

# ND community reacts to Laetare decision

*University faculty, students offer perspectives on bestowal of award on Biden, Boehner*

By **KATIE GALIOTO**  
News Editor

When the University conferred an honorary degree to President Barack Obama in 2009, members of the campus community were quick to express their opinions on the controversial choice. Now, Notre Dame students and faculty are once again debating the religious and political implications of a University decision.

Notre Dame will jointly award the Laetare Medal to Vice President Joe Biden and former Speaker of the House

John Boehner at the 2016 Commencement Ceremony, the University announced in a press release on March 6.

“In recognizing both men, Notre Dame is not endorsing the policy positions of either, but celebrating two lives dedicated to keeping our democratic institutions working for the common good through dialogue focused on the issues and responsible compromise,” Jenkins said in the release.

Sophomore Jack Kill, one of 89 students who signed

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“presented annually to an American Catholic in recognition of outstanding service to the Church and society”

“considered the oldest and most prestigious award for American Catholics”

originated in 1883

awarded at Notre Dame Commencement

**LAETARE MEDAL**



SUSAN ZHU | The Observer

## Notre Dame confirms safety

Observer Staff Report

University and College administrators confirmed the safety of students participating in study abroad programs, following the Brussels attacks. Three explosions, two in the Brussels airport and one in a subway station, killed about 30 people and injured hundreds. The terrorist group ISIS later claimed responsibility for the attacks.

Tom Guinan, associate vice

president for administrative operations for Notre Dame International (NDI), said in an email the University has accounted for 421 of 433 students studying abroad.

“[We] are waiting on confirmation from the remaining students who are in Asia and Australia, and one in Latin America. Of the students with whom we confirmed, none were in Brussels

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## University launches exchange program in Kyoto

By **SARAH CATE BAKER**  
News Writer

Notre Dame signed an agreement with Kyoto University in Japan two weeks ago that will allow for the exchange of faculty and graduate students between Notre Dame’s department of chemistry and biochemistry and Kyoto University’s Institute for Chemical Research, Ken Henderson, chair of the department of

chemistry and biochemistry, said.

Henderson said this exchange program will be beneficial for faculty and graduate students at Notre Dame.

“They will potentially have access to equipment and expertise that faculty do not have here, which could strengthen the research program,” he said.

The partnership will also raise the international

profile of Notre Dame, Henderson said.

“Kyoto is one of the best universities in the world, and of course, Japan is very strong in science and technology,” he said.

According to Henderson, the exchange agreement is the most recent development in a two-year conversation between the universities.

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## Professor lectures on personal finance

By **LUCAS MASIN-MOYER**  
News Writer

Tuesday evening in DeBartolo Hall, Carl Ackermann, professional specialist in the Mendoza College of Business, gave the second lecture in a three-part series on personal finance. Ackermann’s lectures focus on how students can best secure their financial future right out of college.

Ackermann began his talk with a brief summary of the previous talk, which discussed the benefits of investing in mutual funds.

“Investing in mutual funds is such an outstanding way to invest because a stock mutual fund, for example, has many stocks, so if you buy into a stock mutual fund, you now own a piece of every stock that that mutual fund owns,” Ackermann said. “[This] gives you instantly a widely diversified portfolio.”

Diversification of stocks is crucial in a portfolio, Ackermann said.

“If you buy a stock mutual fund, you should achieve about

see ACKERMANN **PAGE 5**



GRACE TOURVILLE | The Observer

*Carl Ackermann, professional specialist in finance in the Mendoza College of Business, delivers his lecture Tuesday night. The presentation was the second in a three-part series on personal finance.*




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# THE OBSERVER

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

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor-in-Chief Margaret Hynds.

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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.

# QUESTION OF THE DAY:

## What is your favorite Easter candy?



### Mikey Farren

freshman  
Carroll Hall

“Peeps.”



### Erin Turley

sophomore  
Walsh Hall

“Jellybeans.”



### Max Hammersmith

freshman  
Carroll Hall

“Reese's Eggs.”

Have a question you want answered?

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



### Aly Sonnen

sophomore  
Walsh Hall

“White chocolate Easter eggs.”



### Nick Martinez

freshman  
O'Neill Hall

“Reese's chocolate bunny all the way.”



### Casey Kennedy

sophomore  
Walsh Hall

“Peeps.”

# THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

Want your event included here?

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

## Wednesday

### Softball vs. Michigan State

Melissa Cook Stadium  
5 p.m. - 7 p.m.  
The Irish take on the Spartans.

### Film: “TOXI\*City”

DeBartolo Performing Arts Center  
8 p.m. - 10 p.m.  
Narrative segments on Hurricane Sandy.

## Thursday

### Evening Mass

Basilica of the Sacred Heart  
5 p.m. - 6 p.m.  
Celebrate the Last Supper.

### Adoration in the Lady Chapel

Basilica of the Sacred Heart  
6:30 p.m. - 11 p.m.  
Personal prayer.

## Friday

### Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Basilica of the Sacred Heart  
6:45 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.  
Solemn liturgy.

### Stations of the Cross

Basilica of the Sacred Heart  
7:15 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.  
Self-guided prayer and reflection.

## Saturday

### Women's Lacrosse vs. Syracuse

Arlotta Stadium  
12 p.m. - 2 p.m.  
The Irish take on the Orange.

### The Paschal Vigil Mass

Basilica of the Sacred Heart  
Begins at 9 p.m.  
Easter Vigil Mass.

## Sunday

### Vespers

Basilica of the Sacred Heart  
7:15 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.  
Evening prayer service.

### Easter Sunday Student Mass

Basilica of the Sacred Heart  
9 p.m. - 10 p.m.  
All students invited.

## NEWS

# Lecturer examines hiring practices

## By STEPHANIE SNYDER

News Writer

The Student Diversity Board's Social Media Committee at Saint Mary's invited the College's own Business Professor, James Rogers, to speak about the effect social media can have in a company's hiring process.

Rogers introduced his discussion by challenging students to ask themselves a single question before posting anything on their social media: “What could possibly go wrong?”

According to Rogers, over 90 percent of employers recruit using info gathered from social media networks.

“They care about the person with whom they're about to associate,” Rogers said.

In most states, he said, it is legal for an employer to ask for a prospective employee's social media passwords. Rogers said employers may do this even if it is not a prospective employee's first job.

“It really is about the rest of your life,” he said.

Rogers said in an average company, the cost of hiring an employee can be greater than \$100,000. He asked students to put themselves in the employer's shoes.

“If they choose to associate with you,

their reputation could be on the line,” he said.

Even if a prospective employee were to present themselves well during interviews, Rogers said the final decision may come down to social media. “This could be the make or break point for you,” he said.

Rogers said students should avoid three pitfalls with respect to social media.

The first is to avoid remaining friends on social media with people who may tag you in questionable posts — unfriending someone on social media is not unfriending them in real life, Rogers said.

“You can't have stuff of theirs tagged with you. It spreads virally,” he said.

Another pitfall to avoid is a boring or nonexistent online presence, Rogers said.

“The competitive process requires us to stand out in a positive way,” he said. “In the end, you want people to find someone who is hireable.”

The final pitfall, according to Rogers, is having a tattoo as one of the first things a potential employer sees on social media.

“I know it sounds unfair and prejudicial,” Rogers said. “But maybe the employer world isn't going to be excited that this is the first thing they see about you.

“... I'm not telling you to pretend to be someone you're not. They look for honesty.

I urge you to be as transparent as one can be without placing yourself under peril.”

Rogers said that as negative as social media can be in the hiring process, social media can be positive and provide prospective employees with an advantage.

“You have to drown the negative,” he said. “Find the things that you are passionate about and use that to your advantage.”

Sophomore business major, Kiersten Lieurance, said Rogers' lecture changed the way she thought about social media.

“I didn't really think there are positive ways to impact your social media that your job will see or that they would be interested in,” Lieurance said.

Rogers recommended his students accomplish this by simply revealing their values and strengths through social media.

“Get down to the core of what it means to be a Saint Mary's College student,” Rogers said. “The values that it represents — understanding education, ability, passion, spirituality — bring those things forward in your social media activities.”

Rogers closed his talk with a reminder.

“Our expectation of realistic privacy online is none,” he said.

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# Diversity director explores inclusion

By MEGAN VALLEY  
News Writer

Eric Love, director of staff diversity and inclusion, presented to leaders and volunteers from nonprofit organizations Tuesday as part of the University's Nonprofit Breakfast Series. The series, presented by the University's Office of Public Affairs and the Mendoza College of Business, is designed to help nonprofit organizations learn from human resource experts to better manage employees.

Love's presentation focused on the benefits of diversity and how to better serve all constituents.

"Inclusion is what we do with diversity," he said. "If we really value diversity, if we really think it's important, that inclusion is so important. We can only get the benefits of diversity if we give each other a voice and allow them to speak and share their perspective. "So together, diversity and

inclusion are policies and practices of inclusion that promote understanding of cultural differences and encourage cooperation across the boundaries of diverse co-workers."

The benefits of diversity, according to Love, include enhanced critical and complex thinking, greater academic and work success and "greater engagement in the lifelong learning of understanding people and cultures in order to develop a more democratic community and equitable society."

"When we start working with people who are different from us, we start to care about them, we care about their communities," he said.

The first step to becoming more inclusive, Love said, is to focus on yourself.

"I strongly believe awareness is the first step — the more comfortable we are with ourselves, the more comfortable we are with

other people," he said. "If you know who you are, it doesn't really matter who someone else is, because you're secure with yourself. You're comfortable with whoever else someone might be."

When addressing organizations, Love said leaders should aspire to be "multiculturally competent."

"An organization is multiculturally competent when its members, majority and minority, have knowledge of, respect for and the skills necessary to interact with people from other cultures, within an international and domestic context," he said.

When striving for multicultural competency, Love said microaggressions, which he defined as "brief and commonplace" indignities that communicate "hostile or negative slights or insults," are a crucial part of communication to be aware of.

"They are reminders that

recipients are not in the majority," he said. "They can happen to women, to people of color, to people with disabilities and they add up to a pattern of exclusion. One microaggression is like a paper cut — it might sting a little bit, but ultimately it's not that big of a deal. But multiple microaggressions every day, every week, over time can really start to add up."

While it is important to be inclusive, the fear of "saying something wrong" shouldn't prevent conversations from happening or questions from being asked, Love said.

"Political correctness had noble intentions and it started to get us communicating in a more civil way," he said. "But terminology changes and it can be hard to keep up. We all make mistakes; I'm the diversity guy and I make mistakes."

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# Expert named Cottrell Scholar

By SYDNEY ENLOW  
News Writer

Dr. Kathryn Haas, assistant professor of chemistry and physics at Saint Mary's, was named a 2016 Cottrell Scholar by the Research Corporation for Science Advancement in February. The Cottrell Scholar program awards \$100,000 to 24 scientists to support research and teaching efforts, the program website stated.

The money from the award will allow her to hire undergraduate students to work during the summer, providing them with research opportunities, Haas said.

"It'll allow me to purchase equipment and materials that I need — chemistry costs a lot of money. It'll also help me to travel and to pay for students to travel as well," she said.

Haas said receiving the award has been "very validating."

"It's amazing to be part of this community of people that are focused on science education," she said. "I have access to some amazing mentors and networks that I would never have had without this recognition. I feel like I am part of a community that's really changing science education in the world, and I'm doing it from Saint Mary's College. We're doing a lot of good things here, and it's finally bringing light to that, so it feels really good."

Haas said her research focuses on copper's interaction with the human body.

"I studied copper in graduate school, and my background is in studying how metals interact with biological systems, particularly how they affect human health," Haas said. "Copper is an essential element, and I just kind of fell in love with it. I've been studying it ever since."

Haas said she is looking forward to expanding her research and sharing her findings with the public.

"We will publish our finding in journals," Haas said. "Copper is involved with diseases, antibiotics and it's essential for every single cell to live. So, we are trying to understand how our body works."

Haas said she hopes her continued research will shed light on how the body's cells and proteins work to handle copper.

