

THE OBSERVER

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Shirt representatives visit Dominican partners

President, designer of The Shirt tour Alta Gracia factory, learn about socially responsible production

By MEGHAN THOMASSEN
News Writer

Notre Dame fans can wear The Shirt with even more pride than usual this football season, thanks to its new socially-conscious manufacturer, Alta Gracia.

Alta Gracia is the only apparel manufacturer in the world that pays a living wage to its employees, "respects their rights" and "provides a safe workplace," according to the company's website.

Senior president of The Shirt Project Andrew Alea and freshman designer John Wetzel paid a visit to the Dominican company's headquarters from April 11 to 13.

"We were down there for one day, where [The Shirt] is be-

ing sewn together, boxed and shipped," Wetzel said. "We toured the factory ... You could see how a lot of the people there who were usually jobless were happy to go to work every day."

Alta Gracia flew Alea and Wetzel down to the factory on an all-expenses-paid visit. Alea said the experience was enlightening, showing the pair the good the production of The Shirt does.

"It was good will on their part to show us what good The Shirt will do," Alea said. "It really is making a difference."

Wetzel said his experience as a design major was the primary reason he became involved in the organization. However, he said seeing the operation of the

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Photo provided by John Wetzel

An Alta Gracia factory worker is seen here wearing the Hype Shirt, made to promote The Shirt 2012 in the Dominican Republic. Andrew Alea and John Wetzel, president and creator of The Shirt 2012, visited the factory.

Tournament honors Valero, raises money for charity

By ANNA BOARINI
News Writer

Notre Dame and Keenan Hall lost a member of their collective family when junior Sean Valero died last March. But Keenan residents honored his memory by playing in the Sean Valero Memorial Basketball Tournament on April 14.

Juniors Ryan Dunbar, Gabe DeVela, Preston Scott and Stephen Schwaner started the tournament

last year as a new event that would benefit charitable organizations. The event also took on the role of commemorating Valero's life.

"Last year, my roommates and I decided to organize a charity basketball tournament and started to get a list of charities compiled," Dunbar said. "During that process, Sean died, and so we made one of the options for the guys to donate to a memorial for Sean."

Dunbar said the overwhelming

response from the Keenan community supported contributing the tournament's earnings to a memorial fund for Valero, whose memory is also commemorated in the hall itself with a large crucifix and plaque on the third floor.

This year, the tournament featured sixteen teams of two Keenan residents each, but Dunbar said participation could be expanded for next year's tournament.

"Next year, we are passing the

tournament on to some new people, and whoever does will be asked what they are looking to improve about the tournament," Dunbar said. "Maybe expanding it to nearby dorms, or making a co-ed division with Keenan guys and some other girls' dorms."

Sophomores Sean Healey and Jeremy Riche won the tournament for the second year in a row. Riche said their team formed out of their existing friendship.

"He was my partner last year and in my section and we were good friends at the time," Riche said. "So we went along with it [this year], we're friends and I wanted to play with him."

Riche said he and Healey originally entered the tournament just for fun. However, he said the tournament's charitable nature was a reason to participate as well. The duo

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Habitat dedicates Mishawaka home

By DREW PANGRAZE
News Writer

The Notre Dame Campus Chapter of Habitat for Humanity celebrated another year of hard work in building a home for a family in need at the dedication of the completed house in Mishawaka, Ind., this weekend.

Jim Williams, executive director of Habitat for Humanity of St. Joseph County, presided over the April 14 dedication, which included prayers and presentation of gifts to the Cole family, who plans to move into their new home by the end of the month.

Notre Dame student volunteers put in the majority of work on the house, which took more than a year to complete. Student leaders of the Notre Dame Habitat attended the house blessing,



Photo courtesy of Notre Dame Habitat for Humanity

This Mishawaka home, soon to house the Cole family, was built by Notre Dame Habitat for Humanity and blessed in an April 14 dedication.

including president Ian Graham.

"It's a great feeling to see the

finished product," Graham said.

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Observer staff honored at ICPA conference

Observer Staff Report

The Observer took third place in the Division I "Newspaper of the Year" category, and former Managing Editor Sarah Mervosh won the Brook Baker Collegiate Journalist of the Year Award at the Indiana College Press Association (ICPA) awards ceremony, held Saturday at Ball State University in Muncie.

The Observer staff won an additional 15 awards, including third place for "Advertising Publication of the Year." Other University publications represented at ICPA were Scholastic, which tied with Ball State's Ball Bearings for second place in "News Maga-

zine of the Year," Dome, which won second place in the Division I "Yearbook of the Year" category and The Juggler, which took third place in "Literary Magazine of the Year."

Mervosh is the third Notre Dame student to win the Brook Baker Award, which was first awarded in 1999 in honor of the late Vincennes University student.

The Editorial Board of The Observer took first place in the "Best Staff Editorial" category for its Nov. 10 piece, "Professionalism and integrity above all."

Former Assistant Managing Editor Adriana Pratt won

see ICPA/page 6

HIGH
LOW

Week educates Belles about food

By JILLIAN BARWICK
Saint Mary's Editor

This week, Saint Mary's students will have the opportunity to learn about the food they consume, healthy eating on a college budget and the ins-and-outs of what they eat during Food Week.

Senior Kimberly Roland, the event's organizer, said she came up with the idea for the week when Saint Mary's participated in National Food Day on Oct. 24, 2011. Roland serves as a Midwest regional field organizer for the Real Food Challenge, and is the sustainable food intern for the Saint Mary's Justice Education department, which prompts her to focus on food more than the average college student.

"I wanted to expand upon the issues of [National] Food Day and turn it into an entire week," Roland said. "I wanted to make one more final mark on Saint Mary's before I graduated, and leave behind a strong legacy. I came up with the idea for Food Week, and my friends were all extremely supportive of it."

Enlisting her peers to help plan Food Week was not a challenge, Roland said. The Saint Mary's College Sustainable Food Committee was involved in event planning as well, contributing hours of work to create a week of activities and lectures pertaining to food, she said.

"I want this week to encourage discussion among students and faculty who have never thought about food as complex and interdisciplinary," Roland said.

The week raises awareness

about the many food issues in society in several ways, including film and documentary screenings, speeches, presentations, demonstrations and food itself, Roland said.

"Food Week has been established in order to educate students, faculty and staff as well as the community about the various food issues we all face," Roland said. "Food is one of the few things in the world that connects every person. We all eat and make decisions about food daily."

Roland said food holds much more meaning beyond its daily consumption and necessity for survival.

"People are connected to food for a variety of reasons. For some, food is pleasure and entertainment. Others are connected to food for nutritional reasons, while others encounter food allergies, or observe special food diets," Roland said. "Still, others are connected to food for political or environmental reasons."

"Some are interested in the science of food and agriculture, while others are interested in food justice. This week seeks to touch on the various food issues that interest people."

The Noble Family Dining Hall and Sodexo are also involved with Food Week, Roland said.

"Sodexo has been involved in every step of the way for Food Week," Roland said. "From planning special menus, to hosting an outdoor picnic on Wednesday, Sodexo is committed to providing students with delicious, sustainable food and is working

to procure more local, humane, fair trade and organic food."

Roland said Food Week also offers students the opportunity to make sustainable purchases related to food and cooking.

"During this week, students will also be allowed to bring in reusable beverage containers into the dining hall," Roland said. "We hope this will encourage students to invest in reusable, sustainable beverage containers."

All Food Week events are free and open to the public, Roland said.

"I really hope this week encourages Saint Mary's and Notre Dame students to engage with other community members that are working hard on food issues in the South Bend and Michiana areas," Roland said. "I want community members who are interested in food and sustainability to see that college students really are interested in these issues and are becoming conscientious consumers."

Roland said she hopes this first Food Week grows into an annual tradition in the future.

"I would love for this to become an annual event after I graduate," Roland said. "If it continued growing when I left, I feel that it would benefit many people in the community. There are many interested students at Saint Mary's who will continue with Food Week in the coming years."

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Notre Dame graduate takes vows of priesthood

By TORI ROECK
News Writer

More than 100 Holy Cross priests gathered in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on Saturday to witness Notre Dame alumnus Matt Kuczora profess his final vows and become an ordained member of the priesthood.

Kuczora said the ordination Mass revolves around three important actions: the laying of hands, the handing over of the Eucharist and the anointing of chrism.

"[The bishop] lays his hands on my head, an ancient and biblical symbol of handing on authority and blessing," Kuczora said. "After the offertory, he hands the chalice and paten on to me too as a symbol of my ministry at the Eucharist. Those actions, along with the anointing of my hands with chrism oil, really mark the ordination of a priest."

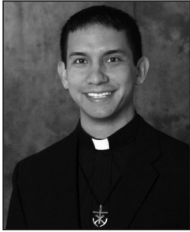
Kuczora presided over his first Mass on Sunday. Despite his nerves, Kuczora said it was a "wonderful" and "freeing" experience.

"Before it started, I just said a quick prayer and said, 'God, this is your prayer. This is your Mass, not mine,'" he said. "I let go, and let God take over from there."

Kuczora said he was attracted to the priesthood because he wanted to serve others.

"I worked for a year after graduation from Notre Dame, and I found myself volunteering and teaching and coaching sports teams," he said. "The more and more I thought about it, I wanted to make a life out of that kind of service and of helping people."

According to a press release from the Congregation of Holy Cross, Kuczora has spent the past year



Matt Kuczora

putting his desire to serve others into practice as a deacon at Nuestra Madre Santisima de la Luz Parish in Guadalupe, Nuevo Leon, Mexico.

"Our parish there has over 40,000 parishioners," Kuczora said. "There's a lot of sacramental need."

Kuczora said he performed a variety of sacramental duties while in Mexico.

"I did communion services in the absence of a priest. I brought communion to the sick and homebound," he said. "I did weddings, many funerals and many baptisms. Sacramentally, I was very busy."

He said he also assisted with the parish's education program.

"I also helped to run the catechesis program for 900 children," Kuczora said. "There was a lot of teaching with that and organizing that, and providing ongoing education for our Sunday school teachers as well."

Kuczora said he plans to return to the same parish in Mexico for the next few years with the goal of "making God present to the people there."

"There's a lot of violence, especially related to drug trafficking right now in Mexico," Kuczora said. "[It's about] making God known to the people there, and letting them know God is with them in their suffering, and God cares about them and loves them. Despite all the violence in their lives, God is still there with them and is offering them healing in this life and in the life to come."

In anticipation of his life as a priest, Kuczora said he is most excited to share in people's spiritual lives.

"[I look forward to] serving people, helping them have experiences of God ... and walking with people in their journeys, which are so different," he said. "People have struggles, but also a lot of joys. [I look forward to] just being with them, helping them to see God and realize God is with them and loves them."

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SMC seniors coordinate Make-A-Wish golf event

By CAILIN CROWE
News Writer

A team of Saint Mary's seniors hosted the "Par-Tee for Make-A-Wish" golf outing Sunday at Juday Creek Golf Course in support of a young boy battling a severe illness.

As part of a marketing management class, students Keely Noonan, Kelly Conaty, Kelly Kropp, Courtney O'Neill and Katie Dapper were charged with the task of creating a fundraising event for a charitable cause.

The group chose the Make-A-Wish Foundation because Dapper serves as its representative at Saint Mary's. They met with the Make-A-Wish representative in South Bend who then told them about Hayes, a boy who suffers from chromosome depletion, O'Neill said. (Editor's Note: Hayes's full name is not being released in the interest of privacy.)

"We wanted to raise money for Hayes so that he could go to Disney World and meet Mickey Mouse, something he has been wishing for," O'Neill said.

The students said they thought a golf fundraiser for Make-A-Wish would be a perfect fit for their class project.

"Golf is something that appeals to

college-age students as it gets nice outside and it is a fun Sunday activity," said Dapper.

The event, which advocated for Make-A-Wish and united Saint Mary's and the greater community in support of Hayes, raised \$1,000, enough money to make Hayes's wish a reality, O'Neill said.

During Sunday's outing, 75 participants spent the day putting, chipping and swinging on the driving range, O'Neill said.

The group said they were thankful for the generous support and contributions from the South Bend community, including silent auction donations of car rentals, a set of new tires and gift cards to local restaurants.

"Our group went out and solicited for those donations and got a really great response from many places in South Bend," O'Neill said.

The event also featured wine tasting, sponsored by vendors Fruit Hills, Madison County and People's Winery, O'Neill said.

"[The event brought] together people from campus and community to help inform them about make a wish and to help make a little boys wish come true," she said.

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STAND AGAINST HATE

Monday, April 16
Distribution of Ally Pins and Day of Silence Cards
11:30am-1:30pm NDH, SDH, & LaFortune

Film Screening "Out In The Silence"
7-9pm Hesburgh Library//Carey Auditorium
A stunning documentary about the battle of a gay teen and his mother against authorities when the teen is brutally attacked for coming out in his High School.

Tuesday, April 17
Distribution of Ally Pins and Day of Silence Cards
11:30am-1:30pm NDH, SDH, & LaFortune
Sarah Brooks (03) NYC Anti-Violence Project
7-9pm Geddes Hall//Andrews Auditorium.
Presentation and panel discussion, "In Violence We Forget Who We Are."

Wednesday, April 18
Distribution of Ally Pins and Day of Silence Cards
11:30am-1:30pm NDH, SDH, & LaFortune
Poetry Slam//CoMo Lounge//7-9pm 104 Coleman Morse
Coffee & Light Refreshments Served

Thursday, April 19
FREE Tee-Shirt Distribution
11:30am-1:30pm //Fieldhouse Mall
Take Back The Night March
7:30pm//Candlelight service at the Grotto
8:00pm//March to Holy Cross Hill
8:30pm//Bonfire, poetry, "Speak Out" with messages of hope and healing. Light refreshments.

Friday, April 20
DAY OF SILENCE
3-4pm Silent Procession
Steps of the Main Building to Geddes Hall for Prayer Service.
Refreshments to follow.

I WILL NOT BE SILENT. I WILL NOT BE INDIFFERENT. I WILL NOT JUST TOLERATE.

I WILL MAKE A STAND AGAINST HATE.

Sponsors: Core Council for GLBT & Questioning Students//Office of Student Affairs//Office of the President//Student Government//Graduate Student Union



Photo courtesy of John Wetzel

John Wetzel and Alex Alea tour the Alta Gracia factory, learning about the specific factors involved in production of The Shirt.

Shirt

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factory firsthand made his work all the more real. “[The workers] knew they had somewhere to go to work every day to earn money for their families,” Wetzel said. “One worker, who had only been with the company for two years, had already built himself a brand-new house with four bedrooms for his entire family.” Alea said The Shirt’s involvement with Alta Gracia is more rewarding now that he has seen the work being done in the Dominican Republic. “I have a whole new level of appreciation now that we got to see the outcome,” Alea said. “We saw the socially-conscious facility, and some of the workers who have been

there for almost seven years.” Wetzel said the people who work at the factory contribute to the socially-conscious spirit of the company. “The workers are excited to be part of the progress, part of the change,” Wetzel said. “It’s obvious they enjoy what they do.” The 2012 edition of The Shirt will be revealed April 20 at the Unveiling Ceremony at the Hammes Bookstore from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Both Alea and Wetzel will represent the Shirt Committee, with Irish football coach Brian Kelly participating in the ceremony. For more information about The Shirt, visit theshirt.nd.edu, follow @theshirtnd on Twitter or “like” The Shirt ND on Facebook.

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Habitat

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“There’s a lot of work and caring that went into the house from all the students that were a part of this.” Graham said he estimates a total of 100 to 200 Notre Dame students contributed to the project, with 30 to 40 volunteers participating in weekly construction activities, including cabinet and fixture construction, framing, roofing, installation of windows and doors, insulating, painting, trimming and siding. “To see the family that we worked with throughout the entire year today with a new place to stay means a lot to us,” Graham said. “We’re grateful to have been able to help.” House recipient Starla Cole spoke at the dedication ceremony, and voiced her gratitude for the support from Habitat for Humanity. “We could never have done this on our own,” Starla Cole said. “Habitat helped.” Her husband, Toby Cole, said the path to home-ownership was difficult, but the Notre Dame chapter of Habitat helped make owning a home a reality for his family. “For one reason or another, we always ran into roadblocks when trying to have our own house,” Cole said.

