

Irish fall in Elite Eight

North Carolina tops Notre Dame for second time in March



MICHAEL YU | The Observer

Irish head coach Mike Brey consoles junior guard Demetrius Jackson near the end of Notre Dame's 88-74 loss to North Carolina on Sunday in Philadelphia. Full coverage of the loss starts on page 16.

Governor vetoes House Bill 1022

By KATIE GALIOTO
News Editor

Indiana Gov. Mike Pence vetoed a bill Thursday that would allow private university police departments to follow different crime reporting standards than other police agencies.

House Bill 1022, introduced in January by State Rep. Patrick Bauer (D-South Bend), would have changed state law to require private university police departments to release records relating only to arrests and incarcerations.

"Throughout my public career, I have long believed in the public's right to know

and a free and independent press," Pence said in a written statement. "Limiting access to police records in a situation where private university police departments perform a government function is a disservice to the public and an unnecessary barrier to transparency."

The bill was approved by a unanimous vote in the House and a 49-to-1 vote in the Senate. Thursday was the last day for Pence to sign or veto the bill. Otherwise, it would have become law without his signature.

Bauer, a co-author of the

see VETO PAGE 5

2014 sexual assault reported to University

Observer Staff Report

A rape was reported to a University administrator March 22, according to the Notre Dame Security Police (NDSP) crime log for March 23.

The alleged rape occurred on an unknown date in 2014 in a Notre Dame residence hall, according to the crime log entry.

The Jeanne Clery Act, originally known as the Campus Security Act, is the federal law that details how and what universities and colleges are required to disclose in terms of crime on campus, according to the Clery Center for Security on Campus. In accordance with this regulation, students did not receive an NDSP crime alert email detailing the allegations when they were reported to the University.

Both the daily crime log kept by NDSP and the crime alert emails the Notre Dame community receives are the result of regulations in the Clery Act.

The Clery Act requires universities and colleges to "issue timely warnings about Clery Act crimes which pose a serious or ongoing threat to students and employees." These crimes fall into three major categories: criminal offenses, hate crimes and arrests and referrals for disciplinary action.

Because the Clery Act does not dictate a timeframe or requirement for a "timely" warning, crimes that are reported a significant amount of time after they occur may not meet the timeliness standard. NDSP judges on a case-by-case basis whether or not the reported incident necessitates an alert based on its timeliness and whether or not the offender in question poses a threat to the community at large.

Information about sexual assault prevention and resources for survivors of sexual assault are available online from NDSP and from the Committee for Sexual Assault Prevention (CSAP).

Professor emeritus dies

Observer Staff Report

Paul R. Chagnon, professor emeritus of physics, died March 22 at the age of 86, according to a press release issued by the University on Tuesday.

"Chagnon taught physics and conducted research in nuclear physics at Notre Dame for 32 years before retiring in 1995. He published numerous articles on

his research, and was admired as a stalwart of Notre Dame's physics faculty. His teaching is honored annually at Notre Dame's commencement ceremonies by the undergraduate Paul Chagnon Service Award," the release stated.

Chagnon graduated from Holy Cross College in Worcester, Massachusetts in 1950 and received a doctoral degree from

Johns Hopkins University in 1955.

"He taught at the University of Michigan, Northwestern University and Boston University before joining Notre Dame's faculty in 1963," the release stated.

Chagnon's funeral Mass will be celebrated at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

Event explores immigration

By COURTNEY BECKER
News Writer

ND Votes '16 hosted the latest installment of "Pizza, Pop and Politics" in Geddes Hall on Tuesday night to discuss immigration and American policy. Guest speakers included Jennifer Jones, assistant sociology professor, and Luis Fraga, professor of political science and Arthur Foundation Endowed Professor of Transformative Latino Leadership.

Jones said United States immigration policy has been very fluid throughout the country's history.



CAITLYN JORDAN | The Observer

Assistant sociology professor Jennifer Jones speaks in Geddes Hall about both the changes and consistencies within immigration policy.

see POLICY PAGE 4



NEWS PAGE 4



VIEWPOINT PAGE 6



SCENE PAGE 9



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL PAGE 16



HOCKEY PAGE 16

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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.

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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:

Have a question you want answered?
Email photo@ndsmcobserver.com

If you could write your own fortune cookie message, what would it be?



Betelhem Hailu
junior
Ryan Hall

"Aim for the moon and you'll land on the stars."



Erin McDonagh
senior
Lyons Hall

"Stay away from the abyss."



Whitney Bellant
senior
Lyons Hall

"Pivot ... pivot! PIVOT!"



Marisa Thompson
senior
McGlinn Hall

"Don't sweat it."



Georges Cissé
junior
off campus

"Your GPA does not define you — even if it kind of does, though."



Michelle Lacouture
junior
Walsh Hall

"Muscle comes with age."

THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

Want your event included here?
Email news@ndsmcobserver.com

Wednesday

Physics Colloquium
Nieuwland Science Hall
4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
On the galactic planetary census.

ND Softball vs. IPFW
Melissa Cook Stadium
5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
The No. 22 Irish take on the Mastodons.

Thursday

Promoting Diversity
Geddes Hall
3:30 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.
Discussion about community engagement.

"1916: The Irish Rebellion" Screening
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
8:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.
Includes keynote.

Friday

Comparative Politics Workshop
Hesburgh Center for International Studies
3 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Research forum.

Acappellafest 2016
Carey Auditorium
8 p.m.
See all five ND acappella groups perform. Tickets \$5.

Saturday

Interfaith Crawl
Coleman Morse Center
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Visit various faith traditions in Michiana.

ND Softball vs. Florida State
Melissa Cook Stadium
1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
The Irish take on the Seminoles.

Sunday

2016 Human Dignity Lecture
McKenna Hall
7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
John Cardinal Onaiyekan will speak.

Rejoice! Mass
Dillon Hall
8 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Mass rooted in African-American tradition.

Student examines socialism

By **NICOLE CARATAS**
Saint Mary's Editor

Sophomore Morgan Matthews explained the meanings of socialism and communism in a Saint Mary's Justice Education Program presentation Tuesday.

Matthews defined socialism as "various economic or political theories that advocate for collective or government ownership and administration based on production and means of goods," which may or may not include private property based on the different branches of socialism.

According to Matthews, the top 10 socialist countries are China, Denmark, Finland, The Netherlands, Canada, Sweden, Norway, Ireland, New Zealand and Belgium. She said these countries demonstrate the different ways socialism can be implemented, as well as the benefits that can come from socialist governments.

Matthews said there is a distinction between socialism and communism, though these two often are confused or used interchangeably. She defined communism as "a totalitarian system of government in which a single authoritarian party controls means of production."

"Communism eliminates private property completely," she said. "[Socialism] has government programs where the government does have influence and most of the ownership. However, you do have your own private property."

She said presidential candidate Bernie Sanders has brought socialism to the forefront of American politics.

"Because of the Cold War and the Iron Curtain, people think of socialism as being the same as communism," she said. "Communism is a complete radicalization of what socialism means, and ... democratic socialism is how people presently have been using socialism in the government."

"Instead of government controlling everything you do and all your property, it's saying, 'We need a little more money so we can distribute that money so your children can go to school without extreme amounts of debt or you can break your leg and go to the hospital and not have to worry about the [cost].'"

According to Matthews, the United States is afraid of socialism because of its ties with communism and the Soviet Union, but she believes the capitalist mentality overlooks the truths behind socialism.

"In socialism, you work hard and you get far," she said. "However, you have people helping you. You have programs helping you. You have the system helping you. It's not to each his own, it's not a dog-eat-dog world. It's everyone is helping you get far in life and everyone is helping you get far in life — they're not trying to draw you back."

According to Matthews, socialism in the United States does not look like socialism as the entire economic system, but rather focuses on democratic socialism. She said she wants Americans to learn what socialism is instead of shying away from it out of fear of communism.

"You use different aspects of the types of government," she said. "You use capitalism regarding some aspects, you use socialism regarding other aspects."

Matthews said she believes capitalism can empower a country, but it can also be problematic.

"At this point, capitalism has become too big, too strong," she said. "It's starting to collapse on itself and cause problems for itself. If we try to rein it in a little more, maybe that would help."

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STUDENT SENATE

Group calls for removal of Cosby's degree

By MEGAN VALLEY
News Writer

Editor's note: A version of this story appeared online March 26.

The Student Senate passed a resolution March 23 recommending that the University revoke Bill Cosby's honorary

degree. Eight amendments to the Student Union constitution regarding elections were also passed at last week's meeting.

A committee consisting of Badin Hall senator Alex Fincher, Ryan Hall senator Isabel Fox and Pangborn Hall senator Taylor Still presented

their resolution to recommend that Bill Cosby's honorary degree be revoked, citing in the resolution that he "admitted under oath to using illegal sedatives to coerce women into sexual intercourse."

"Mr. Cosby's association with these behaviors is in direct conflict with the

University's stance, as stated in du Lac, that 'sexual assault is inconsistent with the University's values and incompatible with the safe, healthy environment that the Notre Dame community expects,'" the resolution stated.

The Senate voted to pass the resolution, student body Parliamentarian Sara Dugan said.

The constitutional amendments covered many areas of student body elections, including the campaign process, election dates and finance for elections.

All physical campaigning materials must now be no larger than 11 by 17 inches — clarifications for where materials can be placed were also addressed.

Previously, classrooms could not be used at any time for campaigning, but a new amendment states that classrooms cannot be used for campaigning during a class period or during an exam.

Elections for student body president and vice president will now be on the fourth Wednesday of the second semester. If necessary, the runoff election will still be held on the following Monday.

A new subsection regarding student body election finance was also added:

"The Judicial Council shall make available funds to reimburse the candidates for student body president and vice president of expenses incurred for the purpose of campaigning. These expenses must have been presented to the Election Committee. Reimbursements shall not exceed the campaign spending limit [\$200], and the Judicial

Council president shall approve these reimbursements."

Sophomores Daniel Cohen and Alexandra Henderson were approved as the Student Union Treasurers after being nominated by current Student Union Treasurer Mason Shinn.

Student Union Board (SUB) Director of Operations Rebekah Rumschlag, on behalf of the selection committee, said the committee chose junior Louis Bertolotti to serve a second term as the Executive Director of SUB.

