

## Presidential hopefuls square off in debate

*Candidates for Notre Dame student government's top positions expound on campaign platforms*

By **EMILY McCONVILLE**  
News Writer

Student body presidential candidates, junior Bryan Ricketts and sophomore Neil Joseph, and their respective running mates, junior Nidia Ruelas and sophomore Noemi Ventilla, answered questions from the Notre Dame Judicial Council and student attendees during a debate Monday night in the basement of LaFortune Student Center.

Joseph, the current treasurer of the sophomore class, said his ticket's biggest priority is increasing communication between students and the University administration. Ventilla, the current sophomore class president, said she and Joseph hope these lines of

communication last beyond their term in office.

"Students do so much at this University, but unless you have the administration backing you up, things can't really change," she said. "I don't know if you guys are in clubs and know how difficult it is to get funding, but those are systematic changes that you can only achieve by dealing with the administration and having a positive relationship with them."

Ricketts, president of PrismND and a Gender Relations Center (GRC) peer educator, said his ticket's biggest priority is its "identity-based initiatives."

"What we can provide is a way to make sure that students feel



EMILY McCONVILLE | The Observer

*Sophomores Neil Joseph and Noemi Ventilla, left, listen while juniors Bryan Ricketts and Nidia Ruelas respond to a question during Monday's presidential debate in the basement of LaFortune Student Center.*

see DEBATE **PAGE 5**

## SMC Diversity Board hosts authentic Tunisian dinner

By **KELLY KONYA**  
Saint Mary's Editor

Monday evening, the Saint Mary's Student Diversity Board (SDB) hosted the third Diversity Dinner of this academic year in Regina Hall's South Lounge for students to come together over a family-style Tunisian meal.

Student government association (SGA) international co-chairs senior Catherine Sullivan and sophomore Ngoc Truong



MONICA VILLAGOMEZ MENDEZ | The Observer

*Saint Mary's students taste a family-style Tunisian meal at the third installment of Diversity Dinner in Regina Hall on Monday.*

see DIVERSITY **PAGE 5**

## SMC lecture series to celebrate St. Teresa of Avila

By **KELLY KONYA**  
Saint Mary's Editor

The Center for Spirituality (CFS) at Saint Mary's announced its spring 2015 lecture series entitled "Saint Teresa of Avila: Carmelite Mystic and Doctor of the Church."

The series will include two talks and one panel discussion,

marking the 500th anniversary of Saint Teresa's birth. According to a press release, the Saint Mary's College Annual Endowed Lecture Series Fund will sponsor the lectures, which are free and open to the public and will take place in the Vander Vennet Theatre.

see TERESA **PAGE 5**

## Unity Games aim to connect multicultural community

By **MEGAN VALLEY**  
News Writer

This week marks Notre Dame's Multicultural Community Week, sponsored by the Multicultural Student Programs and Services (MSPS), and this year's theme is "The Unity Games."

Participants will be split into teams that will compete against each other in challenges throughout the course of this week, ultimately competing for the grand prize of 100 Domer Dollars for each team member, according to the games' website.

Katherine Hernandez, a

freshman pre-medical student who signed up to participate in the games, said she saw the event as an opportunity to connect with other students on campus.

"I joined because it seemed like a good way to

see UNITY **PAGE 4**

**CENTER FOR SPIRITUALITY'S  
SPRING 2015 LECTURE SERIES:  
SAINT TERESA OF AVILA: CARMELITE  
MYSTIC AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH**

all events at 7:30 p.m. in the Vander Vennet Theatre

<i>Teresa of Avila: Prayer is an Adventure in Love</i> <b>TUESDAY, FEB. 17</b>	<i>Teresa the Theologian on the Human Person as Capax Dei</i> <b>TUESDAY, MARCH 3</b>
<i>Teresa and Us: The Significance of Teresa of Avila for Young Catholic Women Today</i> <b>THURSDAY, MARCH 19</b>	

The Center's purpose is to help build a theologically well-grounded spirituality among members of the College and greater South Bend community.

KERI O'MARA | The Observer



NEWS **PAGE 3**



VIEWPOINT **PAGE 6**



SCENE **PAGE 9**



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL **PAGE 16**



MEN'S TENNIS **PAGE 16**

# THE OBSERVER

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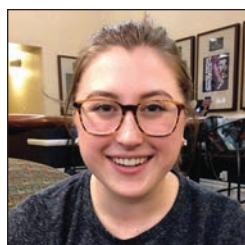
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The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at (574) 631-4541 so we can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

# QUESTION OF THE DAY:

What did you think about the results of the Super Bowl?

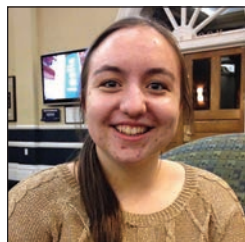
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### Jacqueline Adams

freshman  
Cavanaugh Hall

"Richard Sherman's face was pretty priceless when the second down was intercepted."



### Nadezhda Braun

freshman  
Howard Hall

"I didn't care about the game but the puppies in the commercials were cute."



### Amanda Leung

senior  
Lyons Hall

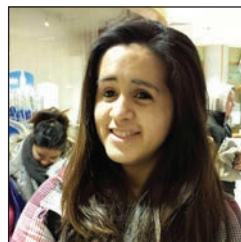
"I was wondering why there were so many sharks on the internet today."



### Maggie Blaha

sophomore  
Breen-Phillips Hall

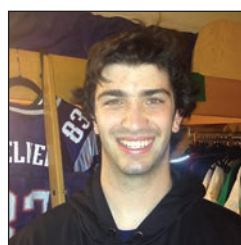
"I don't know why all those football players were at the Katy Perry concert."



### Jasmine Salazar

sophomore  
Le Mans Hall

"Surprised, I thought the Seahawks would win."



### Ryan Brickner

freshman  
Zahm House

"GO PATRIOTS!"



MICHAEL YU | The Observer

Students brave the effects of winter storm Linus and trudge through South Bend's record-breaking 14.7 inches of snow on Feb. 1. Despite various school cancellations in the area, all classes were still in session at Notre Dame.

# THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

Want your event included here?  
Email [news@ndsmcobserver.com](mailto:news@ndsmcobserver.com)

## Tuesday

### "Crafting a Strong Grant Proposal"

Brownson Hall  
4 p.m. - 5 p.m.  
Undergraduate workshop.

### "From 'Awkward Black Girl' to Media Maven"

Carey Auditorium  
7 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
Lecture by Issa Rae.

## Wednesday

### Basketball Game

Purcell Pavilion  
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
Men's basketball takes on Boston College.

### Grotto Trip

Bond Hall  
10 p.m. - 11 p.m.  
Organized by the Asian American Association.

## Thursday

### Film: "The Missing Picture"

DeBartolo Performing Arts Center  
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
Nominee for Best Foreign Language film.

### Basketball Game

Purcell Pavilion  
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
Women's basketball battles Virginia.

## Friday

### Graduate Student Mass

Basilica of the Sacred Heart  
5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.  
Occurs every Friday.

### Women's Tennis

Eck Tennis Pavilion  
5 p.m. - 7 p.m.  
Women take on Stanford.

## Saturday

### Annual Bride Expo

Joyce Center  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Print ticket online for free admission.

### National Theatre Live: "Of Mice and Men"

DPAC  
3 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Open to the public.

# University remains open after record snowfall

By RACHEL O'GRADY and LESLEY STEVENSON  
News Writer and News Editor

From Saturday night into Monday morning, the South Bend area accumulated record-setting amounts of snow, but the University of Notre Dame remained open.

"As fun as it would be to have the day off, that's not why we're here. As long as it is safe for the teachers and students to go to class that's what should happen," senior Patrick Haggerty said. "It's when it's no longer safe that the University needs to seriously consider taking action to keep their students and staff safe."

According to the South Bend Tribune, the snowfall reached unprecedented levels.

"South Bend broke a record for snow on Feb. 1 with 14.7 inches," the report by Howard Dukes stated.

"That broke the 2011 record of 8.4 inches. Sunday's record-breaking snowfall in South Bend is nearly equal to the monthly average for the entire month of February (15 inches)."

Although the University did not cancel classes, students expressed little discontent with the snowy situation.

"I wasn't too upset school wasn't cancelled today, because I didn't expect it to be at all," junior Eric Woitchek said. "Notre Dame has set a precedent of staying open even in the most extreme conditions. Last year, it took the entire city of South Bend to shut down for school to eventually be cancelled."

The snow did not pose a major problem for on-campus students, as they did not have much difficulty traveling to their classes, Woitchek said.

"I didn't struggle to get to class



MICHAEL YU | The Observer

**Students traverse campus during the record-breaking snowfall Super Bowl Sunday. South Bend experienced an unprecedented 14.7 inches of snow for February during the ongoing Winter Storm Linus.**

today," he said. "I live in Dillon Hall, so all I had to do was lace up my boots, throw on a coat and hat, and keep my balance walking for five minutes."

Students noticed the work of Notre Dame Landscape Services,

better known as the University's grounds crew, as they worked through snow to travel across campus.

"If you walk to class, you really have no reason to complain," freshman Ryan McKeown said. "There

was maybe an inch of snow on the sidewalks. Notre Dame never gets snow days. I was not expecting one, so today was a regular Monday."

For off-campus students, the Notre Dame Security Police recommended making sure their cars were prepared for the conditions and the snow plows had the opportunity to do their work.

"I didn't have any difficulty getting to class, but I can't speak for the kids who live off campus," Woitchek said. "If they were risking their well-being in any way to get to class, the administration made the wrong call."

Off-campus senior Shannon Kirk said her normal route from Irish Row to the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center (DPAC), which takes 15 minutes by car or 10 to 12 minutes by bus, lasted 45 minutes Monday morning.

"First, I waited in the cold for 10 minutes for the bus that never came," she said. "Then I finally decided to drive, and when I arrived at school at 9:05, the C1 lot ... was blocked off because they were trying to plow it."

"If they are going to have class, they should have campus roads and parking lots plowed by the time people are arriving for their first class," Kirk said.

According to Kirk, senior Nick Muench, whose car does not have four-wheel drive, opted for an Uber ride to campus.

Off-campus senior Arturo Chiquito said he and fellow senior Alejandro Porras were able to take the TRANSPRO bus from University Edge to get to class on time.

"It took a bit longer [to arrive at Notre Dame] because [the bus] went slower, but I felt safe," Chiquito said. "I was fine with it. Most of the roads were clear."

According to the faculty and staff newspaper, ND Works, it takes more than 500 tons of salt and 25 trucks of several varieties to clear the snow each year. Eight Bobcat Toolcats are used to clear the sidewalks, which is perhaps the most vital task in ensuring students make it to class on time.

"We are here to learn and pay a large annual sum for that purpose," sophomore Louis Bertolotti said. "I'm glad that the University allowed us this great day of knowledge."

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# Lecture examines missionary foundations of democracy

By **JP GSCHWIND**  
News Writer

In a lecture Jan. 27, Robert D. Woodberry, associate professor of political science at the National University of Singapore, explained the role of Christian missionaries in the growth of liberal democracy.

The Kellogg Institute sponsored the lecture, titled "The Missionary Roots of Liberal Democracy," at the Hesburgh Center for International Studies.

"The narrative of democracy is usually told in a secular way," Woodberry said. "I argue that, building on earlier foundations, Protestant missionaries are responsible for a lot of reforms that lead to liberal democracy."

By examining consistent historical patterns and statistical data from the 19th and early 20th centuries, the influence of religion on the growth of liberal democracy can be demonstrated and compared to the influence of the Enlightenment or various economic systems, Woodberry said. His

statistical analysis considered other contextual factors to show the political impact of missionaries.