“We’re ecstatic about this house, and thankful for the help from Habitat and the Notre Dame students.” Williams said it is a misconception that Habitat for Humanity simply gives away free houses to needy families. The organization helps the family to construct the house and supply the initial building funds, but the family is expected to pay off all mortgage payments in the future. However, the houses are built at no profit, and interest is not charged. The Notre Dame chapter contributed \$40,000 to the initial funding for the home through donations and fundraising, Graham said. “A lot of money came from alumni donations,” Graham said. “A lot also came from fundraising events like Jail n’ Bail and the Polar Bear Run.” Graham said the Coles took an active role in the construction of their new home, and Toby Cole often helped student volunteers on build days. The couple also attended homeowner classes as part of the Habitat for Humanity program, Cole said. “We put 400 hours into the classes,” he said. “We learned how to build a home, how to manage it, how to take care of it. It was educational and fun at the same time.”

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Event presents struggles of war veterans

By CHRISTIAN MYERS
News Writer

In his song, “Trying to Find My Way Home,” musician and Iraq War veteran Jason Moon sings, “It’s hard to fight an enemy that lives inside of your head.” The College Democrats of Notre Dame sponsored a combination concert and movie showing in the LaFortune Student Center on Sunday to raise awareness about veterans suffering from that “enemy:” post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). The event featured live music from Moon and excerpts from the documentary “On the Bridge,” a film directed by professor Olivier Morel that features the stories of Moon and other veterans with PTSD. College Democrats co-president Camille Suarez said she initially conceived the idea for the event after attending a January screening of the film at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. “After I saw the movie, I was so emotionally moved that I wanted to spread the word,” Suarez said. “Like Jason said, people need to just listen. Hopefully after seeing the movie, more people will listen.” At the event, Moon played three songs from his album and answered questions about veterans with PTSD. Moon said the public’s instinctive response of asking veterans about their experiences and trying to relate to them can cause more harm than good, and the best thing those who want to help veterans can do is simply to listen. Moon said Notre Dame can work to become recognized as a school that is veteran-friendly by taking steps to improve resources for returned soldiers, like providing a safe space for them to reach out to each other in dealing with veteran-specific issues like PTSD. “Notre Dame has a history of

helping veterans through chaplaincy. Let’s extend that to the whole campus,” Moon said. Moon was deployed as a combat engineer through the Wisconsin Army National Guard in Iraq from March 2003 through April 2004. After returning from his tour of duty, Moon began traveling nationwide to play concerts for veteran and civilian audiences. In addition to local shows around Wisconsin, Moon travels around the country once a month to perform. He also founded a non-profit organization that works to help veterans suffering from PTSD. Moon said participating in the documentary was a challenging experience, but it ultimately led him to use his musical talent to help his fellow veterans. “At the time [making the film] was very difficult, and caused about six months of severe PTSD,” Moon said. “Originally, I agreed to do it because I thought it would be the last time I would have to tell my story, but then the music and the CD came out of it, and now that’s all I do. My plan kind of backfired.” Morel said he was inspired to make the film after hearing a National Public Radio piece about veteran suicide rates and PTSD. “On the Bridge” features the stories of six veterans and their experiences with PTSD. One of the six veterans, Jeff Lucey, committed suicide shortly after returning from Iraq, so his family tells his story in the film, Morel said. “He had trouble dealing with the morality of the things he had to do while in Iraq,” Morel said. “I think Jeff’s story is emblematic of what happens to many veterans when they come home.” In making the film, Morel said he aimed to raise awareness about PTSD and to show how veterans are working to educate the public about those who suffer

from the disorder. “I made the film to try and make a difference. My angle was not to have them talk about the war or even necessarily about PTSD, but about the translation of trauma into public expression,” Morel said. “Many veterans are musicians, artists and writers depicting the war in a powerful way. One day we’re going to be aware of a cultural change that comes from the Iraq War veterans’ testimonials and creative expression.” Morel shared the story of a veteran who contacted him through the film’s website after viewing the movie’s trailer. The man said he had served with Ryan Endicott, one of the veterans featured in the film, and wanted to get in contact with Endicott. Morel said he sent the man’s contact information to Endicott, who was able to talk to the man that afternoon. After the conversation, Endicott called Morel to tell him the film had just helped to save a man’s life. “On the Bridge” has been screened at several film festivals around the United States, and won numerous awards, including Best Documentary at Detroit’s Uptown Film Festival. Morel said his favorite part of the filmmaking experience was forging relationships with the people involved. “The best thing was the wonderful friendships. The wonderful people I met are now part of my family,” Morel said. “I was not making the film about them, but with them.” More information about Moon, his music and his efforts to help fellow veterans can be found at www.jasonmoon.org. For more information about “On the Bridge,” visit www.onthebridgethemovie.org.

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SAINT MARY’S COLLEGE

FOOD WEEK

2012

Monday, April 16th

12 p.m.: “Food, Pleasure, and the Culinary Arts”

Location: Conference Rooms D & E, Student Center

7 p.m.: “Fertility, Cycles and Nutrition: What’s the Connection?”

Location: Conference Room D & E, Student Center

Tuesday, April 17th

5 p.m.: “Living on Real Food. Learn, Taste, & Enjoy.”

Location: Spes Unica 145

Wednesday, April 18th

7 p.m.: Keynote Speaker – Temra Costa “The Roots of the American Meal” followed by Book Signing

Location: Carroll Auditorium, Madeleva Hall

Thursday, April 19th

7 p.m.: Showing of Food Inc. with Organic Milk and Cookie Bar

Location: Vander Venet Theatre, Student Center

Friday, April 20th

3 p.m.: Real Food Calculator Presentation and Food Justice Speaker

Location: Vander Venet Theatre, Student Center

Come out to our events and win gift cards to Chipotle, Studebagels, and Let’s Spoon!

the Office of Undergraduate Admissions welcomes the following

Reilly participants to campus for **four days**

Kevin Adams	Cincinnati, OH	Elizabeth Konicek	Bloomington, IN
Tommy Allen	Oceanside, CA	Chris Leech	Pittsburgh, PA
Charlotte Anderson	Pasadena, CA	Yunfei Liu	Cherry Hill, NJ
Jacob Angst	Delafield, WI	Michael McMannon	Chicago, IL
Deepti Anthony	Rockville, MD	Amelia McReynolds	Noblesville, IN
Regina Bockus	Wilburton, OK	Stephen McShane	Birmingham, MI
Jack Bordoni	Los Altos, CA	Jessica Meaux	Mokena, IL
Blase Capelli	Leawood, KS	Alexander Meyer	Naples, FL
Sarah Clark	Libertyville, IL	Mike Meyering	Grosse Pointe Woods, MI
Cailin Daley	Marblehead, MA	Michael Moroney	Deerfield Beach, FL
Michael DeSantis	Bethesda, MD	Joe Mueller	Bettendorf, IA
Steven Doyle	Seminole, FL	John Nagle	Calabasas, CA
Jeremy Doyle	South Bend, IN	Ellie Norby	Bloomington, MN
Esther Du	Walnut, CA	Joe Norby	Bloomington, MN
Jim Elder	San Antonio, TX	Erin O'Hern	Morristown, NJ

that could change the next **four years**

Matthew Farrell	Collierville, TN	Joseph Ong	Rancho Palos Verdes, CA
Patrick Fasano	Monmouth, IL	Jack Orlowski-Scherer	New Brunswick, NJ
Lucy Filipac	Elgin, IL	Joel Ostdiek	Columbus, NE
Annika Fling	Salinas, CA	Kimberly Peloza	San Diego, CA
Josh Fontenot	Dallas, TX	Claire Pitman	Owings, MD
Mia Frasca	Wheaton, IL	Vickram Pradhan	Buffalo Grove, IL
Heather Fredrickson	Vero Beach, FL	Jayant Rao	Stamford, CT
Michael Gannon	Weston, MA	Jake Reilly	La Grange, IL
Audrey Glaser	Hinsdale, IL	Jake Richelsen	Chaska, MN
Avantika Gori	Minneapolis, MN	Abraham Rusch	Davisburg, MI
Monica Gorman	Bowie, MD	Nick Sam	Buffalo, NY
Patrick Gregg	Orlando, FL	Brittany Sanok	Oakton, VA
Abby Grimm	Spanish Fort, AL	Robert Scales	Hinsdale, IL
Tate Halfman	San Luis Obispo, CA	Connie Scoggins	Oak Hill, VA
Max Harder	Harrison Township, MI	Sheena Shah	Mishawaka, IN
Diana Heflin	San Diego, CA	Luqun Shen	Granger, IN
Genevieve Heidkamp	Hinsdale, IL	Christine Smith	Madison, CT
Austin Herbst	Easley, SC	Ally Souris	League City, TX
Angela Hou	Santa Clara, CA	Timothy Tang	Walnut, CA
Hannah Howard	Waco, TX	Micaela Tolliver	Bremerton, WA
Eeway Hsu	Stanford, CA	Haley Van Steenwyk	Brainerd, MN
Maria Jenkins	Huntsville, AL	Zoe Volenec	Ormond Beach, FL
Abigail Johnson	Atlanta, GA	Grant Weber	Carmel, IN
Charlie Jorden	Cincinnati, OH	Matthew Williams	Little Rock, AR
Christine Joseph	Allen, TX	Fay Wu	Fremont, CA
Sam Kahn	Grand Island, NY	David Wu	Plano, TX

(and then the next **forty**)

ICPA

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first place in “Best Entertainment Column” for her coverage of the New York premiere of the final Harry Potter film, titled “The Magic of a Potter Premiere.” Scene Editor Kevin Noonan took third place in the same category for his column titled “A ‘Dear John’ Letter for Netflix.”

Former Scene Editor Maija Gustin won first place for “Best Entertainment Story” for her coverage of an on-campus presentation of a documentary on the Nuremberg Trials, titled “Schulberg presents ‘Nuremberg’ years after its creation.”

In the same category, senior staff writer Mary Claire O'Donnell took second place for her article about a Notre Dame engineering alumnus who is also a published author, titled “ND grad explores storms and struggle in fiction work.”

Former Editor-in-Chief Douglas Farmer and Graphics Editor Brandon Keelean won first place for “Best Rate Card” for the design of The Observer’s advertising rate card. Farmer and Keelean also took second place in the “Best House Ad” category for their ad titled “The Observer Remembers.”

Mervosh won second place in the “Best Breaking News Story” for her coverage of

graduate student Xavier Murphy’s October death, “Community remembers fifth-year student.” She also took third place for “Best News Feature” for her piece on the 10-year anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, titled “Malloy, graduates remember ‘somber’ 2001 environment.”

The Observer staff won third place for “Best Stand-Alone/Pullout Section” for its special section on the 10-year anniversary of 9/11, titled “9/11: Ten Years Later.” Keelean, Mervosh, former Photo Editor Pat Coveney and Managing Editor Megan Doyle also took third place in the “Best Informational Graphic” category for their accompanying 9/11 timeline.

Multimedia Editor Sarah O'Connor won second place for “Best Feature Photo” for her photo from Girl Talk’s concert at the B1 Block Party concert in August.

The sports department took third place in the “Best Special Issue” category for its Oct. 21 Irish Insider profiling the football team’s night game against USC, titled “The Wait is Over.”

Editor-in-Chief Allan Joseph won third place for “Best Sports Column” for his piece “After all the hype, Irish weren’t even close” after the football team’s 31-17 loss to USC on Oct. 22.

The Observer’s award-winning submissions are available on its website, www.ndsmcobserver.com.

[and] Hispanic community within Michiana by providing educational, cultural and advocacy services in a welcoming bilingual environment,” according to its website.[this year], we’re friends and I wanted to play with him.”

This year, Keenan Hall raised \$unity within Michiana by providing educational, cultural and advocacy services in a welcoming bilingual environment,” according to its website.

Contact Anna Boarini at aboari01@saintmarys.edu

Women bond over Manson

Associated Press

CORCORAN, Calif. — On August 9, 1969, two native 17-year-old girls were launched on a path that led to the unlikeliest of friendships.

That infamous night, four young people under the sway of a charismatic career criminal slipped into a neighborhood of Hollywood glitterati, then bludgeoned and stabbed rising young actress Sharon Tate, coffee heiress Abigail Folger and three others. Across town the next night, the band killed again.

The name Charles Manson quickly became a synonym for unimaginable evil, which nobody knows better than Debra Tate, Sharon’s little sister, and Barbara Hoyt, the Manson family member whose testimony helped put the killers in prison.

“We’ve got a lot in common,” said Hoyt, now a retired nurse. “She has been big help to me.”

“She makes sure I am holding my head up high,” Tate said, “and I do the same for her.”

Now both about 60, a Manson family member and the last living Tate family member have bonded in their long quest to keep those responsible behind bars. Both have testified repeatedly at Manson’s parole hearings. Both say they still get threats from the cult killer’s supporters — mostly white supremacists enamored with murders Manson orchestrated to incite a race war dubbed “Helter Skelter.”

Even now not a day passes without Hoyt dwelling on the suffering Manson and her former comrades inflicted and on the widespread terror that ensued.

“We are completely linked by this event whether we

want to be or not,” she said of Debra Tate, who now runs a crime victims group. “She understands me, and I understand where she’s coming from.”

Hoyt never committed a crime for Manson, and her testimony helped send the cult leader and four followers to death row in 1971. The following year, when the California Supreme Court ruled the death penalty unconstitutional, their new life terms made them eligible for a while for annual parole consideration.

That is when the lives of Barbara Hoyt and Debra Tate began to intertwine. Over the decades, each as written letters to parole panels urging that the killers never be released, and each has traveled to obscure California farming towns for parole hearings in prisons housing some of the state’s most notorious convicts.

At first Hoyt testified partly out of fear that the killers would seek revenge if released. But after becoming a registered nurse, she realized that the psychological and emotional pain of having to relive her involvement with the cult was another part of her payback to society.

“It’s a descent into hell and then having to climb back out again,” Hoyt said. “I think about it and I feel I was simply there to be a witness, because that has been my role. God gave me that role, and that’s my reality.”

Meanwhile Tate’s late mother, Doris, had become the driving force for victims’ rights in California and was instrumental in a 1982 law that allows family members to testify about their losses at trials and parole hearings.

When Doris died, that left her daughters Debra and Patti to carry on with her

work. Patti died of breast cancer in 2000, leaving Debra, disabled from a postal service accident, to go it alone.

“Over time our mutual efforts brought us together,” Hoyt said.

Now they talk regularly on the phone and get together when they’re in the same town, usually for a parole hearing. Tate lives in the Southern California desert, and Hoyt in the Pacific Northwest, the specific location she wants to keep secret.

Trapped in drab institutional waiting rooms, they realized they were the same age and shared similar middle-class upbringings. Both were divorced mothers who raised daughters on their own. In 2006, when Manson associate Bruce Davis was up for parole for another murder Manson had orchestrated, the two had time to talk.

“I discovered that I really like Barbara,” said Tate, who now works for victims’ rights through her website www.sharontate.net. “She is a good person. She has a good soul and a good spirit and she has come through for us when it was very iffy whether these core members were going to get out.”

As the friendship developed, Tate realized that Barbara has suffered from the murders as much as she had. “She flew under such a horrible social stigma for so long,” Tate said. “For Barbara to have suffered the same stigma as those other sociopaths, well it just wasn’t right.”

Hoyt didn’t appear Wednesday for the 77-year-old Manson’s 12th and probably final parole hearing because she knew the prospects were virtually nil that the state would release such a notorious killer.

Valero

continued from page 1

plans to enter the tournament again next year to defend their championship once again.

“As long as we’re around and as long as the tournament is around, we’ll be entering and looking to win,” he said.

This year, Keenan Hall raised \$200 for La Casa de Amistad, a South Bend non-profit organization that strives “to provide the Latino

NRA legislation positions Zimmerman to contest murder conviction

Associated Press

MIAMI — George Zimmerman persuaded the police not to charge him for killing unarmed teenager Trayvon Martin, but the prosecutor has accused him of murder. Soon, armed with unparalleled legal advantages, Zimmerman will get to ask a judge to find the killing was justified, and if that doesn’t work, he’ll get to make the same case to a jury.

The wave of National Rifle Association-backed legislation that began seven years ago in Florida and continues to sweep the country has done more than establish citizens’ right to “stand your ground,” as supporters call the laws. It’s added second, third and even fourth chances for people who have used lethal force to avoid prosecution and conviction using the same argument, extra opportunities to keep their freedom that defendants accused of other crimes don’t get.

