad. Call it fate, call it coincidence, call it what you may, but there's no doubt that Syracuse has an intriguing backstory entering this weekend.

On the other side of the bracket lies Louisville. As the No. 1 overall seed, it had the best prospects of making it to the Final Four. But the Cardinals, too, had an interesting run this year. In their two most notable games, they squandered an eight-point lead with less than a minute remaining against Notre Dame before falling to the Irish in five overtimes, and then overcame a 16-point second-half deficit against Syracuse to claim the Big East championship a month later.

But the Cardinals really captured America's attention last Sunday, when sophomore guard Kevin Ware broke his leg on a freak play against Duke in the Elite Eight. Millions of fans watched the teams' players and coaches fall in shock at the horrific injury, which quickly became one of the most popular conversation topics across America. As with Syracuse, Louisville has a curiosity-piquing storyline that plays out with each day leading up to the semifinal.

Last but not least is Wichita State. What more is there to say about why they embody the madness of not only March but of this year's season as a whole? The No. 9 seed Shockers busted enough brackets when they won their second-round game against Pittsburgh, let alone by making it to the Final Four. They weren't expected to win a single game, but here they are. Enough said.

So there you have it, four teams who enter the final weekend of college basketball with ever-so-captivating plots that live up to the craziness of this season. But while these teams have shown the game is unpredictable to say the least, one thing is certain: we'll all be there Saturday, watching every minute of this madness unfold.

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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

Rutgers players defend fired coach

Associated Press

Two Rutgers basketball players on Mike Rice's team say the fired coach wasn't the abusive tyrant he appears to be on a widely viewed video that ultimately cost him his job.

"You can't let those individual moments define what he was," junior forward Wally Judge said during a telephone interview Thursday. "In my past two years, me being an older guy and being under other coaches, I have grown from the moment I stepped in these doors, not only as a player but also as a person because of how he has treated me."

Sophomore forward Austin Johnson agreed.

"He did a lot for us off the court, academically, socially," he said during a separate telephone conversation. "I have to say I enjoyed my time, even it was an emotional rollercoaster."

Rice was fired Wednesday, the day after a video aired on ESPN showing him shoving, grabbing and throwing balls at players in practice and using gay slurs.

"I feel if people had a chance to see the other portions of practice, or had been at practice, their judgment would not be as severe," Johnson said. "I am not saying what he did wasn't wrong, because I do believe it was wrong. But it is also tough because it was a highlight reel of his worst moments."

"I never expected for this to escalate as fast as it did," Johnson said. "We have to deal with this and it's new for a lot of the younger guys."

Judge believes some of those moments come across worse on camera than they really were.

"Honestly, a lot of the things that have been seen have been taken out of context. A lot of things that aren't seen are when we grab him and kid around," Judge said. "Like I said before, when people ask me why did I play for him, I told them 'He's a players' coach.'"

"Mike was almost like a big brother. He would get on the floor with us and go through drills with us. He made it fun. When you have a big brother-type of figure, you know you can play around



AP

Former Rutgers head basketball coach Mike Rice looks on during a press conference with Rutgers Athletic Director Tim Perneti.

like that. I have grabbed Mike and put him in a headlock and we joke around and kid. That was the type of relationship he built with his players."

Eric Murdock, former director of player development at Rutgers, put together the video that showed clips of several different practices over three years. In November, he showed it to athletic director Tim Perneti. The following month, Rice was suspended three games for improper conduct, fined \$75,000 and required to take anger management classes.

Like the two Rutgers players, Pitt guard Travon Woodall also defended Rice, who recruited him when he was an assistant coach there.

"They are going at my man Mike Rice too hard," Woodall tweeted. "He's the reason I came to Pitt."

Woodall later added Rice is "not the only coach to put his hands on a player, or talk the way he did."

Murdock played in the NBA and was viewed in the program as someone who could mentor players. His contract was not renewed.

"I have a lot of respect for him. When he was here, he was somebody I would talk to because he knew of my aspirations for playing at the next level and he was a guy who had done it," Judge said.

"He was a great guy to talk to. As far as this situation goes, I understand everything that is going on; I can't necessarily be mad at him, but it's been blown out of proportion. There are certain ways of going about things and this wasn't the way."

Rice left Pitt to coach at Robert Morris before landing at Rutgers, where his record was 44-51 over three seasons. He posted a 16-38 mark in the Big East, after going 73-31 in three seasons at Robert Morris. The Scarlet Knights went 15-16 this season and 5-13 in the league.

Rice's assistant, Jimmy Martelli, who was with him at Robert Morris, resigned Thursday.

Judge, meantime, insisted Rice wasn't a "villain."

"He wasn't a guy we hated or despised," Judge said. "After practice, we would all go in the locker room and laugh. It was never a sad face or a hung head. What he did was he separated the court and he separated life. When we were on the court, we were on the court and locked in. That's why you see so many intense moments because he was so locked in on turning this program around. When we got in the locker room we were a family. We laughed."

Johnson hopes Rutgers' next coach can bring success to a program that hasn't been to the NCAA tournament since 1991.

CLASSIFIEDS

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>

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"Because We Can" by Bon Jovi

I don't wanna be another wave in the ocean

I am a rock, not just another grain of sand (that's right)

I wanna be the one you run to when you need a shoulder

I ain't a soldier

but I'm here to take a stand because we can

Eatin' takeout on a coffee table

Paper dishes, pour a glass of wine

Turn down the sound and move a little closer

And for the moment everything is alright.

SMC TENNIS | SMC 9, OLIVET 0

Saint Mary's sweeps Olivet

By D.H. KIM
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's dominated visiting Olivet, 9-0, on Thursday to remain undefeated in conference play. Saint Mary's (5-4, 2-0 MIAA) got off to a great start early with the No. 2 doubles pair of sophomores Audrey Kiefer and Jackie Kjolhede, who won 8-0 against the Comets (0-8, 0-4). The No. 2 doubles Belle victory was quickly followed by an 8-1 win by sophomore Shannon Elliott and freshman Margaret Faller at No. 3 doubles. The Belles' confidence grew as the day continued after junior Mary Catherine Faller and sophomore Kayle Sexton also won in doubles to give the Belles a 3-0 advantage heading into singles play.

Overall, the Comets did not win more than two games in any set in singles, and the Belles won in quick succession in one of their quickest victories of the season.