Woodberry said the word "liberal" is an important qualifier because it means governments have ensured rights for opposition groups and minorities. He

**Robert Woodberry**  
2014-2015 visiting fellow  
Kellogg Institute



also said there are significant distinctions between different types of missionary groups, including their denominations and relationships with states.

"The four major reforms of the missionaries were mass education, mass printing, nonviolent social movements and colonial reform," Woodberry said.

In terms of education, Woodberry said missionaries espoused the growth of literacy as means of reading scripture and thus prepared students to embrace democracy.

"They pioneered classrooms techniques using texts designed for children," Woodberry said.

Citing the example of the Belgian Congo, he said missionaries were responsible for reporting abuses and reigning in abuses of colonial power.

"Missionaries limited colonial abuses but were not necessarily anti-colonial," he said.

Woodberry said missionaries advocated the idea of trusteeship particularly in British colonialism because they believed it was their duty to bring salvation to the colonized areas. He showed the results of a study he performed comparing female literacy and infant mortality rates across regions in India with the locations of missionary centers to fortify his argument.

"Christianity profoundly shaped modernity and the religious incentive of missionaries, and their reforms are crucial to the spread of liberal democracy," Woodberry said.

Contact **JP Gschwind** at [jgschwin@nd.edu](mailto:jgschwin@nd.edu)

## Unity

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

seemed like a good way to meet some new people and, of course, the possibility of winning 100 Domer Dollars."

Events will include Family Feud, social media contests, trivia, games, an open skate and a sports day. All of these events are intended to expose the participants to different cultures and religions. Teams will receive points based on

**"It was a great way to meet your team members and start working as a team playing the game."**

Katherine Hernandez  
freshman

both their participation and their performance.

The Unity Games kicked off Sunday with the opening ceremonies.

"The opening ceremony, despite the fact that not many people showed up, turned out to be really fun," Hernandez said. "It was a great way to meet your team members and start working as a team playing the games. I'd say about 20 people showed up."

The eight teams, or districts, will be awarded points based on their level of participation in each event. Each team has six or seven people,

Hernandez said. The rankings will be updated daily and can be found on their website.

The district with the most points at the end of the week will win the grand prize of 100 Domer Dollars per person, which will be awarded Sunday during the closing ceremonies. Other individual prizes that will be raffled off during the ceremony as well, according to the website.

There will be a separate prize for the winning team of the Family Feud event: an invitation to a free dinner from the Ruth Chris Steakhouse.

The idea for the Unity Games comes from the popular young adult franchise 'The Hunger Games,' in which districts send children to fight to the death. The Unity Games is inverting this to encourage teamwork and unity, not discord, amongst the participants and the Notre Dame community as a whole.

"The Unity Games' is a week of fun and exciting events to encourage teamwork and unity among the multicultural community at Notre Dame," according to the Unity Games' website.

Students are invited to serve as spectators for the events. A schedule with times and locations can be found on their website, [theunitygames.squarespace.com](http://theunitygames.squarespace.com)

Contact **Megan Valley** at [mvalley@nd.edu](mailto:mvalley@nd.edu)

# DFA explores strategies to reduce food waste

By **SAMUEL CHAN**  
News Writer

Monday night marked a major milestone for the Design for America (DFA) candidate chapter at Notre Dame, as it entered round two of the four-step application process to become an official studio by hosting a creative workshop. The two-hour event at West Lake Hall focused on ways to reduce food waste in the dining halls, which the co-organizers say amounts to about 1.2 tons per day.

According to its website, DFA is a "nationwide network of interdisciplinary student teams and community members using design to create local and social impact." The 2,000 student-strong organization, which was founded in 2009 at Northwestern University, focuses on tackling "over 100 local and social challenges annually" in the areas of economy, education, environment and health.

Seniors Brian Donlin and John Wetzel and junior William Picoli lead Notre Dame's DFA candidate chapter. DFA fellow and mentor Julian Bongiorno led Monday's workshop with the assistance of the three co-organizers.

Wetzel said DFA differs from

the seemingly similar Student International Business Council (SIBC) in that the "purely business" SIBC faced criticism in the past for accepting only business students, a policy that the SIBC leadership has since reversed.

"If you look at all the different organizations on this

**"We're hoping to be part of something that can bridge the gap and unite students from all those groups to work together."**

John Wetzel  
senior

campus, there are very few that are truly interdisciplinary," Wetzel said. "You bring all that together and use that to your advantage as a strength. That's something our University as a whole has kind of struggled with in finding how that all fits in."

"We're hoping to be part of something that can bridge that gap and unite students from all those groups to work together."

During the workshop, the co-organizers asked for a show of hands to indicate

their areas of study. These varied from industrial design to English.

Initially, each group was assigned a persona and tasked to argue from that perspective, with stakeholders ranging from a fictional Notre Dame Food Services administrator to a "filler upper" student, to rationalize their behaviors described and how this relates back to serving, preparation, consumption, cleaning and disposal. Participants then attempted to brainstorm as many solutions as possible to the problems that arose.

"Maybe if we make Grab and Go bags that are interesting or funny, they'll become a commodity for people to get food with," freshman Kevin Ramos said, expanding on the proposition to extend the life of the existing disposable paper bags and cut down on waste.

"It would be cool if we could give students more accessibility to feedback, whether giving ratings on food or offering recipes," senior Julia Bontempo said. "Students could suggest what they wanted to eat. Maybe one day a week."

Commenting on another suggestion to increase the use of reusables, junior Hannah Chiarella said, "I always feel

stupid taking the same plate going back." She added she does reuse cups for refilling drinks.

Other students suggested mandating feedback similar to Course Instructor Feedback, the current system used to rate academic teaching quality, in addition to being able to rate the food itself through the My Notre Dame application for all students to see. Another popular suggestion was to compartmentalize the dishes or trays to reduce the amount of clutter, food taken and need for washing dishes.

"The whole idea is not so much about what to eat and

how much to eat, but the main point is the waste. It's more about being a responsible consumer," sophomore Daara Jalili said.

Following this workshop, the local candidate chapter will have one month to work on an idea to compete against eight other schools, including University of Southern California, to be judged by DFA on which "creates the most impact." About half of these hopefuls will be selected to become official DFA studios.

Contact **Samuel Chan** at [schan3@nd.edu](mailto:schan3@nd.edu)

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## Teresa

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According to Michelle Egan, associate director of the CFS, the center hosts a series each fall and spring semester encompassing a specific topic or theme.

This spring series will follow the 2014 lecture series, "Unitas, Veritas, Caritas: Catholicism and the Liberal Arts and Sciences," which explored the relationship of faith and reason across disciplines.

"When deciding on a theme, we consider the current contemporary religious and theological issues, or if there are any significant milestones within the Church," Egan said. "The 500th anniversary of Teresa of Avila's birth is one such milestone."

While other CFS lecture series have focused on larger concepts, such as "facets of justice" or "leadership of Catholic women both past and current," Egan said the spring 2015 series will discuss rather particular aspects of Teresa's life and work.

The first lecture, titled "Teresa of Avila: Prayer is an Adventure in Love," will take place Feb. 17 at 7:30 p.m.

"Our first lecturer, Keith Egan, Aquinas chair of Catholic theology emeritus at Saint

Mary's, will explore Teresa's thoughts on prayer and love because for this saint and doctor of the Church, she spent her life searching for God through prayer," Egan said. "For her, prayer is an 'exercise in love.'"

On March 3 at 7:30 p.m., the second lecture, "Teresa the Theologian on the Human Person as Capax Dei" will feature a visiting scholar from Fairfield University.

"Elizabeth Dreyer, religious studies professor at Fairfield University, will consider Teresa's work as an incarnational theologian and how that has or hasn't prospered in the history of Christian theology and spirituality," Egan said.

The third and final lecture of the series will feature a panel of both undergraduate and post-graduate students from Saint Mary's and Notre Dame, titled "Teresa and Us: The Significance of Teresa of Avila for Young Catholic Women Today." The panel will take place March 19 at 7:30 p.m.

"Our final event in the series will be a panel discussion about the significance of Teresa for today's young Catholic women," Egan said. "Teresa was certainly a leader in the Church, she was a religious founder, a reformer, and her writings have been, and continue to be, very influential

to theologians."

According to Egan, this series furthers the CFS's purpose, as the organization was established in 1984 as a center to "build a theologically well-grounded spirituality among members of the College and greater South Bend community," according to the press release.

Senior Madison Maidment said she enjoys having the opportunity to hear such scholars discuss aspects of spirituality that are not often elaborated upon in religion courses as fully as possible.

"I remember a lot of my friends who are nursing majors were really interested in the fall series because it had lectures concerning things like health care professions and biology," Maidment said. "This spring series interests me a little more because it gives students a chance to get to know a saint on a more personal, relatable level, and I think that's an awesome opportunity."

"... But both series this school-year have brought topics to the table that aren't often discussed in our daily lives, and I think these unique themes appeal to a wide variety of students."

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## Diversity

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

event to further their initial goal established in the fall semester: highlighting diversity within the Saint Mary's community.

"The Diversity Dinners aim to not only feature a variety of cultural foods, but they are meant to also help along students' understanding of who their fellow Belles are," Sullivan said.

Sullivan said this is the third Diversity Dinner she helped to organize, following two other successful meals featuring Chinese and Italian dishes.

"Because of how successful the two other dinners have been, we have had to put a cap on the dinners of 50 people," she said. "We've filled up the dinners every time and we are hoping to expand for further events."

Monday's dinner showcased Tunisian food thanks to one of the two Fulbright scholars at Saint Mary's, Olfa Slimane, who is originally from Tunisia.

"I wanted to share my culture because as a Fulbright scholar, I am a cultural messenger," Slimane said. "This is my status. As a teaching assistant, I have to share my culture with others, and sharing culture means sharing food."

According to Slimane, the meal consisted of Tunisia's most famous dishes, and it reminded her of her home country.

The cuisine included couscous, something Slimane said Western diners are familiar with but cooks from Eastern countries prepare differently. The meal also included pureed carrot, lamb sauce, Tunisian salad and aja. Slimane also brewed a sweet green tea with peppermint leaves for the event.

"I don't normally cook for myself; I eat at the dining hall," Slimane said. "I actually don't cook much."

Yet, Sullivan said that was not the case for the Diversity Dinner—Slimane not only chose the dishes for the meal, but she also spent three days talking with her mother, who lives in Tunisia, on the phone while cooking every part of the dinner.

"Olfa [Slimane] was originally an English teacher in Tunisia and came to Saint Mary's to teach Arabic," Sullivan said. "We spent all of Monday morning listening to French hip-hop music in the kitchen of Saint Mary's [while] cooking lamb."

Sullivan said the next scheduled Diversity Dinner will feature Mexican food, and four students from Mexico are already committed to taking on the role of chefs. The Diversity Dinners will end with the fifth dinner, which Sullivan said will offer German cuisine.

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## Debate

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

comfortable, feel safe and feel welcome as a community at Notre Dame, and that is why we wish to pursue these policies as our primary goal," he said.

Ricketts said his administration would encourage students to participate in student government by increasing its social media presence, creating a Reddit-like online forum for students to share ideas and having an "open-door policy" in the student government office in order to hear students' concerns. Ruelas, who has sat on the Diversity Council for two years, said she and Ricketts would also implement student-generated ideas such as host families for international students during breaks.

"These ideas that [students] bring to the table, we would be willing to take into consideration in student government," Ruelas said.

Ruelas said she and Ricketts also want to recognize underrepresented students through the host family initiative and by creating a database for internships and study abroad opportunities.

In response to a student's question about how Ricketts and Ruelas would address non-minority students' concerns as well as those of underrepresented groups, Ricketts said many of his initiatives apply to all students.

"[Our platform] contains initiatives that affect the entire student body like the online platform, like the grab and go in the dining hall, like the comprehensive social media platform," he said.