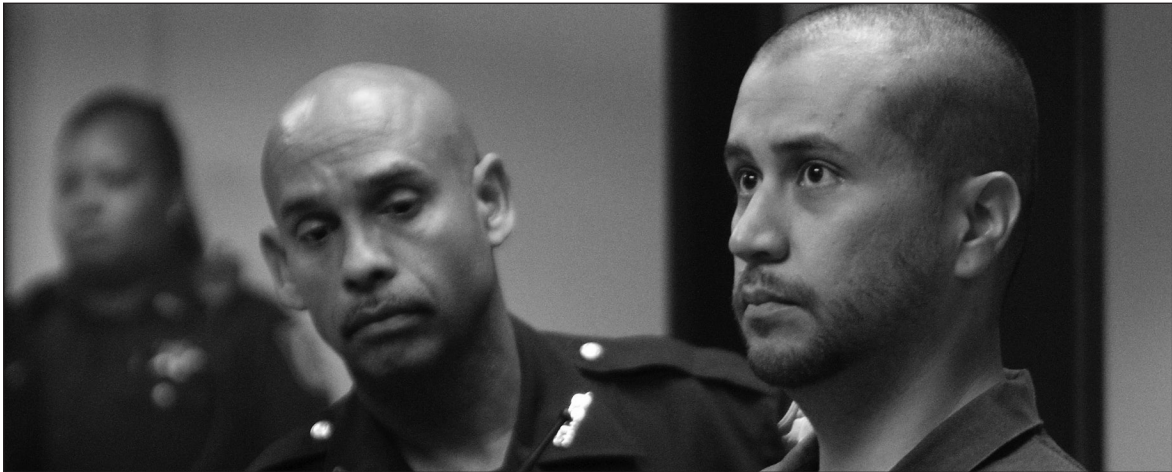
Martin’s shooting has unleashed a nationwide debate on the validity of these laws, which exist in some form in most of the country and which

prosecutors and police have generally opposed as confusing, prone to abuse by criminals, and difficult to apply evenly. Others are concerned that the laws foster a vigilante, even trigger-happy mentality that might cause too many unnecessary deaths.

An Associated Press review of federal homicide data doesn’t seem to bear that out. Nationwide, the total number of justified homicides by citizens rose from 176 in 2000 to 325 in 2010. Totals for all homicides also rose slightly over the same period, but when adjusted for population growth, the rates actually dipped.

At least two-dozen states since 2005 have adopted laws similar to Florida’s, which broadly eliminated a person’s duty to retreat under threat of death or serious injury, as long as the person isn’t committing a crime and is in a place where he or she has a right to be. Other states have had similar statutes on the books for decades, and still others grant citizens equivalent protections through established court rulings.

While the states that have



George Zimmerman, right, stands next to a Seminole County Deputy, left, during a court hearing in Sanford, Fla., on April 12. Zimmerman has been charged with second-degree murder.

passed “stand your ground” laws continue to model them loosely after Florida’s — Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and New Hampshire put expanded laws on the books last year — Florida is unique.

One area that sets Florida apart is the next step Zimmerman faces: With the police and prosecutor having weighed in, a judge will decide whether to dismiss the second-degree murder charge based on “stand

your ground.” If Zimmerman wins that stage, prosecutors can appeal.

But in another aspect peculiar to Florida, if the appeals court sides with Zimmerman, not only will he be forever immune from facing criminal charges for shooting the 17-year-old Martin — even if new evidence or witnesses surface — he could not even be sued for civil damages by Martin’s family for wrongfully

causing his death.

“You get even more protection than any acquitted murderer,” said Tamara Lawson, a former prosecutor who now teaches at St. Thomas School of Law in Miami. “This law seems to give more protection than any other alleged criminal could dream about.”

If Zimmerman can’t convince the judge of his innocence, he still can use “stand your ground” to convince jurors.

Candidates barred from Egyptian election

Associated Press

CAIRO — The elimination of three of the main contenders from Egypt's presidential race has eroded the chances of an Islamist candidate to seize the country's top job.

The Muslim Brotherhood, the most powerful political group to emerge from last year's uprising, finds itself increasingly in a bind. It is unable to exercise the power of its electoral wins so far and is jostling with the ruling generals and liberal and secular groups that drove the uprising but now fear religious domination of politics.

The Brotherhood was outraged over the election commission's decision late Saturday to bar its chief strategist and leading choice for president, Khairat el-Shater. It threatened more protests like a large march on Friday that drew tens of thousands of Islamists to Cairo's Tahrir Square.

"This is a political decision not a legal one, said Murad Mohammed Ali, a spokesman for el-Shater's campaign. "This commission is politicized and we will exert all political pressures to restore our rights."

The election commission disqualified 10 candidates from the May 23-24 vote including el-Shater and a popular, more hardline Islamist from another party, Hazem Abu Ismail. Omar Suleiman, who was ousted President Hosni Mubarak's long-time spy chief and only vice president, was also barred. He was believed to have been backed by the ruling military council that took power after Mubarak's ouster and is headed by Mubarak's long-time defense minister.

The shakeout left three front-

runners and two of them are stiff competitors of the Muslim Brotherhood — former Foreign Minister Amr Moussa and a prominent Brotherhood defector, Abdel-Moneim Abolfotoh. The other front-runner is the Brotherhood's second choice for the presidency, Mohammed Morsi, who was nominated as a back-up in case el-Shater got eliminated.

The Brotherhood is also suffering from a public backlash over its decision to field a presidential candidate after promising it would not do so. Critics say the group has gotten too greedy for power and Suleiman, in the opening salvo of his campaign, warned the Brotherhood was trying to turn Egypt into a religious state.

The Brotherhood-led parliament that emerged from the pro-democracy uprising has passed only one law in its first few months in power and has failed in its bid to fire the military-appointed government it has blamed for depleting the country's coffers.

Last week, a court ruling suspended the constitution-writing panel appointed by parliament and dominated by Islamist parliament members after secular groups complained it was not representative.

After months of basking in its election victory, the Brotherhood has now returned to protesting, loudly criticizing the military rulers and threatening more demonstrations if the elimination of its top strategist from the race is upheld.

The electoral commission, appointed by the military rulers to oversee the vote, gave the candidates until Monday to contest their disqualification.

Obama disputes criticism of U.S. action

Associated Press

CARTAGENA, Colombia — Exposing a rift with Israel, President Barack Obama on Sunday insisted that the United States has not "given anything away" in new talks with Iran as he defended his continued push for a diplomatic resolution to the dispute over Tehran's nuclear ambitions.

Obama said he refused to let the talks turn into a "stalling process," but believed there was still time for diplomacy.

His assessment, delivered at the close of a Latin American summit in Colombia, came after Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Sunday had said the U.S. and world powers gave Tehran a "freebie" by agreeing to hold more talks next month.

Obama shot back: "The notion that somehow we've given something away or a 'freebie' would indicate Iran has gotten something. In fact, they've got some of the toughest sanctions that they're going to be facing coming up in just a few months if they don't take advantage of these talks."

Still, in a news conference here, Obama warned to Iran, "The clock's ticking."

Winding down his three-day trip in the port city of Cartagena, Obama also sought to offer hope for fresh start with Cuba, saying the U.S. would welcome the communist-run island's transition to democracy. There could be an opportunity for such a shift in the coming years, Obama said.

Standing alongside Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos, Obama also proclaimed a free-trade agreement between their countries as a win all-around, even as labor leaders back home denounced it. Obama announced that the trade pact can be fully enforced next month, now that



AP

President Barack Obama talks to Guatemalan President Otto Perez during the Sixth Summit of the Americas in Colombia.

Colombia has enacted a series of protections for workers and labor unions.

Obama had hoped to keep his role in the Summit of the Americas focused on the economy and the prospect of the region's rapid economic rise as a growth opportunity for American businesses.

But that message was quickly overshadowed by an alleged prostitution scandal involving Secret Service personnel who were in Colombia to set up security for Obama's trip. The president said Sunday that he expected a full, rigorous investigation of the allegations, and said he would be angry if the accusations turn out to be true.

As Obama met with Latin American leaders, negotiators from the U.S. and five other world powers were in Turkey for a fresh round of nuclear talks with Iran.

While previous talks have done little to dissuade Iran from moving forward on its

nuclear program, diplomats called the latest negotiations constructive and useful. Both sides agreed to hold more talks in Baghdad at the end of May.

The Israeli prime minister balked at the announcement of more talks, saying the intervening five weeks would simply give Iran more time to continue enriching uranium without restrictions. Netanyahu has said Iran uses diplomatic negotiations as a diversion while it continues to pursue a nuclear weapon.

Israel has raised the prospect of a preemptive military strike on Iran's nuclear facilities. The Obama administration has urgently sought to hold off Israeli military action, which would probably result in the U.S. being pulled into a conflict as well. The U.S. believes a combination of diplomacy and crippling economic sanctions could push Iran to abandon its nuclear ambitions.

Security Council approves Syrian action

Associated Press

BEIRUT — The U.N. Security Council on Saturday approved the deployment of a first team of observers to Syria to shore up a brittle truce, even as a new surge of violence threatened the internationally brokered deal meant to end 13 months of violence.

The unanimous Security Council resolution also called on both sides to immediately "cease all armed violence in all its forms" and asked Syria to pull troops and heavy weapons from population centers — a truce provision the regime has so far ignored.

The cease-fire is at the center of a broadly backed peace plan by special envoy Kofi Annan. It is aimed at ending a conflict that has killed over 9,000 people and launching talks on the country's political future.

The deployment of observers is seen as crucial for making a truce stick. Annan's spokesman Ahmad Fawzi has said a small advance team is on standby to fly to Syria once the Security Council has approved the mission, to be followed by a larger contingent later on.

The Syrian regime and opposition fighters have traded allegations of scattered violations since the truce formally took effect Thursday. However, Saturday's



AP

Members of the U.N. Security Council approve the proposed plan to send U.N. peacekeepers to monitor the Syrian cease-fire.

reports of the use of heavier weapons suggested the cease-fire was coming under increasing jeopardy.

The heaviest fighting Saturday was reported in the central city of Homs, one of the cities hit hardest by the regime crackdown on mass protests that erupted in March 2011 and sought President Bashar Assad's ouster.

Activists said regime forces shelled rebel-held neighborhoods of Homs, killing at least three civilians. The state-run Syrian news agency SANA said rebel fighters fired rocket-propelled grenades at an area of re-

gime loyalists, killing one man.

Sporadic shelling by regime forces in Homs began late Friday and continued Saturday, said the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, an activist group.

"I can see black smoke billowing from a building that was hit in Jouret el-Shayah," local activist Tarek Badrakhan, based in the neighborhood of Khaldiyyeh, told The Associated Press via Skype. Badrakhan said the body of the man remained in the street for several hours, with people unable to approach it due to the shelling and sniper fire.

Secret Service agents involved in scandal

Associated Press

CARTAGENA, Colombia — An embarrassing scandal involving prostitutes and Secret Service agents deepened Saturday as 11 agents were placed on leave, and the agency designed to protect President Barack Obama had to offer regret for the mess overshadowing his diplomatic mission to Latin America.

The controversy also expanded to the U.S. military, which announced five service members staying at the same hotel as the agents in Colombia may have been involved in misconduct as well. They were confined to their quarters in Colombia and ordered not to have contact with others.

All the alleged activities took place before Obama arrived Friday in this Colombian port city for meetings with 33 other regional leaders.

Put together, the allegations were an embarrassment for an American president on foreign soil and threatened to upend White House efforts to keep his trip focused squarely on boosting economic ties with fast-growing Latin America. Obama was holding two days of meetings at the Summit of the Americas with leaders from across the vast region before

heading back to Washington Sunday night.

The Secret Service did not disclose the nature of the misconduct. The Associated Press confirmed on Friday that it involved prostitutes.

The White House said Obama had been briefed about the incidents but would not comment on his reaction.

"The president does have full confidence in the United States Secret Service," presidential spokesman Jay Carney said when asked.

Carney insisted the matter was more a distraction for the media than Obama. But Secret Service assistant director Paul Morrissey said in a statement: "We regret any distraction from the Summit of the Americas this situation has caused."

Rep. Peter King, chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, told the AP after he was briefed on the investigation on Saturday that "close to" all 11 of the agents involved had brought women back to their rooms at a hotel separate from where Obama is now staying.

The New York Republican said the women were "presumed to be prostitutes" but investigators were interviewing the agents.

INSIDE COLUMN

Praying for headlights

“Wagon Wheel” by Old Crow Medicine Show is one of those songs college students love.

The moment that distinctive introduction blares from the speakers, arms link, glasses clink and the room erupts in cheering.

In true spring break road trip style, “Wagon Wheel” played multiple times on our drive from South Bend down to South Carolina a few weeks ago.

The first time it came on, I was behind the wheel and we had just crossed the Kentucky-Tennessee state line. We had all been silent for awhile, enjoying the green and gold scenery that unfolded before us. The open road softly rose and fell as we sped at 80 miles per hour south down I-75.

The lyrics of “Wagon Wheel” filled the empty space between us, representing all the things we were thinking, but hadn’t said.

In my head, I tried to define what the song is about. On one level, the song is about freedom — having the freedom to pursue what matters most. It’s about remembering the people and places you care about after being away for a long time.

As a senior in college, this aspect of the song seems especially relevant. I’ve spent months abroad and summers away in different cities. In four years, my younger siblings have grown up, and people in my childhood neighborhood have moved out. Like the narrator, I’ve gone away to mature, and will return both different and the same.

“Wagon Wheel” is also about the beauty of simplicity — that life can be reduced to a single person, a single car and a single desire. You don’t need to know the song to relate to it — the music reflects some reality about the future we all can find truth in.

On our way back to South Bend after spring break, “Wagon Wheel” came on again while I was driving. This time, it was about 10 p.m., dark and raining, and the song had a much more sobering effect.

I realized then that the song is bittersweet, even sad. Loneliness and regret infuse the lyrics because the past still weighs him down. It’s possible that after all those years of longing, after seventeen-straight hours of driving, his vision for a new life could be shattered.

At its core, however, “Wagon Wheel” is about faith. It’s about having faith that the one you love will still be there when you come home, about having faith that you can drive straight into the unknown and everything will end up okay.

With May 20 quickly approaching, I feel like I’m speeding at 80 miles per hour towards graduation, and after that, the unknown. But before then, I hope to share a few more swaying “Wagon Wheels” at Finny’s, indulging in one of those rare moments when we all feel exactly the same thing.

Contact Sara Felsenstein at sfelsens@nd.edu

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



Sara Felsenstein

Senior Staff
Writer

Remembering Virginia Tech

I remember April 16, 2007 because I almost did not go to school that day. When you’re in your high school schedule of waking up at ungodly times to go to school every morning, you remember those rare occasions when you almost got to go back to bed. Any form of parental excuse was a blessing from the heavens in the midst of endless standardized testing.

Today is the fifth anniversary in which we remember the Virginia Tech Massacre. It was the first of a string of tragedies to follow in American school-shooting history. 32 people were shot to death and 22 people were wounded by Seung-hui Cho. The news of the shooting hit the media quickly, especially as a video of the shooter sent to NBC was released. Seung-hui Cho was quickly identified as a son of Korean immigrant parents who struggled with adjusting to school from a young age. He killed two people in a residential hall, then headed over to the classrooms in which he shot at random. At the end, he took his own life.

The world was shocked awake, and the nation went into mourning.

That morning, my race had to do with why I almost didn’t go to school.

I went to a public school in the Twin Cities with 2,500 students. Only handful of Asian-Americans made up classes. In the entire school, there was a fluctuating population of Korean-Americans ranging between 10 and 20.

Edithstein Cho

Asiatic Gaze

My mom worried that some ignorant peer might target me for revenge on the shooter. I am Asian-American. Adding a layer to that, I am Korean-American. Then, what struck the strongest chord of fear in my mom was my last name was the same as the shooter’s last name — Cho.

At large, Korean-American communities across the nation froze when they learned about the massacre. College newspapers expressed being extremely worried for future harassments of Asian-American and Korean-American students.

Korean-American communities’ fear stemmed from history and the memory that people hold on to. The Asian-American communities have sorrowful memories of being isolated at times of hardships. April 2012 is also the 20th anniversary of the L.A. riots — a sorrowful memory in which the minority communities were looted, and no assistance or police intervention took place during the 15 day-long riot. Such historical facts cannot be divorced from a community when they react. Likewise, the concerns of Civil Rights with the Trayvon Martin case arise from the milieu in which we belong. Trayvon Martin’s death is one of numerous cases of a young black male being shot. Whether or not this one case will be filed as a case of discrimination will not determine if we live in a post-racial society. We do live in a racialized society, whether we like it or not.

Five years ago, I decided not to skip school in fear of accumulating make-up work, because that was what I was

more afraid of at the time. When I went to my classes, I was shocked to discover my peers’ obliviousness about the shooting. What turned my world around seemed to have affected no one else. I did not complain about how I did not have to explain that I am not related to the shooter if any targeting was to happen. However, I did know my facts about how there are over 1.7 million Korean-Americans and over 1.3 million Cho’s in the world.

The fact that I was prepared to distance myself from the shooter’s identity highlighted how race affects me. It seemed as if I had to undermine my belief in the dignity everyone deserves with the selfish logic of gearing the hate towards people related to the shooter in order to save myself.

