

THE OBSERVER

The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

VOLUME 45 : ISSUE 44

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2010

NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

Students make cards for Sullivan family

By MEGAN DOYLE
News Writer

Student government delivered more than 200 letters from members of the Notre Dame community to the family of junior Declan Sullivan on Monday, student body chief of staff Nick Ruof said.

"The Notre Dame family is truly a family and it was shown over these past few days," Ruof said. "Everyone came together to be arm-in-arm together in support."

Student government wanted to allow students to show their support for the Sullivan family after Sullivan's death, Ruof said. In a Thursday e-mail, student body president Catherine Soler and student body vice president Andrew Bell invited students to bring notes and cards to their office in LaFortune Student Center.

"As student government we

see CARDS/page 5

Grads' debt below national averages

By LAURA McCRYSTAL
News Editor

Notre Dame graduates' student debt is comparable to or less than national averages released in recent reports, according to Joseph Russo, director of Student Financial Strategies.

Comparing Notre Dame's student debt to averages in national reports is difficult, but valuable, Russo said.

"We always benchmark," he said. "It's good to compare."

The Project on Student Debt, a national organization, released a report about student debt on Oct. 21. The report, titled "Student Debt and the Class of 2009," stated that 2009 college graduates had an average debt of \$24,000.

Russo said the median student debt for 2009 Notre Dame graduates who borrowed money for their education is \$23,588. This number includes government and private loans.

According to The College Board's "Trends in Student Aid 2010" report released last week, the average student debt for 2009 graduates of four-year, private colleges was \$26,100. Russo said this number is a more accurate comparison for Notre Dame because it compares the



	Notre Dame	Private 4-year Colleges	National Average
2009 Graduates Total Debt	\$23,588	\$26,100	\$24,000
Default Rate on Student Loan	< 1%	not reported	7%

MELISSA KADUCK | Observer Graphic

University to its peers.

"We compare pretty favorably on that one," Russo said.

Russo said Notre Dame graduates' default rate for student loans is well below the national average. According to The College Board, seven percent of college graduates default, or fail to pay, their student loans. For Notre Dame graduates, however, Russo said the default rate is less than one percent.

"So yes, \$23,588 is a lot of money, but even in tough times our default rate seems to be decent and students appear to

be managing their monthly payments."

While national reports such as The Project on Student Debt use both government and private loans to determine total debt numbers, Russo said he prefers to exclude private loans when analyzing Notre Dame's averages. Private loans are discretionary for each student or family, he said. The University only presents government loans, which include both Perkins and Stafford loans, as part of its student financial aid packages.

"A University policy in

awarding student aid in general to try as best we can meet the full financial need of students, and we do that often by incorporating underlying government student loans ... not private," Russo said.

The median student debt for Notre Dame's 2009 graduating class, excluding private loans, was \$19,225, Russo said. That number rose to \$20,625 for the class of 2010.

While Russo said national reports can be valuable, he also said public and media

see DEBT/page 3

British consul visits Notre Dame



COLEMAN COLLINS/The Observer

British Consul General Robert Chatterton Dickson takes in the Notre Dame campus during a tour Monday.

By CHRISTIAN MYERS
News Writer

British Consul General Robert Chatterton Dickson visited Notre Dame's campus Monday to meet with University President Fr. John Jenkins and undergraduate students.

Dickson was appointed Her Majesty's Consul General in Chicago on June 26, and he said the job has been both fascinating and busy thus far. He is responsible for relations between Britain and 13 Midwestern states, including Indiana.

He said his position involves a variety of responsibility in terms of relations between the U.S. and the United Kingdom, and the geographical range of his responsibilities has led to frequent travel.

"Campus visits are one of the best parts of my position,"

Dickson said. "This is my fourth campus visit, and I always enjoy them. It was a real privilege to visit Notre Dame."

Dickson traveled from Chicago to South Bend to meet with Jenkins Monday morning, and he said the two discussed cooperation in higher education relations. According to Dickson, higher education is one of the most important connections between the United States and the UK.

Dickson said he recognized just how important education is for the future of, and the relations between, both nations.

During his visit the Consul General also lectured in an Introduction to Political Science Class and toured campus. He said he enjoyed his visit and interactions with

see CONSUL/page 4

CSC, halls recycle cans for Worker

By MARISA IATI
News Writer

Through a partnership between the Center for Social Concerns (CSC) and the South Bend Catholic Worker, Notre Dame students will contribute to the local community this school year by recycling aluminum cans.

The program, called Miraculous Metals, began this week and will continue as long as students support it, said Michael Hebbeler, director of student leadership at the CSC.

There are currently 22 residence halls participating in the

see CANS/page 4

THE OBSERVER

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The news is reported as accurately and objectively as possible. Unsigned editorials represent the opinion of the majority of the Editor in Chief, Managing Editor, Assistant Managing Editors and department editors. Commentaries, letters and columns present the views of the authors and not necessarily those of The Observer.

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

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor-in-Chief Matt Gamber

POST OFFICE INFORMATION

The Observer (USPS 599 2-4000) is published Monday through Friday except during exam and vacation periods. A subscription to The Observer is \$130 for one academic year; \$75 for one semester.

The Observer is published at:
024 South Dining Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779
Periodical postage paid at Notre Dame and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER
Send address corrections to:
The Observer
P.O. Box 779
024 South Dining Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779

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CORRECTIONS

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 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT ARE YOU LISTENING TO ON YOUR MP3 PLAYER RIGHT NOW?



Daniel Barrera

junior
Alumni

"I'm Shipping Up to Boston" – Dropkick Murphy's."



William Cowhey

junior
Keough

"Young Forever."



Christina Tellez

senior
McGlenn

"Jimmy Eat World."



Kate Albertini

sophomore
Ryan

"Local Natives."



Danny Domingo

freshman
Fisher

"Chillin' – Wale."



Myriha Burce

sophomore
McGlenn

"Thinkin' Bout U" – Diggy Simmons."

Have an idea for Question of the Day? E-mail obsphoto@gmail.com



PAT COVENEY/The Observer

Troop ND performs at the halftime show of the men's basketball home opener on Monday night at Purcell Pavilion. The Irish defeated Marian University, 85-52, in exhibition action.

IN BRIEF

A blood drive hosted by RecSports and the South Bend Medical Foundation will take place today in Rolfs Sports Recreation Center. The drive will run from 11 to 5:30 p.m. Call RecSports at 631-6100 to register for a donation time.

Mauricio Santillana, Jim Henson Fellow at Harvard University, will present the seminar "Modeling the Chemical Composition of the Atmosphere of Our Planet in a Changing Climate: Mathematical and Physical Challenges" at 11 a.m. today. It will take place in Fitzpatrick Hall, Room 258.

Bill Miller will give the lecture "American Politics in the 21st Century: The Native Impact on American Politics" today at 3 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center for International Studies. Miller is a Grammy Award-winning recording artist, performer, songwriter and activist and he will discuss the present and future impact of Native Americans on American politics.

A Feminist Voice Panel Discussion on Feminism in the World Today will take place in the Geddes Hall auditorium today at 7:15 p.m. The panel will discuss different perspectives of feminism, featuring professors from different fields.

Stratford Caldecott, Editor of Second Spring and writer on Christian apologetics, theology, and culture, will give the lecture "Beauty for Truth's Sake" tonight. It will take place at 7:30 p.m. in DeBartolo Hall.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to obsnews.nd@gmail.com

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

OFFBEAT

Man robs bank, then offers \$1K for a ride

CAPITOLA – Police say a bank robber forgot to set up a getaway ride, so he offered \$1,000 to people on the street for a lift after the heist. Capitola police said a man in his 40s or 50s entered a bank at 11:40 a.m. on Saturday and ordered \$20 and \$100 bills from the teller.