"Our platform is not meant to be exclusive, and that's why we have our open-door policy. We are serious when we commit to answering the questions and concerns of any student on campus, regardless of what those may be."

Ruelas said she and Ricketts intend to include all students in discussions about race and ethnicity on campus.

"A very important part of that, which I think radiates in our platform and which we stress as people in our daily lives and in the relationships we have built, is to realize that this is a structural problem," she said. "A lot of the race relations problems are structural problems and should not be seen as personal attacks. Stressing this point is how we wish to include everybody in this conversation."

Joseph said he and Ventilla would increase student engagement by holding office hours in the student government office and creating policies based on students' ideas.

Joseph said his administration would prioritize voicing students' concerns about University decisions, such as the student printing quota, the physical education requirement and Campus Crossroads.

"When we meet with administrators, we're going to make sure that they're going to have students involved in these decisions directly," he said. "Not necessarily us, not necessarily people from student government, but a variety of opinions from a variety of people around campus."

Ruelas said she and Ricketts would voice students' concerns to the administration about moving

graduation from the football stadium and advocate for free fitness classes. Ricketts said he and Ruelas would also prioritize communication between students and administrators.

"We believe the relationship with the administration is a two-way street," he said. "When you come to us, we promise that your concerns will be communicated directly to the administration, and when the administration makes their decisions, we promise that we will push them to make the decisions with your feedback in mind and make the announcements recognizing the contributions that students have made."

In response to a student's question about reforming the DARTing process, Joseph said he and Ventilla would work to make course syllabi available in online class descriptions. Ventilla said their administration would also make comments from all students' CIFs available to anyone who fills the forms out.

"We need a better way of keeping teachers accountable for what they're teaching us and making an easier way to know what you're getting yourself into in terms of class registration," she said.

Ruelas said she and Ricketts would also work to publish syllabi on the class search page, encourage communication between students and professors and talk to computer science majors to simplify the DARTing system. Ricketts also said his ticket's new initiatives include the online forum, allowing dorms to sell apparel during football weekends and holding a "Dorm Week."

In response to a student's

question about how the Joseph/Ventilla platform differed from those of previous student governments, Joseph said some of his ticket's original initiatives include reforming the dining system by allowing students to take hot food out of the dining hall and turning extra meals into flex points.

Joseph added that the platform also included improvements to campus safety communications.

"We don't think the current policy is conducive to students' interests, so we want to increase the ways in which students are informed about potential threats and potential warnings," he said. "We also really want to connect with off-campus students to make them aware of the different dangers, connect with the South Bend [Police Department] to educate students about potential risks."

In response to a question about how they have worked with administration on issues that affect the entire student body, Joseph said he had worked with Program Director for New Student Engagement Paul Manrique on a curriculum for new students, and Ventilla said the Sophomore Class Council worked with both student senate and Vice President for Student Affairs Erin Hoffmann-Harding on policy initiatives.

To the same question, Ricketts said he had worked with the GRC on developing sexual assault policies and sat on an advisory council on LGBT issues, and Ruelas said as a Diversity Council member she helped craft the 21 diversity recommendations and the socioeconomic status board report under student body president emeritus Alex Coccia's administration.

Ricketts said he and Ruelas would also work to develop a medical amnesty policy.

"We have seen progress from the University on the stance on medical amnesty, and we believe that a full solution can only be reached with a codified medical amnesty policy that protects students who are helping others in need," he said.

Joseph said he and Ventilla did not include the policy on their platform because it was not feasible.

"We really are going to work towards it, because we think it's very important for students, but we didn't want to put it in our platform so that we promised something that we couldn't achieve."

In response to a question about improving Notre Dame's relationship with South Bend, Joseph said he and Ventilla would create a database of things to do and places to volunteer in the city. Ventilla said they would also expand quad markets and publicize transportation options.

"We should push South Bend as an opportunity for student engagement beyond just service, because there are so many new things popping up in South Bend," she said.

Ruelas said she and Ricketts would promote AroundCampus, a nationwide app that helps college students find nearby businesses.

"We also want to stress that South Bend is a community to be a part of," she said. "There are people to engage with, there are servicers and businesses that are great to frequent beyond the services on campus."

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## INSIDE COLUMN

## Conference debate

Ryan Klaus  
Sports Writer

How easy is this year's "Best Conference Debate"?

Though this debate has an inherent subjective quality to it, I like to believe that most years in college basketball there is a right answer (or, at the very least, an answer that narrows it down to two or three conferences) when discussing best college conferences.

So how about 2015? What conference (or conferences) seems to be deserving of the "nation's best conference" accolade? To most people that affiliate themselves at all with college basketball, all signs seem to indicate that — if there were a debate to be had this year — it would be between the Big 12 and ACC.

Conference debates can be very complicated when it comes to college basketball. No one will argue the importance of having really good teams at the top of the conference when it comes to this debate. How much importance do we give to those top teams though?

When pitting the Big 12 against the ACC, the value of this question is immense. In terms of teams that are serious contenders for the final four at this moment, the ACC has at least three (no way that neither Notre Dame or Louisville is) and the Big 12 has really only one at best (and that would probably be Kansas, who is less talented and experienced than when their team won one tournament game last year). Obviously, I'm not accommodating for tournament surprises — which seem to happen annually these days — but with regard to elite teams, the ACC has a very clear advantage over the Big 12.

Any Big 12 advocates will probably argue in terms of a comprehensive conference approach. Coming into the week, the Big 12 had six of their ten teams ranked in the AP poll and eight legitimate NCAA tournament contenders. While the ACC also entered the week with six teams in the AP poll, four of its 15 teams currently boast sub-.500 records. By comparison the Big 12 has zero teams with more overall losses than wins.

One would be foolish, though, to point to the ACC's inferior inferiority as sufficient evidence for Big 12 supremacy. The ACC not only has an incredibly potent top of its conference, but also has solid NCAA tournament contenders like Syracuse and North Carolina State that provide depth in its middle and lower half. Yes, the ACC has four undeniably bad teams, but no one will argue that TCU and Texas Tech are feared opponents in the smaller Big 12 either.

This year's "Best Conference Debate" in college basketball is not very difficult. The ACC is a pretty clear number 1.

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

## Bowling for asinine

Stephen Raab  
Let's Talk Smart

Like the rest of America, I tuned in on Sunday to watch the Super Bowl. I must admit my enthusiasm for the event was somewhat deflated (har har) by the NFL's sundry controversies. Nevertheless, I determined to do my patriotic (I'm sorry, the puns just happen) duty and enjoy the show while inhaling handful upon handful of Grab-and-Go popcorn.

During the commercials and quieter moments, I took the opportunity to revisit an old friend — Kurt Vonnegut's short story "Harrison Bergeron." In this masterpiece of a dystopia, government edict renders all people equal in every way. The strong and fast are weighted down with lead ballast, the beautiful are covered up with ugly masks and the intelligent have noises piped into their heads to break their concentration. When athletic genius Harrison Bergeron tries to rebel against the society that has scorned him, he is brutally suppressed.

The story remains to this day my favorite work of Vonnegut's, and it even got a TV movie in 1995 starring Sean "Rudy/Samwise Gamgee" Astin. Every time I read it, I feel the vague apprehension that comes with reading great dystopia. This time through the Big Game, with its most wonderful celebration of excellence — was a welcome antidote. Our beloved country is safe from the tyranny of conformity.

Or is it? We certainly celebrate astounding feats of physical ability — to a fault, at times. Yet we fail to show the same reverence for our top-tier intellects. The names of the great athletes persist through history, while the scientists and philosophers fade into obscurity. This is particularly strange, as any impartial observer (an alien, say) would view the thinkers' achievements as more worthy of commendation than those of the ball-players. As much as I love the sport of baseball, how can we esteem Babe Ruth's home runs more greatly than Norman Borlaug's genetic engineering, the savior of a billion lives?

To be fair, a lot of the disparity can be explained away by the fact that science, to the uninitiated, can look dull. Try as hard as we might, even something as primal and revolutionary as the splitting of the atom can't compete with the tension of a fourth-and-inches. (Perhaps if we got Katy Perry to perform midway through the Nobel announcements, flanked by men in helium atom

costumes, we'd make up some of the deficit.) But that still doesn't account for everything. There remains some undercurrent in our society that's made us suspicious of the intellectual elite.

Ah, there's that word "elite." I've always been puzzled as to why it's such a snarl word these days. If you want to undermine a scientist or economist's credibility, there's no need to formulate a counterargument — just accuse them of being an elite, and they're suddenly reduced to nothing!

For some reason, this doesn't work when the target is not part of the intelligentsia. Those who spent the run-up to the Super Bowl slandering Tom Brady and Russell Wilson never got around to calling them elites, even though such a designation unquestionably fit both of them. Whether it's the NCAA's Elite Eight or Pokémon's Elite Four, the suggestion of excellence doesn't seem to be a categorical insult. The only places where excessive competence is considered a liability appear to be science, the arts and of course, politics.

I've never seen people try to distance themselves more violently from their education than they do in politics. Candidates desperately attempt to out-"down-on-the-farm" their opponents, scrabbling for the populist vote. Consider the case of Jodi Ernst (R-IA), who gave the Republican response to the most recent State of the Union. Did her campaign advertise her as a high school valedictorian with a bachelor's in psychology? Of course not, that would be elitist. Instead, Ernst told tales of her childhood on her family's farm, castrating pigs.

This is particularly baffling given how many of America's founders would today be ostracized as elites. George Washington was a multimillionaire with an 8,000-acre farm. Thomas Jefferson was a polyglot who graduated from William and Mary and founded the University of Virginia. And don't even get me started on Benjamin Franklin!

The Harrison Bergerons of history built this country and this world. These so-called "elites" deserve our praise, not our scorn. Hopefully one day we'll live in a world where the brightest minds of the day are held in the same high regard as their athletic counterparts on the gridiron. And no one will point and sneer, "Elitists."

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

## EDITORIAL CARTOON



## Quarter-life crisis

**Erin Thomassen**

The Examined Life

New Year's Day sales were great. Being called "ma'am" was not.

The beaming employee in Macy's meant no harm. That made it worse. She thought she was being polite, that she might get a gold star from her manager. She didn't realize that when she was 'ma'aming' me, she was maiming me. I'm being a smidge dramatic, but I can't help it: I'm in the middle of a quarter-life crisis.

I used to be a Miss. I never minded hearing, "Miss Thomassen is an exquisite being" or, "Why can't you be more like Miss Thomassen?" (The sentence choice was arbitrary.)

I do not like hearing, "Can I help you, ma'am?" when I am trying to browse. I want to be left alone in peace to stroke the silky scarves. Later, I will need a changing room to try on five dresses and buy none of them. For now, I would like to be left alone to enjoy my thread therapy session.

One might ask: "Why did you, MISS Erin Thomassen, need therapy?" I will answer nicely because One called me Miss. Well, it was New Years Day, and I realized that in 178 days I would turn 20. I would enter the roaring 20s, the I'm-roaring-because-I'm-not-a-teenager-anymore 20s. I like being a teenager.

Twenty times four is 80. I can do math, yay. I can also compare this number to 78.7, the average U.S. life expectancy in 2011. Oh wait, I already passed the quarter mark. Pro: that excuses last year's moodiness. Con: that means I'm closer to death than I thought.

Maybe I will live past 80. Maybe I will die tomorrow. Maybe I have high cholesterol. Must purchase Cheerios. Cannot pick flavor. Darn the more than a dozen delicious varieties. Multigrain vs. ancient grain? Frosted vs. fruity? I JUST NEED NORMAL CHEERIOS NOW BEFORE MY CHOLESTEROL KILLS ME.

