

## ND Shakespeare Festival engages students

*Students and ND community members to audition for parts in summer festival's productions Saturday*

By **COURTNEY BECKER**  
News Writer

The Notre Dame Shakespeare Festival (NDSF) is offering students the opportunity to work with world-class theater professionals this summer.

This Saturday, Ryan Producing Artistic Director of the NDSF Grant Mudge and the two directors for this summer's main shows, Pirronne Yousefzadeh and West Hyler, will hold auditions for students and other members of the Notre Dame community for the festival.

"We have a mission that primarily is to explore the plays of William Shakespeare but

focus on our surrounding communities," Mudge said. "One of our key components is providing opportunities for students with the pros. That's how Shakespeare's Company did it. ... So it's an unusual program in that regard and I think it's a very special program because of that."

Mudge said in addition to undergraduate and graduate students, the Company hires professional actors from surrounding communities to participate in the festival.

"We have a young company ... that's undergraduates, grad students and recent grads who

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Photo courtesy of Shakespeare at Notre Dame

*Students actors from the NDSF's Young Company perform a scene from Shakespeare's "The Merry Wives of Windsor" for the festival's 2014 season. Student and professional actors participate in the NDSF each year.*

## Doctor analyzes health policy

By **ALEX WINEGAR**  
Associate Saint Mary's Editor

As part of the Saint Mary's Department of Justice Education symposium about different aspects of health care, Dr. Ellyn Stecker, a family physician, spoke on women's health justice.

Stecker started her presentation by emphasizing the importance of health care. Health care is a basic necessity for human survival, she said.

"It's special because it requires a certain educated cooperation of group members," Stecker said. "Health management is not always obvious or intuitive.

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CAITLYN JORDAN | The Observer

*Dr. Ellyn Stecker speaks at the Saint Mary's Health Care Justice Symposium in the Rice Commons Student Center on Thursday.*

## Professor explores adolescence

By **MATTHEW McKENNA**  
News Writer

Professor of psychology, Daniel Lapsley, said the majority of teenagers violate the law in some way; he stole a Bob Dylan album when he was younger, but this behavior is not indicative of a teen at risk of a life of crime.

Lapsley, who also serves as the chair of the Psychology Department, spoke in the Eck Visitors Center auditorium Thursday evening about adolescent development and its effect on behavior

and the formation of identity. Lapsley's talk was titled "The Promise and Perils of Adolescence" and was sponsored by the Notre Dame Club of St. Joseph Valley.

Lapsley said changes in the way the brain processes serotonin and dopamine during adolescence can affect the way an adolescent weighs decisions and their consequences.

"The teen is more drawn to the potential benefits of a decision than the potential

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## Campus Ministry hosts first "Fr. Ted Talks"

By **AIDAN LEWIS**  
News Writer

"From a life of faith, what is important to me?" Edward Hums asked during the inaugural Fr. Ted Talk Thursday evening at Recker's. Hums said he finds the lives of saints to hold the most importance in his faith life.

Hums, a professor of

accountancy in the Mendoza College of Business and a faculty-in-residence in Lyons Hall, said he holds several saints very close to his heart due to specific events they relate to in his life.

"I have an informal litany of saints, saints that mean something to me. Not that it's because this is what the saint did, but that the saint represents life events in my life of faith,"

Hums said.

One of these saints is St. Mark, whom Hums' hockey coach at Notre Dame always prayed to before games. For this reason, Hums said St. Mark reminds him "of the people who helped [him] through Notre Dame."

To Hums, St. Mark is representative of the help and support everyone needs in their

life.

"You can never get anywhere by yourself," he said. "You didn't get to Notre Dame by yourself, and you will not get through by yourself. ... There are so many people you owe so much to."

St. Joseph is another saint who has distinct significance in Hums' life. Hums said the feast day of St. Joseph, March

19, coincides with the date 26 years ago when Hums had his last drink.

"That was a tough time period, going through something that you needed help getting through, and St. Joseph always reminds me of that day," Hums said.

Hums said another saint

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# THE OBSERVER

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

**Editor-in-Chief**  
Greg Hadley  
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## Office Manager & General Info

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

**Advertising**  
(574) 631-6900 ads@ndsmcobserver.com

**Editor-in-Chief**  
(574) 631-4542 ghadley@nd.edu

**Managing Editor**  
(574) 631-4542 jrooney1@nd.edu

**Assistant Managing Editors**  
(574) 631-4541 mgreen8@nd.edu,  
wlin4@nd.edu

**Business Office**  
(574) 631-5313

**News Desk**  
(574) 631-5323 news@ndsmcobserver.com

**Viewpoint Desk**  
(574) 631-5303 viewpoint@ndsmcobserver.com

**Sports Desk**  
(574) 631-4543 sports@ndsmcobserver.com

**Scene Desk**  
(574) 631-4540 scene@ndsmcobserver.com

**Saint Mary's Desk**  
hehmse01@saintmarys.edu

**Photo Desk**  
(574) 631-8767 photo@ndsmcobserver.com

**Systems & Web Administrators**  
(574) 631-8839

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# QUESTION OF THE DAY:

If you could be any cartoon character for a day, who would you be?

Have a question you want answered?

Email [photo@ndsmcobserver.com](mailto:photo@ndsmcobserver.com)



## Erin Lattimer

junior  
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“Minnie Mouse.”



## Jacqueline Cassidy

graduate student  
off campus

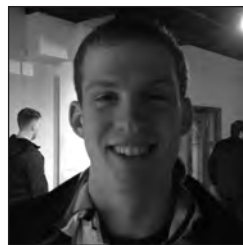
“Sandy Cheeks.”



## Garrett Rasmus

sophomore  
Dillon Hall

“Patrick Star.”



## Trent Jackson

junior  
Siegfried Hall

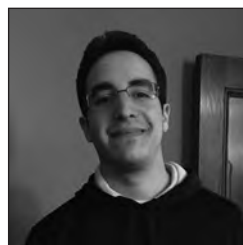
“Jimmy Neutron.”



## Utkarsh Sonkiya

sophomore  
Zahm House

“Avatar: The Last Airbender.”



## Joey Curci

sophomore  
Zahm House

“Captain Underpants.”

# THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

Want your event included here?

Email [news@ndsmcobserver.com](mailto:news@ndsmcobserver.com)

## Friday

### Laudato Lunch

Geddes Hall  
12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m.  
Discussion about  
Notre Dame at Paris  
Climate Conference.

### Hockey vs. Massachusetts

Compton Ice Arena  
7:35 p.m.-9:35 p.m.  
ND takes on Minutemen.

## Saturday

### Shakespeare Festival

DeBartolo Performing  
Arts Center  
10 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Auditions for “Pericles”  
and “The Tempest.”

### “Anchored in Hope”

Keenan Hall  
7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.  
The Voices of Faith  
Gospel Choir Concert.

## Sunday

### Violin Performance

Snite Museum of Art  
2 p.m.-3 p.m.  
Faculty member Tricia  
Park and guest Taylor  
Morris will perform.

### Crèche Pilgrimage

Eck Visitors Center  
2:30 p.m.-4 p.m.  
Visit nativity exhibits  
around campus.

## Monday

### Advent Vespers

Regina Chapel  
6:45 p.m.-7:15 p.m.  
Join the community  
in prayer during the  
Christmas season.

### Piano Masterclass

Snite Museum of Art  
3:30 p.m.-5 p.m.  
Learn from pianist  
Svetlana Belsky.

## Tuesday

### “Do You Hear What I Hear?”

Lewis Hall  
8 p.m.-9 p.m.  
Unchained Melodies’  
winter concert.

### Men’s Basketball vs. Stony Brook

Purcell Pavilion  
9 p.m.-11 p.m.  
ND faces the Seawolves.

# Keynote examines health care

## By NICOLE CARATAS

News Writer

The Saint Mary's Department of Justice Education organized a day-long symposium Thursday about different aspects of health care. The keynote speaker for the event, St. Joseph Health System President and CEO Albert Gutierrez, gave a presentation titled “How Catholic faith informs the practice of health care.”

Director of the Justice Education Program Adrienne Lyles introduced the day's events.

“Today's Health Care Justice Symposium is designed to foster intellectual curiosity, rational inquiry, respectful dialogue, civic responsibility and the practice of justice and compassion,” Lyles said. “Health care is a commodity that concerns and affects all human beings.”

Gutierrez said Saint Mary's and Saint Joseph Health System, which is part of Trinity Health, are sister institutions because the Sisters of the Holy Cross founded both of them. He also said the Health System is an extension of the Catholic Church through its relationship with the Sisters.

