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Senior shares experiences as gay athlete

Tennis player Matt Dooley works to bring You Can Play organization to ND

By MIKE MONACO Sports Editor

Matt Dooley returned to campus around 2 a.m. Monday after the Irish lost to Virginia on Sunday in Charlottesville, Va.

A second-semester senior, Dooley is taking six credits, and he doesn't have class on Mondays until 12:30 p.m. So he set his alarm for 11 a.m.

"I woke up at like 10:30 to my phone going nuts," Dooley said. Dooley wrote an article on Outsports.com that detailed his life as a gay athlete at Notre Dame. In the article, Dooley said he attempted suicide in 2011 because "death was better than accepting — or revealing — that I was gay." In September, two years after attempting suicide, Dooley came out to his teammates. A few months later, Dooley became ready to go public with his story.

The original piece on Outsports.com had been tweeted more than 550 times and shared on Facebook more than 5,600 times as of Wednesday afternoon. Dooley said since that 10:30 a.m. wake-up call, "it's been 24-7," receiving countless phone calls, texts, tweets, emails and more.

"So far it's been all positive. I'm still waiting for that first negative," Dooley said of the reaction he's received. "We've gotten emails saying we've already saved people's lives, which has been great.

"I'm not a Twitter guy, and it blew my mind how fast every aspect of my life could be reached in one second, because I was getting calls and texts from people I went to high school [with], people I played tennis with, people from all over the country. D-I tennis programs all over, people text



Matt Dooley, a senior tennis player, detailed his life as a gay athlete at Notre Dame in an article published Monday on Outsports.com.

me, 'Do you mind if I share this with my team? It's such a powerful message.' It's like, how did you know about this already? Wow. It was published

an hour-and-a-half ago. So it's been wild. Obviously hectic is probably saying it lightly."

see DOOLEY PAGE 5

Database promotes undergraduate research



Conference cultivates naval leadership

By CATHERINE OWERS News Writer

On Feb. 20-23, Naval ROTC midshipmen from units across the country gathered to participate in Naval Leadership Weekend on Notre Dame's campus.

Junior Max Brown said the conference emphasized developing ethical and effective leadership.

character and moral compass and ability to answer hard questions that we will be faced with as military officers in the future, beforehand, so that we're ready to go forth when the time comes," he said.

There is also an ethical component to the conference, which Brown said emphasizes character development

Professor named AERA fellow

By HENRY GENS News Writer

The American Educational Research Association (AERA) recently named Notre Dame sociology professor Mark Berends a fellow in recognition of his scholarly contributions to education research.

Berends was accepted as one of 22 members of the association's class of 2014, which is currently composed of 557 AERA fellows. He will



also act as the program director for this year's AERA meeting, a conference with more than 2,400 presentations and dozens of features of leading researchers in education.

"Part of this AERA fellows is recognizing people that have had a long history of research that is informative and helpful to the field, so I'm very humbled by it," Berends said. "It's a great honor.

"AERA is an organization with some 25,000 people there's a whole array of people that do work like I do and people that do other work, so one never knows how they're going to get recognized in that."

By GABRIELA MALESPIN News Writer

The University of Notre Dame is currently in its trial phase of integrating a new undergraduate research database, Project Lever, as part of an effort to increase undergraduate research. Developed by Harvard

graduate Svetlana Dotsenko, Project Lever is a database that matches students' research interests with professors, courses, grants and other resources based on their search topics Alex Sun, student government representative, said

see LEVER PAGE 4

"About 150 midshipmen and staff members came from all over the country to listen to really prolific and nationally outstanding leaders in the military," he said. The conference provided midshipmen the opportunity to prepare for and examine ethical dilemmas, Brown said.

"We can all sit around the table and share and understand and form our own

"In the Navy, there are three things that we work for in midshipmen development: moral, mental and physical development," he said. "Physical is making sure everyone is keeping in shape, mental is high standards for academics.

"Notre Dame has always been able to lend a particularly salient perspective to

see NAVY PAGE 5

The AERA fellows are selected on the basis of sustained excellence over a long period of time, and Berends said his career began at the RAND corporation, an independent objective "think tank" that does research to inform policy. He said that's where he began applying sociology

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL PAGE 16



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Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor-in-Chief Ann Marie Jakubowski.

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QUESTION OF THE DAY:

Where is your ideal spring break vacation destination?



George Fillion sophomore Keough Hall "Tallahassee, Florida."



Nicole Zielinski sophomore Lyons Hall "The Caribbean."





Sarah Motter sophomore Lyons Hall "Panama City Beach."

Harriet O'Sullivan

sophomore

Lyons Hall

"Cancun."

Have a question you want answered?

Email photo@ndsmcobserver.com







Senior Kelsey Howard went to South Dining Hall yesterday marked by the Cross after attending a liturgy to honor Ash Wednesday. Throughout Lent, Mass will be celebrated almost everyday in the Basilica of the Sacred Heard and in a "Chapel Crawl" of residence halls. See the Campus Ministry website for a full schedule of services.



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Corrections

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

THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

Thursday Friday

Lecture: "Mercy in the **Teaching and Ministry** of Pope Francis" McKenna Hall 7 p.m.-8 p.m. By the Archbishop of Chicago.

Town Hall Meeting Eck Visitors Center 10 p.m.-11 p.m. Led by Fr. Jenkins and John Affleck-Graves.

Men's Discernment Lunch LaFortune Student Center 12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m. Time for discussion and prayer.

Film: "The Wolf of Wall Street" (2013) Browning Cinema 7 p.m.-10 p.m. Directed by Scorsese.

Saturday

1 p.m.-3 p.m.

Tickets free for

students to watch

Hockey Playoffs

University.

the Irish take on the

Sunday

Want your event included here?

Email obsnews.nd@gmail.com

Women's Lacrosse **Basilica Sundav** Loftus Sports Center Mass

Basilica of the Sacred Heart 10 p.m.-11 p.m. Celebrate the Lenten University of Louisville. season.

Women's Tennis

Compton Arena Eck Tennis Pavilion 7:05 p.m.-9:05 p.m. 1 p.m.-3 p.m. The Irish play Boston Notre Dame plays Florida State.

Monday

Mid-Term Break

Campus-wide Until Sunday, March 16. No classes in session. Both Dining Halls closed.

Swim Lessons Registration **Rockne Memorial** 9 a.m. Before public.

Hypatia Day commemorates women in science

By EMILIE KEFALAS News Writer

Who says mathematics and science are exclusively male-dominated areas of study?

Saturday at Saint Mary's College, nearly 80 seventh and eighth-grade girls defied this stereotype as they participated in various science labs and mathoriented activities for Hypatia Day.

Hypatia Day was first organized in 1991 by Sr. Miriam Patrick Cooney, professor emerita of mathematics. Hypatia Day is meant to provide a unique experience for young girls interested in careers in math and science, director of Media Relations Gwen O'Brien said.

The event was an opportunity for middle school girls from seven local counties to visit Saint Mary's and be engaged and mentored by math and science majors, O'Brien said.

With the help of Saint Mary's students and faculty from the math and science departments, students from the surrounding Michiana and Mishawaka area received an early taste of what it is like to be a science or math major, O'Brien said.

Various classrooms around the campus were used to showcase the applications of math, engineering, science and other associated fields, O'Brien said.

Hypatia Day is named for the first known female mathematician, Hypatia of Alexandria, who was the daughter of ancient Greek mathematician and philosopher Theon, she said.

According to legend, Hypatia's father taught her mathematics during a period in Greek history when young, female girls were excluded from education, O'Brien said.

"Hypatia knew something these girls may be figuring out: Math and science are for girls

too," O'Brien said.

Associate professor of mathematics and director of Hypatia Day Kristin Kuter said the visiting middle school students were treated to a special address by this year's keynote speaker, Dr. Tracy Kijewski-Correa, who is an associate professor and chair of the **Civil Engineering and Geological** Sciences Department at Notre Dame.

"[She] was very dynamic, down to earth, and inspirational," Kuter said. "She focused on empowering the young women in the audience and encouraging them to continue to pursue an education in STEM, emphasizing its power."

The remainder of the day included panel discussions between participating faculty and the girls' parents that stressed the importance of support for the girls, who participated in hands-on sessions with Saint Mary's math and science majors, O'Brien said.

A variety of activities were put

on by the math and computer science clubs, which helped the girls decode encrypted messages and code in programming language.

The chemistry club had the girls make "goo" and look at different colored flames produced by various substances, and the biology and engineering clubs integrated their fundamental elements into fun games, Kuter said.

"The student participants seemed to enjoy the hands-on activities, and the parents were very grateful for the information we provided about the upcoming curricular choices that should be made for their daughter to continue on to college," Kuter said.

This is Kuter's fifth year running the event since she inherited the task from her predecessor, professor Ewa Misiolek, Kuter said.

"[It is important to] encourage young women, especially those that are transitioning from middle to high school, that they can do anything, including math or science," Kuter said.

Kuter believes it is all a matter of self-confidence and self-esteem in terms of encouraging girls interested in mathematics and the sciences to continue to strive for achievement, Kuter said.

"Girls need to be encouraged to persevere. They need to be told they can do it," she said. "The stereotype that girls cannot excel in math and science unfortunately still exists in society and we need to counteract those messages at every opportunity possible, before the student disengages.

"Given the research, if these girls are not encouraged, they may not have the confidence to continue."

Kuter said this year's event was a success, and she hopes next year's Hypatia Day will include an added session for physics students.

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SENATE

Student services present sexual assault reports

By MARGARET HYNDS News Writer

At Wednesday night's Student Senate meeting, Dr. Bill Stackman, associate vice president for Student Services and Deputy Title IX Coordinator, initiated a conversation about sexual assault occurrence and policy on campus.

Stackman said there were 24 reported cases of sexual misconduct in the 2012-2013 school year.

According to his PowerPoint presentation, 19 of those cases involved alcohol. Six complainants were freshmen and five were male.

"At this point, I have seen 21 cases this year," he said. "I had seen 19 by the end of the first semester.

"What I'm going to take away from that is that I think we're

doing a better job at reporting. A lot of my cases come from staff and faculty. A lot of them come from second and third hand sources."

All faculty and staff, with the exception of professed religious staff in campus ministry, the University counseling center and University health services, are mandatory reporters, Stackman said. They are required to inform the Deputy Title IX Coordinator of information shared with them about a potential sexual assault.

Once an incident is reported, the complainant has three options for pursuing an investigation, he said. The person may follow the University disciplinary process, the criminal process or pursue both simultaneously. Any complainant who chooses not to

pursue any investigation or divulge the name of the accused may reopen the case at a later date as long as both students are still enrolled at the university.

Stackman said he thinks there are several challenges facing the university regarding sexual assault. The issue of consent often comes up, Stackman said.