If I can't choose and crunch Cheerios in my mouth, I might as well crunch them with my feet. I was about to rip the boxes off the aisles and stomp on them when I remembered: General Mills made up high cholesterol to sell more Cheerios. I swiveled away from Buzz the Honeybee and snagged the box[es] of Krave instead. I pat myself on the back for my healthy decision, which is harder than it looks, especially while balancing three cereal boxes between my other arm and knee. Stop laughing at my short arms.

Speaking of arms, I should probably take this quarter-life crisis as a reminder to take better care of my body. It may have to last me a long time. It would be nice to have teeth left at 60 and my original hips at 65. As a teenager, I pound on the pavement day after day thinking my knees are indestructible. What's a little Holy Half? My joints are crying and I ignore them, shout at them and tell them to push through. I am a mean coach.

Changing my habits and respecting my body more would be smart. It would turn my fear of old age into a positive opportunity. Hmmm, what else could I do?

I could ponder death deeply and write about it. That's never been done before.

I could ask God to increase my faith in His promise of eternal life. I could stop worrying and put my energy toward being a good and faithful servant

instead. That would be a good thing to do.

I could realize that my fear of death implies that I love life. I love sipping mint tea and stretching to classical music. I love the downward dog and my dog at home. I love swinging until my butt hurts, reading until my eyes hurt.

I love sweet potatoes.

Heaven may not have sweet potatoes. I panic momentarily. Then I remember: heaven will have sweeter things to offer, like pure love in the form of God. That may trump an entire day's dose of Vitamin A.

The day I die will actually be an amazing day. "MISS Erin!" One may remind me, "It may not be a day since you may no longer be in the dimension of time." Thanks, One. I can always count on him to spot holes in my logic and socks.

Anyways, back to before One interrupted me: I am not looking forward to being laid in a coffin, but I suppose I am looking forward to heaven. Wait, what am I saying? Of course I'm looking forward to heaven.

I may not have mint tea, or even my oatmeal and shea butter hand lotion, but I will not need or miss it. The God-shaped hole in my heart will be full, and I will scoff at the days when I yearned for youth, to be mistaken for a Miss. "Aren't you better off now?" I will ask myself. "Yes ma'am," One will reply. I won't even smack One, for hitting isn't allowed in heaven. There will be greater joys.

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

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Three minutes to midnight

"The leaders of nations cannot become complacent, but rather should renew their commitment to disarmament and to the banishment of all nuclear weapons." — Pope John Paul II

Nuclear weapons.

We read about them in the news, scrawled next to ominous phrases like "mutually-assured destruction" or squeezed into headlines alongside the names of distant countries like Iran, Russia or North Korea. We hear their name spoken by crisp news anchors on television, by psychopathic villains in movies and sometimes by our own Notre Dame professors during political science lectures.

We interact with nuclear weapons on this somewhat detached level, and for the majority of us, that is where the interactions end. We turn off the television, leave the movie theater and exit the classroom, and we likely don't think about nuclear weapons for the rest of the day.

"Every man, woman and child lives under a nuclear sword of Damocles, hanging by the slenderest of threads, capable of being cut at any moment by accident or miscalculation or by madness." — President John F. Kennedy

In 1983, Soviet colonel Stanislav Petrov noticed five blips on his radar, which appeared to be American missiles. Fortunately, there was a protocol for such situations: launch a massive retaliatory strike. Petrov made the decision to ignore protocol, and quite probably saved hundreds of millions of lives. His heroism is the subject of "The Man Who Saved the World,"

a new film which will be shown as part of the Kroc Institute's annual ScreenPeace event this Saturday at 6:30 pm in DPAC (free, but ticketed). Other films include "Return to Homs, chronicling the struggles of a soccer player-turned-insurgent during the Syrian civil war, and "The Missing Picture," following an artist as she recreates history lost during the Khmer Rouge's tyranny in Cambodia.

"As a nuclear power — as the only nuclear power to have used a nuclear weapon — the United States has a moral responsibility to act." — President Barack Obama

As a student of physics, I believe science should be used for good, for the betterment of all mankind. Nuclear weapons are a perversion of science. Even if they deter conflict, they do so by keeping the entire world in a state of perpetual fear — or those who know enough to care. In America, we have the luxury to forget about this threat, but our brothers and sisters in India and Pakistan, for example, cannot. This is the difficulty in recognizing the risk posed by these weapons: the harm their existence causes is psychological, not physical. But as I know well, just because a problem is largely psychological, that does not make it any less legitimate. Nuclear weapons divert trillions of dollars worldwide from causes which could build up, rather than threaten, our human family.

"I think the world invented a nuclear weapon. I think the world owes it to itself to see if it can't invent something to make it irrelevant." — Leo McGarry (John Spencer)

Nuclear weapons are an economics problem. They are a physics problem, a medical problem and a psychology problem. They are a political problem and a theological problem, and above all, they are now our problem. But we are moving in the right direction — negotiations over Iran's nuclear program are progressing, and we need to help maintain that momentum. The nuclear question can render us cynical, doubtful of others' motives. But we as engaged students have the ability to work towards eliminating the nuclear question altogether, one step at a time.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." — Margaret Mead

**Brandon Roach**  
campus outreach coordinator

**Tess Rinaldo**  
president

**Brenna Gautam**  
social media coordinator

**Megan McCormick**  
advocacy coordinator

**Ralph Price**  
advocacy coordinator  
Global Zero: Notre Dame  
Feb. 1

# SUPERBOWL COMMERCIALS

By **KELLY McGARRY**  
Scene Writer

Based on the number of people who watch the Super Bowl, typically upwards of 100 million, there's no way that everyone tuning in is a football fan. I'm not ashamed to admit it, we're here for the commercials. This year, I planned all bathroom breaks and snack runs accordingly, to be sure I didn't miss a second of the real action. Which brands were on their commercial game this year?

## Super Stars

**Snickers:** In my opinion, Snickers made the best casting decisions. Their commercial starred Danny Trejo ("Sons of Anarchy") as Marsha Brady and Steve Buscemi ("Fargo") as Jan in a play on "The Brady Bunch."

**BMW:** Today show co-hosts Katie Couric and Bryant Gumbel were featured in a nostalgic clip from the 90s, asking "What is the internet?" Aside from featuring big names, this was a commercial that really made you think.

Other celebrity appearances included Kim K for T-mobile, Mindy Kaling for Nationwide, Snoop Dogg for Eat24 and Bryan Cranston ("Breaking Bad") for Esurance. Esurance also featured Lindsay Lohan — if you still consider her a celebrity.

## Sexy Sellers

Some of the least-sexy products imaginable really went

all-out in this category. Carl's Jr. advertised "All-Natural" with a model that preferred to go naked and Kate Upton served as poster girl for Game of War, a cheesy app store game. Here's to ironic advertising.

## Tearjerkers

**Nationwide:** Is there a penalty for pulling heartstrings? The ref should have thrown a flag at this depressing ad that featured child deaths by poison, a car crash and a falling TV. The fact that it's an insurance company isn't comforting, unless you're looking to cash out on the death of a child. To say the least, this dark commercial didn't exactly pump up my Super Bowl party.

**Coca-Cola:** This was another dark one, a modern twist on the 70s "I'd like to give the world a coke" ads, it referenced cyber-bullying. But alas, a splash of coke on the computer led to a happy ending. Cute?

**Budweiser:** No one could help but fall in love with the adorable pup who finds his way back home to his best bud.

**GoDaddy:** This leads me to the winner for most controversial, a parody of the adorable Budweiser commercial, the lovable puppy finds his way back home, only to find that his owner has used GoDaddy to sell him. The pre-release received such an inflammatory response that GoDaddy ended up pulling the commercial, so it never actually aired during the Super Bowl.

**Always:** Inspirational advertisements were a theme this year. Always aired a cut version of a video that went

viral earlier this year about what it means to run like a girl, throw like a girl and fight like a girl. A call to action to increase girls' self-esteems, the ad was appropriate for the feminine product.

Dove, Toyota, Nissan and Microsoft all fell into the emotional range, as well.

## Favorites

**Mophie:** You know a commercial is big-budget when it could pass as a movie trailer. In this clever ad that particularly resonates with Notre Dame, God's dead smartphone battery causes the apocalypse.

**Bud Light:** I may not be up for "anything," but I'd definitely be up for some real life Pac-Man. I may have enjoyed this one purely because it realized my wildest fantasy.

**Squarespace:** I present my personal favorite. Don't know what Squarespace is? Neither did I. I still really don't. What I do know is that they advertised Jeff Bridge's "Sleeping Tapes" (found at [dreamingwithjeff.com](http://dreamingwithjeff.com)). Anyone offering me to be lulled to sleep by the soothing voice of "The Dude" is a friend of mine.

I think the public is past our screaming goat phase, and they don't really pass for a commercial. However, I did enjoy clever, hilarious advertising by Avocados from Mexico portraying the first draft ever, Terry Crews's Old Spice and a cute simple ad from Doritos.

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# GROUNDHOG DAY: A HISTORY

By **HANNAH ECKSTEIN**  
Scene Writer

With Sunday's Super Bowl excitement, it was easy to forget that Groundhog Day fell on Monday. Unfortunately, the shadow of last night's game wasn't the only shadow that Punxsutawney Phil faced this week.

Early Monday morning, thousands gathered in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, to get a look at the furry meteorologist and see his predictions for the next six weeks' forecast.

Around 7:25 a.m., Phil awoke to thousands of spectators eagerly waiting his forecast. His reaction? Avoid the thousands of onlookers and sub-zero temperatures to head back to bed. This decision would seem rational with or without the presence of a shadow. Whether influenced by his shadow or not, Phil's decision was clear — six more weeks of

winter.

If you're currently in denial at the thought of six more weeks of snow and thinking "Where did this crazy tradition come from? Who let the groundhog decide?" you're not alone. However, with an 80 percent accuracy rating according to AccuWeather and a long history of prognosticating, there is evidence that Phil might be more than just a bashful, lazy groundhog.

The Groundhog Day tradition stems from a Germanic tradition called Candlemas. In this Germanic tradition, a hedgehog would predict the weather for the coming months. However, according to National Geographic, when German immigrants came to Pennsylvania, they were unable to find hedgehogs and opted for the next best thing — groundhogs.

The timing of Candlemas also favored using a groundhog to predict the weather. According to Nat

Geo, groundhogs typically emerge from hibernation during February to look for mates in the spring. After the males and females have paired off, they return to hibernation for a few more weeks.

Since this hibernation hiatus occurs at the beginning of February, it is theorized that the Pennsylvania Dutch saw many groundhogs and chose them as the hedgehog replacement.

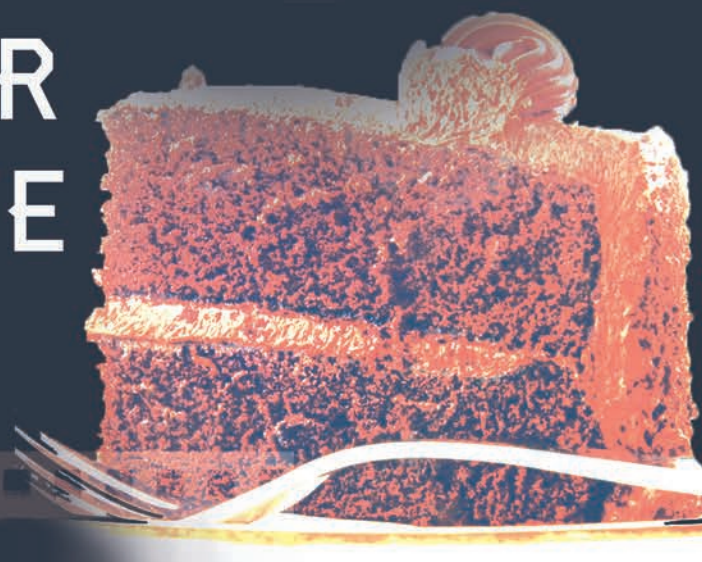
Despite the uncertainty behind the history of Groundhog Day, Phil's decision seems to be indisputable, at least to those in Punxsutawney. Whether you believe that Phil really saw his shadow, was simply looking for a lady groundhog or was just avoiding all those eager onlookers, something made him jump back into his climate-controlled, man-made burrow. And you know what that means, six more weeks of winter. Thanks a lot Phil.