Police said the man then jumped onto the counter, pushed the teller and grabbed money from the till. They did not say how much money he took.

About a block from the bank, witnesses told investigators that a man was offering \$1,000 to anyone who would give him a ride to

Santa Cruz. The California Highway Patrol, Santa Cruz police and Capitola police searched for the suspect, but have not found him.

Police believe it is a transient, and are looking to interview anyone who may have given him a ride.

Man gets 5-day sentence for theft caught in photo

MADISON – A man captured in a vacationing family's photograph as he stole their bag in front of the Wisconsin State Capitol received a five-day jail sentence and a nearly \$500 fine.

The Wisconsin State Journal reported Saturday that Glenn Lambright was

given credit for time already served after pleading no contest to misdemeanor theft earlier this month.

Vacationer John Myers of Bloomfield, N.J., had set the self-timer on his camera and hustled into the frame with his wife and two children in August. Meanwhile, a man grabbed a bag containing Myers' wallet and other items.

After discovering the bag missing, Myers checked his camera and found a photo with a man picking up the bag in the background. Myers showed the photo to police, who recognized the man and tracked him down.

	TODAY	TONIGHT	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 53 LOW 31	HIGH 45 LOW 31	HIGH 55 LOW 40	HIGH 48 LOW 33	HIGH 41 LOW 28	HIGH 44 LOW 33

Habitat begins work on new house

By MELISSA FLANAGAN
News Writer

Last month, Notre Dame's Habitat for Humanity Club began construction on the 17th house it has built during its time as a student group.

The club commits to building one house each year for a family it chooses based on stability of jobs, support systems and Christian values, according to senior Deborah Olmstead, who serves as club co-president.

This year, Habitat's house is being built for a family of four, which consists of a father and three children, Olmstead said. Their future home is located on Milburn Court in Mishawaka.

It will be a one-story house, with three bedrooms, two bathrooms, a basement and a garage.

But Habitat does not simply hand out houses, Notre Dame senior and club co-president Olmstead said.

"We do not give away houses for free," she said. "The owner will have a mortgage that's interest free and that's worth the value of all the materials in the house. They pay that over 15 years."

Houses are built at the lowest cost possible by having volunteers do as much of the work as possible and by bargaining discounts for supplies from local businesses, Olmstead said.

Habitat has had one regular weekend build so far this year, along with its annual Blitz Build event. The first regular build was attended by 25 to 30 volunteers and was a huge success, Olmstead said.

"We finished our work two hours earlier than expected," Olmstead said.

Blitz Build takes place over Fall Break to construct the entire exterior of a home.

"We invite past alumni to help us and we provide free breakfast and lunch for our volunteers," Olmstead said.

"At the end of the day we go out to dinner together and participate in social activities." During the fall, builds take place on away football game weekends, and in the spring there is one nearly every weekend, Olmstead said. The next build is Saturday.

Habitat for Humanity of St. Joseph County assists Notre Dame's chapter of the organization. Beyond technical work such as electricity and plumbing, the house is built entirely by volunteers.



Photo courtesy of Deborah Olmstead

Members of Notre Dame's Habitat for Humanity work on an outer wall of the club's new house last month.

"It touches me to know I'm giving families something they could not acquire on their own," Olmstead said.

"We hope to go abroad on a global village project and help with construction projects in either Mexico or Senegal," she said.

Olmstead, who used to be the family liaison for the club, said that she believes Habitat for Humanity enables families to provide opportunities for their children.

"When I was family liaison we took a single mother and her kids to Mega Play," Olmstead said, "and she came up to me and said I don't get to do this kind of stuff with my kids."

Next year, Habitat is looking to travel abroad, Olmstead said.

Contact Melissa Flanagan at mflanag3@nd.edu

Debt

continued from page 1

attention tend to focus on extreme or individual cases of high debt.

"Those are not representative," he said. "Look at [Notre Dame's] statistics. People who start here actually finish on time ... and they've had a good experience and they pay their loans off."

Summarizing student debt through averages is also a challenge, Russo said, because each student's financial situation is different. He said Notre Dame uses the median numbers when analyzing financial aid because it removes the "outliers."

"It's always dangerous to quote statistics," he said. "The biggest single challenge I've had in 46 years has been the need to provide good, simple, accurate ... information."

However, Russo said he is confident when speaking about Notre Dame graduates' ability able to handle college debt because a good education is an investment.

"More and more, when we talk about affording education, we talk about seeing it as an investment," Russo said. "Which, if you're a typical Notre Dame grad, the return on your investment will be your lifetime and how you do, not just income-wise ... but also your health, your longevity ... your civic involvement. So many good things happen if you're a Notre Dame graduate."

Contact Laura McCrystal at lmccrystal@nd.edu

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Arts Center /

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Moderator

Andrea Mitchell, chief foreign affairs correspondent for NBC News, will moderate a roundtable discussion following Friedman's remarks.



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Consul

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Notre Dame students. Both the quantity and quality of student questions during his lecture told him a lot about the caliber of students at the University, he said.

"I was impressed by the Notre Dame students," Dickson said. "They were intelligent, thoughtful and engaging. I was also very impressed by the campus and the spectacular Basilica. I am keen to do more with Notre Dame; I'll be back."

Dickson has had an extensive career leading up to his current post. A self-described career diplomat, he said he enjoyed the variety of his 12 different positions during his 20 years of service.

In 1990, he left his "more lucrative" job at a bank to work in the government's Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), and said he has never regretted that decision.

As a British ambassador to Macedonia, he managed a team that aided the Macedonian government in gaining admittance into both the European Union and NATO.

Dickson described his work in the British embassy in Manila, Philippines, as both fascinating and challenging. He dealt with poverty, floods and earthquakes, but said he

enjoyed position and was struck by the spirit of the Filipino people.

He also worked in the British embassy in Washington, D.C., which he said is most similar to his current position.

"Our relationship with the United States is the most important relationship we have with any country," Dickson said.

He was involved in shaping the UK's contribution to the 2003 invasion of Iraq that ousted

Saddam Hussein. Dickson advised British officials and was involved in diplomatic negotiations.

For a time, Dickson was the joint-head of the counterterrorism department at the FCO in London. In that capacity, he said

he managed teams that helped various countries develop strategies to counter terrorist activities within their borders. He focused on countries in South Asia, North and East Africa, and the Middle East.

He described the work as both busy and unpredictable. One particularly unpredictable facet of his work was crisis response, wherein his team was responsible for advising the British Government on how to respond to terrorist attacks and activities. The worst attacks during his tenure were the shootings and bombings in Mumbai in 2008.

Contact Christian Myers at cmyers8@nd.edu

"Our relationship with the United States is the most important relationship we have with any country."

Robert Dickson
British Consul General

Cans

continued from page 1

Miraculous Metals program, Hebbeler said. Students can collect aluminum cans and drop them in designated boxes in their halls.

Catholic Worker staff members, as well as people who receive support from the Worker, will collect the cans and bring them to a local recycling center. The cans will then be exchanged for money, which will support the Worker's daytime drop-in center, Our Lady of the Road, and the nighttime shelter, the St. Peter Claver House.

"There's a men's house and women's house, and they take in the poor and marginalized, so people looking for a home, looking for a roof, looking for community," Hebbeler said. "The houses open up their doors to those in need, and the people live there."

Most of the proceeds will go to Our Lady of the Road, where people can eat a meal, do their laundry or take a hot shower. The center supports 60 to 130 people each day. The funds raised by the Miraculous Metals program will support the center's operation as well as building repairs.