"We took care of business, and we stayed patient and did what we had to do to win the points, although some of the opponents did not have a lot of pace," Belles coach Dale Campbell said.

The Belles hope to build

on a three-match winning streak and grow their confidence against non-conference foe Judson on Friday.

Saint Mary's will try to breeze through the Eagles (2-6) just as they handled Olivet. Judson has been struggling through a six-match losing streak and five of their losses have come on the road.

Campbell said the Belles would make no significant adjustments for the match against Judson because their recent performances indicate the team is doing just fine.

"We'll continue to play more aggressive in doubles, but no major adjustments, just play our games the best we can," Campbell said.

The match against Judson will be the second in as many days for Saint Mary's and provides a break from MIAA play.

"The team should be fit enough to handle back-to-back matches and with it being non-conference, we always want the win, but it is another opportunity to get better," Campbell said.

The Belles face Judson at home Friday at 4 p.m.

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SMC SOFTBALL | ANDERSON 7, ND 2; ANDERSON 6, ND 5

Belles drop doubleheader but look to bounce back

By MERI KELLY
Sports Writer

After a win last week, Saint Mary's dropped both games of a doubleheader to Anderson on Thursday, losing 7-2 in the first game and 6-5 in nine innings in the second.

"We definitely had more confidence and I think are

"Emily Sherwood had one of the best doubleheaders of her career. She was solid on the field, but really stepped up at the plate and put the team on her shoulders."

Erin Sullivan
Irish coach

really starting to play better together as a team," Belles coach Erin Sullivan said. "Although we didn't get the outcome we had hoped for, we played well."

Senior captain Emily Sherwood had a great performance, scoring both Saint Mary's runs in the

first game and batting 3-for-3 against the Ravens (10-8).

"Emily Sherwood had one of the best doubleheaders of her career," Sullivan said. "She was solid on the field, but really stepped up at the plate and put the team on her shoulders."

Junior Callie Selner, who was named MIAA pitcher of the week, endured a loss in the circle in the first game. Selner allowed seven earned runs on 12 hits with seven strikeouts and a walk.

Sullivan said looking back on the game, there are many areas ripe for improvement.

"We didn't execute fundamental plays at times," Sullivan said. "We need to be better at putting down bunts and adjusting to the pitcher sooner. We also can't dig holes too early on."

Sullivan also said almost all Anderson runs were scored off Saint Mary's errors.

"It is tough to stomach two losses when we gave the games away rather than Anderson earning the wins," Sullivan said.

The Belles will now look to rebound against Albion — their first MIAA opponent of the season — on Saturday.

"I think we are ready to

play the games that really matter now," Sullivan said. "We are excited and ready to show everyone how hard we have been working and the adjustments we have

"It is tough to stomach two losses when we gave the games away rather than Anderson earning the wins."

Erin Sullivan
Irish coach

made to put us into a good spot to be very competitive in our conference."

The Belles' home-field advantage may also have a positive impact against the Britons (0-16, 0-2 MIAA).

"We are 2-0 at home and I think our fans really help," Sullivan said. "We have a goal to go undefeated at home this year, so I think that is a positive motivator for us, as well."

First pitch between the Belles and Britons is scheduled for 1 p.m. Saturday.

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MEN'S TENNIS

Irish face challenging end to regular season

By MEGAN FINNERAN
Sports Writer

The No. 31 Irish return home to take on No. 65 SMU, South Florida and Butler this weekend. The next three matches provide the Irish with their last opportunity to play at home in the regular season.

"These matches will be a lot of fun because it's senior day and coach [Bobby] Bayliss' last regular season home match," freshman Quentin Monaghan said. "I think all of us are really looking forward to this weekend."

The Irish (12-7) enter the weekend coming off back-to-back wins against William & Mary and Ball State.

"Leading up to the William & Mary match was the start of long preparation for these coming matches and the Big East," Monaghan said.

The Mustangs (7-7) enter the weekend riding a four-match winning streak against Marquette, Oklahoma State, Idaho and Illinois-Chicago. They stand strong in doubles

play, going 22-14 this season. SMU carries the No. 75 pair of sophomore Arturs Kazijevs and junior Mischa Nowicki.

"In particular doubles has been a focus because we've been struggling a little in that area, but besides that it has been some of the basic aggressive tactics we have been developing throughout the year," Monaghan said.

In singles, the Mustangs bring No. 124 Kazijevs to face off with Notre Dame's No. 109 junior Greg Andrews. Kazijevs has led the squad throughout the season on the No. 1 court, going 10-4 this season, including wins in the last six matches.

The squads share little history coming from different regions, but both have taken wins over Marquette this season. The Irish won 7-0 while the Mustangs won 6-1 against the Golden Eagles.

South Florida (7-8) is coming off a 5-2 loss to No. 57 UNC-Wilmington last Friday. No. 59 sophomore Oliver Pramming and freshman

Ignacio Gonzalez-Muniz lead South Florida in doubles play.

Butler has a three-match losing streak that the Irish will seek to stretch to four this weekend.

Both squads have faced No. 5 Ohio State, IUPUI and Ball State this season. Butler (8-10) and Notre Dame suffered 7-0 losses to Ohio State. The Irish beat IUPUI 7-0 and the Bulldogs won 4-3. Both teams ended with a 5-2 score against Ball State, but Butler came out on the losing side.

"They are all going to be challenging," Monaghan said. "SMU is the best ranking wise, but then again we haven't beaten USF in over a year."

The Irish will begin doubles play at 4 p.m. against SMU this afternoon in the Eck Tennis Pavilion. The action will continue Saturday afternoon with Notre Dame against South Florida at 1 p.m. and Butler at 6 p.m.

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JULIE HERDER | The Observer

Irish freshman Alex Lawson returns the volley in a doubles match against Michigan on Feb. 16. Notre Dame beat the Wolverines 4-3.

ND WOMEN'S GOLF

Irish look to continue streak

By GREG HADLEY
Sports Writer

Ashley Armstrong has taken her game to another level this spring, and it's elevating her team to new heights, too, as the No. 23 Irish head to Dallas for the DAC/SMU Invitational this weekend.