The biggest issue when it comes to health care in America is difference between equality and equity, Gutierrez said.

“Equality is sameness, giving everyone the same thing,” Gutierrez said. “It only works from our view if everyone started from the same place. ... However, we believe in health care that equity is something that we're looking to strive to achieve.”

Gutierrez showed a graphic that depicted equality versus equity and showed three people of different heights trying to look over a fence. Under equality, they all had the same size box to stand on, and the shorter people could not see. Under equity, the people had a different number of boxes to ensure each person could see over the fence.

“If you follow the theory of equality, you could still have people that are left out,” Gutierrez said. “... We must first ensure equity before we can enjoy equality.”

Gutierrez said Trinity Health looks at all factors needed to ensure the best health care when it develops business and management plans to improve the hospitals. He said the

quality of care is only 10 percent of community health, and in previous decades it was the only factor hospitals prioritized.

“Having a bright, shiny hospital does not improve the overall health status of individuals in a community,” Gutierrez said. “If you only believe that we're going to save you in the hospital and then we're going to send you back on the street, that is a very, very limited view of ... health care.”

“We are now in our strategic plan operating under the model that health does not begin in a doctor's office. We have chosen, as a health system, to inject ourselves in the entire argument.”

Gutierrez said he cares for patients because people are made in the image of God. He said because all people have dignity, they all deserve reverence, and he creates plans to ensure the hospital follows through on that.

“All of this goes back to biblical concept,” he said. “Whether you have earned it or not, we will care for you.”

Contact Nicole Caratas at  
[ncaratas01@saintmarys.edu](mailto:ncaratas01@saintmarys.edu)

## Health care

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Moreover, achieving good health affects not only one individual but also the entire group.”

Stecker said the U.S. has faced major problems with the way care has been divided in our health system.

“In the United States we have a hodgepodge of our health care system,” she said. “We don’t insure basic healthcare for everyone nor do we insure catastrophic care. What you get depends upon your sex, ethnicity, marital status, status as a citizen, immigrant or undocumented, faith, age and the availability of medical providers near you.”

The U.S. federal government offers programs like Medicare, Medicaid, Veterans Health Administration, Indian Health Service, volunteer clinics and the Children’s Health Insurance Program, she said, but does not have universal coverage.

“What we do not have, however, is universal health coverage, we are one of the few industrialized countries that does not,” Stecker said. “Attempts to improve coverage have always been foggy. Our goal is to have all people covered. The plan is still being implemented even as there are political actions to

dismantle.”

Before the Affordable Care Act, the month after students graduated, they were generally not covered under a parent’s or school’s insurance, she said.

“If you bought your own insurance as a woman, you often paid a higher rate than men,” she said. “Things are better for your generation than they were in the 1960s. Women now have a much better chance to enroll in college. ... However, we are not yet finished with those years of prior, lame discrimination.

“In your family or in your work, you might care for women who took time out of the labor force who cared for children or other family members and who did not have access to a college education, may have been forced to quit working when they married or lost their job when World War II ended and the men came back and took all of the jobs back,” Stecker said.

“People do not get social security credits for society care work. Women have done a greater part of that work and both social security or competent pension is not as great as [for] a man in the same age group. Thus, older women have not benefited as much from the pay equity legislation that got passed and they are living out the reality of hundreds of thousands of dollars [in] pay difference.”

Stecker said in the past year,

LGBTQ partners have benefited from their partner’s pension, medical insurance and social security benefits.

“When people are married and have those benefits, health is better,” Stecker said. “With these changes in the way we treat LGBT individuals, the most pressing argument in the medical community, and in the discussions that I had, it wasn’t a matter of what is right, what is wrong. Health is better for the families and for the children in those families.

“Good health is a mixture of heredity, nutrition, nurture, location and avoidance of toxins. ... And then there’s luck,” Stecker said. “Some things we have control over and those are the things we should manage in a good way. If we need less care, then there is more care for others. If we need more care, then we can be most grateful that we have access.”

Stecker said the U.S. spends more money on health care than other countries but does not have the best health outcomes overall nor cover everyone that needs to be covered.

“Is universal access necessary for justice? Yes I think so,” Stecker said. “Moreover I believe it’s the smart thing to do. ... A healthy population makes a stronger country.”

Contact Alex Winegar at  
alexwineg01@saintmarys.edu

## Saints

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in his informal litany is St. Anthony, the patron saint of lost items. When talking to students, the professor said he often notices “they are missing something.”

“They’re looking for something, and that something is faith,” Hums said.

Hums has experience with this, since he said he once struggled with faith himself. However, St. Anthony helped him through this time, he said.

“At one point in time I think I was a little bit lost too. But I got found,” Hums said.

A final saint Hums said played an essential role in his life is St. André Bessette, formerly known as Brother André of the Congregation of Holy Cross. At one point in Hums’ life, his mother was very sick, to the point that Hums said he couldn’t properly care for her anymore.

After leaving her at the Schubert House, an assisted

living facility, he went to a nearby statue of Brother André.

“Brother Andre,” he said in prayer to the statue. “There’s nothing I can do. I’m a failure. I turn her care over to you, because I trust. Whatever you do, I know it’ll be God’s will.”

In her time at the Schubert House, Hums’ mother went from a wheelchair, to a walker, to a cane, to being able to walk on her own, Hums said.

“The last few years of my life, through Brother Andre, I got my mother back. They tell you miracles do happen ... That’s a miracle from Brother Andre. That’s why he means so much to me,” Hums said.

Hums closed by saying everyone must find time for God in their busy lives, whether it’s through a litany of saints or some other form of prayerful reflection.

“Close your eyes, just relax, and into that silence, surrounded by all the business, this is where God comes in.”

Contact Aidan Lewis at  
alewis9@nd.edu

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## NDSF

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tour a Shakespeare play or a classical play all throughout Michiana," he said. "They ... form a part of the professional company, which are [Actor's Equity Association] actors from the union of professional actors and local pros, designers and coaches that come from all over the country and work at Notre Dame in the summer. ... [Students] would be working right alongside Tony award nominees and Chicago's version of that, Jeff awards."

Aside from the hired actors, Mudge said he is particularly excited to work with Hyler and Yousefzadeh, who will be directing "The Tempest" and "Pericles, Prince of Tyre," the festival's two featured shows this season.

"[Tempest director Hyler] has a bunch of great experience that has led him to another gig he has next year. He's directing the first ever Broadway production by Cirque Du Soleil, which is the largest theater company in the world," Mudge said. "This is the first time they've ever been on Broadway and he's the staging director. ... So what's nice is because we're Notre Dame, and because, also, it's a really lovely kind of family atmosphere and a lovely place to come to work, he returns and works with us on multiple years even though he could be off doing anything."

Because of Hyler's outside experience, NDSF is able to experiment more than they have in the past, Mudge said.

"If anybody has tumbling, gymnastics or musical skills, we want to see them, or at least know it," Mudge said. "West is going to be adding elements of modern circus arts into The Tempest."

Mudge said Yousefzadeh, who is directing Pericles, brings a slightly different perspective than Hyler.

"She just has that kind of terrific perspective you want in someone who works with undergrads," he said. "She treats them seriously, makes sure that they have a chance to be as creative as professionals, recognizes that sometimes at that early career phase you don't quite know where you're really going. So she knows when to step in and guide a little bit more. [She has a] really great sensibility for that."

Mudge said NDSF also gives Notre Dame faculty a chance to showcase their skills, too.

"Right here [at Notre Dame], too, are resident artists," Mudge said. "Marcus Stephens teaches scenic design and other theater courses, and he is a brilliant designer who always brings a different lens through which to see the play and through which to be onstage and inhabit the play. He has a tremendous creative brain that I very much value and enjoy working with."

The first priority of NDSF, however, is to ensure that

the basic foundation of Shakespeare plays — the text — shines through, Mudge said.

"Our focus, always, is on great storytelling and compelling narrative," Mudge said. "If there were a core to [NDSF], it's ensuring that the phenomenal language with which Shakespeare crafted the plays rings through very clearly. If you've got all the effects in the world but you can't hear 'to be or not to be,' something's missing."

Students who audition and aren't cast in the Company or would prefer not to act also have an opportunity to work on the festival. Junior Mary Patano worked as an assistant stage manager during last summer's festival.

"I had never really done a lot of stage management before, so I wasn't really sure what to expect, but it made me appreciate all of the work that goes into the shows," Patano said. "I helped with some of the set building, I helped with costume changes, I was there for teching the lights, the sounds and all of these wonderful things that people put so much work into just kind of made the show. It's a lot of work."

Patano also said she enjoyed interacting with students outside of the festival.

