

Endowed gift promotes drug research

William K. Warren Foundation donates \$3.5 million to support study of medical chemistry

By CAROLYN HUTYRA
News Writer

This month, the William K. Warren Foundation donated \$3.5 million to Notre Dame toward the creation of the Warren Family Research Center for Drug Discovery and Development, according to a University press release.

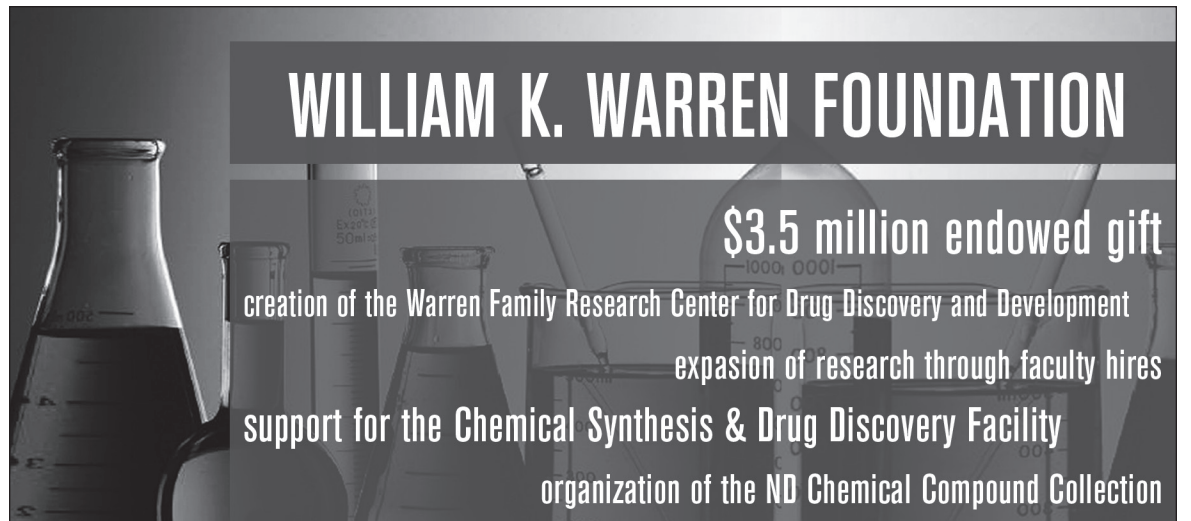
Richard Taylor, associate vice president for research and professor of chemistry and biochemistry, said the funding from the Warren Foundation will promote medicinal

chemistry and chemical biology research at the University.

"The funding will allow us to complement our current faculty with several additional hires, expanding our research expertise in areas directed toward the discovery of treatments for neurological diseases as well as the search for new antibiotics," Taylor said.

Gregory Crawford, dean of the College of Science, said creation of the center has already started with the

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KERI O'MARA | The Observer

Play honors life of former College president

By KELLY KONYA
Saint Mary's Editor

The Saint Mary's community brought to life the story of the College's illustrious visionary, poet, scholar and third president Sister M. Madeleva Wolff, in an original play titled "Madeleva: A Play in Several Voices" on Thursday evening.

Communication studies lecturer Susan Baxter wrote the play using alumnae memories as well as essays and dramatic monologues by students.

Since 2014 marks the 50th anniversary of Madeleva's death, the play was a highly anticipated event for the entire Saint Mary's community.

The play was part of the annual spring lecture series hosted by the Center for Spirituality (CFS). This year's series is focused on the lives and leadership of religious women, director of media relations Gwen O'Brien said. Wolff was the president of the College from 1934-1961. According to a College press release, during her tenure, Wolff put her talents and

efforts to use in leading Saint Mary's to become nationally recognized as a premier liberal arts college. At the time of her death, one journalist described her as "the most renowned nun in the world," O'Brien said.

Elizabeth Groppe, director of CFS beginning this academic year, carried forward plans for the lecture series and solicited the help of two faculty members in the creation of a play celebrating the life of Sister

see PLAY PAGE 5

Smoke triggers alarm in South Dining Hall

By JACK ROONEY
Associate News Editor

At approximately 11 a.m. Thursday, South Dining Hall was evacuated after smoke in the basement triggered smoke alarms throughout the building, South Dining Hall general manager Marc Poklinkowski said.

University spokesman Dennis Brown said a small outdoor fire at McKenna Hall caused smoke to spread

through the underground tunnel system and set off the dining hall's alarms.

"There was no fire in the South Dining Hall," Brown said. "Some leaves caught on fire in an outdoor ventilation space near McKenna Hall at 10:11 a.m.

"It was extinguished quickly and there were no injuries or damage. However, it caused some smoke, which

see ALARM PAGE 4

MBA program climbs in rankings

By EMILY McCONVILLE
News Writer

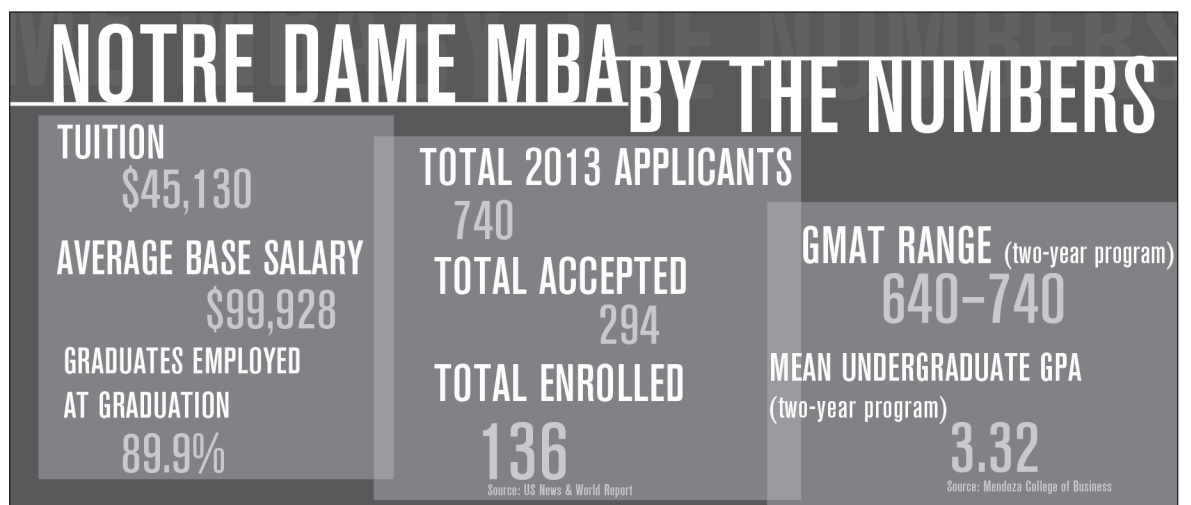
This month, U.S. News & World Report ranked Mendoza's Masters in Business Administration (MBA) program 23rd in the United States, a four-spot increase from last year's ranking. The MBA program also rose to No. 6 in The Economist's ranking of "potential to network," another four-spot increase.

According to its website, U.S. News & World Report considers a given MBA program's selectivity,

the grades and test scores of its students and other business school administrators' ratings of the program, as well as job placement, starting salary and bonus and company recruiters' ratings. Notre Dame's MBA program, which offers one- and two-year programs, tied for its No. 23 spot with Georgetown University's McDonough School.

Patrick Perrella, director of MBA Career Development, said the U.S. News & World Report's rankings

see RANKINGS PAGE 3



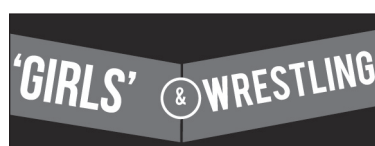
KERI O'MARA | The Observer



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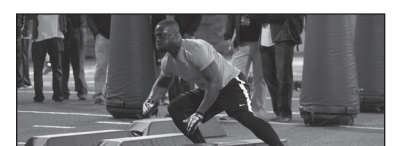
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SCENE PAGE 9



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NFL PRO DAY PAGE 16

THE OBSERVER

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

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QUESTION OF THE DAY:

What is the last text message you received?

Have a question you want answered?

Email photo@ndsmcobserver.com



Alina Nguyen

freshman
Pangborn Hall

"Okay give me a few minutes to get there then :p."



Emily Leyden

freshman
Ryan Hall

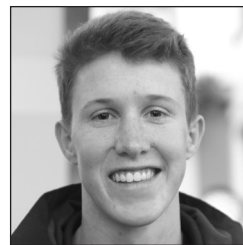
"UGH*** hey."



Katelyn Wray

freshman
Ryan Hall

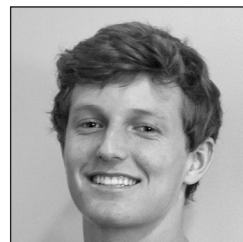
"Are you still in south?"



Dayton Flannery

sophomore
Keough Hall

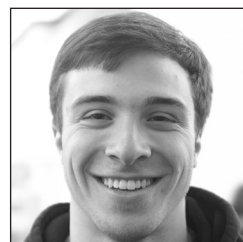
"The dog ate my birthday cake."



James Sullivan

freshman
Sorin College

"Let's go fly a kite ;)."



Paul Lipari

sophomore
Dillon Hall

"M s'mores one!"



MICHAEL YU | The Observer

Lonnie Atkinson delivers his monologue at the second annual "Wham! Bam! Poetry Slam!" in the Snite Museum of Art. The Notre Dame Creative Writing Program and Spoken Word ND hosted the event, which features poets competing against one another in front of a panel of judges selected from the audience.

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

THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

Want your event included here?

Email news@ndsmcobserver.com

Friday

Art Therapy

St. Liam Hall
1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
Relax with Stress
Buster Friday.

Glee Club Concert

DeBartolo Performing
Arts Center
8 p.m.-9 p.m.
Annual spring concert.

Saturday

ND Women's Softball

Melissa Cook Stadium
12 p.m.- 4p.m.
The Irish take on
Pittsburgh.

Saturday Vigil Mass

Basilica of the Sacred
Heart
5 p.m.-6 p.m.
Music by Women's
Liturgical Choir.

Sunday

Zen Meditation

103 Coleman-Morse
Center
6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
Open to all.

Film: 12 Angry Men

DeBartolo Performing
Arts Center
3 p.m.-5 p.m.
Part of Classic Films
series.

Monday

Lecture: "Casta Paintings"

Information
Technology Center
12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m.

Frank Cahill Lecture in Business Ethics

Mendoza College of
Business
4:30 p.m.-6 p.m.
Open to the public.

Tuesday

Baseball Game

Coveleski Stadium
South Bend
5:35 p.m.-7:35 p.m.
Game against the
University of Illinois at
Chicago.