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## DOCUMENTARIES

## TAKE THE CAKE FOR EACH SLICE OF LIFE



By **KELLY KONYA and REBECCA O'NEIL**  
Scene Writers

What is it about documentaries that make them so appealing?

Is it our desire as human beings to want the truth and only the truth?

When truth is transmogrified by directorial choices, artistic intent and finite filming opportunities, does the “production” of a film blur its accuracy, its “whole story”?

The 26th annual Notre Dame Student Film Festival, hosted in DeBartolo Performing Arts Center this past weekend, gave visual evidence of this desire for truth. The festival’s highest quality films came from a genre typically known for being solely informational, perhaps to the point of being dry: documentaries.

The genre shed its Dateline-esque recipe long ago with films like “March of the Penguins” and “Super Size Me.” A documentary’s selected scenes, respective transitions (assisted in some cases by Morgan Freeman) and the soundtrack take the chaos of the everyday and hone in on a message. Documentaries feed into our problematic voyeuristic tendencies while simultaneously informing or entertaining us with issues common to the collective consciousness of a variety of viewers.

Somehow, documentaries seem to come off to viewers as “more important.” It’s as though their instructional value or conjuration of empathy are inherently more seductive and persuasive than an imagined fictional film.

At this year’s festival, for instance, there were three documentaries that outshone the rest. With three very different subjects — a woman with ALS, a nine-year-old cross-country cyclist and a local after-school program — the films managed to incite tears of compassion, grief and laughter. The authenticity portrayed by the directors and experienced by the audience was a far cry from the expected emotions of horror or cursory intrigue.

As we watched “Much Ado After School,” a documentary by Brian Lach and Nicole Sganga on the Robinson Community Learning Center’s Shakespeare Program and the recipient of this year’s Audience Choice Award, a friend leaned over and said, “This is so realistic.”

We couldn’t help but fall into a quiet cackle-fit, lingering in our ill-timed brouhaha to the dismay of those seated around us.

“That’s the thing, it’s a documentary. It’s real,” I (Rebecca) whispered in reply once our giggling subsided.

The film is non-fiction. It’s description in the festival’s pamphlet read: “An ambitious afterschool program brings out the inner Bard in a South Bend group of students.”

Say South Bend wasn’t where we went to school, say it was as arbitrary as Springfield in *The Simpsons*. Say the story of South Bend native Brian LeBron-Williams, who he is as a person, was entirely made-up.

Yet, Brian exists in the same world we do. Not only does he exist, but he and his beloved supporters and

fans at the Robinson Center are only two blocks away from the southern tip of Notre Dame’s campus.

The directors of the documentary, therefore, manipulated the story to achieve an impressive universality where viewers, like our friend, cannot discern the theoretical hero from the tangible one right down the road. The film could’ve taken place anywhere, but can a program in South Bend faithfully stand-in for everywhere? And should it?

“Eat Ride Sleep,” directed and produced by Mikey Nichols and Lauren Josephson, was another outstanding favorite of the festival. The documentary’s sequence of shots portrayed 9-year old cross-country biker CJ Burford on the road. However, instead of only including the Channel 4 news interviews that were broadcast nationwide, the directors chose to also reveal CJ as an everyday hero — hilarious and imperfectly perfect. The film flashes between actual news coverage of CJ, the motivated cyclist inspired by God, and CJ as “a real boy,” who has not reached double digits and must be home-schooled during breaks.

Coverage of his good-natured family, who followed behind CJ in a rented RV, was limited on Channel 4’s reports, but the documentary’s inclusion of familial interactions enriched the experience.

Another hilarious detail left out from local news reports was CJ’s journal he kept throughout the duration of his trip, from which his mother read his angst aloud. CJ sat coyly as she read forth a lot of “I hate —”s followed by parental units or anything that required hard work except biking. “I love biking.” It was clear what made him happy.

He also wrote in the same journal that his mom is awesome, perhaps the coolest ever. “Well, which is it?” Mrs. Burford asked. “A mix,” CJ answered. DPAC’s audience at Friday night’s 6:30 showing erupted.

It’s this combination of classic journalism and slice-of-life hilarities that make CJ’s story all the more memorable. And it’s relatability that make this young boy a hero and make him matter — he’s just a kid, but he’s also larger-than-life. Documentaries can make humans into super-humans. But does it matter that the films only feature one aspect of a subject? Who will CJ be in 10 years?

“Curry & Erin,” moved in a very different direction. The film’s directors, Eric O’Donnell and Maureen Gavin, traveled to Nashville to tell the story of artist and ALS patient Erin Brady Worsham. While there, the story tellers changed their angle mid-trip. Erin’s husband, Curry, was a bass singer in the “Indian River Boys” quartet, even opening for Joan Rivers. Now, he’s spent the last 20 years taking care of his wife. The two had been married 20 years before Erin was diagnosed with the debilitating disease.

The documentary’s transitions were paired with light music. Erin told the story (with subtitles) of how her husband had “sacrificed” so much for her. She wondered aloud in a voice much like Stephen Hawking’s computerized utters how she could ever repay him except by

loving him.

As she answers deeper and deeper questions about her relationship with Curry, he remains out of the picture. The interviewer poses a question, she answers and then the following scene Curry asks Erin where he should place the roses in their garden. “Next to the peonies? No? Oh, over there,” when Erin, of course, cannot gesticulate in any direction. His love, and ability to understand, is transcending and heroic.

Documentaries like these are the ones that have lasting effects on the human spirit. They are not the story of Kate Hudson-Winslet-Upton and Ryan Gosling-Reynolds-Pitt, pre-scripted and with a mandated happy-ending.

In fact, last year’s film festival featured quite the opposite.

“The Suicide Disease” produced by now-alums Katie Mattie, Vincent Moore and William Neal, wrecked our souls. Watching the story of former ND chief-of-staff Frances Shavers’ struggle with Trigeminal Neuralgia was overwhelming. It was one of those stories that stays with you, resting in your back pocket to grab when discussing life-altering films or inspirational medical battles. We bring it up from time to time, and it was no surprise when the film won honors at L.A.’s Sunset Film Festival.

It can’t be forgotten that documentaries can perform under the guise of truth, fitting into a manufactured and thereby fictive category just like any other film. But the stories of Erin and Curry, of CJ and family, of Brian from the Robinson Center are real. The messages told in these films are not as explicit as “Super Size Me’s” big reveal: “McDonalds makes you fat,” “Americans are obese,” etc. Documentaries become art when you are allowed to deduce what you will from the story. The film is not just informational, it’s thought provoking and emotion evoking and therefore, far more powerful than the rom-coms and horror flicks that dominate the box office today.

After all, any story that is retold is altered from its original form.

As writers for *The Observer*, we are considered college journalists. But journalism in itself has become a muddled, carefully constructed form of reportage. As our hero Hunter S. Thompson once said, “absolute truth is a very rare and dangerous commodity in the context of professional journalism.”

Truth does not equal accuracy, and confronting this reality can leave one feeling unfairly manipulated or mousetrapped.

Just like journalism, documentaries — defined by the OED as “factual” and “realistic” — are wielded by their producers to elicit a specific response from viewers. The achievement of a good documentary is its memorable story, which can only be attributed to its good storyteller.

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## SPORTS AUTHORITY

# Making sense of wide-open NBA

**Marek Mazurek**  
Sports Writer

Don't look now, but this is the most wide open year the NBA has had in a long time. Gone are the days when LeBron and the Heat were all but guaranteed to make the Finals and the only ones to stop them were the Thunder or the Spurs. LeBron's Cavaliers are not far over .500, Father Time continues to ravage the Spurs lineup and Oklahoma City is currently out of the playoff picture.

As I write this column, the Atlanta Hawks, of all teams, have the NBA's best record and the Golden State Warriors, with first-year coach Steve Kerr, lead the Western Conference by three games. With many preseason favorites struggling, here are my predictions for some of the NBA's more interesting teams.

## Atlanta Hawks

The Hawks are currently first in the Eastern Conference, but how far will they go in the playoffs? The Hawks are lacking in quality playoff experience and have an unproven head coach in Mike Budenholzer. They have a good one-two punch inside with Paul Millsap and Al Horford and the NBA's best 3-point shooter in Kyle Korver. The Hawks' bench in solid and they play team basketball better than anyone in the league. Yet will all that be good enough against the depth and playoff experience of teams like Chicago or Cleveland? I say no — the Hawks will only make it to the second round of the playoffs.

## Toronto Raptors

The Raptors are currently seven games behind the Hawks in the East, and their playoff fate will be closely linked to their seed. If they fall any further, they will have to play either Chicago, Washington or Cleveland in the first round of the playoffs and a victory will be far from a given. Therefore, Toronto's top priority for the rest of the season needs to be to maintain its second seed. I like point guard Kyle Lowry's toughness and Jonas Valanciunas gives them a reliable post threat, but against more complete teams, I think they will struggle.

## Chicago Bulls

The Bulls came into the season as a favorite to make it to the Eastern Conference finals. Halfway through the year, that outcome is still highly probable. Yes, the Bulls are currently fourth in the conference behind Atlanta, Toronto and Washington, but they are only three games behind Toronto. Additionally, the Bulls are the only contender in the East with meaningful playoff experience. The core of

Chicago's roster has been to the Eastern Conference finals and Pau Gasol won championships with the Lakers. Finally, the Bulls have the best coach in the East in Tom Thibodeau. Thibodeau knows how to get the most from his players and win long playoff series, whereas the rest of the coaches in the East still need to figure that out.

## Cleveland Cavaliers

Ah, LeBron. The Cavs have been playing well since King James came back from his injury, and they will be a force to be reckoned with in the playoffs. Simply put, Cleveland will be fine — it has the best player on the planet and that alone guarantees the Cavs the second round. Once they are in the second round, their fate depends largely on who they play. Chicago's tall, deep front court will give them trouble, but they should be able to win a hard-fought series against Washington, Toronto or Atlanta. This season will make or break LeBron's decision to leave Cleveland (again) or not.

## Golden State Warriors

The Warriors are currently leading the Western Conference, and it seems likely they will represent the West in the NBA finals. The Warriors have too much talent in Stephen Curry, Klay Thompson and Andrew Bogut to lose to anyone else. The Spurs are too old, the Thunder aren't healthy and Memphis hasn't improved its lineup enough to be a serious contender in my book. The only problem I see with the Warriors is that they rely heavily on the fast break. In the playoffs, breakaways are less common and Golden State could be beaten in a seven-game series if it is forced to play half-court offense.

## Memphis Grizzlies

The only other team in the West to watch is Memphis. The Grizzlies are currently only three games behind the Warriors, and if they grab home-court advantage, things could get interesting. Memphis has arguably the best front court in the NBA with Zach Randolph and Marc Gasol as well as the core of the team that went to the Western Conference finals two years ago. Memphis' toughness could cause Golden State problems should the squads face each other in the playoffs, and though Steve Kerr has done a great job for Golden State, it is not certain that he will continue to perform at a high level in the playoffs. Watch out for Memphis.

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

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

## NFL

# Boston postpones Super Bowl parade after snow

## Associated Press

BOSTON — The Super Bowl celebration for New Englanders and their beloved Patriots will have to wait another day as Boston continues to get battered by heavy snow.

Mayor Marty Walsh said the city will postpone a planned victory parade through downtown until Wednesday.

He said the city and team both agreed to hold off on the parade because of Monday's snowstorm, which dumped more than a foot of fresh snow in the Boston area, making commutes treacherous.