Armstrong has won two tournaments in a row and set a new personal best score of one-under-par at the Insperity Lady Jaguar Intercollegiate Tournament from March 15-17. After winning the Briar's Creek Invitational last week, the sophomore was named the Women's National Golfer of the Week by Golfweek magazine. In her two wins, Armstrong has defeated eight top-50 opponents and climbed to No. 76 nationally.

"Ashley's been doing everything well lately," Irish coach Susan Holt said. "She's in a good place where everything is coming together. She's been driving well and putting well."

The Irish as a team have been on a roll lately as well. After finishing third and beating then-No. 22 Texas at the Insperity Lady Jaguar Intercollegiate, the Irish claimed their first team victory since 2011 at the Briar's Creek Invitational on March 26. This weekend, the squad will try to keep the momentum up and upset No. 3 Oklahoma and No. 22 Oklahoma State, both of whom have beaten the Irish in

tournaments this year.

"Based on the rankings, we should get third," Holt said. "But the girls really want to beat Oklahoma and Oklahoma State and ... our confidence is high and our practice round today was very good."

However, Holt said she wants her team to remain focused on playing within themselves and not get too caught up in trying to beat other squads.

"The team that plays the course best is the team that wins," Holt said. "We need to focus on our game and take care of ourselves."

Holt said while the course was wet and soft, conditions look to be ideal over the weekend, with temperatures reaching the upper 70s, and only moderate wind. In addition, freshman Talia Campbell, a Dallas native, has played this course before, giving the Irish a little extra knowledge.

Overall, Holt said the team is excited to end the regular season strong and enter the post-season on a high note.

"Things are going well right now," Holt said. "We'll see what the weekend brings."

The Irish compete throughout this weekend at the DAC/SMU invitational in Dallas before beginning postseason play at the Big East conference championship April 21.

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MEN'S GOLF

Notre Dame readies for the Big East tournament



ASHLEY DACY | The Observer

Irish sophomore Peyton Vitter tees off in the Fighting Irish Gridiron Classic on Nov. 9, 2012. Notre Dame finished eighth.

By D.H. KIM
Sports Writer

After battling back to finish fifth last week at the C&F Bank Intercollegiate, the Irish will head to Kannapolis, N.C., to participate in the Irish Creek Collegiate on Saturday and Sunday.

Freshman Cory Sciupider earned co-medalist honors Tuesday following his strong

performance during the C&F Bank Intercollegiate. Sciupider's round of 67 tied Eastern Michigan's Casey Olsen for first place and Irish junior Andrew Lane also turned in a solid performance, finishing in third place by firing a two-under par 68 to anchor the Irish at an impressive fifth place overall.

Irish coach Jim Kubinski said the Irish were pleased with their

comeback effort after a slow start and are looking for week-by-week improvement.

"We feel good about our performance and bounce back in Virginia, but our goal this spring is to improve each week," Kubinski said.

Heading into their last two tournaments before the Big East championship, the Irish are looking to get hot as the weather warms. Kubinski said the Irish need West Coast natives junior Niall Platt and senior Paul McNamara III, who did not fare as well as Sciupider and Lane last week in Virginia, to improve their play as the schedule goes on and the temperature rises.

"We improved in Virginia, especially looking at both Cory Sciupider and Andrew Lane posting their collegiate best rounds to date," Kubinski said. "This week we need Cory and Andrew to continue their growth and get both Paul and Niall going again."

For the Irish to build off the momentum established at the Intercollegiate, Kubinski said a total team effort will be necessary.

"We had two players do a nice job ... last time out, and I think the big things for us to get four and, ideally, five guys playing well," Kubinski said.

The Irish tee off Saturday at the Irish Creek Collegiate in Kannapolis, N.C., and return to the course for Sunday's second round.

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TRACK & FIELD

Athletes travel to Michigan for meet

By LAURA COLETTI
Sports Writer

The Irish, off a successful Easter weekend at the Stanford Invitational, will turn their attention to the Spartan Invitational in East Lansing, Mich., this weekend.

Although only a handful of Notre Dame athletes will be competing this weekend, the meet will be key for the team to keep progressing and improving. It will also be a chance for some of the younger competitors to put up strong numbers and times.

"This meet is a great meet for some of the younger, less experienced people on the team to compete and put up qualifying marks for [the Big East championships]," sophomore sprinter Chris Giesting said.

The meet will not be scored, which means nothing will be totaled and no team will be

named an overall winner of the meet. Giesting said this provides a chance for the meet to be more focused on individual competition.

"This meet is more informal than a conference meet," he said. "It's more about the individual events."

Last weekend, three individuals had first-place finishes, and the men's 4x400-meter relay team also finished first. At the Stanford Invitational, senior thrower Madeline Casanova placed first in the discus and senior middle distance runner Rebecca Tracy took first in the 800-meter. At the Oliver Nikoloff Open in Cincinnati, sophomore Carly Loeffel won the heptathlon. Loeffel will compete once again this weekend.

On the men's side, seniors Dean Odegard and Ted Glasnow and freshman Brent Swanberg placed third, fourth and sixth, respectively, in the decathlon

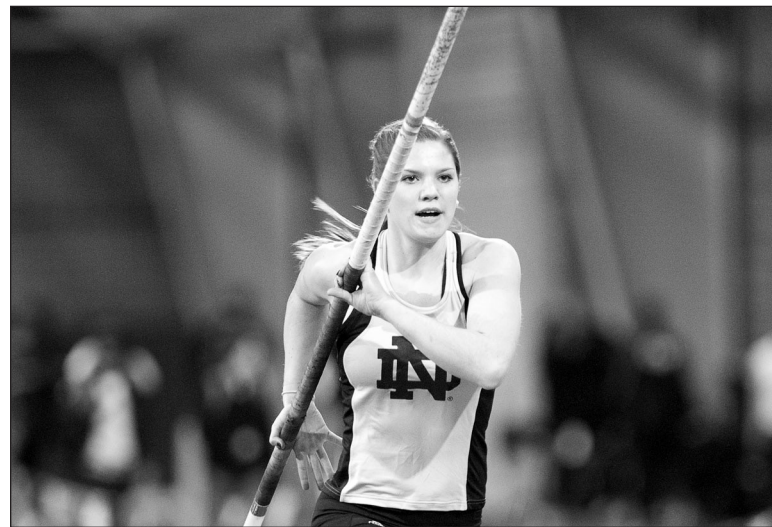
in Cincinnati. Odegard and Glasnow will also compete again this weekend.