"Hookup culture and alcohol make this difficult," he said. "There's not clear communication.

"This doesn't mean we don't have perpetrators here, because we do. We have people who deliberately know what they are doing ahead of time. But often what I see in these situations is that communication breaks down."

Although the University received 21 incident reports, Stackman said the national

average for reporting sexual assault is five percent. This means it is possible there are far more sexual assaults taking place.

"My sense is that we may not have as much activity in compared in other schools—that's my guess, if I was to guess, but what we have is horrible," he said. "Just like your campaign, one is too many."

Student government initiatives are key to moving forward, Stackman said.

"Students taking action is probably the most powerful thing that can happen," he said. "Peers talking to peers — that will begin to change the culture more than anything. My office will be there to support you."

Stackman came to Notre Dame in August 2012. As associate

vice president for student services, Stackman supervises the Counseling Center, Health Services and the Office of Alcohol and Drug Education. As Deputy Title IX Coordinator, Stackman responds to all issues regarding sexual assault between students.

At the meeting, Senate also approved Farley Hall junior Kathryn Peruski for the position of judicial council president 2014-2015.

Senate also passed a resolution supporting the creation of a student advisory board for the Snite Museum of Art, which established one representative of student government's Department of Academic Affairs on the advisory board.

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Postdoc examines physics of aging and death

By CHRISTIAN MYERS News Writer

range of organisms ranging from that enzyme as they collectively worms to mammals." Vural said his hypothesis for

digest a given food source. Three conclusions were something very different. The actual characteristics of aging you see in finite systems."

The consistency in the time it took such systems to crash, Vural said, made it possible to estimate maximum lifespan based on initial factors. He said such theoretical predictions closely matched the observations in experiments with animal populations, from fruit flies to mice. Vural said his work has implications for destroying bacteria populations if scientists use neutral constructive evolution to weaken potentially resistant bacteria within the population. The science may, over time, also apply to cancer treatments as scientists learn how to target specific cells within a system, he said.

Dervis Can Vural, postdoctoral fellow in the school of engineering and applied sciences at Harvard University, considered the nature of aging and death in the lecture "Statistical Mechanics of Aging and Death," held in Nieuwland Science Hall on Wednesday.

According to the physics department website, Vural said the purpose of his work is to better understand why so many organisms follow a similar trajectory of aging and death.

"Nearly every complex organism experiences a life-long deterioration followed by a catastrophic collapse at the end," he said. "Furthermore, the statistical characteristics of the collapse are remarkably similar for a diverse

why humans and other organisms age is based on evolution. For example, natural genetic mutation may lead to the development of disadvantageous traits, he said. Despite being potentially harmful, these traits persist in the organism due to the presence of positive traits combating the effects of natural selection. The term for this process is neutral constructive mutation.

"We age because we have a long neutral constructive evolutionary history," he said.

Vural said an example of neutral constructive mutation is when a bacterium, born without the ability to make a certain digestive enzyme, nonetheless survives since other bacteria around it secrete

reached based on his statistical studies of aging and death, Vural said. The first conclusion is that

aging is a universal phenomenon for humans and other complex organisms.

"Aging is inevitable for any organism that has evolved long enough," he said. "Aging is the price you pay for being multicellular. We can compose symphonies, we can ride bikes, we can eat pizza. The price you pay for doing all that is aging."

Vural said the second conclusion is that aging applies to all finite organisms.

"Aging is a finite size effect," he said. "This means you don't see [aging] in very tiny systems and in infinite systems you see

The third conclusion is the possibility of attaining, with profound difficulty, immortality, Vural said. "Immortality is possible, but very expensive," he said. "You don't gain much by added repair for a long time."

Vural said his study fits within the broader principles of manybody physics, which is an area of physics that examines the collective behavior of interacting entities.

Vural said he modeled networks of interdependent "nodes" subject to damage and repair and found that the system inevitably crashed over time as each node died either due to its own probability of death over time or the death of an interdependent node.

"This is where mad science begins," Vural said.

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NEWS

Lever

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Project Lever aims to "increase the quality and quantity of senior theses."

"Project Lever is an online database that is meant to connect students with the resources that are available on their campus," Sun said. "If we see a large increase in quality and quantity, we're hoping to expand it to other departments."

Sun said the project is implemented through the College of Arts and Letters, although student government helps promote the initiative among the student body. Dean Joseph Stanfiel of the College of Arts and Letters said he serves as coordinator for the project.

"It really has enhanced the educational experience of students in the college," Stanfiel said. "It makes the connection with someone's raw interests in research."

According to Stanfiel, representatives from Project Lever approached him on the possibility of implementing the project at the University several weeks ago. Stanfiel said he chose the political science and economics departments to first sample the program due to their overlapping fields of research. He said he felt students in both departments would benefit most from the trial period.

"Dean McGreevy has made a very conscious effort to push undergraduate research and thesis writing," Stanfiel said. "It struck me that this would contribute to that effort."

Although Notre Dame is still in its testing phase, Harvard, MIT, Columbia and Tufts are among a list of other universities already using the project.

"The neat thing about Project Lever is that it is continuously updated," said Sun. "It's always searching for new resources throughout campus."

Members of the Project Lever initiative include Notre Dame economics professor Mary Flannery and political science director of undergraduate studies Josh Kaplan and associate director Carolina Arroyo.

Flannery said Project Lever has a broad research focus and serves as a good introductory resource for sophomores and juniors as they investigate possibilities in undergraduate research. "Anything that gets students thinking about doing research and looking at what kind of research professors are doing is a good step," Flannery said. "I see this ultimately as a resource for sophomores and juniors when they try to figure out what to do." Both Stanfiel and Sun said they hope the trial phase proves successful enough to allow the initiative to expand to other departments and colleges across the University.

AEDA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to educational reform, and learning to work on large team-based research projects with significant policy implications.

"When I was there at the time there was a policy movement called 'comprehensive school reform' — that they would redo schools, [with the idea] that our schools are terrible, we're not competitive in the world, we need to break the mold," Berends said.

A large project was conducted over several years in the 1990s that examined new designs for schools, he said.

"That work stood the test of time in some ways, and other people tried to replicate it," Berends said. "It was very mixed because they were trying to develop these new designs for schools, but then they were basically selling

their products to school districts which have certain constraints and regulations, and so instead of 'break the mold' ideas, it became more 'fill the mold.'"

While at RAND, Berends said he researched test score trends in different demographics and examined family changes and schooling situations of students. This eventually led to an appointment at Vanderbilt's Peabody School of Education.

[appointment] "That played into some of that work and also comprehensive school choice where we were fortunate enough to get a big research center funded by the U.S. Department of Education, to look at school choice, whether that's charter schooling, home schooling, scholarships or vouchers, a whole array of these kinds of choices," Berends said. "We looked not just at differences

in test scores, but whether these schools were really different: was the organization different, was the instruction different, was the teaching force different?"

Now at Notre Dame, Berends acts as the Director of the Center for Research on Educational Opportunity (CREO), part of the Institute for Educational Initiatives. His research continues to focus on school choice and educational policy, with a couple of projects currently underway.

"One is that Indiana has implemented a choice scholarship program, a voucher, for low and modest income families to take money to attend a private school," Berends said. "We have a data-sharing agreement with Indiana Department of Education, and we're looking at the early effects of that on state test scores. Not

only public schools, but a lot of the private schools [also] take state tests so it's a nice comparison."

Although Berends is using shared data, he also supplements more traditional metrics with a comprehensive approach including interviewing and tracking student integration and social networks.

"A lot of my work over time is not only looking at test scores, which sometimes tend to be a horse race, but more 'what are the conditions under which schools can be effective, whatever the type' — whether that's a Catholic school, a charter school and so on," Berends said. "We're always trying to get more information, whether that's through quantitative or qualitative measures."

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"If the results are strong, I think [Project Lever] could help everybody," Stanfiel said.

Contact Gabriela Malespin at gmalespi@nd.edu

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Navy

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

[moral development], in the academic sense and the whole spirit of this place."

Freshman MJ Jackson said the symposiums and panels at the conference also discussed the qualities of successful leadership and cyber warfare.

"We also talked about military ethics and emerging technologies in warfare and defense, and national security and the impacts those will have on our career as officers and the world in general," she said.

Colonel Frank Rossi, a professor of aerospace studies at Notre Dame, discussed the relationships between the military branches, Jackson said.

"[He talked] about how relationships between Army, Air Force and Navy officers will become very important throughout our career," she

said. "We need to understand the different cultures of the different forces and learn how to relate to them because we are all fighting for the same goal."

Jackson said she appreciated the emphasis on communication between the branches of the military.

"I think a lot of the times, in the military, competition between the branches is overstressed, instead of collaboration. I think we need time to understand each other better before we go out and have to interact in high-pressure situations."

The conference also provided the opportunity for midshipmen from different universities to meet each other, Jackson said.

"It was really cool to interact with people who have very different backgrounds from me," she said. "There's an element of sameness because we are all going to be working together in the future, but it was kind of cool to see how some midshipmen from other schools have a completely different culture.

"It was interesting to see people from different places all coming together to contribute their ideas and to have an ongoing conversation about leadership."

Brown said the large civilian population at the University makes it a unique venue for the conference.

"A lot of other institutions don't have the military component, a lot of times it's just the military. Notre Dame provides a really cool opportunity to nationalize perspectives, and show that we're an institution that has a broad variety of viewpoints," Brown said.

Jackson said she has since applied the topics discussed at the conference to her academic interests.

"The panelist discussion we had was discussing the ethics

> participate in a video "to show their support for LGBT ath-

of cyber technology and cy-

ber warfare, so now I'm work-

ing with one of the professors

to expand on that," she said.

"I'm researching the just war

letes," Burke said. "Our videos are pretty simple," Burke said. "Our motto is 'If you can play, you can play.' If you're good enough to help a team win, then your sexual orientation doesn't matter. So whether it's tennis, whether it's softball, whether it's fencing, whether it's football, if you're a contributing athlete, then who you love off the field, ice, court, whatever, doesn't matter.

"It's a very easy way for athletes to get involved and just say, 'Yeah, I went to Notre Dame because I want to win championships. If the person next to me can help me win a championship, that's all that matters.""

Burke said they're also working through the logistics of an on-campus presentation - either in late summer or early fall, if not in the spring — in which You Can Play will address as many athletes as possible.

"They're called invisible athlete forums, and we bring in LGBT athletes to speak about their experiences in a locker room where a closeted athlete often feels invisible," Burke said.

Burke said he is not surprised t the initiatives in the works at tradition as it applies to cyber technology and warfare."

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each other, show each other love and respect — that's all exactly in line with the Catholic teaching," Burke said. "So when people ask us, 'Are you surprised that a school like Notre Dame would support a gay athlete?', I'm happy. It's come a long way since when I was there. I know that. It's only been eight years now, but I can tell for a fact that a lot has changed since I left.