Hebbeler said these funds are especially helpful in the winter when the St. Peter Claver House provides overnight shelter from

cold weather.

"They like to keep it small for fellowship and community, and they can take up to 10 men each night," Hebbeler said. "They provide a roof and bedding and coffee and breakfast in the morning."

Hebbeler also said many Notre Dame students regularly volunteer at the Catholic Worker. He said the visits create "a sense of solidarity of walking together."

"There's good enthusiasm from the [residence hall] social commissioners, and we have a great partnership with the Catholic Worker community."

Mike Hebbeler
director of student
leadership
Center for Social
Concerns

"There will be Notre Dame students spending the night with the homeless men as part of weather amnesty," Hebbeler said. "Some of the money [from the metal collection] may be feeding volunteers. That's what makes the Worker what it is — this sense of community. Notre Dame has a vital presence in the drop-in center and at the

Catholic Worker." Although the project is just beginning, Hebbeler said the CSC is looking forward to seeing the program's results. He also hopes more Notre Dame students will become involved with the Catholic Worker.

"There's good enthusiasm from the [residence hall] social concerns commissioners, and we have a great partnership with the Catholic Worker community," Hebbeler said. "We expect this project to bring more students into the community to see the impact."

Contact Marisa Iati at miati@nd.edu

Student starts WWFF chapter

By ALICIA SMITH
Associate Saint Mary's Editor

In order to provide international relief for malnutrition while offering a local twist, Saint Mary's junior Meredith Rizzo opened a College chapter of the Will Work For Food (WWFF) organization.

According to Rizzo, the organization, which was co-founded by Steven Weinberg and Josh Cohen of the University of Michigan in 2007, is a student-run non-profit which aims to fight malnutrition overseas by volunteering in the local community.

"It is an organization that combines local community service with international relief," she said. "So it kind of comes from the idea of a Dance Marathon or a Relay For Life where people get sponsors for, in that case, dancing or walking around, but we want to make the impact twice as big and so we do local volunteer hours out in the community and then find sponsors for that work."

The money raised from sponsorship is donated to Doctors Without Borders to buy nutritional supplements for malnourished children, Rizzo said.

"It's specifically this supplement called Plumpy'nut, and it's kind of like a peanut butter type of material that has all these supplements in it," she said.

Since 2007, Rizzo said WWFF has raised more than \$50,000 to assist malnutrition.

In addition, the organization has been sanctioned by the Clinton Global Initiatives for Universities in 2008 and 2009 and was an International Semi-Finalist in the 2009 Dell Social Innovation Competition.

The slogan for the campaign, Rizzo said, is "volunteering locally to make a difference globally."

Rizzo said she wanted to open a Saint Mary's chapter in order to draw awareness to the issue of malnutrition while still assisting the local community.

"Child malnutrition has been nicknamed the silent killer because a lot of people are unaware of it and it's overshadowed by other crises," she said. "I think this is a great way to take the things that girls are already doing in our community to make that impact a global impact."

According to Rizzo, each month the Saint Mary's chapter will hold a work effort. Each work effort will allow members of the College community to collectively volunteer.

"I'm the chapter representative for the Saint Mary's community, and anybody is welcome to be involved," she said.

Rizzo said the first work effort will be held Nov. 7.

According to Rizzo the November project will allow students to go door to door to collect canned goods for an area food pantry.

Additionally, Rizzo said plans are underway for a variety of other work efforts including making cards for soldiers and helping at a local animal shelter.

WWFF has a goal of collecting \$4,000 this academic year, and Rizzo believes that the chapter has the capability to achieve it.

"I think we're completely capable of [reaching \$4,000]. I realize we're a much smaller school, but I kind of like the challenge and I think we can do it."

Meredith Rizzo
chapter representative
Will Work For Food

"The headquarters team at the University of Michigan set us a goal of \$4,000 for the year, which is the same goal set for every other university, for Michigan State, for Ohio State, for everywhere," she said. "I think we're completely capable of it. I realize we're a much smaller school, but I kind of like the challenge and I think we can do it."

According to Rizzo, students from Saint Mary's College, the University of Notre Dame and Holy Cross College, as well as members of the surrounding community, are invited to join in the cause.

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@saintmarys.edu

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Magazine switches to Web edition

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY
Saint Mary's Editor

Saint Mary's yearly literary magazine, "Chimes," is getting a new look this year.

Seniors Sarah Sheppard and Meghan Price, co-editors of "Chimes," are now taking submissions and recruiting for the spring edition of the magazine, which will be published online only.

Sheppard said will they accept submissions from any Saint Mary's student no matter her major or area of study. The magazine began in 1892, according to the Cushwa-Leighton Library website.

"We accept poetry, short stories, plays excerpts from novels or novellas; really anything fiction. There are art submissions too," Sheppard said.

Not all submissions are guaranteed to run in the magazine, Sheppard said. "Chimes" has an editorial board of 10 to 15 students that read over each submission and then discuss what pieces will go into the final edition.

"We'll have a meeting in November or December then we have two submission dates. One's in the winter and one's in the spring," she said.

The first submission date for students is Dec. 1, Sheppard said.

In the past, the "Chimes" board has sifted through up to 60 pages of prose and poetry to narrow down and put together an edition.

Previously, the publication had a print version, but in order to accept more submissions, Sheppard said they have moved to creating only an online edition of "Chimes."

"That is the best part about switching over to online, we can print a lot more," Sheppard said.

Price said the final publication is e-mailed to alumnae and professors so the student work is more widely read.

Students are not limited as to what they can send in to "Chimes," but Sheppard said they generally only print two or three pieces from a single author.

"We accept as many submissions as someone wants to send," Sheppard said.

Price said "Chimes" is still looking for students interested in editing as well as writing submissions. She added that she enjoyed seeing the creativity of Saint Mary's students.

"I got into 'Chimes' because I love editing and publishing," Price said. "That is what I want to go into. It's a great group of girls. Girls get into it and it's really fun to read all the interesting things girls here write."

Contact Ashley Charnley at acharn01@saintmarys.edu

Please recycle
The
Observer.

Cards

continued from page 1

wanted a cohesive effort to send things to the family instead of berating them with mail," Ruof said. "We wanted a unified student body response to the Sullivan family."

The Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore donated 200 cards that were available at the reception following Thursday's Mass of Remembrance in honor

of Sullivan. The remaining cards were later available in the student government office, and they were all used, according to Bell. Students also placed many other envelopes in the collection box, Bell said.

Student government collected cards throughout the weekend so students had time to reflect, Ruof said.

"We wanted to be a place for students to send their sympathies through us to the family,"

"We wanted to be a place for students to send their sympathies through us to the family."

Nick Ruof
chief of staff

Ruof said.

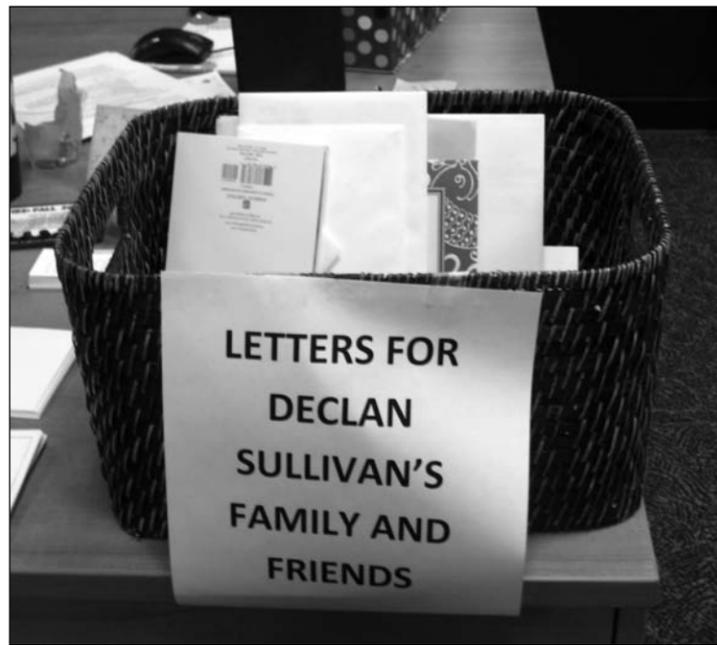
Ruof said the fact that many students who did not know Sullivan wrote letters to his family represents the manner in which the student body has united following Wednesday's accident.