"Copper has broader applications in things, like understanding antibiotic activity and understanding neurodegenerative diseases, but also in any kind of genetic disorder that is related to the misdistribution of copper," she said.

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## Office of Undergraduate Admissions

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# Fordham professor lectures on Aquinas, morality of God

By SYDNEY ENLOW  
News Writer

Fr. Brian Davies, a distinguished professor of philosophy at Fordham University, has dedicated his academic career to studying and writing about the philosophy of religion, and has focused on the work of Thomas Aquinas. Fr. Davies explored the question of why, if God is all powerful and morally good, there is evil present in the world in a lecture held Tuesday night at Rice Commons.

The lecture focused on Aquinas's rejection of the argument against the existence of God. According to Aquinas, God is not a morally good agent, despite popular belief.

"Aquinas views that God should not be thought of as a moral agent in the first place, meaning that God should not be thought of as something either morally good or morally bad," Davies said. "Aquinas maintains that we do not know what God is ... God is strictly non-classifiable."

Virtues are to only be associated with human beings, not God, Davies said.

"Aquinas thinks of virtues

as what people need in order to flourish as human beings," Davies said. "So he doesn't think of God as having the cardinal virtues ... Aquinas doesn't think of God as being actually or possibly virtuous."

According to Davies, Aquinas believes it is difficult to attribute goodness to specific things,

***"Aquinas thinks of virtues as what people need in order to flourish as humans beings. So he doesn't think of God as having the cardinal virtues ... Aquinas doesn't think of God as being actually or possibly virtuous."***

Fr. Brian Davies  
professor of philosophy  
Fordham University

especially God, because the idea of goodness is concept-dependent.

"'Good' does not signify some distinct property had by all good things," Davies said. "For him, the meaning of good is noun-dependent. There are good all sorts of things, but what makes them good make them different from kind to kind — goodness is, in a sense, relative. Aquinas thinks that creaturely goodness must somehow reflect what God is."

"Aquinas doesn't think of God as containing creaturely goodness, but rather, goodness in creatures is a dim reflection of what exists simply and undividedly in God".

The same argument applies to the subject of evil, according to Davies. Like goodness, Aquinas does not view evil as something of substance.

"Many things are generally in a bad way and he thinks that the sentence 'evil exists' makes sense," he said. "On the other hand, he doesn't think of evil as a substance. Since Aquinas thinks that victims of evil suffering certainly exist, he takes it for granted that God is causally accounted for their being victims of evil suffering. He does not

think that the evil in evil suffered is any kind of substance — there is only evil suffered only inasmuch there is a lack of goodness, and Aquinas does not think a lack of goodness is something 'create-able'."

Aquinas believed there is a problem in the world, but the problem stemmed from

***"'Good' does not signify some distinct property had by all good things."***

Fr. Brian Davies  
professor of philosophy  
Fordham University

a lack of goodness and obligation, rather the existence of evil, Davies said.

"Aquinas recognizes that there being something to be called the problem of evil, is rather a problem of why God has not created more goodness," Davies said. "However, Aquinas does not believe that God has an obligation to create more goodness any more than God has an obligation to create at all."

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## Kyoto

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Around two years ago, a representative of Notre Dame International mediated and signed a memorandum of understanding with Kyoto University," Henderson said. "So basically, that is an agreement saying that we are interested in developing partnerships — academic partnerships, undergraduate partnerships, research partnerships."

The recent agreement represents the second memorandum between the two universities, he said.

"So this [second memorandum] is basically saying that our department — chemistry and biochemistry — and [Kyoto's] Institute ... will work together on things like research programs, joint seminars, workshops, a faculty exchange and some more things for graduate students," Henderson said.

An additional benefit of the partnership is that Notre Dame researchers are invited to Kyoto University's International Partnership Conference, Henderson said.

"We are now one of those who come every two years to be a part of the symposium," he said. "And it is quite a prestigious group of people to be around. be a part of the symposium," he said.

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## Brussels

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

this morning, and we have no reason to believe that the students who have yet to confirm are or were in Brussels," he said.

In an email to students currently studying abroad, Guinan said, students are advised to not travel to Belgium until further notice.

"The U.S. Embassy in Brussels has issued this statement on the attacks, which includes a Level 4 threat rating," he said.

Alice Siqin Yang, assistant director for Global Education at Saint Mary's Center for Intercultural Leadership (CWIL), said in an email the College confirmed the safety of all students studying in Europe.

"We contacted our Rome and Ireland Program onsite directors. They told us all the students there are fine. We have also contacted the students in Oxford (UK), Spain

and Morocco. All of them replied to our emergency response request email," she said. "Spanish Studies Abroad, the provider of our Spain Program, also communicated with us regarding the situation of our students in Sevilla. One ND student and one Holy Cross student are attending Saint Mary's programs. We have already informed the two institutions of the situation of their students."

"The College offers HTH international insurance for every study abroad student. HTH offered some updates on the situation in Brussels today. All the [study abroad] participants are enrolled in the State Department Smart Traveler Enrollment Program. We also received updates from Overseas Security Advisory Council. We are monitoring the situation."

Editors Note: Saint Mary's Editor Nicole Caratas contributed to this story.

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# Ackermann

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the same expected return as if you buy just a few stocks — but since when you buy a stock mutual fund, you hold a widely diversified portfolio of stocks. You achieve same expected return at dramatically lower risk,” Ackermann said.

Though students are young, Ackemann said it is important for them to understand 401(b) and 401(k) plans.

“You contribute an amount [of money] to one of these plans,” he said. “It’s taken right out of your paycheck, so you don’t even see it, and your employer often matches this contribution.”

Ackermann said these funds provide benefits to people who maintain them, as the govern-

for retirement.

“Financial advisors often suggest that 110 minus your age should be the percentage you put in stock index funds, with the rest in a U.S. Bond index,” he said, “Within the stock index portion, they recommend that you should have 60% in U.S. stock index funds and 40% in international index funds.”

There are two other types of investments that one could make in order to ensure their financial security, the first of these being an emergency fund, Acvkermann said.

“Take six months of your family’s living expenses and put it in a bank savings account that has a competitive interest rate, so if you lose your job or get sick, you have funds to live off of,” Ackermann said.

The other investment that Ackermann suggested as a way to ensure financial security is a Roth IRA, if it was within the investor’s means.

“If you still have money left over, you’re going to want to look into something called a Roth IRA — a Roth IRA is an individual retirement plan that works a lot like a company retirement plan, except there is no company match,” Ackermann said.

These Roth IRAs have numerous benefits, he said.

“There is no taxation along the way, accumulation continues to accelerate — also, you can take your money out later, completely tax-free,” Ackermann said.

Being in control of one’s finances is not only important for one’s financial stability, but allows one to be able to devote their time to worthwhile causes, Ackermann said.

“Freely volunteering your time, contributing to charities, helping people, traveling — imagine doing all of this good for society in what many would consider the prime ages of their life,” he said

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# Medal

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

an Observer Viewpoint objecting to the University’s decision, said he was disappointed when the honorees were announced.

“The Laetare Medal should be an award that we grant to individuals who have performed exemplary actions to further or help the Church and society,” he said. “Unfortunately, as we well know in American society, it’s very hard to further both your country and your church.”

Senior Janelle Wanzek, president of Notre Dame Right to Life, said she thinks awarding Biden and Boehner with the medal conflicts with some of the University’s core Catholic values.

“Our club’s mission statement states that we’re working to promote and uphold the sanctity of all human life from conception until natural death, in the spirit of the Catholic Church,” she said. “We believe that through awarding this Catholic medal, Notre Dame is not in line with upholding the teachings of the Catholic Church.”

During his time in office, Biden has supported abortion, capital punishment and embryonic stem cell research, junior Emily Burns, vice president of events for Notre Dame Right to Life, said. Boehner has also supported the death penalty in certain cases, she said.

“The medal itself that’s given to the recipients bears the inscription that translates to ‘truth is mighty, and it shall prevail,’” Burns said. “The question that we’re asking as a club ... is how can we bestow the most prestigious award for Catholics in America to leaders who fail to protect the most vulnerable, which is a basic element of justice and a fundamental truth of

the Catholic faith?”

Fr. Bill Miscamble, professor of history, said he agrees with a statement released by Fort Wayne-South Bend Bishop Kevin Rhoades that criticized the University’s decision.

“By conferring the award on Biden, Notre Dame misuses the Laetare Medal, which is meant to honor Catholics for their genuine and faith-inspired accomplishments, in order to promote an ill-conceived political agenda,” he said in an email.

Other members of the Notre Dame community said they support the selection of Biden and Boehner as joint honorees. The decision makes a statement about political unity, senior Michelle McCarthy, co-president of College Democrats, said.

“I think it’s an interesting choice because I don’t think that Catholicism maps out neatly onto either one of these parties,” she said. “I think that we could make an argument that former Speaker Boehner has not done enough to promote fighting climate change, as the pope has talked about, or pushing through immigration reform, allowing us to provide preferential options for the poor.”

Junior Gracie Watkins, the other co-president of College Democrats, noted the importance of a current vice president and a former speaker of the House taking the time to visit Notre Dame’s campus.

“Notre Dame is a serious university and is taken as such in our nation’s highest offices. We should be proud, not dismayed, at the news of the joint award,” she said.

College Republicans declined to comment on the matter.

David Campbell, political science department chair, said he thinks the intent of the administration should be taken at face value.

“When Fr. Jenkins and his office says that the University wants to acknowledge civility and discourse, they want to acknowledge perspectives and viewpoints,” he said. “They want to provide a venue where people who disagree can come together and demonstrate there’s a greater cause than your own partisan position.”

“I think that’s the statement that the University is making. And I think that is all for the good, both at Notre Dame and for those who might be paying attention beyond Notre Dame.”

Campbell said he was pleased to see Notre Dame recognize individuals in public life and elected office, something he said has not been done yet since Obama spoke in 2009.

“I think it’s perfectly appropriate for the University to recognize the vice president’s service to the country,” he said. “I also think it is appropriate to recognize the former speaker of the House, just on the basic principle that these are people who have held important positions, have done good work — who have put themselves out there in a way that many choose not to in their lives.”

The decision to award the Laetare Medal to Biden and Boehner was a bold one, John Duffy, associate professor of English, said. However, it sends the message that Notre Dame is concerned with the condition of public discourse, he said.

“I think it’s a good decision, and I hope it sends a message to the students of Notre Dame, first of all, and perhaps beyond Notre Dame about the importance the University places on the qualities of engagement, generosity, and tolerance, especially when dealing with those people whose beliefs and values are different from our own,” Duffy said.

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## INSIDE COLUMN

# Design thinking for all

**Lauren Weldon**

Graphic Designer

The book, “Imagine, Design, Create,” by the design software company Autodesk, provides what I believe is the most comprehensive definition of design: “Even with all the dramatic changes being wrought by technology, design remains, and likely always will be, a fundamentally human endeavor, fueled by the insights, ideas, passions, and talents of people in pursuit of progress.”

Since the earliest developments of tools to do tasks more effectively than bare hands, to the development of machines in the Industrial Revolution, design is a way to answer or anticipate human needs. One of the biggest changes during the last century has been the transition from answer to anticipate; our consumer society creates a demand for innovation of goods and environmental concerns have created a demand for eco-mindful design for the future.

This begs the question: “What is good design?” Over the last 20 years, since the rise of the Internet era and the ability to research and compare different products quickly, the bar has elevated. It is no longer enough to be clever, now design must be thoughtful. It must consider, anticipate and analyze as never before, taking into account multiple human needs. It must factor in all the variables that can influence how a design will perform (or fail) once it is exposed to real-world pressures.

We are now expecting good design to know the unknown and to understand what we need, though we may not realize we need it yet. We want design to do all this and, oh by the way, make it all affordable, functional, scalable, sustainable and, of course, aesthetically beautiful.

So what is the role of a designer? A designer must be an interdisciplinary thinker who considers artistry, technology, social changes and consequences, both of the past and future. Designers’ roles in society are only growing and the skills needed to be a good designer are becoming more technical and specified.