Giesting said the men are hoping to use this weekend for some athletes to achieve qualifying times, and for some to continue recovery from injuries earlier in the season.

"Our men's team has been coming together, in the sprints especially, and I know we are getting a few guys healthy from the distance team that are starting to come around as well," he said. "We are looking to have some guys qualify this weekend for the conference meet in the hurdles and middle distance area."

He also said the women's side has been performing at high levels and looks to continue doing so this weekend.

"Our women's team is competing great, as well, and are off to a great start for the outdoor season," Giesting said. "In the



GRANT TOBIN | The Observer

Irish sophomore pole vaulter Ann Polcari prepares to take off in the Mayo Invitational on Feb. 1-2.

first meet of the outdoor season, junior sprinter Megan Yanik was awarded the Big East Athlete of the Week, and last week there were several great performances from the women's throwers and distance runners. This weekend's meet is great for working

on technique and for competing against some Big Ten talent."

Events are slated to begin at 2 p.m. Friday and 9:30 a.m. Saturday.

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SMC GOLF

Belles enthused for competition in Saint Louis

By A.J. GODEAUX
Sports Writer

After a sixth-place finish at the George Fox Phoenix Invitational from March 14-16, Saint Mary's will look to improve this weekend at the Washington University-St. Louis Invitational.

The invitational will be a new experience for the Belles because they did not participate in the inaugural tournament last year.

Belles coach Jason Kolean said the team's focus is simply on getting better, especially this early in the season.

"We're looking to improve on our previous scores," he said. "We have continued to put in quality time and effort and hope to see positive results."

Though the Belles finished last at the Phoenix Invitational after digging themselves a hole they could not climb out of after the first day, they managed to cut 24 strokes on day two. Junior Paige Pollak had the

strongest showing, shooting 83 and 77, the lowest rounds each day for the Belles. All six golfers cut strokes off their scores from day one to day two.

The Belles' stiffest competition this weekend will likely come from the tournament hosts, No. 2 Washington University. The Bears finished second at the Phoenix Invitational, 35 shots clear of the Belles. However, the teams shot an identical 322 on the second day of the event. No. 5 DePauw will also present a strong challenge for the Belles.

Despite the strong competition the team will face this weekend, Kolean said the team is not discouraged.

"We have a group of highly motivated girls, who are excited to play against the top teams in the nation," he said.

The two-day tournament starts Saturday at Gateway National Golf Links in Madison, Ill.

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ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Irish host Memphis



WEI LIN | The Observer

Irish senior Chrissie McGaffigan stretches out to return a ball in Notre Dame's 5-2 win over DePaul on March 2. McGaffigan won the No. 4 matchup 6-1, 7-6 (7-5).

By VICKY JACOBSEN
Sports Writer

Memphis compiled a perfect record at home in 2013, but the Irish will try and trip up the Tigers when they travel to South Bend for a

Sunday matinee.

The No. 36 Tigers (15-4) have won eight matches in a row, and haven't dropped a point since their 6-1 victory over UCF on March 8. They have won all 14 matches at home this spring, including a 5-2 victory over No. 16 Virginia, sophomore Molly O'Koniewski's former program. All four of their losses have come to teams ranked in the top-25.

"Memphis is a very talented team, and they have a lot of top players on their team, so it's definitely going to be a tough match that we have to be ready for," senior Chrissie McGaffigan said. "These past two matches (against Tulsa and Marquette) have been pretty good in preparing us for it, and I think we want to really go out with a bang in our last match at home this year."

While the Tigers haven't experienced much losing this season, this level of success is still new to the program. Their win over Virginia in February was the first over a top-20 opponent in school history. Their ranking peaked at No. 22 (another program record) earlier this season.

The No. 16 Irish (12-7) are coming off a 6-1 win over Marquette on Tuesday.

Sunday's tilt will be McGaffigan's final regular season home match.

"Chrissie has been my teammate all three of the years I've been here and it is sad to think she won't be here next year," junior Britney Sanders said. "I

don't know college without (her), I'm going to miss her so much.

McGaffigan said the ceremony before the match will be bittersweet for her.

"I'm really, really excited. It's going to be a time for me to look back and really be able to enjoy all the experiences I've had," McGaffigan said. "I've just had a wonderful four years here and I've met so many wonderful people. My teammates and my coaches and even the people who work the front desk have really made this time absolutely amazing for me.

"It's kind of sad for me, but at the same time I have no reason to be sad, because I just had the best four years of my life here."

So far this season, chilly weather has forced the Irish to play all of their home matches indoors in Eck Tennis Pavilion, but the team might get the chance to play in the sun this weekend.

"We're planning on playing outside, but it's weather permitting," Sanders said. "Temperature wise it should be good, but I think it's looking like it's going to rain, so it may be inside."

The Irish have only two more matches before the Big East tournament, which will be held in Tampa beginning April 18.

The Irish will celebrate senior day by hosting Memphis at the Courtney Tennis Center at 1 p.m. Sunday.

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ND SOFTBALL

Irish hope to protect top spot in Big East

By LAURA COLETTI
Sports Writer

The Irish, fresh off the program's 1000th all-time win, return home to face Villanova in a three-game weekend series beginning Saturday.

Notre Dame (24-8, 5-0 Big East) racked up wins No. 1000 and 1001 with back-to-back victories over Georgetown on Wednesday. Junior Laura Winter allowed only two hits and fanned 12 during the first game, en route to an 8-2 win. Senior Brittany O'Donnell took the circle in Game Two as the Irish cruised to a 15-3 victory. O'Donnell said it was an honor, particularly for this year's senior class, to be a part of such a significant Irish benchmark.

"It's a great honor to be on a team that was able to accomplish that, both for one another and for [Irish coach Deanna Gumpf] and for the program itself," O'Donnell said. "It's such an amazing honor and feeling to put on the Notre Dame jersey every time we go out on the field. We're always trying to represent the university as best we can."

With their two victories over the Hoyas, Notre Dame moved into sole possession of first place in the Big East. The Irish will try to maintain that position in the standings as they welcome the Wildcats (12-17, 0-6) this weekend.

"We know that we have to play our best Notre Dame softball every game and not play down to any opponent's level," O'Donnell said.

The team has focused on all areas of play at practice this week, keeping its fundamentals sharp and preparing to perform in key situations.