"We want to let the Sullivan family grieve," Ruof said. "We want to give them their privacy but facilitate the student body's sympathies to the family at the same time."

Bell said the University provided buses to transport students, football players, student athletic managers and videographers from campus to Sullivan's funeral in Buffalo Grove, Ill. Monday.

Various administrators, deans and representatives of Student Affairs were also present at Monday's funeral Mass, Bell said.

The University is looking to work with Fisher Hall and the Financial Management Board to create a memorial scholar-



SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

Student Government delivered more than 200 letters to junior Declan Sullivan's family Monday.

ship in Declan's name, Ruof said.

"We want to show support for the family as well as for the men of Fisher and the women of Lewis," Ruof said.

Ruof said student government would also organize a tribute to

Sullivan during the home game against Utah on Nov. 13 to show continued support in the Notre Dame community for Sullivan's family.

Contact Christian Myers at cmyers8@nd.edu

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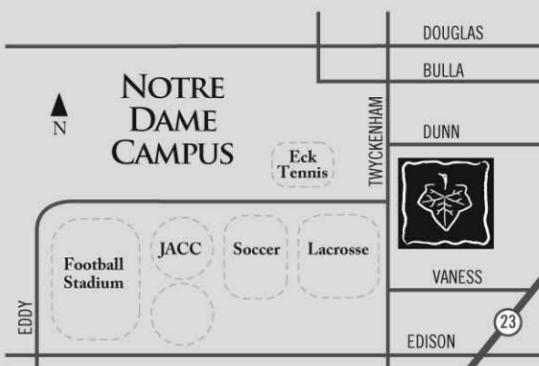
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INSIDE COLUMN

'Tis the season

The other day, when my roommate and I were shopping for Halloween costume accessories, we stumbled across Christmas decorations in the third aisle of Michael's. While most would argue that late October is too early to begin celebrating the Christmas season, we were both elated and immediately decided to purchase a "Happy Holidays" scented candle and gold colored plastic reindeer for our common room.



Alex Kilpatrick

Assistant News Editor

This begs the question, when is the proper time to begin partaking in Christmas festivities? Some say as soon as the adorned store doors open for frenzied shoppers looking to get the best deals on Black Friday; others, when the holiday drinks go on sale at Starbucks or the storefront window display goes up at Marshall Field's in Chicago.

I've always been ahead of the game in my desire to partake in the holiday spirit. On elementary school bus rides, I would attempt to convince my bus driver to allow us to sing Christmas carols before Thanksgiving break, with no avail. The rule was steadfast — no singing before Thanksgiving. No exceptions.

Such a preponderance of rules against the early celebration of the Christmas holiday only increased my eagerness to begin the festivities ahead of schedule. Even today, I'm that girl who listens to Christmas music in October. I was more than ecstatic this year when I realized that 102.3 FM The Stream had completely switched over to Christmas music over Fall Break.

I also currently have seven Christmas stations on my Pandora site, created from a wide range of Christmas tunes, including Dean Martin's "Baby, It's Cold Outside," John Lennon's "Happy Xmas (War is Over)," Vince Guaraldi Trio's "Christmas Time is Here" from "A Charlie Brown Christmas" and Burl Ives' holiday music from everyone's favorite stop-motion animated TV special, "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer."

Starbucks' advertisement of their holiday drinks only advances the cause. Gingerbread lattes, peppermint mochas and eggnog lattes are invariably the reason that I exhaust my Flex Points by the end of fall semester each year, leaving nothing on my card with which to purchase any last minute Christmas gifts for friends and family.

My family and I have our signature Christmas movie traditions, from viewing "Home Alone" on Thanksgiving evening, only pausing to break for pie, be it pumpkin or chocolate pecan, to watching "Christmas in Connecticut" before midnight mass on Christmas Eve.

Whatever I'm doing to celebrate Christmas, I always appreciate the spirit with which people partake in the holiday season, showing gratitude for everything and everyone in their lives. No matter when you begin the Christmas season, whether you spend it with family or friends, make sure to be grateful for all with which you are blessed.

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

Contact Alex Kilpatrick at akilpatr@nd.edu

More than just a game

As the clock hit zero this past Saturday, the meaning went well beyond the fact that Notre Dame had just suffered another (record-breaking) loss. It meant that it was time to go back to reality. For a university that was still grieving the loss of one of its family members, we could no longer distract ourselves with a game. But, at least for a period of a few hours on Saturday, we did our best to take the pain that we felt as a community and channel it into something positive.

Andy Ziccarelli

Moments of Inertia

At their most basic level, sports are just games. The dictionary defines the word "game" as "an amusement or pastime." And in many respects, that's exactly what they are. Think about it: football is group of 11 players trying to tackle someone from another group of 11 players that is attempting to carry a goofy-shaped ball past a line. Hockey sounds even worse: two teams of six players on ice skates attempting to hit a rubber disc into a net using a wooden stick. When it is put this way, it sounds ridiculous that millions of people would spend their time watching these games, and even more ridiculous that grown men are being paid millions of dollars to play them. In American society, though, sports have a meaning that goes far beyond what physically goes on in between the lines.

American culture is one of intense competition. Not just in athletics, mind you, but in everything we do. This culture of competition and constant need to better your neighbor is part of what keeps us on edge and, for better or for worse, is an ingrained part of who we are as a people. People compete in business, in the classroom and, yes, even in parenting. So, it should come as no surprise that people follow sports with the same vigor and intensity that

they do with everything else in life. People need a way to stoke their competitive fire, so to speak, and following a sports team provides the perfect opportunity to do that.

In a much different light, sports can be used as a form of therapy or as some form of release. Obviously, this was the case for the Notre Dame community this past weekend, but there are countless examples of this phenomenon that we can see throughout America. The most prominent example of this was right after Sept. 11. The whole world took a few days to grieve and recover, and rightfully so. But after a few days, there was a big push in America to "return to normalcy" and one of the biggest ways that we could do this was to start playing sports again. People who had lost friends and loved ones tuned into the games because, at least for a few hours, they could concentrate on cheering and pitching changes and yelling at officials, and not on what they had lost. Sports had provided them a chance to be normal again. On a much smaller (and less significant) level, I had the opportunity to spend my summer in Arizona this past year. And for the first few weeks, I was busy, overwhelmed and, most importantly, homesick. But every time they were on television, I tuned in to watch the Chicago Cubs, no matter how poorly they were playing, because seeing the ivy on the outfield walls and hearing the Wrigley Field organ playing brought me to a place much closer to my friends and family back home.

Most importantly, though, sports can be used as a galvanizing force, one that can unite millions of people across gender, race, political and generational barriers like nothing else in the world can. I had the fortune of sitting next to a retired plumber from South Boston a few years ago at a spring training baseball game. He grew up poor, had never been to col-

lege and, basically, shared nothing in common with me. Except for one very important similarity — we both loved baseball. And so for the next three hours, we became best friends that were born 50 years apart, talking about strategy and players and old teams. I never saw him again and never will, but for that day, baseball had brought us together.