"I am fully confident that Louis has the skills, expertise and attitude necessary to choose and work with the rest of the members of SUB to maintain SUB's standard of excellence in the upcoming year," Rumschlag read from her letter.

Michael Meyer, an associate professional specialist in the Mendoza College of Business, was awarded the Frank O'Malley Undergraduate Teaching Award after being nominated by two students, student body secretary Mae Raab said in an email.

The Irish Clover Award is given to two individuals — students, faculty, staff or administrators — who have demonstrated exemplary service to the Student Union. This year's award was given to Bryan Ricketts, student body president, and John Ritschard, a worker in South Dining Hall, Raab said.

Ricketts was nominated by senior Zach Waterson, the outgoing judicial council president.

"He has dedicated an incredible amount of time to the Notre Dame Student Union, serving as a role model for younger student leaders and as a resource to his peers," Waterson said in his nomination letter.

Another committee including Dillon Hall senator Michael Finan, Cavanaugh Hall senator Kathleen Rocks and St. Edward's Hall senator John Kill presented two resolutions regarding Notre Dame's partnership with Zhejiang University, Raab said.

The first resolution requested transparency regarding the partnership and the second proposed the creation of a standing committee "to represent the Notre Dame community, which shall be comprised of faculty, staff and students with the express purpose of discussing, assessing and making recommendations regarding the University's partnership with Zhejiang University."

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Lost in the Cosmos: Did Walker Percy Really Write the Last Self-Help Book?

Peter Lawler, Berry College
7 p.m. Thursday, March 31
The Oak Room, South Dining Hall



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Contact Megan Valley at
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College creates Class Council

By **KATHRYN MARSHALL**
News Writer

Members of the first Class Council at Saint Mary's will be announced this week. The Class Council will take the place of Class Boards, Brittany House, director of student involvement, said in an email.

The Class Council will hold the same responsibility of building class community through organizing events, programs and parent weekends, similar to the current duties of the Class Boards, House said. The decision to restructure Class Boards into Class Councils was made in collaboration with current Class Board presidents and vice presidents.

"The current Class Board presidents and vice presidents saw a need for change, and I worked very closely with them, as their adviser, to develop the new structure and utilized their feedback, in addition to benchmarking, to determine the new structure," she said.

The four Class Boards each had different numbers and arrangements of members, she said. The

new Class Council will consist of nine members, including two representatives from each class, and an additional representative from the senior class who will be the president of the overall council, House said.

In order to avoid confusion with the previously existing structure, benchmarking was conducted to determine a new name for the restructured Class Board, House said. The process determined that many schools with a similar group use the name 'council,' and the name was applied to the group at Saint Mary's.

"The hope is the new structure will provide more cohesion among the council, a higher level of accountability for all council representatives and a smoother transition for the first-year class representatives," she said. "The new Class Council selection process follows the same guidelines as the other 'big boards' of Student Activities Board, Student Diversity Board and Residence Hall Association."

Contact **Kathryn Marshall** at kmarsh02@saintmarys.edu

Policy

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Immigration law is not something that is sort of part and parcel of our history from its inception," Jones said. "We have changed the way that we thought about immigration, the way that we thought about newcomers and the way that we thought about people who are in and who we want out."

While policies have changed, Jones said, the spotlight on the Latino population during discussions about immigration has remained consistent.

"When we're talking about [immigration] in terms of politics we are almost always thinking about Latinos, and now increasingly, Muslims," she said. "As soon as we had this idea about whom we wanted out, Mexicans sort of stood in for them. ... This isn't a permanent situation, but it is certainly something we have done before."

Fraga said because of this stereotype immigration serves as part of the conversation surrounding racial discrimination in the United States.

"The politics of U.S. immigration policy have always been tied to visions of national identity, and I think we see that today," he said. "The controversy over that vision of national identity related to immigration is tied to

the role of marginalized, especially racial ethnic groups in the United States. It's never just about immigration."

Jones said although immigration has taken center stage in several presidential primary debates during this election season, immigration policy is more commonly affected at the state level.

"In terms of the level to which immigration is important to you in choosing a presidential candidate, your choices are actually relatively clear," she said. "However, the way that I see it is that's not where the action is. What's more important to me is you paying attention to what's happening at the state level. At this point, the way that we deal with immigration law and policy has much more to do with what is happening within the context of states than what's happening at the federal level."

States' focus on immigration began as a way to promote action by the federal government, Fraga said.

"States began to take immigration into their hands out of a perception that the inefficiencies of federal government were causing them to incur more costs and its citizens to pay for costs that the inefficiencies of federal enforcement policy was requiring," he said.

Jones said a president's executive power is limited in terms of altering or creating immigration

policy.

"We're in a very different position because, in the real world, comprehensive immigration reform can't be passed without senators and legislators, and you can't actually deport 40 million people without massive local-level support," Jones said. "So whatever the presidential candidates are saying and what they plan to do is not inconsequential, but it doesn't measure up to the kind of things that you see at the state level."

Fraga said the focus on immigration during the presidential election provides voters with an opportunity to shape the country's future.

"The placement of immigration front and center in the presidential campaign by Donald Trump ... makes our choice as to who we're going to support an opportunity to determine what vision for the country we have," he said.

Fraga said he advises caution in deciding where the country's future should go because this choice will have long-term effects.

"The choices that you're making today, given the choices among the candidates, will have direct implications for what your country is going to be like for a long period of time," he said.

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Veto

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

bill, said transparency was not the bill's primary purpose. If passed, the bill would have required private university police departments to align their training programs with those of public agencies, he said.

"My number one goal was protecting students from crime," he said.

Throughout the bill's legislative process, a high-profile lawsuit over access to Notre Dame's private police records has been unfolding. ESPN sued the University in January 2015 after Notre Dame Security Police (NDSP) refused to release incident reports related to student-athletes on two separate occasions.

The Indiana Court of Appeals ruled in favor of ESPN on March 15, finding

NDSP to be a public agency subject to public record laws and reversing the decision of the trial court. The case was remanded to the trial court to determine what types of records NDSP will be required to produce under Indiana's Access to Public Records Act (APRA).

"While House Enrolled Act 1022 provides for limited disclosure of records from private university police departments, it would limit the application of the Access to Public Records Act following the Court of Appeals decision and result in less disclosure, therefore I have decided to veto the bill," Pence said in the statement. "Hoosiers may be assured that my administration will always be vigilant to preserve government accountability and the public's right to know."

When dealing with college police departments, Bauer said he thinks transparency

is necessary at times — namely, when handling crimes.

"You have to say what the balance of rights is. And the balance of rights comes out in favor of the privacy of students," he said.

"While House Enrolled Act 1022 provides for limited disclosure of records from private university police departments, it would limit the application of the Access to Public Records Act following the Court of Appeals decision and result in less disclosure, therefore I have decided to veto the bill."

Mike Pence
Governor of Indiana

"Transparency of a crime is where I draw the line. If you have a fight in your house, that's private. If it's an assault fight, that's a crime."

Bauer said he had to consider federal privacy laws

— the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) and the Clery Act — when redefining state privacy laws.

"You're balancing federal law with state law, and you're protecting private rights and

the private privileges that the students have by law," he said. "... That dorm is your home. That is not public — that's private."

Bauer said he did not write the bill in response to the

Notre Dame-ESPN lawsuit; instead, he said he saw a need for the bill after watching "The Hunting Ground," a 2015 documentary profiling sexual assault cases on college campuses, including Notre Dame.

"I think something's got to be done in protecting students, and I think the movie proved it," he said. "I think it's great that everybody cares. This could have all gone away and not happened."

Bauer, a Notre Dame graduate, said the Independent Colleges of Indiana (ICI) asked to help work on the bill. Bauer serves on the board of the ICI, but said his position does not create a bias because he would not benefit personally from the bill in any way.

Notre Dame supported the ICI's efforts to increase transparency in private university police departments, Paul Browne, vice president for public affairs and communications, said in an email.

"With the veto, the situation reverts to where no reporting whatsoever is required," Browne said. "ICI showed the way forward, but regrettably it was rejected."

The General Assembly might have the chance to override the veto if the bill is handed down in the next session, which begins in January 2017, Bauer said. However, the pending results of the ESPN lawsuit will affect the bill's future impact.

Bauer said he doubts the court's ruling in the ESPN lawsuit will completely resolve the debate over public records, further legal or legislative action may have to be taken.

"Overriding a veto is a difficult option," he said. "Sometimes, though, if you're going to make a change in a law that's not controversial, it's not making much of a change."

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INSIDE COLUMN

Dispelling the toxicity



Ryan Klaus
Sports Writer

The University's decision earlier this month to award the Laetare Medal to Vice President Joe Biden and former Speaker of the House John Boehner at the 2016 Commencement Ceremony has ignited an array of debate and controversy across campus. The Observer has reported in detail on the different reactions resulting from the decision and has been the primary platform for students to criticize its implications, which started just days after the announcement when a student petition and accompanying letter denounced the University's commitment to awarding Biden the medal given his history of supporting the legality of abortion and same-sex marriage in his political career.

A separate Letter to the Editor followed, which asked dissenters of the University's decision to not lose sight of the importance of all facets of Catholic Social Teaching when judging the worthiness of this year's honorees. Specifically, the authors emphasized Boehner's views on immigration and environmental issues, which have contradicted pretty plainly the principles of various elements of Catholic Social Teaching.

Assuredly, much of what can be said about these contentious decisions has already been spoken, but what cannot be forgotten about in this holistic discussion is the simple, yet important fact that there is nothing near a perfect intersection between the Catholic Church and politics in the United States, which should be the case in a country that was founded heavily on an ethos of religious freedom. In fact, statistics from the most recent presidential election show that no party came close to having a notable majority of the support of Catholic voters and that should be the expectation for the upcoming election this November.

Essentially, the University could have chosen any politician from each of Biden and Boehner's respective parties and comparable protest would have resulted. Therefore, a reasonable argument could be made that politicians should be avoided altogether in the selection of its recipients; in recent history, that has largely been the case — New York Senator Dan Moynihan was the last practicing politician to receive the honor in 1992.