"But I don't think it's surprising anymore. The vast majority of Notre Dame students are supportive of their LGBT classmates. ... I'm proud of Notre Dame for getting behind this, for getting behind Matt. I'm happy that they're behind it. But I don't know if 'surprise' is the word that I'd choose. I think that would sell Notre Dame short if I said I was surprised that they rallied to support one of their students."

And that student, in turn, hopes to change things for other students. Before heading to the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, where Dooley will continue his studies (he has been exposed mostly to orthopedic surgery and internal medicine but is keeping an open mind), he wanted to embark on the You Can Play initiative "so that it can do its most beneficial work for anybody that needs it." "Going back to the roots of You Can Play, it's all respect and not politics," Dooley said. "You don't have to agree with someone's sexual orientation, but it doesn't have to do with that. It doesn't have to do with your sexual orientation, your gender, your race. It's all about just respecting your teammates and your peers.

Dooley

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Dooleysaidhedecidedtowrite his piece to tell people in similar situations to his in 2011 (and before) that they're not alone and to be visible in the public sphere as a "factor of legitimacy" to the You Can Play initiative in the works at Notre Dame. In tandem with the Student Welfare and Development office in the athletic department, Dooley has been working with You Can Play, an organization that works to fight homophobia in sports.

"Our current student-athletes and prospective student-athletes could look at it and say, 'Well, I could feel at home at this university," Dooley said. "So that's been the main goal of that."

He said once he was ready to share his story, he wanted to do so as quickly as possible before he was through as a studentathlete, before someone could ask why he didn't do anything while he was in school playing.

Coming out

On Sept. 16, 2011, Dooley tried to take his own life. As he wrote team." in his article, "that day I wanted nothing more than to escape the anguish of coming out to my family, my friends and, in a way, "I expected it to be positive, myself."

his parents in July 2012, following his sophomore year. He then came out to teammate Greg Andrews at the beginning of his junior year.

"I was surprised," Andrews said. "I wasn't really expecting that when he did tell me, but like Matt mentioned in the article, I was just like, 'Wow, I'm surprised, but I don't care at all. You're still one of my friends, and you're still the same Dooley to me, and it doesn't matter at all.'"

Dooley then came out to his coaches in early September and the rest of the team in mid-September. The team's reaction?

"Support. It was 110 percent support," Irish head coach Ryan Sachire said. "I can honestly tell you since that point in time, there's not been one awkward moment. There's not one issue within our squad. It's just simply been something [like], okay, this is a part of who Matt is. We love Matt. We care for Matt. He's a great teammate of ours and a great friend of our players and it's who he is and we love him and respect him for it and we're going to move on and be a great

Dooley said he wasn't too worried about coming out to his teammates.

alone. There are other people struggling with it, too. Worst comes to worst, you're still not alone. And that is the biggest fear. So, one, just take care of yourself. Make sure you're not holding yourself back. That's the biggest thing. And two, you're not alone. No matter what it is, no matter how bad things go."

Helping others

Once Dooley told his teammates and Sachire he was going to get involved with helping others, Sachire and Dooley went to senior associate athletic director Mike Harrity, who serves as associate athletics director for student-athlete development and community programming. Dooley has since worked closely with Student Welfare and Development program coordinator Ally Stanton, who has been the office's main contact with You Can Play.

You Can Play was launched in 2012. One of its co-founders, Patrick Burke, is a 2006 Notre Dame graduate. Burke's brother, Brendan, who was a student manager of the Miami (Ohio) hockey team, died in a car crash in February 2010, a few months after he publicly came out as gay. Patrick, who says You Can Play "is our tribute to [Brendan]," is also the Director of Player Safety for the National Hockey League (NHL). You Can Play is an official partner of the NHL and Major League Soccer. The organization has also done extensive work with Major League Baseball and the National Football League, among others. In the collegiate world, You Can Play has done different on-campus presentations at dozens of schools, and it has a video project in which schools can send in their own 'You Can Play' videos. Burke said once Stanton got in touch with him in late 2013, You Can Play began planning its Notre Dame initiatives. One of those initiatives is getting Irish student-athletes to



Admiral John Richardson, director of the Navy Nuclear Propulsion

Program addresses midshipmen in Carey Auditorium on Feb. 21.

Dooley talks now about internalized homophobia, about not liking yourself, about a fear of society and fears of abandonment and worthlessness.

"When you're dealing with something like depression or intense fear like that from a social stigma, it really does interfere with every aspect of your life," he said.

His tennis game suffered. He couldn't memorize things well in class. His mind wandered out of worry and fear when he listened to lectures.

Dooley, though, was able to find "a better place, and then acceptance came." He came out to

but you kind of get a hard shell after a while," Dooley said. "There's obviously the few that I was worried about. But I also knew that if there's a room of 15 guys and two or three were negative, they'd get squashed immediately. So I wasn't that worried. And like I said, all 15 were 100 percent with me."

Dooley said the support he received from his team and family has been crucial to him in taking the next step to come out publicly Monday.

"I guess the one thing I'd tell any student-athlete is just make sure you're doing as much as you can to allow yourself to be happy," Dooley said. "You're not

Notre Dame.

"Nothing we do contradicts Catholic teaching," Burke said. "Our message is simply that you should treat other people with respect and dignity. And that's lifted directly out of the Catechism [of the Catholic Church]."

Burke said in the first couple months of You Can Play's launch, the organization received a letter from a canonical lawyer, a priest whose job is to study canon law for the Church, who said You Can Play's mission statement falls directly in line with Catholic teaching on homosexuality.

"Everything we do, everything we preach — take care of

"Everyone can get behind that."

Sports writer Mary Green contributed to this story.

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VIEWPOINT

INSIDE COLUMN

Perfect your humanity

Emily Hoffmann Graphic Designer

Perfection.

I'm sure many of us know well the pressures that come with the desire to be perfect. Perhaps you may have crafted an unblemished GPA, sculpted an impeccable six-pack of abs or managed a flawless attendance for syllabus week shenanigans. In whatever capacity, perfection is something we all know, love and hate. In fact, if we are not careful it can become consuming and all too easy to lose ourselves in this desire for perfection.

I must admit, I am not immune to desires for perfection. Case in point: With spring break around the corner, I'd love that perfect beach body. For better or worse, this drive to tone those areas that winter sweaters so conveniently smooth over has manifested itself in a healthy resurgence of a favorite pastime, hot yoga.

While I knew going into class that the benefits of yoga are both physical and meditative, I usually spent those quiet times racing through that day's to-do list in my mind.

The other day something the yoga instructor said caught my attention. She began class with the meditation: "Life is short. Never miss an opportunity to perfect your own humanity. Love is simple."

Perfecting our own humanity — I had never quite heard of perfection mentioned in this way but it struck a chord.

As I put the pause button on those to-do lists running through my head, I started to really think about what that phrase meant. Humanity allows for failings and bumps along the way — we are only human after all. Not only that, but it also recognizes the most basic of human virtues, virtues like truth, love, justice and an overall determination to promote individual as well as collective greatness.

After class I asked the instructor where she had found the saying. She directed me to a blog that highlights a comment made about a YouTube video that has recently gone viral. The video was made to raise awareness for SOS Children's Village in Syria, an organization asking for donations of winter clothes for children in need. In true hidden-camera style, they document people's reaction as they pass a child without a jacket on a cold winters day. The reactions are beautiful. While I have no connection with the organization or its success, I encourage those interested to check it out both the blog and the quote at www.lifebuzz.com/ freezing-boy (Don't forget to turn on the English subtitles.) While desiring to be perfect at anything often leads to an unhealthy obsession, never missing an opportunity to perfect our humanity offers a new perspective - a perspective which might just be a perfect middle ground.

Rethink your childish logic

Raymond Michuda Common Sense

Two weeks ago, I wrote an article condemning lawsuits against bakeries for not selling wedding cakes to gay couples. I argued we ought to respect the religious and property rights of the bakers. People should not be forced to sell a cake for a ceremony they view as sinful. In fact, I don't think the government has the right to force people to sell their personal property at all.

Anyway, after the release of this article, I was attacked for being an ignorant, stupid and bigoted person. The list goes on and on. In general, anyone who publicly disagrees with anything the gay rights movement supports is now open to be labeled an ignorant, stupid and bigoted person by members of society. For a movement that talks so much about tolerance, it doesn't seem to tolerate my views. And I never even said I oppose gay marriage or civil unions. All I said was we shouldn't force people to sell a product to anyone, but the actual content of my statement doesn't matter to my critics; all that matters is that it went against the views of the gay rights movement, and therefore,

it must be bad. I must be condemned, because anyone who doesn't agree word-for-word with the gay rights agenda is a terrible person.

You know, there was a time in this country when we could have an intelligent debate. People took others with opposing viewpoints seriously and treated one another with respect. This age is long past. Now, as soon as I say something with which the liberals disagree, I get attacked for being a bad person. If I say I want to adjust welfare to make it more conducive to getting people back to work, I am attacked for hating poor people. Never mind that out of genuine concern for them, I refuse to support policies that hold them back. If I say I want a drug test as a prerequisite for welfare recipients, I am again accused of ill will towards the poor. Never mind that I think hardworking Americans struggling to get by shouldn't have to give others free drug money. If I say I want there to be identification requirements to vote, I am accused of being a racist.

Now this one really gets me. You need identification to do so many things, such as driving and getting into bars. Are these requirements also racist? If I say I support deportation of illegal immigrants, I am also accused of racism. Never mind that I think a country, by definition, ought to have secure borders. And, again, when I say we shouldn't be forced to sell a wedding cake to a gay couple, I'm a bigot.

What happened to our society? Why have we gotten to the point that instead of offering intelligent counterarguments, we mindlessly attack our opponents for being bigots? This mindset is extremely dangerous. It promotes a lack of diversity in beliefs, and this makes it easier for the people in charge to exert control over us. Part of the reason Americans have remained free for so long is due to our wide-ranging set of beliefs and society's willingness to accept this diversity. But we're moving away from this. Many liberals think everyone ought to agree with their views, and, if you don't, you're a terrible person. I caution you to beware of falling into this trap. After all, what is more important: freedom, or conformity?

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UWIRE

Change despite legislative inaction

Meg Callaghan Syracuse University

During the last month, President Barack Obama has stuck to his State of the Union vow to advance his agenda "with or without Congress," pushing new standards and regulations to combat and mediate climate change.

Due to the pressing nature of overarching environmental issues and the polarization of politics, this decisionmaking power shaped and utilized by the federal government's executive branch is necessary.

While other elected politicians may not see the urgency of dealing with climate change, Obama surely sees the difference Americans have to make. During his first term, the president gave up on climate change through legislation when it stalled in the U.S. Senate. in car gas mileage standards to 50.4 miles per gallon by 2025, February has seen a roll of new solutions one after another.