"You all live together in the houses, so you have these dinners, and everyone comes together and it's a lot of fun," she said. "I really liked living in the house. We had a super-fan house where everything was covered in Notre Dame stuff."

Because of the valuable experience and the bonds created, Patano said she recommends students get involved.

"I've never regretted auditioning for something, because if you don't audition or don't try it, it's an automatic no," she said. "So giving it that shot, I think, is worth it, especially for NDSF, especially because Shakespeare's so relatable to everyone. ... I learned how to take initiative and work with people who aren't just students. You're working with professionals... You can't beat their experience."

Mudge said students like Patano who participate in the festival use the experience they learn for years to come.

"Many of the folks who've been through the young company report that it is an absolutely profound, life-changing experience," he said. "Their awareness of how people behave and why people behave that way is enhanced immeasurably by working with these plays. ... I keep coming back to them because I change. My perspective change and suddenly I see new things in the plays all the time."

To schedule an audition performance email [NDSFAuditions@nd.edu](mailto:NDSFAuditions@nd.edu), and to inquire about a position working backstage email [NDSFHiring@nd.edu](mailto:NDSFHiring@nd.edu).

Contact Courtney Becker at [cbecker3@nd.edu](mailto:cbecker3@nd.edu)

## Teens

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

consequences, and this is because of the work of the limbic system," he said. "Teens are drawn to immediate benefit, so much so that they are willing to settle for less as long as the benefit is received faster."

"As kids get older, they are more likely to consider both the risk and the benefit of their decisions, and they are more likely to consider the long term consequences of their actions," he said.

Lapsley said there are elements of adolescence that are shared across different species — something that is a result of evolutionary changes in the brain.

"This occurs not just in human adolescence, but across all mammalian species," Lapsley said. "This indicates that this risk-taking and sensation-seeking conveys an evolutionary advantage, which is a point I hope you keep in mind in worrying about of your own kids."

"As result, teenagers are more emotional, more responsive to stress and more likely to engage in reward and sensation-seeking," he said. "These changes also make teenagers more vulnerable to substance abuse and depression."

Lapsley said a concern to answer the question "Who am I?" drives the intellectual

complexity of the adolescent. The search for the answer to this question, he said, can result in a sense of egocentrism in which teens feel as though they are the center of the attention.

"As a consequence of adolescent egocentrism, teens are set to construct imaginary audiences," Lapsley said. "They assume that they are on stage and everyone else in their lives is the audience they are playing to, and so this is said to account for the heightened sense of self-consciousness. You'd be self-conscious too if you thought

***"We must strike a balance, and a lot of the pain of adolescence is trying to find out where that balance is."***

Daniel Lapsley  
chairman  
department of psychology

the whole school was buzzing about you, noticing all of your flaws and applauding your achievements."

The professor said adolescence is characterized by a search for identity, one that is consistent between the person you were as a child and the promise of what you will be in adulthood.

"I think individuation is a balancing between agency

and community," Lapsley said. "This is sometimes called the basic duality of human existence. We all want to be independent and autonomous, but we don't want to be isolated or alienated or lonely."

"As much we yearn for attachment, union and love, we don't want to be enmeshed in our relationships. We must strike a balance, and a lot of the pain of adolescence is trying to find out where that balance is."

He said improving the ability of a child to cope with adversity doesn't take anything exotic; it just takes the formation of meaningful, healthy relationships.

"The most important part of resiliency is that a kid has one good relationship with a caring adult who conveys that to the child," Lapsley said. "Children bring a lot to the table, but the most important thing is that this recruit the attention of an adult in a child's life."

Lapsley said he hopes his audience identifies with his topics in the same way he identifies with them.

"I think that's why I got into this," he said. "I think that's why I study adolescence, because at the end of the day the topics that are of interest to me, that I like to study and write about, are things that I think I've wrestled with myself."

Contact Matthew McKenna at [mmcken12@nd.edu](mailto:mmcken12@nd.edu)

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# NOTRE DAME STUDENT PLAYERS TO PRESENT 'NAKED MOLE RATS'

By **KATHY MINKO**  
Scene Writer

This weekend, the Notre Dame Student Players will put on “Naked Mole Rats in the World of Darkness” at Washington Hall, and junior director Mary Patano promises a humorous show to entertain all.

“I picked [the show] out in the beginning of June,” Patano said. “I feel like with a name like this, people are going to want to come see it.”

“Naked Mole Rats in the World of Darkness” — an intriguing title indeed — satirizes gender relations between husband and wife, boyfriend and girlfriend and platonic friends.

“Naked mole rats [are] blind their entire lives, ... but they mate for life,” Patano said. “I think that has to do with [the fact] that men and women are often times just kind of flying blind and going wherever, but they’re still together.”

The cast of nine Notre Dame students perform a variety of monologues and skits, dramatizing stereotypical attributes of both men and women. Whether through comments from husbands claiming that men will forever lose arguments to their wives or charges that men never listen to their spouses, the Notre Dame Student Players present a comedic and relatable representation of gender relations in today’s world.

“Yes, guys and girls are very different,” Patano said. “But when it comes down to it, we all want the same things. We just go about it in different ways.”

Patano said she has been pleased with her actors’ performances and their overall chemistry, both on and off the stage. Casted immediately after Fall Break, the players would go on to meet one-on-one or in small groups to rehearse the 19 monologues and skits separately.

Right before Thanksgiving, the entire

cast joined forces for the first time to run through the entire show.

“It can be scary to work on something for a month only to meet the rest of your cast two days before a show,” Patano said. “But [they] have really come together.”

Patano said she attributes the immediate chemistry of cast and crew members both to the nature of the show and to the nature of the actors.

“What’s awesome is that we have people from different grades [and majors] in the show. It’s not just one group of people,” said Patano. “The great thing about theatre is that you can take people of any different [background] and put them together to create something as a whole. That’s what’s so great about having a cast and crew like this.”

Chemistry and culture are evident throughout the performance, as each character shares his or her own story to convey the humor, irony and satire

that comprises basic male-female relationships. With characters providing representations of various attributes of a man and woman’s brain and body, the show encourages audience members to pay attention and think critically about each scenario.

“Naked Mole Rats in the World of Darkness” will show Friday evening at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday at 4 p.m., in Washington Hall’s Lab Theatre. Students can buy tickets at the door or at the LaFortune Box Office for \$5.

Patano said the cast and crew encourage Notre Dame students to attend their performances.

“I’m really excited for people to see this for the first time and be caught off guard a little bit,” Patano concludes. “They’ll be pleasantly surprised by what’s in there.”

Contact Kathy Minko at  
[kminko@nd.edu](mailto:kminko@nd.edu)

# NOT YOUR TYPICAL DAY AT 'THE OFFICE' WITH CREED BRATTON

By **ADRIAN LORE**  
Scene Writer

It’s a normal Halloween at the office. People are dressed up, and an older man looks innocent enough wearing a costume of blood splattered all over his white dress shirt. He stands around nonchalant, but when the camera takes him aside, he confides: “It’s Halloween. That is really good timing.”

Evidently, the blood was part of no costume, but that should come as no surprise to any consummate Creed Bratton fan, who knows all about (and therefore least about) this innocent-looking geriatric’s vaguely and not-so-vaguely clandestine antics beyond his role as quality assurance representative for Dunder Mifflin Paper Company, Inc.

And in his constant evasion of the police, this elusive figure that

nonetheless became a fixture throughout the nine seasons of The Office is coming to perform at Legends at 10 p.m. on Saturday, sponsored by SUB. But many fans of the show will be surprised to find that his performance will be not so much centred on Bratton the TV series character, but rather on Bratton the musician.

Indeed, not many know that before Bratton began his long run on The Office, his entertainment career began as a professional musician, a pursuit he continues today. Born into a family of musicians, in his early years during the ’60s he was a member of folk rock band The Grass Roots, who were no mere bedroom band but a nationally-acclaimed group with two gold albums and several chart-topping singles during the height of their fame. He was very active during those years, and certainly a part of the television character’s eccentricity is

based on Bratton’s actual life: During those early years he traveled around the world, playing guitar at festivals from San Francisco to Israel.

He left The Grass Roots just as the decade came to a close, and it was not long after his departure from the band that Bratton began his acting career in earnest. He made appearances in movies and television shows alike during the subsequent decades, but his musical output stagnated. Interestingly enough, it was at the turn of the century, not long before his first appearance on The Office, that Bratton began to release music again, this time as a solo artist. Since then he has been quite prolific, having released several albums in the past decade, even as he doubled as Creed Bratton the television character and worked several other roles, even performing as a voice actor for popular cartoon program Adventure Time.