Certainly, University President Fr. John Jenkins knew when the choice was made to honor Biden and Boehner that a significant share of demurrals would follow even though the University's explanation clearly dictated that it did not wish to endorse policy positions of either politician with its decisions. Ultimately, he and the University decided that the benefits of attempting to dispel the toxicity of contemporary politics outweighed the inevitable disapproval and criticism that ensued and will continue to effervesce from now until graduation.

Given the Catholic lens that is the basis for the entirety of the criteria for judging Laetare honorees, objections can undeniably be made against both of this year's recipients. However, when criticizing, dissenters should realize that there is no genuine Catholic political party in the United States and thus try to avoid forms of debating that are a microcosm of the "toxic political environment" that the University was trying to nullify when making these decisions in the first place.

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

Battling the post-Easter blahs

Gary Caruso
Capitol Comments

Our Christian joie de vivre revolves around rising above the power of death. Surely if anyone yearns to personally be lifted from a seemingly inner bottomless sorrow to boundless joy, the Easter season should be that catalyst to shepherd along such solace. Yet the ravage of witnessing firsthand a family member's long-term cancer struggle oftentimes irreparably scars one's soul. For many who presently languish through the gnawing grief that lingers after a loved one's passing — particularly several branches of my family tree this year — Easter week conveyed a mere contrived comfort.

Just as each of us portrays our own unique personality, all of us grieve in an inimitable manner. My sister still mourns the husband she lost last October just as intensely as my cousins suffer today through their third week following their family matriarch's departure. Another relative, who lost her fiancé to cancer two years ago, suffered anew a shocking heartbreak on Good Friday when her 12-year-old Sheltie's heart gave out without the slightest inkling of illness. Her home became quiet and lonely on the doorstep of what would ordinarily be an enthusiastic holiday weekend.

Each of our "Family Trinity" endured a year of frantically praying for healing grace. To a person, they each abandoned a routine life to loyally serve while observing the gradual decay of a companion's body. For each, their spiritual paths toward understanding a guilt-free purpose in life may have intersected this Easter season, but by all accounts none has mastered how to merge the sorrow of the crucifixion with the joy of resurrection.

It is not difficult to harken to a joyous Easter when our families were whole. However, the healing path that melds intense sorrow with profound joy is not solely gained by memorializing our fond times together — so frequently characterized as celebrating another's life. Certainly, we yearn to continue our long-held rituals, once shared with our loved ones, in hopes of conjuring back a glimmer within the darkened corners of our beings. This year we may laugh and recall the time a baby splashed a bowl of egg coloring dye on everyone, but the slightest stark present-day anomaly drags us from that bygone comfortable moment. None our dearly departed who just a year ago sat with us to color eggs but passed prior to the Paris terror attack could recognize the desolate significance of a red, white and blue Eiffel Tower egg.

What Gospel passage should we rely upon to seek our way through such sorrows? My initial reaction is to ignore scripture but escape through my reminiscence of our family vacations in Italy when we visited the so-called "Bone Church,"

Our Lady of the Conception of the Capuchins or the tomb of Saint Ignatius Loyola at Chiesa del Gesu. How ghastly it seemed for me to not feel the slightest grief while gazing at someone's remains — a person others loved just as dearly, if not more during centuries ago, as my family loved our recently departed. It was a macabre setting where human bones were affixed to the ceiling to form images of roses. How strange to stare at the marble cherubs adorning the background walls that abut the tomb or at more cheery cherubs on the iron gate that guards the crypt. Is this the mix of feelings we should balance when our loved ones pass on?

Our human frailty limits our easy pathway forward if we only carry the memories of our departed within our personal sorrows. Forging through sorrow like Jesus passed through death clears the trail to joy and a new life. Matthew 6:33 sums up that general catchall advice, "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

While it may appear effortless to proclaim the way forward from atop a pulpit, our modern worldliness most often barricades our labors. Those lofty pronouncements require us to relinquish selfish pursuits to achieve a higher spirituality. For many who are skeptical about life in general, asking us to fully embrace that counsel is almost an impossible road to trek.

Throughout the years, I developed my personal two-pronged coping mechanism to survive my family sorrows. The first pillar is my faith in another life to come where I will be reunited with my departed loved ones — not necessarily as the Catholic heaven and hell alternative, or a Buddhist transmigration, but with some new enlightenment on another level where we all repeatedly traverse. Secondly, I drift into a numb and mesmerized trance-like state of mind where I can absorb my shocked sensibilities and attempt to burn away its sting.

Usually I further select a song our family requests at a funeral mass, "Shepherd me Oh Lord," and repetitively hum it in my mind as it carries my thoughts to a calming place. This past weekend, I achieved inner peace by selecting an uplifting and traditional Easter mass recessional hymn. It is the perfectly inspiring song to hum, "Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia."

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Truth, charity and the Laetare Medal

John VanBerkum
Guest Columnist

Let me begin with a quote from Michael Sean Winters, a reporter for the National Catholic Reporter and a supporter of University President Fr. John Jenkins' decision to honor Vice President Joe Biden and former Speaker of the House John Boehner with the Laetare Medal: "This year's Laetare award sends the unmistakable signal that the time for building walls, either those erected by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops or those promised by Mr. Trump, has ended and the time for building bridges has begun."

This seems to be a common refrain after Pope Francis' exchange with Donald Trump a few weeks ago. But, what is actually involved in building bridges, and why might some efforts be considered building walls?

Turning to Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI in "Caritas in veritate" is enlightening: "A Christianity of charity without truth would be more or less interchangeable with a pool of good sentiments, helpful for social cohesion, but of little relevance. In other words, there would no longer be any real place for God in the world. Without truth, charity is confined to a narrow field devoid of relations. It is excluded from the plans and processes of promoting human development of universal range."

Bridges are built by charity in truth, that is, charity anchored in or indivisible from truth, because charity in truth promotes human development and fosters real human relations. How? Truth satisfies and fills that emptiness within us that often drives our searching, and charity is the bond of relationship by which we encounter such truth.

Walls are built by charity without truth: treating someone as the sum of their emotions (and therefore working to satisfy those alone) rather than as a human longing for something much deeper: the truth of existence and life itself. Charity severed from truth does not promote the development of a community of people yearning for authentic happiness.

When we honor someone for civility in politics while at the same time failing to point out where he has separated himself from the truths of his faith while acting in the political sphere, we are actually building walls. Such a recognition tells the Catholic faithful that the radical witness of the Catholic faith — in which charity and truth are inseparable — has no place in politics. Truth, it seems, should be covered up or set aside for personal life.

We should look, however, at the nature of the Laetare Medal itself. "Magna est veritas et prevalebit" is the inscription on the medal, translated, "Truth is mighty, and it shall prevail."

We should go right to the source to discover the ultimate meaning of such words.

"I am the way, and the truth, and the life," Jesus said.

And another passage from Scripture: "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

Truth — Jesus — sets us free. Bridges, not walls, set us free. Jesus is indeed mighty and has prevailed against all evil.

How then are the lives of Biden and Boehner witnesses to truth, to Jesus, in the realm in which they work — politics? How do they live up to the radical witness of God on a cross or the martyrs burned alive for their faith?

We do not talk like this today, and this probably causes many of us to cringe. By radical, however, I do

not mean crazy and irrational. I mean Jesus: a healer of the sick, outspoken against hypocrisy and a complete gift to others. We are not called to be nice (Jesus was not always nice). We are called to be charitable (offering ourselves in relationship) and to speak the truth (to be in truth), which can sometimes seem harsh to hardened hearts.

By honoring civility over the truth, is granting this medal to Biden and Boehner perpetuating the indifference to truth, the moral relativism, that is so prevalent in our culture?

Both are Catholic, yet Biden supports the funding of contraception and embryonic stem cell research, and Boehner stalls immigration reform.

Giving this award to Biden and Boehner is a direct contradiction of the very nature of the medal itself. Rather than encouraging political dialogue, it instead builds walls. It encourages everyone, and politicians in particular, to disregard truth.

Biden and Boehner are prominent politicians, maybe as prominent as one can be: The perfect stage, one would think, to voice their knowledge of the truth learned from the mother they purport to accept as Catholics — holy mother Church.

Where is the radical Catholic witness of charity in truth today? Are we mired in indifference to truth? This University should be the hands and voice of charity in truth for the whole nation. We should not be afraid to proclaim the truth that we know in the public square.

There is still hope though. Be radical, Fr. Jenkins: rescind the award.

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Candidates disagree about income inequality

Abby Ferguson and Kylie Ruscheinski
Bridging the Gap

Over the past few weeks, BridgeND has had a running column about income inequality. As we move into the final stages of the primaries, it is the perfect time to see just how realistic the candidates' views on income inequality — and how to fix it — are.

While the Republican Party's front-running candidates do not necessarily address income inequality directly as a major issue, they have been vocal about the need for tax plan reform. These candidates' main issue lies in the current tax rates based on income.

Donald Trump pushes for tax reform that will "make America great again." His focus is on providing relief for the middle class by creating job growth and bringing jobs back that have been moved overseas. Trump believes that his simplified tax plan will not only expand the economy, but that it will not add at all to the current country's debt and deficit. The concern is that Trump's simple tax plan might just be too simple. By decreasing the tax brackets to four instead of seven, and by capping the tax of the nation's highest earners at 25 percent, Trump does not account for the inevitable losses in revenue for the country. His current stance is that ending all "loopholes" within the country's tax plan is enough to make up for the unavoidable losses, but fails to provide any evidence to back this belief up.

Ted Cruz has taken a different route than Trump, with his platform pushing for "The Simple Flat Tax Plan." Under the flat tax, the existing seven different rates of individual income tax will all become the same rate of 10 percent for personal income. Cruz plans on continuing the Child Tax Credit, charitable giving deduction and home mortgage interest deduction. Cruz also plans on initial income exemptions for low- and middle-income taxpayers. The

concern with this plan is similar to that of Trump's, in that it seems too simple. By universalizing the tax rate, numerous families will receive enormous tax breaks. While this is theoretically good, Cruz has yet to specify how his plans will address revenue losses.

Both plans represented by the Republican front-runners fail to truly address the problem of income inequality, and actually both pose the possibility of increasing the already large gap. By taxing the wealthy at lesser rates or by just universalizing the rate, inequality is not being adequately addressed.