"We kept working on hitting the ball hard on the ground and playing solid defense," O'Donnell said. "We've been working on our fundamentals because we know that that's going to take us far in the Big East and keep us going. We've been working on executing when we need to and coming up clutch in big situations."

As the Irish continue in the Big East portion of their schedule, the team is focused on making its last season as a member of the conference a special one.

"We just know that our goal is to leave a mark on the Big East conference by winning it all, so that's what we keep working towards," O'Donnell said. "This is our last year in the Big East, so we work hard every day at practice to do the best we can. We don't worry so much about the rankings, we're just worried about the end goal of leaving our mark."

The Irish will open play against Villanova at Melissa Cook Stadium on Saturday at noon.

Contact Laura Coletti at
lcoletti@nd.edu



EMILY KRUSE | The Observer

Irish sophomore third baseman Katey Haus readies herself for the at bat in the home game against Green Bay on March 28. Notre Dame lost the game 5-4, when the Phoenix scored four runs in the top of the seventh to claim the victory.

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Louisville

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

and be the strongest, they would be one of the front-runners. But I think we're a lot more poised and smarter, so we'll match up pretty well."

The Irish will then travel to the newly-opened Sheakley Athletics Center in Cincinnati to meet the Bearcats (5-4, 0-2). Notre Dame is 4-0 all-time against Cincinnati and beat the Bearcats, 22-2, in last year's meeting. Despite the program's recent success against the Bearcats, Shawhan said she expects a tough fight from the Bearcats.

"Every team we've played has given us their best game, so we're expecting that from all the teams we play," she said. "We always play a nameless, faceless opponent and try to give every team our best as well, so we'll try to do that Sunday."

Cincinnati junior midfielder Taylor Young, senior midfielder Kylie Ramsland and sophomore midfielder Megan Bell power the Bearcats' balanced scoring attack.

Notre Dame will look to improve to 10-0 when it meets Louisville on Friday at 5 p.m. and Cincinnati on Sunday at 1 p.m.

Contact Brian Hartnett at bhartnet@nd.edu



GRANT TOBIN | The Observer

Irish junior attack Kaitlyn Brosco looks upfield in Notre Dame's 14-2 rout of Villanova on March 24.

Providence

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

team," Corrigan said. "They've had some guys kind of grow up on the field the last few years. I think with the new coaching staff, they've kind of embraced what they're doing. They're a very dangerous team."

For the past six seasons, Gabrielli guided Duke's defensive unit as an assistant coach. While he was there, Duke went to six Final Fours and won the 2010 national championship in an overtime victory over the Irish.

This season, the Friars' seven wins are more than they tallied in the previous three seasons combined. In 2012, the Friars won only two games. In 2011, Providence won only three, and the Friars were winless in 2010. Their only Big East win a year ago came in the last game of the season against Villanova.

But this year, under Gabrielli, the Friars started the season with five straight wins. Providence lost its next three, but bounced back with two more victories. Most recently, the Friars dropped a 13-6 decision at No. 16 Yale on Tuesday.

But the success of Gabrielli and the Friars is an indication of the growth of the Big

East conference as a whole. Notre Dame, Georgetown and Syracuse always had strong programs, but recently Rutgers, St. John's and Villanova have burst onto the scene. And now Providence is right there with them, Corrigan said.

"When we started the conference, one of the things that we said was that it won't take long for the programs at the bottom of the conference to be a lot better," Corrigan said. "As part of the formation of the conference, the Big East wanted a certain level of commitment. So that was a real boost to some of the programs. So now you see St. John's and Villanova and Providence being drastically better over a five-year period. That's not any surprise to me whatsoever."

Junior attack Sean Wright leads Providence's offense with 30 goals and nine assists. His 2.9 goals per game rank sixth in the country. At 6-foot-7, bigger than any defender on Notre Dame's roster, Wright will pose a large threat to the Irish defense.

The Irish and the Friars face off Sunday at 1 p.m. in Providence, R.I.

Contact Matt Robison at mrobison@nd.edu

ROWING

Irish to race top competition

Observer Staff Report

The No. 13 Irish will compete in Columbus, Ohio, this Saturday, where Notre Dame will race against No. 4 Ohio State, No. 8 Michigan and Tennessee. The race will pose an early challenge for the Irish as they progress through their season.

Notre Dame is coming off an impressive Easter weekend performance against Iowa, Michigan and Michigan State on the Grand River in Lansing, Mich. Notre Dame's top two varsity eight boats, as well as the first varsity four and novice eight were each double winners on the day.

The Irish novice eight won against both Iowa in the morning and Michigan State in the afternoon in dominant performances, finishing more than five seconds before their closest

competition in each race.

The Irish varsity four also compiled a set of wins against the Hawkeyes and Spartans. Notre Dame's varsity four beat Iowa by more than 15 seconds in their race. This impressive performance was enough for the Irish to take their second consecutive Big East Boat of the Week honors. The Irish squad consisted of senior coxswain Danni Schneider, freshman Elizabeth Kelley, sophomore Stella Willoughby, junior Kiersten DeHaven and senior Kelsey Murphy.

The first varsity eight also defeated both Iowa and Michigan State. Notre Dame will now try to maintain its momentum developed during Easter weekend racing to its upcoming contests against the Buckeyes, Wolverines and Volunteers on Saturday.

ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

Notre Dame to engage in weekend contests

Observer Staff Report

Notre Dame will host the Mexico Under-20 team in an international friendly today in its third match of the 2013 spring season. Notre Dame will also entertain Iowa, IPFW and Grand Valley State in a four-team event Saturday.

Earlier this spring, the Irish faced Michigan State in a charity match March 23 in Fort Wayne, Ind., and lost to the Chicago Red Stars 4-1 on Wednesday in Alumni Stadium.

The Red Stars, members of the newly formed National Women's Soccer League (NWSL), scored twice in the first half off the foot of former Irish midfielder and All-American Lauren Fowlkes.

Notre Dame has history on its side today. The Irish have played various permutations of the Mexican national team eight times since 2001 but lost only twice. In their most recent match, however, Mexico prevailed 4-1 on April 23, 2010. In that game, over 2,700 fans crowded Alumni Stadium to watch the Irish take on their international neighbors.

Irish coach Randy Waldrum will have a nearly full roster to use against Mexico. Though the Irish were one of the youngest teams in the nation last season, Notre Dame loses only two seniors from last year's squad.