So where do we find these designers? The ones who will design for the needs of the soon-to-be retiring Baby Boomers and Gen Y-ers alike, who will anticipate ecological challenges, who will solve medical mysteries and save lives?

They are in classrooms. Their mothers and fathers may still be packing their lunches and taking them to fill-in-the-blank practice, lesson, rehearsal or the big game.

This brings me to the importance of design education at the primary and intermediate level. The current core curriculum focuses on learning facts about many classic subjects but it does not teach how to solve problems. Average history classes will speak of the past, good ones will speak of current world problems, but what about history’s implications in the future? One growing curriculum that I believe should be essential to the core of modern education is a concept called design thinking. Design thinking at a rudimentary level entails “empathizing, defining, ideating, prototyping and testing.”

One may feel at first that this process is limited to consumer design projects or architectural studies, but it is really about how people interact with objects, spaces, processes and each other. In this way, it can be applied to nearly all human interactions and should be taught at a simplified level to even the youngest of children. Much funding goes towards teaching young children how to respond to hurt feelings or how to respectfully attain an end goal; all of these can be solved with the application of the design thinking process.

The new generation, if armed with this reactive and responsive thought process, would be better prepared for everything from negotiating peace, designing for people, solving geopolitical conflicts, reconsidering urban planning and even just getting along on the playground.

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

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# Voices on China policy

Last October, the student body received an email from University President Fr. John Jenkins announcing significant changes to the “Freedom of Association” policy.

The original policy stipulated, “Notre Dame licensed products [could not] be manufactured in countries lacking a legal right for workers to organize and form independent labor unions of their own choosing.”

China was by far the largest and most significant of the countries precluded from manufacturing Notre Dame products under this policy, leading to policy’s colloquial name of the “China policy.”

In his October communication, Jenkins noted the University would be moving forward with a pilot program in China. A small number of factories assessed by the University and Verité, an independent labor rights nonprofit, were allowed to begin production.

These assessments were done based upon the degree of worker participation, “as represented by 71 different criteria, meant to measure worker rights traditionally protected by freedom of association.” Upon the suggestion of the Notre Dame community, Verité has also assessed factories in countries in which Notre Dame has already manufactured licensed goods.

One of the recommendations approved by Jenkins called for “a forum for continuing campus participation and feedback, including the establishment of a student subcommittee to the Worker Participation Committee.”

After seeing this recommendation, a group of students who had been following the issue united to form the Student Worker Participation Committee (SWPC) to fulfill this role.

The proposal, drafted by the SWPC and approved by Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves, brings together various student organizations, from the Student International Business Council to the Progressive Student Alliance to the Undergraduate Student Government and Graduate Student Unions. Altogether, nine student organizations have a permanent seat on the student subcommittee, with four “Open Academic Positions” filled by application.

The SWPC is dedicated to providing a critical and informed voice to guide the administration’s discussion of this policy, keeping the student body as informed as possible and ensuring the voices of all concerned students are heard.

To reach every student who wishes to have a voice, we will provide forums for feedback from the community, including a town hall meeting Wednesday, April 13 at 7:30 p.m. in the Geddes Hall Coffeehouse.

If you would like to send questions or feedback directly to us at any time, message the Notre Dame Student Worker Participation Committee page on Facebook, which you can also follow for updates on the policy and related events.

If you feel strongly, submit your own Letters to the Editor so the debate remains open and accessible.

Finally, while applications are closed for this year, you can stay engaged and apply for an Open Academic Position on the committee next spring.

Your lively engagement will be invaluable as we work with University leaders to craft a path forward that is open to emerging global markets, but grounded in the Catholic traditions of respect for human dignity and the dignity of work.

**Bryan Ricketts, Chairman**  
Student Government

**Matthew Caponigro, Secretary**  
Open Academic Position

**Skyler Hughes**  
Progressive Student Alliance

**Devon Roura**  
Student International Business Council

**Julie Mardini**  
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Open Academic Position

## Join the conversation.

Submit a Letter to the Editor.  
Email [viewpoint@ndsmcobserver.com](mailto:viewpoint@ndsmcobserver.com)



# Preventing crime in the Catholic Church

Ray Ramirez

The Crooked Path

Investigating theft and other irregularities in corporations often starts with an analytical method known as the fraud triangle. This method examines three classic elements of criminal activity: opportunity, pressure/motivation and rationalization.

Corporations typically claim that opportunity is the element over which they have the most control. Accordingly, companies focus on limiting opportunities for crime with measures such as heightened security.

Businesses often assume pressure and motivation are beyond their control and characterize financial pressures, such as high medical bills, as personal matters. Individual rationalizations may include a bonus that was expected but not received or payback for a poor work environment. In fact, the focus on aggressive short-term earnings targets may create the very pressure that could drive people to consider criminal options.

Companies that operate under realistic market conditions, emphasizing sustainable growth and employee well-being, reduce pressures that skew behavior towards crime. Competent and trusted companies apply lessons learned to detect illegal behaviors, shut them down in their early stages and implement additional controls and structural changes to limit further damage.

The pedophile priest scandals, as detailed in the Boston Globe's "Spotlight" investigation, and the recent grand jury report on the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, illustrate extreme examples of the fraud triangle run amok. In the Altoona-Johnstown cases, more than 50 priests and other Church employees molested hundreds of children over four decades in the central Pennsylvania diocese. In many cases, their superiors knew of the abuses but did not remove the priests or notify law enforcement.

If we analyze the crimes occurring here on at least two levels, then perhaps we can put ongoing processes in place to make sure this cannot occur again, at least

not on such a rampant scale. With respect to individual priests and employees, the pressure or motivation to commit crimes against children is of a personal nature, but it may be aggravated by factors unique to these actors. Celibacy and sexual development truncated by entry into a seminary may contribute to an individual treating sex with a minor as acceptable behavior, but much more institutional input is likely involved.

In his differential association theory, criminologist Edwin Sutherland suggested that except for rare circumstances, criminals are not born. People learn criminal behavior from others through communication and example. Sutherland found that people learn criminal behavior in intimate personal groups and this education includes techniques of committing the crime and motives, drives, rationalizations and attitudes that support the crime. Can the very structure of clerical training and the Church hierarchy's response to crimes against children actually work toward nurturing criminal behavior?

Terminology is critical in assessing the Church's role in this matter. Sexual contact with children, from fondling to rape, are criminal actions and not solely "sins" (though they indeed are sins, of the most grievous and mortal type).

The proper response is to handle these events as crimes and not assume recourse to the confessional and shuttling the offenders to new parishes with fresh victims offers anything except incentive for the next offender. Once Church officials know of an alleged crime, any response short of reporting the event to the proper law enforcement authorities may also constitute a criminal action.

In investigations of corporate crimes, special emphasis is given to high-ranking executives, characterized as politically exposed persons (PEPs), individuals with prominent public functions often seen as the "face" of an organization. PEPs generally present higher risk for involvement in corruption based on the nature of their positions and potential influence. Similarly, the pedophile priest cannot move himself from parish to parish, but the facilitator of such actions likely sits in a chair of high authority.

In the Altoona-Johnstown cases, Bishop Joseph

Adamec, former leader of the diocese, learned of allegations against one serial pedophile in 2009, but Adamec and his successor, Bishop Mark L. Bartchak, kept the perpetrator on as a pastor until shortly before his arrest in 2014. They followed the tradition set by previous Bishop James Hogan, who from 1966 to 1986 repeatedly persuaded police and prosecutors to drop criminal cases against priests, failed to discipline abusers and relocated predatory priests where they could molest again.

Last year, Pope Francis called for the creation of a tribunal to judge bishops accused of negligence, but the Vatican has yet to act on this. Recently, the pope said bishops who kept abusive priests in ministry should resign. While we applaud the Pope's focus in going after the PEPs who place public relations wins above the well-being of their flocks, much more needs to be done on an ongoing basis to identify criminals who prey on children and subject them to the judicial system.

With respect to restitution, legislation has been stuck for years in committee in the Pennsylvania legislature to abolish the statute of limitations in civil cases involving child abuse, and a proposed bill would create a special, two-year window allowing past victims to sue the Church. Ultimately, federal legislation may be required to permit compensation for victims facing a patchwork of state laws.

These court and legislative actions may cast a harsh light on Church hierarchy and increase scrutiny of clerical training and the effects of celibacy on the all-male priesthood. Honest assessment of any institution whose goal it is to protect those entrusted to its care should be welcomed as a requirement for its continued existence. When pressure to maintain reputation becomes the overarching rationalization and motivation for official actions, all that remains is opportunity for criminal behavior to be hidden or excused.

*Ray Ramirez is an attorney practicing, yet never perfecting, law in Texas while waiting patiently for a MacArthur Genius Grant. You may contact him at [patrayram@sbcglobal.net](mailto:patrayram@sbcglobal.net)*

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

## Build bridges, not walls

Elizabeth Hascher

Dignified Response

Pope Francis' encyclical, "Laudato Si'," was the subject of widespread controversy weeks before it was even published in May 2015. In the time leading up to its release, presidential candidates, political pundits and even University President Fr. John Jenkins made statements on the matter.

The key difference between Jenkins' commentary and that of various political figures, however, was what members of the Catholic Church and all citizens of the world should take away from the pope's letter.

Prominent Catholic politicians such as Jeb Bush and Rick Santorum stated their disagreement with Francis and refused to integrate his thoughts on care for creation into their political decisions. The pope was heavily criticized by many for going too deep into the political realm with his encyclical.

In an op-ed for the Chicago Tribune, Jenkins asserted that this line of thinking was erroneous. Francis, he wrote, was "not out to declare a side but to challenge the consciences of all of us." If people from either political party were seeking for the pope to affirm or oppose their policies, they were missing the point of the encyclical.

Jenkins ended his op-ed by stating, "The immediate question may not be whether or not we agree with the letter. It may be what kind of people we have to become to hear what the pope is trying to tell us."

The University's decision to jointly award Vice

President Joe Biden and former Speaker of the House John Boehner with the Laetare Medal is a challenge to our Notre Dame community to rise above the very same partisan bickering and hostile discourse that accompanied the publication of "Laudato Si'."

The statement released by the University shared that by choosing to award both men the medal, Notre Dame did not endorse the policy positions of either. Instead, it is meant to celebrate "two lives dedicated to keeping our democratic institutions working for the common good."

Recently, some have remarked that Biden is unfit to receive the Laetare Medal because he has a record of supporting pro-choice legislation. They argue that this is contrary to Church teaching on the dignity of human life and an award considered to be the highest honor for an American Catholic ought to be reserved for someone who has performed "real service to the Church in this country."

For those of us who view Biden in a favorable light, it is tempting to turn the same critical eye to Boehner's policies and scrutinize the ways his actions while in public office may have been contradictory to Church teaching. Doing so, however, would mean we too have missed the point of what Jenkins and the University are trying to communicate to us.

Striving to be loyal to a political party, ideology or constituency are worthy goals. Be that as it may, there comes a time when one must rise above partisan political conflict and pursue the common good.

Just as Biden and Boehner sought to do in their careers, we have also been challenged to do so in our

own lives. It does no good to argue about the ways in which Biden and Boehner have or have not incorporated Church teaching into their policy.

Exchanging harsh words or calling one another "murderers" or "hypocrites" does nothing but harm our Notre Dame community and the discussions we have on critical issues facing our world today.

Francis gave a homily in 2014, where he discussed the need for people to "build bridges of dialogue, not walls of resentment." Allowing the discussion on awarding the Laetare Medal to Biden and Boehner to turn into a blame-filled political circus only supports the construction of such walls.

By honoring both men with this award, Notre Dame has presented us with the opportunity to foster constructive dialogue on how we can all learn to rise above differences amongst one another to work for the common good and better live out the principles of our faith.

So let the first among us who is without sin or flaws, who is a perfect Catholic, be the first to throw a metaphorical stone and criticize the religious devotion of others. Until then, the rest of us will be busy building bridges, not walls.