The Democratic candidates, on the other hand, are putting much more emphasis on the ideas of income inequality, but plan on using other methods to solve the issue. Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders' focuses lie more heavily on social issues, though both mention tax reforms as subsets of some of their plans.

Hillary Clinton aims to better the economy by focusing on three main categories of change: "strong growth," "fair growth" and "long-term growth." These include ideas to raise the minimum wage (to \$12 federally, and possibly higher at state digestion), close corporate tax loopholes and create jobs by investing in clean energy, scientific and medical research and infrastructure. The most common argument against her plans are against the raise in minimum wage, which many say will cause cuts to jobs.

Bernie Sanders addresses income inequality more than any other candidate. It could be argued that it is his main talking point, followed closely by "getting big money out of politics," reforming Wall Street and combating climate change. A self-proclaimed democratic socialist, Sanders is a big supporter of the \$15 federal minimum wage, ensuring that corporations do not escape income tax, investing \$1 trillion in infrastructure over the next five years, making tuition free at public universities and more;

there are 13 specific plans total, all listed on his campaign page. While most of these plans sound positive, many worry that his plans are too radical and not practical, leaving people concerned that he will not be able to deliver on these lofty promises — particularly if Congress continues to be Republican-dominated — therefore leaving him unable to address income inequality. Another big worry is that his plans call for a large amount of government spending, something many people aren't eager to increase as our national debt continues to rise.

While the Democratic candidates more openly discuss income inequality and acknowledge it as a problem, even aiming to reform similar areas (minimum wage, college, infrastructure) in order to fight it, there are large differences in the specifics of their plans.

This overview was able to give a general idea of each candidate's stance, but by no means encompassed the whole of their ideas or plans with regards to income inequality.

Stay informed and happy voting!

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BridgeND is a bipartisan student organization that brings students from across the political spectrum together in discussions concerning public policy issues. The viewpoints expressed in this article do not necessarily reflect the opinion of BridgeND but are the individual opinions of the author. Contact BridgeND at bridgend@nd.edu or follow them on Twitter at [@bridge_nd](https://twitter.com/bridge_nd)

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Aziz Ansari analyzes the dating scene in 'Modern Romance'

By **KEELY BERGIN**
Scene Writer

If you opened Aziz Ansari's "Modern Romance" looking for a book purely composed of dating advice with a punch line, you would be sorely disappointed. The book is really the findings of a study on how the ways people date have changed, particularly in relation to the difficulties of textual communication and technology like Tinder and OkCupid. Ansari, along with New York University sociologist Erik Klinenburg and a host of other research professionals, studied different aspects of dating, from "the initial ask" to "settling down." In between, Ansari provides candid commentary on the risks and rewards of increased choice in the dating world, the role of online dating and the issue of cheating in its various forms. Admittedly, the book lacks a fruitful discussion of these issues within an LGBT context.

The basis of Ansari's book is that people today are seeking a different kind of marriage than people sought at least until the 1960s. According to Ansari,

companionate marriage was common, but now people ask for more: We want soul mates. With accounts by people from a range of ages, including anecdotes from residents of retirement communities, Ansari more or less substantiates the claim. However, Ansari isn't trying to say that your grandparents don't love each other. As Ansari puts it, "These marriages may have started with a simmer, but over time they could build to a boil." The search for one's soul mate is no easy task. Ansari uses funny narratives from his own life as well as from others to highlight how this generation — including himself — is accustomed to getting "the best," whether it's the place you're going for brunch or the person you're looking to marry.

One of the most interesting parts of the book is how the study examines online dating. The study found that dating apps or websites become frustrating when "people spend way too much time doing the online part; not the dating part." Instead they should be used as "introducing services." That perspective of online dating puts a whole new spin

on chat-based apps, like Tinder. Ansari's commentary on apps like Tinder is playful, but he is careful not to discount the real fears that people have about meeting online matches in real life. He discusses the problems with online dating including but not limited to the "student mentality," in which the swiper overestimates their own attractiveness, and the multitude of potential dates as a problem rather than a host of good opportunities. Ansari sees online dating as the dating of the future, despite the various pitfalls that come along with swipe-based apps. If you are looking for picture tips to get more matches, he provides those too. On the whole, the book leaves it to the reader to decide whether this move from meeting people locally through friends or civic engagement to online is good or bad.

The book also looks at the way the Internet and technology has changed dating internationally. In places like Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, the Internet provides avenues for romantic freedom that were previously unavailable. The book highlights the difficulties

of dating in Japan, which is due partly to evolving gender roles and increasingly educated women remaining in the workforce, and the perhaps more aggressive dating scene in Buenos Aires. The cases serve to mirror each other, one where it is difficult to date because a lack of assertiveness, and one where rejection is difficult to get across to pursuers and casual sex is more common. Through mirroring such extreme cases, Ansari is able to show how being too far on either end of the spectrum is detrimental to productive relationships.

"Modern Romance" is an insightful, often hilarious study of how dating works today. Ansari cleverly weaves jokes between chapters and maintains the necessary lighthearted authority to speak about dating without appearing condescending or overly logical. "Modern Romance" would be an excellent read for anyone wondering why people choose to meet through screens today.

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ZAYN GROOVES IN A NEW DIRECTION ON



'MIND OF MINE'

By **JIMMY KEMPER**
Scene Writer

The theme of rebirth is as central to pop music as breakups, rebellion and desire. Recreating one's identity is pivotal in an industry so fluid and fast-paced, and to pull it off successfully is another feat entirely. Bowie, the embodiment of this flexibility, did it a couple dozen times as he shifted from Goblin King to Ziggy Stardust to everything in between and ultimately leaving us this year as Lazarus. Justin Bieber transformed himself to great effect last year with "Purpose" under the umbrella of redemption. Now Zayn Malik of One Direction fame is doing the same, attempting to reestablish himself as the darker, more mature sex symbol "ZAYN" with his first solo album "Mind of Mine."

Here, Zayn has stripped himself of the tween-friendly charm that sent One Direction to the top of the charts around the globe, instead opting for a more mysterious R&B-influenced sound. To say the least, walking away from the most popular boy band in the world is a bold move, and it's one that could ultimately

end in disaster for the 23-year-old.

So far it seems to be paying off. The four remaining members of One Direction pumped out one final album, "Made in the A.M.," near the end of last year before going on a hiatus in January that many believe to be permanent. Harry Styles has been cast in the next Christopher Nolan film "Dunkirk" while the rest of the band has no official plans as of yet, giving Zayn a strong head start on taking control of the legions of One Direction fans for himself.

With "Mind of Mine," Zayn isn't just going for the One Direction fans. He's trying to tap into an older audience, one that jams to Bieber, The Weeknd and Drake at the club on Saturday night. Diving fully into the moodier, R&B-based space those artists occupy certainly seems ambitious on the surface, but the lack of a cohesive, thoughtful narrative makes it seem like Zayn is playing it safe, which ultimately detracts from the hot, new "bad boy" look he's mustered up.

Take, for instance, his first single "PILLOWTALK." This was the moment where Zayn was supposed to totally

detach himself from the sugary pop of One Direction and seize the throne of male pop-stardom. Production wise, it's textbook, '80s throwback synth pop. It's well done, but it's not really taking music in a new direction forward nor a step back. And then there's the lyrics. What Zayn, like many other pop stars before him, has failed to realize is that explicitly talking about sex doesn't make you an adult, it just makes you a douche. With that out of the way, the lyrics are filled with vague platitudes about how awesome sex with Gigi Hadid is and the occasional, awful bit that love is a war zone.

This dullness and vagueness pervades throughout a number of the tracks throughout the album, but that doesn't necessarily make it a bad album. In fact, there are quite a few moments where Zayn is a bit more experimental. I really loved "LIKE I WOULD" because here it sounds like Zayn is genuinely having fun trying to be his own guy and not just selling us the edgy, "I'm cooler than Harry Styles' man bun" act. Plus, the up-tempo beats straight bump. Tracks "dRuNk" and "BoRdErSz" are definitely also worth

a few listens, as they more fully flesh out who Zayn is as a person and artist.

These moments on "Mind of Mine" get me excited about what Zayn can do as he grows in this new music space. I'm glad Zayn has chosen these moody R&B vibes, because when he's comfortable and willing to take a little risk, he really soars. Overall, "Mind of Mine" may not be the Bieber-esque recreation that Zayn was going for, but it definitely puts him in a great direction going forward.

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"Mind of Mine" ZAYN

Label: RCA Records

Tracks: "LIKE I WOULD," "dRuNk," "BoRdErSz"

If you like: The Weeknd, Justin Bieber, One Direction





A Monologue for Two:

An Interview with the creators of 'Slurp'

By JACK RIEDY
Scene Writer

Two young women sit on a park bench, phones in hand. It's a familiar scene in any public place. Each woman frequently glances at her screen, never making eye contact with the other. They eat large ice cream cones as they talk at each other, never pausing to wipe the white residue from their faces. As their conversation escalates, so does the amount of ice cream running off their chins down to their clothes.

This surreal tableau is the subject of "SLURP," a short film written by and starring Catherine Cohen and Patti Harrison. The duo released the film on Vimeo in February. Since then, it has attracted more than seven thousand views and coverage by New York Magazine. The Observer spoke with the Brooklyn-based comedians about the film's origins and their plans for a follow-up.

Catherine Cohen plays Tanya Claire, who vents about her mother dating her ex and spending her graduate school fund on jet skis, yet responds to her acquaintance's entire bloodline having cancer with merely a cooed "babe!" As a Princeton theater alum, Cohen credits the comedy community in New York with helping her break away from her musical theater roots. "People are making their own stuff, and I'm not waiting around for someone to cast me in some play," she said. As her other videos can attest, she has done improv, sketches and stand-up. Cohen also does commercial voice-over work by day.

Patti Harrison's character Jamie-Lynn Jennifer ignores her friend's woes to pontificate about her four years in grad school that ended without a diploma when the dean announced at commencement that she had never actually been enrolled. Her dreams of underwater welding are crushed. Discussing her background, Harrison jokes that she swore a blood oath to her improv troupe at Ohio University. "We were long-form though, so it was worth it," she said. "I lost a lot of family members because I

was prioritizing improv." Since moving to Brooklyn, she has instead performed character monologues in variety shows. "SLURP" marks her first sketch to be filmed and released.