SUZANNA PRATT | The Observer

Irish freshman Cari Roccaro defends a Rutgers player in the Big East matchup on Oct. 7, 2012. Notre Dame tied the game 2-2 (2OT).

Before the Irish faced the Red Stars on Wednesday, Mexico played Haiti's national team in Alumni Stadium and beat them 1-0. The same Mexican squad lost to Nigeria 1-0 in the quarterfinals of the 2012 FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup in Japan last

summer. The United States beat Germany in the title game to earn the Cup.

Today's action against Mexico begins at 7 p.m. in Alumni Stadium and Saturday's games begin at 10 a.m. on the Notre Dame practice field.

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JOHN NING | The Observer

Irish sophomore pitcher Pat Connaughton throws a pitch in the 3-1 loss to St. John's on April 29, 2012. Connaughton is penciled to start Friday against Villanova.

Pitcher

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

time to dwell on disappointment. Connaughton started in his season debut against Kent State on March 26 — registering a no decision in an 8-1 Irish win — just four days after the basketball team exited the NCAA tournament with a 76-58 loss to Iowa State in the round of 64.

There were doubters, of course. There still are. Last summer, after he had already finished one year balancing both sports, he struck up a conversation with the father of a

major leaguer in the parking lot of his former high school.

“The guy said you have to pick at some point, you can’t physically give all your effort to both sports,” Connaughton said. “And obviously I respect his opinion. It’s not something that people think is possible, but I respectfully disagree because I’ve been doing it and it’s something that I think I can do successfully.”

Connaughton gives no indication he was ever swayed by naysayers. On the contrary, he thrives on defying expectations.

“I’m not a dummy — there’s

a lot fewer 6-foot-5 white kids in the NBA compared to 6-5 pitchers in the MLB, that’s just the way it happens to be,” Connaughton said. “That’s partly why I decided not to go straight to professional baseball after high school. I kind of wanted to see if I could prove people wrong with basketball.”

While playing one Division I sport is difficult enough, Connaughton is not the only two-sport Notre Dame athlete in recent memory. It is relatively common for football players to run track in the spring, and current Seattle Seahawks receiver Golden Tate played in

the outfield as a freshman and sophomore. Jeff Samardzija first made a name for himself as a star receiver for the Irish, but now pitches for the Chicago Cubs.

“I’ve talked to Jeff Samardzija a little bit, but [he and Tate] are different because they did football and baseball,” Connaughton said. “They couldn’t play fall baseball, but they’re there for the whole baseball season. With basketball, I miss half of the baseball season, but I’m there for fall ball and for the end of it.

“It’s just something you kind of have to work through. It’s something that even if I was able to talk to someone who did do both sports, I don’t know that their situation would’ve been the same as mine.”

So far, though, the transition between sports has gone smoothly.

“I think it worked out as well as we could’ve hoped,” Aoki said. “[Basketball coach Mike] Brey has been over-the-top gracious in terms of how he’s handled this whole thing. Both coach Brey and Pat really make this thing possible. I don’t think it would work out all that well with different personalities.”

Connaughton said staying in shape for both sports hasn’t been particularly difficult.

“It’s not as hard as a pitcher,” Connaughton said. “You pretty much get your arm in shape; it’s just a matter of easing into it. And you only really need to throw twice a week, so I do it on my free time.

“I usually only need 15 to 30 minutes. I try to throw when the baseball team practices. They usually have them later at night, so that makes it a little bit easier because basketball’s usually in the afternoon.”

Connaughton said he doesn’t mind the extra work in the gym, especially after working for his father’s construction company in Massachusetts one summer

as a St. John’s Prep student.

“The deal was I was either going to work for him or I was going to work out at this place called Athletic Evolution back home,” Connaughton said. “I was either going to do that from nine to three like a job or I was going to actually have to have a job. And after working with him for that one summer, I definitely did not want to do that [again].

“I was so passionate about sports that it was easy for me and it wasn’t even like work. Nine to three is a long time in the gym, but you can work on a bunch of different things when you’re there.”

Although the Notre Dame baseball coaches would’ve liked to see Connaughton play in the Cape Cod league, last summer he played with the South Bend Sultans so that he could stay close for the basketball team. The schedule and priority conflicts between the two sports are unavoidable and likely to increase as he progresses, but for right now, Connaughton is taking them as they come.

“I’ve still got two-and-a-half years left, so we’ll see how that works out,” Connaughton said. “Obviously right now for the professional level, there’s more baseball scouts knocking on my door than there are basketball, but when it comes down to it, I don’t know what I’m going to do.”

Contact Vicky Jacobsen at
vjacobs@nd.edu

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Villanova

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

ways.”

On the other side of the field lie the Wildcats (8-19, 0-3), who have yet to pick up a conference win. Despite their lackluster season thus far,

out with the results that you want.”

On the heels of a two-game winning streak itself, Villanova enters the series after picking up close wins over Pennsylvania and La Salle. In the Wildcats’ 3-1 victory over La Salle on Wednesday, sophomore left-hander Jeff Courter

Notre Dame sophomore right-handed starters will make their home debuts. On Friday, Pat Connaughton will take the mound, and Matt Ternerowchek will get the nod Sunday. In conjunction with Saturday’s “Fear the Beard” night, senior right-hander Adam Norton will head to the hill with his 6-0 record and 1.39 ERA for the series’ middle game.

With the recent turn towards spring weather, Aoki said he hopes to see plenty of Notre Dame students at this season’s first home weekend series.

“We’d certainly love to fill up the Eck,” he said. “[With this weekend’s promotions] I think it should be a lot of fun.”

Following a pregame tailgate beginning at 4 p.m., the Irish will take the field for game one of their series with the Wildcats at 5:35 p.m. to night at Frank Eck Stadium.

Contact Mary Green at
mgreen8@nd.edu

“It’s like any Big East weekend, I think. You’ve got to make sure that you play well in order to come out with the results that you want.”

Mik Aoki

Irish coach

Aoki said his team will not be counting them out before the series is over.

“They’ve struggled a little bit more than they did last year, but they’ve got a couple of good arms,” he said. “It’s like any Big East weekend, I think. You’ve got to make sure that you play well in order to come

pitched 8.1 innings of one-run baseball in his first career start. Another second-year southpaw for the Wildcats, Josh Harris, leads the team with a 2.09 ERA in spite of a 2-4 record.