*Elizabeth Hascher is a sophomore from Grand Rapids, Michigan. She lives in Lewis Hall and studies political science with a minor in international development studies. She can be reached at [ehascher@nd.edu](mailto:ehascher@nd.edu)*

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



# RATBOYS RETURNING TO SOUTH BEND

From her eleventh day on the road of their current tour, Steiner reflected on recent performances. "We went down to South by Southwest but didn't play any of the official shows, which was cool because we got to avoid the crowds and chaos," she said. "The Topshelf show was really fun in Austin, [Texas], we got to play for the guys that run our label and we never really get to see them – they live in San Diego. And there was free La Croix so that was dope. And we played with this band The Enemies that I'm obsessed with ... We also got to play a skate shop in Wichita, [Kansas]. It was actually the first day it was open, so that was pretty special." Ratboys opened for Julien Baker (Scene alum Matt Munhall touted her 2015 album "Sprained Ankle" as "one of the most affecting, assured debuts in recent memory") in Denton, Texas, on March 14. Ratboys have a similar do-it-yourself, regional styling. Where Baker pulls from the Memphis music scene, Ratboys pull from their time in South Bend, and now Chicago, to deliver affectingly relatable lyrics and an endearingly campfire-esque sound featuring amiable strumming and a warm crackling underlay (of the aforementioned DIY persona) that furthers the personal aspect of Steiner's lyrical storytelling.

Steiner addressed the fortunate serendipity in finding her bandmate Dave Sagan early in her time at Notre Dame. "I met Dave my first day on campus, we kinda just clicked and started making music together. He lived in Dillon, I lived in BP and by the end of freshman year, we started recording some stuff," she said. "I did my parts in the [Breen-Phillips] chapel, he did his at home over spring break. And when we put it out, people seemed to like it ... which was kinda strange. Sophomore year, we were a little more confident and started doing some secret shows on campus – I feel comfortable disclosing this now because I don't think they can take away my diploma."

We did some in the basement of Bond, outside of Mendoza, in BP. We invited some artists from South Bend to come and do it – it was nice and it kinda felt like we were breaking the rules, which was exciting. It also kind of gave me pause and made me think why wouldn't the University sanction this? It seemed like a very healthy, exciting thing for us to be doing." Steiner encourages Notre Dame students to pursue music and seek out bandmates, if they're considering it. "It's not the most fleshed out music scene in the world, which is okay because it's a great opportunity for people to grow it and make it something really organic and exciting." Steiner and Sagan both studied abroad in their junior year, Steiner in Dublin and Sagan in Rome as part of the architecture program. "When we were back and 21, we were able to get more into the South Bend music scene, which I can't emphasize enough," Steiner said. "It exists, it's really fruitful. It's tough to break into sometimes because a lot of the shows happen in bars, but we got to play a lot, make friends and bring our Notre Dame friends into the community so that was exciting." Steiner stressed the important opportunities the South Bend music scene provided her and Sagan's musical pursuits. She listed The Birdsell, Chicory Café, LangLab, The Well, Fiddler's Hearth and The Pool (Sagan lived there in 2015 – it has since been retired as a music venue) as spots they frequented and made connections at. Steiner, a class of 2014 English major, continually draws on her education and campus experiences in her songwriting. "The lyrics definitely sprung from education in a lot of ways. And it was fun because I would go write a few songs as assignments for classes, like "Have A Heart" – it's not on the LP but we play it a lot," she said. "When I lived in the dorms, it was nice because I felt like I had a lot of room to write."

By Erin McAuliffe  
Scene Editor

Ratboys' lo-fi sweet sound emanates from Notre Dame alums Julia Steiner ('14) and Dave Sagan ('15) alongside Will Lange and Pat Kennedy on their album "AOID," released in June 2015 under Topshelf Records. They will be performing at McCormick's this Thursday at 10 p.m. I talked to Julia Steiner, vocals and guitar, in a phone interview Monday.

"Even though there were a lot of people around, I still had a lot of solitude and serene time alone. Especially in the BP chapel, that was dope." Although some of the songs on "AOID" predate her college years, Steiner cites Charles Bernstein and her freshman seminar on American poetry with Professor Stephen Fredman as especially influential. "I have a dream that Charles Bernstein will hear the song 'Charles Bernstein' and come out to a show," Steiner said. "While writing that song, I was getting into a new romantic relationship and exploring that, but I didn't really want to reveal who I was writing this about and how I was feeling, so I sort of put on this mask that I was writing it about Bernstein – who I do love, so it was about him in some way."

Since graduating, Steiner sometimes misses the effects a concurrent education had on her songwriting. "I've definitely noticed that I miss the constant interaction with words and texts and dealing with language in a group. Interesting words and phrases don't just spring up in my mind like they used to," she said. "It's not a struggle, but it's a journey to keep on that literary path without as much motivation as grades and tuition and all that." "AOID" embodies Steiner's musical influences – Jeff Tweedy, Cheryl Crow, Chad van Galem, Jenny Lewis and Kim Deal – and literary inspirations – Wallace Stevens, Kurt Vonnegut and Charles Bernstein. Her English background and observational tendencies (embodied in her extensive phone note of "strange phrases and words that sound cool") collide to craft lyrics reminiscent of some of my favorite lyricists and writers.

"Postman Song" channels Courtney Barnett's "Elevator Operator" in its dialogue over mundane, repetitive career choices: "Why do you have a frown whenever I see you? / Is it because your dreams never came true? / Well, listen up buddy, yeah I'll tell you a secret / Just deliver the mail, don't you worry about regrets." (The lyrics also mirror the worries many Notre Dame students struggle with in transition from college to a career.) The track "Bugs!" channels

Annie Dillard's essay "The Death of The Moth" in vivid, ethereal yet grimy imagery and existential insect themes: "Bugs behaving badly, get 'em to the prison now ... Bugs follow on like constellations frozen in the sky." On her songwriting process, Steiner encourages free writing as an exercise for aspiring writers and artists to overcome writer's block. She recommends putting a pen to paper, stream of consciousness style, or picking up your guitar, pressing record on your phone and singing from your subconscious. "That's how most interesting stuff happens – it just happens. It's exciting and it's almost something you have to tease out of yourself, at least for me."

"AOID" saw Ratboys grow in membership and sound: the band recruited drummer Pat Kennedy from a national ad and bassist Will Lange from Sagan's grade school days. The band has since added Cody Owens on trumpet. Comparing the band's "Space Blows" EP to "AOID," track "Folk Song For Jazz" stands out as representative of the transition to a smoother, complex sound – fading out to near silence at the 2:25 mark before looping back with circuitous, sparkly melodies in a sort of reverse overture. Steiner said that Ratboys have a couple of new songs set to come out this year and that they plan to record a new album this fall. Before you can hear the band's new sounds on your iPod classic (which Steiner touts as "the last facet of non-Internet music devices"), phonograph ("don't get a Crosley," Steiner warns from experience) or cassette player (Steiner applauds their "collectible, fun and portable" nature, while admitting she is "stuck in the 2000s and loves it"), get out to McCormick's Thursday night to hear them play "AOID" with Steiner on electric guitar. "I love being on electric, it's louder and more rockin' – I feel like a bad ass ... For people who have never heard us play live, it definitely sounds different than the record," she said. "Hopefully in a good, they're bringing something new to the table way." This will be Ratboys' first time in South Bend since May 2015, as they've been touring pretty consistently since Sagan graduated. Vagabonds (Grand Rapids, Michigan) will be performing a solo set and After Ours (South Bend) will also perform at McCormick's on Thursday.

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## Our day off: Visiting The Art Institute of Chicago



By **NORA MCGREEVY**  
Scene Writer

In the 1986 comedy “Ferris Bueller’s Day Off,” the charming Ferris Bueller (Matthew Broderick) is a high school senior who plays hooky on a beautiful spring day. He takes his girlfriend Sloane (Mia Sara) and his friend Cameron (Alan Ruck) along for the ride, and the trio spend a day adventuring through Chicago. In one iconic scene, the kids visit the Art Institute of Chicago: they stare intently at paintings, link arms with a tour group of small children and jokingly mimic the pose of Rodin’s impressive sculpture “Portrait of Balzac.”

The museum scene is a lovingly-crafted, two-minute-long sequence that contrasts directly with the rest of the movie — whereas the scenes directly before and after are action-packed, the still shots of various paintings, ethereal music and total absence of dialogue within the marble walls of the Institute create a sense of intimate calm.

Although short, this scene had such an impact on the image of the museum that, while visiting the Art Institute with a group of Notre Dame students last Sunday, our tour guide was only 10 minutes or so into her spiel when she mentioned the film. She laughed as she

described the numerous questions she’d received over the years about the film, calling the museum’s decision to allow Hughes to film there the “best public relations move the Institute had ever made.”

Our group consisted of freshman and senior Notre Dame students, with nearly every dorm and major represented. The scheduled, two-hour tour took us on a brief survey of some of the Art Institute’s highlights, including the American Wing, the Modern and Contemporary Wings and the hallmark Impressionist collections that the museum is so famous for (and we saw many of the works featured in “Bueller” along the way).

Some highlights included the recently opened Edlis/Neeson Collection of Contemporary Art, featuring newly-acquired works by Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein. We also got the chance to take in Marc Chagall’s “White Crucifixion,” just returned from its overseas visit to Florence where it met with Pope Francis. The painting, which depicts Christ on the cross and mixes both Christian and Jewish symbolism, is Pope Francis’ favorite.

Additionally, a few of the students on our trip enrolled in an art history course had the special privilege of viewing the current exhibit “Van Gogh’s Bedrooms,”

which includes 36 of Vincent Van Gogh’s original works, letters and sketches. The exhibit was jam-packed — we visited at peak traffic hours, a Sunday afternoon — but the paintings and narrative structure of the exhibit were reportedly excellent.

Visiting the Institute demands that you, the visitor, engage intellectually. The museum houses a staggeringly abundant and wide-ranging collection; two hours spent in the walls of the museum barely allows you to scratch the surface. Yet within our relatively short visit, each person found something that drew them in. Our tour guide did an excellent job of casting the various works we viewed in an interdisciplinary lens, tying in Einstein’s theory of relativity to our discussion of “Portrait of Daniel-Henry Kahnweiler” by Pablo Picasso and explaining the conservative ideology behind “American Gothic” by Grant Wood.

Some students discovered Salvador Dali for the first time, another person fell in love with “Nighthawks” by Edward Hopper. A universal favorite was the extensive, world-renowned Impressionist wing, especially the rooms upon rooms of scenes by Claude Monet, Pierre-August Renoir and their contemporaries. Simply being in the presence of the paintings feels a bit like meditating.

The short clip in “Bueller” pays

homage to the encyclopedic qualities of the museum while also paying close attention to its impact on the patron — especially when Cameron, Ferris’ anxious friend, stares intently at Seurat’s “A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte.” As the camera focuses in on the individual dots and loses the larger image, Cameron’s eyes flicker agitatedly, suggesting his concern that he, too, appears insignificant under closer inspection.

The beauty of being in a large group was that you weren’t necessarily anchored to the tour, either. Many students chose to explore individually, or to hang back and digest a painting on their own terms — a la Cameron and his tiny dots. Our tour guide didn’t mind; I think she, too, understood that art museums are a place for introspection.

On his day off, Ferris visited the Art Institute of Chicago. If you have a free weekend coming up, I highly suggest that you do, too.

*“Van Gogh’s Bedrooms” runs through May 10. “White Crucifixion” is on display through May 8. All other paintings mentioned are displayed year-round.*

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## ‘Varmints’ relieves mid-semester humdrum

By **ADAM RAMOS**  
Scene Writer

I have had over a week now to settle in, my spring break and midterms are officially over with and the monotony of routine has found its place again somewhere between my morning and afternoon cups of coffee.

Don’t get me wrong, I like structure and as my computer’s calendar begins to saturate with color-coded meetings and activities, I can admit to feeling a satisfying sense of order. Yet, while my complacency with the mundane is something I practice with pride, it is also the reason I find Anna Meredith’s assault-on-the-senses debut album so thrilling. With its chaotic bouncing from classical to electronic with the rigor of and fervency of Mike Brey’s post-basket clapping hands, “Varmints” is a welcomed reprieve to the mid-semester humdrum.