In the beginning of February, the Obama administration announced the creation of seven regional "climate hubs," which will work to aid the country's farmers to adapt to climate change, including changing weather patterns and increased pests.

The following week, the president revealed a \$1 billion "climate resiliency" fund for communities affected by central California's drought.

That same week, Secretary of State John Kerry directed all American diplomatic missions to make climate change a priority issue. With this, Kerry also started talks with Indonesia, which struggles heavily with deforestation, and encouraged the country to sign a major climate treaty. Obama continued on with new regulations, ordering the EPA to develop new, tougher fuel standards for heavy-duty trucks, which transport most of our resources and goods across all parts of the country, according to a Feb. 18 New York Times article. With new regulations in the transportation sector, our country can begin to make major cutbacks on our greenhouse gas emissions, as transportation emissions are one of the top sources for greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide.

Combining the efforts to reduce our environmental effects while creating plans to deal with the effects we have already set into play shows our government is looking out for the future of its people.

While it is unfortunate that leadership on these issues has fallen solely on the executive branch, it is not a sign of a tyrant in office or a new "big brother" state. It is a sign that other branches are not taking science seriously and are not looking out for their constituents.

Climate change will not only affect our environment, it will affect our nation's human health and our economy. It will hurt our livelihoods and our society. In some cases, even in our own country, these changes are already hurting or endangering our lives. When Congress is stuck in the mud, at least we have the executive office to keep our nation's health and happiness in the forefront of planning and policy for the future. The president must continue with these endeavors while other policymakers refuse to make changes, for the sake of both the planet and the people on it.

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The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. But this did not stop executive action on climate change.

Even while climate change legislation was stuck and dying, the Obama administration and the Environmental Protection Agency were beginning to produce their own solutions to the problems at hand.

While the EPA made some announcements of regulations before the State of the Union this year, such as the increase This column was originally posted on Feb. 27 for The Daily Orange, the student news organization for Syracuse University. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

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VIEWPOINT

A Republican stance on immigration

Mark Gianfalla Pledging Gamma Omicron Pi

It's not often Republicans can speak about immigration reform without being called racist or anti-immigrant, but recently, House Republicans laid out their ideals of what immigration reform should look like, and in honor of the immigration programming on campus this week, I will make you all informed as to our position.

That's right, even Republicans are in favor of reforming the nation's broken immigration system. Our priorities are actually fairly similar to the Democratic Party except for a few key areas. For Republicans, we acknowledge the source of the problem must be addressed first. That is why our main priority is border security.

With over 12 million illegal aliens having been able to gain entry through our country's borders, the problem is both serious and neglected. There is currently no effective way to track people over-staying their visas after gaining lawful entry into the country, and many areas of our physical border allow for easy crossing into the U.S. It would be useless to address the issue of the 12 million illegal aliens already here if the border was still weak and making it possible for that large number to grow. Greater security along our physical border coupled with a more effective entryexit tracking system will help solve the original problem of inflow and allow for a shift in effort.

The Republican Party also acknowledges the blatant need to address those already here, and for that we offer a practical plan. Amnesty would be sending the wrong message and would be a slap in the face to those lawfully waiting in line, like many of our ancestors did years ago. We Republicans emphasize a need for those illegal aliens already residing in our country to become current on their back-taxes and prove that they are able to support themselves. Those illegal immigrants who are currently working, or display a willingness to serve the United States in the armed forces, will be given priority when it comes to granting residency.

It is also necessary to improve employment verification and workplace enforcement programs to ensure that legal residents of the United States are the ones being hired and that taxes are being rightfully paid. The current bi-partisan immigration bill includes statutes for a long-term residency program to grant those here illegally who are also contributing to our economy the opportunity to become legal residents, and eventually apply for citizenship. The key point here is that illegal aliens are not given time priority over those waiting to immigrate to the United States legally.

Another key point is zero tolerance for those who took advantage of other laws while in the U.S. illegally, and that is why it is necessary to deport those with felony records or warrants as well as those with multiple misdemeanor offenses. Both Republicans and Democrats also agree that children who are brought here illegally by their parents should not suffer and should have the opportunity to become legal in the United States if they receive a college degree or join the military.

Republicans ultimately dropped the Dream Act, originally a large part of the Democratic plan for immigration reform, because of its provision to grant federal financial aid to those illegal immigrant youth. The majority who were opposed to the Dream Act held their position because U.S. tax dollars would go to provide this financial aid when most sources agree that nearly 60 percent of illegal aliens pay no federal income tax.

Another part of the Dream Act that draws criticism is the age where the law drew the line for near-amnesty. It cited that children who illegally immigrated here under the age of 16 would be eligible. This creates another double standard when the legal age of reason in the U.S. is widely legally accepted to be seven years old, and many U.S. citizens can be legally charged for felonies as adults at ages much younger than 16.

In conclusion, Republicans care a great deal about immigration reform and are not just hell-bent on sending everyone back where they came from. Real reform will come from both sides and through cooperation.

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

Giving a voice to the voiceless at Notre Dame

Katrina Linden Kat's Meow

I recently had the opportunity to be a guest on a California-based radio talk show on which a panel of intellectuals and myself discussed instances of racism on university campuses across the nation and the reasons for the rise in such incidents.

Theories varied from the assumption that the reelection of Obama fueled the animosity that ethnic individuals faced — which I found to be a stretch — to ideas that millennials taught to be "color-blind" become essentially ignorant of cultural and racial differences.

We left the conversation with no concrete answer on the idea of post-racial America. However, it was unanimous that post-racism is nothing more than a theory most individuals admit is preferred in a perfect world, but is essentially unrealistic in practice for various reasons. During this conversation I had the opportunity to hear from black students from UCLA and Michigan who shared their experiences with racism and prejudices in which their merit was questioned because of their skin color. After listening to instances of racism across the nation, I felt inadequate in contributing to the conversation considering the progress Notre Dame has been making in becoming more inclusive and significantly less ignorant in terms of race relations.

UCLA has been on the forefront lately in terms of race relations, in particular with their video "33," in which black students speak out about being a minority and feeling unwelcome at UCLA, a feeling I can guarantee more people than myself can relate with at Notre Dame.

A relation can be made between public UCLA and private Notre Dame in terms of the academic rigor expected of both and the question of affirmative action that comes up for most ethnic students during their time in college. But there are still distinct differences between the two.

Back to the radio show; the ignorant encounters I have faced at Notre Dame seem insignificant in comparison to the stories these men shared. I remain so focused on the negatives — the minute minority of those who voice their naïve opinions of racism and prejudices and those who undermine the concerns of minorities on campus — that I forget that there exists individuals at this university who are anything but ignorant. I forget about those who care about the "spirit of inclusion" Notre Dame attempts to emit. When the well-meaning people are masked by the ignorant, it is difficult to be happy with your surroundings. Nobody wants to feel unwelcome in a place where they are automatically supposed to fit in and conform to social norms. Even further, it is difficult to accept people even when their intentions are well-meaning but wholly uninformed.

I forget about the Office of Student Affairs and the strides the University has been making in the past year alone in bringing Notre Dame closer to its roots of inclusion and acceptance. Catholicism, after all is based on inclusion and acceptance of those of different backgrounds.

We are far from a perfect university. We are no UC Berkeley. We are not some liberal arts college that embraces everything Notre Dame is against. If that is what I wanted I should have gone there. out the ignorance and make life here slightly more bearable.

I like Notre Dame because I can educate those who do not understand how to deal with cultural differences. I can call people out for their public ignorance and better be able to learn how to deal with difficult individuals I will surely encounter later in life. I like to think that I heighten self-awareness in those who would otherwise remain comfortable in their homogenous lifestyle, never encountering those with varying opinions or life experiences.

Further, I like to believe that I am providing people with a voice where they would otherwise be too afraid to break the fabric of homogenei–ty. When you feel like a character in and Orwell book for bringing up social concerns and for not absolutely loving Notre Dame, it's hard not to feel like the secret Notre Dame allegiance committee is constantly observing you. Us outliers are out here; you just have to find us.

But I didn't.

I like Notre Dame because I am the minority, both phenotypically and mentally. As much as I like to complain about my disdain for a select group of individuals at this university, I actually enjoy it. I thrive in being able to instill commentary and reflection in others, though feedback may be negative in many cases. Even greater, there are those who cancel

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Please recycle The Observer.





By THOM BEHRENS Scene Writer

When I was a younger and more ignorant man, I was under the impression that Beck and Jeff Beck were the same person (it's okay to laugh). Maybe it's because their names are similar — it's certainly not because their music is similar. This led me to be under the impression that Beck had two very different and distinct sounds. There was the silent Beck whose sassy and elaborate guitar solos sent crowds of awestruck fans to their knees, and the Beck whose cryptic lyrics, clunky rhythm and minimalistic sound (coupled with all of that crazy Beckish ambience) made me feel fine with the mediocrity of my existence. I loved both versions.

Obviously I was working under a false assumption. Beck and Jeff Beck are very clearly two distinct people with two distinct bodies, attitudes and musical styles. And although as I have become a more handsome, wiser man, I have realized that Jeff Beck and Beck aren't the same person — the release of Beck's 12th studio album, "Morning Phase," has convinced me that there are two distinct versions of Beck within the man's discography. There's Everybody's Favorite Beck, whose classics like "Loser," "E-Pro" and "Devils Haircut" remind us of when we first learned to develop musical taste from our older siblings. He's got groovy and frequent breakdowns starring trumpets horns, organs, or his trademark afterglow vocals speaking at you overtop break beat drums. He's got a groggy guitar that finds something sexy and simple, and sticks with it. He's a ton of fun.

Then there's the Other Beck — a Beck I assumed to be an anomaly until last Tuesday. This Beck is the author of 2002's "Sea Change," whose bending guitar accompaniment arches over melancholy acoustic progressions. The drums, while still sluggish and tentative, sit in the background as a timekeeper for the other instruments — a more classical take in contrast to Beck's beat driven feel-good albums. Instead of topics of discrete objects, events or people, "Sea Change" flicks its cigarette on the pavement and, with head down and hands in pockets, tiredly walks down a road of romantic

hindsight. It's lines like "It's only lies that I'm living/it's only tears that I'm crying/ it's only you that I'm losing/ I guess I'm doing fine" ("Guess I'm Doing Fine"), and "It's nothing I haven't seen before/ but it still kills me like it did before" ("End of the Day") that make us take a double take and ask Beck, "Are you okay?"