Four:7 Catholic Fellowship

Cavanaugh Hall
8:15 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
Worship and song.

Researchers discover new class of antibiotics

By **EVELYN HUANG**
News Writer

Researchers at Notre Dame discovered a new class of antibiotics to fight disease-causing bacterium such as methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA).

Dr. Mayland Chang and Dr. Shahriar Mobashery, both professors in the department of chemistry and biochemistry, spearheaded the research that led to the discovery of these new antibiotics, called oxadiazoles. Oxadiazoles are able to overcome MRSA's antibiotic resistance, Mobashery said.

"The antibacterial oxadiazoles were discovered by in silico ...

search [a search using computers] for compounds that would bind to penicillin-binding protein 2a, PBP2a, of MRSA," he said. "The physiological function of PBP2a is critical for survival of MRSA. The drug class disrupts the normal physiological process of PBP2a, hence MRSA dies."

This is first time that oxadiazoles have been described as antibiotics, Mobashery said. He said they can also be used to fight other bacteria. Bacteria that are stained in the laboratory can be classified as Gram-negative and Gram-positive, and oxadiazoles work against the Gram-positive species, Mobashery said.

Chang said this discovery

comes at an important time, especially because of MRSA's resistance to other antibiotics.

"MRSA can cause life-threatening infections," she said. "Resistance to antibiotics continues at an alarming rate, thus new antibiotics are urgently needed. We have been working on understanding resistance mechanisms and ways to intervene."

Despite the new discovery, antibiotic research still needs to be expanded, according to Chang. She said many pharmaceutical companies have stopped antibiotic research because antibiotics act quickly against disease.

"So the financial incentives are

not there, compared to drugs that are taken for the rest of one's life and do not cure the disease, such as cholesterol-lowering medications and diabetes drugs," she said.

Even still, both professors plan to continue their research on oxadiazoles, Chang said.

"We are continuing research to understand how the oxadiazoles work and if resistance develops to the oxadiazoles," she said. "We are also working in new classes of antibiotics."

While the research process can be slow, the rewards are great, Mobashery said. He said he has studied antibiotics and MRSA for 25 years and these discoveries

hold a lot of promise.

"These discoveries will be built on for the future direction of research for both understanding of the resistance mechanisms and for discovery of new antibiotics," he said.

Chang credited the University as an important supporter of her research.

"Notre Dame provides the infrastructure to do research. We have wonderful animal facilities that make this research possible all the way from the computer to animal models of infection," Chang said.

Contact Evelyn Huang at ehuang1@nd.edu

Professor explores creation and evolution theories

By **CHARLIE DUCEY**
News Writer

Notre Dame theology professor Celia Deane-Drummond concluded the two-day Templeton Colloquium with a discussion of creation ex nihilo and Darwinian evolution Wednesday afternoon.

The Notre Dame Institute of Advanced Study (NDIAS) and visiting Templeton fellow Dr. Douglas Hedley of Cambridge University sponsored the colloquium. Featured speakers from multiple disciplines discussed Plato's notion of participation in the divine, used in a Christian sense to explain the relation between creature and Creator. Deane-Drummond began her talk by posing a question about the current predicament of science and faith.

"How, in a secular world dominated by an evolutionary paradigm, is it still reasonable to think about creation, Christ and spirit?" Deane-Drummond said.

Within this frame, Deane-Drummond explored possible answers to this question through

secular and religious outlets that engage with the biological sciences.

"Evolutionary theory has, ever since Darwin, resisted the idea of non-material forces operative in the emergent beings," she said. "But, more recently, secular writers are beginning to open up alternatives that biologists are prepared to take seriously."

Deane-Drummond cited New York University philosopher Thomas Nagel as one such writer who is willing to accept the presence of a non-material transcendent force in the universe but does not credit creation to a god.

Deane-Drummond made use of Aquinas' understanding of creation to bring Platonic notions and the theory of evolution into agreement.

"Aquinas develops a hierarchy in the ordering of being, from rocks through to intelligent life, and, ultimately, humanity," Deane-Drummond said. "Aquinas marries this hierarchal view with Platonic concept of an absolute Being that is the ultimate source of all such being."

Deane-Drummond proceeded to discuss evolutionary theory as an enduring hypothesis based in speculation through a biological viewpoint. She said a model of analogy would make best sense of possible relations between the philosophical concept of participation and evolutionary theory.

She said suggested analogies included the symbiosis of creatures contributing to the life of each other while ultimately depending on God. The process of cooperation of organisms through niche-construction theory was also posited as an analogy of how creatures participate in God's immanence.

"I suggest the language of analogy edges towards the meaningful in what might seem incomprehensible difference," she said. "It is only by experimenting and speaking a language that resonates with those we are in dialogue with that a faint glimmering of insight can come to the surface."

Contact Charlie Ducey at cducey@nd.edu

Rankings

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

in part reflect the program's continuing emphasis on careers, including last year's institution of a for-credit professional development course. He said for the last two years, the program has achieved its goals of having more than 80 percent of MBA students accept a job by the time they graduate and having more than 90 percent secure a job within three months of graduation. He said MBA graduates' average starting salary has risen for the past three years.

"The message that we get back from recruiters about our students once they've gotten into their roles is that they're willing to get their hands dirty," Perrella said. "They're problem-solvers.

They're not job jumpers, which I think is important, because recruiting a student costs a lot of money, so once you get them you want to keep them for a good while.

The biggest compliment they give us, though, is that most of them keep coming back to recruit our MBAs. Our MBAs are going into these firms and they're being successful and the companies are coming back for repeat business."

Notre Dame's MBA program has the No. 38 spot in The Economist's "Which MBA?" ranking, released March 6, but it is ranked No. 6 in the "potential to network" category. According to its website, the rankings, which include schools outside the U.S., consider the student-alumni ratio, the number of countries with alumni clubs and students'

own perceptions of the network. According to a University press release detailing the Economist's ranking, Notre Dame has 267 alumni clubs in 40 countries.

"That's one of the great things about Notre Dame," Perrella said. "People think of us as, 'you're in the Notre Dame family and I want to help everyone that's in the family,' and I think that reflects in this ranking."

"There's 134,000 Notre Dame alumni out there in the world, and I think that no. 6 ranking reflects the fact that when our students and our alumni reach out to folks in the Notre Dame family, they get a response, and that doesn't happen at a lot of other schools."

Contact Emily McConville at emconvl1@nd.edu

SMC announces election results

By **REBECCA O'NEIL**
News Writer

The results of elections for the class presidents, vice presidents and senators that will join the Student Government Association's (SGA) president and vice president-elect, juniors McKenna Schuster and Sam Moorehead, were announced Thursday, Graci Martsching, the assistant director of student involvement and multicultural services, said.

"The election process is always dynamic," Martsching said. "We were lucky to have so many passionate women wanting to serve their community. The Saint Mary's community responded to that passion by having more students vote this year than in recent years."

Martsching said the 842 votes received in this year's student elections was roughly 700 more votes cast than last year.

Juniors Lauren Osmanski and Victoria Wilbraham will represent next year's senior class as president and vice president. Sophomore Lindsay Rzepecki will serve as president for the class of 2016 and sophomore Maddie Kohler as the class's senator. The class of 2017 president and vice president will be first years Ellen Raymond and Margaret Carswell, respectively. The class of 2017 elected first year Mary Claire Burchett as their senator.

"As class of '17 president and vice president, we promise to focus on the needs and desires of our class," Raymond said in her platform. "By focusing on the core values of a Saint Mary's woman, we hope to emphasize the importance of teamwork, sisterhood and community."

Raymond said she and Carswell hope to integrate their class in campus-wide activities. They stated they held particular interest in improving the communication between the class board and the overarching student body through social media and effective advertising and in increasing the board's

reliability and instilling trust between the student body and their leaders. Sophomore Kaitlyn Baker and first year McKenzie Johnson were elected as president and vice president, respectively, of the Resident Hall Association (RHA).

Juniors Callie Brown and vice president Maeve Curley will head the Student Diversity Board (SDB) as president and vice president in the coming school year. As a fourth-year member of SDB, Brown and Curley expect to continue and expand upon the club's mission, Brown said. "We plan to unite the Saint Mary's College community in celebration of the diversity of every Saint Mary's Belle," Brown said. "We plan to emphasize diversity in all its forms, including socioeconomic backgrounds, sexual orientation, faiths, ethnicities and unique abilities."

The board intends to use the campus as a venue to learn about diversity through meaningful social and educational events, Brown said. The president- and vice president-elect said that this aligned perfectly with their goal for the board's main annual event, the Diverse Students' Leadership Conference.

"We plan to increase the magnitude of this year's Diverse Students' Leadership Conference as we celebrate its 10th anniversary," Brown said. Brown and Curley said they wanted to work with the College administration to increase the enrollment and retention of students with diverse backgrounds.

The Student Activities Board (SAB) will welcome junior Arianna Thelen and sophomore Colleen Michael as president and vice president for next year. Their platform states they intend to encourage community participation in social and recreational events on campus.

"We will ensure involvement by holding alcohol-free alternatives during weekends and getting other clubs and associations on campus involved," Thelen said.

Contact Rebecca O'Neil at roneil01@saintmarys.edu

Foundation

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

recruitment of faculty this semester.

"The department of chemistry and biochemistry already has an extraordinary faculty in the area of medicinal chemistry in place and was the primary reason for attracting such a large effort to Notre Dame," Crawford said. "So the formation of the new center will add significantly to an already strong program at Notre Dame in the College of Science."

Crawford said biomedical research stays true to the University's mission "to create a sense of human solidarity and concern for the common good that will bear fruit as learning becomes service to justice" because the end goal is improving global health.

"Our scientific goals are simple — advance scientific knowledge through discovery at the highest level, and translate those efforts into medicine and therapies for health and well being of others," he said.

Crawford said additional hires and the establishment of core facilities will also help strengthen research infrastructure.

"The Center will not have a dedicated building, but due to its interdisciplinary nature, it will certainly be suitable for new space being planned at Notre Dame designed to bring together researchers from different disciplines," he said.

Funding will also support the Chemical Synthesis & Drug Discovery Facility, directed by Taylor, which provides the Notre Dame community with synthetic chemistry services for research areas such as drug discovery and material science, Taylor said. According to a University press release, the Facility will organize chemical compounds created through research into the ND Chemical Compound Collection.

"While these compounds are typically produced for a specific research purpose, their inclusion in a broader collection will allow them to be screened for activities in other areas," Taylor said. "The expertise within the facility will promote the collaborations and can follow-up with any exciting hits we get and may lead to the discovery of new drugs."

Crawford said the College of Science has shown promise over the years in the area of medicinal chemistry dealing with the discovery of new drugs. Notre Dame scientists have identified lead compounds for indications such as cancer, infectious disease and rare diseases, which outside companies have licensed in an effort to take the drugs

into clinical trials.