Meredith is no stranger to breaking the norm. Everything about the Scottish-born producer and composer’s career screams eccentricity; Meredith has had prolific work composing with the BBC, provided

the music for an entire opera and toured with the likes of James Blake as well as The New Puritans. In “Varmints,” the 37-year-old pulls divine inspiration from this batch of diverse musical experiences, creating 2016’s most sonically-gripping album.

Opening track “Nautilus” pleasantly welcomes the listener with a beautifully vivid horn arrangement before an imposing brass crescendo builds behind ominous synths and mottled reverbs. The transition is almost scary, evoking daunting childhood fears like that of an evil Disney villain. “Nautilus” unabashedly pronounces the vastness of Meredith’s “Varmints” and what follows builds in every direction, all while maintaining the same ambition as the opening track.

For the many readers not well versed in Meredith’s classical/experimental/electronic genre, the pop tracks may be an instant draw. “Taken,” a starkly contrasting follow-up to the intriguing “Nautilus,” is a splendidly uplifting ditty featuring glittery synths, harmonized male/female vocals and a chorus to rival even that of the most pronounced pop tracks. Poppy vocals also shine on the album’s fourth track

“Something Helpful” as airy falsettos dance to shimmering bells and bouncing synths. But the pop is only the draw. As the album progresses, Meredith presents provoking soundscapes, combining a myriad elements that shock just as much as they please.

Combining her pop sensibility, avant-garde approach and mastery of percussion arrangements, Meredith shows her true artistic merit. Tracks “R-Type” and “Shill” frantically establish by means of artillery fire drum loops and searing guitar progressions. And as much as I appreciate the jittery wake-up these two tracks provide, it is in “Scrimshaw” where everything seems to come together just right. The song’s juxtaposition of a rapid synth backbone and melancholy violin is surreal, and as the track builds with increasing anticipation, nothing seems rushed. Finally, at around 3:30, an explosion sends off to euphoria.

While it’s true that Meredith is an expert in exhilaration, it is in the softer moments of “Varmints” that demonstrate her range as a composer. One such moment comes in “Honeyed Words,” a slow, sci-fi ambient

track, which provides just enough time to reflect on Varmint’s wild ride up to that point. Meredith also sends her listener off on a similar note with the somber “Blackfriars,” a final breather and conclusion to the chaos it follows.

Monotony is just a part of life, but that doesn’t mean you have to get so Prufrock about it. Spontaneity and excitement are everywhere, you just have to keep your eyes — and in “Varmints” case, ears — open.

Contact **Adam Ramos** at  
[aramos6@nd.edu](mailto:aramos6@nd.edu)

### “Varmints”

Anna Meredith

**Label:** Moshi Moshi Records

**Tracks:** “Scrimshaw,” “Something Helpful,” “Nautilus”

**If you like:** Julia Holter, Holly Herndon, CHVRCHES



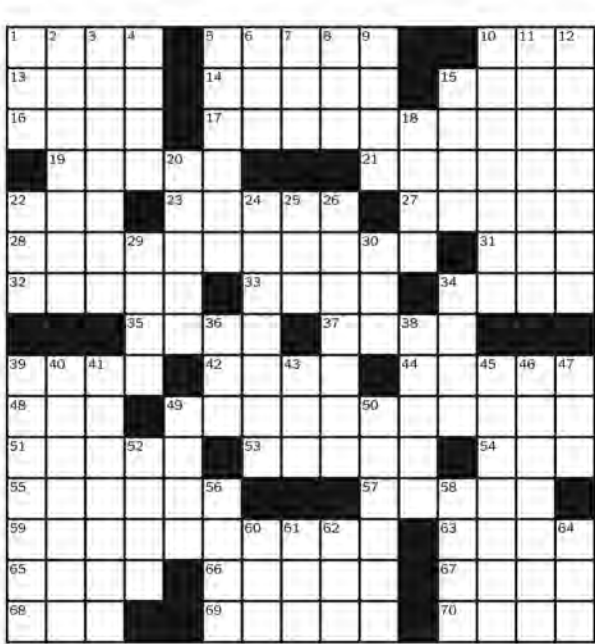


CROSSWORD | WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**  
1 [5]  
5 [1]  
10 Word on either side of "à"  
13 Sporty auto, for short  
14 Call to mind  
15 Asteroid area  
16 Stand up to  
17 In an intellectual manner  
19 Pointy-eared TV character  
21 [25]  
22 Polished off  
23 Couldn't help but  
27 Feudal lord  
28 With 49- and 69-Across, a hint to the meanings of the bracketed clues  
31 [10]  
32 Spoken for
- 33 Climber's goal  
34 Giga- follower  
35 Creator of Oz  
37 King of tragedy  
39 Dud's sound  
42 Caramel-filled candy  
44 Prom, e.g.  
48 Cyberaddress  
49 See 28-Across  
51 [30]  
53 Combine name  
54 Free pass, of sorts  
55 Some locker room art  
57 Garden pest genus  
59 Ones whipping things up in the kitchen?  
63 Sci. branch  
65 He and she  
66 Like some checking accounts
- DOWN**  
1 Crumple (up)  
2 Faux fat  
3 Like late-night commuter trains  
4 Harry Belafonte catchword  
5 Eat like a bird  
6 Alternative to Ct. or La.  
7 \_\_\_ favor  
8 Squeeze (out)  
9 Gen. Beauregard's men  
10 Soft and smooth  
11 Dishonest, informally  
12 Compound in disposable coffee cups  
15 "South Pacific" setting  
18 Small brook  
20 [20]  
22 Court fig.  
24 [60]  
25 Do better than  
26 Bob Marley classic  
29 Red ink  
30 Let go  
34 Support providers  
36 Barista's container

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

B	A	I	T	I	C	A	N	T	H	O	O	K		
U	L	N	A	N	O	U	S	E	O	R	S	O		
N	O	R	M	S	H	E	E	T	N	I	T	S		
T	H	E	P	A	P	E	R	C	H	A	S	E		
S	A	D	M	I	R	E	T	H	N	I	C			
			D	I	R	E	C	T	R	O	U	T	E	S
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		C	A	U	G	H	T	U	N	A	W	A	R	E
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D	U	D	E	A	R	E	A	S	I	B	E	T		
R	E	E	L	Y	A	R	N	S	F	I	S	H		



- Puzzle by MICHAEL DAVID
- 38 Seller of TV spots

45 Fig Newtons maker

56 Turned state's evidence
- 39 Some children's show characters

46 [15]

58 Pal around (with)
- 40 Rig contents

47 Check out

60 Parisian pronoun
- 41 Projecting wheel rims

49 Mont Blanc, par exemple

61 Gee preceder
- 43 Links concern

50 Clears the board

62 Emeritus: Abbr.
- 52 [40]

64 "Awesome!"

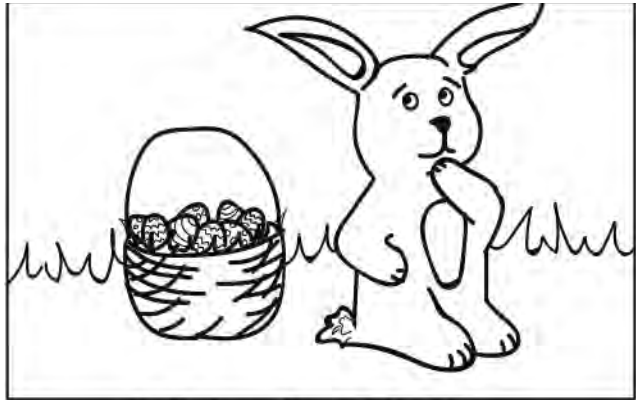
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JUST ADD WATER | JOHN RODDY & ERIC CARLSON



Unfortunately, Milltown was celebrating its fifth annual Shish-kebab-a-thon.

FLING BY SPRING | RILEY McCURRIE



SUDOKU | THE MEPHAM GROUP

Level: 1 2 3 4

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

SOLUTION TO TUESDAY'S PUZZLE 10/3/12

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

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](http://www.sudoku.org.uk)

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HOROSCOPE | EUGENIA LAST

**Happy Birthday:** Investigate new ways to present your skills. Pick up information that will help improve your resume. Consider what you are doing now and what you would like to be doing by the end of the year. Strive for perfection as well as satisfaction, and you will find your way to a less-stressful life and a happier future. Your numbers are 2, 5, 19, 21, 24, 36, 48.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Don't waffle when it comes to your professional goals. If you want to excel or make a change, take action and make it happen. It's up to you to fuel your own fire and strive to reach your dreams. ★★★

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Listen to the voice of reason and discuss your plans with someone able to influence your decision and help you make your dreams come true. A joint venture is likely to pay off. Sharing will propel you forward. ★★★★★

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Listen, assess the situation you face and make choices based on what is in your best interest. You cannot give in to emotional manipulation or temptation. If you desire change, make sure your motives are genuine. ★★

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Surround yourself with creative individuals who will encourage you to explore your own ideas. Make romance and collaboration with others a priority, but don't go into debt trying to keep up with others. ★★★★★

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Protect against loss or being taken advantage of by someone manipulative. Put more emphasis on personal change, learning and expanding your friendships with those who will help you reach your goals. Take a proactive position when it comes to your beliefs. ★★

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Believe in yourself and what you can accomplish. Don't let anyone's negativity hold you back or cause you to underestimate what you are capable of. Offer love and kindness, but don't make sacrifices that will deter your success. ★★

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Delve into intriguing situations and look for ways to pursue what fascinates you. Work toward a goal that will impress your peers, employers or teachers. It's up to you to bring about the changes that will improve your life. ★★

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** What you put out, you will get back in spades. Don't hesitate to offer suggestions or pitch in to help a cause. Your intuitive intelligence will allow you to shine and motivate others to help you make a difference. ★★★★★

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Gather information and be certain before making a move that will have an impact on your reputation. Don't let anyone lead you down a path of temptation. Recognize what is in your best interest. Be willing to say "no." ★★

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Check over your plans, investments and any upcoming legal or medical procedures. It's always better to be safe and in control. Don't let someone's unexpected changes send you on a wild goose chase. Ride out the storm. ★★★★★

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Make personal changes that will encourage you to look for a job that will bring you a greater sense of satisfaction. Someone or something from your past will help you recognize what you want to see unfold in your life. ★★

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Partnerships will pose limitations if you let anger take over. Don't say or do something you'll regret. Treating others with a little love and compassion will improve your situation. ★★

**Birthday Baby:** You are giving, dependable and committed. You are motivated and inspirational.

JUMBLE | DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

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

CYYUK

EZIRP

ANRUFI

TCEALT

Find us on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/jumble>

What a waste of time. Those guys are insane. Men weren't meant to fly. It will never get off the ground.

2/15

SOME PEOPLE THOUGHT THE WRIGHT BROTHERS WERE JUST ---

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

Ans: " " (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's | Jumbles: YEAST FABLE BOTHER EMBLEM  
Answer: His Valentine's Day lunch was this – A HEARTY MEAL

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"I am not throwing away my shot! I am not throwing away my shot! Hey yo, I'm just like my country,

I'm young, scrappy, and hungry, and I'm not throwing away my shot! I'm 'a get a scholarship to King's College. I probably shouldn't brag, but dag, I amaze and astonish. The problem is I got a lot of brains but no polish. I gotta holler just to be heard, with every word, I drop knowledge! I'm a diamond in the rough, a shiny piece of coal, tryin' to reach my goal. My power of speech: unimpeachable."

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## SPORTS AUTHORITY

# Boxing out is the key to winning



**Rachel O'Grady**  
Sports Writer

After over a decade of watching me play (and warm the bench in) organized girls' basketball, my dad is absolutely convinced the key to winning championships is simple: All you need to do is box out. In my now almost three years removed from the sport itself, watching my sister's games, I realized he wasn't wrong. I recognize this isn't a hot take. It's kind of like saying the one team needs to score more points than the other one. It's reminiscent of Baylor's Taurean Prince's response to an interview question after their loss to Yale last weekend. The other team just needs to get more rebounds. However, it's not that simple.