This is the Beck that re-surfaces with "Morning Phase." Almost completely acoustic, Beck sets out with a guitar (and rare additional accompaniment) to shoot the listener into a content and aware state of being in a world full of potential disappointment. It's, like, totally zen, man. Beck sings: "See the sleep that rests upon/The quiet street we're standing on/Is it time to go away?/Try again some other day?/ These are the words we use to say goodbye" ("Say Goodbye") and "Turn away/ from the weight of your own past/It's the magic of the devil" ("Turn Away") to help us realize that although sometimes life sucks, life won't always suck. While the quiet sadness "Sea Change" turned out to be the result of a break-up after a nine9year relationship, the passive wisdom in "Morning Phase" doesn't necessary strike me as a mourning phase. Until I hear a press release from Beck about a recent tragedy in his personal life, I think the inspiration behind this return to depth is simply the tired realizations of a 42-yearold father of two, who is both realizing and trying to get across that he is no longer the same 24-year-old who wrote "I'm a loser, baby/so why don't ya kill me" on top of a sauntering dirty channel.

Contact Thom Behrens at tbehren1@nd.edu

"Morning Phase" Beck

Label: Capitol Records Tracks: "Say Goodbye," "Turn Away" If you like: Thom Yorke, Flaming Lips





By JOHN DARR Scene Writer

Real Estate is one of those bands that can be scary to review. Their music is so easy on the ears that one can be tempted to call them out for not being challenging. They've maintained a pretty uniform sound throughout the years - subtle drums that serve as a backbone to flowing guitar riffs and easygoing vocals. And yet despite this, the members of Real Estate are undeniably experts at what they do. Each track is gorgeously layered, bringing a plethora of melodies and riffs to the table every track. Though the band's music is often calm and accessible, it's never boring. Whenever a riff or jam section threatens to be repetitive, the Real Estate changes it up — the song structures are complex enough to keep the constant calm beauty afloat. So is it damning to say that Real Estate's new album, "Atlas," is more of the same? Because it certainly is just that — more of the same. Layers of calm, subtly complex guitar riffs still have find themselves between quiet, driving drums and summermorning vocals. The writing here is still

fantastic — if you're not sick of the Real Estate sound, then you're not going to be sick of these Real Estate songs. In the end, though, Atlas is nothing new. So why should it deserve a trophy or a pat on the back? There are, thankfully, more than a couple reasons.

First of all, "Atlas" finds Real Estate con-

Second of all, "Atlas" is a treasure trove of thought-provoking, relatable lyrics. Real estate has always been the rare band that pairs excellent music with excellent words, and their newest effort is no exception. Opener "Had to Hear" perfectly captures long distance love: "I had to hear you just to feel near you/I know it's not true." Follower "Past Lives" sums up nostalgic sadness in a similarly simple yet brilliantly effective line: "I cannot come back to this neighborhood without feeling my own age." The themes of painful love continue throughout the duration of the album, exemplified in "Crimes"' chorus: "I don't wanna die lonely and uptight/stay with me." More than any album in recent memory, "Atlas" manages to evoke acute emotions without resorting to drama or hyperbole. Finally, very few bands are doing what Real Estate is doing right now. The indie rock scene has turned to danceable beats and away from prominent guitars in the last five years. Real Estate is one of the last groups that keeps instrumental performance, and the electric guitar, at the heart of its music. Guitar rock is something pretty rare these days, but Real

Estate continues to make a very good case for it.

"Atlas" may not be new for Real Estate, but in the end, it doesn't need to be. A brilliant third album in a discography of guitar and songwriting expertise, it's another entry in the guitar rock canon. Though familiar, each track presents a new incarnation of the Real Estate sound. And given how good that sound is, it's hard to pass "Atlas" up.

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tinuing to refine its sound. In essence, it's safe to say that the songs on "Atlas" actually take a step up from the bar the band set with their fantastic last album, "Days." The band's slowest songs, which strayed beyond calm into sleepy and even boring, have been left out here. The tempo alone makes "Atlas" the most engaging, memorable and re-playable record of Real Estate's catalogue. All of these descriptions are further amplified by another trend in Real Estate's music - catchier melodies. While "Days" and the self-titled debut had clear highlights, "Atlas" is an album of consistently standout tracks. Each song, with the exception of perhaps "The Bend," boasts a set of appealing hooks. "Atlas" goes beyond the passive background music that Real estate usually makes, engaging the listener far more effectively and far more often.

Contact John Darr at jdarr@nd.edu

"Atlas" Real Estate

Label: Domino Records Tracks: "Atlas," "Days," "The Bend" If you like: Beach Fossils, Kurt Vile







Allie Tollaksen Associate Scene Editor

Spring break is finally upon us, and with it an opportunity to finally catch up on all those things you like to do for fun. Some of you may have forgotten in the midst of midterm exams and papers that such wonderful things exist as movie theaters, reading for pleasure food that's not from the and

back to the school grind.

Whether you're soaking

up the sun or catching up

with sleep at home, here

are a few suggestions

for your spring break

enjoyment.

dining hall. This week off Grand Budapest Hotel in the aters MARCH is an opportunity to reacquaint ourselves with these pleasures before it's

To do this Spring Break:

To Watch

"Grand Budapest Hotel" - Wes Anderson's highlyanticipated new comedy will be released in theaters this week, and with a cast made up of Ralph Fiennes, Adrien Brody, Willem Defoe, Tilda Swinton and pretty much every other Wes Anderson-y actor you've ever heard of, it has plenty of promise. Set in a fictional country in Eastern Europe, the story follows Fiennes as a hotel concierge accused of murder. In true Anderson fashion, pastel-colored, twee-infused chaos ensues.

"The Lego Movie" - Though "Lego Movie" came out last month, but there's still time to catch it this break. With another cast full of celebrities (Morgan Freeman, Elizabeth Banks, Will Arnett), the animated feature has been well received by kids, adults and critics alike.

"Oxymoron" — Schoolboy Q — Despite what the Grammys or any awards might have said, 2013 was undoubtedly the year that Kendrick Lamar moved from every hip-hop head's favorite rapper to a household name in rap music. This year, fellow Black Hippy rapper Schoolboy Q is poised BRDAD CITY 10:30 pm on Comedy Central to make the same transition with his second studio album, "Oxymoron." After releasing several singles in 2013, "Oxymoron" was finally released in February and has lived up to its hype.

To Catch Up On

"Broad City" — It may have been mentioned already a few times before, but "Broad City" is too good to not recommend for spring break watching. Now seven episodes into its first season, "Broad City" has shown that it's not always perfect (skip episode five), but it's pretty close. The absolutely hilarious Upright Citizens Brigade alumnae and writers/creators/stars Abbi Jacobson and Ilana Glazer have successfully transitioned their once web-only show into a half-hour slot and just signed onto a second season with Comedy Central, which means, thank goodness, "Broad City" isn't going anywhere.

"True Detective" — I'm going to be completely honest here. I haven't watched "True Detective" yet. But I have read enough about it and seen enough tweets on my timeline, I feel full invested already. The HBO crime drama, starring Woody Harrelson and Matthew McConaughey, follows two detectives as they attempt to hunt down a serial killer in Louisiana over two decades. The show has received widespread acclaim, and HBO announced "True Detective" would return as an anthology with two new actors taking Harrelson's and McConaughey's places next season. With all the buzz around the show so far, it looks like this season will be a hard one to beat and one you won't want to miss.

has release "Boy, Snow, Bird" to much anticipation in the literary world. Set in New York in the 1950s, the novel centers around a white woman running away from her home. The story uses fairytale and folklore to retell the "Snow White" story, this time exploring themes of race, gender and self-image.

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"One More Thing" — You may know comedian B.J. Novak best from his role as Ryan in "The Office." What many don't know is that Novak was also a writer and producer of the show, or that Novak can now add "author" to his résumé. Released in February, Novak has just published a book of short stories, a collection titled "One More Thing." The 64 stories range from funny to serious and short skits to longer narratives, making for a perfect spring break book to pick and put down throughout the week.

To Eat

Churro waffles — First it was cupcakes (remember those), then donuts (the cronut first, and now the danolli, or donut-canolli), but the next big sweet to sweep the nation is undoubtedly the waffle. There's the new waffle-based breakfast taco now offered at Taco Bell and "waffle cafés" popping up in cities, but the churro waffle is the standout. Exactly like it sounds, the churro waffle is a waffle covered in cinnamon, sugar, vanilla and whatever else goes in those delicious, delicious churros. Now is the time to utilize a non-dorm kitchen and take on a churro waffle recipe.

Ramen burgers — If you haven't tried the ramen burger, made famous by chef Seizo Shimamoto late last year, the ramen burger has taken the food world by storm. A hamburger between two ramen "buns," the dish is supposedly juicy, salty and absolutely ridiculous enough to justify standing in line for hours to eat. If you're not in New York or L.A. for break but still want to try the ramen burger, there are dozens of recipes to help you make better use of your leftover midterms Top Ramen. Go on, give it a try.

To Listen

"St. Vincent" — St. Vincent — It doesn't matter what kind of music fan you are, you should give St. Vincent a try. Her newest release, a self-titled LP, was released Feb. 24, and shows off the best of an artist still criminally underrated. St. Vincent (aka Annie Clark) doesn't just cross genres, blending pop, rock, electronic and funk; she nearly transcends them. With Clark's beautiful voice and lyrics exploring mythology, fairytale and technology, the album is sonically impeccable and lyrically dynamic, and is sure to be listened to over and over again.

To Read

"Boy, Snow, Bird" — Helen Oyeyemi — British novelist Helen Oyeyemi is only 29, but just published her fifth novel, "Boy, Snow, Bird," this year. After winning the Shirley Jackson Award for her third novel, "White is for Witching," and the Somerset Maugham Award for her fourth, "Mr. Fox," Ovevemi



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

SPORTS AUTHORITY

Athletes to kick it with for a day



Aaron Sant-Miller Sports Writer

It's always fun to analyze athletes' skills and abilities and make projections about their performances on the field. It's also entertaining to fantasize about LeBron James playing football or your favorite team making some big blockbuster trade. You know what else is fun? Thinking about what professional athletes you would want to kick it with for a day. While you ponder that, here are some of mine.

Chris Bosh: This is for two reasons. One, he is the best third wheel in professional sports. It's always clutch to have someone like that around. Two, you can't pass up the opportunity to see a real dinosaur in the flesh.

Brian Wilson: My beard would get better just from being in the presence of his.

Derek Jeter: For you ladies: He's a stud and a classy guy. Is he not what every girl wants in an athlete crush? For us fellas: Attractive women flock to his presence. Beautiful women would surround you night and day.

Roy Hibbert: He was in "Parks and Recreation". Ipso facto, he met Ron Swanson. Need I say more?

Alex Morgan: See Derek Jeter. She's the female version.

Marshawn Lynch: I love Skittles. Need I say more? James Harden: See Brian Wilson.

Usain Bolt: Imagine getting a piggyback ride from the fastest man in the world.

Nate Robinson: Think about it. You could hang out with a NBA player ... and be significantly taller than him.