He said one example involves Paul Helquist's work on identification of a drug compound for the fatal childhood disease, Niemann Pick disease, type C (NPC).

"This rare disease took the lives of three of the four grandchildren of our famous and beloved coach, Ara Parseghian," Crawford said. "Professor Helquist and his colleagues and students worked closely with the Ara Parseghian Medical Research Foundation in search of a better understanding and a possible treatment or cure for NPC."

According to Crawford, this particular study will enter clinical trials this year.

"This is another example of where our science contributes to the mission of Notre Dame — we are fighting for the underdog in this case — a cohort of a few hundred to a

thousand children and their families, who are desperate for a treatment or cure to save their children," Crawford said.

Crawford said although a large number of students in the College of Science already participate in undergraduate research, this center will create additional opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students.

"We are all excited about our future and the role we will play in the scientific and medical community, expanding upon our work in neurodegenerative diseases, rare diseases, cancer, antibodies and tuberculosis with passionate students, incredible faculty and wonderful and committed partners in the Warren Foundation," Crawford said.

Contact Carolyn Hutyra at chutyra@nd.edu

Alarm

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

made its way through our underground tunnels to the South Dining Hall, which then caused the alarms to go off."

Poklinkowski said the smoke set off several alarms in the basement of the dining hall and caused the evacuation, which lasted about 20 minutes.

"There was a decent amount of smoke, so it set off a number of our alarms," he said. "We were probably outside for about 20 or 25 minutes."

Poklinkowski said between 100 and 150 students were in the dining rooms at the time the alarms sounded, so it took less than five minutes to evacuate. He said dining hall management was aware of why the smoke was coming up through the basement but didn't take any risks in

evacuating the building.

"We saw the smoke coming in and we knew why the fire alarm was going off, but you never take a risk with an alarm going off," he said. "We were on the phone with the fire department to make sure we knew what was going on."

The dining hall reopened for lunch following the evacuation, but Poklinkowski said that the basement, including the Grab and Go line, remained closed to students for an additional hour while the fire department made sure it was safe.

"[The fire department] kept the basement closed a little bit longer, because that's where the problem was," he said.

The basement reopened at approximately 12:15 p.m. and the dining hall returned to full operations.

Contact Jack Rooney at jrooney1@nd.edu

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Play

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Madeleva, O'Brien said. In the fall of 2013, students in professor of English Laura Haigwood's writing proficiency course, along with students Baxter's playwriting

course, wrote research essays and extended monologues about Wolff, O'Brien said.

"Sister M. Madeleva Wolff was a complex, flawed and brilliant individual," Baxter said. "What we came to appreciate as we worked on this play, however, is that she was

less extraordinary than — and more exemplary of — the beautiful Holy Cross Order that created her. With all our hearts, we believe she would concur."

Groppe said she was grateful to Haigwood and Baxter for their tremendous work

and long hours put into the composition and production.

"The play ... will bring Sister Madeleva to life for a new generation of young women, for whom she is a model of a woman of prayer who surmounted many challenges to become a distinguished

scholar, poet, educator, and leader in both Catholic higher education and the life of religious communities of women," she said.

The cast was comprised of students and faculty, with sophomore Kaitlyn Baker starring as Wolff from age 5-17, alumna Eva Cavadini '12 as Wolff from age 18-60 and Baxter as Wolff at age 70, Baxter said.

Baxter said the play is a work in progress, which she hopes will include even more stories of Wolff's life in the future.

Contact Kelly Konya at kkonya01@saintmarys.edu

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INSIDE COLUMN

Let's start today



Gabriela Leskur
Viewpoint Editor

Over my two years at Notre Dame, I have been constantly impressed by the conversations I have had or have overheard here. Students, faculty and staff on this campus are asking the big questions. On a daily basis, whether in classrooms or dorm rooms, people are wrestling with the many issues in our world. Poverty, war, justice, ethics, religion, global health, literacy, feminism, oppression, compassion — I know that the members of the Notre Dame community have incredibly important and significant thoughts to contribute to discussions on these topics and many more.

Where two or more people are gathered, there's something special happening. There's a potential for something great even in an ordinary group of friends or classmates. There's an opportunity to discuss, to debate, to learn and to grow.

These types of gatherings and conversations happen all the time at Notre Dame, and the growth that occurs from them is evident to anyone who compares who they are now to who they were at the beginning of freshman year.

But why limit these life-giving, life-questioning discussions just to our closest group of friends or to the people in our classes? Let's learn from each other on a bigger scale.

The Viewpoint section, at its core, is meant to be the public forum where we can grow together, wrestling with the issues that matter to us and challenge us. The Viewpoint section also is a forum where we show the world what we care about, what we struggle with and how we define ourselves. It is extremely crucial, then, that everyone at Notre Dame is involved in creating a Viewpoint section that accurately reflects the diversity and unity of this wonderful community.

Each person at Notre Dame has a unique history and identity, and thus, has a unique perspective and opinion to share.

What Viewpoint strives to do is bring as many voices as possible into one place. A place where the value of our opinions is not derived in how strongly we assert them, but in how eloquently and respectfully we articulate them and in how effectively we can foster further critical discussion.

Together, let's make the Viewpoint section mirror the classrooms where philosophies and theories are discussed, the common rooms where intelligent debates are held over a drink on Saturday night, and the hallways where deep conversations steal us from our studies. Let's make the Viewpoint section the place where we come to discuss, to debate, to learn and to grow.

Why not start today?

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

It's good to have you here

Scott Boyle
The Sincere Seeker

About 11 years ago, give or take a few months, I can remember exactly where I was. I stood in my kitchen, telling my Dad that I would not be going to baseball practice. I was ready to quit my junior high baseball team.

I dreaded every single practice and game. Although I could run quickly, it was rare for me to get a hit. To top it all off, I was really shy, and I didn't really talk to the other guys. All in all, I never felt like I contributed that much.

But my Dad, to his credit, would have none of it. Before I knew it, we were off in the car making the short drive to the practice field by my house. But I protested every minute of the journey, and, as we pulled up, I refused to get out of the car.

Through arguing, I thought I might be able to stall until practice was over. All of a sudden, I watched in a state of horror as my Dad stopped our conversation and calmly got out of the car. He made the short walk to where the coach was standing and began to converse with him.

After what seemed like an eternity, coach looked at the car and then looked at the team. He halted practice and called the team into a huddle. As the team resumed practice, I watched as my Dad returned with the coach.

Coach motioned for me to roll down the window. "Scott, how about you get out of the car? We need you," he said. Although I was shocked and a little embarrassed, I sheepishly got out of the car. As I trotted through the field and into the outfield, each one of the guys turned and acknowledged me.

"It's good to have you here," they said. "We missed ya."

I thought of this story in January as I boarded the bus to go on pilgrimage to the 2014 March for Life in Washington, D.C.

Our group travelled together on the long bus ride to Washington. We visited monuments and museums, toured the National Cathedral and visited a Franciscan Monastery. Although we did a lot, our many hours together brought out something that was, in my eyes, much more important than any tourist attraction: our personal stories. After that many hours together, we couldn't help it.

But as we marched in below-freezing temperatures from the Washington Monument to the Supreme Court on the day of the March, I couldn't help but wonder about the stories of the other people who had joined us to commemorate the anniversary of the legalization of abortion.

All around us, beneath the layers of t-shirts, jackets, scarves and gloves were hundreds of thousands more stories. We saw people from all walks of life: young and old, clergy and laity, single and married, rich and poor, not to mention the gamut of cultures and nationalities.

In some sense, though, each one of us had different reasons for being there that day. I marched for all those people who have told a struggling kid or a student that he or she matters. I marched for all those who had wanted to quit at some point in their life but didn't. Ultimately, I marched for my coach, my Dad and my junior high baseball team, the ones who believed in me when I didn't believe in myself.

But on that day, it quickly became

clear that our group's individual stories were becoming part of something much bigger.

We began to realize that our presence in Washington was more not only a protest, but also a celebration of stories. On that day, we marched not only in memory of the millions of unborn, but in memory of all those men and women who have been given the gift of life, especially all those who might have encouraged and reminded someone just how good it is to be here.

While not all of us may know the deep struggle and heartache that accompanies abortion, chances are we know what it feels like to want to quit and give up.

And it's in those moments where I must remember what my team said to me, what we celebrated at the March and what I think God continually tries to say to us, too: "It's good to have you here."

While we bring unique gifts and talents to this journey of life, we all have the same fundamental dignity: We are reflections of God's light and love. We are called to help others be those reflections, even when they think they can't. This, to me, is the ultimate celebration of life. Let us take the time to remember those people and those experiences that have helped us understand this fundamental truth.

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EDITORIAL CARTOON



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Condi's House of Cards

Gary Caruso

Capitol Comments

We dwell in personal, organizational or professional houses where our own actions entwine in such ways that one enormous mistake or a series of many can shatter a life, dishearten others, estrange ourselves from relatives or warrant legal sanctions. Because of our fallibility, families routinely tolerate cheating spouses, eccentric uncles, drunken cousins or bad-tempered siblings. Someone always acts in ways others will not. Regardless of how one defines "family" through bloodline, religion, community, professional or political affiliation the game of life is still played one card at a time.

In Washington, a conversational craze currently trends through the nation's capital about governmental mischief and intrigue. Discussions dominate just about every political merrymaking gathering. Partygoers chuckle over such dialogue from a congressman who confesses, "I don't believe in God, Heaven, hell, none of it," to which a chief of staff asks, "Too much Catholic school?"

"House of Cards," a Netflix dramatic series about congressional deception starring Kevin Spacey, kicked off its much-anticipated second season in February. Not to be outdone, in January, PBS resurrected the original BBC 1990s British parliamentary trilogy by the same name starring Ian Richardson. Both shows illustrate ambitious high-level politicians who during their youth learned that death was merely a means of survival. Both characters named

"Francis" derive the nickname "F-U" from their initials, which appropriately describes their tough hardball political tactics and merciless personal animosities that are anything but idealistic and altruistic.

Through unconscionable behavior, "House of Cards" divulges more than just youthful idealism quickly lurching into the ruthless reality of a cruel, warped world. It is an invitation for viewers to examine their own houses and better choose their everyday cards. Each of us may not surrender fidelity by allowing our spouse to sleep with news reporters. Each of us may not be willing to allow our staff to kill others to advance or preserve our personal power. But each of us at least those within an academic confine like the Notre Dame community should be willing to remove the glaze of religious righteousness or political purity to embrace and tolerate the views of others, rather than simultaneously march together against them.

Earlier this week former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, who earned a Notre Dame degree, stepped from retirement's public service shadows to characterize President Obama's international approach as one of leading from behind. The World Post interview quotes Rice denying that she switched from a nongovernmental, domestic focus to an international one, "but instead [is] making sure we lead from a position of strength and by example."