As hard as it is for me to admit my dad was right about something, boxing out is the key to getting more rebounds. Period. You can out-hustle, out-work, out-play the other team, but when it comes to the boards, it comes down to boxing out. You can be any size, shape, stature, athletic talent, etc., but if you can box out, you will get more rebounds. When it comes to rebounding, a 5-foot-5-inch, quick point guard can be equally as dangerous as a 7-foot, massive post player if they box out. As a 6-foot, formerly-lanky post player, I can attest to the fact that both these players are lethal under the rim. If they properly box out, you either end up fouling the point guard, who typically is a pretty decent shooter, or just giving the rebound to the taller player.

Rebounds directly translate to points, on both sides of the court. Defensively, a solid, well-positioned box out is getting a stop at the least or sending you to the charity stripe with some luck. Offensively, it creates a wide-open, easy shot. But it goes beyond that. By boxing out, the team benefits. You may not get the clear shot yourself, but it opens up a clear shot for a teammate. There is no downside, but moreover,

the upside is so dramatically huge.

Save the "they just scored more points" theory: There is not one, time-proven way to win games. Bo Ryan came pretty close with his emphasis on rebounding (amongst other things) and his exemplary performance as the Wisconsin head coach — it's hard to look at Ryan's career and say it was anything less than impressive. He took what, as assistant managing editor Zach Klonsinski said was basically the sports department here at The Observer, plus one or two stand-out players, and always ranked in the top-four of the Big Ten, always made the tournament and consistently made it to the Sweet 16. While that success could be accounted for by several things, rebounding deserves major credit. Ryan's focus on rebounding is what differentiated the Badgers from other teams, and it's what contributed to consistent postseason appearances.

Granted, I understand this doesn't fix all problems. If you can rebound, that doesn't mean you'll make the next shot. But on a more practical level, it significantly improves your chances. Teams still need to shoot well and defend well, but this job can be so much easier if they simply rebound well. If they're boxing out, they will rebound better and overall, their game will improve.

This isn't the first time my dad has been right about something and it certainly won't be the last, but I'm convinced after watching March Madness this weekend that boxing out, more than ever, leads to consistent victory. While he might not be able to coach a Division I men's basketball team to a national championship — yet — boxing out could at least lead to a girls' high school state championship.

Contact Rachel O'Grady at [rogrady@nd.edu](mailto:rogrady@nd.edu)

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

## ROWING

# Irish look to build on success in trip to Texas

By **ALEX BENDER**  
Sports Writer

Coming off a two-week stretch since its last regatta, No. 17 Notre Dame now heads down to Town Lake, Texas, for the Longhorn Invitational this Friday and Saturday, where the Irish will face off with San Diego on Friday and host No. 7 Texas on Saturday morning.

Notre Dame's first regatta of the season was the Oak Ridge Cardinal Invitational in Tennessee, where the team faced off against a number of ranked teams, including No. 4 Virginia, No. 11 Michigan, and No. 20 Louisville. The team was able to come away with four first-place and 10 runner-up finishes, and Irish head coach Martin Stone said he was fairly satisfied with the start to the season.

"I think it went fine coming off spring break, where we were in a heavy training mode," Stone said. "I'm obviously

disappointed that we lost to a few crews, but more important than anything we learned how to race as a group and improve our performance as the weekend progressed, so overall I would say it was a positive experience."

The Irish will be looking to better their performance even more this upcoming weekend, and this week's preparation has readied the team for San Diego and Texas, Stone said.

"I think we have been getting better technically, so it's been a solid week and a half of training," Stone said. "With races on Friday and Saturday, we just have to go out and do our thing. We can't be too worried about the competition. So if we just focus on ourselves, we should be okay, and we'll just see what happens. I feel good about our preparation for this and I feel good about our chances against two very good programs."

San Diego is coming from the West Coast Conference while the

Longhorns compete in the Big 12 Conference, and Stone is eager to see how his team matches up.

"All of our boats have been solid in training and will be ready to race, so we'll see how they perform," Stone said. "This weekend will have much the same impact as any race throughout the season, as we will learn from it and hopefully be racing well. We are racing against two quality crews, so I'm interested to see these teams from the WCC and Big 12 and find out how we stack up against these schools. Ultimately, our success will depend on just how much we learn and the effort we put forth in getting better throughout the weekend."

Racing for the Irish will begin Friday at 5:20 p.m. while the early session Saturday begins at 9:20 a.m. and wraps up at 9:40 a.m.

Contact Alex Bender at [abender@nd.edu](mailto:abender@nd.edu)

## TRACK &amp; FIELD

# Track moves outdoors for spring season

## Observer Staff Report

The Irish open their outdoor season this weekend as the team travels south for the Yellow Jacket Invitational, hosted by Georgia Tech, and the Raleigh Relays, hosted by North Carolina State. Both the men and the women will be looking to build on a strong indoor season, where Notre Dame soared to new heights.

Leading the charge were the Irish women, who on March 11 and 12 competed in the NCAA indoor championships in Birmingham, Alabama. The team sent nine women to compete, headlined by senior captain Molly Seidel, where Notre Dame had considerable success. Notre Dame came in fifth in the overall standings, its highest finish in school history, and all nine who competed returned as first-team All-Americans.

Seidel stole the show in her final collegiate indoor meet, winning both the 3,000-meter and 5,000-meter runs, bringing her total to four NCAA titles in the past nine months. She set the school record in the 5,000 with a time of 15:15.21, and then followed it up the next day with another dominant display in the 3,000, winning in 8:57.86. She now holds the program's record for national titles won, and her 20 points went a long way to Notre Dame's strong finish at the championships.



CAITLYN JORDAN | The Observer

**Molly Seidel celebrates after winning the 3,000-meter run and setting a new school record at the Mayo Invitational on Feb 6.**

Freshman Anna Rohrer, graduate student Kaila Barber and senior Margaret Bamgbose also had high finishes for the team in the 5,000, 60-meter hurdles and the 400-meter dash, respectively. Rohrer came in fourth in her first indoor championship, helping Seidel set the pace early before finishing in 15:54.53. Barber came in sixth with a quick 8.07-second mark, while Bamgbose ran her fastest time all season at 52.12 seconds, good enough for fifth overall and another All-American performance, the ninth of her career.

For the men, sole participant

junior pole vaulter Nathan Richartz brought home first-team All-American honors with his eighth-place finish.

Seidel was recently awarded the women's Division I National Athlete of the Year Award by the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association, as well as the ACC Women's Indoor Track Performer of the Year, as voted on by the coaches.

Seidel, the defending champion in the outdoor 10,000-meter run, will look to build on her accolade-filled year and lead her team to new heights when the spring season begins this weekend.

## Want to take photos?

Email the photo department at [cjorda01@saintmarys.edu](mailto:cjorda01@saintmarys.edu)



## ND WOMEN'S LACROSSE

# Irish host Orange in ACC contest



GRACE TOURVILLE | The Observer

*Junior midfielder Cortney Fortunato rolls the crease during Notre Dame's 16-4 win over Virginia on Saturday at Arlotta Stadium.*

By **BRETT O'CONNELL**  
Sports Writer

Hoping to build on their four-game win streak, the No. 4 Irish will host conference foe No. 6 Syracuse this Saturday at Arlotta Stadium before traveling to Wisconsin to face non-conference opponent Marquette two days later.

The Irish (9-1, 3-1 ACC) look to start the latter half of their conference schedule on a high note as they host a Syracuse squad (7-3, 1-1) that has only just begun their own ACC slate. The Irish have three games remaining against ACC opponents, including matchups against current conference leaders No. 13 Duke and No. 3 North Carolina. Syracuse, by contrast, has four conference games remaining.

The Orange have struggled to find consistency over the past few weeks—the team has not won back-to-back games since a 16-12 victory over No. 15 Northwestern. Since then, they have won games against No. 16 Virginia and Harvard, but have dropped matches against No. 1 Maryland and Boston College.

Despite its inconsistency, senior defender Katherine McManus says that Syracuse is always an entertaining team to match up against.

"Preparing for Syracuse is always fun," McManus said. "They're a talented ACC team, and we respect the way they play a lot. As we prepare, we're preparing to see their best all over the field just so we can be ready and play our best as well."

According to McManus, that level of performance means depth throughout the roster in terms of offensive efficiency. The Irish have seven players with 10 or more goals this season. McManus attributes the team's recent success to their ability to incorporate multiple attacking styles in a single game.

"Offensively we're strong and have a lot of depth and versatility—every attacker on our team is a threat, which makes practice really fun," McManus said. "Within

our systems, our attackers have the ability to bring their own style to our game which makes us individually and as a unit pretty hard to stop. Our attackers really prepare our defense by giving us every look we could possibly see and then some."

The Irish offense and defense alike have found success in their recent win streak. In four games since their March 5 loss to Louisville, the Irish have scored 76 goals while allowing only 27. Still, McManus insists that the team cannot get complacent. She credits the team's rigorous preparation cycles for their ability to adapt to the ever increasing strength of their competition.

"We're definitely moving in a positive direction as we head into the back half of our season," McManus said. "But, we've talked about it all year, with great success also comes big targets on our backs, so we aren't becoming complacent or taking anything lightly. We focus on great weeks of preparation heading into our games, and that's been a huge piece of our success as we build confidence and belief in what our team can accomplish this year."

"Also, with each game, there are many positive takeaways that we work to replicate but also negatives that we work incredibly hard to clean up and just get better each game out. Overall, this season has been a lot of fun and I'm excited to face a lot of top ranked teams as we close out our regular season."

Saturday's matchup against Syracuse marks the conclusion of a three-game homestand for Notre Dame. Afterwards, it will travel to Milwaukee to close out the month against Marquette (3-5, 0-0 Big East), who has struggled to generate offense so far this season, managing to score more than 10 goals only four times in eight games.

The Irish host Syracuse at noon Saturday at Arlotta Stadium.

Contact Brett O'Connell at [boconnel1@nd.edu](mailto:boconnel1@nd.edu)

## SWIMMING

# Notre Dame looks to carry momentum to NCAAs

By **MICHAEL IVEY**  
Sports Writer

Notre Dame is set to compete in the NCAA championships this weekend at the Georgia Tech Campus Recreation Center in Atlanta, Georgia. The three-day event will begin Thursday and conclude this Saturday.

The last time the Irish were in action was at last month's ACC championships at the Greensboro Aquatic Center in Greensboro, North Carolina, where the Irish finished in seventh place in the overall standings with 678 total points. The 400-yard freestyle relay team of sophomore Justin Plaschka, junior Reed Fujan, and freshmen Daniel Speers and Tabahn Afrik qualified for the NCAA championships after finishing in second place with a time of 2:52.18,

a Notre Dame school record.

Head coach Mike Litzinger acknowledged the best swimmers in the country will be at the meet and said his swimmers need to be ready for new challenges that await them.

"The NCAA championships is the pinnacle of our sport on the collegiate level," Litzinger said. "It certainly is the fast short-course meet in the world, and our men have to be ready for that challenge."

Litzinger said he thinks Plaschka will be a swimmer to keep an eye on because of his past experience at the NCAA championships.

"I believe that Justin is ready for his individual events," Litzinger said. "Last season, he was just a relay qualifier. Now as an individual qualifier, I am hoping he can take his experience from 2015 and use it wisely."

Litzinger said his team will not be focusing on one single opponent at the meet this weekend given all the talent that will be present, and he hopes his team will be able to score points in early events to put them in a strong position to succeed.

"As for our 400-yard freestyle relay, and all of our free relays [200-yard, 400 and 800-yard], I am looking forward to our team racing the field," Litzinger said. "There isn't one particular team that we are focused on, but an opportunity to score in relay events means double points, and that can take you a long way in the NCAA championships."

The Irish will hit the pool in Atlanta starting Thursday with their eyes on success at the NCAAs.

Contact Michael Ivey at [mivey@hcc-nd.edu](mailto:mivey@hcc-nd.edu)

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## FENCING

# Notre Dame sends 12 fencers to NCAA title

By **BEN PADANILAM**  
Associate Sports Editor

Following a strong showing at the Midwest regional, Notre Dame will travel to compete in the NCAA championships starting Thursday.