The sketch began as a live performance at the Peoples Improv Theater, part of a comedy duos show called Peas in a Pod. Despite barely knowing each other, Cohen asked Harrison to partner up. They wrote the sketch in just 40 minutes. "I tend to over-plan and ask, 'What is the intention? What is something possibly negative that someone can perceive from this?'" Harrison said. "Everything's eggshells in 2016. Everything I do is calculated." Cohen's approach was to instead take a simple premise and try a barrage of bizarre jokes, then mold them together. "When I work alone, I'm so precious," Cohen said, "but with someone else, I trust their sensibility, so it's easy to bounce ideas back and forth."

The premise stemmed from seeing someone eating a giant ice cream cone in a public park. "Eating while trying to do something else is always funny," Cohen stated before pausing to flip a fried egg. The logic behind the characters' names was similarly self-evident. Cohen had been ruminating on the phrase "Tanya Claire: Fashion Girl" for a year, while Harrison likened three word names to animals given very specific human names, like a fat old Labrador named Bianca.

Though the characters are not based directly on any real-life people, Harrison was inspired by a college friend. "She was one of the nicest people, motherly and pleasant," Harrison said. "She would show people she couldn't laugh at an offensive or off-color joke, even though she really appreciated it. She would say the bleakest things and not react at the appropriate capacity. Just flippant."

Tanya Claire and Jamie-Lynn Jennifer's self-centered perspective drives the conversation. "They are acknowledging the sound coming out of someone without truly responding,

They're instead thinking about what to say next," Harrison said. "I say this as someone who has all the responses for this interview planned, regardless of the questions asked," she quipped. The result is closer to a series of monologues than it is true dialogue. The emotional distance between the characters is juxtaposed with their physical proximity on a park bench.

After the sketch's live debut, director Grace Naw approached them, eager to film it. Naw set up a 4K camera in a park at a wide angle and cut in from there for individual shots. "SLURP" was filmed in only one take, and the actors had the luxury of reading their lines from their phones during shooting. "Patti arrived an hour and a half late. I was wildly hung-over and really heartbroken. I had a meltdown the night before. We both showed up damaged," Cohen deadpanned.

The actors both praised Naw for understanding the tone of the sketch. "When a writer takes something near and dear to their heart to a director, that partnership doesn't always work," Harrison stated, "Grace was on the same wavelength." The director even chastened them for listening to each other too much.

The film ends by revealing that Tanya Claire and Jamie-Lynn Jennifer have been licking up acrylic paint. The live incarnation ended differently, with both characters announcing lethal allergy to vanilla ice cream and whipping out EpiPens. Knowing they needed a conclusion and hoping to avoid stabbing each other again, the duo simply thought of what other white substance they could be holding in sugar cones. They credited Naw with editing the result in a way that made it feel like a punchline.

Cohen and Harrison excitedly announced that they are working on a follow-up to "SLURP" with Naw returning as director. There is currently no title or release date, but the film is being edited. "I know fans are dying to know, 'What white substance did they slap on this month?'" Cohen said. "No spoilers, but

there's a lot of Greek yogurt in the mix."

"We actually put time and thought into this one," she continued, "so it's probably not gonna be as good. We're both in good moods and feeling okay with ourselves."

The duo plans to continue performing together live. On April 8, they will be at Over the Eight as part of "It's A Guy Thing," a so-called lecture series where performers satirize traditional masculinity. Describing past iterations of the monthly show, Harrison said, "It's the dumbest show with the dumbest sets I've ever seen, and it's beautiful." They are even writing songs for the event.

Harrison and Cohen are also planning a June show at a rented church called "Hunchback of Notre Prom," a prom for hideous people. There will be comedy, music and even a crowning of king and queen. "Ugly people should get to feel a good feeling sometimes. Not all the time, but sometimes," Harrison said drily. Cohen chimed in, "It would be fun to know for one night what it's like to not be debilitatingly gorgeous."

The comedic chemistry between these two is clear, even in conversation. After explaining that they have to work on only one laptop due to a string of computer failures, Cohen dipped into a lilted charity commercial tone to pitch a Kickstarter campaign. Harrison insisted that she needs not just a laptop, but a nice one, like the futuristic displays in "Minority Report."

Their relationship is like the polar opposite of the distance they portray on-screen. "I love Patti," Cohen said. "When I don't see her for two days, I text her I miss her and she replies, 'Don't make me say it back,' because she can't."

"You've gotta earn it," Harrison replied.

With one short film under their belt and much more on the horizon, Cohen and Harrison are excited to continue creating together. "People have started calling us the Slurp Girls," Cohen said. "I think we might run with it."

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SPORTS AUTHORITY

UConn's success hurts the game



Ryan Klaus
Sports Writer

Over the weekend, Boston Globe journalist Dan Shaughnessy received an assortment of strident criticism for his tweet that suggested Connecticut's women's basketball team, which has lost one game in the last three seasons and has yet to win by less than double digits this year, is bad for the sport.

While Shaughnessy's tweet certainly could have used supplementary qualification — which anyone familiar with Twitter knows is impossible to adequately accomplish in 140 characters — much of the aggressive backlash it received was misguided.

Although unlikely, it would absolutely be of great benefit to women's college basketball if the Huskies were not the team crowned as champion next week at the Final Four in Indianapolis, and it would be delusional of any defender of the sport to not acknowledge — at least to some degree — the validity of such a statement.

Now, it is truly a shame that Huskies head coach Geno Auriemma, the premiere coach in not just women's college basketball but possibly basketball as a whole, has to consistently face criticism and answer questions about how his team's success may be detrimental to the sport. However, Auriemma's assertion during his press conference this past weekend that UConn's dynasty is no different from Tiger Woods' dominance during his prime years is simply not convincing in the current context of the sport.

Most fans would agree that some form of parity in any sport is desirable to a complete lack of it. The problem with women's college basketball's relationship with parity isn't just Auriemma and UConn's recent success; more significantly, it is the fact that dynasties and domination have been way too common in the history of the sport.

Since the women's tournament expanded to 64 teams in 1994, three universities have won 17 of the 22 championships. Additionally, there have been three separate three-peats, and the champions have consistently won each of their

tournament games by average margins of victory that exceeded 20 points per game.

Dynasties cycle through various sports every so often, but no major sport in recent history has seen its champion year-in and year-out dominate like women's college basketball. Yes, the Warriors are in the midst of a historic run of domination, but what makes it so enthralling to fans is that it hasn't happened in 20 years. The Blackhawks' recent success gives them a legitimate case to be titled a dynasty in the NHL, but it's the first legitimate claim any team has had in the league since the 1980s. It may take my entire lifetime for another player to dominate the PGA like Tiger Woods did in the late 1990s and early 2000s, if it does in fact ever happen again.

Of course, in no way does this argument suggest that no recognition should be granted to UConn if it, as expected, comes out on top next week, but it certainly would be an opportune time in the scope of the sport for an upset to occur. A Final Four that includes a No. 7 seed, Washington, and a No. 4 seed, Syracuse, hints there is parity underneath Connecticut's dominance, and some statistics even suggest there is more equality in the recruiting process in women's college basketball than there is in men's college basketball.

While men's college basketball will likely always be more popular than women's college basketball in regards to the allure of March Madness and absurdly continue to be the sole benefactor of the NCAA's monetary rewards for postseason success, it should not be refuted that the ending of UConn's suffocating supremacy would be beneficial for the sport.

Many of the responders to Shaughnessy's tweet, including Auriemma himself, pointed out that UConn's success will help the sport by forcing other teams to reach a higher standard of performance to be competitive. This is undeniably true. It would simply be better if this standard were reached by competitors sooner rather than later.

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

FENCING | NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS

Irish take fifth at NCAA championships

By **BEN PADANILAM**
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame took fifth place at the NCAA championships this past weekend, bringing its season to a close.

The four-day event opened with the women competing over the first two days. The Irish stood in second place heading into the men's half of the team event, trailing leader and eventual national champion Columbia by just two points.

However, the men struggled to carry that momentum forward, as Notre Dame dropped three spots over last two days and finished the event with a fifth-place finish in the 25-school field. Having come into the event with national championship aspirations, the Irish were disappointed with their performance, head coach Gia Kvaratskhelia said.

"Obviously we have a very disappointed team right now — that happens any time your goals are set so high and you fall short, and for our athletes it's compounded because they know they have the skill to accomplish it," Kvaratskhelia said.

Although the level of competition was as strong as expected, Kvaratskhelia said he thought the team's disappointing finish was largely due to failure to consistently pick up points in key opportunities.

"The talent level at the NCAA championships is always exceptionally high, but at the same time we have very talented fencers

on our roster as well," he said. "Our head-to-head bout performances support this: We split our bouts with first-place Columbia and second-place Ohio State, and we came out ahead against third-place Princeton. So that tells us that they gained separation over us through their performances against the rest of the field, and by extension that we weren't consistent enough against those other fencers."

While its finish as a team was underwhelming by its own expectations, Notre Dame saw 10 of its 12 fencers earn All-American honors this weekend. Headlining the group were freshmen Axel Kiefer and Sabrina Massialas, who were both named first team All-Americans following their third-place finishes in the men's and women's foil, respectively. Kvaratskhelia said he was also pleased with seniors Catherine Lee and Nicole McKee, who earned second and third team All-American honors for their performances in women's epee and foil, respectively.

"Sabrina and Axel were tremendous for us," Kvaratskhelia said. "It speaks a lot to their mental toughness that they led our performances as freshmen, as this is a very grueling competition for first-time fencers. I was also very pleased with our two seniors making their first NCAA appearances, Catherine Lee and Niki McKee, as they both put in a lot of work over their careers to have this

opportunity and showed a lot of grit and determination in their performances."

With Notre Dame's season now finished, Kvaratskhelia said the team is already focusing on how it can improve for next year. Kvaratskhelia recognized the Irish are in a good spot going forward as far as talent is concerned, and added they will certainly be in a position to compete for a national championship next season.