Rutgers University students and faculty took exception with Rice's record this week by protesting her scheduled May commencement address. Just as religious conservatives at Notre Dame protested

President Obama's address, Rutgers liberals opposed Rice and called her a war criminal. They say Rice's "lead by example" record is replete with glaring coldhearted decisions that violated our American virtue, laws and traditions. They cite a time as National Security Advisor when she legally defended "enhanced interrogation techniques" like water-boarding, fingernail extraction and sleep deprivation. They petitioned against "the lies promoted that led to the second Iraq war ... the death of more than 100,000 men, women and children and the displacement of millions of others."

A thorough accounting of Rice's life unveils in British filmmaker Sebastian Duggart's documentary, "American Faust: From Condi to Neo-Condi." The film features Rice herself, three of her most authoritative biographers one a Pulitzer Prize winner along with many supporters as well as critics. She responds about her pursuit and use of power posed from various interviewees who contend that she sacrificed her principles in exchange for political power, while misleading the public on 56 occasions. Critics point to her various rhetorical denial techniques that sidestepped telling the truth through claims of amnesia, word-play and filibustering with long answers.

They say she was asleep on her NSA watch, and, following 9/11, abandoned a modest foreign policy agenda of realism while becoming a neo-conservative idealist. Lawrence Wilkerson, Colin Powell's former Chief of Staff, accuses her of deliberately exaggerating the case for war, quoting, "We don't want the smoking gun to be a mushroom cloud," to which Rice replies, "I did not

pump up anything."

The documentary traces Rice's vigorous support for the Guantanamo Bay detention center as "a necessity because of the War on Terror." Duggart unearths new historical discovery connecting her through the CIA to four actual individuals who underwent and described their enhanced interrogation technique experiences. This is the first source to uncover and name those "black site" countries around the world to which Rice and the CIA sent detainees to be interrogated. Most notably, it reveals that Rice directly authorized the CIA to use torture techniques ordering, "This is your baby. Go do it."

Rice denies such allegations, simply saying, "We did not torture anybody."

Oh please, Condoleezza. You and every invitee should always deliver commencement addresses to which you are invited. Judgment of you should be based on your best thoughts and how you played your political cards making ruthless, coldhearted, death-filled war decisions. Your governmental watch has past. Isn't it time to rest, rather than rehash another roar for waging one more war?

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UWIRE

Physical social protest lost in digital world

Jada Sauber

Kansas State Collegian

Over the decades, people have protested a myriad of social injustices with their voices and physical presence. When women were fighting for the right to vote, they did it publicly and in person. They held marches, rallies and speeches. When African Americans were fighting for civil rights, they didn't do it from inside their homes. They were out, fighting for what they believed in.

But we are beginning to lose that type of remonstrance. As the Internet continues to become more powerful and more popular, society is changing with it. While many of these changes are obvious (who has sent a letter through the "snail mail" recently?), some of the changes are almost imperceptible.

One of those changes is how we react, as a society, to things we find "wrong." Where people used to gather by the hundreds or thousands to express their

opinions about civil rights, war, religion and more, people now first flock to their computer keyboards. People "tweet" about things that irk them. They share them electronically through news sites and social media, adding their own opinions and ideas to the argument all from behind their keyboard.

Is that right or wrong? Or just a sign of our times?

The emersion of social media and its role in working toward social change is an interesting conundrum. The Internet allows people to communicate with a far vaster audience, and share ideas across geographical, religious, political or other boundaries. It facilitates conversations with people who would have never had contact before.

Social media is arguably faster than the physical alternative. When Coca-Cola aired their controversial commercial during the Superbowl, Twitter lit up within seconds with a running dialogue of what America thought of it. The ability to share ideas and opinions through social media

aggregated the conversation much faster than a physical, in-person discussion.

But social media is almost much easier to ignore; there is nothing physical about it. If you get off the Internet, it's gone. When being heard is the main objective, putting the information on an easily ignored medium isn't reaching the full potential of the message.

Social media is also abbreviated, which means it doesn't naturally allow for in-depth and serious discussions on social issues. When scrolling through photos from last weekend and posts about the trials of 8:30 a.m. college algebra, a link to a dialogue on a serious social issue doesn't hold a lot of weight.

When people are physically present behind their beliefs, it's noticeable. Occasionally, visiting groups will take over Bosco Student Plaza in front of the K-State Student Union and share their beliefs and ideas with anyone who walks by. While I do not typically agree with their message, I am more inclined to agree with the tactic. Being physically present and

invested in your arguments and beliefs means something. It's important.

People do still sometimes physically gather behind what they are fighting for and that's great, but it's slowly slipping away. Social media has many advantages, especially when used to move toward social change; it can share information and ideas quickly with a wide audience. However, its lack of permanence and inability to delve deeply into ideas prevents it from being the end-all be-all for accomplishing lasting, real-world change. It should be an element of moving for social change, but not the only vehicle.

We can't forget the power of our presence, and should stand up (literally) to fight for the change we want to see.

This article was originally published on March 20 for The Collegian, the daily student newspaper of Kansas State University.

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

Interested in writing a Viewpoint column?

Email viewpoint@ndsmcobserver.com



By **MATT MUNHALL**
Scene Writer

When it premiered on HBO in January, “True Detective” immediately jumped to the top of the list of must-watch Sunday-night television. Set in rural Louisiana, the anthology series stars Matthew McConaughey and Woody Harrelson as detectives Rust Cohle and Marty Hart, who are investigating the murder of local woman Dora Lange. What set it apart from the countless other serial-killer dramas on TV was its unique chronology, spanning a timeline from the early nineties to the present, and its stunningly cinematic look. The next eight weeks saw fans obsess over clues and develop insane theories, including weird fiction, mysticism and occult symbols. Yet “Form and Void,” the season’s finale, revealed that the murder mystery conceit was just a vehicle to explore the transformations of Cohle and Hart as characters over 17 years.

The series’ greatest strength is the riveting performances by the two leads. McConaughey brought his signature Southern drawl to the nihilistic Cohle, in what will surely be remembered as a career-best performance. Cohle’s rambling philosophical monologues were on full display in the finale, with McConaughey clearly vying for an Emmy. Harrelson was equally compelling as the

frustrated, womanizing Hart. And, ultimately, what elevated this crime drama to prestige television was the fantastic chemistry between the leads, partners who quite obviously despised each other. Watching the two banter was one of the great joys of watching “True Detective” each week. However, the hyper-focus on this pair resulted in the show’s complete lack of interest in any other characters. In particular, the talents of the fantastic Michelle Monaghan were wasted in an underdeveloped role as Hart’s wife.

In the first half of the season, “True Detective” positioned the two as anti-heroes, suggesting the possibility that the heroes are just as evil as the villains. This theme reached a climax in the stunning “The Secret Fact of All Life,” the show’s fifth episode and one of the year’s best hours of television. The episode cleverly juxtaposed the misleading stories Cohle and Hart told with the actual truth. It also hinted at the possibility that Cohle was somehow involved in the serial-killer conspiracy, using the investigation to cover up his own involvement. The show seemed to be deconstructing its constructions of masculinity, revealing the destructive forces of authority and misogyny on both Cohle and Hart.

All eight episodes were written by novelist Nic Pizzolatto, and the finale exposed the flaws of a series driven by the

unrestricted vision an auteur. Unlike most shows that feature collaborative writers’ rooms, Pizzolatto was given complete creative freedom by HBO, and the writing was inconsistent as a result. In an interview with BuzzFeed, Pizzolatto expressed his disdain for shocking twists. “I just thought that such a revelation would be terrible, obvious writing ... Nothing is so ruinous as a forced ‘twist,’ I think,” Pizzolatto told BuzzFeed.

Yet the finale was completely devoid of any surprises or insight into the mysterious cult responsible for the murders. The nuanced portrayals of Cohle and Hart were abandoned for a rather traditional redemption. Although the pair discover the killer, the creepy Errol Childress, in a thrilling action sequence — the episode’s highlight — it proved largely anticlimactic. Their victory and eventual reconciliation felt largely unearned. The supernatural elements and religious iconography proved to be purely aesthetic, rather than symbolic clues into deeper meaning.

Cohle’s final words are telling: “Once there was only dark. If you ask me, the light is winning.” In its final hour, “True Detective” ignored its intricacies in lieu of a relatively happy ending. For a series that delved into gray areas, its dissent into simple contrast was disappointing.

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By **JIMMY KEMPER**
Scene Writer

“Dance like it hurts to stand still.”

Chance the Rapper’s lyrics in “Coast is Clear” seem to define the very essence of Sonny Moore, better known by his stage name Skrillex, and the fervor of his new album “Recess.” This new record, in a Beyoncé-esque fashion, was released without announcement through Skrillex’s Alien Ride smartphone app early last week, followed by wide release this Tuesday, March 17.

Skrillex is a controversial artist: He is a paragon who has brought a somewhat underground genre to a much wider audience and also a pariah in the eyes of those who believe he debased the dubstep genre, brought the headache-inducing “brostep” into the limelight and inspired a number of wannabe, clueless EDM producers. He first gained his wild mainstream attention in 2010 with the release of his “Scary Monsters and Nice Sprites” EP and the YouTube-topping title hit that went along with it. Since then, Skrillex has had an extremely prolific career, releasing a number of other EPs and going on several world tours, but “Recess” is actually the first time Skrillex has sat down to make a full studio album.

“Recess” begins with raw, explosive power in “All is Fair in Love and Brostep,” which builds anticipation with the Ragga Twins’ twisted lyrics until a brain-warping, deafening drop bursts in that only Skrillex could pull off. At this point in his career, Skrillex is well known for these drops, but the dubstep master still has a trick or two up

his sleeve. He has refined his style to the point of near-perfect breaks that are worth the wait and the buildup. This song is just the fun, classic Skrillex that we know and love at the top of his game.

One of the best aspects of this album is the great variety of influences and collaborations that Skrillex brings in, especially in “Coast is Clear,” featuring hip-hop artist Chance the Rapper. The song is an absolutely unexpected gem in the middle of the album, with a nice, rolling piano track and smooth lyrics by Chance that make it more a pop hit than jagged electronic music. Although this may not be Skrillex’s standard tune, the producer is not out of his element and has put together a song that could be a top-40 hit, if it wasn’t for the bold repetition of unprintable lyrics.

Another great collaboration comes in the form of “Dirty Vibe” with fellow EDM producer Diplo and K-Pop artists CL and G-Dragon. Diplo’s influence is pretty clear in this track, as it bounces up and down with a brisk, brutal energy that gets people going.