The Irish will send 12 fencers on their behalf to compete for the title, which is the maximum number a program was able to qualify at the regional. Notre Dame is one of four schools who qualified the maximum number, as Columbia, Princeton and St. John's were all able to do so as well.

Irish head coach Gia Kvaratskhelia said he was pleased with his team's performance at the qualifier, as it indicates the level of success they can achieve at the NCAA championships.

"Our regular season served as good preparation for regionals," Kvaratskhelia said. "On the day, our fencers stepped up and performed. In the big picture, it reinforces that our program is a perennial contender for [the NCAA] championships."

Notre Dame will be sending two fencers in each of the three men's and women's events. On the men's side, the Irish will send senior Garrett McGrath and freshman Darius Zacharakis to compete in epee, sophomores Jonathan Fitzgerald and Jonah Shainberg in sabre and sophomore Virgile Collineau and freshman Axel Kiefer in foil. For the women, Notre Dame qualified senior Catherine Lee and freshman Madeline Antekieir in epee, sophomore Francesca Russo and freshman Tara Hassett in sabre and senior Nicole McKee and freshman Sabrina Massialas in foil.

Qualifying 12 fencers puts Notre Dame at a competitive advantage for the team championship, as every victory an individual fencer earns adds one point to the team's total for the event, with the title being awarded to the team with the most points at the end of the competition. Kvaratskhelia said his team knows what it has to do to come away with a title against a strong field.

"To win at NCAAs, every squad, every fencer needs to contribute," Kvaratskhelia said. "If one person falters, it puts pressure on everyone else to make it up. ... Every year is different in regards to the competition. Clearly, our main rivals are the other teams with 12 fencers: Columbia, Princeton and St. John's. At the same time, other schools such as Ohio State, Penn State, Harvard and Penn will be very tough."

"We know our strengths and vulnerabilities, and those of our rivals. ... It's about execution."

Individually, the women will compete first in the event Thursday and Friday and will be followed by the men Saturday and Sunday. Kvaratskhelia said he thinks Kiefer and Massialas are in good spots to compete for individual titles, while the program's only reigning individual champion competing this year, Russo, has a tough field ahead for her.

"Axel Kiefer and Sabrina Massialas are serious contenders for the title," Kvaratskhelia said. "While the NCAA is a unique event, once it gets to the final four, it becomes familiar territory for them — 15-touch bouts."

"As for [Russo] repeating, it won't be easy; there's lots of

competition. She's up to the challenge."

The six freshmen Notre Dame qualified for the event will not be the only fencers who have no experience at the NCAA championships: Lee and McKee, two of the team's senior leaders, will also be competing at this stage for the first time. Kvaratskhelia said he's especially proud of them this season and expects them to perform at the same level they have all year.

"Catherine and [Nicole] have been fantastic captains and leaders this year, on and off the strip," Kvaratskhelia said. "They've been the rocks on which two young weapon squads have anchored themselves, and have delivered great results. It's great for them to finally have the chance to represent Notre Dame on the big stage."

"With that comes a unique knowledge that this is it. This may be Axel's and Sabrina's first of four NCAAs, if we're lucky. But for Catherine and [Nicole], it gives them that extra motivation to put everything into it."

Kvaratskhelia said the team has had a successful season thus far, but its true measure of this year will be this weekend. With that in mind throughout the last week of practice, the Irish are as ready as they can be for the event, he added.

"We've had a great week of rest, training, and mental preparation," Kvaratskhelia said. "We're ready for NCAAs."

The Irish will take the strip in the NCAA championships starting Thursday at Gostman Center in Waltham, Massachusetts.

Contact Ben Padanilam at [bpadanil@nd.edu](mailto:bpadanil@nd.edu)

## MEN'S LACROSSE

# Irish set to face Ohio State

By **MANNY DE JESUS**  
Sports Writer

A week after squeaking by Virginia in an 8-7 overtime victory, No. 2 Notre Dame will travel to Columbus, Ohio, to face Ohio State on Saturday.

The Irish (5-1, 1-0 ACC) have the advantage over the Buckeyes (5-4, 0-0 Big Ten) heading into their 55th all-time meeting. Notre Dame has won each of the last 11 years and leads the overall series 33-21. Its 9-0 victory at home over Ohio State last season marked the second shutout in Notre Dame history. After the win, junior goalie Shane Doss was awarded the United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association National Player of the Week.

This season, Doss will lead the second-ranked Irish defense as the reigning ACC defensive player of the week following his performance against the Cavaliers on Saturday. In the overtime win, Doss had 14 saves and left the opposition scoreless for the first 22 minutes of the game. He is currently first in the ACC and second in the nation in goals against average (5.94) and save percentage (.624). Doss credits the rest of the team for his string of recent successes.

"A huge part of my individual recognition has been the play of our defense early on this season," Doss said. "We have a core of really talented and experienced guys in front of me who make it tough on opposing offenses to get good shots all game. Also, I think having a year's experience of starting behind me has really helped slow the game down and give

me confidence in high-pressure situations."

Junior midfielder Sergio Perkovic has also given the Irish momentum heading into this week's matchup on the offense as the ACC Offensive Player of the Week. He scored a hat trick against the Cavaliers, including a goal in the final minute to send the game into overtime, as well as the game-winning goal in overtime. With both the offense and defense firing on all cylinders, Notre Dame will prepare for an Ohio State team that is on a three-game losing skid. After starting off the season 5-1, the Buckeyes have dropped games against No. 19 Hofstra, No. 8 Towson and No. 1 Denver.

Despite their struggles, the Irish aren't taking the Buckeyes for granted.

"This is a dangerous team, because they are always capable of playing to the level of their opponent," Doss said. "Last year, they upset Duke in the NCAA tournament and almost did it again to Denver in the next round, so we know that they have some talented playmakers and a good coach. We just escaped from a good Virginia team in overtime in a game everyone had picked for us to win, so we know the problems with looking past an opponent or assuming anything will happen."

Ohio State is led by junior attack Austin Shanks, who transferred to Ohio State this season after two years at Bellarmine. Shanks is leading the Buckeyes with 17 points, including nine goals and a team-high eight assists. Junior attack Eric Fannell is another transfer who has made an immediate impact for Ohio State in his first season. Coming from Adrian, Fannell has scored 11 goals and recorded five assists on the season. Senior attack Carter Brown has also attributed 11 goals and five assists to the Ohio State offense this season.

The Irish have played into extra periods the last two games and would like to avoid falling into the same trap against the Buckeyes on the road.

"We haven't really come out strong in either of the last two games, forcing ourselves to make plays in tight situations later on," Doss said. "If we can get on the board early and give ourselves some breathing room, I'm confident we have the talent to keep that lead for the rest of the game."

The Irish will look to start another winning streak Saturday against Ohio State at 1 p.m. before returning to ACC play against Syracuse on April 2.

Contact Manny De Jesus at [mdejesus@nd.edu](mailto:mdejesus@nd.edu)

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Colin Barr is senior lecturer in the School of Divinity, History, and Philosophy at the University of Aberdeen. He is the author of *The European Culture Wars in Ireland: The Callan Schools Affair, 1868-1881* (2010) and *Paul Cullen, John Henry Newman, and the Catholic University of Ireland, 1845-1865* (2003).

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## M Bball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

a lot of the games will come down to the final four minutes, just how efficient you can be and how many stops you can get.”

While Notre Dame has spent the whole season firmly in the NCAA tournament picture, the seventh-seeded Badgers (22-12, 12-6 Big Ten) were an afterthought after former head coach Bo Ryan announced his retirement on Dec. 16. In mid-January, Wisconsin was .500 overall and just 1-4 in Big Ten play, a team looking more likely to miss the postseason altogether than to burst through to the Sweet 16.

But since then interim, and now permanent, Badgers head coach Greg Gard has led his team to an 11-3 mark, one that saw marquee wins over Michigan State, Indiana, Maryland and Iowa en route to a sixth-place finish in the Big Ten.

While Wisconsin is known nationally for playing at a slow, deliberate pace — it ranks 345th out of 351 teams in tempo — Brey was quick to point out his Irish also enjoy a slow game.

“I’ll give you a stat that no one thinks: They’re averaging 62 possessions a game in the NCAA tournament, we’re averaging 60,” Brey said. “Everyone thinks we’re this track meet. ... We’re grinding too.”

That said, Brey said the Irish started searching for transition scores during their last five outings.

“We are pushing that thing up the floor and looking for some early buckets,” Brey said. “And that helped us in both games in Brooklyn.”

Just as Notre Dame advanced to the Sweet 16 by winning close games, so too did the Badgers: Wisconsin beat No. 10 seed Pittsburgh 47-43 before upsetting second-seeded Xavier on Sunday, 66-63.

“Both teams are finding ways to win, just believing that they can do it,” Brey said. “It’s interesting

how we both got here.”

Just five days after facing No. 14 seed Stephen F. Austin’s defensive pressure, the Irish will face another strong defensive team — just one with a different philosophy.

“They try to keep you out of the lane,” junior forward V.J. Beachem said. “They’re not trying to deny so much on the wings and things like that, but [they’re] keeping you out of the lane and keeping you from getting easy shots.”

Beachem played with Badgers junior forward Nigel Hayes, his team’s leading scorer, in AAU basketball during high school, but says the two aren’t on speaking terms this week.

“We’ve talked a lot, especially this year,” Beachem said. “... I’m not gonna be talking to him [this week] until probably right before the game.”

And while Notre Dame benefits from a second-straight upset with Stephen F. Austin shocking third-seeded West Virginia and then Wisconsin’s victory over Xavier, Jackson pointed out that everyone left at this stage can play.

“They’re a really great team — from here on out, we’re gonna be playing great teams,” Jackson said. “We have to be great to advance. So far, what we know about them is really how disciplined they are on both ends of the floor, defensively and offensively.”

And if this Irish team really wants to distance itself from last year’s Elite Eight team, winning two more games and reaching the program’s second-ever Final Four would more than likely do the trick.

“[The Elite Eight is] something that we want to reach and surpass this year,” senior forward Zach Auguste said. “For me individually, as a senior, I don’t want the last game to be until the championship game.”

Tipoff between Notre Dame and Wisconsin is set for 7:27 p.m. Friday from Philadelphia’s Wells Fargo Center.

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

## Baseball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

designated hitter Jake Shepski, laid down a sacrifice bunt that pushed the runners to second and third.

Senior catcher Ricky Sanchez followed up with a hard ground-er that was rerouted by the mound then bounced off the glove of the second baseman, scoring Vierling and allowing him to reach first. Senior center fielder Kyle Richardson then executed a safety squeeze perfectly, scoring Richards.

With two outs, freshman third baseman Cole Daily kept the inning alive against Flames freshman right-hander Reid Birlingmair with a single through the left side of the infield, putting runners at the corners.

Junior second baseman Cavan Biggio then blasted a ground-rule double to score Sanchez and advance Daily to third. Sophomore left fielder Jack Johnson and senior first baseman Zak Kutsulis then followed with back-to-back singles, the first of which scored Biggio. Vierling ended the outburst with a fly out to right field, but in total 10 Irish batters came to the plate in the inning.

“We strung, like, 10 quality at-bats together there,” Aoki said. “My sense is that their [pitcher] is kind of more a short-burst kind of kid, and he got extended just a little bit beyond where he’s comfortable going, which led to him to lose the zone.”

Birlingmair’s inability to find the zone became all the more apparent in the third, as the Irish scored four runs with just one hit. After Shepski reached on a dropped fly ball by UIC sophomore left fielder Joe Rossi, Birlingmair fell apart, walking three straight batters. Head coach Mike Dee pulled Birlingmair in favor of freshman Charlie Cerny, but it made no difference, as Biggio tripled down the right field line to clear the bases and make it 9-0.

“I definitely want to be aggressive early in the count, especially with the bases loaded,” Biggio said. “In that situation, we needed to get a few runs across, and you know that new guy wants to get off to a good start, pounding the zone early, so I was ready to go and he made a mistake.”

Biggio ended the game 2-for-5 at the plate, driving in four runs while scoring one himself.