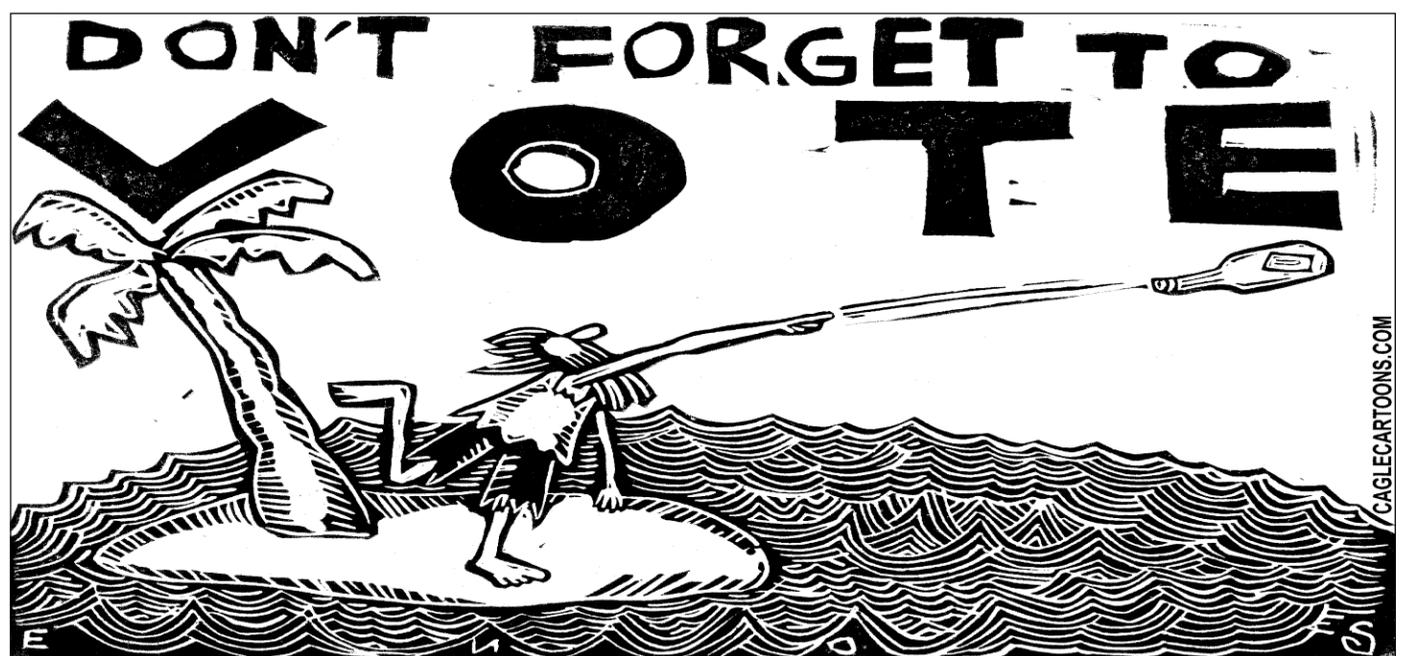
When people go to the voting booths today, there will be an intense and sharp divide based on fundamental philosophical differences and social conditions. And yes, there still are neighborhoods in America separated by race, with hard and bitter feelings on both sides. But once the ball is kicked off, or the first pitch is thrown, or the puck is dropped, none of that matters. We are all one. It didn't matter whether you were a white-collar executive working in the Loop or an auto mechanic living on 91st Street last spring; as a Chicagoan, we could all agree on the Blackhawks. And when the Hawks brought home the Stanley Cup, over two million people packed the streets of the city to celebrate, almost three times the number that celebrated with fellow Chicagoan Barack Obama after he was elected president.

There are an uncountable number of stories that could be told about relationships formed and adventures taken, all in the name of following your team. For the rest of our lives, we will reunite with Notre Dame fans and alumni on Saturdays in the fall to watch the Irish. And while people will label sports as "just games," we know that isn't true. They are so much more than that.

Andy Ziccarelli is a senior majoring in civil engineering. He welcomes your adulation and veiled threats at aziccare@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Perhaps the feelings we experience when we are in love represent a normal state. Being in love shows a person who he should be."

Anton Chekhov
Russian playwright

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Life is a great big canvas; throw all the paint on it you can."

Danny Kaye
U.S. actor

Record doesn't lie

Joe Donnelly the legislator is a lot different than Joe Donnelly the campaigner. His record contradicts what he is campaigning on. He wants you to think he has supported policies that have created jobs, is fiscally prudent, and is independent, but his record points starkly in the other direction.

Mickey Gardella

Guest Column

The fact is Joe Donnelly voted with Nancy Pelosi 88 percent of the time, voted for the trillion-dollar (at least) government takeover of health care, and voted for the \$800 billion stimulus that sent taxpayer dollars to foreign firms while the American economy has lost about three million jobs since it passed. The Democrats promised the unemployment rate would not rise above eight percent if the government implemented the stimulus. Not surprisingly, the unemployment rate is still over nine percent.

No one has to wonder where Indiana State Representative Jackie Walorski stands on the issues. As Assistant Floor Leader in the Indiana House of Representatives, Jackie was a leader in the fight for a balanced budget and responsible government. Jackie's message is very simple: cut spending, cut taxes and get the government out of the way so businesses can expand and create jobs.

While many states are in fiscal disaster, Indiana has sound finances. She is a committed budget hawk, who wants less government and lower taxes. The longer the federal government drags its feet on the economy, the more painful Indiana's budget and other state budgets will be.

Donnelly the campaigner would have you believe he has fought for a balanced federal budget, when in reality the national debt has risen \$5 trillion since he and the Democrats took office in 2007. He says he supports using unused stimulus funds to pay down the debt. With his record of nearly maxing out the nation's credit card, why should we believe him? Do his empty campaign promises trump his record of reckless spending?

Donnelly says he supports the extension of the Bush tax cuts for two years. Does anyone seriously think that we will be out of the woods in two years? So instead of supporting it now, Joe Donnelly supports the largest tax increase in American history two years down the road. I'm sure the business community is thrilled.

Every American person, family and business will pay higher taxes if Joe Donnelly gets his way, whether next year or in two years. He refuses to unequivocally support no new tax increases, and his and the Democrats' position has a crippling effect on business and consumer confidence in this country.

In Indiana Jackie was part of a coalition that turned a budget deficit into a surplus. She was a leader in the fight for property tax reform and supported legislation that brought Hoosier homeowners the largest property tax decrease in state history.

She has made it clear to the Republican leadership that, if elected, she will not rubber stamp whatever they introduce. She will stick to her limited government, pro-business, and pro-life principles no matter the situation.

Every federal agency and department

must be audited to cut waste and fraud. She supports freezing spending with the exception of defense to restore sanity to the system. Jackie supports extending all of the Bush tax cuts permanently to instill a sense of certainty in businesses and consumers.

The number one obstacle to economic growth in Indiana is the federal government. Joe Donnelly voted for the health care law that more Americans oppose than favor consistently in poll after poll. Donnelly claims he supports small businesses, but the health care law is loaded with regulations and mandates on businesses.

The law that Donnelly voted for requires businesses to file 1099 forms with the IRS each time they purchase something that exceeds \$600. The business community is understandably up in arms, as this senseless requirement, among many others in the law, will divert billions of dollars to satisfy the demands of big government instead of creating jobs.