"There are still so many positives going for us moving forward," Kvaratskhelia said. "Nine of our 12 NCAA qualifiers this season [were] freshmen or sophomores, making us by far the youngest full team at NAAs this year. Knowing that we have the talent here, we have the opportunity to learn from this with this group and iron out the inconsistencies we saw in some of our results. We have another tremendous freshman class joining us in the fall, and we welcome back great fencers in Lee Kiefer, Amanda Sirico and Hazem Khazbak, who all took a year off for the Olympic qualification cycle."

"With all that going for us, this performance's impact on momentum will only be negative if we allow it to be. This is a team full of competitors, and they're not happy with a finish like this. As a result, I'm anticipating that they'll be a highly motivated group through offseason and carrying over into next season."

Contact Ben Padanilam at bpadanil@nd.edu



EMMET FARNAN | The Observer

Irish freshman foilist Axel Kiefer competes at the ACC championships Feb. 28 at the Castellan Family Fencing Center. Kiefer finished in third place in the men's foil at the NCAA championships last weekend.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Notre Dame is in a 'golden age'



Alex Carson
Assistant Managing Editor

PHILADELPHIA — What in the world happened to Notre Dame's men's basketball program?

The formula was pretty simple for the Irish: Have a good regular season, earn a solid seed, then get to March and forget how to win.

You could look at 2007 and 2010, where the Irish failed to get out of the first round as a No. 6 seed, falling to Winthrop and Old Dominion.

Maybe the 2011 team, which earned a No. 2 seed, was the most painful, when the Irish got manhandled by 10th-seeded Florida State in the second round.

Or, my personal favorite, that 2012 first-round loss to No. 10-seeded Xavier. You know, the one where a Jerian Grant lane violation cost the Irish a late chance to tie, with that No. 15-seeded Lehigh team waiting in the wings.

Time and time again, though, it was the same story: Opportunity knocked in March for Notre Dame, but nobody answered the door.

But after two successive trips to the Elite Eight, that's changed. Drastically.

"[I'm] just really proud of the work we've been able to do in the past couple years and kind of set the standard for going forward," Irish junior guard Demetrius Jackson said.

Jackson's right — this is a new standard for Irish basketball.

Assuming he grades out at the NBA combine like many expect him to, we've likely seen the last of Jackson's career in the blue and gold. But alongside senior forward Zach Auguste, the Mishawaka native has dramatically altered the course of the program he somewhat timidly entered two and a half years ago as a freshman.

If it was his last performance for the Irish, it was one hell of a 26-point show.

"I'm so proud of him," junior forward V.J. Beachem said. "I've known him for a long time and I expected nothing less from him, the effort he gives us and the leadership he gives us."

Headlined over the last two seasons by Grant, Pat Connaughton, Jackson and Auguste, it's easy to see why Irish head coach Mike Brey attributed his team's recent turnaround in March to talent, rather than anything the staff did.

And to a certain point,

he's right. Grant and Connaughton are playing in the NBA, Jackson may well be a lottery pick and Auguste will have every opportunity to play his trade professionally — Brey said Auguste is "going to make a lot of money playing this game."

But to simply dismiss it as "talent" and nothing else would be a little disingenuous.

While big things were expected of Jackson when he walked on campus, they weren't always there with Auguste. The Marlborough, Massachusetts, native played just over 10 minutes per game his freshman year and steadily improved through each of his four years. When asked what Auguste meant to this team, Beachem had a simple response: "Everything."

"He embodies it in every way a young man should grow, on and off the court," Beachem said. "He's been great for us all four years and I've known him for so long, just to see this growth in him has just been great."

If I ask my dad about Notre Dame hoops, he'll talk energetically about Adrian Dantley, Kelly Tripucka and, of course as a Cavaliers fan too, Austin Carr. Those 1970s teams coached by Digger Phelps represented a golden era of Irish basketball, capped by a Final Four trip in 1978 and an Elite Eight one in 1979.

With the Irish returning no fewer than six of their eight tournament rotation players — sophomore guard Matt Farrell called the future "very bright" — a simple thought dawned on me:

George Keogan led Notre Dame through a golden age in the 1920s and 1930s, and Phelps had his in the 1970s.

And now, we're in Notre Dame's third golden age. The "Mike Brey era," if you will.

In a few decades, I'll be telling my kids stories about Grant's shot from the shamrock, Connaughton's block against Butler, Auguste's dunks with authority and, of course, Jackson's heroic final 20 seconds Friday night against Wisconsin.

With two Elite Eights in two years, Notre Dame men's basketball is back on the map.

And I've got a feeling Digger won't be able to tease Brey about that Final Four appearance for much longer.

Contact Alex Carson at acarson1@nd.edu

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

Irish overwhelmed by Tar Heels' late-game push

By ALEX CARSON
Assistant Managing Editor

PHILADELPHIA — Notre Dame tried everything.

It tried man, zone and a press. It tried going small and it tried going big.

But no matter what the Irish did down the stretch, they just couldn't stop North Carolina.

When Notre Dame pulled ahead, 52-51, after a 12-0 run with 13 minutes to play, it had the Tar Heels on the ropes.

But North Carolina proved exactly why it earned a No. 1 seed a couple weeks ago.

"I give North Carolina credit, we made a heck of a run to take the lead in the second half and they answered with a big-time punch," Irish head coach Mike Brey said. "They're just playing really well right now."

Senior guard Marcus Paige started it off with a jumper before sophomore guard Joel Berry II hit one of his own on the following possession.

The next time down, it was two Paige free throws, then a junior forward Isaiah Hicks tip-in, a sophomore forward Theo Pinson layup and a Hicks dunk.

The Tar Heels had six possessions, scored on all six and took a 63-52, stranglehold of the game.

Notre Dame would get

buckets the rest of the way, but it was all for naught — because North Carolina wasn't letting up at the other end.

The Tar Heels scored on their next seven possessions, running that streak to 13 consecutive trips with two points, before Irish sophomore forward Bonzie Colson finally secured a defensive rebound.

With 3:23 to play.

For nearly 10 minutes of basketball, North Carolina wasn't stopped.

Colson's rebound was the only defensive one Notre Dame got in the final 13 minutes. North Carolina grabbed eight offensive rebounds in that span.

"They pounded on us, they got second shots, they made big shots," Brey said. "Didn't they tip one in off the back of their freaking head now that I think of it? When something like that happens, you go, 'You know, it's been a good year.'"

In 19 full trips down the court in the final 13 minutes, the Tar Heels scored 37 points.

That's ruthless efficiency from a championship contender.

Irish junior forward V.J. Beachem didn't hold back in his assessment of the Tar Heels.

"I think they're the best team in the country," Beachem said.

"They're playing like the best team in the country right now, so I wouldn't be surprised if they go and win the national championship."

His head coach agreed.

"My hat's off to them," Brey said. "They're really playing well. I think they're playing the best of anybody left."

Brey said Notre Dame's game plan was to keep it tight heading into the final few minutes of the game to put the Tar Heels in situations they hadn't been in during the tournament.

But that never got a chance to happen.

"I love where we were, we substituted and went big and took the lead," Brey said. "We just couldn't get a stop. I think the biggest thing was we couldn't secure a defensive rebound, they got so many second shots, which is what they do well. We get a few of those and maybe we get to game situations."

North Carolina played the final 13 minutes about as well as it could have hoped to.

"You just gotta tip our hats to 'em, they just played a great overall game in every way — offense, defense, glass, everywhere," Beachem said.

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M Bball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

who finished the opening frame with 11 points on 4-of-5 shooting, including a massive dunk with seven minutes to play in the half. Junior guard Demetrius Jackson joined Beachem in double-figures with a solid first half performance of 13 points as the Irish controlled the tempo with head coach Mike Brey's patented "burn" offense.

"We knew we were going to have to put points on the board," junior guard Steve Vasturia said. "Obviously they can really score the ball, so we wanted to come out and attack and knock down shots. You saw people hitting big shots all game, Demetrius [Jackson], V.J. [Beachem] and everybody."

"I think in the first half we did

a great job of controlling pace, getting their bigs out on ball screens, making them switch," sophomore guard Matt Farrell said. "We did a good job controlling the first half."

North Carolina took a 43-38 lead into halftime, however, thanks to a 16-for-24 shooting performance which included the Tar Heels going 4-of-6 from beyond the arc.

The Irish got off to sluggish start to the second half, falling behind 51-40 as North Carolina junior forward Kennedy Meeks rattled off eight consecutive points.

But Notre Dame had a run left in it. Over the next two and a half minutes, Mike Brey's team scored 12 straight points to take a 52-51 lead with 13 minutes left to play. Jackson lead the Irish run with five points and an assist on a Zach Auguste alley oop.

"[I thought], 'We're right

back in it,'" junior forward V.J. Beachem said. "We expected to be right there, that's something that we've done all year when teams make runs — it seems like they're gonna get away, we're able to fight right back but we just weren't able to finish it this time."

Beachem finished his night with 18 points and was named to the East Region's all-tournament team along with Jackson, who finished with 26 points and four assists. Irish head coach Mike Brey praised his point guard's performance after the game.

"I thought Demetrius Jackson was just fabulous and controlled the whole game," Brey said. "We quarterbacked the tempo, he quarterbacked our set. He was thoroughly exhausted, but we couldn't afford to take him out of the game. He engineered the whole thing and I'm really thrilled with what he did."

"He's unbelievable. He's just an unbelievable player," Farrell said. "I think he was exhausted, but he still just kept doing his thing. It's hard to guard him in ball screen — trust me, I try to do it every day. ... It's a lot of fun playing with him."

Despite Jackson's effort, Notre Dame looked on helplessly as North Carolina came roaring back with a 12-0 run of its own, capitalized by a thundering alley-oop dunk by junior forward Isaiah Hicks.

"You gotta give credit to Carolina," Brey said of the Tar Heels' run. "We took that

one-point lead and they really answered it like men, and we didn't have much left. They wore us down a little bit with their depth and their front line. And they shot the heck out of the ball. ... My hat's off to them."

And North Carolina didn't let up.

The Tar Heels held a 71-61 lead with six minutes remaining and closed the door on any hopes of an Irish comeback with, maintaining a double-digit lead for the rest of the game.