The strongest hitting night, however, belonged to an Irish player who was not even expected to start before the weekend. Sanchez went 3-for-3 with a walk, an RBI and two runs while also catching all nine innings in place of junior Ryan Lidge, who missed his seventh game of the season due to injury.

“I was just looking fastball and trying to keep it as relaxed as possible,” Sanchez said. “I haven’t caught this much in my entire life, but my job is just to be ready whenever my name is called.”

After the third inning, Notre Dame’s offense quieted, producing just three hits over the

next five innings. Meanwhile, UIC began to chip away at Notre Dame’s lead, scoring a run apiece on six hits in the fifth, sixth and seventh innings. The Flames’ nine spot in the lineup was particularly productive, with catchers freshman Wyatt Mascarella and sophomore Gabe Dwyer both doubling in a run.

In the end, however, Irish senior left-hander Michael Hearne was able to limit the damage and produce a quality start of six innings and two earned runs for his second straight win.

“He was doing a good job of commanding his fastball, especially in against the righties,” Aoki said of his pitcher. “It’s important for him to do that so that the changeup is more effective. ... He commanded even some of the few breaking balls he threw.”

The Irish have just one day off before they travel to Blacksburg, Virginia, to face off against Virginia Tech. After two ACC series this year, Notre Dame is still looking for its first series victory, having been swept by No. 4 Louisville and dropping two of three last weekend to No. 13 North Carolina State.

The Hokies have also gotten off to a rough start in conference play and are losers of seven straight. The three-game series is slated to start Thursday, with first pitch coming at 5:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday and noon Saturday.

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EMMET FARNAN | The Observer

Senior forward Zach Auguste attempts a layup during Notre Dame’s 76-75 win over Stephen F. Austin on Sunday.



## Big Ten

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

Notre Dame senior associate athletic director Tom Nevala told the Minneapolis Star Tribune the school saw the jump to the Big Ten as a way to return to Notre Dame's traditional geographic base while maintaining the level of play found in Hockey East.

"The competition has been excellent in the Hockey East and in the Big Ten, and that's where we want to be competing, with the best," Nevala said. "There is great excitement because we're renewing the rivalries that we cherish, and it will be great to go to those campuses on a regular basis."

The move returns the Irish to a league that fits them better geographically: Despite playing in a conference centered in New England, this year's team roster contains only one player from the region: walk-on senior

goaltender Nick Stasack is from West Springfield, Massachusetts. Freshmen defenseman Dennis Gilbert and left wing Joe Wegworth both hail from nearby New York, a state no Hockey East teams call home.

Notre Dame's 2015-16 roster is comprised of eight players from Minnesota, four from Illinois, two from Michigan and one each from Wisconsin and Iowa, all states in the heart of Big Ten country.

Since the Big Ten began play, it has sought a way to expand on its six teams, but no other program in the conference has seriously considered making the jump to Division I. Nebraska and Illinois both field club teams, but both programs would require a large increase in funding and upgrades to the team facilities, according to Teddy Greenstein of the Chicago Tribune.

The Big Ten added Johns Hopkins to its men's lacrosse conference for the 2015 season, and

the Blue Jays became the first program from a non-Big Ten school to play in a Big Ten-sponsored conference. The Irish will become the second team to fit this category when they begin play in 2017-18.

Notre Dame's hockey program began as a club team in 1912 and continued on and off at that level before making the jump to Division I in 1968 with head coach Lefty Smith at the helm, a position he held until 1987. The Irish originally played as an independent until they joined the WCHA in 1971, where they spent the next 10 seasons before moving to the newly-formed CCHA. Notre Dame dropped ice hockey as a varsity sport during the 1983-84 season, when the squad returned to club status, but then the program returned to Division I competition and the CCHA the following year.

After the CCHA began to fall apart with the departure of Michigan, Michigan State and Ohio State for the newly-formed Big Ten league leading up to the 2013-2014 campaign, Notre Dame announced it would move to Hockey East, where it has played



MICHAEL YU | The Observer

**Sophomore goalie Cal Petersen attempts to save a shot during Notre Dame's 6-4 loss to Northeastern on March 12.**

the last three seasons. The Irish claimed the final CCHA tournament title in 2013 before major reshuffling of college hockey west of the Appalachian Mountains

drastically altered the composition of the WCHA and signaled both the end of the CCHA and the start of Big Ten hockey and the NCHC.

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## Hockey

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

"It's pretty exciting," Fogarty said. "The second our season ended last year, this was a goal of ours. It's been a focal point of our team this year, and just to see our name up there is obviously really exciting. With a team like Michigan, it makes it even cooler, so it's pretty special, and we're excited."

By virtue of drawing Michigan in the first round, the Irish will renew a rivalry that has remained dormant since the CCHA disbanded in 2013. The two teams have met 134 times since the rivalry started in 1921, with Michigan leading the all-time series 73-56-5. They last met in the final CCHA season, with the Irish recording a 5-0-0 record against the Wolverines in the 2012-13 season, including a 3-1 victory in the CCHA championship game in Detroit, Michigan.

Senior alternate captain and left wing Sam Herr talked about how much it means to be renewing a historic rivalry in such an important game.

"It's arguably the best rivalry in sports as far as college goes," Herr said. "I grew up idolizing this rivalry. It's pretty special I can be a part of it, let alone be a part of Notre Dame in general, so I'm embracing it. It means a lot that I can be a part of it."

The Irish and the Wolverines have met once before in the NCAA tournament, a 2008 Frozen Four game in Denver, Colorado. The Irish prevailed 5-4 in overtime to advance to the championship game.

"Obviously football is a huge rivalry," Fogarty said, "but when we were in the CCHA, these two teams had a lot of good games. ... We're excited we get to play Michigan. It's pretty fun. Obviously they've had some success this year, which makes it an exciting challenge, but we're definitely up for it."

Michigan has had one of the strongest offensive seasons of any team in the tournament, led by three of the highest-scoring forwards in all of college hockey. Freshman Kyle Connor and juniors J.T. Compher and Tyler Motte are three of the top four point scorers in the country, with 69, 60 and 54 points respectively.

Irish head coach Jeff Jackson mentioned the need to contain the "CCM" line in particular after learning his team had drawn

Michigan in the first round.

"We haven't played Michigan in a few years," Jackson said. "They obviously are one of the best teams in the country. They probably have the best player on the best line in the country. As usual, they're a full throttle offensive juggernaut that can score in flurries. I think they are the leading scoring team in the country, so you always have to be prepared. Michigan teams are always fast, always skilled. We're gonna have to do a great job with the puck and also without it."

After losing five of six games to close out their season, including a home sweep at the hands of Northeastern in the Hockey East tournament, the Irish are thankful they have the chance to keep playing and to redeem themselves against top competition.

"We're in the right set of mind right now, and all we're gonna do moving forward is focus on Michigan. With that being said, the guys are obviously excited. We've been excited all week, and we just have to come back Monday ready to work, have a good week of practice, and we'll see what happens on Friday."

"I think for us, we ran into a really good team in the end there, obviously Northeastern has proven that they're not a fluke," Jackson said. "I think for us it's kind of a second life, a second opportunity to prove ourselves. We get into an opportunity where we get to play in the NCAA tournament, at that point it's a new season."

If the Irish are able to get past the Wolverines Friday night, they will play the winner of a game between No. 1-seeded North Dakota and No. 4-seeded Northeastern in the regional final Saturday.

Michigan and Notre Dame will meet in the opening round of the NCAA tournament Friday. The puck drops at 5:30 pm at U.S. Bank Arena in Cincinnati.

**Contact Hunter McDaniel at [hmcDaniel@nd.edu](mailto:hmcDaniel@nd.edu)**

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## HOCKEY

# Notre Dame, Michigan to renew rivalry

*Irish, Wolverines to open NCAA tournament Friday*

By **HUNTER McDANIEL**  
Sports Writer

After bowing out of the Hockey East tournament in the quarterfinals, the Irish can now rest easy knowing they did enough during the season to earn a spot in the NCAA tournament.

No. 12 Notre Dame (19-10-7, 15-5-2 Hockey East) will face No. 7 Michigan in the first round of the tournament in Cincinnati, Friday evening at U.S. Bank Arena.

The Wolverines (24-7-5, 12-5-3 Big Ten) earned the No. 2 seed in the Midwest Region after winning the Big Ten tournament on Saturday while Notre Dame skates into the NCAA tournament with an at-large bid and the No. 3 seed.

Senior captain and center Steven Fogarty said the team is excited to return to the tournament after missing out on a bid a season ago.

see HOCKEY **PAGE 15**



MICHAEL YU | The Observer

*Irish sophomore center Jake Evans maneuvers past a Huskie defender during Notre Dame's 6-4 loss to Northeastern on March 12 at Compton Family Ice Arena.*

*ND will move from Hockey East to Big Ten in 2017*

## Observer Staff Report

Notre Dame is joining the Big Ten — in one sport at least.

As originally reported by the Chicago Tribune, Minneapolis Star Tribune and USCHO, the Irish will join the Big Ten on the ice beginning with the 2017-18 season.

Notre Dame began play in Hockey East during the 2013-14 campaign after spending the previous 16 seasons in the CCHA.

The Big Ten first sponsored a separate hockey conference starting that same year, and it is comprised of its six schools that support a Division I hockey program: Michigan, Michigan State, Ohio State, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Penn State.

The Irish, Badgers and Gophers played together in the WCHA from 1971 through 1981, while the Wolverines, Spartans and Buckeyes were members of the CCHA with Notre Dame until joining the Big Ten.

see BIG TEN **PAGE 15**

## BASEBALL | ND 9, ILLINOIS CHICAGO 5

# Irish fend off UIC comeback



KATHLEEN DONAHUE | The Observer

*Irish junior infielder Cavan Biggio slides towards third base during Notre Dame's 9-5 win over University of Illinois Chicago on Tuesday at Frank Eck Stadium.*

By **GREG HADLEY**  
Senior Sports Writer

Notre Dame stormed to an early lead against Illinois-Chicago, then held off a comeback attempt from the Flames (9-11, 2-1 Horizon), coming away with a 9-5 win at Frank Eck Stadium on Tuesday.

All of Notre Dame's offense came in the first three innings,

as the Irish (9-10, 1-5 ACC) put up five runs in the second and four in the third.

"That's what you're looking for," Irish head coach Mik Aoki said. "Their pitcher was coming at us with fastballs early on, and I thought we did a pretty good job of getting ourselves on time."

Freshman right fielder Matt

Vierling got things started in the second with a single up the middle, then advanced to second on an error by Flames freshman third baseman Alex Dee, who could not handle a grounder from Irish senior shortstop Lane Richards. The next batter, sophomore

see BASEBALL **PAGE 14**

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

# ND to face Badgers in Sweet 16

By **ALEX CARSON**  
Assistant Managing Editor

We almost got it a year ago. Had Jerian Grant's final-second 3-point attempt hit, rather than missed, Notre Dame and Wisconsin would have met in the Final Four.

And while things are different for both schools this year — there's no Grant or Sam Dekker, Frank Kaminsky or Pat Connaughton — we'll get the matchup in Friday's Sweet 16 in Philadelphia.

Having to follow in the footsteps of last year's team might have been difficult at times, but Irish head coach Mike Brey said he was proud of this Irish squad for securing consecutive Sweet 16 appearances for the first time since the 1970s.

"This is a group that always wanted to distance themselves from last year's team and have their own identity," Brey said. "And I give them a lot of credit because last year's team had

no expectations after going 15-17, they could just play and develop and everything they did was gravy last year.

"This group had that hanging on their shoulder the whole time and to get to this point, fighting through that and having some tough times ... I give them a lot of credit, and I give a lot of credit to our leadership."

But while the No. 6-seeded Irish (23-11, 11-7 ACC) don't have Grant or Connaughton this go-around, each of the squad's five double-digit scorers was a rotation player during the Elite Eight run last season — and junior guard Demetrius Jackson said that experience benefits Notre Dame most in crunch time.

"A big point for us where [our experience] will show is in game situations," Jackson said. "In that final four minutes, we understand how key it is to be able to execute and

see M BBALL **PAGE 14**