Johnny Manziel: Sign here for a good time.

Tom Brady: With his Uggs sponsorship and these frigid South Bend winters, my feet

two-on-two with him on my team, he would let me take more shots than him (Come on Westbrook. You should have learned by now.).

Kevin Durant: If I played

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Justin Tucker: He can sing opera in seven different languages and I could use a little more high-culture in my life. For best results, hang out with Tucker after Manziel to maintain equilibrium in your life.

Meta World Peace: Everyone loves a good oxymoron, and here we have oxymoron in the flesh.

Victor Cruz/Jacoby Jones: I'm 22 and I still need to learn how to dance. Feel free to check YouTube for their moves for further clarity.

Chad Johnson: See Rob Gronkowski. Johnson could help me with my Spanish.

Anthony Davis: I heard he is the foremost authority on the subject of cosmetology. It's always cool to meet the best in a field.

Alex Smith: For those of you who don't know, Smith graduated from Utah while majoring in Economics. With a 3.7 GPA. In two years. Clearly, he's good at graduating and I'm going to need all the help I can get in a couple months.

Yasiel Puig: Just in case I ever need to drive somewhere quickly.

Mike Tyson: My Bengal tiger has been acting up lately and I think I need advice on how to train him better.

Chris Paul: If I hang out with Chris, maybe I can be lucky enough to meet Cliff Paul, State Farm superstar.

So, that's my list. Hopefully, by now you've finished compiling your list and are ready to start reaching out to your selections on twitter.

Contact Aaron Sant-Miller at asantmil@nd.edu

The views expressed in this

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Nebraska holds off Indiana's charge for 70-60 win

Associated Press

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. Walter Pitchford and Shavon Shields each scored 17 points Wednesday, and Nebraska's defense held off Indiana's second-half rally for a 70-60 victory.

The Cornhuskers (18-11, 10-7 Big Ten) have won seven of eight and this one strengthened their resume for the NCAA's selection committee. It's also the first time in six tries Nebraska has won in Bloomington.

Indiana (17-13, 7-10) was led by Troy Williams with 18 points and Will Sheehey with 13. But it wasn't enough to avoid a second straight Senior Night loss. Noah Vonleh missed his second straight game with inflammation in his left foot.

The Hoosiers never led, but they had chances after rallying to tie the score at 52 with 10:06 left.

They missed all five shots that would have given them the lead. Nebraska capitalized with a 7-3 run that gave it a 59-55 lead and made it hold up.

Nebraska now has 10 conference wins and two season sweeps over league rivals for the first time since 1998-99. The victory also assures the Cornhuskers of finishing in the top five in the league standings.

Indiana, meanwhile, struggled to make up for Vonleh's absence, especially early. Without the league's No. 1 rebounder, the Hoosiers shot just 36.7 percent from the field, were 5 of 21 on 3-pointers and had only three offensive rebounds in the first half.

The Cornhuskers, who are chasing their first NCAA tourney bid in 16 years, wasted no time in taking advantage.

Pitchford scored the first nine Nebraska points, giving them a 9-3 lead. The Cornhuskers then used a 6-0

spurt to make it 15-7 and they led by as much as 27-16 with 5:09 to go. Indiana got within 30-25 when Troy Williams hit a rare 3-pointer with 1:48 left.

But Nebraska closed out the half by scoring four of the final five points to make it 34-26.

Indiana continued chasing the Cornhuskers throughout the second half.

After quickly cutting the deficit to 34-29 and watching Nebraska answer with a 10-5 flurry to make it 46-35, the Hoosiers shooters finally warmed up.

Sheehey and Ferrell hit consecutive 3s, Devin Davis completed a three-point play, Ferrell scored on a driving layup and Sheehey knocked down an open 3 to make it 52-52 with 10:06 left in the game.

Shields broke the tie by making 1 of 2 free throws to start the 7-3 run and the Cornhuskers closed it out by making eight free throws in the final minute.

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Napier leads UConn to 69-63 win over Rutgers

Associated Press

STORRS, Conn. — Shabazz Napier scored 26 points in his final home game, leading 19thranked UConn to a 69-63 win over Rutgers on Wednesday night.

The senior guard made a career-high seven 3-pointers and hit eight of his 13 shots from the floor.

Niels Giffey added a careerhigh 16 points for the Huskies (24-6, 12-5 American Athletic Conference), who have won three in a row and seven of their last eight games.

Miles Mack scored 16 points for Rutgers (11-19, 5-11), which hasn't beaten the Huskies in Storrs since 1972. Wally Judge added 13 points and 10 rebounds.

coach Eddie Jordan to call a timeout.

The Scarlet Knights began chipping away at the lead, and cut the lead to 67-63 when Kadeem Jack stepped in front of a DeAndre Daniels pass and made a dunk at the other end with a minute left in the game.

But Daniels blocked a layup attempt by Judge on Rutgers next possession and hit a free throw on the other end. Phil Nolan then drew a charge on the baseline, and Napier sealed the game from the foul line as the fans chanted "M-V-P."

UConn shot 47 percent from the field, while Rutgers hit on 44 percent, after making just one of their first nine shots, as the Huskies jumped out to won 21 of last 23, including an early 10-3 lead. Rutgers got hot after that, scoring the next eight points to take the lead. The crowd got into the game after Amida Brimah, the Huskies 7-foot freshman, blocked a shot into the first row, and other off the backboard,

forcing a shot-clock violation on Rutgers. That sparked an 8-2 run that gave UConn a 27-20 advantage.

The teams started trading 3-pointers, hitting 14 of them before intermission. Mack hit all three of his shots from behind the arc for Rutgers.

Napier made 4 of 6 and Giffey was 3 of 6, helping UConn to a 34-31 lead at halftime.

UConn finshed 12 of 25 from behind the arc. Rutgers was 8 of 18.

It was the final scheduled meeting between the two longtime conference rivals. Rutgers heads to the Big Ten next season. UConn improves to 37-14 in the series, and has an 82-71 win in New Jersey in January.

would never be warmer. Rob Gronkowski: El es fiesta.

Sports Authority are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

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Connecticut led by three points at halftime and held that lead at 56-53, before going on an 8-0 run. Two dunks by Philip Nolan made it 64-53 UConn and forced Rutgers

Rutgers has lost five of their last six.

Napier needs just two points to catch Kemba Walker and move into seventh place on the school's all-time scoring list.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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Research Participants Paid \$230. Healthy adults, 18-71 years old, needed for psychology study at Haggar Hall on campus. Must have 8th grade reading ability. Involves 5 consecutive 45-minute weekly sessions, starting the week after Spring Break, plus a 30-minute follow-up questionnaire. Total compensation is \$230. You must not be allergic to latex. Email Dr. Anita Kelly at akelly@nd.edu<mailto:akelly@nd.edu>.

State your available hours on Mondays through Fridays 8 am - 10 pm; and Sundays 2-9 pm for the 5 weeks after Spring Break. You must be able to attend all 5 weekly sessions. Use "ND Study" as email subject line. Email akelly@nd.edu

SPORTS

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JODI LO | The Observe

Junior guard Madison Cable looks for an open shot during Notre Dame's 100-75 win over North Carolina at Purcell Pavilion.

W BBall

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

early December. I think this team has been able to focus on the road and been ready for every game. The leadership has been phenomenal all season and we play with an unselfish attitude."

That unselfish attitude has shown in the offensive balance of the Irish, who rank second in the nation in assists per game and have three players that average over ten points.

"I love the balance," McGraw said. "If we have a Wednesday. game where one of our top scorers comes out and isn't playing so great, we know that we can pick up the slack. We have great contributions off the bench from [sophomore guard] Michaela Mabrey, who has had a fantastic year, and [freshman forward] Taya Reimer. We have the depth we've never had before." Notre Dame is entering their first ACC championship and will play on a neutral court in Greensboro after playing last year's Big East championship on Connecticut's home court. "We're really excited about [playing in the ACC

championship] because we have heard a lot about it," McGraw said. "First, the neutral court is something that we have not experienced in a long time, and that will make for a great, friendly atmosphere that we have not experienced in a while."

The Irish will also begin the tournament with a little added confidence. Senior guard Kayla McBride, senior forward Natalie Achonwa and sophomore guard Jewell Loyd were named to the all-ACC team on Tuesday, and McGraw was voted the ACC coach of the year on "I love the way Jewell and Kayla compete," McGraw said. "We try to match them up in practice and they really go at it. They both have so much competitiveness and pride. They've made each other better and there's no real rivalry between them, but they make each other better and that has made us much better too."

Fairy Tales Do Come True

The Palais Royale at the Morris Center is the ideal historic 1920's venue with stunning architecture for fabulous wedding ceremonies and receptions, parties, celebrations and business events.



The Irish begin ACC tournament play on Friday at 2 p.m., in Greensboro, N.C., against either Miami or Florida State.

Contact Greg Hadley at ghadley@nd.edu

Irish host BU in playoffs



MICHAEL YU | The Observer

Senior defenseman Kevin Lind watches the puck during Notre Dame's 4-0 loss to Northeastern at the Compton Family IceArena on Jan. 24. The Irish went 5-0-1 in their last six games before the post-season begins Friday.

Observer Staff Report

Coming off of two disheartening losses on the road to New Hampshire, the No. 11 Irish were just 4-8-1 in conference play and near the basement of Hockey East, facing a home series against No. 20 Maine. When the Black Bears took the first game of the weekend 2-1 after the apparent tying goal was waved off with no explanation, it could have tolled a death knoll for Notre Dame's season.

Instead, the play lit a fire under the Irish (20-12-2, 9-9-2 Hockey East). Senior right wing Bryan Rust buried two goals in the final 1:08 of the game Saturday, lifting Notre Dame to a 3-2 win over Maine and sparking a recent stretch in which the Irish have gone 5-0-1, including a 2-1 overtime victory over then No. 1 Boston College in the final game of the season.

Now, the Irish roll into the Hockey East playoffs against Boston University (10-20-4, 5-12-3) this weekend on a run that seemed highly unlikely just one month ago. Eighth-seeded Notre Dame will take on the ninth-seeded Terriers on Friday at Compton Family Ice Arena. The winner of the one-game playoff will face Boston College, Providence or Massachusetts-Lowell in a three-game quarterfinal series, depending on the results of the other two preliminary games (Merrimack at Maine and Massachusetts at Vermont). Although this is Notre Dame's first season in Hockey East, Boston University is a familiar opponent for the Irish. The two teams played a pair at Compton just two weeks ago, with Notre Dame sweeping shutouts by senior goaltender Steven Summerhays.

The play of Summerhays has been a catalyst in the team's recent stretch. Since the win in the second game of the Maine series on Feb. 8, the senior has allowed just three goals, posting a .979 save percentage during the run.