Donnelly was somehow convinced at the final moment that the health care bill would not cover abortions because of an executive order from the most pro-choice president in U.S. History. The language of the law has not changed; it leaves the door open to taxpayer-funded abortions, as pro-life groups affirm. Accordingly, pro-life groups like National Right to Life have thrown their support behind the truly pro-life candidate, Jackie Walorski.

Jackie Walorski supports the repeal of the disastrous Obama Care law and will return the focus to the doctor-patient relationship instead of putting the IRS and the

Department of Health and Human Services in charge of your health care. She supports interstate purchase, coverage for pre-existing conditions, tax-free health savings accounts, and medical malpractice reform.

Because of his devastating legislative record, Donnelly has resorted to distorting Jackie's positions. Independent watchdog groups have called out Donnelly on his ads. He said Jackie supported the elimination of Pell Grants for students, which Fact Check.org said is not true.

He said she supports the privatization of Social Security, which is not true. The Associated Press said that Donnelly's attack ads on Social Security "do not resemble actual Republican proposals."

Jackie wholeheartedly supports Social Security for current beneficiaries and those nearing retirement. She has proposed that Americans have a serious conversation about reforming the system for younger generations because it is going broke. She supports allowing younger generations to invest a portion of their payroll taxes in personal accounts.

Don't let Joe Donnelly fool you. If re-elected he will continue the failed Obama-Pelosi-Reid agenda, while Jackie Walorski will lead to spur job creation and get government spending under control.

Mickey Gardella is a sophomore and the Chairman of the Notre Dame College Republicans Campaign Committee. He can be reached at mgardell@nd.edu

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Missed opportunities

I saw and heard President Jenkins' prayer for Declan Sullivan at the start of the Tulsa game on TV from my home in northwest Michigan. However presumptuous of me to improve on his prayer, I nonetheless wish I had heard Father Jenkins speak a final paragraph something like this:

"And finally, Heavenly Father, we ask your forgiveness. We, particularly those of us in the administration and athletic department of this University, ask that You forgive us of our terrible, grievous mistake of judgment in allowing, permitting and directing this young man, who was not only our student but our employee, to assume a position high on a dangerous piece of equipment under the extreme weather conditions that prevailed this past Wednesday afternoon. We also ask the forgiveness of Mr. Sullivan's parents, his sister (also a member of the Notre Dame family here on campus), the rest of his family, his classmates and friends.

This we ask in Your name ... [etc.]"

My sympathy for Mr. Sullivan's family and friends is boundless. Speaking now as a lawyer, however, I'm fully aware that this addendum to Father Jenkins' prayer would cause a severe case of apoplexy on the part of the University's lawyers. But neither they nor the administration should be concerned with such issues, so mundane in the circumstances; rather, simply put, they should do what's right. Moreover, legal liability in this case is clear, and will undoubtedly be admitted at some point in settlement negotiations or even during litigation itself, should it come to that. Notre Dame's only defense will be a partial one, one based on an attempt to limit damages by reason of the fact that Mr. Sullivan had no dependents, was not married, and had no children.

Father Jenkins missed a big opportunity to seek forgiveness and express sorrow, not only for Mr. Sullivan's death, but for the actions of the University. Hopefully, he will not miss another.

Franklin A. (Steve) Morse II

alumnus
Law School Class of 1964
Nov. 1

Spirit alive despite finger pointing

In the midst of investigations and allegations and finger-pointing and blame, the Notre Dame family gathered at Sacred Heart Church in a very real demonstration of what Notre Dame is all about.

Sure, the Notre Dame haters will say the place is all about football and money and NBC's weekly paychecks to the bean counters under the Golden Dome.

And maybe in a way it is. And they will accuse the football coaching staff of not exercising good judgement when they did not bring Declan Sullivan off the scissor lift when the winds kicked up.

And clearly they did not. And they will laugh at all the lawyers who will conspire to make a mint in fees from the lawsuits that inevitably will be filed.

And they will. But the students, the family that is Notre Dame, will see none of this. Lost in this adult-sized maelstrom will be the students — Notre Dame's sons and daughters, the ones that gathered as a family at the Sacred Heart church to celebrate Declan's life.

Now certainly, such a gathering is not unique to Notre Dame. It happens in other places during other times of loss. However, what is unique is the familial spirit that binds Notre Dame students and alumni and subway alumni — all the people who love the place, many of whom can't even explain why.

Many of the kids who gathered — especially the ones who didn't know Declan — felt sad in a way they didn't understand. After all, Declan wasn't their son or their brother or even their friend.

However, as every Notre Dame student and alumni knows, he was all of those things and, in a special way, perhaps more.

You see, this is the real spirit of Notre Dame — the one we sing about in the Victory March and honor in the Alma Mater. It is intangible. It is inexplicable. And it binds the sons and daughters of Notre Dame together as much as any family or friendship.

It is this spirit that makes all of us who never knew Declan Sullivan shed tears at his tragic passing.

It is this spirit that the students will cling to when they go home for breaks and are asked by people about "the kid who died filming the football team."

It is what they will remember long after they leave Notre Dame.

And it is most likely the reason that a young man named Declan Sullivan brought his dreams and committed his heart to this special place we lovingly call Notre Dame.

Frank LaGrotta

alumnus
Class of 1980, 1981
Oct. 29

Where is the accountability?

Dear Editors:
What must be determined in Declan Sullivan's death is the individual responsible for him being over 40 feet in the air in a device that was not to be used in winds over 25 mph. The space shuttle Challenger blew up because one man at NASA wanted it to fly in weather that was too cold for its components so that President Reagan could use the success in his State of the Union address. That

man was a bully and people died because of him. If we have another bully on campus responsible for Declan's death, punishment should be swift.

Thank you,

Robert Lach

alumnus
Class of 1988
Oct. 28

The Music...

By SAM WERNER
Scene Writer

Taylor Swift is back, and this time, it's personal.

The 20-year-old country-turned-pop starlet released her third studio album "Speak Now" last week. Unlike her previous records "Taylor Swift" and "Fearless," she wrote every song on the new album without co-writers.

Perhaps the most frequent criticism leveled at Swift has been the charge that most of her songs are virtually interchangeable, with similar sounds and lyrics. While "Speak Now" contains some undeniably Taylor songs, such as "Mine" and "Back to December," Swift also mixes up her music stylistically.

"Mean" is almost retro-Swift, reaching back to her country roots with a plucky melody and southern twang. On the other end of the spectrum, "Better Than Revenge" is unlike any song Swift has released before. With its somewhat risqué lyrics and pop-punk sound, it sounds more like Avril Lavigne in her prime, in a completely fantastic way.

The album kicks off with "Mine," the first single released and a song seemingly destined to follow in the footsteps of "Love Story" and "You Belong With Me" as the go-to song to faux-ironically belt out at dorm parties.

The title track on "Speak Now" takes one step in a new direction, with light, pop verses that are almost spoken rather than sung, but reverts to a more recycled sound for the chorus. It's a movement in the right direction, but the sappy cliché ending is still totally Taylor.

"Dear John," maybe the most anticipated song on the album, is worth a listen for its lyrics, as Swift describes the breakdown of her relationship with 33-year-old John Mayer. The song is also, however, emblematic of one of the few problems with "Speak Now." At 6 minutes, 44 seconds, it is, quite frankly, longer than any Taylor Swift song should ever be. "Speak Now" has two songs over six minutes — the sleep-inducing "Last Kiss" is the other, clocking in at 6:07 — and three more longer than five minutes. To contrast, the longest song on "Fearless" was "Fifteen" at 4:54.

It may be Swift trying to branch out as a songwriter, but she's just not varied enough stylistically to make six-minute songs worth listening to. To be fair, though, not many musicians are.