"We thank everyone for their flexibility and patience during the planning of this parade and we look forward to celebrating with Patriots fans during better weather on Wednesday," Walsh said in a joint statement with the team.

The city had announced earlier that the parade would take place Tuesday. But with weather continuing to worsen, Boston public schools preemptively canceled Tuesday classes, the fifth snow day in the past week. A decision to cancel the parade followed shortly after.

Boston has seen a record 34.2 inches of snow over seven days, according to the National Weather Service. The previous seven-day record was 31.2 inches in January 1996.

Following their 28-24 victory over the defending champion Seattle Seahawks in Arizona, the Patriots flew back to Massachusetts as scores of flights in and out of Boston's Logan International Airport were canceled or delayed Monday.

The latest snowstorm didn't stop New Englanders from

basking in the glow of their team's fourth Super Bowl victory.

Todd Penney, of Coventry, Connecticut, was still recovering from a heady night of celebrating as he prepared for work Monday morning as a town engineer.

"My voice is very hoarse from screaming at the TV. I was all in last night," he said. "It will be a lot more fun for me to snow-blow this morning after the Patriots' win than if they would have lost, that's for sure."

Other fans recounted tense moments from the rollercoaster victory.

"It was an exciting game, a nail-biter to the end. You don't get to see games like that very often," said George Vemis, as he cleared the sidewalk in front of his variety store in Whitman, south of Boston.

Cheryl Happeny, a business analyst from Whitman, said the victory is especially satisfying because so many people outside of New England have been calling the team cheaters since the scandal over underinflated footballs in the Patriots' winning game over the Indianapolis Colts erupted.

"It was a sweet victory," she said. "I don't think it will quiet the critics. I'm waiting for it to heat up again. Everyone hates the Patriots because we're breaking so many records. ...We're like the Yankees of the NFL."

At the Modell's Sporting Goods in Cambridge, devoted fans trickled in Monday morning as thick fluffy clumps of snow fell, grabbing commemorative T-shirts and hats by the armful.

"It's an early Valentine's gift. I'm treating," said Karen Rudgis of Cambridge, who was

buying shirts for her husband and two grown children.

Mike Kelley, who works next door at Staples, was buying T-shirts and hats for his daughter, brother-in-law and himself. "It's an expensive day today," he said. "I've already spent \$100, and I'm already planning to spend \$100 more."

Modell's employees said the biggest sellers so far were the white Super Bowl champion baseball caps the team wore Sunday for the locker room celebration.

"It'd be a lot different if there wasn't a blizzard right now. Later tonight, I would think, it would get busy," said Jennifer Walcott, who had been among a number of staffers brought in from the store's Hamden, Connecticut, location to help open up the Cambridge store promptly at 6 a.m. Monday.

From Boston to western Massachusetts, police reported that Patriots fans celebrated raucously but without mayhem late Sunday and into Monday.

In Boston, where schools were closed but subways were running Monday, Walsh held court in City Hall, reflecting on Sunday's win and sketching out the upcoming celebration.

The championship parade, now scheduled to start at 11 a.m. Wednesday, will begin at the Hynes Convention Center. A fleet of 25 amphibious "duck boats" resembling those used during World War II — a staple of championship parades in Boston — will carry the team along Boylston Street, past the Common and onto City Hall.

"We'll make sure the duck boats get through the snow," Walsh said. "We'll probably have plows in front of them, behind them, beside them, next to them, under them."

## NFL

# Colts sign Duron Carter, son of Hall of Fame WR

## Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The Colts have made their first big offseason splash, signing former CFL receiver Duron Carter.

Terms of the deal were not announced Monday, but the 6-foot-5, 205-pound receiver was considered one of

the top talents coming out of Canada this year. He is the son of Hall of Fame receiver Cris Carter.

With veterans Reggie Wayne and Hakeem Nicks both set to become free agents next month, Indianapolis needed to reinforce its receiving corps. Adding Carter could help.

He started his college career at Ohio State, then went to a junior college before transferring to Alabama in 2011 and Florida Atlantic in 2012. In two seasons with Montreal in the CFL, Carter had 124 receptions, 1,939 yards and 12 touchdowns. He was selected a CFL All-Star in 2014.

CLASSIFIEDS

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NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL | VIRGINIA 75, NORTH CAROLINA 64

## Cavaliers make second-half surge to beat Tar Heels

Associated Press

CHAPEL HILL, North Carolina — Malcolm Brogdon scored 17 points and No. 3 Virginia's defense locked down in the second half to beat No. 12 North Carolina 75-64 on Monday night.

Justin Anderson added 16 for the Cavaliers (20-1, 8-1 Atlantic Coast Conference), who responded to their first loss of the season by blowing open a tight game at halftime for an impressive road win.

Coming off Saturday's loss to Duke in one of the program's biggest home games in years, Virginia erased a

33-32 halftime deficit by shooting 50 percent while holding the Tar Heels (17-6, 7-3) completely in check to build an 18-point lead and improve to 8-0 in true road games this year.

After shooting 52 percent in the first half, UNC went just 11-for-29 (38 percent) after halftime while pre-season ACC player of the year Marcus Paige struggled for open looks against Brogdon's constant defensive harassment.

Paige finished with 15 on 5-for-10 shooting, though a good chunk of that production came after Virginia had built its big lead and UNC was in desperation-comeback

mode late.

Brice Johnson added 14 points for UNC, but fellow starter J.P. Tokoto managed just one point on 0-for-3 shooting.

Worse for the Tar Heels, they were unable to speed up the confident Cavaliers and turn it into an open-court game. UNC managed just two fast-break points, the lone basket not coming until the 1:53 mark of the game.

If there were any questions about how Virginia would respond after the Duke loss, this was a convincing answer that the Cavaliers aren't easily shaken as they go for a second straight ACC title.

NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL | DUKE 66, LOUISVILLE 58

## Stevens leads Duke in upset over Louisville

Associated Press

DURHAM, North Carolina — Azura Stevens scored 17 points and No. 15 Duke beat eighth-ranked Louisville 66-58 on Monday night.

Elizabeth Williams had 11 points and blocked five shots, while Oderah Chidom added 14 points to help the Blue Devils (16-6, 7-2 Atlantic Coast Conference) win their third straight.

Rebecca Greenwell added 13 points with three 3-pointers in the second half.

The Blue Devils overcame 22 turnovers by shooting 47 percent,

forcing the Cardinals (19-3, 7-2) into two prolonged shooting droughts, and holding a 43-35 rebounding advantage.

They earned their second victory over a top-10 opponent after previously beating then-No. 8 Kentucky 89-68 on Dec. 21.

Sara Hammond scored 17 points and Mariya Moore had 14 for the Cardinals, who shot 35 percent.

Duke never trailed and went up by 17 before Louisville chipped away at that lead, pulling to 56-49 on Bria Smith's layup with about 4 minutes to play. The Cardinals didn't score on any of their next

seven possessions before Jude Schimmel's 3 made it 62-52 with 27.7 seconds remaining.

Schimmel, who added another 3 with 2 seconds left, finished with 11 points.

Ka'lia Johnson scored 11 points for Duke, which used a 19-4 run that started in the first half and ended early in the second to push its lead well into double figures.

Stevens started it with consecutive layups, Greenwell hit two 3s early in the second half and Williams closed the burst with five straight points, capped by a layup that made it 40-23 with just under 15 minutes left.

NBA | PELICANS 115, HAWKS 100; CAVALIERS 97, 76ERS 84

## Pelicans end Hawks' win streak

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — The Atlanta Hawks' franchise-record 19-game winning streak was snapped Monday night in a 115-100 loss to the New Orleans Pelicans.

Anthony Davis had 29 points and 13 rebounds to help New Orleans win for the sixth time in seven games, a stint which includes victories over several contending squads including Dallas and the Los Angeles Clippers.

Jeff Teague scored 21 for Atlanta, but the Hawks fell behind by double digits in the first quarter and failed to even tie it.

Eric Gordon scored 20 points for New Orleans, while Tyreke Evans scored 15 points and tied a season high with 12 assists for the fourth time in five games.

Paul Millsap had 15 points and Kyle Korver 12 for the Hawks, who made only seven of 22 3-point attempts.

### Cavaliers 97, 76ers 84

CLEVELAND — Kyrie Irving scored 24 points, LeBron James added 18 points and 11 assists, and the Cleveland Cavaliers staggered to their 11th straight win, 97-84 over the Philadelphia 76ers on Monday night.

The winning streak is Cleveland's longest since reeling off 13 in a row — a franchise record — in 2010, the last season of James' first

stint with the club. The Cavs had trouble putting away the young Sixers, who did all they could to stay close but don't have the firepower to keep up with Irving, James and one of the NBA's hottest teams.

Atlanta entered the week on a 19-game win streak.

Kevin Love added 15 rebounds and Matthew Dellavedova made three clutch 3-pointers in the fourth quarter to help the Cavs hold on.

Jerami Grant and Robert Covington scored 18 apiece for the Sixers, who beat the Cavs last month when Cleveland was in disarray.

The Cavs' biggest opponent may have been boredom as they played listlessly for long stretches. Cleveland built a 20-point lead in the third quarter, but the Sixers wouldn't go away, outscoring the Cavs 26-10 to close the period and getting a quick bucket in the fourth to pull to 69-67.

Irving briefly restored order with a pair of 3-pointers to put the Cavs ahead by 10, but the Sixers rallied again and closed to 80-77 on Covington's 3.

Irving, selected the Eastern Conference player of the week earlier in the day, then scored six of Cleveland's next eight points and Dellavedova dropped his second 3 of the period, giving the Cavs a 91-83 lead with 2:36 left. His final 3 made it 96-83, ending any thoughts of a Philadelphia upset.

Things have changed dramatically for the Cavs since the last time they faced the Sixers.

On Jan. 5, Cleveland lost at Philadelphia without Irving and James, who were both out with injuries. The Sixers won 95-92, getting their first home victory, and that night the Cavs traded Dion Waiters to Oklahoma City while getting both J.R. Smith and Iman Shumpert from the New York Knicks.

The Cavs seemed disinterested throughout the first half. They were off target on several lob passes and out of sync following a tough week in which they played four games in five nights.

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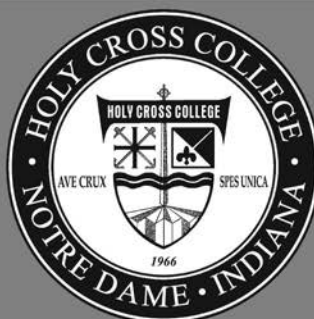
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## WOMEN'S SWIMMING | SHAMROCK INVITATIONAL

# Irish set five pool records on Senior Day

By **DANIEL O'BOYLE**  
Sports Writer

Notre Dame recorded 17 wins and broke five pool records at Rolfs Aquatic Center Friday and Saturday, as the Irish conquered both Incarnate Word and Iowa in the Shamrock Invitational.

The Irish (6-9) defeated the Cardinals by a score of 292-62 and the Hawkeyes, 282.5-87.5, while the team's eight seniors were also honored for Senior Day.

Senior All-American Emma Reaney lowered her own pool records in the 200-yard individual medley and the 200-yard breaststroke, while junior Catherine Galletti broke the pool record in the 100-yard butterfly. Reaney and Galletti also teamed up with sophomore Catherine Mulquin and senior Courtney White to break the pool record in both the 200-yard

and 400-yard medley relays. The Irish added wins in 12 other events, including two diving victories for senior Allison Casareto and wins in the 200-yard, 400-yard and 800-yard freestyle relays.

Irish interim coach Tim Welsh said the team's performance was not at all surprising to him.

"We had a great meet from start to finish," Welsh said. "The intensity and the focus all came from within, so it was all the team's preparation, their excitement, their enthusiasm. I think that the credit for how well they swam all goes to them. They did a great job of preparing and a great job of being ready to go. I'm really proud of them this weekend."