Admirably, though he has acknowledged his influence and popularity as an actor and skill as a comedian, he remains true to his roots as a musician, and has not neglected this passion in recent years. This, in fact, seems to be why he chooses now to perform shows in which these distinct sides of him blend. And thank goodness, because as much as we may all have enjoyed his role in The Office and the beloved (or feared) fictional character of Creed Bratton, it is certainly exciting that we will be able to experience his talent in a different way that represents who this peculiar man really is.

The event starts Friday at 10 p.m. at Legends. Admission is free for students with a Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s or Holy Cross I.D.

Contact Adrian Lore at  
[asanch11@nd.edu](mailto:asanch11@nd.edu)

## INSIDE COLUMN

# Beauty in the ruins

**Chelsey Fattal**

News Writer

When I studied abroad in Argentina last spring, my program immersed me into the resplendent culture and city of Córdoba for six months. Landing in Córdoba on Feb. 7, I was a naïve dreamer who had no idea of her place in the world. Looking back, I never expected to accomplish what I did during my time there. It was truly a miracle.

Living roughly 4,900 miles away from my home in Chapel Hill, North Carolina and approximately 5,300 miles from school in South Bend, Indiana, by April I remembered sitting in my bedroom, when I felt empty. I sat alone in my host family's house in pain and heartbreak. Not only had I failed to fulfill my goals while being abroad, but I did not yet feel connected to the people there. Deciding to rid myself of my sour outlook, I devised a plan to do something about it — I had to be bold before I returned home in July, with no regrets. With that said, I had an itch to go somewhere majestic. Somewhere I could marvel at with my own eyes, and soak in the people, the architecture, the food, the smells, the culture and the ruins from the past.

At the whumping age of 22, I needed to travel fearlessly, in whichever direction my sojourning spirit was guiding me. Consequently, my spirit seemed to be leading me towards Peru and I was afraid of what I was asking myself to do; what I was asking myself to risk. Mustering all the courage I had, I took the plunge to “trek Peru.” You see, I chose to go to Machu Picchu because there was beauty in the ruins. Beauty I struggled to understand. More simply, I personally refused to see how bad something was in my life, until it destroyed me. So, why not embrace it and find the roots of a civilization, who had successfully reconstructed their beauty through a refined “brokenness?”

Above all, there is the fascination at Machu Picchu to “find yourself” and to answer the important “questions of life” — whether it is underneath the swaying vines or perched on top of a beetling crag — the rugged masonry of a bygone race will dazzle you. There, I tried to understand the bewildering romance of the ancient builders who, ages ago, sought refuge in this region, like I did. Like the ancient people who built it, I traversed a difficult journey through a deep and winding gorge, stumbling and twisting past overhanging cliffs of incredible heights. Never before had I felt more intrigued and terrified, all at the same time.

Walking up the stone steps of the entrance to Machu Picchu, it was remarkable to think that after being abandoned in 1572, it was not again brought to the world's attention until 1911. This indicated to me it is never too late to rediscover something: within ourselves, within the world or within one another.

I dedicate this column to those who, in light of exams, lack the motivation to continue on, to those who are currently facing adversity in their personal lives and to the ones who view their impending graduation as a quagmire. I want to encourage you all to not give up. If I have learned anything in South America, it is *nunca se rinde* — never give up.

Contact Chelsey Fattal at [cfatta01@saintmarys.edu](mailto:cfatta01@saintmarys.edu)

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

# A sermon on hatred

**Gary Caruso**

Capitol Comments

A current Notre Dame senior administrator's spouse — a fundamentally conservative Catholic who unquestionably follows every entrenched exclusionary edict espoused by the likes of New York Cardinal Timothy Dolan — several years ago told me to leave Catholicism if I did not like it. To this day it angers me to recollect that moment of segregation, which fortunately today Pope Francis has rejected in favor of ministry, forgiveness and inclusion. I, a card-carrying lector and weekly attending parishioner at St. Matthews Cathedral with just as much right to worship as anyone else, chose to fight for change within the Church structure. Unfortunately, others with a low tolerance for confrontation from a similar slight simply channel their rage in other tragic, lethal ways, most notably mass shootings.

Obviously, violent mass shootings like this week's massacre in San Bernardino that killed 17 unarmed health department employees emanate from some form of derangement, rage or hatred. Authorities have yet to determine the exact motives behind U.S. citizen and local county health inspector Syed Rizwan Farook and his foreign-born wife, Tashfeen Malik. The couple, dressed in body armor and black tactical warfare gear, brandished 223-caliber assault rifles, semi-automatic handguns and explosive devices. The husband-wife team met through an Internet dating site where Farook identified himself as a Chicago-born Muslim with the username “farooksyed49.” Authorities are still working to unravel their history.

Some theorize the wife, Malik, may have created a nexus to foreign terror in this case when she radicalized her husband to the point of inciting him to prepare for and retaliate against something — the government, religious infidels or possibly fellow county workers. We do not know as of this publication, but eventually the mystery will be unwound. Whatever their motives, they mark this year's 355th mass murder as defined by four or more casualties and calculated on the crowd-sourced “Mass Shooting Tracker” run by a collection of Reddit users. As these numbers of mass shootings multiply, our sensitivity to murder numbs and a copycat contagion increases the likelihood of other domestic bloodbaths.

How does our nation maintain a civilized society in light of legislative loopholes regarding gun sales, background checks and registrations while at the same time neglecting to prohibit assault weapons? Nationally, more than 300 million guns are currently in circulation. In fact, the FBI recently handled an all-time daily record-high 185,000 background checks on Black Friday alone. The National Rifle Association — from which I received certificates as far back as my high school years — claims we simply need to enforce the laws already on the books. That claim has been the NRA's refrain since I first began working on Capitol Hill in the 1970s. In light of their

resistance and congressional failure to strengthen gun laws, our nation's only hope is to check the hatred that fuels disturbed, angered or sensitive individuals to wage gun-related carnage.

Barely two weeks ago, Oklahoma Wesleyan University President Dr. Everett Piper attempted to address his Christian liberal arts campus with a Thanksgiving holiday homily he described as “a sermon on love,” from Corinthians 1:13 that focused on the love: “Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.” Surprisingly, a student complained to Piper that his message of love “victimized” the student who felt badly that he (the student) did not exhibit love. In response, Piper posted an open letter on the University blog in which he stated the campus was not daycare while characterizing the student and others like him who felt hurt or considered themselves victims as “self-absorbed and narcissistic.”

Piper has identified how uncontrollable hatred springs up in many ways throughout various cultures across the world, including our comfortable, self-absorbed American way of life. For many who are challenged and made uncomfortable — regardless of whether through major religious or political differences, misinterpretations of a simple love sermon or a minor perceived disrespectful personal insult — their warped hatred identifies others as haters, oppressors and bigots. Piper writes that discomfort stems from one's conscience, and the goal is to learn to be selfless rather than self-centered, to be more interested in practicing personal forgiveness than political revenge and to avoid playing the hater card rather than confessing your own hate.

My sermon on hatred contains principles universal and undeniable. With the absence of respectful discourse and civil disagreement come revulsion, suppression and hatred. When free thought and expression are limited to conform into a comfortable majority, abhorrence springs from perceived differences of thought, lifestyle or action. History is littered with numerous examples of nations warring over perverted policies that attempt to mold others into one monolithic society. That is the current premise behind the Islamic State, which must end through conversion or destruction before peace can reign.

Hopefully, the first positive and unifying aspect of fighting a common ISIL enemy moving forward will be to lessen the hatred within every nation's boundaries. Moreover, such a collective and constructive better understanding around the globe will unite religious and political leaders in their commitments to uniformly say, “Enough hatred!”

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

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

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# Have a Conscious Christmas

I'm writing today to let the Notre Dame community know about Badin Halls' 7th annual Conscious Christmas Handicraft Sale, happening today from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. This event showcases fair trade gifts handcrafted in Nepal, many of which are designed by Notre Dame's own Art and Design students. They spend 10 weeks each summer working with artisans to modernize their products. This year's sale is even more critical, with 100 percent of proceeds going to rebuilding efforts after last April's devastating earthquakes there. There is still so much work to be done.

Come shop knit hats and headbands, scarves, totes, bed covers and singing bowls and feel good finishing up your holiday shopping while supporting a great cause and the women of Badin who work hard to put it on. Look for the prayer flags directly across from South Dining Hall and enter on the side door.