Offensive rebounds hurt the Irish down the home stretch as the Tar Heels grabbed four in the last 5:30 of the game with three of them coming from sophomore forward Justin Jackson.

In addition, the Tar Heels continued their dominant shooting performance from the first half to shoot 52 percent from the field to close the game. Tar Heel senior forward Brice Johnson was particularly effective, scoring 25 points on 10-of-15 shooting en route to being named the region's most outstanding player.

"I'm sitting there thinking they've got to miss one — is Brice Johnson, can he just miss one? Can he just help us a little bit?," Brey said. "I give them credit, man. And they got every 50/50 ball. And again I think their bodies were fresher because they play some more guys."

North Carolina closed out the 88-74 victory by making nine consecutive free throws and will head to Houston to face fellow ACC foe Syracuse (23-12, 9-9) in the Final Four next Saturday.

The Irish, however, head back to South Bend to prepare for next year. And though the team could not pull out yet another come-from-behind victory, Beachem acknowledged the run this year's Irish squad made.

"To do the things that we did with the target on our back this year, to get back in the same position where pretty much nobody expected us to be here, it was great," Beachem said. "I love these guys, they're like the brothers I never had."

Notre Dame 61, Wisconsin 56

When Wisconsin junior forward Vitto Brown made a 3-pointer to give the seventh-seeded Badgers (22-13, 12-6 Big Ten) a 56-53 lead with 25 seconds left in the game, it looked like the Irish were all out of magic.

But just as it did against Michigan and Stephen F. Austin, Notre Dame refused to be sent back to South Bend.

As soon Brown's shot fell through the hoop, Jackson took command of the game.

Jackson rushed down the court and finished with a layup to pull Notre Dame within one, at 56-55, with 19.3 seconds left.

It seemed like the Irish would have to play the foul game and hope Wisconsin missed free throws.

But Jackson had other plans.

The Badgers inbounded the ball to junior forward Nigel Hayes. Hayes pivoted and was stripped by Irish sophomore forward Bonzie Colson. The ball skirted to Jackson who laid it out the glass to give the Irish a 57-56 lead with just 14 seconds left.

"Coach did a great job recognizing and letting us know that we had a foul to give," Jackson said of the game's pivotal sequence. "So we had a really aggressive trap, and then Bonzie made a great defensive play, getting his hands on it. It kind of fell into my arms, and I just wanted to put it in and finish it. ... I just wanted to be aggressive defensively, just trying to get a steal and win the game, trying to make a game-winning play."

Badgers junior guard Bronson Koenig missed a wild layup on Wisconsin's next possession and Beachem came down with the rebound to seal the victory. Beachem knocked down his two free throws and on Wisconsin's last-ditch effort, Jackson came up with Notre Dame's 10th steal of the night — tied for the second-most ever in an NCAA tournament game.

After two more Jackson free throws, Notre Dame made it official and advanced to the Elite Eight for the second consecutive season.

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Jackson

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

to be a first-round selection in June's draft, held in Brooklyn, New York. The Mishawaka native thanked those who helped him during his career at Notre Dame, especially the Whitfield family, his foster family.

"There have been many people who've helped me along this journey, and I'd like to thank my family, teammates and coaches for shaping me to be the player and man I am today," Jackson said. "The continuous support of the Notre Dame family has made these past three years unforgettable.

"A huge thank you to my foster family — you opened your home to me, gave me the best possible situation to be successful, and allowed me to open up and trust again. Words will never be enough to describe how you've helped me grow. And to all those who believed in me through the ups and downs, thank you. Not only do I have a place to call home with my foster family, but now another at Notre Dame."

Jackson becomes the first Notre Dame player to declare early for the draft since Troy Murphy did in 2001; Murphy was selected 14th by Golden State in that year's draft.

Hockey

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

finishing with a goal.

The momentum began to shift toward Michigan in the third, however, as its offense began to become more effective in the Irish zone.

Michigan sophomore defenseman Zach Werenski leveled the score at 2-2 9:52 into the third period after a flurry of Michigan pressure, which continued until the end of regulation. However, a combination of blocked shots and Petersen saves pushed the game into overtime.

Both teams got their chances in the extra period, as Irish sophomore Jake Evans nearly netted a game-winning wrap-around early on. It was Motte and the highest-scoring line in college hockey who broke through, however, as the Wolverines converted an overtime goal into a victory.

“Credit to them,” Irish senior forward Sam Herr said of Michigan’s top line, which includes Motte, junior center JT Compher and freshman left wing Kyler Connor. “They’re a phenomenal line. Obviously they have been all year, but that was just a team effort shutting them down. We played strong team defense when we were on the ice. Everyone was aware. As far as the overtime goal, just one lapse

against those guys and you’re going to have to pay for it, and that’s what we did tonight.”

“I thought for the most part we played well,” senior center and captain Steven Fogarty said. “We wanted to get a good start, and I thought we did that. When we were sticking to our game plan is when we had success. There was a few lapses in there, and they capitalized. But overall I’m really proud of the guys and of how they worked all game.”

“It’s one of those classic matchups between Michigan and Notre Dame, where we were supposed to have the offense and they’re supposed to have the defense, and they usually have the goalkeeping,” Wolverine head coach Red Berenson said during his post-game press conference. “Defense usually wins, and Jeff’s had the edge in some of those games, and we’ve had the edge in some. But it can go either way. I have a lot of respect for Jeff. I think he’s a great coach, and I’m glad to see they’re coming into the Big Ten. But this was a game that Michigan got the last shot. It was one of those games.”

Looking ahead, Notre Dame enters the offseason with one more season in Hockey East before joining Michigan in the Big Ten in 2017.

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HOCKEY

Seniors usher in new era

By ZACH KLONSINSKI
Assistant Managing Editor

CINCINNATI — Steven Fogarty fought a lump in his throat. Sam Herr’s eyes were red as he softly answered questions from the media gathered in front of him.

Even Irish head coach Jeff Jackson had a waver in his voice when asked about what this senior class has meant to him and to the Notre Dame program.

The finality of it all had clearly hit the two seniors and their coach, just minutes after Michigan ended their careers just shy of the midway point of the first overtime period Friday night.

“Our guys played their hearts out, and I am just extremely proud of them,” Jackson said. “Our senior class has probably done a better job in leading than I have ever had, so I am very proud of them.”

It was a hard way for the end to come, especially after what will go down as one of the best college hockey games of the year between two rivals.

“I thought for the most part we played well,” Fogarty, who

signed an entry level contract with the New York Rangers on Tuesday, said following the game. “We wanted to get a good start, and I think we did that. We were sticking to our game plan, which is when we were having success. There were a few lapses there, but we stuck by it. Overall, I’m really proud of the guys and how they worked all game.”

Mario Lucia joined his classmate in entering the professional ranks following the loss, inking a deal with the Minnesota Wild.

As a class, they were a part of three NCAA tournament appearances in their four years and compiled an 85-58-17 record overall, including a 17-8-3 conference record in a 2012-2013 campaign that was the team’s final season of CCHA play and included a CCHA tournament title. In their three years in Hockey East, the class is a respectable 34-21-9 overall in conference play and never finished below .500 in conference play.

But for all the success the class has found on the ice, Jackson has said all season that this class has been one of his best in

terms of two important qualities: leadership and character.

“It’s really hard,” Jackson said when asked how it was to watch Fogarty and Herr walk off the podium in Cincinnati. “Leadership is a funny thing. I have had great leaders in my time at Notre Dame and before, but this was different. For the first time, I have had a group of guys that collectively led. They cared about each other. They did a great job this year. You know we’ve got a young group — we have two thirds of our roster that is underclassmen.”

After graduating 11 seniors following the 2013-14 season, Jackson said it was this senior class that weathered the storm of youth in the program and brought the Irish back to the NCAA tournament after missing out in 2014-15.

“They did a tremendous job,” Jackson said. “They got our culture back on track. They are passionate, and they are great kids.

“I mean character: unbelievable.”

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Stanford exposes Notre Dame's defensive flaws

By GREG HADLEY
Senior Sports Writer

LEXINGTON, Ky. — “Offense wasn’t really a problem tonight. It was defense.”

Irish head coach Muffet McGraw summed up the performance of her star sophomore forward Brianna Turner on Friday in those two quick sentences, but they also described Notre Dame’s night as a whole.

While the Irish offense plugged away with its usual efficiency, matching its season averages in points and field goal percentage, the defense sputtered throughout the first quarter and never recovered.

That lackluster defensive performance, coupled with a lights-out shooting performance from Stanford, put Notre Dame in a hole from which it could not escape, dooming the squad to its earliest NCAA tourney exit since 2010.

In the game’s opening 10

minutes, the Cardinal took a 28-21 lead, shooting 61 percent from the field. It was Notre Dame’s biggest first-quarter deficit of the year since the Irish lost to Connecticut on Dec. 5, and it was also the second most points they had surrendered in any quarter all year, behind only a 29-point period against DePaul.

“You can’t spot a team with that kind of shooting percentage in the first half and expect to kind of dig your way out of the hole in the second half,” Irish junior guard Lindsay Allen said of her team’s early defensive woes.

Leading the way for Stanford, junior forward Erica McCall racked up 10 points and three rebounds on 5-for-6 shooting in the first quarter.

“She was just making all her shots in the first half and she was really great rebounding,” Turner said of McCall’s performance. “I needed to get closer to her

and make sure I had a hand in her face no matter how far out she was.”

Perhaps most importantly, McCall was able to battle down low and avoid the long arms of Turner, who led the ACC in blocks this season. While Turner had two blocks in the first quarter, neither of them came against the 6-foot-3 forward, and afterwards she said she began the game without aggressiveness, which cost her against an opponent McGraw said was vastly improved from the two squads’ last meeting.

And on the rare occasion when McCall and the Cardinal did miss, Turner and the Irish failed to collect rebounds, allowing Stanford to grab four offensive boards, as many total rebounds as Notre Dame had in the entire period.

But it wasn’t just in the post where Notre Dame’s defense fell short. Stanford shot 3-for-6 from 3-point territory in the first quarter, the start of an epic night for

the Cardinal, who finished the game at 11-for-20 beyond the arc.