Despite the relief my mom felt when I came home unharmed, I felt frustrated with the blindness to what I went through psychologically.

From my interactions on campus, I think the Trayvon Martin case is casted off with the similar obliviousness I faced five years ago. By not talking about it, we will not learn about how different individuals are affected in such different ways from an incident. Unless we take the steps to engage in conversation, we will not know how race plays a role in the workings of our world.

Edith Cho is a sociology and peace studies major. She can be contacted at echo1@nd.edu.

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

It’s good to be alive

Dear Notre Dame community:

On Jan. 14, my dad’s birthday, I woke up in the dark with a terrible headache. I fell out of bed and was having seizures. I was later transported to the hospital. I was having an AVM stroke — a bleed in my brain caused by a malformation of blood vessels, previously undetected, which formed before I was born.

The doctors said that I would not survive, but God works in mysterious ways. One of those ways were the prayers of the Notre Dame community. I am alive today because of the prayers and support of all of you. I need to thank you for those prayers and your continuing prayers.

It’s good to be alive.

It’s good to have so many of you that cared for me: my friends and professors in PLS, Gretchen Reydamas-Shils, the dean and administrators from Arts & Letters, my friends from Cavanaugh, the Spain abroad program, my Spanish major friends and too many other friends on campus to name here. Even people I never met cared enough to pray for me and send cards and gifts just because I am part of Notre Dame.

I was not in the hospital for three days before Fr. Jenkins sent me a rosary. Coach McGraw, Coach Kelly and the Sorin Society sent me a prayer book. I received books, Valentines and a box of a hundred and something origami cranes.

At the Academy Awards, the winners try in vain to remember all of the people who helped them and always leave the stage still trying to remember those they know they are forgetting. I feel the same way now. My brain does not work as fast as it used to, but I am trying. I will be back, and I will thank you all in person then. I will light a candle at the Grotto in thanksgiving for my school.

I am happy to be part of the greatest university out there. There are some silver linings to this tragedy and learning what “We Are ND” really means, is one of those. I needed you, Notre Dame, and you have been there for me.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Maria Diamond
junior
off-campus
April 12

QUOTE OF THE DAY

*“If you want to make peace,
you don’t talk to your friends.
You talk to your enemies.”*

Moshe Dayan
Israeli general & politician

Submit a
Letter to
the Editor

Email obsviewpoint@gmail.com

WEEKLY POLL

What’s your favorite place for a first date?

Starbucks
The dining hall
The Mark
Chicago

Vote by 5 p.m. on Thursday at
ndsmcobserver.com

Hope on the horizon

In February, the Gender Relations Center (GRC) invited Kerry Cronin to our campus to begin a conversation about dating. The program in Legends was very well-attended, and the audience participated in a lively dialogue about relationships (or the lack thereof) on the Notre Dame campus.

G. David Moss

Dr. D @ the GRC

As a part of that program, we passed out level one date vouchers to Starbucks. Those participating had two weeks to redeem the voucher by inviting someone on a date. There were approximately 80 vouchers collected by Starbucks which means that 160 individuals actually went on a level one date. Of the students I talked to about their dating experience, all made very positive comments. Reportedly, one of the primary roadblocks to asking a person out on a date was the anxiety that came along with the process.

When we asked what the GRC could do to help alleviate the natural anxiety of asking someone out on a date, we were told that it was, “out of your hands really. Everything at Notre Dame contributes to the culture where people don’t date. Either people are in

a serious relationship or they are not dating at all.” One male student commented on the several false starts he experienced in making his level one date happen, but in the final assessment, he was pleased that he made the initial attempts and with the outcome of the eventual date. One female student also said her date was very positive overall. She indicated being just a little nervous at the beginning, becoming more comfortable as the date progressed, and by the end of the date her anxiety had disappeared.

Both of the students mentioned above indicated that although their dates did not turn into a relationship, there was a natural parting and there was no nervousness about what would happen next. They are still friends, and being in the presence of the person they dated is not awkward.

Regardless of what many may say about the status of relationships on this campus, I have gained a great deal of encouragement by my conversations with students who are living the delicate balance of academics, societal pressure and the need to continue developing a healthy psycho-sexual perspective. As evidenced by the re-

sults of our level one dating program, when given the right environment (and incentive), students are able to bring their true selves to the relationship and are able to engage each other in authentic dialogue.

The end result is an intentional commitment to not treat members of this community as objects, but as individuals worthy of the respect granted to men and women created in the image of God. This is the higher standard one student spoke of in an earlier editorial, and it is an indicator that we are one step closer to becoming the Notre Dame we claim to be.

The key question is whether or not we are willing to face the anxiety or fear of inviting someone into our sphere of relationship long enough to test the water. More times than not, that test will reveal the person you are with was not meant to be a long-term relationship.

This is a tremendous outcome because, one, you are continuing to refine and define the kind of person you want to get in the water with and two, at the conclusion of level one dating you will have freedom in friendship. Each person was able to ask questions, and the resulting friendship could be

short-lived or life-long. Either outcome is far better than the alternative. There is no walk of shame, regret or the burning desire to hide from your latest hookup companion.

Intentional relating allows us to pay close attention to the scripts we bring to life. It also affords us the opportunity to interrupt those scripts that could potentially leave a bad taste in our mouth. All indications are that this type of intentional relationship development is well worth the investment ... and will hopefully become the new swag in our community.

If you have already mastered the level one date, there will be a discussion of level two and level three dating this Friday in the Dooley Room in the La-Fortune Student Center from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Hope to see you there.

Dr. G. David Moss is the assistant vice president for Student Affairs and the interim director for the GRC. He can be contacted at gmoss@nd.edu

Amanda Downey, an assistant director for the GRC, also contributed to this article.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bald is beautiful

Next Friday, I am shaving my head for St. Baldrick’s. This was something I had been thinking about over the past few weeks, and finally I just decided to go for it. St Baldrick’s is such an amazing cause, and raises so much money for research for childhood cancer. I know we all know people who have been affected by cancer. One of my friends and classmates that I graduated with from grade school died of leukemia in September 2010 after a four-year-long battle. She was such a vibrant person, so full of life and never afraid to speak her mind. I saw her undergo chemotherapy and go bald, something she was very self-conscious about. Which leads me to my main point here.

When I started telling people that I was shaving my head for St Baldrick’s, I received a wide variety of responses. Many people were very supportive, and many have donated money to the cause. After the initial shock, my mother has been very supportive and encouraging. But others have not been so supportive. A few guys I know have not been so kind about it. They have said offensive things about me looking like a dude soon, or that now I’ll have to start wearing makeup and jewelry and dressing more feminine. I’m not stupid. I know that I will definitely look a lot different. But the fact that some males have decided that my femininity is based on the amount of hair I have offends me. That is the exact opposite of St. Baldrick’s mission. They work to prove that bald IS beautiful, that a woman, or even a man should not be defined by how much hair they have. There is something wrong when it is considered okay by our culture to judge someone and make assumptions about them based simply on the length of their hair.

So I urge you all to reconsider your definition of beautiful. And please come out and support all those shaving their heads next week.

Erin Stoyell-Mulholland
freshman
Lewis Hall
April 13

Holy Votes correction for Democratic platform

To the Editors:
Your article, “Professors Discuss Politics” (April 13) mischaracterizes my views on Catholic teaching, the Democratic Party platform and the abortion issue.

In the article, you state my position as follows: “the pro-choice stance allows for a common good available to many and that all issues should be considered before voting, despite its contradiction with Church teachings.”

There’s just one problem: I never said or even implied this.

What I actually said, excerpted from my prepared remarks for the event, is the following:

“If you think about it carefully, the Democrat approach to the abortion issue is just as or more compatible with a culture of life than the Republican position.

Before laying out this argument, a point of clarification on the Church’s position.

Then-Cardinal Ratzinger argued that a Catholic may vote for pro-choice candidate: a Catholic would only ‘be guilty of formal cooperation in evil if he were to deliberately vote for a candidate precisely because of the candidate’s permissive stance on abortion.’

Now let’s look at the parties’ approaches to the abortion problem.

The Republican approach is to criminalize abortion, which is to say overturn Roe vs. Wade.

There are three problems with this approach: there is no evidence that the Republicans are serious about overturning Roe, there is no chance that Roe will actually be overturned and even if it were overturned the data suggests there would likely be no significant reduction in abortions.

The Democrat approach is to enact socio-

economic policies that discourage abortion. The logic is two-fold: healthcare and education result in fewer unintended pregnancies and pre/post natal healthcare, income support, paid leave and adoption programs mean that women are less likely to terminate their pregnancies.

The evidence suggests that it works. The Clinton administration emphasized education and brought millions out of poverty and had more success at reducing the abortion rate than the Reagan and Bush administrations.

Plus we know that countries where abortion is legal but that have strong welfare systems (think Belgium and the Netherlands) have some of the lowest abortion rates in the world. It is also worth noting that the Bishops support such measures because they protect life by reasonable alternative means.

So let’s assume that you decide to be a single issue voter (not a position, incidentally, that the Church preaches). Do you vote for a Republican approach that has almost no chance of success and will, in any event, not improve the situation. Or do you vote for a Democrat whose policies have a real shot at protecting life?”

That’s what I said. Clearly, I did not imply that a pro-choice stance “allows for a common good” and I did not suggest that Catholics should be prepared to ignore Church teaching. What I did say — and I stand by this claim — was that the Democrat position is eminently compatible with a culture of life.

Sincerely,

Sebastian Rosato
assistant professor
Department of Political Science
April 13

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By MEGHAN THOMASSEN
Scene Writer

The University of Notre Dame's Department of Film, Television and Theatre (FTT) will present their production of "Light Up The Sky" this week. Directed by professor Jay Paul Skelton, "Light Up The Sky" was the last play written by Pulitzer Prize-winner Moss Hart. Hart is best known for his stage adaptation of George Bernard Shaw's "Pygmalion," the musical "My Fair Lady."

The show is set in 1940s Boston, where Broadway producer Sidney Black has risked a large amount of money on a new playwright, Peter Sloan, and his play, "The Time is Now."

"Black will do anything and everything to save the production," Skelton said. "The length to which he goes to save the show is one of the funnier aspects of our production."

Senior cast member Kevin Argus will play veteran playwright Owen Turner in this week's production. Argus' poise and wit evokes wisdom amongst the conflict of the other actors, but he has a unique challenge with his role.

"I'm one of the only people who doesn't have anything at stake in 'The Time is Now,'" he said. "I'm just friends with the

producer and the actress, so it's been interesting to figure out how my character fits in the show."

With "Light Up the Sky" marking his last show at Notre Dame, Argus said he found the small group dynamic valuable in this production.

"The most fun for me was getting a chance to work on the one or two-person scenes," he said. "We're really hammering home specifics of those moments, really figuring out how each moment connects."

Sophomore Gabriela Nunez will play Stella Livingston, the mother of the play's diva. Nunez seems right at home on stage, as she dishes out motherly advice with just the right amount of sass.

"I'm kind of the stage mom," Nunez said.

Sophomore John Corr plays the hyperbolic director, Carleton Fitzgerald, known for his dramatic superstitions. Corr demonstrates range of skill, as his character goes from zero to screaming in three-point-five.

"For the parts when we're all yelling at each other, Jay had to pull us aside and say, 'You're all so nice ... stop,'" he said.

Corr's commitment to the role draws the audience through his manic mood swings. When he grieves, they grieve. And

when his little cup of joy overflows, the house floods.

Junior Clara Ritger, who plays an underappreciated ghostwriter, said Skelton cast the show very well.

"There are a lot of characteristics that people can draw from their own lives to apply to their characters," Ritger said. "For instance, my character is a writer, and she's trying to get into the business. I find a lot of personal delight in the role, because I understand what this character is going through."

Ritger said she wanted to audition for the show after she read the script.

"I thought it was a fun show. You have a hard time not laughing at the characters," she said. "Honestly, the fact that they fail is kind of enjoyable. You enjoy watching them rip each other's heads off."

Other standouts include freshman Joe Doyle, who plays mogul Sidney Black. Doyle schmoozes with all the ego of a 1940s dynamo. Freshman Katherine Dudas, who plays Sidney's wife, Frances, is a lightning bolt onstage. Her eclectic New York personality is the perfect mix of grit and glamour, and her accent is spot-on.

The plagued playwright Peter Sloan, played by freshman

Matthew Vincent, is one of the most believable characters in the entire show. Vincent's vulnerability is raw, and his frustration with show business is real. Anyone who has struggled with the creative process can identify with his mid-performance crisis.

Sloan's character comments on the inherent selfishness and cattiness of theater. This is one of the show's problems: at times the arguing can get a little tiresome, and the drama seems overdone. The production has also taken a bit too much liberty with the physical expression of "meta-theatrics."

Near the end of the performance, a character breaks out of the set and criticizes the bothersome thespians from the outside, but the concept seems tacked-on. Sloan could be the irate voice of Moss Hart, who, in his final play, expresses his qualms with the theater world, but the movement attracted too much attention and needed more support earlier in the show.

Skelton said the humor in "Light Up the Sky" involves a tremendous amount of focus and energy for the cast. The cast engaged in a special acting form for the production, he said.

"We underwent a workshop

in an acting technique called 'Viewpoints' that helped raise the level of focus and awareness," he said. "This is so that the actors can change according to the nature of the environment and deal with whatever obstacles thrown in their way during the production."

Skelton said he has written, directed or produced over 100 productions, as well as shows on campus such as the Notre Dame Shakespeare Festival. Compared to past productions, Skelton said "Light Up the Sky" was one of the more pleasant shows he's worked on.

"It's enjoyable for me to produce and for people to see," Skelton said. "It's pure comedy, and it's been wonderful to work on an out-and-out American comedy."

The play runs in the Decio Mainstage Theatre of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center at 7:30 p.m. on April 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21, with a matinee performance at 2:30 p.m. on April 22. Tickets can be purchased online at performingarts.nd.edu or by calling the ticket office at (574) 631-2800. Prices are \$15 for regular admission, \$12 for faculty, staff and seniors and \$7 for students.

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Rowling looks for magic beyond "Potter"

By SAM STRYKER
Assistant Managing Editor

The year of 2012 is packed with a slew of significant cultural events — in July, the latest "Batman" and "Spiderman" movies are released, in November a president will be elected and in December, the world is supposed to end. But perhaps the most anticipated date on the year's calendar falls on September 27 — the day J.K. Rowling's first post-"Potter" novel, "The Casual Vacancy," is released.

Rowling is perhaps the most significant figure in children's literature of all time, thanks to her "Harry Potter" series. However, her new release, her first aimed at adult readers, is the literary equivalent of Peyton Manning joining the Denver Broncos — highly anticipated, shockwave-inducing, slightly strange and a milestone event in popular culture.

The premise for "The Casual Vacancy" is tantalizing to say the least — when the synopsis was released last week, just enough was revealed to whet readers' appetites, without revealing too much.

Set in the small English town of Pagford, the book tells the tale of social clashes following the death of a parish councilman — fighting between teens

and parents, wives and husbands, teachers and pupils ensues. The plot seems to center around the race for the empty parish councilman's seat — an election "fraught with passion, duplicity and unexpected revelations," according to Little, Brown & Company, the book's publisher.

Perhaps the most intriguing detail revealed about the novel does not concern the plot, but the book's tone of "black comedy." Rowling's deft hand with dark humor was clearly evident in the "Potter" novels. Mrs. Weasley's battle cry as she defends her daughter from Bellatrix Lestrange in the seventh novel is particularly memorable — despite "The Deathly Hallows" ostensibly being a children's novel, the mother of seven uses some choice language as she kills the Death Eater.

Now that Rowling is relieved of the restrictions that comes with writing a children's series, it will be interesting to see how this black comedy emerges in "The Casual Vacancy." Unrestrained, it would seem the possibilities are endless — and a small-town setting filled with secrets and intrigue offers a wealth of opportunities for her dark wit.

The location itself also is an interesting creative choice. A small English village is

about as un-magical as you can get, and it seems Rowling is trying to not only develop herself beyond her career-defining "Potter" series, but also distinguish herself as an author. Thankfully, she doesn't seem to be doing so in an uncouth manner — she respects association with a major franchise, while looking to progress beyond her past success.

In addition to her wit, one of her strongest traits that shined in the "Harry Potter" books was Rowling's development of the characters and the world they lived in — ask anyone who plays Sporcle about the "Harry Potter" quiz, which roles 200 characters deep. The wizarding world of Hogwarts, Muggles and Quidditch is fantastical, yet believable because of Rowling's attention to detail.

With a small English town with a likely motley assortment of characters, Rowling should have no trouble utilizing this skill. Pagford may be as far away from Hogwarts as imaginable, but "The Casual Vacancy" seems to play to Rowling's strengths.