**Ann-Marie Conrado**  
assistant professional  
industrial design  
Dec. 3

# Until death do us part

Timothy Bradley

Guest Columnist

The Center for Ethics and Culture hosted its 16th annual Fall Conference in McKenna Hall the weekend before Thanksgiving. This year's conference theme was freedom: a perennially pertinent theme. But perhaps it is more important now than ever to understand the meaning of authentic freedom. Consider just one arena in which freedom has recently been given a "progressive" — and dubious — meaning: marriage.

This summer the Supreme Court held that same-sex marriage is a constitutional right because it is an imperative of "freedom." Justice Kennedy wrote in the Court's majority opinion that "the right to marry is a fundamental right inherent in the liberty of the person," and later that the "nature of marriage is that, through its enduring bond, two persons together can find other freedoms, such as expression, intimacy and spirituality. This is true for all persons, whatever their sexual orientation."

But how does the legal right to enter a "marriage" contribute to the freedom of same-sex attracted persons? Especially in light of the fact that, no matter what the law calls things, no two men or two women can in truth get married.

The vision of marriage now enshrined in law sees marriage essentially as a deep and loving emotional bond, not necessarily connected with the rearing and upbringing of children, and valuable only so long as the participants are emotionally fulfilled. This revisionist view of marriage has taken hold of just one aspect of the truth about marriage — that it is chiefly an emotional union of persons — and exalted this aspect of marriage at the expense of all other aspects. And so the Court and those who cheer its decision have enlarged, so to speak, the freedom to marry by shrinking what marriage is.

How exactly does doing that contribute to freedom?

Most people still agree marriage should be permanent,

exclusive and monogamous. But the new vision of marriage enshrined by the Supreme Court this summer cannot provide a principled basis for these norms.

If marriage is simply an emotional bond differing from other forms of companionship in degree of intensity and not in kind, why should marriage be limited to two people? Similarly, on this view, why should marriage be permanent? Why not get up and go when the spark fades? What about marriage calls for a permanent commitment "until death do we part?" Again, why, on this view, does marriage call for sexual exclusivity? There is no principled reason — some will choose to live by these norms based on their preferences, but there is nothing about marriage in this understanding that inherently calls for fidelity to them.

It seems that by redefining marriage — and thus making it harder for anyone to live out the norms of marriage most of us still think are important — the institution of same-sex marriage has eroded our freedom, making it more difficult than ever to live out a true marriage. Here, though, it is important to mention there is nothing particularly "homosexual" about the revisionist view of marriage. Long before anyone was contemplating same-sex "marriage," many heterosexual couples were buying into the revisionist view, adhering to an ideology about sex and the family that has harmed marriage to this day. The institution of no-fault divorce harmed the marriage culture, as did increasing cultural approval of cohabitation, extramarital sex, pornography, the hookup culture and nonmarital childbearing. Same-sex "marriage" did not cause these problems, but is rather the logical conclusion of the understanding of marriage that these practices embody, foster and encourage.

How does this revisionist view of marriage serve the freedom of persons experiencing same-sex attraction? It seems that by erasing the difference between marriage and other forms of companionship, such that your non-marital relationships are seen as simply less, this view has harmed friendship. How much more difficult will it be for persons of the same sex (especially those who seek to live

chastely) to find fulfillment in friendships with persons of the same sex now that marriage has been redefined?

Or consider children. How are children made more free by an institution that, with the blessing of the law, actively deprives them of their right to a mother and a father? How does this contribute to children's freedom, especially when they are not given a choice — or a voice?

The thing about marriage is it is not about freedom, at least, not freedom as we often understand it. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, in a letter written from his prison cell to a young married couple, wrote, "It is not your love that sustains the marriage, but from now on, the marriage that sustains your love." Similarly, G.K. Chesterton writes, "In everything on this earth that is worth doing, there is a stage when no one would do it, except for necessity or honor. It is then that the Institution upholds a man and helps him on to the firmer ground ahead."

The reason people have always desired marriage and sought to live by its norms is that living out a true marriage is a good thing for human beings to do. The norms of marriage — the rules of the game — make marriage possible and valuable. The institution upholds us — but can it uphold us any longer? By redefining the institution and making nonsense of the norms that structure it, have we, under the guise of expanding freedom, undermined our freedom to live out the real thing?

Goethe wrote, "None are more hopelessly enslaved than those who falsely believe they are free." Has the revisionist view enshrined a false view of marriage — and the freedom it requires and entails? Has Justice Kennedy extended a false promise of fulfillment and a false freedom to same-sex persons? I fear he has, and I fear we all will suffer the consequences of this false freedom.

*Tim Bradley is the president of Students for Child-Oriented Policy and editor-in-chief of the Irish Rover. Contact him at tbradle5@nd.edu*

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

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# A cry for morality

The world is facing a crisis. A crisis full of many emotions — pity, terror, empathy, anger, sadness, fear. Since the beginning of the Syrian Civil War in 2011, an estimated more than 9 million Syrians have fled their homes in search of refuge. Either relocating domestically or internationally, families have uprooted their lives and their children, leaving their friends, relatives and any sense of normalcy. They leave not out of desire to find a new job. The refugees are not looking to seek a new lifestyle in a wealthier country out of greed. They are not pretending to flee a deadly war in order to inflict more violence abroad on Americans and Europeans. Rather, they leave for one reason — fear for their lives. The same fear that the city of Paris, the country of France and the whole world felt after the attacks a few weeks ago. I am in no way trying to belittle the atrocities that took place in Paris, but rather I am trying to highlight the atrocity that the world has committed by turning a blind eye to Syria and the victims of its civil war.

The Paris terrorist attacks were devastating not only because innocent lives were taken but because it took the murder of these 129 innocent lives to make the world speak up. Why are the 250,000 deaths within Syria in the past four and a half years not enough? Why are the 1,500 civilians that were killed in one day by the oppressive Assad regime through chemical attacks not enough? Why are the 2,800 refugees that have died while trying to flee the violence that Paris saw for one night not enough? The answer is because the biggest emotion of this crisis is not anger or sadness — it is fear. The terrorists have this figured out. It is the very essence of their name — terror. Their strategy works because the more they make us feel threatened and fearful for being who we are, the more we let them win. Paris has sparked a conversation because this

fear is actualized in a country that we picture to be not too different from our own. When we picture Syria, we picture a war-torn Middle East where chemical warfare, air strikes, oppressive governments and death is the norm. What we do not picture is the people, just like you and me, the kids and the young adults who have done nothing to deserve this injustice, yet it is still their daily lives from a country controlled by a terrorist group and an oppressive and murderous dictatorship. They have given up everything they love and everything they have simply to live.

If you believe in what more than half of our governors have proposed — that we keep Syrian refugees from seeking asylum in our country — then you are going to be on the wrong side of history. Blaming the victims out of fear is cowardly and inhumane and has to be stopped immediately. We must stop this racist, shameful and un-American response to the crisis. We cannot let the world treat the refugees and innocent Muslims everywhere as scapegoats for our Islamophobia. The refugees are not the radicalized extremists who are trying to kill us. Since September 11, no refugees have been arrested on domestic terrorism charges. The process to seek refugee status in the United States takes on average more than two years and is so extensive that by the time a refugee reaches our shores, the government knows who their third cousin is and what score they got on their fifth grade history test. Find me a terrorist with such a fabricated life and hidden extremism who is willing to wait two years to potentially be accepted. The Islamic State can much more easily radicalize European nationalists or Americans who are already free to flow between borders without government restriction. Blaming the refugees and fearing the innocent will always be wrong. The attack on Paris has made one thing clear — it is

time to act. It is time to stand up to the violence rather than letting fear hold us back. The only weapon that is capable of defeating us is fear. We are strong and can defeat terrorism by not succumbing to the fear within us but rather turning it into conviction and desire for peace. The way to achieve peace through all this war is to not let fear suppress our moral obligation to stop violence and help those who are seeking refuge.

In December of 1938, 68.8 percent of college students did not support accepting Jewish refugees from Central Europe. It is our time to step up and say we are not going to let another genocide happen. We have the power to hold our nation and our world to a higher standard and provide for those in need. A harsh winter is coming and unless you plan to ignore the real problem while hundreds of thousands of people will freeze in refugee camps, forests and dirty streets, cry out for morality and justice. Cry out for peace and humanity. It starts here in our community at Notre Dame for we are the young voice of America and we can cry out for change. Cry out for our nation to follow the likes of Germany and Canada to aid the refugees. Cry out and mourn for the deaths of not only the Parisians but also the Syrians. Cry, cry — but act, for to be human is to love and to love is to provide for those in need.