Those two will look to match up with a strong Irish rotation this weekend, when two

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A BURNING HOT SUMMER (2012)
THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 7:00 PM

NANOVIC INSTITUTE FILM SERIES: CONTEMPORARY EUROPEAN CINEMA
Not Rated, 95 minutes | French with English subtitles

This drama from French master Philippe Garrel examines the once-happy marriage between painter Frederic and his movie-star wife Angele as it hits the rocks. When another young couple joins them on a Roman holiday, tensions and passions flare. Features a haunting score by the Velvet Underground’s John Cale.

AMOUR (2012)
FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2013, 6:30 PM AND 9:30 PM
SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 3:00 PM | 6:30 PM | 9:30 PM
SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 3:00 PM

Rated PG-13, 127 minutes | French with English subtitles

Oscar Winner for Best Foreign Language Film and nominated for five Academy Awards. Georges and Anne (played by French cinema icons Emmanuelle Riva and Jean-Louis Trintignant) are retired music teachers living a quiet life in their Paris apartment until one day when Anne has an attack and their bond of love is severely tested.

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CROSSWORD | WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
1 Game with the figures “soldier’s bed” and “fish in a dish”
11 Real-estate mogul Olenicoff
15 Superpower with which Clark Kent shaves himself
16 Boulevardier’s accessory
17 Waffling
18 Fangorn Forest denizens
19 Source of the line “Hope springs eternal ...”
20 Larder lineup
21 It moves along via a series of belts
22 Greg Evans comic strip
24 Dental patient, often
25 Daughter of Zeus and Leda
28 Drum that might accompany a fife
- 30 First carrier to offer regular in-flight movies, 1961
31 Garment made of Gore-Tex, maybe
33 They’re no longer tender in a typical trattoria
34 Yellowfin, on some menus
35 Tangles with, in the country
37 Classic Chrysler
39 Lead characters in “Mork & Mindy”?
40 Impart
42 Coaching concern
43 Tillis or Tormé
44 Place to moor
46 Full of adrenaline, informally
47 West Point newcomers
49 Aids in marketing?
51 O. Henry is known for one
52 Baccarat cousin
- DOWN**
1 Pot item
2 Prefix with -stat
3 Pool protector
4 Six-time Lombardi Trophy winners
5 Rx chain
6 Spanish wine
7 Leaning
8 Like the snowy owl
9 Very much
10 Shanghai-to-Tokyo dir.
11 Block during a blizzard
12 Genre that glorifies gunplay
13 Mostly
14 Checked
21 Emergency oil rig visitor
23 Out of one’s league?
24 “Whitman Cantata” composer
25 Part of an iconic Eden outfit
26 Durable kitchen items
27 Low-priced item, maybe
- 53 Estrangement
57 Zip
58 1971 film with the tagline “You don’t assign him to murder cases. You just turn him loose.”
60 Like shellfish
61 Regime change catalyst
62 Hard worker
63 Site near an outdoor recording session in “Help!”

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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- PUZZLE BY DOUG PETERSON AND BRAD WILBER
- 29 Cartoonist Keane

32 Ululates

36 TV show that has spawned many movies, briefly

38 Cold war concern

41 Yvonne of “The Munsters”
- 45 Striped identifier

48 Zach “Garden State” actor/director

50 Early automaker Frederick Henry

52 Direction from on high
- 54 Weights, colloquially

55 “Hullabaloo” dance

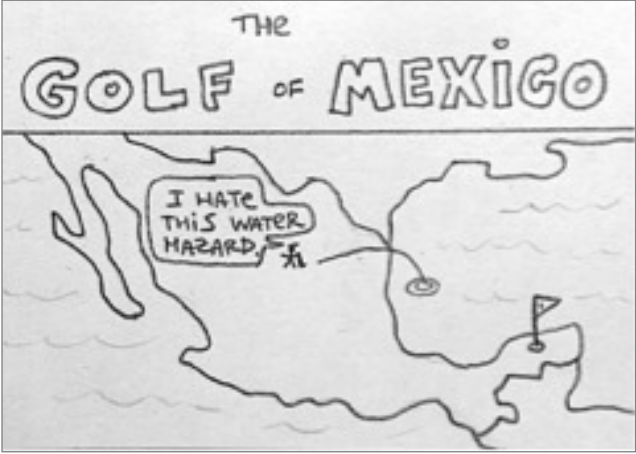
56 Bang out

58 Fielding feats, for short

59 When repeated, a sneaky laugh

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

HIGHLY PUNLIKELY | CHRISTOPHER BRUCKER



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Level: 1 2 3 4

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SOLUTION TO THURSDAY’S PUZZLE 4/5/13

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2	4	6	7	5	3	8	1	9
8	9	5	4	3	6	2	7	1
4	6	2	9	7	1	3	8	5
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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: Robert Downey Jr., 48; Christine Lahti, 63; David Cross, 49; Craig T. Nelson, 69

Happy Birthday: Welcome any help that is offered. What you have to give back will far exceed any feeling of guilt or awkwardness. You are used to doing everything and expecting nothing, but this year the give-and-take aspect of your life must be put into balance if you wish to be successful. An old partnership should be reconsidered. Your numbers are 1, 9, 15, 21, 26, 33, 47, 69.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Offer assistance and good things will happen in return. The joy you spread and the ideas you share will enhance your personal relationships. Doing things differently and being the instigator of your own destiny will prove to be beneficial. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Refrain from making complaints. An emotional issue must be handled with diplomacy. Remain open to suggestions and put greater emphasis on what you can do to help someone going through a difficult time. Put safety first. Avoid secret encounters. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't lend or borrow money with any expectations. A short trip will add to your knowledge, expertise and ability to make constructive alterations to your personal life, attitude and appearance. Love looks promising, but keep your feelings a secret for now. ★★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Your intuition will not lead you astray. You are best not to share sensitive information. Taking responsibility for your actions will bring the results and recognition you desire. Protect your physical and financial wellness. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Do your thing. Getting together with friends or peers could lead to conversation that will encourage you to pursue your dreams. A change of plans, direction or location will enhance your chances of reaching your goals. Romance is on the rise. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Listen carefully and make sure that what's being said is accurate. Let your common sense and gut feeling lead you down the right path. A contract should be considered, but only if you negotiate your terms explicitly. Embrace change. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A relationship will be enhanced if you are willing to make a compromise. Don't fight change when it's essential to moving forward. People from different backgrounds will inspire you. Love will blossom. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Get involved in events that will help you connect with influential people. Contributions you make will attract someone who has something to offer you professionally, financially or creatively. Don't allow personal situations to slow you down. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Put more energy into your home, family and romance. Make a decision that will help you put any misrepresentations or uncertainty to rest. Focus on ways to make your future stable and your lifestyle better suited to your personal goals. ★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Look for common ground before you decide to become closer with someone from your past or present. You want to be aligned with people who contribute, not dictate. Ulterior motives may be a factor. Let your intuition guide you. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Generosity will draw unique individuals into your life. Draw on past experience and consider the changes you want to make in order to improve your future. Larger quarters or sharing your space with more people will improve your outlook. Romance is in the stars. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19- March 20): Moderation is a must if you don't want to ruin a good opportunity. Keeping your life and plans simple will bring the best results. Let your wisdom come from insight, past experience and a keen sense of practicality. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are outspoken, innovative and curious. You are inventive and trendy.