Despite astronomical expectations, there is no reason to believe "The Casual Vacancy" will disappoint. Despite the fact Rowling developed perhaps the most significant media franchise since "Star

Wars," she always remained in control of every aspect of her series. Even when "Potter" exploded onto the scene, Rowling never lost her grip — she played a role in the decision-making process of the film series, the development of The Wizarding World of Harry Potter in Orlando, and was the prominent figure in "Pottermore," the online "Harry Potter" community website.

It may be cliché to say, but Rowling had the Midas touch because she oversaw the entire development of "Harry Potter" as a media property. She started writing the series on paper napkins, and now has a record-setting set of novels, a theme park and blockbuster film series to her name. She has earned the right to do whatever she wants creatively without even the most cynical reader questioning her decision-making.

Instead of worrying whether "The Casual Vacancy" will be able to live up to her previous work, audiences instead can look forward to what should be an amazing 480 pages of mystery, black comedy, and plot-twists. Suffice it to say, J.K. Rowling doesn't need wizards and witches to create literary magic.

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HOLDING ON TO ALABAMA SHAKES

By COURTNEY ECKERLE
Scene Writer

Probably the most critically-anticipated album of the year, Alabama Shakes' debut "Boys and Girls" lives up to all the hype without being pretentious. Hailing from Athens, Ala., they are led by powerhouse vocalist Brittany Howard.

Effortlessly honest and deliciously dynamic tunes fill this album. A straight shot of fresh and full rasp, Howard's voice clutches at guttural, raw emotions and doesn't let up. With all the soul of Etta James and raw power of James Brown, she brings an unapologetic emotional vulnerability and sensuality.

Howard easily slides up and down the vocal scale, dipping down and ratcheting back up to add to the emotion of the song. She shows no flaws in transitioning from clever and funny to soulful and bleak.

What makes Alabama Shakes live up to its hype is not just Howard's voice — it is her band's funky and clever reworked throwback tunes that challenge, while also complementing her perfectly.

The intro track "Hold On" is one of the greatest showcases of her voice and sets the tone for the entire album, with snarky and truthful lyrics, "Bless my heart, bless my soul/ Didn't think I'd make it to 22 years old/ There must be someone up above/ Saying 'Come on Brittany, you gotta come on up!'"

"Hang Loose" is a great southern rock song with a fun, rolling guitar that leads into lyrics, "Don't worry, sweet baby/ Don't you ever worry 'bout a thing/ Put your worries on the shelf, time to love yourself/ Don't be your own worst enemy."

"Goin' to the Party" is a funny, slinky song with lyrics like, "You gotta take me home now, I know you ain't drinking water/ You gotta take me back 'cause I'm still someone's daughter."

Title track "Boys and Girls" is a

slow ode to Motown that opens with a slow drumbeat that immediately tugs at every low-down emotion.

Howard draws out the split-open heartbreak by slowly crooning lyrics like, "Oh why can't we be best friends anymore/ You say a friend ain't to be between a girl and a boy, I don't know who said it/ Oh why does it have to be so wrong? Oh why don't you call, don't you care anymore?"

The track immediately leads into the raucous and rolling "I Ain't the Same", a rebellious defiance of a relationship gone wrong.

"Listen!/ I ain't the same no more/ In fact I've been changed from before/ I know you ain't gonna find me/ Because I'm not who I used to be."

Alabama Shakes give listeners a fresh injection of blues-rock, with a debut album that has a fierce life of its own. It breaks the single-MP3 download mold the industry has taken in the past decade, smoothly flowing into a single story of "Boys and Girls". It is the kind of album that without listening to, life is a little less.

Contact Courtney Eckerle at
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"Boys and Girls"
Alabama Shakes

Label: Ato Records
Best tracks: "Hold On," "Goin' to the Party," "I Found You," "Hand Loose"



Photo courtesy of emusic.com

NEW TO Your Queue

The Best of Watch Instantly

Wading through the excessive amount of horrible films on Instant Netflix can be daunting for any subscriber. To ease the process, Scene has graciously provided a list of the best Netflix has to offer.

1. "Portlandia"

It's probably antithetical for hipsters to be "in," but this IFC Channel hit — which both lovingly mocks and praises uber-hipster behavior — proves hipsters can indeed be cool. It is on IFC, and therefore not mainstream, so making it totally acceptable. Created by and starring "Saturday Night Live" star Fred Armisen and Carrie Brownstein of the band Sleater-Kinney, "Portlandia" is a sketch comedy show about the people of the Oregon city. Additions to "Battlestar Galactica" and run-ins with crazy mixologists are just a few of the situations that have made "Portlandia" a hit. Catch up with the first season on Netflix now.

2. "Archer"

The over-simplified synopsis is this — it's "James Bond" meets "Arrested Development" in cartoon form. Featuring many of the voices from the latter, including Jessica Walters, Judy Greer, David Cross and Jeffrey Tambor, "Archer" follows a group of international spies and their support-team back home. While the plot is all "Bond," the dialogue is "Arrested," and the characters parallel those of fellow-FX show "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia." The situations they find themselves in about are as ridiculous as you can imagine. Check out the first two seasons on Netflix now.

3. "Louis C.K.: Hilarious"

Louis C.K. is one of the most respected stand-up comedians of his generation for a reason — he's hilarious. But his comedy goes beyond jokes for the simple-minded. His stories are often about his own life, touching on his experiences with jobs or his wife and kids, and this makes him one of the most relatable comedians performing today. His 2009 stand-up special in Milwaukee is one of his best, and like most of his shows, makes you think as much as it makes you laugh.

4. "Ghostbusters"

This 1984 film featured something of an all-star team of 1980s comedic geniuses, and was one of the greatest films and comedies of the decade. Directed by Ivan Reitman, written by Dan Akroyd and Harold Ramis, and starring Akroyd, Ramis, Sigourney Weaver, Rick Moranis and the infinitely-great Bill Murray, the movie follows a team of disgraced parapsychologists on their quests to fight ghosts in New York City. Hilarity and absurdity ensue.

5. "Glee"

Want to relive some of "Glee's" greatest performances and moments? Netflix has the award-winning show's first two seasons online so you can rediscover how it all began. From Rachel and Finn's relationship to their amazing Journey, Madonna and Britney performances, if you have never watched this show, now is the time. "Glee" is a must-see.

SPORTS AUTHORITY

Excitement of NHL playoffs draws fans

You can call them bandwagon fans, fair-weather fans, or even just common fans. But regardless of how you choose to designate them, there is no denying that NHL fans come out in full force for the playoffs.

So what exactly makes Lord Stanley's playoffs so exciting, considering the regular season is such an afterthought to the majority of well-rounded sports fans? It's a question worth asking, since the inevitable spike in fandom that annually accompanies the commencement of the NHL playoffs is one not shared by the other major sports postseasons.

Sure, Super Bowl Sunday is practically a national holiday, but the NFL regular season is already zealously followed by a multitude of fans (even if they only care about their fantasy team).

Granted, there are ardent followers of the MLB postseason, but the long games, the longer breaks between games and the even longer interludes in between series make for a drawn-out postseason. By the time the World Series comes around, the fan support is akin to that of the regular season. The same can be said for the NBA, where regular season primetime matchups between superstar-laden teams prompt high enough Nielsen ratings to mirror a game seven.

So what changes between a regular season showdown pitting the Philadelphia Flyers against the Pittsburgh Penguins in early April and a postseason clash between the same teams just two weeks later?

First and foremost, NHL play-off hockey is simply fun to watch. The speed of the game increases come playoff time, and with that comes more exciting bone-jarring hits, standing-on-his-head saves and picturesque goals. That's not to say the regular season is something to sneeze at, but there's no comparison to a playoff game.

And then there's the overused, yet entirely accurate adage that "Anything can happen in a seven-game series," which gives fans the (realistic) sense their beloved eight-seed can knock off the conference juggernaut. For evidence, look no further

than this year's playoffs. The Los Angeles Kings won the first two games against the defending Western Conference champion Vancouver Canucks in Vancouver, mind you, and are thinking upset.

Such occurrences aren't even particularly anomalistic in the NHL. But in the NBA in 2007, when the top-seeded Dallas Mavericks were eliminated in round one by the Golden State Warriors, history was made.

There is also something about the blue-collar nature of the NHL playoffs that inspires sports fans to tune in when the post-season rolls around. The NHL hardly has the scintillating stars that are littered throughout the NBA and can carry their team (and television ratings) to new heights.

For every Sidney Crosby and Alex Ovechkin, there are a dozen journeymen third or fourth-liners who scrap their way through every shift and contribute with a forecheck here, a backcheck there and maybe even an occasional goal.

Contrast these rosters with an NBA or MLB squad, in which you need superstar(s) to win championships, and you will find the NHL generates incredible excitement in the playoffs with few transcendent megastars.

Take the defending champion Boston Bruins. They won last year's Cup with little to no star power. Zdeno Chara and Tim Thomas may have been the best players at their respective positions a year ago, but they certainly aren't household names the way Dwight Howard and Albert Pujols are. The rest of the Bruins were scrappy and feisty in a manner that made you believe the whole is more than the sum of its parts. When you add it all together, you get a recently-dominant sports city that rediscovered its love for the formerly-forgotten Bruins.

So while you may poke and prod the fans that have jumped on the local bandwagon rolling by, or while you may have recently hopped on yourself, don't forget they are doing so for a reason. These playoffs manufacture a newfound excitement level professional sports head honchos like Bud Selig only dream of attaining. So strap in and enjoy.

Contact Mike Monaco at jmonaco@nd.edu

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



Mike Monaco
Sports Writer

NHL

Flyers take Game 3 slugfest



Flyers forward Wayne Simmonds drops the puck past Penguins goalie Marc-Andre Fleury to score in the second period of Philadelphia's 8-4 win in Game 3 of the Eastern Conference quarterfinals Sunday.

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Fists were flying faster than shots on goal. Sidney Crosby and Claude Giroux even became knotted in the pushing, pulling and shoving, a pair of superstars willing to mix it up to prove which team was the baddest on the ice and the scoreboard.

The Penguins and Flyers talked trash, laid the smack down, and played one wildly entertaining game. The result was still the same. The Flyers rallied from another early deficit for a decisive Game 3 victory that placed them on the brink of an improbable sweep.

Danny Briere, Matt Read and Max Talbot each scored two goals to lead Philadelphia to an 8-4 victory over Pittsburgh on Sunday in a fight-filled game in the Eastern Conference quarterfinal.

Giroux and Wayne Simmonds also scored to help the Flyers take a 3-0 lead in the combustible best-of-seven series. Game 4 is Wednesday night in Philadelphia. The Flyers scored 20 goals in the first three games.

"Our goal is to finish it right away," Briere said.

The goals might be hard to find on a highlight reel. This one was all about the brawls more suitable for a UFC card. Three players were tossed in the first period. There was a rare fight between superstars when Crosby squared off against Giroux.

No one got the better end of that scrap. But by the end, Flyers fans serenaded the Penguins with booming chants of "You can't beat us!"

"All three games were kind of weird games," Giroux said. "I guess I like weird games because we always finish by winning."

Jordan Staal and James Neal scored twice for a Penguins team pushed to the limit by its hated, intrastate rival. Marc-Andre Fleury was benched after allowing six goals in two periods. He has allowed a whopping 17 goals in the first three games.

Coach Dan Bylsma said Fleury would start, "the next four games."

Hard to imagine at this rate, especially with NHL scoring leader Evgeni Malkin (109 points) yet to score a goal for the Penguins.

The Flyers played a postseason video that billed their run as the "Fight to the Cup." They never expected a first period that would have left those old Broad Street Bullies smiling.

Each team had their top defenseman — Pittsburgh's Kris Letang and Philadelphia's Kimmo Timonen — tossed. So was Penguins forward Arron Asham.

But the scene ripped straight out of the pages of Ripley's came when Giroux and Crosby went at it against the backboard.

"In the end, that's really playoff hockey," Flyers coach Peter Laviolette said. "A couple of the best players in the world dropping the gloves going at it. Would I rather have G keep his gloves on? Sure. But when he's fighting Sidney Crosby, that's playoff hockey. That's this series."

Crosby ignited the scrum when he twice jabbed goalie Ilya Bryzgalov's glove against the ice. Giroux, third in the NHL in points this season,

shoved Crosby from behind. Crosby, clearly not caring about his history of concussions, retaliated by shoving Giroux's head against the glass.

While the 20,092 fans dressed in their matching Hulk Hogan-inspired orange T-shirts roared, Timonen and Letang exchanged shots, and Voracek and Pittsburgh's Steve Sullivan each were penalized for roughing.

Timonen and Letang were both hit with 5 minutes for fighting and were ejected because they were assessed a major penalty after the original fight had started.

Crosby insisted the Penguins weren't getting rattled.

"There's more than one team getting in those things," he said. "You can make a story all you want about us getting frustrated. They're doing the same things we are. It's intense."

The on-ice violence was just warming up.

Flyers forward Brayden Schenn rammed Paul Martin into the boards, turned around and was crosschecked in the upper body by Asham. Asham jumped a defenseless Schenn and connected with a vicious right to earn the match penalty — a penalty imposed on a player who deliberately attempts to injure or who deliberately injures an opponent in any manner. Asham could get suspended for the punch.

As the game wound down, Crosby yanked the back of Scott Hartnell's jersey and the fireworks went off again. Simmonds, Neal and Pittsburgh's Craig Adams also were socked with penalties.

CLASSIFIEDS

PERSONAL

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY? Don't go it alone. Notre Dame has many resources in place to assist you. If you or someone you love needs confidential support or assistance, please call Sr. Sue Dunn at 1-7819. For more information, visit ND's website at:

<http://pregnancysupport@nd.edu>

This Day in History :
1818 – The United States Senate ratifies the Rush-Bagot Treaty, establishing the border with Canada.

1862 – American Civil War: The District of Columbia Compensated Emancipation Act, a bill ending slavery in the District of Columbia, becomes law.

1862 – American Civil War: The Battle at Lee's Mills in Virginia.

1941 – Bob Feller of the Cleveland Indians throws the only Opening Day no-hitter in the history of Major League Baseball, beating the Chicago White Sox 1-0.

1947 – Bernard Baruch coins the term "Cold War" to describe the relationship between the United States and the Soviet Union.

1972 – Apollo program: The launch of Apollo 16 from Cape Canaveral, Florida.

1982 - Queen Elizabeth proclaims Canada's new constitution.

2003 - The Treaty of Accession is signed, admitting 10 new member states to the European Union.

2004 - The super liner Queen Mary 2 embarks on her first Trans-Atlantic crossing.

2008 - Start of Papal Journey of Pope Benedict XVI to the United States.

Born on this day:
1889 – Charlie Chaplin, English actor and filmmaker.

1928 – Dick "Night Train" Lane, American football player.

1935 – Bobby Vinton, singer.

1947 – Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, American basketball player.

1952 – Bill Belichick, American football coach.

1965 – Martin Lawrence, American actor.

1971 – Selena, American Tejano singer.

1973 – Akon, American singer and song writer.

1982 – Jonathan Vilma, American football player.

1992 – Prince Sébastien of Luxembourg.

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

MLB

League honors Jackie Robinson with ballpark tributes

Associated Press

NEW YORK — LaTroy Hawkins has heard the stories from his 87-year-old grandfather, about his days of picking cotton in Mississippi, about the times when there were no black players in big league baseball. And about what it meant when Jackie Robinson broke the game's color barrier. "Without Jackie, I wouldn't be in front of you," the Los Angeles Angels pitcher told several dozen kids at a Bronx ballfield Sunday. "Jackie's role in my life has been tremendous."

From Dodger Stadium to Fenway Park, there were ceremonies as Major League Baseball honored Robinson and his legacy. Video tributes and on-field celebrations at every ballpark included his family, his former teammates, players from the Negro Leagues and NBA great Bill Russell.

Players, managers, coaches and umpires all wore No. 42 on Jackie Robinson Day to remember the 65th anniversary of the day the future Hall of Famer first took the field with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947. Markers on each base noted the occasion.

"I'm very happy the players feel that connected," said his daughter, Sharon Robinson. "Back in 1997, players were saying, 'Jackie who?' So we've come a long way."

Hall of Famer Reggie Jackson, Hawkins and several former players joined Sharon Robinson at a youth clinic in a park where the old Yankee Stadium stood. Smiling boys and girls from the Reviving Baseball in Inner Cities program in Harlem eagerly

showed off their gloves and jerseys for two-time All-Star Harold Reynolds.