By far the best track on “Recess” is “Stranger.” As with “Coast is Clear,” Skrillex is experimenting with new sounds and showing off his well-roundedness as a producer, mixing in smooth percussion, sublime lyrics and a sexy and smart synth riff. The shift from old-school, booming Skrillex mixes to this cool, slow anthem is unanticipated but absolutely satisfying.

As great as some of these tracks are, a few unfortunate tracks fall short of expectations. The cartoonish vibe in “Doompy Poomp” pushes more toward ridiculous than

funny, and “Recess” is a forgettable song at best, but overall, Skrillex is starting to show signs of advancement and maturity in his work by slowly pushing his music toward new directions.

Not every album can be a genre-bending, groundbreaking piece of work that redefines how we look at music. But not every album should be. I’m not advocating mediocrity here, but sometimes it’s nice to just have something fun that doesn’t try too hard to be revolutionary. “Recess” by no means is a mediocre album, and it clearly shows off Skrillex’s talent as an EDM producer. There is a wide variety of interesting songs on this album, and the best part is the pure entertainment they present. Skrillex went into this album to make something fun that you can dance to, and although he slips up at times, “Recess” is a solid dubstep album for both fans of the genre and those looking for something new.

Contact Jimmy Kemper at jkemper2@nd.edu

“Recess”
Skrillex

Label: Big Beat

Tracks: “Stranger,” “Dirty Vibe,” “Coast is Clear”

If you like: Diplo, Deadmau5, Nero, Chance the Rapper





Matt McMahon
Scene Writer

Returning from spring break is always bittersweet — the weather and classes bitter, the parties and reuniting with friends sweet. During the break, though, a handful of songs have cropped up that would make your party mixes even sweeter. Check out these recommendations for updating your playlists:

“Los Awesome”- Schoolboy Q ft. Jay Rock

One of the best non-singles to come from the grizzly West Coast rapper’s major label debut “Oxymoron,” “Los Awesome” features a bobbing hook and the latest ear-burrowing production from hit-maker Pharrell Williams.

“Move That Dope”- Future ft. Pusha T, Pharrell and Casino

Mike Will absolutely destroys the production on Future’s fourth lead single for the rapper’s upcoming album “Honest.” In the vein of G.O.O.D. Music’s “Clique,” this posse track has a persistent, deep beat and killer verses from each guest.

“Sanctified”- Rick Ross ft. Big Sean and Kanye West

“Sanctified” is bound to be the latest hit with the release of Ross’ new album “Mastermind.” Produced by West, the track features both West and frequent cohort Big Sean. West employs his signature soul-sampling and lays down a wicked verse, including rhyming “sanctified” with “handkerchief.”

“Birth in Reverse”- St. Vincent

The lead single off of St. Vincent’s excellent new album, “St. Vincent,” combines Annie Clark’s expertise in beautiful, inspired songwriting with the punch of previous collaborator David Byrne’s art rock. With her accompanying instrumentation, Clark beats her dancy chorus into a wild frenzy.

“Wut”- Leif

Previously featured on his 2012 mixtape “Dark York,” rapper/producer Leif’s single “Wut” could find a second life after being re-released on the “Hey” EP, his first project for Terrible Records. “Thrift Shop” before “Thrift Shop” dropped, “Wut” is built upon a looped horn sample and rapid handclap percussion and is undeniably infectious.

“Say Something”- Timbaland ft. Drake

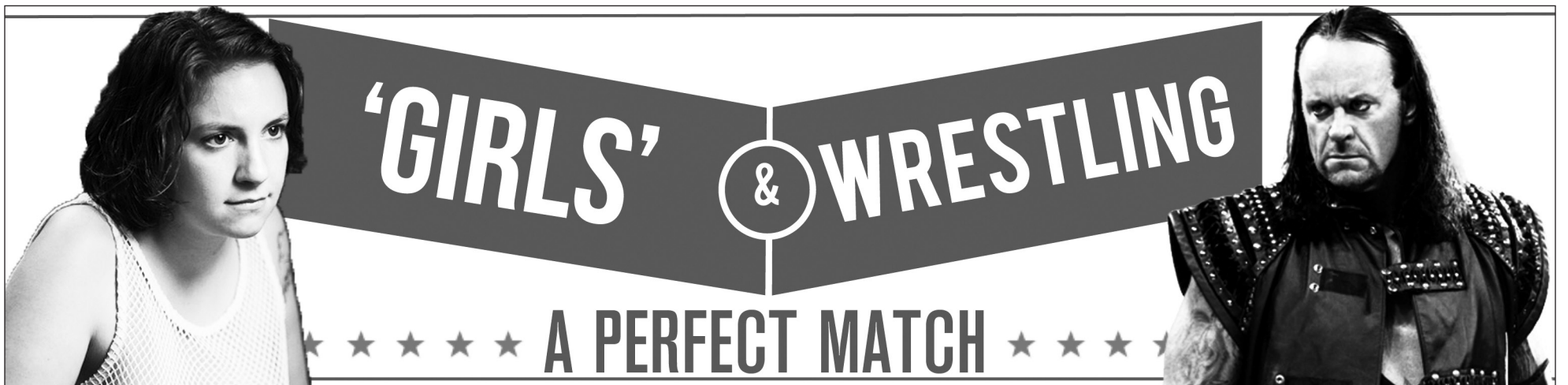
Apparently Christina Aguilera recently teamed up with pop duo A Great Big World on a track called “Say Something.” I have not heard this song, but I have heard someone complain about it by name, which spurred me to recall the hook from the Timbaland and Drake song of the same name and find it firmly stuck in my head. All in all, this one is more of a selfish plug for my own enjoyment; I want to hear this song no less than three times every weekend night until I’m sick of it again.

Bonus Party Staples:

“Countdown”- Beyoncé, “Oblivion”- Grimes, “Dip”- Danny Brown, “Higher Ground”- TNGHT, “You Oughta Know”- Das Racist, “Get Free”- Major Lazer ft. Amber Coffman

These songs should be played at every party, get-together, casual hangout — or however you want to refer to your gatherings — ever. I’m assuming you all already have Britney Spear’s “Toxic” on queue

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



Matt Niendorf
Scene Writer

Within the next three weeks, two momentous events will take place in the realm of television. On Sunday, March 23, “Girls” will have its season finale, and on Sunday, April 6th, the WWE (World Wrestling Entertainment, Inc.) will host Wrestlemania XXX, the highlight of the wrestling year. On the surface, these programs appear to appeal to disparate audiences and tastes, but I argue that no two shows on TV today complement each other better.

To many, the WWE is a violent, brutish three-hour block of nonsense that caters to children and tasteless oafs. However, this view is small-minded. When I was introduced to professional wrestling last fall, my world expanded indelibly as I became aware of the most compelling storyline on television. Truly, no show captivates its audience more. Characters with whom you were previously unfamiliar become your heroes, while others instill within you a rage felt only in the chaotic lines of North Dining Hall at 7 p.m. It is a program rife with poetic pageantry, unparalleled athleticism and unfathomable plot twists.

HBO’s “Girls” details the story of several young women living in New York City, attempting to both get by and find

meaning in their increasingly stressful and confusing lives. Lena Dunham, the creator behind “Girls,” does an adept job of writing believable characters and conflicts. The show does not glamorize or romanticize post-collegiate urban life, but rather displays a world of failed relationships, overdue rent, mediocre hookups and the humor to be found within each.

“Girls” and the WWE suit one another perfectly because they provide the viewer a wide and balanced swath of opportunities for enjoyment, societal critique and self-reflection. Take for example the comparison between two of the series’ major characters, Hannah (Lena Dunham) of “Girls” and the Undertaker of the WWE. They are perfect foils to each other.

Since Season One of “Girls,” Hannah, plagued by OCD, narcissism and tumultuous relationships, has steadily descended into unhappiness, garnering sympathy from her friends, family and even the audience. The girls of “Girls” have slowly solidified their loathing for one another, keeping friendships intact merely to counterbalance their own self-loathing. Careers have failed, boyfriends lost and addictions taken back up. While watching these girls’ lives flounder, the viewer is at once moved, saddened and brought to laughter.

When you wake up Monday morning after “Girls” with the conflicting feelings of melancholy and amusement,

you can be certain Monday night will be entirely different. “WWE Raw” has been on every Monday night since 1993. The next few episodes lead up to Wrestlemania and are sure to provide a fantastic setup for professional wrestling’s signature event. All fans of wrestling will be excitedly waiting to watch the Undertaker in this year’s Wrestlemania, as he attempts to continue his streak of 21 consecutive Wrestlemania wins.

The Undertaker will be 49 for Wrestlemania XXX, but, despite his age, his career only seems to be on an upswing. To contrast the Undertaker to Hannah, one need only look or listen to the Undertaker’s opening theme music. Jim Johnston’s “Rest in Peace” ushers in the Undertaker, whose gimmick is basically to spook his opponents. The song is an ominous three-pronged medley of swirling organs, whirling electric guitars and impending percussions of funeral bells and cymbals. The classic opener constantly gives the impression of ascension, but never plateaus or peters off, much like the Undertaker’s storied career as “The Deadman.”

Monday’s “Raw” will surely help in recovering from Sunday’s lachrymose “Girls.”

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SPORTS AUTHORITY

Tiger's back threatens Masters



Kit Loughran
Sports Writer

You might have heard that Tiger Woods withdrew from the Arnold Palmer Invitational on Tuesday. Although, amidst all the March Madness hype, I wouldn't be surprised if you missed it.

Withdrawing from one tournament may seem trivial, but for the world's No. 1 golfer, it has huge implications. Tiger backed out of the tournament because of severe back spasms, and for a 38-year-old in fervent pursuit of another Masters title, well, this doesn't look too good. Especially given the fact that Tiger not only is last year's defending Arnold Palmer Invitational champion, but also has won this tournament eight times since 2000.

It also doesn't help that the Masters is just three weeks away. Can the ailing Tiger still compete in golf's biggest championships?

Tiger had to withdraw after 13 holes in the third round of the Honda Classic on March 2. Then, the next week at the WGC-Cadillac Championship in Doral, he shot a fourth-round 78 — the worst final-round score of his professional career. He couldn't even grab his ball out of the cup — the caddies had to do that for him.

And, now, less than two weeks later, Tiger can't play Bay Hill — a course he clearly dominates.

Woods has only played in four tournaments this year, and after returning from an offseason that was intended to help his injured back, his upcoming Masters appearance resembles a long-drive hit clear off the fairway and

deep into the rough. Can he get his ball back on the green in time for Augusta?

While Augusta is obviously Tiger's biggest concern at the moment, his increasing back spasms threaten an even greater goal: his pursuit of Jack Nicklaus' major championship record.

Since he won the U.S. Open in 2008, Tiger has been stuck on 14 major titles. This puts him just four majors behind Nicklaus' 18. I might say "just" four, but with Tiger's ailing back problems that four is beginning to look more and more elusive.