JUMBLE | DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

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

NOONI

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HETEM

TUMEAT

FERSUE

A:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: HONEY PIVOT REMOVE GENIUS
Answer: After tracking down the stolen brooch, he had all the evidence he needed to — PIN IT ON HER

WORK AREA

THE OBSERVER

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BASEBALL

Strong rotation leads Irish into weekend

Notre Dame prepares for series against Villanova

By MARY GREEN
Sports Writer

While the professionals have just begun their season, No. 20 Notre Dame is entering the heart of its schedule as it prepares to face Villanova in a three-game series this weekend at Frank Eck Stadium.

The Irish (17-9, 2-4 Big East) enter riding a two-game winning streak, collecting victories over Illinois-Chicago and Valparaiso earlier this week. Those momentum-building wins came at just the right moment after the team dropped all three games against Louisville in its last Big East series, Irish coach Mik Aoki said.

"It was nice to be able to get a couple of wins after obviously a tough weekend down in Louisville," he said. "So it was nice to get back on that, feeling good about ourselves and getting back to some winning

see VILLANOVA **PAGE 18**



ALLY DARRAGH | The Observer

Irish sophomore starter Matt Ternowchek hurls the baseball off the mound in a matchup against Illinois-Chicago on Tuesday. Notre Dame broke a three-game losing streak with the 6-2 win.

Connaughton defies naysayers by playing two sports

By VICKY JACOBSEN
Sports Writer

Some athletes might have gone out to celebrate, reveling with the students who stormed the court after the Irish knocked off No. 1 Syracuse. Some might have spent the night relaxing and recovering in the training room.

But sophomore guard Pat Connaughton capped off the most exciting night of the 2011-2012 basketball season with a workout. After all, baseball season was coming.

"They beat Syracuse here last year, and I think 45 minutes later we have him throwing long toss over in Loftus," Irish coach Mik Aoki said. "Pat can move seamlessly from basketball to baseball, literally within minutes. It's like he never left."

And while that can mean missing out on a night of celebration, it also means the right-handed pitcher doesn't have

see PITCHER **PAGE 18**

MEN'S LACROSSE

Squad takes on Providence

By MATTHEW ROBISON
Sports Writer

After an offensive explosion in a 17-5 win over Marquette on Tuesday, No. 4 Notre Dame travels to Providence on Sunday for its second Big East road game.

The Irish (7-2, 1-1 Big East) dropped their first Big East matchup to No. 10 St. John's on Saturday after winning their conference opener against Rutgers on March 24.

Irish coach Kevin Corrigan admitted his team had started to get away from its intended focus. Instead, Notre Dame looked ahead to its opponents too much.

"I think that the focus needs to stay on us," Corrigan said. "While we're preparing for other teams, the focus needs to stay on our team a little bit more. That's my fault for letting us get too far away from that."

But against Marquette, Corrigan was happy with the way his team rebounded and got back to doing what it does best: defending, taking advantage of scoring opportunities and avoiding turnovers.



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Irish sophomore midfielder Jack Near takes the ball down the field in a 12-10 loss to St. John's on March 30.

"Starting with Marquette, I think we came to a conclusion that we need to recommit ourselves to kind of being the team we want to be," Corrigan said. "That requires doing things a certain way and having certain standards that allow us to form

an identity as a team."

The Friars (7-4, 1-2) have revitalized their program this year under the tutelage of first-year coach Chris Gabrielli.

"They're just a different

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WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Notre Dame eyes road trip

By BRIAN HARTNETT
Sports Writer

No. 6 Notre Dame will look to extend its best start in program history when it travels south to face Louisville and Cincinnati in a pair of conference games this weekend.

The Irish (8-0, 2-0 Big East) have not played since March 24, when they routed Villanova, 14-2, at Arlotta Stadium. Irish junior defense Molly Shawhan said the team used the extended break to focus on the fundamentals.

"We've just been getting back to the basics, back to our stick work, and have been looking in at ourselves and understanding who we are as a team," Shawhan said. "All the things we've had problems with during games are the little things, so we've been working on ball handling, ground balls, winning the draws, that kind of stuff."

Notre Dame has gotten off to an 8-0 start for the second consecutive year under coach Christine Halfpenny. The Irish need two more wins to tie the 2004 squad for the best start in program

history. Additionally, the team will look to become the first Irish team since 2002 to start 4-0 in Big East play.

The Irish will encounter a tough conference foe when they square off with Louisville (7-3, 0-2) at the UofL Lacrosse Stadium on Friday night. Notre Dame is 4-0 all-time against the Cardinals, but the last three meetings have been decided by two goals or less, including a 13-11 Irish victory last season.

The Cardinals jumped out to a 7-1 start this season, but dropped games to then-No. 15 Loyola and then-No. 9 Georgetown at the start of Big East play. Louisville junior midfielder Nikki Boltja, who has notched 40 points in 10 games this season, and freshman midfielder Kaylin Morissette, who has scored 26 goals on the year, have led the Cardinal offense.

"[Louisville] is really aggressive and scrappy," Shawhan said. "Coach [Halfpenny] keeps saying that if there was a competition for which team could bench the

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