"We must not let ourselves be moved by fear in this country. We have seen that happen too many times in other countries. Sometimes I worry about the possibility that we will follow their example." — Eleanor Roosevelt, 1939 on the overwhelming American fear of Jewish refugees

**Monica Montgomery**  
freshman  
McGlinn Hall  
Nov. 19



## SPORTS AUTHORITY

# Committee deserves chaos



**Alex Carson**  
Associate Sports Editor

If everything goes according to plan this weekend, the College Football Playoff's Selection Committee will have about as easy of a job as it ever will.

Clemson will remain No. 1 with a win, while No. 2 Alabama, No. 3 Oklahoma and the winner of the Big Ten Championship Game between No. 4 Iowa and No. 5 Michigan State will follow the Tigers into the four-team playoff.

With a chock full final week-end of the season, the only scrutinizing the committee can expect to face will be its decision on whether Oklahoma or the Big Ten champion will be seeded third to face the Crimson Tide.

In a way, that'd be a little unfortunate.

The playoff system we have now is inherently better than its predecessor, the much-maligned BCS, but that doesn't necessarily mean the committee is doing its job as well as it should be.

In last week's rankings, Oklahoma made a big jump to No. 3, remaining there this week after the conclusion of their season. The Sooners had previously been hurt by their loss to Texas — but after a win over TCU, the committee ceased its punishment of Oklahoma for the bad loss Oct. 10.

The rationale was that the Sooners had proven enough since that loss, such that the committee was willing to look past it — and more specifically at the team's recent results.

In short, what Oklahoma did in October was no longer relevant, as it was playing so well in November to warrant its dismissal.

But on the flip side, the committee has still opted to punish North Carolina for what it did in September, starting with a loss against South Carolina and two wins over FCS opponents.

Granted, none of that looks particularly great, especially when considering those Gamecocks lost to The Citadel in November, but North Carolina's recent play has more than proven it's worthy of being in the picture for a playoff spot, even with its best wins coming against Pittsburgh and Miami.

And that's not to say the committee hasn't made the right call in putting the Tar Heels at No. 10 this week — quite frankly, I think it's a fair spot — but if North Carolina's able to snatch the upset Saturday, they'd be more than deserving of a spot

in the four-team playoff, ahead of Clemson, who they face in Saturday's ACC title game, Ohio State or a Pac-12 champion Stanford.

Because here's the thing: Michigan State has played a couple top-tier teams already — Oregon, Michigan and Ohio State — and ran the table through those games. While the Spartans might not be, or look, that great at times, they've proven this season they're capable of beating the top teams in college football.

That is to say, they may be the best team in the country.

If North Carolina wins Saturday against Clemson, it will have passed its only test of the season against a top-tier team.

As surprising as it would be, that too would mean the Tar Heels may be the best team in the country. Like Michigan State would with a win over Iowa on Saturday, North Carolina would be unbeaten against top competition this season.

But would the committee throw the Tar Heels into the playoff over the same Clemson team they beat, Ohio State or Stanford, none of whom would have as good of a win as North Carolina would?

It'd come down to whether or not the committee wants to follow the same rationale used to vault Oklahoma to No. 3.

Teams like Oklahoma State, TCU and North Carolina have been punished in the rankings this year for what they did in September, playing weak non-conference schedules.

And as long as a team hasn't done anything particularly noteworthy since, that's completely fine.

But if North Carolina tops Clemson on Saturday, it will have amassed a win that should render its early-season adventures moot.

Over the last two seasons, the committee has exhibited its fair share of recency bias — favoring teams that are playing well at the time of the rankings — but has also punished a fair share of teams for playing weak September slates.

It shouldn't be able to have it both ways.

So instead of watching Clemson head coach Dabo Swinney dance Saturday night, I wouldn't mind seeing a Tar Heels win.

Just so the committee has something worthwhile to do.

*Contact Alex Carson at [acarson1@nd.edu](mailto:acarson1@nd.edu)*

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

## SMC BASKETBALL | BENEDICTINE 48, SMC 36

# Offensive struggles doom Belles in loss to Benedictine

By **BRENNA MOXLEY**

Sports Writer

Saint Mary's fell 48-36 Wednesday night on the road against Benedictine after hitting a second-half dry spell.

The Belles (0-7, 0-1 MIAA) trailed by seven after the first quarter, and after scoring only four points in the third quarter they were unable to make a comeback.

Belles head coach Jennifer Henley praised her defense, but she said the Belles' inability to score following halftime eventually doomed the team.

"I thought we did a great job defensively [Wednesday] night," Henley said. "Our

offense went cold in the third quarter, and we struggled to overcome that."

The Belles were lead by senior captain and forward Krista Knapke who had 12 points and six rebounds on the game. Fellow captain and senior guard Maddie Kohler had seven points, four rebounds and four assists while sophomore forward Gabby Diamond chipped in another six points, five rebounds and a pair of assists. Junior forward Kelsey Ronan also contributed in the losing effort with five points, three rebounds, an assist and a steal.

Saint Mary's went 14-of-57 (24.6 percent) on field goals, compared to Benedictine's

21-for-58 (36.2 percent). Benedictine also held a 44-38 advantage in rebounds, including a 12-4 advantage on the offensive boards, but Saint Mary's went a perfect 6-for-6 on free throws. The Belles never led in the contest, as ties at 2-2, 4-4 and 8-8 in the opening minutes of the first quarter were the closest the Belles came to holding the advantage.

The Belles have their second conference game at Calvin on Sunday at 3 p.m. The Knights are currently 5-1 and have scored more than 80 points in each of their games this season.

**Contact Brenna Moxley at [bmoxley01@saintmarys.edu](mailto:bmoxley01@saintmarys.edu)**

## FIFA

# US prosecutors indict 16 more in FIFA scandal

## Associated Press

WASHINGTON — As members of FIFA's executive committee prepared to vote on reforming soccer's scandal-plagued governing body, Swiss government agents swept into a luxury hotel before dawn for a second wave of arrests on corruption charges in the wake of another sweeping indictment by U.S. prosecutors.

Five current and former members of FIFA's ruling executive committee were among 16 additional men charged with bribes and kickbacks in a 92-count indictment unsealed Thursday that took down an entire generation of soccer leaders in South America, a bedrock of FIFA and World Cup history.

"The betrayal of trust set forth here is truly outrageous," U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch said. "The scale of corruption alleged herein is unconscionable."

Led away by Swiss federal police at Zurich's Baur au Lac hotel were Juan Angel Napout of Paraguay, president of the South American confederation (CONMEBOL), and Alfredo Hawit of Honduras, head of the North and Central American and Caribbean governing body (CONCACAF).

The arrests — at the same hotel where initial raid occurred in May — came just before FIFA's executive committee met to approve reform and transparency measures long resisted by soccer's top leaders but ones that gained

traction in the aftermath of the scandal.

Rafael Callejas, Honduras' president from 1990-94 and a current member of FIFA's television and marketing committee, was indicted, as was Hector Trujillo, a judge on Guatemala's Constitutional Court.

Also among those charged was Ricardo Teixeira, the president of Brazilian soccer from 1994-2012. Teixeira is a former son-in-law of Joao Havelange, who was FIFA's president from 1974-98. In addition, guilty pleas were unsealed for former CONCACAF President Jeffrey Webb and former executive committee member Luis Bedoya.

The 236-page superseding indictment was handed up by a grand jury in New York on Nov. 25.

Eleven current and former members of FIFA's executive committee have been charged in the investigation, which alleges hundreds of millions of dollars in illegal payments over the past quarter-century that involved the use of U.S. banks and meetings on American soil. The last three presidents of CONCACAF and CONMEBOL have been indicted.

"The message from this announcement should be clear to every culpable individual who remains in the shadows, hoping to evade this ongoing investigation: You will not wait us out and you will not escape our focus," Lynch said.

Honduras said later Thursday that the United

States had requested Callejas' extradition and the Central American nation would cooperate with Washington.

"Nobody is above the law," President Juan Orlando Hernandez's government said in a statement.

At a news conference in the capital, Tegucigalpa, Callejas said his lawyers were studying the accusations and considering what steps to take.

"I will fight unwaveringly to clear up my legal situation in the United States," the former leader said.

Fourteen men were charged in May, when four additional guilty pleas were unsealed, with prosecutors alleging bribes involving the media and marketing rights for the Copa America, the CONCACAF Gold Cup, World Cup qualifiers and other competitions. Eight more guilty pleas were unsealed Thursday, including three by men indicted in May: Webb, marketing executive Alejandro Burzaco and Jose Margulies, described by prosecutors as an intermediary. Also pleading guilty were former Colombian federation president Luis Bedoya and former Chilean federation president Sergio Jadue.

Webb, a Cayman Islands citizen who has been released on bail and is largely restricted to his home in Stone Mountain, Georgia, pleaded guilty to racketeering conspiracy, three counts of wire fraud conspiracy and three counts of money laundering conspiracy. He agreed to forfeit more than \$6.7 million.