"Dear John" and "Back to December," the other breakup song on the album, both differ from Swift's previous songs about heartache though. While Swift sounds bitter and angry in "Fearless" tracks "You're Not Sorry" and "Forever and Always," the two songs on "Speak Now" speak more to sadness and regret.

While many of the songs are directed at one particular person, "Mean," the fourth single released from the album, is a harsh reply to Swift's musical critics. The country

tune is catchy and similar to tracks like "Our Song" from her first album, but the lyrics are almost comically childish. With a chorus of "Why you gotta be so mean?" Swift sounds like a grade-school student getting bullied on the playground. She's proved, even on this album, that she's capable of powerful defiant songs, so it's curious that she'd choose to sound almost whiny when slamming the people who are "drunk and grumblin' on about how [she] can't sing."

"Never Grow Up" seems to be the most personal song on the album. Swift doesn't attack or call out anyone, but rather muses about how quickly she herself has grown into an adult. In a song easily relatable to college students ready to move into the real world, she sings about her first night in her new apartment, juxtaposed against memories from her childhood. "Never Grow Up" is not the most musically inventive song, but the lyrics are heartfelt enough to make it powerful.

Two tracks later, we reach the crown jewel of "Speak Now" — "Better Than Revenge." From the spoken introduction, in which she says to "Go stand in the corner and think about what you did," Swift does her best to shed her pristine pop idol reputation. The punk-pop track is devoid of all hints of country — or sappiness, for that matter — as Swift sings about a love not lost, but stolen, and boldly proclaims that her relationship's saboteur is "better known for the things that she does on the mattress." The song is so refreshing and new for Swift that it alone warrants an extra half-shamrock.

Lyrically, the album comes together in an interesting fashion, truly showing Swift at the crossroads between childhood and adulthood. She sounds like a four-year-old in "Mean," deals with a teenage breakup in "Back to December," breaks up a wedding in "Speak Now," and moves in with a guy in "Mine." While her songs are all over the board, they actually come together nicely.

It's tough to improve on "Fearless," which has sold over nine million copies worldwide, but "Speak Now" is different enough to show Swift's maturation as an artist while still staying true to the sounds and themes that make her as popular as she is.

'Speak Now' Taylor Swift

Label: Big Machine Records

Best Tracks: "Better Than Revenge," "Mine"



Contact Sam Werner at
swerner@nd.edu





The Men...

Taylor Swift has always been famous for singing about her relationships, from the very real aspects to the very imaginary. She does the same on "Speak Now,"



Laura Myers

Scene Writer

ask, which is how she managed so many relationships in her 16 small-town years. The answer: she didn't. If you look at the themes of her songs from her debut album, "Taylor Swift," her next album, "Fearless," and even a few tracks on "Speak Now," you see a few common themes that give away a fairly small number of pre-fame flings.

Relationship 1: The passenger seat

Let's be honest, this girl has a pretty traditional sense of who should be driving the car. Either that, or this particular relationship transpired before Taylor was old enough to have a driver's license. In "I'd Lie," an early song not on an album, Swift pines after a boy who says he'll never fall in love — as she sits in his passenger seat. Cut from there to "Fearless," in which she has managed to corral this boy and is now out on a first date with him — sitting in his passenger seat. Then you get to "Our Song," where she is once again in his front seat, returning from a date further along in the relationship. But finally, she gets fed up with this antifeminist relationship, or she turns 16. She recounts in "Picture to Burn" how very angry she is at her teenage lover for not allowing her to drive his truck. Next!

Relationship 2: The shiny guy

Good thing this one happened way before Taylor Lautner, because we all know how he feels about men who sparkle. I hate that I even understand that reference. Anyway, we know from "Hey Stephen" that this bright spot is Stephen, a man shinier than any other Taylor has met. We are part of the experience as she tries to grab him like a raccoon does a piece of tinfoil. She tries to convince him to be with her in "Hey Stephen" and again in "Jump Then Fall," saying that if he shines, she will too. Pretty cool promise right there. But eventually, as we see in "You're Not Sorry," waiting around for him gets pretty dull. Next.

Relationship 3: The fairy tale

Ignoring how a boy wearing a dark gray T-shirt, making you

with songs inspired by some of her famous boyfriends. I won't be getting into that — much. I'd rather answer the question I've heard several people

clearly overdressed in comparison, counts as a fairy tale, or how being Romeo and Juliet could ever be a good thing, we can look at the relationship that exists only in Taylor's mind. First, you have the wonderfully illiterate "Love Story," followed by "Long Live" on her new album. The prince and princess become the king and queen. You can add "Mine" to this fantasy category as well, as it tells a very similar story. But the fantasy comes crashing down in "White Horse," when she realizes life is not a fairy tale, and starts to see reality. Which brings us to the next relationship:

Relationship 4: The unrequited love

This one has a pretty clear trail through all three albums. Taylor's first big hit, "Teardrops on My Guitar," is all about unrequited love, as she longs for a guy who is unavailable. She continues her sad tale in "You Belong With Me," and imagines a happy ending that won't actually happen in "Speak Now." Bet that guy feels pretty stupid about now. Because look who the woman he spurned is now dating:

Relationship 5: The celebrities

I didn't want to go into this, but seven minutes explaining why it was dumb to fall for John Mayer? Really? Taylor, I think you're fantastic, but there's a certain sales threshold at which I'm allowed to mock your pain, if just a little bit. Plus, your mom was against it, which leads to the last relationship:

Relationship 6: The family

Probably everyone's favorite of Taylor's relationships, and certainly the most stable. Tell me you don't tear up every time you listen to "The Best Day." And while I already mentioned it once above, part of me likes to think "Long Live" is also a tribute to her family and friends, with a clever reference to "The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe," in which the four siblings become kings and queens. And if you've gotten this far into the story, you're probably not surprised by the level of over-thinking that went into that statement.

The little black dress and the emotional qualities of rain are too ubiquitous to classify into one relationship. But we have plenty of both here in South Bend, so Taylor, if you need any material you should look no further than another visit to Notre Dame. And I hope you took all of this in the good fun it was written in, though I'd be really impressed if you found something to rhyme with Laura.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu.

NFL

Vikings cut Moss after four-week reunion

Associated Press

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — Just four weeks ago, Randy Moss gushed about returning to Minnesota. He felt fortunate to return to his first team and was looking forward to seeing those purple No. 84 jerseys again.

So much for the happy reunion.

After three disappointing losses in four games, the Vikings decided to dump the six-time Pro Bowl wide receiver following a loss to New England that had Moss wistful about his Patriots days during a bizarre postgame rant. It was another shocker in tumultuous season for a team that began the year with Super Bowl aspirations.

Vikings players confirmed Monday that coach Brad Childress informed them during a team meeting that Moss had been let go, a few minutes after the NFL Network first reported struggling Minnesota (2-5) had waived him less than a month after acquiring him from New England for a third-round draft pick.

Childress and team officials didn't respond to messages seeking confirmation of the decision. Moss's locker at Winter Park remained full of his practice gear when it was open to reporters in the afternoon. His agent, Joel Segal, said he's been in contact with the Vikings, even though the move was not made official Monday with the league.

"Merely a technical thing,"

Segal said in an e-mail.

About an hour before the news came out, Childress took 12 consecutive questions during his regular news conference about Moss, his effort, and his mindset in response to a rant by Moss following Sunday night's 28-18 loss to the Patriots.

Moss, who was fined \$25,000 last week for failing to cooperate with the media and make himself regularly available for interviews, stepped to the podium after the game but announced he wouldn't take any questions. He repeatedly expressed admiration for coach Bill Belichick and his former team and criticized the Vikings for not taking enough of his game-planning advice.