There was a pregame tribute at the new Yankee Stadium on Sunday night featuring Rachel Robinson, Jackie's wife, and Sharon before the Angels played New York. Yankees stars Derek Jeter and Robinson Cano — who is named for the baseball pioneer — hugged the Robinsons as they gathered with three Tuskegee Airmen behind home plate.

Yankees center fielder Curtis Granderson wore customized spikes with the Jackie Robinson Day logo on the back and No. 42 on the tongue. The shoes will be auctioned off later, with proceeds going to the Jackie Robinson Foundation.

On a shelf in his locker, Granderson had a small figurine of Robinson sliding feet-first in his Brooklyn uniform. He pointed out that Robinson's success provided opportunities for so many in baseball, not only blacks.

"It opened up doors for everybody. I think that's the one thing he would be proud of," Granderson said. "You just look at the diversity, all of which started with Jackie Robinson 65 years ago."

Granderson's teammate, Mariano Rivera, is the only active player still wearing No. 42. The number was retired by MLB 15 years ago on the 50th anniversary of Robinson's debut.

"I think it's a great thing for baseball. I think it's a great thing for life in general, continuing to promote his legacy," Granderson said. "I don't think it's been forgotten, by the number of kids that are coming up



Cubs outfielder Marlon Byrd, left, is out as second at Cardinals shortstop Rafael Furcal applies the tag in a 10-3 St. Louis win Sunday. All Major League players wore number 42 to honor Jackie Robinson.

to me saying, 'Hey, my first book report was on Jackie Robinson.' These are 6, 7, 8, 9-year-olds that are doing it."

Hawkins noted the dwindling percentage of black players in the big leaguers. There were only 8.5 percent on opening day in 2011 — there were twice as

many in 1990 when the Richard Lapchick's Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sports at the University of Central Florida started tracking the number.

Hawkins thanked his grandfather for always steering him toward baseball instead of basketball and encouraged parents to do the same. He also said colleges could help by offering four-year baseball scholarships.

Robinson!!!"

In Boston, former Robinson teammate Ralph Branca threw out the ceremonial ball before Tampa Bay played Boston. The 86-year-old Branca tossed the pitch on one bounce from the front edge of the mound to his son-in-law, Red Sox manager Bobby Valentine.

Branca remembered being at Ebbets Field a day before Robinson's debut.

"I was in the locker room when Jackie walked in. I walked over, shook his hand, 'Welcome aboard,'" Branca said.

"I didn't think about the color of his skin because I lived on a block that was the United Nations of all. It was four black families, about nine families (of) Italian extraction, two Irish, two German, two Jewish. So it was a league of nations on my block. So blacks, I played with them, went in their house, they came into mine. So seeing Jackie meant nothing special or different to me," he said.

At Safeco Field, Russell bounced his first pitch to Seattle's Chone Figgins before the Mariners hosted Oakland. At Turner Field, Robinson's grandson, Jesse Sims, was on the field with Atlanta outfielder Michael Bourn before Milwaukee visited Atlanta. At Citizens Bank Park, Harold Gould and Mahlon Duckett of the Philadelphia Stars from the Negro Leagues were recognized, along with members of the Tuskegee Airmen.

At Kansas City, Cleveland manager Manny Acta said it was a special day.

"It has a lot of meaning to me. Those guys opened the way for everyone else. Jackie and Larry Doby, Frank Robinson was the first African-American manager. And Felipe Alou, Tony Perez. It was tough for those guys, even tougher for guys like us, minorities and foreigners."

"It wasn't tough for me," the Dominican-born Acta said. "I had it made because of guys like that. Those guys had to break the ice. They did it for us."

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FENCING

Irish take three medals, finish season strongly



Senior Courtney Hurley participates in the Notre Dame Duals on Jan. 29, 2011 in the Joyce Center Fieldhouse.

By MIKE MONACO
Sports Writer

Three weeks after finishing in third place at the NCAA Championships, the Irish concluded the 2012 campaign with strong individual showings from their eight participants at the United States Fencing Association's national championships in Virginia Beach, Va., over the weekend.

A host of current Notre Dame underclassmen turned in respectable finishes, while upperclassmen and former Irish fencers placed at the top of the pools.

"We had some pretty strong results," Irish coach Janusz Bednarski said. "Our two gold medals, and then some good finishes from our other students who are returning next year are good, and are signs of the foundation for how we should look next year."

The men's epee competition got the action started Friday. Sophomore epeeist Michael Rossi, who went 36-21 in the regular season, finished in 15th place.

Sophomore foilist Nick Kubik, who was third on the Irish foil team with 36 wins during the regular season, came in 22nd in Saturday's men's foil event.

Bednarski said he was pleased with how the performances of Rossi and Kubik bode for next year.

"It's good to see those results from [Rossi and Kubik] because they will be part of a strong pool of fencers for next year," Bednarski said.

On the women's side, freshman Ashley Severson took 24th place Saturday in the women's epee. Severson led the Irish women's epee squad with a 37-7 record in the regular season, won a bronze medal at the National Junior Olympics in February and was named a second-team All-American at the NCAA championships.

Fellow freshman foilist Madison Zeiss finished in 10th place Sunday to conclude a strong first year. Zeiss compiled a stellar 42-5 record in the regular season and, like Severson,

was named a second-team All-American.

"Zeiss in 10th place means she was also pretty highly-located," Bednarski said. "That is a great result for her – probably her best yet – in an event like the [national championship]."

Notre Dame's old guard had top finishes as well, as current team members and recent graduates turned in strong performances.

The Hurley sisters stole the show during Saturday's women's epee competition. Courtney, a current senior who took the year off from competing for Notre Dame in order to train and qualify for the Olympics, won the gold medal. Her older sister Kelley, who graduated from Notre Dame in 2010 and was a two-time first-team All-American during her career, claimed the silver medal.

Later in the day, Gerek Meinhardt took the gold medal in the men's foil competition. Meinhardt, who won the 2010 NCAA foil title and participated in the 2008 Olympics, also took the 2012 season off to pursue his Olympic aspirations.

Although these fencers were not with the Irish in 2012, Bednarski said he is still pleased to see their strong showings.

"It is great to have them finish so high," Bednarski said. "It is an appreciation of our program and our university. Even if they graduated from us, they are still a part of us, and I hope they can qualify for the Olympic Games in London. That's why some of them took the year off, to qualify, and it's a good sign they are winning."

Junior foilist Grace Hartman took sixth place Sunday in the women's foil competition, finishing four spots ahead of Zeiss.

"Hartman coming in sixth place is very high," Bednarski said. "It is great for her, especially in the nationals. I don't think she's ever been that high and she was in the final eight which is great."

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ROWING

Team wins seven of 12 races

Observer Staff Report

After three weeks off, the Irish had a successful return to action over the weekend in the Virginia Invite at Lake Monticello in Charlottesville, Va.

The event began on Saturday, and Notre Dame's first competition was competition was the novice eight/third varsity eight race against Clemson and Northeastern. Despite a strong effort from a crew led by senior Ching-Ting Hwang, the Irish came in second the race. The Tigers beat out the Irish by a two second margin with a time of 7:04.00.

The highlight of the day was turned in by the varsity four boat. This crew defeated Clemson with an impressive

11-second margin of victory.

The Irish made it two wins in a row when they defeated Clemson again with the second varsity eight boat coxed by sophomore Christina Dines. The next Irish victory came in the varsity eight heat when they defeated the Tigers by two seconds.

The afternoon session on Saturday saw the Irish compete in four races against Northeastern and Virginia. The Irish registered second place finishes in every race.

The Virginia Invite continued Sunday with the Irish facing off against Pennsylvania and San Diego, where they recorded four more wins. Sunday's victories gave the Irish seven wins in 12 total races on the weekend.

The Irish got their first win on the day from the varsity eight crew. The crew won the race with a time of 6:40.80, which was five seconds fast than the second-place Quakers.

The second varsity eight race was also won by the Irish by a nine second margin over Penn. The last race on Sunday also resulted in a Notre Dame victory, as the Irish third varsity eight, led by juniors Sarah McShane and Kelsey Murphy, won the race with a time of 7:04.80.

The Irish now will hope to ride their newfound momentum into their next competition, which will occur next weekend when they take on Stanford and USC in Redwood Shores, Calif.

SMC SOFTBALL

Belles reach 20 wins with sweep

Observer Staff Report

Saint Mary's picked up its 19th and 20th wins of the season as it swept Franklin at home in a doubleheader Sunday. The first game ended in a score of 7-1, while the Belles ended the second contest in five innings with a mercy-rule 11-1 victory.

The Belles (20-8, 5-3 MIAA) jumped out to an early lead in the first game with six runs in the bottom of the first. Senior pitcher Angela Gillis, freshman first base-

man Jordie Wasserman, senior infielder Kate Mitchell, junior infielder Emily Sherwood, and senior left fielder Kristen Nelson contributed with RBI hits.

The home team finished their scoring for the game when freshman infielder Michelle Duncan drove in a run with an RBI single.

Sophomore pitcher Callie Selner earned her 11th pitching win of the season, allowing only one run on six hits.

Game two started out much

the same for Saint Mary's. The Belles scored four runs in the first, three in the second, and four in the third to take an early 11-0 lead. Each Belles batter contributed at least one hit and one run.

Gillis picked up the win, allowing only one run on three hits.

With the win, Saint Mary's has won at least 20 games in each of coach Erin Sullivan's seven seasons at the helm.

The Belles host league-leading Trine on Tuesday at 3:30 p.m.

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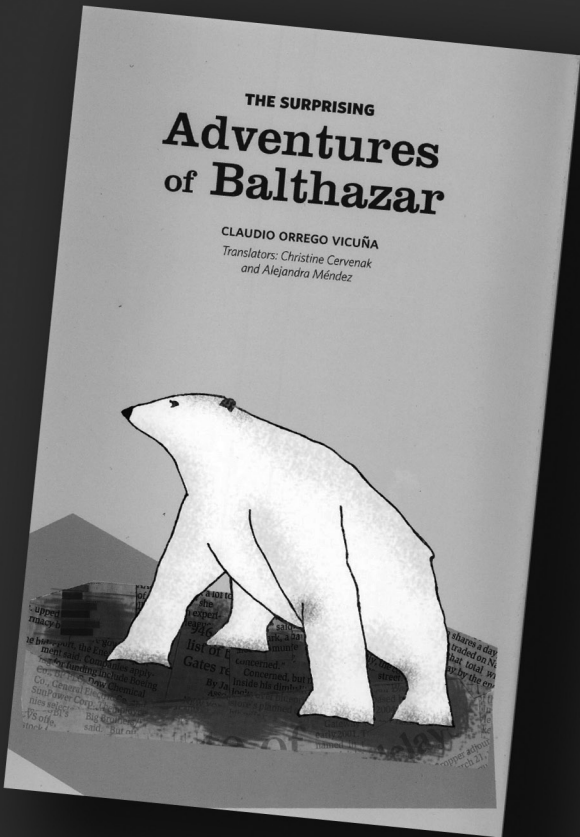
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ND Women's Tennis

Squad wraps up regular season with pair of wins

By KATIE HEIT
Sports Writer

In their final action before chasing their fourth consecutive Big East championship later this week, the 19th-ranked Irish wrapped up the regular season with wins against conference foes South Florida and Louisville.

The Irish swept South Florida 7-0 in their senior day Friday. Seniors Shannon Mathews and Kristy Frilling were undefeated in both singles and doubles. Frilling notched her 100th career win, 6-2, 6-2, and became just the ninth player in Irish history to reach that landmark. Mathews defeated Ecaterina Vasenina 6-2, 6-0 in her 92nd career victory.

Mathews said the win over the Bulls won't hold much significance when the Irish face them at South Florida for the Big East championship.

"South Florida is one of our toughest competitors in the Big East," Mathews said. "It was definitely great to come away with a victory at home, but we know when we play them at Big East on their courts that it's going to be a battle. We definitely don't want to look over any of our opponents."

The Irish traveled to Kentucky to take on Louisville on Sunday. Once again, Notre Dame swept all three doubles competitions, as Frilling and Mathews went undefeated once more in singles, and their fifth-ranked doubles pair won their 16th matchup of the season.

Mathews said ending the regular season on a high note was especially important to the seniors.

"To have a good senior day was really special for both Kristy and I," Mathews said. "To have wins in doubles and singles was great for our senior day and our last season match."

Mathews said freshman Katherine White stepped up throughout the weekend. After sophomore Julie Sabacinski rolled

her ankle during her doubles match with fellow sophomore Britney Sanders on Friday, White stepped in and grabbed a big win in singles.

White won the final game of the regular season Sunday, defeating Amelia Harris 6-2, 6-3.

"She really played great in the sixth position in South Florida and against Louisville," Mathews said. "She really competed well and had two great wins this weekend."

Mathews said she has been really impressed with the success of her team in the final weeks of competition.

"Across the board everyone had been competing well and we've seen great success," Mathews said. "To win all three doubles [matches] against South Florida gives us really great momentum heading into this weekend."

Though the schedule for the tournament has not been released yet, Mathews believes Notre Dame has a good chance at being the number one seed, which would give the squad a bye on the first day of competition Thursday and begin its run at another Big East championship Friday.

"I think we're going to come out with everyone gunning for us [if] we're the number one seed," Mathews said. "But I think we definitely need to take it one match at a time and everyone is looking to win that Big East tournament. Kristy and I are looking to end our career with a fourth-straight Big East championship. We all have that focus of doing it again, so that's what we're looking for this week."

The Irish will look to claim another title this weekend at the Big East championship in Tampa, Fla.

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Men's Tennis

Seniors lead team to 5-2 win

By PETER STEINER
Sports Writer

The Irish could not have planned a better way to end the regular season.

In their final home match of the year, the Irish took down Louisville, 5-2, to extend their winning streak to six matches.

Notre Dame (18-7, 3-1 Big East) also honored the accomplishments of seniors Casey Watt, Sam Keeton, Niall Fitzgerald and Daven Brodess.

Entering the match, the Irish had dropped the doubles point in two consecutive matches. But the three Irish pairs reversed their luck Saturday, sweeping all three matches to take a 1-0 lead on the Cardinals (15-9, 0-1).

"Once we got five to six games into the doubles, we had pretty clearly broken them, established a lead and it looked like we were going to win the doubles point," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. "Doubles takes a while to learn, and I think we had an advantage of experience today."

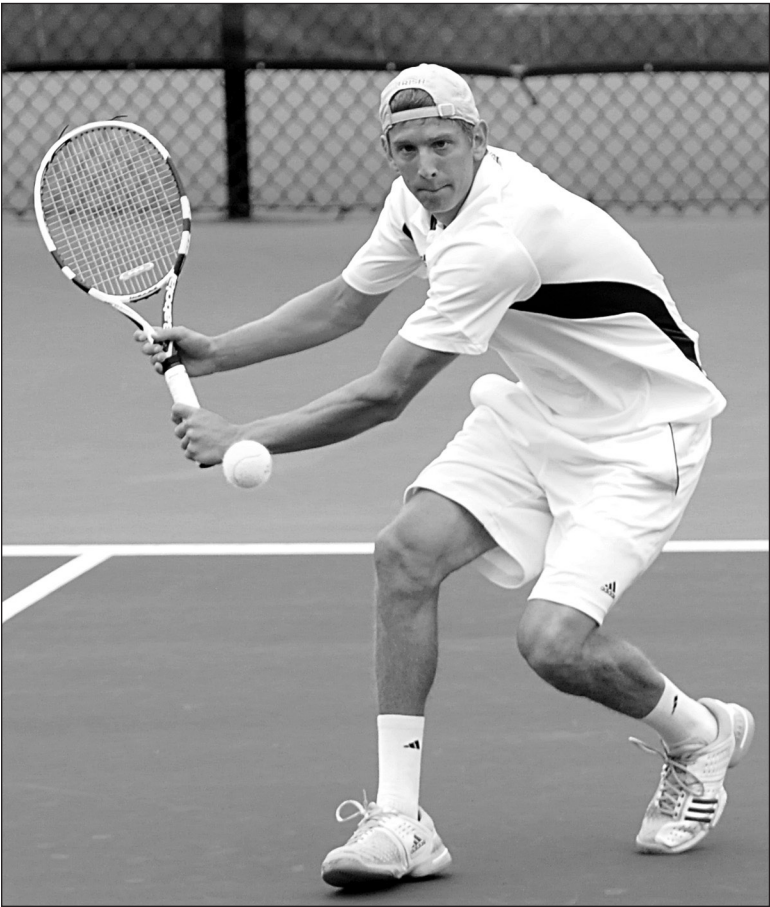
Experience proved to be an important factor in the singles for the Irish as well. Led by three seniors, the Irish took four of the six singles matches to secure the overall victory against an evenly-matched Cardinals squad.