## W Bball

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by against at home 75-72. Connecticut ran away from the Buckeyes, 100-56, in Columbus, Ohio, on Nov. 16.

As if the task of playing the Huskies was not daunting enough, the Irish will also have to do so short-handed yet again. For the fourth-straight game the Irish will be without reigning ACC Player of the Year sophomore forward Brianna Turner.

Moreover, the team will soon find out if it can expect Turner back in the lineup at any point this season, Irish head coach McGraw said.

"[Brianna] is either going to have [season-ending] surgery right away, or try to play in a brace," McGraw said. "She can't play in the next week or so, so they'll have some time to think it over."

Missing Turner's presence in the interior forces the team to mix defensive schemes and play better team defense to prevent conceding easy baskets, McGraw said.

"She makes such a difference for our team," McGraw said. "We just don't have the shot-blocking, and I thought [Ohio State] made a lot of shots around the basket that [Turner] maybe would have altered. We gotta do a better job of not letting them get that far. We gotta get more physical, help down, trap the block and be a little more active defensively."

Graduate student guard Madison Cable said the team did not play strong team defense against the Buckeyes and needs to do more to compensate for Turner's absence.

"Bri's a really big presence around the hoop," Cable said. "She either blocks the shot or alters it, so we have to play better defense."

However, the injury bug has been a challenge the Irish have managed to play through and remain unscathed in the loss column thus far. And, on a more positive note, junior forward Taya Reimer continues to increase her playing time after being cleared to return from injury earlier this season, McGraw said.

"[Reimer] is allowed to play,"

McGraw said. "It's kind of up to her pain tolerance, so we're going to have to manage that and figure that out."

Given the injuries and tight games the team has played this week, McGraw said the big goal for the Irish right now is to find a way be productive in practice while giving everyone, like junior guard Lindsay Allen, the rest they need before Saturday's game. Allen played 39 of the 40 minutes in Wednesday night's victory over Ohio State.

"We got to rest a little bit," McGraw said. "[Sophomore forward Kathryn Westbeld is] playing a ton of minutes inside. I think the guards can handle the minutes because we got some depth at guard, but the post is gonna have to rest a little bit."

Offensively, the Irish plan to continue practicing the Princeton offense that suits the roster's current makeup best in preparation for the Huskies, McGraw said.

"Playing four guards is really great for our offense," McGraw said. "... I think that we have the stuff that we need, we just have to work together a little bit more in it."

"I think that we'll see some similar things that we saw [against Ohio State] defensively, so we got a good chance to work on some of them."

Ultimately, McGraw said the most important thing for her team is to carry confidence into the game and believe it can come away with the victory when the Irish and Huskies tip on Saturday at 5:15 p.m. at Gampel Pavilion in Storrs, Connecticut.

"[Belief] is really important," McGraw said. "I think that's such a big part of the game no matter who you play. You have to believe in yourself and think you can win."

**Contact Ben Padanilam at**  
**bpadanil@nd.edu**

## Hockey

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"Ego's a bad thing, but it's also a good thing," Jackson said. "We want to see [Bjork] make the national junior team. We want to see all of our kids have success in those types of situations. ... But the problem is that they get wrapped up in trying to get the result before focusing on the process. I think that's what hurt Anders: He was trying to get away from the details of the game. He was too busy pressing and trying to score."

Bjork said he has learned a great deal in his still young collegiate hockey career. He expressed as much Wednesday when he addressed how he was learning to cope with the grind of the collegiate hockey season.

"I learned a lot [last year] about how to be disciplined

and stay focused," Bjork said. "It's a long season and there are a lot of ups and downs. Especially in college hockey, every team's competitive. You just have to stay positive and not get frustrated. That applies both individually and as a team."

Speaking as a team, the Irish will attempt to rectify this weekend what Bjork identified as a strange trend for himself and his teammates. The Irish have struggled on home ice thus far this season, an anomaly Bjork said the team hopes to correct starting this weekend.

"Something we've been trying to focus on as a team is to improve our record at home," Bjork said. "We want to get some more wins and get the atmosphere better around here."

Better perhaps, but not as crazy as things got in the postseason last year, when the Irish fought through five

overtime periods against the Minutemen on home ice. Bjork afforded a weary chuckle when asked about the circumstances surrounding that particular tilt.

"I think everyone's thinking about it a little bit," Bjork said. "It was an unusual game."

Bjork said his team is ready for anything this time around.

"Anything can happen in a hockey game – you've just got to keep persevering when those crazy things happen," he said.

"Still, hopefully it doesn't happen again."

The Irish open their home series against the Minutemen on Friday, at 7:35 p.m. at Compton Family Ice Arena. The puck is scheduled to drop at 6:10 p.m. Saturday night.

**Contact Brett O'Connell at**  
**boconnel1@nd.edu**



MICHAEL YU | The Observer

*Freshman left wing Joe Wegwerth skates during Notre Dame's 3-2 victory over Hockey East opponent Northeastern on Nov. 12. The Irish continue conference play against UMass this weekend.*

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## M Bball

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six weeks of college basketball. Although freshmen do see the floor on Mike Brey-coached teams, not many have seen it so often early on like Ryan has, averaging 15.3 minutes per game right off the bat. In a short amount of time, Ryan said he has already learned a lot.

"[Number one thing is] just letting the game come to you," Ryan said. "If you try to force anything and play faster than you can, then you'll mess up. You've got to compete 100 percent on the defensive end, but on the offensive end you've got to stay patient and play within the offense, play within yourself and trust your teammates."

Ryan will be the first to admit he hasn't shown off everything he can do so far. The freshman said he is simply finding his role on the team and helping out in whatever way he is asked.

"I'm just being patient, not trying to force anything offensively," Ryan said. "Defending, rebounding, just doing whatever I can. Right now spotting up shooting — that's how I'm helping the team right now."

"... A few dribbles here and there, get other people involved whenever I can. They don't limit me, but I'm just picking my spots now,

staying patient."

While noting Ryan has been humble about his impact, Brey has been more effusive about how big a difference the 6-foot-8 swingman has on the team already, more than just the 5.1 points he averages per game.

"I think he's going to be a key guy for us," Brey said. "... I thought during our win against a very good team in Iowa he was fabulous for us, and he rebounded for us. The one thing he does is he can put his body on people physically and defend. He can rebound, and we know he can make shots. I thought he made some big passes in the Iowa game so I want to keep teaching and building his confidence because he's a key guy for us."

The Iowa game last weekend was Ryan's best of the season, as he logged 26 minutes and scored 11 points on 3-for-5 shooting. But Ryan has had some growing pains as well, totaling 18 minutes and zero points combined in Notre Dame's two losses so far this season. Although Ryan wasn't even on the team last year, he already sounds like a veteran when talking about the differences between this year's squad and last year's.

"We had so much success last year," Ryan said. "We know we're a whole new team. We lost a couple close games but I think it's good

for us in that we got a couple losses out of the way. A couple bumps in the road, but I think we'll be good going forward."

Ryan said the key for him through the ups and downs of the early going has been learning from the other successful shooters Notre Dame fields in junior guards Steve Vasturia and Demetrius Jackson and junior forward V.J. Beachem.

"It's great being able to watch them," Ryan said. "A bunch of veteran guys ... [that teach] always moving in the offense, picking your spot on the offense — especially when Demetrius is coming off so many ball screens. Interchanging with the guys, not just standing still."

While Ryan has come a long way since he first stepped foot on campus, he will be the most inexperienced in the rotation as the Irish progress through the season.

"I love our group," Brey said. "My frame of mind has been teach, teach, teach, and it will probably be the case up through February."

Maybe one day Ryan will fully flourish in Brey's system, setting records and guiding the team as a leader. For now, though, he said he's just trying to soak up as much as possible.

Contact Brian Plamondon at [bplamond@nd.edu](mailto:bplamond@nd.edu)

## Track

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All-Americans from last season, including senior Molly Seidel, the women's 10,000-meter national champion, and junior Margaret Bamgbose, who finished sixth nationally in the 400-meter dash. Turner, however said Seidel, who won the NCAA cross country championship on Nov. 21, and most of Notre Dame's top track performers will not participate in the meet.

"Most of our distance kids are not going to run, especially ones that ran cross country," Turner said. "A bulk of the team on the track will be our mid-distance guys and girls and our short sprinters and obviously our throwers and jumpers. ... Margaret Bamgbose, we're just going to put her in the 60-meter dash, she's a first-time All-American in the 400-meters. We are kind of taking it easy with the superstar kids so to speak. Let them still get training in during the break."