Golf legend Arnold Palmer, though, believes Tiger's pursuit of Nicklaus is still alive. Palmer might have won the last of his seven major titles at the age of 33 at the 1964 Masters, but that doesn't mean that Tiger can't keep on track to victory at 38. Take Nicklaus, who clinched four titles in his 40s, and Ben Hogan, who won three out of his nine titles in his 40s as well. The only difference between them and Tiger is that they did not have severe back problems that threatened to keep them from playing in majors.

Even though Tiger's back might have forced him to pass up the opportunity to win at Bay Hill for the ninth time, he clearly has his priorities set on trying to earn his fifth green jacket. For Tiger's sake, let's hope it's not his back that ruins his shot at Augusta and his 15th title.

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

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Notre Dame heads east on three-game win streak

By **JOSH DULANY**
Sports Writer

No. 22 Notre Dame hits the road this weekend to take on two top-10 ACC opponents.

The Irish (8-6, 2-4) will be looking to build on their three match win streak as they take on No. 6 Virginia on Friday and face No. 10 North Carolina on Sunday.

After a slow start to conference play, the Irish have won two consecutive ACC contests and three consecutive games, which Irish coach Jay Louderback attributes to improved doubles play and resilient effort in singles.

"Key for us is the doubles," Louderback said. "We've played really well at No. 1 and No. 2 doubles and getting up 1-0 is big. So the two biggest factors with us right now is our doubles is getting better and we are just battling hard. We've had kids that were down a set and just fought their way back."

Notre Dame sophomore Quinn Gleason has also been thrilled with the team's doubles performance as the Irish have won

the doubles point in each match throughout this win streak.

"Starting out the matches getting the doubles point has really helped us," Gleason said. "[Senior Jennifer Kellner] and [senior Julie Sabacinski] have playing really well together. They make a great team because Jenny is really good from the baseline and Julie has great hands at the net."

Even after the recent run of success, Gleason acknowledges that the competition will remain tough.

"Our new ACC schedule is definitely a lot tougher than last year," Gleason said. "Virginia (10-4, 4-1) and North Carolina (15-3, 5-1) are both very good teams and as a team we have to approach this weekend as a great opportunity."

Louderback recognizes the difficulties as well, as there will be challenges from both top-flight opponents and the elements.

"I think both Virginia and North Carolina have been as high as No. 2 in the country," Louderback said. "One of the big things, too, is that we're jumping between in and outdoors.

Especially having two top ten teams outdoor will be tough for us, but it should be good for us."

Gleason is excited to see how the team handles this latest test as she has relished the ACC competition.

"I'm really enjoying getting the chance to play against the best teams in the country," Gleason said. "We've been working really hard so I'm excited to see how that pays off this weekend."

Louderback sees this weekend as a major point in the season as Notre Dame has five games in a row at home after this road trip.

"Most of our ACC matches after this weekend are at home, which is good," Louderback said. "I think our big thing is just to keep playing hard like we have. They are both good, but we'll compete this weekend and we'll have chances. We'll have a shot at both of them."

Friday's match starts at 3:30pm in Charlottesville and Sunday's action begins at noon in Chapel Hill.

Contact Josh Dulany at jdulany@nd.edu

MEN'S TENNIS

Irish face road test

By **RENEE GRIFFIN**
Sports Writer

No. 11 Notre Dame travels to Clemson on Friday to play the No. 20 Tigers on their outdoor courts before heading to Atlanta to take on Georgia Tech on Sunday for its second ACC matchup of the weekend.

The Irish (11-5) are prepared for a close match Friday against Clemson (15-2), Irish coach Ryan Sachire said.

"Clemson is a really good team that's had a great start to the season," Sachire said. "Anytime you play a good team on the road at their home court, you know it's going to be a challenge."

Though the match will be hard fought, Sachire says he expects the team to do well against the Tigers given Notre

Dame's track record against high-ranked teams.

"We know that their talent level is high," Sachire said. "Both teams are pretty balanced throughout their lineups and both teams are pretty competitive at every single spot, which is the mark of a good team. It will be a good matchup, but at the same time I think we have a chance to win every match."

With the last two outdoor matches against top teams ending in losses for the Irish, Sachire said Notre Dame has had success improving specific aspects of its game. The team got in some outdoor practice this week, both at the Eck Tennis Pavilion and the Clemson courts.

"We're going to be playing outside, so that's something we've been focusing on," Sachire said. "During practice we've really

been putting emphasis on patience and shot placement, and we've done a good job of working on those things."

Sachire said he expects two specific players to have the chance to make a major impact in the match Friday.

"I feel like our top two guys, [senior] Greg Andrews and [sophomore] Quentin Monaghan, have been preparing well and had a really good week of practice," Sachire said. "I'm excited to see them get into their progressions and show what they've improved on."

The Irish will face Clemson at 2:30 p.m. in Clemson, S.C., on Friday, then will hit the road again to play Georgia Tech in Atlanta on Sunday at 12 p.m.

Contact Renee Griffin at rgriffi6@nd.edu

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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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Pro Day

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

although he focused on other skills during the time between the official workouts.

"Post-combine, I was down in Atlanta with [former defensive lineman and defensive line

coach] Chuck Smith just working on technique, trying to perfect my pass rush, and do a little drills to prepare for this," Nix said. "I did the 40 today, but I didn't practice it since the combine. I didn't expect to run a faster time. If I did, I would have walked out the building and just said 'Screw the rest of it,' but

I'm just trying to do my best, and that's all I can give them."

Nix did indeed best his Combine time with a 5.36, and Jackson ran the best time of 4.40, also better than his Combine time of 4.51.

After the 40-yard dash, the players moved to cone drills and

finished with position-specific drills.

Former quarterback Tommy Rees threw passes for Toma, former running back George Atkinson III and former receiver T.J. Jones. One scout also pulled Atkinson aside to test his footwork at running back.

Later, former defensive lineman Prince Shembo, who did not record official times in any timed drills, powered through defensive agility drills with Nix and Schwenke, while former offensive linemen Zack Martin, Watt and Golic participated in O-line drills.

After participating in the workouts, Martin said he and the other players have been learning to adjust to the different styles of the coaches they encounter during the draft process.

"We're used to [Irish offensive line coach Harry] Hiestand, what he does, and when you get to work with all these other O-line

coaches, they like everything a certain way, whether it be my ... three-point stance or just keep going with my hands," Martin said. "There [ares things that you pick up of what coaches are looking for along the way."

Injury Update

Former tight end Troy Niklas and former defensive lineman Stephon Tuitt attended but did participate in on-field drills.

Tuitt, recovering from a fracture in his left foot, wore a walking boot. The injury also prevented Tuitt from participating in the NFL combine, but Tuitt said he should be ready to play soon.

"About three more weeks and then probably two more weeks after that, so not that far," Tuitt said. "By the time training camps start, I will be 10 percent."

Contact Samantha Zuba at szuba@nd.edu

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WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Reaney earns All-America honors

Observer Staff Report

Junior Emma Reaney has accomplished a lot during her three years in the pool. She has set national records, earned All-America and all-conference honors, and emerged as one of the top swimmers in the country. One thing Reaney had yet to do in her storied career however, was qualify for the final in the 200-yard individual medley at the NCAA championships.

On Thursday, she did just that.

Reaney finished fourth in the preliminary race Thursday morning with a

time of 1:55.01, which qualified her for the final later that night. She finished in seventh in the final with a time of 1:56.15, which secured her third career All-America honor. It was her first All-America honor in the event, having received honorable mention All-America honors her freshman and sophomore years.

Freshman Katie Miller also competed in the same event, placing 22nd with a personal-best time of 1:57.54 in the preliminaries. Miller lowered her personal best by 1.38 seconds, and fell just shy of receiving honorable mention All-America honors.

Notre Dame's final event of the day was the 400-yard medley relay. The team of Reaney, senior Kelly Ryan, junior Courtney Whyte and freshman Catherine Mulquin finished 22nd in the preliminaries with a time of 3:36.28.

All eight Irish swimmers will compete Friday over the course of four events. The 400-yard medley relay team of Reaney, Ryan, Whyte, and Mulquin will get another shot, this time in the 200-yard medley relay, while Miller and junior Bridget Casey will race in the 400-yard individual medley.

Reaney and senior Christen McDonough will compete in the 100-yard breaststroke, and finally, the team of Reaney, Ryan, Miller, and junior Suzanne Bessire will conclude the preliminary rounds in the 800-yard free-style relay.

Day two of the NCAA championships kicks off today at noon at the University Aquatic Center in Minneapolis.

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BASEBALL

Irish welcome Hokies, still looking for ACC win

By AARON SANT-MILLER
Sports Writer

This weekend, the Irish will continue the hunt for their first ACC win when they begin a three-game series against Virginia Tech on Friday.

"I would just like to see our whole lineup get going and start to play better," Irish coach Mik Aoki said. "I think they're at a point where they are a little bit beaten down right now."

So far this spring, Notre Dame (7-12, 0-6 ACC) carries a team batting average of .234.

"I think we're going to try to plug [junior outfielder] Conor Biggio in there and see what he can do," Aoki said. "I think, with some of the guys having struggled, it's kind of rolled to [Biggio]. At the same time, putting [Biggio] in there is more because, in the limited opportunities he's had, he's done pretty well."

As a team, Virginia Tech (10-8-1, 3-3 ACC) is hitting .266. This spring, the Hokies are paced by freshman outfielder Tom Stoffel and red-shirt freshman outfielder Saige Jenco, as the duo is hitting .354 and .351, respectively. Conversely, the Irish are led by junior outfielder Blaise Lezynski, who is hitting .300.

"They seem to swing the bat at a little bit more of a proficient rate than we've been doing," Aoki said. "I think that's their biggest thing. On paper, they seem to be a bit more prolific offensively than we've been." Additionally, the Irish will be tasked with facing Virginia Tech junior catcher Mark Zagunis. Last week, Zagunis claimed the ACC Player of the Week award, as he hit .500 and slugged a team-high .682. Earlier this spring, the junior was nominated to both the Louisville Slugger and NCBWA Preseason All-American Second Team.

"He's a very good player, an all-around good player. He's an athlete, with a great swing and some juice in his bat," Aoki said. "This is a kid, as long as the pitcher is giving him a chance to throw somebody out, who can control the running game. I don't think he's going to get rattled in any way, shape or form, and he's been playing at a high-level for awhile now."

According to Aoki, the Irish will still do their best to manufacture runs this weekend, maintaining an aggressive offensive approach.

"I think we've always tried to consciously play offense when we can, whether it's steals, hit-and-runs, or bunting," Aoki said. "Sometimes it's found success this year

and sometimes it has not, but I think we're always trying to look to do that. If you watch college baseball now, that's what everyone's doing because of these bats; it's like swinging wet noodles."