While Watt dropped a three-set match at No. 1 singles, Keeton and Fitzgerald both took home victories in the last home match of their careers. At No. 3 singles, Keeton recovered from a shaky second set to defeat freshman Albert Wagner 6-3, 3-6, 6-0 and extend his singles winning streak to five games.

"At No. 3 singles, Sam started off playing reasonably well and the game plan was to play up in the court on Wagner, take away his time and make him move," Bayliss said. "After a poor second set, Sam really picked up his game and played well in the third, and never let Wagner into the match. He just dominated the set."

At No. 5 singles, Fitzgerald improved to 7-3 in singles this year by finishing off senior Robert Hall 6-1, 7-5.

"Niall Fitzgerald was all over Hall, who is a very good player,"



KIRBY McKENNA/The Observer

Irish senior Sam Keeton returns a shot during an 8-3 doubles victory Saturday at the Courtney Tennis Center.

Bayliss said. "Hall has beaten us in the Big East championship twice, so that match concerned me."

"The key is [Niall's] ability to, under pressure, still play big with his forehand and firm with his backhand, and yet under control. A lot of guys have trouble hitting big and keeping the ball in play, and Niall has the ability to do that."

Watt, Keeton and Fitzgerald have been mainstays in the Irish lineup all year and according to Bayliss, the intangibles the three seniors provide for the team are invaluable.

"In doubles they were four-year starters, four-year letter winners, and it was good to have that kind of experience out on the court," Bayliss said. "Certainly we will miss their talent and leadership. Casey was an instant-impact freshman. He's added a little bit to his game since then,

and has had to play high in the lineup, mostly at No. 1 all of the last three years.

"It's good to see the progress each one of them has made. Niall and Sam have gone from not always playing as freshmen, to being guys we absolutely need in our lineup as our seniors."

In addition to continuing their winning ways, Saturday's victory was especially important for the upcoming Big East championship. The victory over Louisville should move the Irish ahead of the Cardinals in the national rankings, thus giving Notre Dame the No. 1 seed in the tournament.

With the conclusion of the regular season, the Irish will prepare for their first match of the Big East championship on April 20 in Tampa, Fla.

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SMC GOLF

Belles finish fifth at Illinois Wesleyan

By BRENDAN BELL
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's faced its toughest competition this year at the Illinois Wesleyan Spring Fling, and rose to the level of play, placing fifth of 18 teams, with a total score of 660 over the two-day tournament.

"We shot the ball well today and we were a few shots out of third place," Belles coach Mark Hamilton said. "It was a great showing overall, and I was very happy with it."

Sophomore Doyle O'Brien shot the lowest score of the first day for the Belles with a 78, setting the tone for her teammates for the rest of the tournament. She then followed it up with an 81 on the second day to put her in third place in the individual rankings for the weekend.

O'Brien's success followed after shooting a score in the 70s at the Southwestern Invitational in Georgetown, Texas, the week be-

fore, making it three-consecutive rounds where she has shot the lowest score for Saint Mary's.

"She just hit the ball well and has been all year," Hamilton said. "She just needs to keep doing what she does best, and strike the ball."

Close behind O'Brien's 159 total score for the tournament was senior captain Natalie Matuszak, who put up a combined score of 165. Sophomore Paige Pollak shot a 168, and senior captain Christine Brown shot a 171 to help the Belles as well. After shooting 325 as a team in the first round, Sunday the Belles moved up one more spot on the leaderboard by avoiding the miscues that hurt many teams. Sunday's wet weather caused the average scores for the round to go up nearly 15 strokes per team, but the Belles beat the average and shot a 335, 10 shots higher than their first day score.

Among the tough competition was No. 3 DePauw, which had the lead for the entire tournament, and

shot a total score of 634. No. 4 Centre College placed three strokes behind DePauw. No. 6 Wisconsin-Eau Claire and No. 16 Birmingham-Southern placed third and fourth, respectively, while Saint Mary's rounded out the top five.

The Belles' attention now has shifted towards the national scene, as they hope to make the NCAA championships.

"Our goal is just trying to get to nationals, and over the last rounds of the tournament just take it to the other teams in it," Hamilton said. "It's going to be a good battle and I'm hoping we come out on top."

The Belles will continue to prepare for their upcoming NCAA qualifying matches in order to make the NCAA Division III championships. The first round of the NCAA qualifiers will be tomorrow at Wuskawhon Players Club in Holland, Mich., starting at 2 p.m.

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Freshman infielder Jenna Simon lays down a bunt in Sunday's 3-2 loss to Syracuse at Melissa Cook Stadium.

Koerner

continued from page 20

tom of the first was a defining play for the Irish, but much of the victory was a result of No. 25 Syracuse's (30-10, 7-2) three errors and the four wild pitches.

Koerner had three hits in four at-bats in the second half of the doubleheader, but was the lone highlight of the contest, which the Irish lost 8-2. The Orange outhit the Irish 9-6, and used success at the plate to score two runs in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings.

The rubber match took place on Sunday, when the Irish fell in an extra-inning heartbreaker, 3-2. Two solo homeruns from the Orange in the final two innings secured the Syracuse win, but the Irish held their ground for most of the game. Sophomore pitcher Laura Winter shut out the fourth and fifth innings, and senior infielder Dani Miller's sacrifice bunt helped score junior catcher Amy Bun-

tin, securing the second run of the game for the Irish.

Miller said despite the losses, she was impressed by Notre Dame's strong defensive play.

"I felt like our defense was really solid," Miller said. "We made some really great plays."

As they head into their next game against Valparaiso on Wednesday, Miller said the Irish cannot afford to focus on changing any part of their game. Instead, Miller said the key to the team's success de-

pends upon whether they players play to their fullest ability.

"We don't have many more opportunities to play the way we know we should and we can," Miller said. "We don't have to work on very much, it's just about stepping up and being the player we know we can

be, and that we know that you are."

The Irish will hit the field again on Wednesday at home against Valparaiso. First pitch from Melissa Cook Stadium will be at 5 p.m.

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SMC TENNIS

Saturday's matchup with Bulldogs postponed

Observer Staff Report

On Saturday, the Belles traveled to Adrian College to take on the Bulldogs in a mid-season MIAA matchup. However, the match was called off due to rainy weather. The match has been postponed to either April 19 or 20, and will again be hosted by Adrian. The decision as to what day the match will be played will be made tomorrow. Before Saturday's rainout,

Saint Mary's (9-6, 2-2 MIAA) hosted Bethel at home, where the Belles pulled out a close 5-4 victory decided by the last match of the day. That triumph over the Pilots extended Saint Mary's winning streak to two, and the team was looking to extend it to three Saturday against Adrian. The Belles next play on Monday, when they host Calvin in another MIAA match. The Belles will take on the Knights at 4 p.m.

TRACK AND FIELD

Irish successful in Border Battle

By AARON SANT-MILLER
Sports Writer

In a battle between two states, the Irish helped lead Indiana over Kentucky.

On Saturday, the University of Louisville hosted the third-annual Texas Roadhouse Border Battle, where Notre Dame and Indiana made up team "Hoosier Land" and Kentucky and Louisville formed team "Commonwealth." Both the Irish men and Irish women were able to carry team "Hoosier Land" to victory, as the men won 113-81, while the women prevailed by a single point, 101.5-100.5.

This was the second win in a row for "Hoosier Land", as the Irish helped pull out a victory in the spring of 2011. Team "Commonwealth" claimed the first Border Battle in 2010.

"The whole point was the combined teams," Irish coach Joe Piane said. "It led to two separate teams both getting a win, which is fun."

Even though these teams were working together, the structure of the meet wasn't able to quell the competitive nature between the intrastate rivals of Notre Dame and Indiana, Piane said.

"No doubt, there still is a lot of that competitive nature between the two teams," Piane said. "But,

still, it's a very friendly type of competition."

Saturday was a strong day for the Irish, as Notre Dame athletes won nine events.

"We had a lot of good things happen on both the women's and the men's side," Piane said. "It went pretty well."

The Irish women put forth an impressive outing, claiming six first-place finishes. Freshman Jade Barber won the 100-meter dash with a time of 11.82 seconds. Junior Natalie Geiger won the 400-meter dash with a time of 55.89 seconds, while classmate Rebecca Tracy also took a first-place finish in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:07.49. The Irish also won the 400-meter hurdles, as sophomore Megan Yanik finished with a time of 1:00.43. Sophomore McKinzie Schulz rounded out the individual victories, as she crossed the finish line first in the 3,000-meter steeplechase with a time of 10:31.14.

Additionally, the women's 4x400-meter relay team took a victory for the Irish. The group, composed of Barber, Yanik, Gieger and sophomore Michelle Brown, finished first with a blazing time of 3:40.56.

The Notre Dame men had a strong showing as well, starting with the 4x400-me-

ter relay. The group, comprised of freshman Chris Giesting, sophomore Patrick Feeney, junior Brendan Dougherty and senior Mitch Lorenz, won with a time of 3:11.30.

The Irish men also shone in the field events, where sophomore Andrew Brock won the shot put with a throw of 17.22 meters, and senior Kevin Schipper claimed yet another pole vault victory with a vault of 5.36 meters.

"All in all, our performance was good, but not great," Piane said. "We did have quite a few kids qualify for the Big East championships, which is very good."

Getting athletes into the Big East meet and the NCAA's is always a goal for the Irish, as the end objective for the season is to shine in both meets, Piane said.

"Our goal is always those two meets," Piane said. "We've had quite a few kids qualify for both over the last few weeks, so things are looking really good."

The Irish will look to continue their pursuit of that goal when the team travels to Walnut, Calif., on April 18 to compete in the Mt. SAC Relays. The relays will take place all day.

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Senior attacker Maggie Tamasitis shoots in an 18-5 win over Villanova on April 7 at Arlotta Stadium.

Morrison

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goals, while sophomore mid-fielder Kaitlyn Brosco chipped in three of her own. For the Irish, junior goal-tender Ellie Hilling returned to the cage, registering 11

saves and earning her ninth win of the season. Senior attacker M.E. Lapham opened up the scoring for the Huskies (7-5, 0-4) just 2:26 into the first half. Connecticut scored two of the game's first three goals, but did not lead in the final 50 minutes of the game. Lapham, Connecticut's all-time leading scorer, was

limited to just three goals on 15 total shots. When senior attacker Kelly Driscoll found the back of the net with 14:11 remaining in the first half, the Irish took a 6-3 lead. The goal also marked the first of six straight Irish goals that were assisted by Tamasitis. Graduate student defender Brittany Mallory saw her first action as a part of the Irish, after joining the team last week. She recorded one draw control and committed one turnover. "We've seen [Mallory] a little bit everywhere right now, so she could end up on the stat line for maybe an assist and a goal, or she could end up on the defensive side with a ground ball or a turnover, and maybe even a draw control here or there," Halfpenny said Thursday. Notre Dame returns to action Wednesday when they take on No. 17 Vanderbilt at Arlotta Stadium at 1 p.m. **Contact Matthew DeFranks at mdefrank@nd.edu**

Markson

continued from page 20

third baseman Eric Jagielo hit a three-run home run to left field. Notre Dame stretched its lead to 8-1 in the third inning as junior catcher Joe Hudson hit a solo home run. Markson manufactured another run by singling, stealing second, moving to third on freshman outfielder Mac Hudgins's groundout, and scoring on a wild pitch. Things began to unravel for the Irish in the fourth, however. Senior right-hander Will Hudgins began the game with a conference-leading 1.33 ERA, but was scorched for four in the fourth after giving up four singles and a walk. He was pulled in the fifth after allowing another pair of runs, narrowing the Notre Dame lead to 8-7. The Irish and the Bearcats (12-23, 2-10 Big East) traded two-run frames in the bottom of the fifth and the top of the sixth, but the Notre Dame bullpen did not allow a run in the last three innings and held on for the win. Sophomore right-hander Sean Fitzgerald (3-3) earned the win and sophomore right-hander Dan

Slania claimed his seventh save of the season. The Irish also received good news when they learned sophomore first baseman Trey Mancini, who was just returning from injury, did not break his wrist when he was hit by a pitch in the first inning. He did not play the remainder of the weekend. "It wasn't broken thankfully, but he's just a little too sore and dinged up from it," Irish coach Mik Aoki said Saturday. "He can grip a bat, [but] it's really hard for him to actually swing a bat." While the Irish spent most of Friday's game trying to hold off the Bearcats, on Saturday it was Notre Dame's turn to wear the rally caps. Both teams scored in the first inning, but the Bearcats had a 5-1 lead in the sixth before senior outfielder Alex Robinson hit a two-run single to score freshman designated hitter Ryan Bull and junior infielder Frank DeSico. Freshman infielder Phil Mosey cut the Cincinnati lead to one in the seventh with the first home run of his college career. It was the game's second home run by a nine-hitter, as Cincinnati's redshirt freshman left fielder Ethan McAlpine hit a two-run homer in the sixth. "Almost any kid in any college lineup is capable of leaving the yard, and certainly I think Phil is one of those kids," Aoki said. "I'm glad for Phil. He's struggled a little bit on and off all year long, and I'm really happy for him." Mosey also ignited Notre Dame's ninth-inning rally with a single to left center. Robinson hit a single to right to score DeSico and claim the second Irish win of the weekend. Aoki said the gutsy wins Friday and Saturday showed the Irish had recovered from their series of tough losses. "I think that's a really good job of a lesson learned," Aoki said. "I think they've gotten a little bit of that confidence back, I think they've got a little bit of that sort of fighting spirit [back]. Hopefully, I think today is the sort of win that you can really build upon." But Cincinnati — at this point sitting on a seven straight losses — returned with a vengeance on Sunday. Freshman right-hander Pat Connaughton held Cincinnati to one run through the first four innings, but racked up 80 pitches and was replaced by senior left-hander Ryan Richter to begin the fifth. "I was glad to get Patrick up to his pitch count, which for us was about 75 or 80," Aoki said. "I'm not as glad that we arrived at that in four innings, but I think he did a good job [and] made pitches when he needed to. He left a 1-1 game; we had our opportunity." Richter, freshman right-hander Matt Ternowchek, senior left-hander Steve Sabatino, and Fitzgerald combined to allow five runs in the fifth and sixth innings. Aoki had plenty of praise for the Cincinnati lineup that finally beat his team on Sunday. "I have a hard time believing that that team's 2-10 [in the Big East]," Aoki said. "I think that's as good of a lineup as we've played. They've got some guys that run. The wind obviously aided their power numbers this weekend, but you look at kids like ... [Bearcats senior infielder Nic] Spence — I can't believe that Spence is hitting what he is with the sort of swing that he has." The Irish will try to start a new winning streak when they travel to Bethesda, Md. for a tilt against Georgetown this weekend. The series will kick off Friday, with first pitch at 7 p.m.

Contact Vicky Jacobsen at vjacobs@nd.edu



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Marisel Moreno, assistant professor of Spanish and Kellogg Institute fellow, will introduce the film and lead a post-screening discussion.

Carlos (Academy Award nominee Demián Bichir) always dreamed of a better life for his family when he crossed the border into the United States. After years of hard work, he fears for his son Luis, an impressionable teen at risk of becoming involved in Los Angeles' gang culture. Chris Weitz's present-day reworking of Vittorio De Sica's *Bicycle Thieves* is grounded by Bichir's standout performance.



World View is an initiative from the Office of the President to promote constructive dialogue about issues of race, class, ethnicity, religion, and gender through the arts.

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GRANT TOBIN/The Observer

Junior goalie John Kemp looks to clear in a 9-1 win against Providence on April 7 at Arlotta Stadium.

Corrigan

continued from page 20

we can saddle up and ride,” Corrigan said. “I think that’s when we’re at our best, when we get contributions from a lot of people like that. That not only means a lot of people are scoring, but it means that we’re sharing the ball and playing in a way where a lot of people have opportunities to score.”

So far, Notre Dame has gone through its Big East schedule unscathed, with its only loss coming in overtime to Penn State on Feb. 26. The Irish now have two regular season games remaining – a matchup at No. 12 Villanova on April 21 and a regular season finale with No. 1 Syracuse at home April 28.

But going undefeated in the conference is not something Corrigan has made an explicit goal. Rather, the Irish prepare for each opponent one at a time.

“It’s not something I’ve focused on a ton,” Corrigan said. “We’ve just really tried to play each game as it comes. We did a great job of getting out of the early stretch of our season with a lot of good teams. So far so good in the Big East, but still two really good teams to play.”

The results of the Big East standings have implications for the conference tournament from May 3 to 5 in Villanova, Pa., as well as the NCAA tournament, which begins May 12. However, Notre Dame is only focused on what is directly in front of them.