The Irish perimeter defense was not helped by the absence of Allen, who picked up two fouls in the first quarter and headed to the bench, and senior guard Hannah Huffman, a defensive specialist who was on the floor for fewer than two minutes early on.

Still, even had they had been playing, McGraw said, sometimes Stanford’s shots were simply too good to be stopped.

“I think every team has a game like this where everything’s just going your way and shots are falling and you’re getting a big lead,” McGraw said. “So it’s kind of contagious.”

And the Irish were never able to prevent the opportunities for those shots. Notre Dame entered the matchup forcing 17.38 turnovers per game, or 4.35 per quarter. The team coaxed just one from Stanford in the first

quarter, off one of Turner’s blocks. The Irish did not steal the ball at all.

Senior guard Michaela Mabrey said the team’s defensive problems came as a result of the players’ failure to talk on the floor.

“All our defense, we had no communication at all, and I tried to reinforce that at halftime, because that was all our problem was, just communicating,” Mabrey said. “We just couldn’t get it down at all, and so it was just frustrating because I know that’s an easy thing we can switch.”

Down seven points a quarter in, the Irish would eventually rally to within two late in the fourth quarter, but as Mabrey acknowledged, that initial deficit was something the team is unused to facing.

“It just kind of sucks. ... It’s really frustrating when they’re making everything they throw up,” she said.

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W Bball

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just couldn’t guard them.”

McCall had 19 of Stanford’s opening half points on 9-of-11 shooting, on her way to a career-high 27 for the night. McGraw said McCall’s versatility in scoring made her hard to deal with.

“We knew that coming in, we saw her on film and she’s definitely improved her face-up game and her release,” McGraw said. “She could shoot when she was guarded. She wasn’t always wide open. She did a really good job of just mixing up her shots and moving well without the ball.”

The Irish took three minutes to get out of the gates in the second half and score again, enough time for Stanford to open up a 15-point lead, their largest of the game. The Irish clawed away at the Cardinal lead throughout the third quarter, bringing it to within seven after a three-pointer from freshman guard Marina Mabrey, but Stanford kept distance between the teams and ended the quarter leading 67-57. Junior guard Lindsay Allen said she still felt the game was within reach despite the steep deficit.

“I don’t think we ever panic in those situations,” Allen said. “We figure out a way to dig down deep and get stops and convert on our offense. But you can’t spot a team with that kind

of shooting percentage in the first half and expect to kind of dig your way out of the hole in the second half. It was tougher because they still shot really well in the second half.

“I think it was just us kind of figuring out a way to dig deep and they couldn’t do that. And they shot timely 3s in the fourth quarter that were just hard to overcome.”

In the fourth quarter, the Irish fought back several times to bring the game within touching distance. But each time, the Cardinal pushed them back away. Graduate student guard Madison Cable and Allen scored the first points of the quarter to bring the Irish within two scores, but junior guard Karlie Samuelson moved the Cardinal back into a comfortable position with a 3-pointer.

When two free throws from Allen brought the Irish back to within four, junior guard Brianna Roberson sunk the 3-point shot that would widen the Cardinal lead. Then, when Cable brought the Irish back within one score with 2:05 left on the clock, the first one-score difference since exactly 20 minutes beforehand, Samuelson dealt the killer blow. As the shot clock expired, her effort from well beyond the three-point line struck the backboard before going through the hoop. McGraw said the Cardinal’s ability to score three-pointers at the most crucial times is what prevented a comeback.

“They hit a dagger 3,” McGraw said. “We were focusing in on finding Samuelson and (Lili) Thompson and I think Roberson hit a 3 from the corner late in the game that really kind of got us. Then I think (Marta) Sniezek went down with like a coast-to-coast layout and nobody guarded her, and she went right in for a layup. They got us 5-0, and that was key. The 3 that Samuelson hit with the shot clock going off with two seconds left and banked it in, that was one of those nights for them. They managed to make big plays. They made the free throws down the stretch. Did everything they needed to do to win. I think normally you have to have the other team help you out. When you’re trying to come back, they have to miss some shots and we just couldn’t get them to miss.”

With the Irish forced to foul, the Cardinal would not throw away the game from the free-throw line, making all six of their attempts within the last thirty seconds to win the game 90-84. McGraw said she believed her team fought hard despite the defeat that will end their season.

“I’m proud of the way we fought,” McGraw said. “Our seniors had a great season, a great year and we’ve been on the other side of this, and now it’s our turn to go home early and work on next year.”

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Stopped short

MEN'S BASKETBALL | NORTH CAROLINA 88, ND 74

Notre Dame falls again in Elite Eight

By **MAREK MAZUREK**
Sports Editor

PHILADELPHIA — Two roads diverged on a yellow court.

And on Sunday night at Wells Fargo Center, No. 6-seeded Notre Dame took the same path as the 63 other teams that had already been eliminated from the NCAA tournament, as No. 1-seeded North Carolina finished off the Irish, 88-74.

"I'm very proud of this team," senior forward Zach Auguste said. "We made a lot of shots. It wasn't easy for us this year, coming off a great run last year and we had a lot of expectations on us. I'm

proud of every single one of these guys in here. We fought. We worked hard in the off-season and we made a great run."

North Carolina entered the night as the last remaining No. 1 seed as No. 10-seeded Syracuse knocked off Virginia earlier in the evening and Kansas and Oregon both lost Saturday.

And for a half, it looked like the Tar Heels (32-6, 14-4 ACC) were in some trouble as well.

The Irish (24-12, 11-7) reversed a recent trend and came out strong to hold a 10-6 lead three minutes into the game off six quick points from junior forward V.J. Beachem,

see M BBALL **PAGE 13**

Jackson declares for NBA Draft, will hire agent

Observer Staff Report

Irish junior guard Demetrius Jackson declared for the NBA Draft on Tuesday evening and plans to hire an agent, ending his Notre Dame career, a team spokesman confirmed.

"I am blessed with the opportunity to say I will be declaring for the NBA Draft," Jackson said in an Instagram post. "It was an honor to represent such a great University and program."

Jackson, who led Notre Dame with 15.8 points per game this season, is projected by many

see JACKSON **PAGE 13**



MICHAEL YU | The Observer

Senior forward Zach Auguste walks off the court after Notre Dame's 88-74 loss to North Carolina on Sunday at Wells Fargo Center.

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL | STANFORD 90, ND 84

No. 1-seeded Irish miss Final Four for first time since 2010

By **DANIEL O'BOYLE**
Sports Writer

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Before No. 1 seed Notre Dame had even stepped on the court at Rupp Arena to face No. 4-seeded Stanford, things looked to be falling into place for the Irish.

No. 7-seeded Washington had knocked off No. 3 seed Kentucky for a place in the Lexington Region final, while in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, top-seeded South Carolina fell to No. 4 seed Syracuse; the path to the championship looked clear for the Irish (33-2, 16-0 ACC).

Forty minutes later, there was

no path. It was the Cardinal (27-7, 14-4 Pac-12) who advanced with a 90-84 victory as the Irish missed a berth in the Final Four for the first time since 2010.

In a frantically-paced first quarter, the Irish took a 12-8 lead before Stanford scored 10 unanswered points to make it 18-12. The difference between the teams would swing back and forth, but the Cardinal would never relinquish that lead. By the end of the first quarter, the Irish trailed 28-21, their first deficit at the end of the opening quarter since they travelled to Louisville on Feb. 7.

The Irish offense worked as normal, but defensively the team continued to struggle in the

second quarter as Stanford widened its lead to 50-39. It was the most the Irish had trailed by at halftime since a Jan. 2015 defeat at Miami (Fla.). The Cardinal shot 20-of-31 for a .645 shooting percentage in the first half and were 6-of-9 from 3-point range. Irish head coach Muffet McGraw said the Cardinal simply outplayed her team in the opening half.

"I thought Stanford was the better team today," McGraw said. "They played extremely well. I thought [junior forward Erica] McCall was phenomenal, and we just didn't have an answer for her in the first half. Defensively we

see W BBALL **PAGE 15**



CAITLYN JORDAN | The Observer

Senior guard Hannah Huffman reacts to Notre Dame's 90-84 loss to Stanford on Friday at Rupp Arena in Lexington, Kentucky.

HOCKEY | MICHIGAN 3, ND 2 (OT)

Michigan ousts ND in opening round of NCAA tournament

By **HUNTER McDANIEL**
Sports Writer

CINCINNATI — A tournament game built up by a fierce rivalry and Notre Dame's future move to the Big Ten lived up to the hype Friday, as Notre Dame and Michigan delivered another classic in the 135th meeting between the two programs.

The Wolverines (25-7-5, 12-5-3 Big Ten) came out on top this time around with a 3-2 overtime thriller over the Irish (19-11-7, 15-5-2 Hockey East).

Two seemingly evenly-matched teams needed extra hockey to decide who would move on to the next round after 60 minutes of play, and Michigan junior forward Tyler

Motte netted the game-winner 8:19 into the first overtime period to seal the win and a second-round matchup with No. 1 seed North Dakota for the Wolverines.

"Our guys played their hearts out," Irish head coach Jeff Jackson said after the game. "I'm extremely proud of them. Our senior class has probably done a better job of leading as a combination of a group of players that I've ever had, so I'm very proud of them."

Michigan senior left wing Justin Selman opened the scoring at the 10:31 mark with a rocket from the point off an offensive zone faceoff win, but Irish sophomore Anders Bjork evened the game at 15:46 with

an unassisted, top-shelf laser on a 2-on-1. The two goaltenders went toe-to-toe in the opening frame, with Michigan senior Steve Racine stopping 12 of 13 shots and Notre Dame sophomore Cal Petersen countering by getting in front of 10 of 11.

Defense was the difference for the Irish in the middle period — that and senior forward Thomas DiPauli. Notre Dame allowed only six shots from the Wolverines' high-powered offense in the frame, and DiPauli staked Notre Dame to its first lead of the game just 24 seconds into the period, gliding the puck into the zone through two Michigan defenders and

see HOCKEY **PAGE 14**



KELLY VAUGHAN | The Observer

Irish freshman center Andrew Oglevie takes a hit from a Michigan defender during Notre Dame's 3-2 loss to Michigan on Friday.