Welsh also said the record-breaking times were a highlight of the event.

"This pool is thirty years old, so if you set a pool record



WEI LIN | The Observer

**Irish senior Emma Reaney comes up for air in the breaststroke during Notre Dame's 170-128 dual meet loss to Purdue on Nov. 1. Reaney won two individual races and one relay at the meet.**

in this pool, that covers a lot of races," Welsh said.

The other wins for the

Irish went to Mulquin in the 50-yard and 100-yard freestyle, Reaney in the 100-yard breaststroke, Galletti in the 100-yard backstroke, Whyte in the 200-yard butterfly, sophomore Elizabeth House in the 200-yard freestyle and sophomore Katie Miller in the 200-yard backstroke. The Irish also claimed 11 NCAA 'B' cut times — four from Reaney, two from Mulquin and Galletti and one each from Whyte, senior Bridget Casey and freshman Sherri McIntee.

A 'B' cut time does not automatically qualify a swimmer for the NCAA championship, but it makes them eligible for invitational.

Welsh said he was especially impressed by the performances of the senior class, which was honored Saturday of the invitational.

"Senior Day always adds excitement," Welsh said. "If you look at the seniors in particular, they swam well, and a lot of time as they approach the end of their career, seniors want to make sure they give it everything they've got

and I think we saw that this weekend.

"A lot of parents were here, and we love it when parents come. That always adds more excitement. I think the whole ambience of the meet with all the parents really adds to everyone's enthusiasm."

Welsh said that, despite the team's success, there is still room for improvement in every event before the conference championships later this month, where the Irish will face four ranked squads, including No. 5 North Carolina, No. 9 Virginia, No. 12 North Carolina State and No. 18 Louisville.

"We want to improve at the ACC championship," Welsh said. "This coming weekend is our last chance to prep for the conference meet. I think we want to be faster at every event than we were this weekend."

The Irish next take to the pool Saturday at noon, when they face Cleveland State at Rolfs Aquatic Center.

**Contact Daniel O'Boyle at [doboye1@nd.edu](mailto:doboye1@nd.edu)**



KATIE MILLER | The Observer

**Irish sophomore Katie Miller competes in the backstroke during Notre Dame's 170-128 loss to Purdue on Nov. 1 at Rolfs Aquatic Center. Miller finished in the top five of three races at the meet.**

## W Tennis

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

were close," Gleason said. "I think getting the doubles point was huge for us because Michigan has a very strong doubles lineup."

Three singles matches went to a third set, and two sets went all the way to a tiebreaker.

The road ahead does not get any easier for the Irish, as they welcome No. 8 Stanford on Friday. The Cardinal are the second of three top-35 matchups for Notre Dame in a row.

"This week, it will be important for us to focus on

the positives from the match with Michigan," Gleason said. "Stanford is an incredible team and I think we're all really excited that we get the opportunity to play them, at home especially.

"One advantage we have over Stanford this weekend is that we're playing indoors. On Friday it will be important to capitalize on the quickness of our indoor courts at the Eck."

Notre Dame will welcome Stanford to Eck Tennis Pavilion at 5 p.m. Friday, as it looks to rebound in one of its final matches before ACC play starts later this month.

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



ROSIE BIEHL | The Observer

**Irish junior Julie Vrabel prepares to unleash a shot during the Notre Dame Invitational on Sept. 26. Vrabel went 1-1 in doubles play on the day and lost her only singles match.**



EMILY MCCONVILLE | The Observer

Irish senior guard Madison Cable makes her way up the court during Notre Dame's 92-63 win over Wake Forest on Sunday. Cable set a career-high in steals during the game, with six.



EMILY MCCONVILLE | The Observer

Notre Dame senior guard Madison Cable dribbles down the court against Wake Forest on Sunday at the Purcell Pavilion. She led the team in 3-point field goals going 3-3 beyond the arc.

## W Bball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

sent the Irish on a 27-10 run.

McGraw opened her post-game press conference talking about Cable's game, calling it "phenomenal" and noting in particular her defensive play.

For Cable, it was just another example of her being ready for anything.

"It's the same thing every game, they want me to go in and give some energy and be aggressive and help the team offensively and defensively, whatever I have to do," Cable said Sunday.

Cable missed her freshman season due to stress fractures in both her feet. She returned her sophomore season to play in 34 games, starting three. As a junior she played in 37 games and posted her best season averages yet, 5.5 points and 3.4 rebounds per game.

This season, Cable has played in every one of Notre Dame's 23 games and started five. She is averaging 20 minutes off the bench per game, making her one of the leading Irish reserves. She also has totaled a team-best 39 steals and has scored 5.9

points per game.

Cable has helped spearhead a potent bench that outscored Wake Forest's reserves, 34-7, on Sunday and outmatched Boston College's bench Jan. 11, 45-13.

Along with her goofy demeanor, Cable seriously knows how to lead, Loyd said. Cable, guard Whitney Holloway and forward Markisha Wright are Notre Dame's only seniors. They have been around for three Final Four appearances and two shots at the national championship game. "Well, we won, so I'm happy," Cable said.

"Being a senior, [Cable] understands what it takes to go to a Final Four," Loyd said. "When she has to say stuff, she will, but she's still goofy. She knows how to say something to everyone in the right way."

When asked how she felt about her strong individual performance against Wake Forest, Cable had just one thing to say.

"Well, we won, so I'm happy," Cable said.

Contact Samantha Zuba at [szuba@nd.edu](mailto:szuba@nd.edu)



EMILY MCCONVILLE | The Observer

Irish senior guard Madison Cable goes up for a layup during Notre Dame's 92-63 win over Wake Forest on Sunday at Purcell Pavilion.

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## M Tennis

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

win, the Irish gained the a one-point lead heading into the No. 1 and No. 2 singles matches. The clinching win came from junior Quentin Monaghan in the No. 1 slot, as he bounced back after losing the second set on a tiebreaker to secure the victory for the Irish.

"All of the guys competed as well as they possibly could considering the intense environment, and we're all really proud of the effort," Sachire said. "We've done a good job winning the double point. It's definitely a strength of the team. It's a big momentum and energy boost not only for the crowd, but also the team, so the value of winning double points extends far beyond the extra point."

After the Irish had already taken the overall win, No. 82 Hagar lost to the Wildcats' No. 108 Kircheimer at the No. 2 singles slot.

Many of the recent Irish matches have been decided by razor-thin margins, with all three of their wins coming by a 4-3 score. That, combined with some of their struggles in the singles round, means the team needs to practice performing under pressure in extremely decisive matches, Sachire said.

"We need to get more consistent with [our] level of play in the big moment," Sachire said. "This season we've had plenty of chances to step up and assert ourselves and it hasn't always worked out. We need to have confidence and trust in our ability to dictate and control play in crucial moments of the match. It's all about being in the right mindset."

Moving forward, the Irish will take on Ball State on Sunday at 10 a.m. at Eck Tennis Pavilion.

Contact Christine Mayuga at [cmayug@nd.edu](mailto:cmayug@nd.edu)



MICHAEL YU | The Observer

**Irish junior Eric Schnurrenberger returns a volley during Notre Dame's 4-3 win over Oklahoma State on Jan. 24 at Eck Tennis Pavilion. Schnurrenberger finished his first year of action as a sophomore with a 25-17 singles record and a 7-13 doubles mark.**

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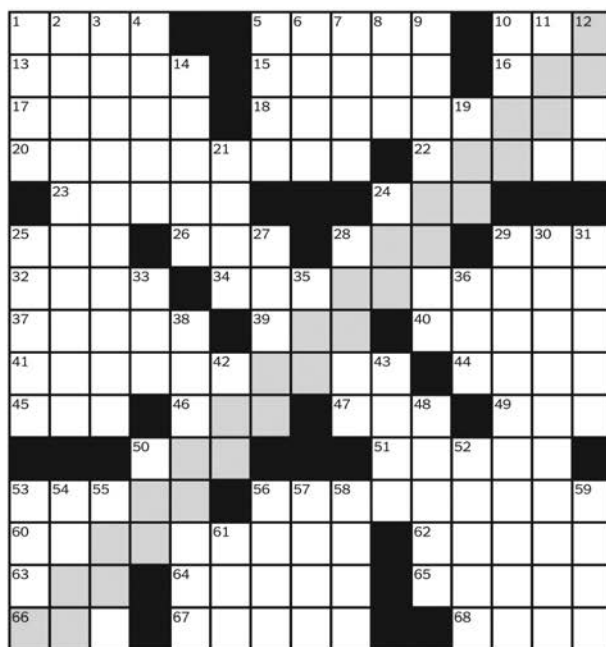
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CROSSWORD | WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- 1 Rock legend Jimmy
  - 5 In the midst of
  - 10 Ruckus
  - 13 Extract with a solvent
  - 15 Manuscript sheet
  - 16 One of the Manning brothers
  - 17 Wanted poster word
  - 18 Longtime "Nightline" host
  - 20 "Stop fretting over that"
  - 22 Govt. divisions
  - 23 Bravery
  - 24 Woodworking tool
  - 25 Lancelot's title
  - 26 Long-running PBS film showcase
  - 28 Pub pour
  - 29 Lively dance
  - 32 "Qué \_\_\_?"
  - 34 Succeed, but just barely
  - 37 Coral island
  - 39 Number of prime ministers on Downing Street?
  - 40 Lindsay of "Mean Girls"
  - 41 Signs of deep sleep on an electroencephalogram
  - 44 Growl
  - 45 Old name for Tokyo
  - 46 Any ship
  - 47 Gradually slowing, in mus.
  - 49 Letters after a long-ago date
  - 50 \_\_\_-Aztec language
  - 51 Snacks with shells
  - 53 Cornered, as a wild animal
  - 56 Cotillion V.I.P.
  - 60 Henrik Ibsen, for one
  - 62 Workout reminders
  - 63 Red sushi fish
  - 64 Prince Valiant's wife
  - 65 Word after running or jump
  - 66 Sault \_\_\_ Marie
  - 67 Martini's partner in wines
  - 68 "\_\_\_ expert, but ..."