“[Postseason seeding] is not something that we’re looking at, other than who’s next and what the next challenge is,” Corrigan said. “Next up for us is a very good Villanova.”

Notre Dame will square off against the Wildcats at Villanova on Saturday at 5:30 p.m.

Contact Matthew Robison at mrobison@nd.edu

Lynch

continued from page 20

it and mutually agreed that the best decision for him is to leave the football team, which he has decided to do,” Kelly said. “He’ll finish out the semester ... and then he’ll pursue other opportunities.”

Kelly said it was more of a comfort level issue rather than a geographical problem.

Over Easter break, Kelly sent Lynch home to his mother in Ohio to think about what he wanted to do. He also said he did a similar thing with sophomore linebacker Ishaq Williams earlier this year following winter break. Williams remains a part of the Irish defense.

Lynch had an up-and-down recruiting journey that ultimately led him to the Irish. Initially, he was committed to Notre Dame before switching to Florida State and then enrolling early last year with the Irish.

Kelly said all the players know what they signed up for when they come to Notre Dame.

“We’re laying our cards on the table,” Kelly said. “We’re not going to come in and say ‘You don’t have to live in the dorms.’ No, you have to live in the dorms. We don’t say ‘Hey, it’s easy in the classroom, don’t worry about it.’ We don’t say ‘Don’t worry about it, it never snows here.’”

Kelly said the terms of Lynch’s release have not yet been decided upon yet.



SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

Sophomore defensive end Aaron Lynch, right, pursues Pittsburgh quarterback Tino Sunseri in Notre Dame’s 15-12 win Sept. 24.

“We’re not going to hold him back and take his future away from him,” Kelly said. “We’ll discuss that. That’s the next stage which we’ll get into and start talking about those issues.”

While Florida State remains an option, Bulls 247 says Lynch could potentially land at South Florida. The Bulls defeated Notre Dame 23-20 in last year’s season-opener.

With Lynch’s departure, Irish fifth-year senior Kapron

Lewis-Moore will move back into the starting lineup. Juniors Louis Nix, Kona Schwenke, sophomore Stephon Tuitt and freshman Sheldon Day will have to take on expanded roles on the defensive line.

“We feel really blessed that we’re able to feel really good about our defensive line even losing a really good player like Aaron Lynch,” Kelly said.

Contact Matthew DeFranks at mdefrank@nd.edu

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CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across

1 German cry

4 Ice-grabbing tool

9 Bid

14 Genetic stuff

15 Cutting one may bring tears to your eyes

16 Mrs. Gorbachev

17 Oct. follower

18 Had a big influence on Philip's music?

20 Bothered terribly

22 Envision

23 "Enough already!"

24 Fanatics

27 Grey who wrote about the Old West

29 Harshly criticized Danielle's novels?

34 ___ Guevara

36 Starch from a tropical palm

37 Company that created Pong

38 The "L" in S.&L.
- 40 ___ decongestant

43 Norway's capital

44 Chef's wear

46 Clickable computer image

48 Hankering

49 Scared the daylights out of Elijah in "The Lord of the Rings"?

53 Soft powder

54 Bleepers

57 ___ as it is

60 British ref. for wordsmiths

62 Deplete

63 Trounced Chris in a comedy competition?

67 NBC comedy show since '75

68 Be in harmony

69 Lacking justification

70 Rightmost number on a grandfather clock

71 Veg out
- 72 Keats and Shelley

73 Charge for a bang-up job?

Down

- 1 Desi of "I Love Lucy"

2 100 smackers

3 "Show some mercy!"

4 Native American drums

5 Yoko from Tokyo

6 Zero

7 "Ye ___!"

8 Eruption that might elicit a blessing

9 Web site alternative to com or edu

10 Unnaturally high voice

11 Italian carmaker

12 Canadian gas brand

13 Speak with a gravelly voice

19 Utterly exhausted

21 State between Miss. and Ga.

25 I.R.S. agent, e.g., informally

26 Company whose mascot is Sonic the Hedgehog

28 Org. protecting U.S. secrets

30 Symbolic riveter of W.W. II

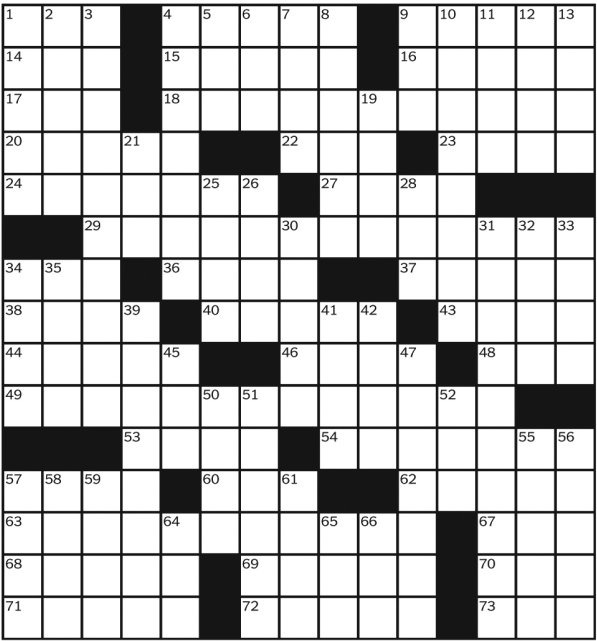
31 "Careful!"

32 Mystery writer ___ Stanley Gardner

33 Leo's symbol

34 Applaud

35 Optimist's feeling



Puzzle by Lynn Lempel

- 39 Watery expanse between England and Scandinavia

41 High-voltage Australian band?

42 Actor Rob of "The West Wing"

45 Vardalos of "My Big Fat Greek Wedding"
- 47 Peacenik's mantra

50 Floating arctic mass

51 Became a winter hazard, as a road

52 W.W. II intelligence org.

55 Quarrel
- 56 Bowler's challenge

57 Battle reminder

58 Goad

59 Ringlet

61 James Bond's film debut

64 Evil spell

65 Keats or Shelley work

66 Abridge

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. AT&T users: Text NYTX to 386 to download puzzles, or visit nytimes.com/mobilexword for more information. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/wordplay. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Emma Watson, 22; Seth Rogen, 30; Emma Thompson, 53; Roy Clark, 79.

Happy Birthday: Share with people who have something to offer in return. Greater insight will help you find solutions to personal or work-related problems. Face each situation head-on and don't be afraid to ask for help. Parity will allow you to motor to the finish line and receive your reward. Your numbers are 3, 10, 16, 20, 33, 39, 44.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Help will be offered if you show initiative. An old friend or lover will play a role in your life. Don't let something that happened a long time ago stand in the way of an opportunity that can change your life. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Keep things simple, even if those around you want to make a big splash. Being practical now will leave you more room to maneuver when you want to do something special or make a purchase. Structure will help you achieve your goals. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): It doesn't matter what others think or do, as long as you are satisfied with your effort and the results. Doing what's best for you will send a message to anyone trying to take control of your life. ★★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Be realistic about what you can and cannot do. Travel to destinations that will educate you culturally. The information you gather now will help you determine where you want to put your time and how you want to help others. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Join in, go where the action is and share your thoughts and knowledge with the people you meet. Coming together and joining forces with people who share your interests and beliefs will lead to success in achieving your goals. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Open up and share with people who have something to offer in return. An opportunity to travel or visit friends or relatives will broaden your horizons and give you greater options for future advancement. Relocation is a possibility. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Get involved in a project that will help you look and be your best. The changes you make now will influence the way someone treats you in the future. You will gain confidence and personal stability if you take positive action. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Self-deception can lead to a poor choice regarding love, money and personal gains. Think matters through to the end and determine if someone you are dealing with has ulterior motives before you commit your time, ideas or cash. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): What you do for others will not be a waste of time. Love issues will surface if you spend too much time helping outsiders. Include the people you love most in your plans. The family that plays together stays together. ★★★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): There is plenty to learn through observation. Watch how others react and what unfolds between friends, family or people you encounter in your community. Gravitate toward people who are willing to put in as much effort as you. ★★

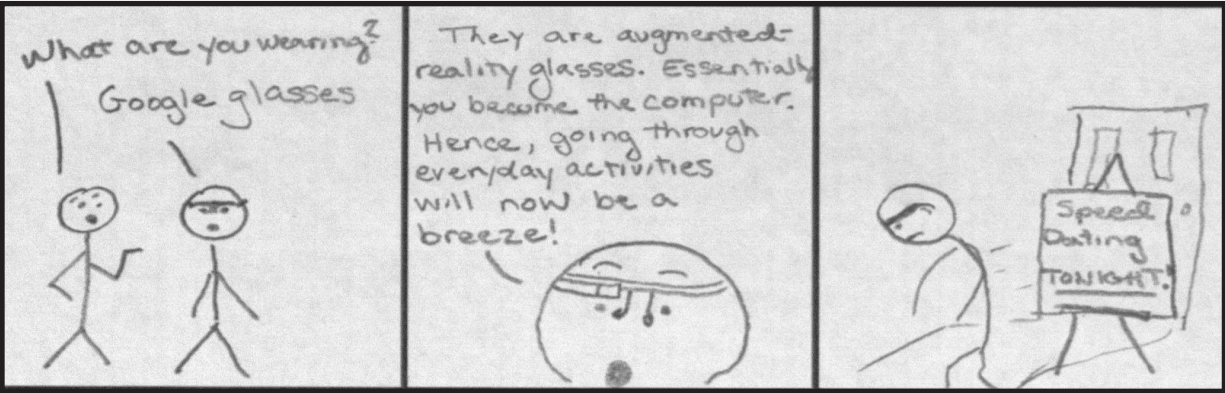
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Concentrate on home and family and making the most with what you have. Greater stability will be yours if you put together a tight budget that will help you reach your personal goals. Self-improvement projects will pay off. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't keep secrets from someone with whom you are personally involved. The more vocal you are, the easier it will be to get things done your way. Don't let ego get in the way of a decision that has to be made to advance. ★★

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THE LONDON EXPRESS

JAMES SOLLITTO, CODY ECKERT and JOHN FLATLEY



JUMBLE

HENRY ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

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

HACTB

AIHKK

BIRCAF

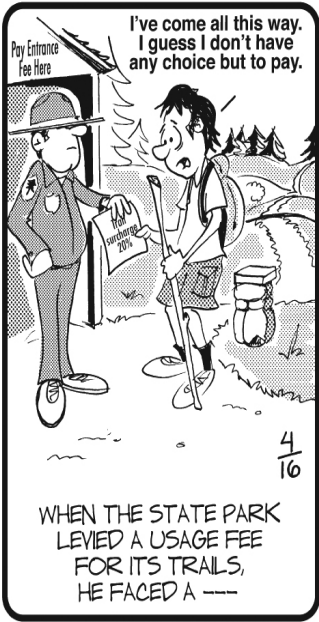
HEELAX

Answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's

Jumbles: BLEND IMPEL STATIC EASILY
Answer: People from Bangor who get carried away with their state pride are – "MAINE-IACS"



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

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MEN'S LACROSSE

Second-half surge

Irish overcome four-goal halftime deficit to beat Georgetown

GRANT TOBIN/The Observer

Junior midfielder Eric Keppeler shoots against Providence on April 7 at Arlotta Stadium. Keppeler scored two goals in a 9-7 win Sunday against Georgetown.

By MATTHEW ROBISON
Sports Writer

Despite trailing 5-1 at halftime Sunday, the No. 6 Irish dominated the third and fourth quarters to rally for a 9-7 victory over Georgetown on the road.

Notre Dame (9-1, 4-0 Big East) had its opportunities early, but could not capitalize. Senior midfielder Eric Keppeler scored the lone first-half goal off a feed from junior midfielder Steve Murphy.

"We had some good opportunities, particularly in the first quarter, and just couldn't seem to get any in the back of the net," Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said.

In the third quarter, the Irish picked up the defensive pressure and knocked Georgetown (5-6, 1-3) out of its comfort zone.

"The other thing was our defense played very well," Corrigan said. "[Junior goaltender] John Kemp was outstanding. And we got ground balls. So because of that, we dominated the time of possession in the third quarter, and kind of got them out of a rhythm and got ourselves into one."

The second-half scoring came from eight different players, as Keppeler added a second tally, while senior attack Sean Rogers, senior midfielder and tri-captain Max Pfeifer, sophomore attack Ryan Mix, freshman attack Westy Hopkins, junior attack Ryan Foley, senior long-stick midfielder Bobby Smith and sophomore midfielder Jim Marlatt all found the back of the net in the period as well. Smith's goal was the first of his

career.

Corrigan said he was pleased to see such well-rounded scoring, especially from players who might not usually find their name on the scoresheet.

"I think it means a lot to us, because we all feel like that's who we are as a team," Corrigan said. "We have a lot of guys who can make plays."

Some teams center their offenses around one player. The Irish do not have a go-to scorer and nobody who will light up the scoreboard with four or five goals on any given day. But their identity is a squad who has capable scorers from top to bottom. Production comes in across the board.

"We don't have any one guy who

see CORRIGAN/page 18

FOOTBALL

Lynch leaves team, will transfer at semester's end

By MATTHEW DeFRANKS
Associate Sports Editor

When sophomore defensive end Aaron Lynch missed practice April 4, rumors began to swirl. Now, what was first feared has been realized — Lynch is transferring, the football program announced Friday morning.

"Your head and your heart has to be in it to be a Notre Dame student-athlete," Irish coach Brian Kelly said. "The challenges are great here and if your head and heart is not in it, you just can't be successful here."

Lynch will finish the spring semester at Notre Dame be-

fore transferring elsewhere.

"I want to thank coach Kelly for giving me this great opportunity to attend Notre Dame and be part of the Fighting Irish football family," Lynch said in a statement. "This was one of the toughest decisions I have had to make, but I want to go back home to Florida. I'm grateful to Coach Kelly for understanding and allowing me to return home."

Last season, Lynch racked up a team-high 5.5 sacks and 14 quarterback hurries while earning playing time in 12 games.

"Aaron and I talked about

see LYNCH/page 18

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Tamasitis sets record in win over Huskies

By MATTHEW DeFRANKS
Associate Sports Editor

Just add another record for senior attacker Maggie Tamasitis.

Tamasitis, the all-time Irish leader with 138 career assists, racked up a program-high eight assists in No. 7 Notre Dame's 16-9 win over Connecticut on Saturday. The eight helpers also set a Big East record for most assists in a game.

Tamasitis' performance topped her own record of six assists, set a year ago against Connecticut. Former Irish standouts Gina Scioscia and Kerry Callahan also shared the record. Tamasitis also

scored a goal in Saturday's game, one of eight Irish goalscorers on the day.

"I think one of the main points [this week in practice] was holding each other accountable [and] having high expectations for one another," Irish coach Christine Halfpenny said Thursday. "[I want them to] be really focused on moving the ball and maintaining the integrity of our spread offense that consistently does revolve around lots of people touching the ball."

Junior attacker Jaimie Morrison paced Notre Dame (10-2, 4-2 Big East) with four

see MORRISON/page 17

ND SOFTBALL

Team loses two of three to Orange over weekend

By KATIE HEIT
Sports Writer

Despite losing two of their three games against Syracuse, the Irish had a successful weekend, raising over \$10,000 for South Bend Memorial Hospital in their Strikeout Cancer doubleheader Saturday.

The weekend began with a trivia night Friday. Over 250 people showed up to support the team and the cause as part of the second-annual Strikeout Cancer weekend, with the proceeds dedicated to help leukemia patients at Memorial Hospital.

Two such patients threw out the first pitch in Saturday's first game, which the Irish (21-13, 5-3 Big East) won 4-3. Other festivities at the Saturday's games included a dunk tank, balloon animals and Strike Out Cancer t-shirts. To round out the event, the Irish hosted a homerun derby directly following the doubleheader.

Along with fundraising for charity, Saturday's win gave the Irish an eight-game home-winning streak. Freshman outfielder Emilee Koerner's two-RBI double in the bot-

see KOERNER/page 16

BASEBALL

Irish take two from Bearcats

By VICKY JACOBSEN
Sports Writer

The Irish survived Friday night's slugfest for a 10-9 win and rallied for a 6-5 walk-off win against the Bearcats on Saturday, but slumping Cincinnati prevented a Notre Dame sweep with a 6-2 victory in Sunday's get-away game.

Both teams entered the weekend with five consecutive losses, but the Irish (19-16, 6-6 Big East) were the first to turn their fortunes around. After scoring two runs with two outs in the first, the Irish added four more in the second when junior outfielder Charlie Markson scored on a sacrifice fly and sophomore

see MARKSON/page 17



GRANT TOBIN/The Observer

Junior infielder Frank DeSico receives a throw at second base in Sunday's 6-2 loss to Cincinnati at Frank Eck Stadium.