Per Aoki, the Irish expect to start senior right-handed pitcher Sean Fitzgerald on Friday and sophomore right-handed pitcher Nick McCarty on Saturday. On Sunday, Notre Dame will turn to junior right-handed pitcher Pat Connaughton.

"I hope Connaughton comes out and throws a boatload of strikes," Aoki said. "When he's in the strike zone, they usually don't do a whole lot with it. He should be somewhere between 60 to

75 pitches, and, if he is efficient with them, he should be able to get pretty deep into a game."

On Friday, Notre Dame will play at Four Winds Field in South Bend, Ind. Though

"I hope Connaughton comes out and throws a boatload of strikes."

Mik Aoki
Irish coach

the team was scheduled to play its Saturday and Sunday games at the U.S. Steel Yard in Gary, Ind., poor field conditions due to winter frost

have forced the Irish to move the second two games of the series to Grand Park in Westfield, Ind.

"This weekend, it will take up six hours of their time traveling to and from Westfield. There is no question that it is difficult for our players, just from the standpoint of the crunch that it puts on their academic time," Aoki said. "From a venue standpoint, it's difficult because there isn't a ton of familiarity.

"I think familiarity can breed comfort, which, more than anything else, is why home teams tend to win the lion's share of their games at home. Both teams are going to be adjusting, so it might as well be a game at a neutral

site."

This weekend, Notre Dame's three-game series against Virginia Tech will begin at Four Winds Field in South Bend, Ind., at 5:35 p.m.

Contact Aaron Sant-Miller at asantmil@nd.edu

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ND SOFTBALL

ND hosts Panthers in first home game of season

By **CHRISTINA KOCHANSKI**
Sports Writer

After 26 straight away games, the No. 24 Irish finally get to play on their home turf at Melissa Cook Stadium this weekend when they host Pittsburgh.

The Irish (19-7, 3-3 ACC) and the Panthers (8-13, 0-3) will clash in a three-game series Saturday and Sunday. This marks the 31st meeting between these teams, 29 of which Notre Dame has won.

Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said that, although she does not consider the matchup with the Panthers a rivalry, competitiveness exists between the Irish and the Panthers.

"They're a constant conference opponent," Gumpf said. "We respect them and think they're a good team."

The Panthers hope to snap a six-game losing streak that dates back to the beginning of March. The Irish are also looking to recover after dropping two of three against Virginia Tech last weekend.

The Irish will have to face

Panthers sophomore infielder Maggie Sevilla. Sevilla leads the team in RBIs and runs scored, with 12 and nine, respectively. Sevilla has three home runs, tied for the team lead with junior outfielder Carly Thea.

Gumpf said that her team will have to watch out for Pittsburgh's strong hitting.

"They have power hitters and they are scrappy," Gumpf said. "The top half of their lineup is as good as anybody."

For the Irish, junior outfielder Emilee Koerner leads the team with six home runs and 26 runs. Sophomore infielder Micaela Arizmendi boasts 22 RBIs to lead the team.

Notre Dame is ranked No. 1 nationally in doubles per game with 2.08, and the Irish have outscored their opponents 143-68 so far this season. Of the 54 total team doubles on the season, Koerner leads the team with 11.

The Irish pitching staff has also spurred the team's success, with senior Laura Winter pitching the most

innings for the Irish. She has a 13-3 record and 1.87 earned run average this season. Sophomore Allie Rhodes and freshman Rachel Nasland have also led the Irish from the circle, with 2.20 and 2.59 ERAs, respectively.

The Irish had their first opportunity to practice outside this week. With temperatures above freezing and the snow shoveled off of the field, the team got to break ground on its home territory before hosting the Panthers.

Gumpf said the first outdoor practice was important for the team's mentality.

"It was awesome because the sun was shining, the dirt was perfect," Gumpf said. "It was one of those days that nobody really wanted to get off the field because it was just really nice to be home."

The Irish hope the weather will hold out for this weekend's series. They take on the Panthers at 12 p.m. and 2 p.m., Saturday and 12 p.m., Sunday at Melissa Cook Stadium.

Contact **Christina Kochanski** at ckochans@nd.edu



KEVIN SONG | The Observer

Irish junior outfielder Emilee Koerner crosses home plate during an exhibition game against Illinois State on Sept. 15.

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BELLA BIANCO | The Observer

Irish sophomore wing Mario Lucia corrals the puck along the boards during Notre Dame's 2-0 victory over Boston University on Feb. 22.

Hockey

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

continuity, things started to get better."

When the Irish met Massachusetts-Lowell (23-10-4, 11-6-3) in November, they fired 75 shots at Riverhawks sophomore goaltender Connor Hellebuyck but only managed to get one goal past the national leader in goals against average (1.87).

"We're going to have to find a way to generate offense against a very good goaltender and a good defensive team," Jackson said.

While Hellebuyck sits at the top of the heap defensively, Irish senior goaltender Steven

Summerhays ranks fourth in goals against average, allowing just 1.95 per game. Jackson said the teams are alike in other ways as well.

"They've got a really balanced lineup," Jackson said. "They have three lines that are very good, so their depth of scoring is different from [Boston College]. It's probably more similar to us. They're similar to us in a lot of ways. They play a cycle game; they play a transition game; they're good defensively; they've got good goaltending."

The Irish enter the weekend as one of college hockey's hottest teams, having posted an 8-1-1 record over their last 10 games including three road victories over former No. 1 Boston

College. Irish senior defenseman Stephen Johns said that despite the team's late-season surge, its work is not done.

"We still have a big job to do and there's no reason not to be motivated to get two wins this weekend," Johns said. "We're trying to hang a banner and get a ring to get a championship with this group. We're not satisfied, and there's a bigger goal ahead."

Irish senior forward Bryan Rust is tied for the team lead with 16 goals — including one in each of the last four games — and said that the team now understands the little details are what it takes to win games in the postseason.

"We're a veteran team, we've learned how to win games," Rust said. "We know what mistakes allow us to lose games and we've kind of been through it all. Little turnovers and the blocked shots. You've got to bear down on your scoring chances."

If the Irish get past Lowell in tonight's semifinal game, they would advance to the Hockey East championship game Saturday against the winner of the second semifinal between No. 9 Providence and No. 18 New Hampshire. The Irish took a win and a tie from a visit to Providence (21-9-6, 11-7-2) in Feb., but were swept on a visit to New Hampshire on Jan. 31 and Feb. 1.

Notre Dame also has the rare opportunity this weekend to win consecutive conference tournament championships in two different leagues. The Irish took home the Central Collegiate Hockey Association crown last

year before making the move to Hockey East this year after the CCHA was dissolved.

Freshman center Vince Hinostroza — who sits second on the team in points (32) and assists (24) — was named to the conference all-rookie team by Hockey East on Wednesday and said that making the team was the realization of a preseason goal.

"Coming into the year you have goals and one of my goals was to be on the all-rookie team,"

Hinostroza said. "Throughout the year, you always try your best and you don't really think about that goal, but at the end of the year, it's nice to be rewarded with that."

The puck is slated to drop for tonight's game with Massachusetts-Lowell at 5 p.m., at TD Garden in Boston, and Saturday's championship is scheduled for a 7 p.m. start.

Contact Alex Carson at acarson1@nd.edu

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W Basketball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

lost in the first round on both occasions.

The Irish enter the tournament on a roll after winning the ACC crown and are seeking a fourth-straight Final Four appearance. Sophomore guard Jewell Loyd was named the ACC tournament MVP and joined McBride and senior forward Natalie Achonwa on the all-ACC team.

The high-powered Notre Dame offense, which ranks first in the nation in field goal percentage, will go up against a Robert Morris defense that limits opponents to just 38.8 percent from the floor.

Robert Morris earned its bid to the NCAA tournament after winning the Northeast Conference title and is led by senior forward Artemis Spanou, who was named the Northeast Conference player of the year and tournament MVP. Spanou averages nearly 20 points a game, leads the team in rebounding and recorded 26 double-doubles

throughout the season.

Earlier this season, the Colonials lost to Virginia Tech, 70-64 on Dec. 29. A month later, Notre Dame defeated the Hokies (14-16, 4-12 ACC) 74-48 on Jan. 30. Still, senior forward Kayla McBride said the Irish are not looking past Robert Morris.

"I think we had a lot of different places, a lot of different venues, a lot of different environments and a lot of different teams," McBride said. "So Robert Morris, they're in the tournament for a reason, and we can't take that for granted."

The Irish have won 16 of their last 18 NCAA openers, including the past four straight. If they advance past the first two rounds, they would return to Purcell Pavilion for the regional semifinals and finals.

The Irish begin their hunt for a national championship Saturday against Robert Morris in Toledo, Ohio at 1:30 p.m.

Contact Greg Hadley at ghadley@nd.edu

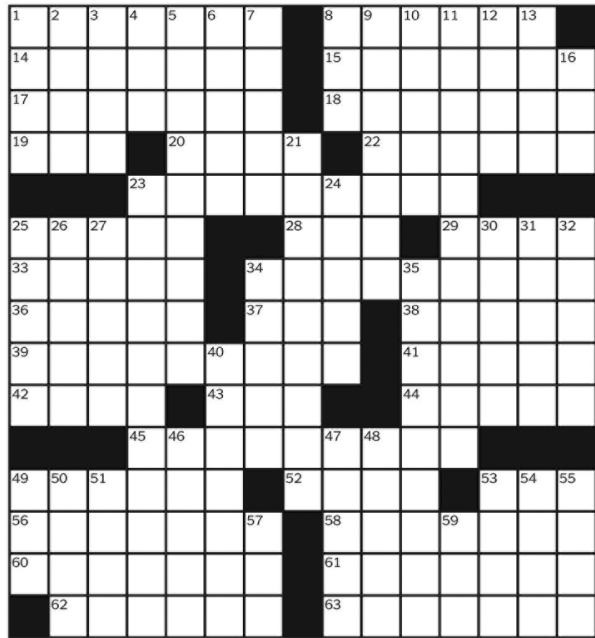
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 - 18 Title under which "The Lion Sleeps Tonight" originally charted, in 1952
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 - 29 Numerical prefix
 - 33 Stations
 - 34 Highway sections
 - 36 Skating gold medalist of 1928, 1932 and 1936
 - 37 Figure in a beret
 - 38 ___ Derby, annual sporting event since 1866
 - 39 Grub sellers
 - 41 ___ Park
 - 42 Geneva-based org. encouraging healthy living
 - 43 One of 100 in un siglo
 - 44 Word appearing 39 times in the King James Version of Matthew 1
 - 45 Composure
 - 49 Genre of the double-platinum box set "Songs of Freedom"
 - 52 One going to court?
 - 53 Utmost
 - 56 Post, e.g.
 - 58 Napping
 - 60 Job-like
 - 61 City where Jonah preached
 - 62 Cote d'Azur town
 - 63 Nightwear