The Terriers come into the weekend after sweeping last weekend's homeand-home series against No. 14 Northeastern, but the team has struggled mightily in the second half of the season. The 2009 national champions went just 1-12-2 in the second half before the Northeastern series, including a pair of 2-0 defeats to the Irish at Compton. The team has been particularly inept on the road, going just

the series thanks to a pair of 1-11-1 on the season. The Irish, who will host the first round game, have gone 15-5-1 at home.

> Despite recent successes, Notre Dame has had a hard time generating goals. With Summerhays' recent stellar play, the Irish have not needed to fill the net, managing to win their last five games despite not scoring more than three goals in any of them.

> Senior center T.J. Tynan leads the team with 31 points while sophomore left wing Mario Lucia has scored a team-high 15 goals, but the Irish have struggled to find consistent scoring.

> The Irish take on Boston University in the preliminary round of the Hockey East tournament at 7:05 p.m. at Compton Family Ice Arena.

ND WOMEN'S LACROSSE | ND 9, NORTHWESTERN 8

ND upsets Wildcats

Observer Staff Report

No. 13 Notre Dame upset No. 4 Northwestern by a score of 9-8 in Lake Barrington Field House on Wednesday night.

The Irish (4-2) outshot the Wildcats (3-1), 33-21, and grabbed more ground balls (21 to 15) while committing five fewer turnovers in a back-and-forth contest that came down to the last minutes of the game.

Freshman attack Cortney Fortunato scored the first goal 11 seconds into play, and sophomore midfield Brie Custis ran down the field and sank a shot to increase the lead to two at 17:17. Just over a minute later, senior attack Alyssa Leonard scored the first goal of the night for the Wildcats, but Irish junior midfield Caitlin Gargan notched the last goal of the half with a diving shot into the net with 6:13 remaining in the period.

Northwestern grabbed the first goal coming out of halftime, but sophomore attack Kiera McMullan put the Irish back up by two with 26:30 to go even though Notre Dame was playing a man down due to a yellow card. The next time the Irish committed a penalty, however, the Wildcats scored to pull within one. They tied the game up

for the first time with 21:52 remaining, and then grabbed the lead less than a minute later.

Freshman attack Heidi Annaheim scored to bring the Irish even with the Wildcats again, and Fortunato notched another goal to give the Irish a 6-5 advantage with 15:42 left on the clock.

Northwestern tied the score five minutes later and soon added two more goals as the minutes slipped away. Sophomore attack Rachel Sexton stopped the bleeding and pulled the Irish within one with a goal at 2:55, and 30 seconds later she and Fortunato teamed up to level the score at 8-8. With just over a minute remaining, senior attack Lauren Sullivan got past the Northwestern goalie to score the winning goal.

Fortunato earned her fourth hat trick in her sixth collegiate contest, while junior goalkeeper Allie Murray saved eight shots.

The win is a significant one for the Irish, who have usually come up short against a Northwestern squad that won seven national championships between 2005 and 2012.

Notre Dame returns home to play Louisville in the Loftus Sports Center at 1 p.m. Saturday.

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ND WOMEN'S GOLF

SPORTS

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Golf team travels to Arizona

Observer Staff Report

The Notre Dame women's golf team will spend their spring break in Arizona as they prepare to host the Clover Cup from March 14-16 at the Longbow Golf Club in Mesa, Ariz.

The Irish are coming off of an eighth-placed finish at the Central District Invitational — held in Lakewood Ranch, Fla. from Feb. 16-18 — where they scored 881, 17 shots over par in the three days of the competition to finish in eighth place.

Sophomore Talia Campbell led the Irish in Florida, where she finished tied for 25th and carded a

three-over-par score of 219 for the tournament.

The Clover Cup is in its third year and takes place in conjunction with the Visit Mesa College/Amateur Tournament. The 16-team field is led by the Colorado Buffaloes — the only team in the field to receive a vote in last week's Top 25 poll — and features teams from coast to coast, including Florida International, Nebraska and San Diego State.

The Irish will also look for good rounds from junior Ashley Armstrong and freshman Jordan Ferreira, who finished with the team's second and third best scores respectively in Florida two weeks ago.

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Irish shake up doubles pairings



EMMET FARNAN | The Observe

Freshman Monica Robinson returns a volley during Notre Dame's 4-3 loss to Georgia Tech at the Eck Tennis Center on Feb. 21. Robinson defeated Georgia Tech freshman Alexa Anton-Ohlmeyer, 6-2, 6-4.

By MIKE GINOCCHIO Sports Writer

After a week's worth of rest, Notre Dame will look to end their slide before break, as they take on Clemson on Friday as well as Florida State on Sunday. The Irish (5-5) are currently in the midst of a four-game losing streak, with their most recent showing a 6-1 loss last Friday against No. 1 ranked Duke.

In an effort to shake things up, head coach Jay Louderback has added some new wrinkles to the Irish game plan, including forming a new doubles team of freshmen Monica Robinson and Jane Fennelly.

"We will continue to experiment a little," Louderback said. "[Robinson and Fennelly] played especially well. Both of them don't miss a lot of balls."

Robinson was also receptive to the new configuration of players.

"We had never played [together] before so it brought a fresh perspective and put some energy on the court," Robinson said. "Coach has emphasized just 'don't look back, only look forward.' So we have got to just focus on taking this start and learning from it. I think we'll get it and ride that wave of success, which will be nice."

The Irish first face off



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are undefeated in ACC play. The toughest competition that the Irish will have to deal with is Clemson sophomore Tristen Dewar, who is currently riding a six-match winning streak, and is currently 9-2 in dual match play this season. Dewar is also part of a strong doubles team with junior Romy Koetlzer, who also put together a strong singles showing during the Tigers' last competition on Sunday against Wake Forest, breezing through her match by a count of 6-1, 6-1.

After making it through Clemson, the Irish then take on the Seminoles (8-4), who are coming off a 6-1 victory over Boston College this past Sunday. The Seminoles rely on players such as juniors Kerrie Cartwright and Daneika Borthwick, who as a doubles team effortlessly picked up an 8-0 victory against the Demon Deacons. (8-3)

Louderback feels the high level of competition the Irish have faced recently has toughened them up to go against these two teams.



against the Tigers (10-3), who

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"The teams this weekend, Clemson and FSU, are two teams that don't play a lot of indoors so that should help us. We've played just a tough stretch. Michigan, Georgia Tech, Miami and Duke are all teams that have been in or around the top 10. So, us having played a lot of big matches should be an advantage."

The Irish resume play on Friday against the Tigers at 4 p.m., followed by a match against the Seminoles on Sunday at 1 p.m.

Contact Mike Ginocchio at mginocch@nd.edu

Baseball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

your other outs productive."

This weekend will not be the first time Notre Dame has faced a talented pitcher this spring. When Notre Dame fell to No. 9 UCLA, 2-1, last Friday, the Irish had the challenge of facing Bruins sophomore right-handed pitcher James Kaprielian. So far this season, Kaprielian has a 0.90 ERA with 27 strikeouts and only five walks.

"We don't really change our approach when we're facing a guy like [Rodon]," Aoki said. "You just have to go out there and play your game. If you have something that says, 'this is what he does 80 percent of the time in a particular count,' then maybe you sit that pitch in that particular count. Individually, you play to what you do well. You go up there with a plan and try to execute that plan to the best of your ability.

Offensively, the Wolfpack is led by junior infielder Trea Turner. Last season, Turner led North Carolina State in batting average, runs, triples, total bases, walks, OBP and stolen bases, despite not playing in 11 games due to injury. So far this season, Turner is hitting .370, just out-pacing his .368 mark from his sophomore campaign.

"Turner changes a lot of stuff," Aoki said. "He's a guy that flies, with a little bit of juice in his bat. Thankfully, we can limit him to four or five at-bats a game. We don't have to worry about him being on the bases if we don't let him on the bases. At the same time, he's going to say something about that, too."

Luckily for the Irish, Aoki explained, Notre Dame's strengths match up well against a team that is aggressive on the base paths.

"One of our strengths as a pitching staff over the last couple years is that we're able to control the running game, to a certain extent," Aoki said. "We put a pretty high emphasis on that. We've got two catchers who are capable of throwing guys out and controlling the running game. With Turner, you've got a unique and special talent, which is why he is being considered as a potential first round draft pick. If he gets a couple stolen bases on you, well, great. You just have to make the pitches and the outs so that he doesn't eventually cross home plate."

Despite the challenge of facing a top-ranked team, Notre Dame will look to get back above .500 on the season.

"On paper, should they beat us? Yeah, they should, but you still have to go out there and play it. If one of our guys gets the hot hand, and we score a couple of runs, we're able to beat them 2-1. That kind of stuff happens all the time."

Notre Dame begins its series against North Carolina State on Friday at 3 p.m. in Raleigh, N.C. at Doak Stadium.

Contact Aaron Sant-Miller at asantmil@nd.edu

ND Softball CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

season strong as well. Led by senior catcher and two-

time all-ACC performer Alysha Rudnik, who currently sports a .378 batting average, four home runs and a team-high 16 RBI, Georgia Tech won 11 of its first 13 games before dropping pair of contests to Boston College in its first conference series. That hot streak included a 2-1 victory over Tulsa on Feb. 21. The Golden Hurricane rank just ahead of the Irish in ESPN.com's national rankings at No. 21.

The Yellow Jackets were tabbed to finish eighth in the ACC by the coaches before the season, but have far outperformed that expectation thus far. Arizmendi said the Irish are expecting a battle.

"In this conference, every team we play is going to be tough," Arizmendi said. "We are going to prove that we belong." The sophomore also said that it she and her teammates felt a definite responsibility to make a statement with the team's debut in the Atlantic Coast Conference, traditionally one of the nation's strongest softball leagues.

"It feels like we are making history just by being in the ACC," Arizmendi said. "We want to prove to everyone there that we belong ...



ZACHARY LLORENS | The Observe

Irish senior outfielder Monica Torres slides into third base ahead of the throw during a scrimmage on Oct. 9, 2013.

more than that, we want to prove to everyone there that we are a force to be reckoned with."

Led by senior right-hander Laura Winter (9-2), the second-winningest pitcher in program history, and an offense that leads the ACC thus far in batting average (.342), hits (166), doubles (40) and total bases (241), Arizmendi said the Irish are confident that they can do just that.

"What we need to do this weekend is to do exactly what we have done all [season]," Arizmendi said. "We want to keep things simple, stay patient and play with confidence."

The Irish play the Yellow Jackets on Saturday at 1 and 3 p.m., before the rubber match Sunday afternoon at 1 p.m. They will then split the remainder of their spring break between Orlando, Fla. and Blacksburg, Va. to play the Knights of UCF and the Hokies of Virginia Tech, respectively.