The "superstar kids" like Seidel and Bamgbose will be key to Notre Dame's success this season as the women's team looks to improve on a fifth place finish at the ACC outdoor championships last season. Turner said the Irish will look to use Seidel's recent national championship in cross country to give to give the team momentum for the track season.

"[The women's team] finished the 2015 season on a very high

note, finishing 13th in the NCAA championships and Molly winning the national championship in the 10,000-meters," Turner said. "That's kind of carried on with cross country on the women's side. We had that great freshman recruiting class, we had two first team All-Americans in cross and Molly again, another national championship. And we finished top-10, which was one of our goals. ...

"So we want to keep this momentum going and the key for me and my staff is keeping our kids, the ones we know that are going to nationals ... keeping those young ladies fresh and healthy, and I think we're going to have another record-setting year. I definitely think we can be a top-10 team indoor and outdoor."

The Irish men finished ninth at last year's ACC outdoor championship, and Turner said the men's team is eager for a bounce-back year.

"On the men's side, last year we had so many freak injuries here and there, and we were trying to rebuild," Turner said. "The men's cross country team started off slowly, but they finished the season very, very well. ... Their confidence is very high. Our men's team has had a pretty good fall so far, so I'm anxious to see what they can do."

The Blue and Gold Invitational starts at 4:30 p.m. Friday at Loftus Sports Complex.

Contact Marek Mazurek at [mmazurek@nd.edu](mailto:mmazurek@nd.edu)

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ZACH LLORENS | The Observer

Senior sprinter Margaret Bamgbose competes during the Notre Dame Invitational at Loftus Sports Center on Jan. 25, 2014.

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

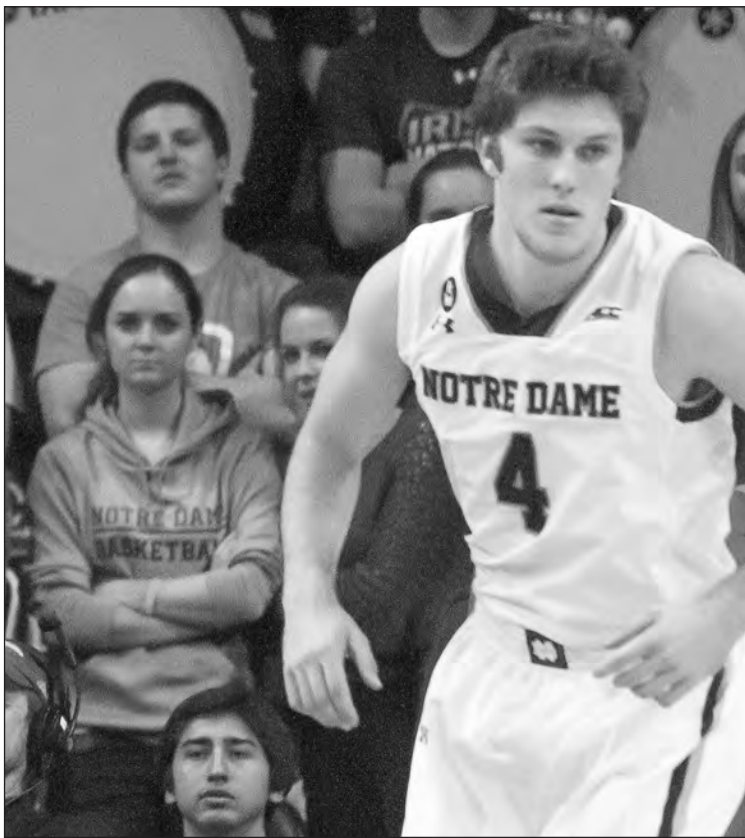
# Ryan developing into key player for Irish

By **BRIAN PLAMONDON**  
Sports Writer

Freshman forward Matt Ryan has only played in seven games for Notre Dame, but a quick look at his bio on Notre Dame's official sports website and makes it seem like the Cortland Manor, New York native could one day etch his name in the Irish record books.

"A true pure and skilled shooter who could become one of the special scorers in the history of the program," one description reads. "Will be a player that will flourish in Mike Brey's system at Notre Dame given his shooting ability," says another.

Maybe one day Ryan will be the big shooter Brey hopes can stretch defenses along the perimeter, but for now he is just soaking in his first



ROSIE BIEHL | The Observer

*Irish freshman forward Matt Ryan turns up court during Notre Dame's 86-78 win over Milwaukee on Nov. 17 at Purcell Pavilion.*

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## TRACK &amp; FIELD

# Blue and Gold kicks off campaign

By **MAREK MAZUREK**  
Sports Writer

Tomorrow marks the beginning of the track and field season as the Irish host the Blue and Gold Invitational at Loftus Sports Center.

Though the bulk of the indoor track season will come in January and February, Irish head coach Alan Turner said he is excited to see what his team can do in a competitive setting this weekend.

"I'm looking to see where my team is at and their fitness level," Turner said, "This serves a couple purposes. Number one, just to gauge where we're at as a team in an actual competition. ... I have to stress with the kids, 'This is a real competition, not an exhibition.'

"Obviously we don't have to move mountains and set records, that's not the goal here. I just want to see where we're at before the break to confirm what

we've been seeing in training and just break up the monotony of running against ourselves for the past three months."

Competing against the Irish at the meet will be a number of schools from the midwest including Bethel, DePaul, Detroit Mercy, Marquette and Northern Illinois. Turner said he is hoping for a high volume of first-place finishes from his team, but he still expects the meet to be competitive.

"I think we're going to come away with a lot of first places," Turnersaid. "This isn't a knock on the DePaul, Marquette, Illinois, Detroit Mercy and Bethel. Their kids are going to come ready to compete. It's like when we compete in any sport at Notre Dame: When you come to Notre Dame, when you face Notre Dame, we're getting the best out of our opponents."

The Irish return 11 of their 15

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## HOCKEY

# ND to host UMass for pair of games

By **BRETT O'CONNELL**  
Sports Writer

The Irish continue their Hockey East campaign this weekend as they host Massachusetts for a pair of conference games.

This series will mark the first time the two conference foes have met since last year's Hockey East tournament, when the Irish (6-4-4, 3-1-2 Hockey East) dropped the first game against the Minutemen (6-5-4, 2-2-4) in what became the longest game in NCAA history. Current Massachusetts senior forward Shane Walsh scored the game winner in the fifth overtime following 151 minutes and 42 seconds of game play, over two-and-a-half times the usual 60-minute regulation time.

The Irish bounced back, however, winning games two and three to claim the series.

The two teams enter this weekend tied for third place in the Hockey East, though Massachusetts has played two more conference games than the Irish.

Sophomore winger Anders Bjork has faced the Minutemen

five times in his young Notre Dame career, tallying two assists against the Minutemen. Bjork paces this year's Irish squad in plus-minus and trails only senior assistant captain and center Thomas DiPauli and fellow sophomore winger Jake Evans for the team lead in points with 12. According to Irish head coach Jeff Jackson, Bjork has noticeably improved since last year.

"He's been doing better," Jackson said. "I think penalty killing is a part of it. He's on the power play, he's on the penalty kill — as a sophomore he has a lot of responsibilities. He just has to recognize that he has to do things a bit more disciplined, especially on the penalty kill, if he's going to be successful."

Bjork's recent success comes despite some frustrations with pressing too much on offense, Jackson said, but the coach also said Bjork's ambition may open a number of doors for him, including a possible roster spot on the 2016 U.S. World Junior Championship team that begins play Dec. 26 against Canada in Helsinki.

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## ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

# Notre Dame set to travel to top-ranked Huskies

By **BEN PADANILAM**  
Sports Writer

It's not too often that a team's biggest challenge comes in the eighth game of its season, but Saturday's game on the road against No. 1 Connecticut in the Jimmy V Classic might just be No. 3 Notre Dame's toughest test this season.

Following tight wins over No. 24 UCLA and No. 10 Ohio State earlier this week, the Irish (7-0) now prepare for a road test against the Huskies (5-0), who have won 42 straight games dating back to last season and are the reigning three-time national champions — a title they beat the Irish to earn the last two seasons.

On paper, the challenge the Huskies present is daunting. The last game they lost at Gampel Pavilion was in fact to the Irish, but it was three seasons ago in the 2013 Big East Championship game. Additionally, they dismantled the same Buckeyes team the Irish just squeaked



KATHRYNE ROBINSON | The Observer

*Freshman guard Arike Ogunbowale drives past a Toledo defender during Notre Dame's 74-39 win on Nov. 18 at Purcell Pavilion.*

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