- DOWN**
- 1 E-1s and E-2s, in the Army: Abbr.
 - 2 Place
 - 3 High-school spots?
 - 4 Financial statement abbr.
 - 5 They bite but don't have teeth
 - 6 Great Lakes natives
 - 7 Upward-flowing plant vessels
 - 8 Black bird
 - 9 Pore, e.g.
 - 10 Popular Debussy piece
 - 11 Fictional boxer a.k.a The Count of Monte Fisto
 - 12 Machine part connecting to a gearwheel
 - 13 New York Jets home from 1964 to 1983
 - 16 Quizzical cries
 - 21 Top of the charts?
 - 23 Amount of appreciation, maybe
 - 24 Is piercing
 - 25 "Shampoo" director
 - 26 Tick off
 - 27 Sega mascot
 - 30 "I ___"
 - 31 Unit of magnetic flux density
 - 32 Have ___ at
 - 34 Latte go-with



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- 35 Hip-hop producer for Jay-Z, LL Cool J and Missy Elliott
- 48 "Journey to (recurring "Sesame Street" segment)
- 49 Criticize
- 50 "M*A*S*H" maneuver, for short
- 51 Bhagavad (Hindu scripture)
- 53 Riders on Direhorses in "Avatar"
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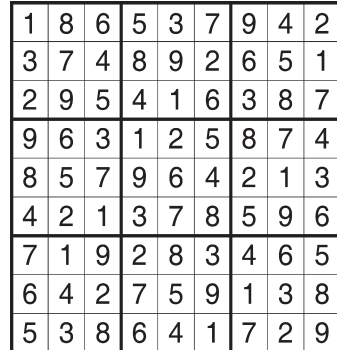


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Level: 1 2 3 4



SOLUTION TO THURSDAY'S PUZZLE 3/22/13



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

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HOROSCOPE | EUGENIA LAST

Happy Birthday: Take time to explore people and places that interest you. Look at your current position and find ways to diversify and put new plans into motion. Partnerships will be important, and making commitments, signing contracts and settling legal or financial matters should take top priority. Clean house emotionally, physically and financially so that you can start anew. Your numbers are 4, 12, 18, 24, 32, 41, 49.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): An exchange with friends or colleagues will help you update any information you require. A change in the way you think and do things will encourage you to engage in pastimes that are geared toward making new connections. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't let personal situations interfere with what you are trying to accomplish. Put your reputation and work first. An unusual idea will be considered brilliant by someone in a position to grant you a favor or help you get ahead. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't be fooled by a good talker. Ask questions and look for ways to use your expertise to come up with better ideas that have fewer risks involved. Love is on the rise and romance will help improve your personal life. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Use your creativity and your ingenuity to come up with interesting ideas. Socialize and you will meet people who have something to offer that can improve your life. A change in the way you do things will bring you happiness and greater security. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You'll feel differently about some of the people in your life based on recent circumstances. Reassess your position and your future direction. Base your decisions on what will help you feel most comfortable moving forward. Emotions will be unstable. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Look out for a troublemaker. You may need to dig deep in order to get the whole truth. Don't waffle or give in to someone trying to take advantage of you financially. Offer suggestions, but don't pay for someone else's mistake. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Idle time will lead to mistakes. Don't dwell on situations you cannot change. Focus on the present and take time out to enjoy the company of someone who has a good influence on your emotional well-being. Love is in the stars. ★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You will be torn between your personal life and your professional dreams. Take advantage of whatever comes your way that has the potential to lead to new and better use of your talents. Anyone who discourages you should be disregarded. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't believe everything you hear. You will face a decision that will be difficult to make if you have let someone take advantage of you. Change can be good if it's made for the right reasons. Ulterior motives are likely. ★★★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Stick close to home. Avoid conversations that can draw you into an argument. Focus more on self-improvement and find new outlets for the skills or services you have to offer. Don't underestimate any competition you face. ★★

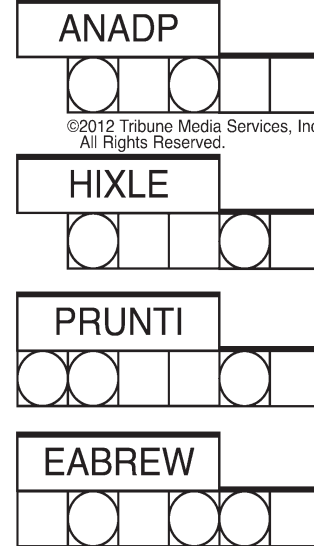
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't expect something for nothing. You have to work hard and put in the time required to do the best job possible. Complaints are likely to surface if you do not stick to the instructions you were given. Protect your assets. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Take care of personal business. Your financial concerns should be addressed and verbal contracts put in place. There are gains to be made, but you'll have to offer something very special if you want to reach your highest potential. ★★★

Birthday Baby: You are dramatic, sensitive and secretive. You are perceptive and resourceful.

JUMBLE | DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

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



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

Yesterday's Jumbles: TRUCK UPEND POETIC ABSURD
Answer: The job at the funeral home came with more responsibility and he was anxious to — UNDERTAKE IT

WORK AREA



THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community. Join the more than 13,000 readers who have found The Observer an indispensable link to the two campuses. Please complete the accompanying form and mail it today to receive The Observer in your home.

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Notre Dame postseason rounds off year of firsts

By GREG HADLEY
Associate Sports Editor

It has been a season of firsts for No. 2 Notre Dame.

It was the first season in a new conference, the first game against several new opponents, the first time in the ACC tournament, the first time not playing archrival Connecticut in the regular season, and the Irish (32-0, 16-0 ACC) also earned a No. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament.

So when the squad drew a first-round matchup on Saturday in Toledo, Ohio, against 16th-seeded Robert Morris, a team Notre Dame has never played before, Irish coach Muffet McGraw said she was not surprised.

"We actually taped the game on Sunday," McGraw said Monday. "They were playing in the final. I didn't get to watch it, but we thought that might be a potential matchup, so we taped it, so I know I have one game to watch when I get home."

If anything, all the new experiences have prepared the Irish for whatever the Colonials (21-11, 14-4 NEC) will offer, McGraw said.

"It really [helped joining the ACC] because we had all those chances to play against teams we've never played before, so this is another chance to continue to do that," she said.

Irish senior forward Kayla McBride said the ACC tested Notre Dame for the road ahead.

"I think that coming into the ACC, we didn't know anything about anybody, and even some teams that we played in non-conference scheduled games [were] like that," McBride said. "It was good for us, definitely."

The Colonials return to the NCAA tournament for the first time since consecutive berths in 2007 and 2008. The Colonials were seeded 13th in 2007 and 15th in 2008 and

see W BASKETBALL PAGE 14



JODI LO | The Observer

Irish junior guard Whitney Holloway races down the court during Notre Dame's 100-75 victory over North Carolina on Feb. 27. The Irish begin competition in the NCAA tournament against Robert Morris on Saturday.

FOOTBALL

NFL Pro Day comes to ND



JODI LO | The Observer

Former Irish defensive lineman Kona Schwenke completes drills during NFL Pro Day on Thursday at Notre Dame.

By SAMANTHA ZUBA
Assistant Managing Editor

Sixteen old, familiar faces returned to campus for Notre Dame's NFL Pro Day on Thursday afternoon at Loftus Sports Center.

Scouts from all 32 NFL teams attended the Irish Pro Day, as well

as three general managers and two head coaches, including Mike Tomlin of the Pittsburgh Steelers.

The structure of Notre Dame's smaller Pro Day made the workouts more difficult than the NFL combine, according to former offensive lineman Louis Nix, who also participated in the combine

from Feb. 22-25.

"It's fun when it's over," Nix said. "Pro Day made the combine feel like a cake walk. You're used to 20 guys in front of you, and now it's just going and going and going. I just got a good workout for the day."

Two of the 16 Irish attendees, former offensive lineman Mike Golic Jr. and former receiver Robby Toma last played for Notre Dame in the 2013 BCS National Championship Game, and the other 14 returned from last season's team.

Eight players ran the 40-yard dash: linebacker Carlo Calabrese, linebacker Dan Fox, cornerback Bennett Jackson, quarterback Tommy Rees, defensive lineman Kona Schwenke, offensive lineman Chris Watt, Nix and Toma.

Officially clocked at 5.42 in the dash at the NFL combine, Nix ran again at Notre Dame's Pro Day,

see PRO DAY PAGE 11

HOCKEY

Irish aim for Hockey East title

By ALEX CARSON
Sports Writer

No. 10 Notre Dame has the opportunity this weekend in Boston to do what no team has ever done — win the Hockey East tournament after finishing outside the top four teams during the regular season.

The Irish (23-13-3, 9-9-2) finished the regular season eighth out of the conference's 11 teams and became the first team to knock out the top-seeded team in the quarterfinals since Vermont defeated New Hampshire in 2010. However, Irish head coach Jeff Jackson said he does not put much weight on seeds going into the weekend.

"At this point, [the seed] doesn't matter any more,"

Jackson said. "We're playing in the [Hockey East] championships, and that's all that really matters."

Jackson — and Notre Dame — is far more concerned about getting past No. 7 Massachusetts-Lowell on Friday night, a team that swept the Irish at the Tsongas Center on Nov. 22-23. Jackson said part of the team's issues earlier in the season was an inability to put the same lineup out on the ice every night due to injuries.

"I think we were always capable [of playing as well as we are now] but we never had an opportunity to have any continuity in our lineup," Jackson said. "Once we got some

see HOCKEY PAGE 14

TODAY'S EVENTS

Hockey vs. UMass Lowell
Baseball vs. Virginia Tech
Women's Swimming NCAA Championships
Men's Tennis vs. Clemson
Women's Tennis vs. Virginia
Women's Golf at LSU Golf Classic

5 p.m.
5:35 p.m.
All Day
2:30 p.m.
3:30 p.m.
All Day

UPCOMING EVENTS

Women's Basketball vs. Robert Morris
Women's Swimming NCAA Championships
Women's Softball vs. Clemson
Women's Golf at LSU Golf Classic
Fencing NCAA Championships
Women's Soccer vs. Marquette

Sat.
Sat.
Sat.
Sat.
Sat.
Sat.

Women's Lacrosse vs. Villanova
Baseball vs. Virginia Tech
Softball vs. Pittsburgh
Men's Tennis vs. Georgia Tech
Women's Tennis vs. North Carolina
Women's Swimming NCAA Championships

Sun.
Sun.
Sat. & Sun.
Sun.
Sun.
Sun.