- Down**
- 1 Ring, as church bells
  - 2 Eased
  - 3 Standout performance for 1-Across
  - 4 Amazon transactions, e.g.
  - 5 Old Spice alternative
  - 6 Homer's hangout on "The Simpsons"
  - 7 88 or 98, carwise
  - 8 Suffix with neat or beat
  - 9 Bargain hunter's goal
  - 10 Johnny who played Sweeney Todd
  - 11 Abba's "\_\_\_ the Music Speak"
  - 12 Rocker Lofgren
  - 14 Legally bar
  - 19 Candy with a collectible dispenser
  - 21 Ship's front
  - 24 Prince \_\_\_ Khan
  - 25 Jack that's one-eyed and lacks a heart
  - 27 Curriculum \_\_\_



Puzzle by Andrew Reynolds

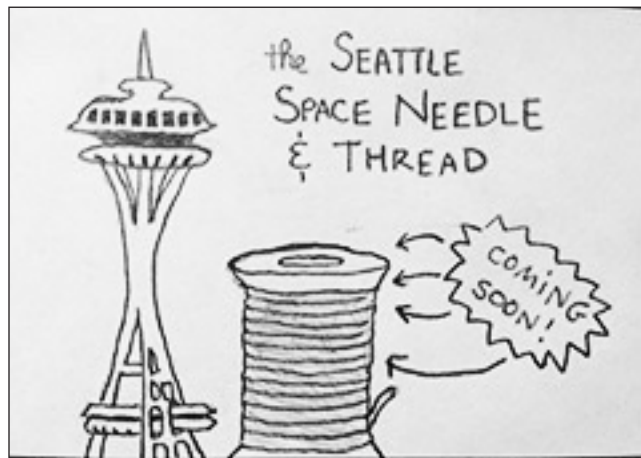
- 28 "Li" comics fellow
- 29 Bandmate of 1-Across
- 30 Polish-born violin master
- 31 Category
- 33 PC key
- 35 One side of the Hoover Dam: Abbr.
- 36 Eggy drink
- 38 The recent past
- 42 Sci-fi's "Doctor \_\_\_"
- 43 In \_\_\_ (as found)
- 48 Goodbyes
- 50 Motor City org.
- 52 Prickly plants
- 53 Small marching band?
- 54 Precisely
- 55 Spreadable cheese
- 56 Passes on
- 57 Vittles
- 58 \_\_\_ B'rith
- 59 This, to Tomás
- 61 Shine, in product names

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.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



HIGHLY PUNLIKELY | CHRISTOPHER BRUCKER

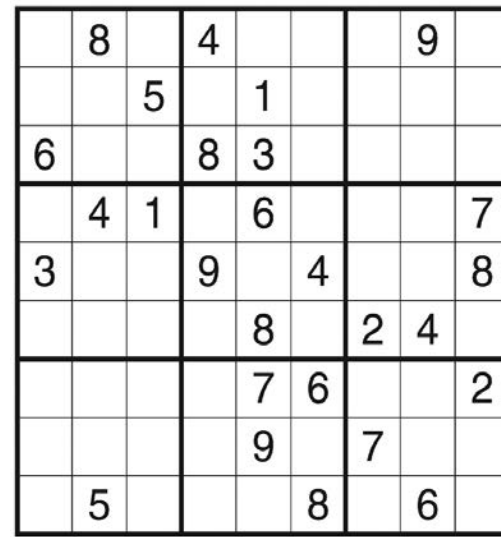


DOME NUTS | ALEXANDRIA WELLMAN



SUDOKU | THE MEPHAM GROUP

Level: **1** 2 3 4



SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE 11/6/12

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

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

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HOROSCOPE | EUGENIA LAST

**Happy Birthday:** Don't let the little things get to you. Consider what you can do to get ahead and put your personal problems in perspective. You can use this year to take advantage of opportunities for yourself, or you can spin your wheels and complain about the prospects you let pass you by. Take control and make each day count. Your numbers are 6, 13, 16, 23, 28, 36, 45.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Put more effort into self-improvement. Trying to change what's going on around you will not satisfy you. Personal change is achievable, and can make the difference between finding happiness and feeling dissatisfied. ★★

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Your accomplishments will allow you to expand your options with regard to work and partnerships. A joint venture will turn out best if you share responsibilities equally. Romance is in the stars and will contribute to making a promise you won't regret. ★★★★★

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Be careful not to offer too much to others. A problem with someone older in your life is likely to lead to added responsibilities. Don't let anyone take advantage of your kindness. Greater focus on personal finances and investments will be necessary. ★★★★★

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Take what you enjoy doing most and turn it into a profitable pastime. A partnership will make it easier for you to achieve your goals. Overspending will lead to conflict and stress. Don't let an emotional incident spin out of control. ★★★★★

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Step it up a notch and make things happen. You have more control than you realize, and with a little added push, you can make the changes that will bring about greater happiness. Keep moving past any relationship problems you face. ★★★★★

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Take a look at what you've accomplished and think about what you have left to do. Don't procrastinate when you should be taking the first step in a direction you know will satisfy you personally and professionally. ★★★★★

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Keep close watch over the people who give you cause for concern. You have to monitor situations carefully, but refrain from meddling. Your ideas are good, but forcing your will on others will not bring the results you are looking for. ★★★★★

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Traveling a long distance will provide you with valuable information as well as supply you with the experience you need to bring about positive change in your personal life. Romance will help to improve an important relationship. ★★★★★

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Watch out for someone who is trying to derail your plans or hurt your reputation. It will be up to you to pull things together and make everything functional. Property or investment will not be as it appears. ★★★★★

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** You'll be tempted to overspend, overdo or overanalyze. Put more into getting things done and less into pondering over where to begin. An old acquaintance or colleague will have something to offer. Do your best to reconnect. ★★★★★

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Dealing with a work-related matter is likely to spark a question that can make you look bad. Be ready to support your actions with facts. Keep a level head and refuse to be tempted to exaggerate in order to prove your point. ★★★★★

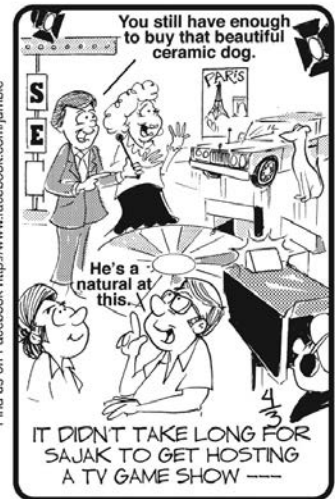
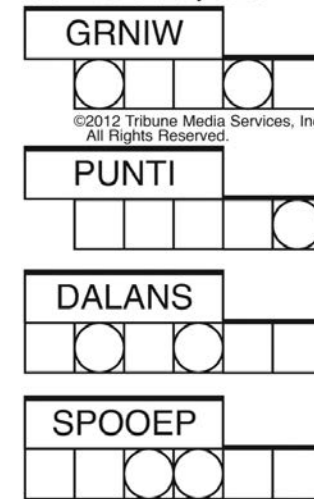
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** The more dedicated and passionate you are, the better you will do personally and professionally. Romance is highlighted and can bring about an interesting change in your personal life. Express your true feelings. ★★★★★

**Birthday Baby:** You are sensitive, devoted and very admirable. You are intelligent and thoughtful.

JUMBLE | DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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



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

Print answer here:         (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: VALET GIDDY TATTOO SHIFTY  
Answer: He was nervous about making a free throw with one second left, but he would — GIVE IT A SHOT

WORK AREA

THE OBSERVER

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## FOOTBALL

# Hardy to play for Falcons

## Observer Staff Report

Former Irish safety Eilar Hardy announced Monday he will continue his college career at Bowling Green.

"I will be headed to Bowling Green to play," Hardy tweeted Monday evening.

Notre Dame granted Hardy a release from his scholarship in January.

The Reynoldsburg, Ohio, native was withheld from practice and competition during Notre Dame's inquiry into "suspected academic dishonesty." After not appearing in Notre Dame's first eight games, Hardy played in all five final games. The senior safety totaled nine tackles.

Hardy debuted in 2013, appearing in 10 games, with two starts.

## ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

# 'Goofy' but great

McGraw praises Cable's competitive nature coming off the bench

By SAMANTHA ZUBA  
Assistant Managing Editor

When asked to describe senior guard Madison Cable, junior guard Jewell Loyd laughed.

"Maddie is just so goofy," Loyd said after No. 4 Notre Dame's 88-77 win over No. 6 Tennessee on Jan. 19.

"That's a good word for her," sophomore forward Taya Reimer chimed in.

"She knows how to make everyone laugh, and she knows what to say at the right times," Loyd continued. "She's awesome."

Goofy doesn't capture it all though. After the win over Tennessee, Irish coach Muffet McGraw praised the Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania, native's tenacity. Cable came off the bench in that game to tally six points, five rebounds, three assists and two steals in 22 minutes.

"Maddie is competitive,"

McGraw said. "I think she's one of the most competitive people on the team. I mean, she is so feisty inside. She's going to get a rebound, and she's not going to let it go."

Not only did Cable post solid overall numbers, but she also kept coming up with important plays at the best times, McGraw said.

"She came up with a big steal late," McGraw said. "She had some big free throws. She was a big factor, I thought, in the win, especially down the stretch."

In Sunday's 92-63 win over Wake Forest, Cable turned in what McGraw called one of her best performances of the season.

Cable totaled 12 points, a game- and career-high six steals and three rebounds. Along the way, she completed a four-point play, a momentum-changing score late in the game that

see W BBALL PAGE 13



EMILY MCCONVILLE | The Observer

Irish senior guard Madison Cable looks to pass the ball during Notre Dame's 92-63 win over Wake Forest on Sunday at Purcell Pavilion.

## MEN'S TENNIS | ND 4, NORTHWESTERN 3

# Pecor leads ND to victory with doubles, singles wins

By CHRISTINE MAYUGA  
Sports Writer

In yet another nail-bitingly close match, No. 14 Notre Dame topped No. 30 Northwestern, 4-3, on Friday at Eck Tennis Pavilion.

The win featured four individual matches that went to third sets in singles, in addition to four singles sets and one doubles match that were decided by tiebreakers.

"I think it was a great match," Irish coach Ryan Sachire said. "Northwestern is a top-notch team and we knew going in that it was going to be a very competitive one. We were fully prepared for it to be and it paid off."

The Irish's two top-ranked doubles pairs, No. 8 senior Billy Pecor and junior Alex Lawson and No. 9 sophomores Eddy Covalschi and Josh Hagar delivered, defeating the duo of junior Fedor Baev and sophomore Strong Kirchheimer and the pair of senior Alex Pasareanu and sophomore Sam Shropshire,



MICHAEL YU | The Observer

Irish senior Billy Pecor, right, hits a shot during Notre Dame's 4-3 win over Oklahoma State on Jan. 24 at Eck Tennis Pavilion.

respectively.

It was the first time this season the two pairings have both won their doubles matches.

In the No. 4 singles round, junior Eric Schnurrenberger dominated junior Mihir Kumar, 6-4, 6-4, but a series of close matches clinched by the Wildcats tied the team score at 2. At the No. 3 singles slot, Covalschi lost to freshman Logan Staggs,

while at the No. 6 singles slot, Lawson fell behind after winning the first set on a tiebreaker, eventually losing to sophomore Alp Horoz.

In the No. 5 slot, Pecor continued his undefeated singles streak this season, managing a 7-6 (8-6), 4-6, 7-5 victory over junior Fedor Baev. With Pecor's

see M TENNIS PAGE 14

## WOMEN'S TENNIS | MICHIGAN 5, ND 2

# Irish loses first match to Michigan

By HUNTER MCDANIEL  
Sports Writer

Sunday afternoon, No. 19 Notre Dame fell to visiting No. 15 Michigan, 5-2, at Eck Tennis Pavilion, losing its first match of the season.

Junior Quinn Gleason said the Irish (2-1) were disappointed to fall at home so early in the season, but also kept the loss in perspective.

"We were definitely disappointed that we lost, but I think we're all optimistic coming out of it, because Michigan is a great team and we were right there," Gleason said.

This clash of top-20 teams was the first of the season for the Irish. The squad started strong in doubles, as the No. 16 duo of Gleason and sophomore Monica Robinson upset No. 10 senior Emina Bektas and freshman Alex Najarian, 6-4.

The pairing of sophomores Mary Closs and Jane Fennelly also came up with a victory, giving Notre Dame the doubles point of the competition. They defeated freshman Mira Ruder-Hook and sophomore Annie

Wierda in the No. 3 doubles spot, 6-3.

Michigan (4-0) bounced back strong in the singles competition, however, as the Wolverines won five of the six total matches. Only Fennelly, competing at the No. 6 spot, came away with the win, defeating senior Kristen Dodge, 6-3, 6-2.

"I was really proud of Jane Fennelly this weekend, as she won both her singles and doubles matches," Gleason said. "She has been working really hard, so I'm excited to see that her effort is really paying off. She's a very solid [No. 6] singles player, and I'm confident she'll have a great season."

Other than Fennelly, however, the rest of the Irish struggled against a strong Michigan squad. Gleason fell to Bektas, ranked 18th in country, at the No. 1 singles spot, Robinson fell to No. 23 junior Ronit Yurovsky in the second slot and senior Julie Vrabel lost to No. 38 Sarah Lee at No. 3.

"While the score was 5-2, a lot of the singles matches

see W TENNIS PAGE 12