Contact Evan Anderson at eander11@nd.edu

M Lacrosse

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

The Irish head into the matchup with momentum after an 11-10 comeback victory over No. 8 North Carolina on Saturday. The Tar Heels (3-1, 0-1 ACC) led 8-3 at the beginning of the third quarter, but the Irish overcame the five-goal deficit to clinch their first victory in their new conference. With its focus now on Denver, Notre Dame hopes to maintain the energy and intensity it exerted in the second half.

"We need to carry over that momentum from the fourth quarter into this game against Denver," O'Hara said. "Hopefully that can translate into a quicker start so that we do not have to go down as many goals to get things going." particularly the defense, are acutely aware. "Denver has a really good offense and knows exactly what it is trying to get out of it, and they have a lot of Canadians, which makes their style a little bit different than teams we've faced

Saturday. Denver could not hold off a four-goal rally by the Quakers in the last 10 minutes of play. The Pioneers boast a top-15 offense, led by junior attackman Wesley Berg and senior captain midfielder Jeremy Noble. Denver has 63 goals on the season with an average of 12.6 goals per game, while allowing 9.2 on defense.

Both Berg and Noble hail from Canada, and use a different style of play than the Irish are used to facing. The difference in technique is something of which the Irish, particularly the defense, are acutely aware.

"Denver has a really good what it is trying to get out of it, and they have a lot of Canadians, which makes their style a little bit different than teams we've faced before," O'Hara said. "We need to put extra emphasis on our communication and stick to playing our style of defense." With the chance to build off of their win against North Carolina, the Irish take on Denver in the Pacific Coast Shootout on Saturday at noon at Orange Coast College's LeBard Stadium in Costa Mesa, Calif.



The Irish, determined to initiate a quicker start, are not straying from their standard play procedure and fundamentals, O'Hara said.

"Heading into this game, our focus is on the things we do well," O'Hara said. "Our strategy is set on playing as a team, IQ and trying to do the little things."Our focus is on us."

While the Irish focus on themselves, the Pioneers are looking to avenge their 12-10 loss to No. 20 Penn on

Contact Kit Loughran at kloughr1@nd.edu

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CROSSWORD | WILL SHORTZ

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SUDOKU | THE MEPHAM GROUP

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HOROSCOPE | EUGENIA LAST

Happy Birthday: Take a bold approach, and you will make a difference this year to your own life, as well as to those you deal with regularly. Diversity will enable you to meet any demands you face. Show your intent, tolerance and ability to adapt to the changing world around you. Doors will open as you go, leading to unexpected gains. Your numbers are 3, 14, 22, 25, 31, 46

15

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Implement a couple of changes to your appearance or mannerisms to stay comfortably within the boundaries set by those you must deal with regularly. The effort you make will show your interest in being a team player. $\star\star\star$

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Take pride in what you do and continue to make plans for the future. Refrain from discussing your ideas openly and don't feel the need to make alterations based on what others do. Stick to your strategy and keep moving forward. $\star\star\star$

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't share too much information with those looking for help or a handout. You are best to wait and watch to see what's really needed and what isn't. Make sure that motives are in the right place before you make a commitment. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Take the road less traveled. You'll attract attention if you take a unique approach to whatever you do. Use your imagination and you'll come up with something innovative that will help others. Respect must be gained, not bought.****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You are overdue for a change. A chance to re-evaluate and make personal moves will help you stabilize your current situation. Don't allow an emotional incident to affect your professional choices or productivity. Be reserved in your dealings with others. $\star\star$

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Look for things to do that inspire you mentally, physically and emotionally. Getting together with friends, focusing on family or even taking care of personal needs will give you the boost you need to broaden your perspective and expand your pursuits. ********

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You can spread yourself a little thin and get things accomplished that will make onlookers jealous of your success. Romance is in the stars and will make your personal life that much more fulfilling and exciting. $\bigstar\bigstar\bigstar$

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't let emotional conversations stifle what you can do. Your focus should be on creativity and making your home a place of comfort and entertainment. Use your imagination and expand in areas that interest you. Explore new possibilities. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't be fooled by what others say or do. Look at what you can do to improve your personal life and your surroundings. Protect your physical and emotional wellness by taking precautions not to make the same mistakes you have in the past. *******

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Put your ideas to the test. Flush out any problems and follow through until you reach the desired results before you present what you have to offer to others. Put time aside for love and romance. *****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Plunge into what you want to accomplish. Don't waste time explaining what you are doing. Someone is likely to try to lead you astray or use your hard work to get ahead. Do things for yourself, not for others. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You can make a difference and a good impression if you help others. The rewards will be greater than anticipated. Getting together with someone from your past will spark an idea you'll want to pursue. Love is on the rise. ★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are a proactive, outgoing dreamer with a plan to succeed.

JUMBLE | DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK



The Observer apologizes for the absence of **Controlled Chaos**





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SPORTS

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

BASEBALL

16

ND prepares for No. 8 Wolfpack

By AARON SANT-MILLER Sports Writer

On Friday, the Irish will open a three-game series against No. 8 North Carolina State, a team only a few wins short of the 2013 National Championship. After winning the Raleigh Super Regional last spring, the Wolfpack fell in the second round of the College World Series.

"Look, NC State doesn't have a whole lot of chinks in their armor," Irish coach Mik Aoki said. "They are a preseason top-10. They are a returning Omaha team. This is the year, if you look at the guys they have, they've been really building toward the National Championship. They've played that way; they've lived up to the hype, except stubbing their toe against Canisius early on."

This weekend, Notre Dame (5-6) will play games against North Carolina State (10-2), on Friday,

Saturday and Sunday, and the Irish will face Wolfpack junior left-handed pitcher Carlos Rodon in one of those three games.

"We're going to be facing the odds-on favorite to be the No. 1 overall pick in this year's draft," Aoki said. "We're going to get in there, compete like crazy. He's actually lost two games already this season; he's not immortal."

So far this season, Rodon is 1-2 with a 2.14 ERA, 23 strikeouts and only six walks.

"Obviously, with Rodon, you have a narrow margin for error," Aoki said. "In basketball, when you're facing LeBron James, you know that LeBron is going to get his points. When you're facing a guy like Rodon, he's going to get his punch-outs. He's probably going to punch you out nine, 10, 12 times. That doesn't mean you're going to lose your game. It just means you have to make

see BASEBALL PAGE 14

Second season begins

By GREG HADLEY Sports Writer

Forget the perfect regular season. Forget the all-ACC honors. Forget the highpowered, top-ranked offense. As No. 2 Notre Dame enters the ACC tournament in Greensboro, N.C. on Friday, all that matters for Irish coach Muffet McGraw is keeping her squad focused on the road ahead as the Irish (29-0, 16-0 ACC) enter the postseason.

As the No. 1 seed in the tournament and the regular season conference champions, the Irish earned a double bye into the quarterfinals, meaning that they will not play until Friday. They will play either eighth-seeded Miami or ninth-seeded Florida State, who face off Thursday at 2 p.m.

"I think the ACC is the toughest league in women's basketball and we've had



IODI I O | The Observe

Freshman guard Lindsay Allen looks to pass during Notre Dame's 100-75 victory over North Carolina on Feb. 27.

some great battles that have 6, as part of a grueling ACC prepared us for the postseason," McGraw said.

The Irish defeated Miami (16-13, 8-8) at home on Jan. 23, 79-51, then rolled past Florida State (19-10, 7-9) with an 81-60 victory on the road two weeks later on Feb.

schedule that began on Jan. 5 and has continued uninterrupted since.

"It's a long season," McGraw said. "We haven't had a weekend day off since

see W BBALL PAGE 11----

MEN'S LACROSSE

Squad faces familiar foe

By KIT LOUGHRAN Sports Writer

No. 6 Notre Dame will take a break from ACC play and the freezing cold this weekend to travel to sunny Costa Mesa, Calif., for the Pacific Coast Shootout.

The Irish (2-1, 1-0 ACC) square off against West Coast rival No. 12 Denver (3-2, 0-0 Big East) on Saturday. The Irish and Pioneers are no strangers on the field, and Saturday's matchup will bring the competitive history between the two programs back to the surface. The out-of-conference rivals have battled into overtime two years in a row, with the Irish securing the win both times by only one goal.



Irish senior captain and defenseman Stephen O'Hara battles for a

Irish enter ACC play on hot start

By EVAN ANDERSON Sports Writer

ND SOFTBALL

Notre Dame travels to Atlanta this weekend to face Georgia Tech for its inaugural series as a member of the Atlantic Coast Conference.

The No. 22 Irish (15-3) are in the midst of a torrid start that has included several lengthy win streaks, including eight victories in a row that spanned tourneys at Auburn and Jacksonville University and a trip to California for the Mary Nutter Collegiate Classic. The team has currently won five games in a row after going undefeated last weekend at the Diamond 9 Citrus Classic in Kissimmee, Fla., at ESPN's Wide World of Sports Complex.

tournament of the young season and included wins over Fordham, Illinois State, Ohio State, Radford and Omaha.

Sophomore first baseman Micaela Arizmendi, whose 15 RBI in just 17 appearances has already topped her total from her freshman campaign, said that the team's consistency during the hot start would lend momentum to the team heading into conference play.

"We've been feeding off of each other's energy all year long, and there is always someone different who steps up and swings momentum in our favor," Arizmendi said. "Especially after a 5-0 series in Orlando, we are very confident right now." But the Yellow Jackets (12-4) have started off their

Notre Dame rallied in 2012 to beat Denver 10-9 in triple overtime, and last season the Irish held on again to win 13-12 in extra

ground ball during Notre Dame's 8-7 loss to Penn State on Feb. 22.

time. This time around, the the last two years have been Irish anticipate another stiff challenge as they aim to continue their winning streak against the Pioneers. "Denver is a really good team, and it's always a tough test," senior captain and defenseman Stephen O'Hara said. "The past games in

extremely close with just a one goal margin, and they are always good offensively and defensively and wellcoached, so it will definitely be a good game this time around."

see M LACROSSE PAGE 14

The Citrus Classic was Notre Dame's second perfect

see ND SOFTBALL PAGE 17

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARD		UPCOMING EVENTS		
		ND W Basketball at ACC Championships	2 p.m., Fri. ND Softball at Georgia Tech	1 p.m., Sat.
		ND W Tennis vs. Clemson	4 p.m., Fri.	3 p.m., Sat.
ND W Lacrosse vs. Virginia Tech	W 18-9	Baseball at North Carolina State	3 p.m., Fri. Men's Lacrosse vs. Denver at Costa	Mesa, Calif. 3 p.m., Sat.
		Baseball at North Carolina State	4 p.m., Sat. ND W Basketball at ACC Champion	nships 5 p.m., Sat.
		Women's Lacrosse vs. Louisville	1 p.m., Sat. Hockey vs. Boston (Hockey East Pla	yoffs) 7:05 p.m., Sat.