Moss had only one catch for 8 yards against the Patriots. In four games for the Vikings, he had 13 receptions for 174 yards and two touchdowns.

Childress didn't mention the move when he talked to reporters Monday and said Moss was staying back in the Boston area for a few days to spend time with family. Asked whether he regretted acquiring Moss, the coach said "not at present."

Moss, who was traded from Minnesota to Oakland in 2005 after finding his share of trouble and frustrating the organization with his attitude, expressed eagerness to connect with Brett Favre when he arrived and talked about how much he still loved Vikings fans some 5½ years after his departure.

While his presence opened the field for wide receiver Percy Harvin, who has blossomed into one of the league's most dangerous offensive players, Moss never materialized into the deep threat the Vikings sought when they traded for him Oct. 7. His longest catch was a 37-yarder, and he was only targeted twice against the Patriots.

"I'm definitely down that we lost this game. I didn't expect we'd lose this game," Moss said. "I don't know how many more times I'll be in New England again. But I leave coach Belichick and those guys with a salute: 'I love you guys. I miss you. I'm out.'"

Childress said Monday he didn't see Moss' remarks as "incendiary." The closest he came to criticizing him was acknowledging he could've caught a pass that fell incomplete in the end zone while the Patriots were called for pass interference.

"But again, I don't know," Childress said. "He was restricted. If they called pass interference, there had to be some kind of restriction."

Asked whether he felt Moss had been playing hard, Childress said, "He's playing hard when he needs to play hard."

Linebacker Ben Leber was one of a handful of players who appeared in the locker room and expressed surprise at the move. But he didn't sound happy about Moss' postgame remarks, either.

"It was just, 'Wow,'" Leber



Wide receiver Randy Moss was waived by the Vikings Monday. He was acquired from the Patriots in September for a draft pick.

said. "Just because it sounded like it was unprompted and sounded like he wanted to get some stuff off his chest. He certainly has every right to do that. I don't think that's the way to do it."

Leber said Childress didn't give the team much of an explanation.

"He didn't really dive into any details," Leber said. "Just said, 'That's where we're going to go with it.'"

Moss's contract called for a \$6.4 million base salary this

season — leaving the Vikings on the hook for at least \$1.5 million. If Moss is claimed on waivers, the team that signs him is responsible for the remainder of his salary. If he clears waivers, then he can sign as a free agent under new terms.

Claiming priority is based on inverse order of the current standings, so the Patriots — who lead the league at 6-1 — would be last. Belichick declined comment Monday.

"You can't bait me into it," he said.

NFL

Fox says Moore will remain Panthers starting quarterback

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Matt Moore still has his job and John Fox insists he's not worried about his. It's just that nobody can seem to figure out how to end a dizzying display of offensive ineptitude that could rewrite the Carolina Panthers record book.

Fox spent his Monday press conference after the latest failed effort to move the ball replying simply, "yep," when asked if Moore will remain the starting quarterback ahead of rookie Jimmy Clausen.

Moore threw three more interceptions in Sunday's 20-10 loss to St. Louis that left the Panthers (1-6) the NFL's lowest scoring team (12.1 points), worst offensive unit (251.4 yards a game) and last in

turnover margin (minus-10).

Despite playing in only four-plus games, Moore has 10 interceptions and two lost fumbles, accounting for more than half of Carolina's NFL-high 23 turnovers.

But Fox was quick to point out miscommunication with the Panthers' underwhelming receiving unit.

"There were some other areas that broke down on some of the interceptions," Fox said. "I don't think I can pin it on" Moore.

Fox, who has never finished worse than 7-9 in his eight previous years in Carolina, also shook off questions about his future.

Denied a contract extension over the past two years, Fox is in the last year of his deal after the Panthers spent the offseason over-

hauling the roster and shedding payroll to become the NFL's youngest team.

"I don't think it matters if you have four years or one year and I don't care if you're a player or a coach," Fox said of his contract. "I think in the times now we're all well compensated."

"I don't think I've ever really worried about having a job in this league. I'm not going to start now."

While Fox has taken subtle shots at the roster-gutting earlier this season, he disputed Monday the claim the Panthers don't have

enough offensive talent to be competitive — even if statistics say otherwise.

Carolina's 85 points are 33 fewer than the NFL's second-lowest scoring team, Cleveland. Its eight touchdowns are three fewer than second-to-last Miami. The 13 interceptions are a league-high and the Panthers are

getting inconsistent performances from rookie receivers and new offensive linemen.

Even four-time Pro Bowl receiv-

er Steve Smith is struggling. He dropped two passes and had a key fumble in the fourth quarter that led to St. Louis' clinching touchdown.

"I have always believed we have enough talent," Fox said. "It is just a matter of executing your assignment on a particular play."

The running game, which used to be at the heart of Fox-coached teams here, is not immune. As DeAngelo Williams (left foot) sat out against the Rams, Jonathan Stewart managed 30 yards on 14 carries.

With Williams hobbling in the locker room Monday and saying only, "I'm doing my best to get back on the field," the Panthers have dropped to 28th in the league in rushing.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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Dwight Schruete: In the wild, there is no health care. In the wild, health care is, "Ow, I hurt my leg. I can't run. A lion eats me and I'm dead." Well, I'm not dead. I'm the lion, you're dead.

Jan Levinson-Gould: [on phone] Dwight, listen to me very carefully: you are not a manager of anything. Understand?

Dwight Schruete: That's not entirely true, because he put me in charge of picking a healthcare plan.

Jan Levinson-Gould: Really? Okay, when Michael gets back, you tell him to call me immediately. Dwight Schruete: Call you immediately, good. Hey listen, since I have you on the phone, um, can I fire Jim?

Jan Levinson-Gould: No.

MEN'S TENNIS

Watt leads Irish in singles matches

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame has come through the fall season with a strong team that returns all of its starters from last year's squad and has added talented freshmen to the roster.

"The thing that stands out for us this fall has been our depth," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. "We have 10 to 12 players who have demonstrated with quality wins that each is capable of playing and winning at a No. 5 to No. 6 level on a top 25 team. It is difficult to project now what our lineup could be, but at least two of our freshmen have shown that they can win at an elite level.

"Both [freshmen] Greg Andrews and Billy Pecor have wins that are very impressive so far. Both are very aggressive off the ground and made it to the finals of a national championship a year ago at

the junior level. Dan Stahl played brilliantly at times against Michigan's Evan King last week."

Junior Casey Watt will once again lead the team at No. 1 singles. Watt advanced to the semifinals of last week's ITA Midwest Regional at Notre Dame in a performance that included an upset of Ohio State's Chase Buchanan in the quarterfinals.

"Buchanan had won the US National Juniors and the Junior US Open in 2009, so that is a pretty big win," Bayliss said. "Casey can win big for us high in the lineup if he becomes more adept at handling shorter mid-court balls and finishing better at the net, but this is a challenge for him. He certainly will be challenged here by the level that Stephen Havens has shown this fall."

In their final event of the fall season, the Irish will again split the team in two, sending

half with Bayliss to the William & Mary Invitational, and the other half with associate head coach Ryan Sachire to the Alabama Invitational in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Havens and Pecor will travel to Virginia with Bayliss, accompanied by seniors Dan Stahl and David Anderson, juniors Niall Fitzgerald and Daven Brodess, and sophomores Blas Moros and Spencer Talmadge.

Andrews will travel to Alabama with fellow freshmen Ryan Bandy and Matt Dooley, along with seniors Matt Johnson, Bryan Kelly, Sean Tan and Tyler Davis and junior Sam Keeton.

The Irish will look to have strong showings in both events before they return to Notre Dame to prepare for their spring season opener at William & Mary on Jan. 22.

Contact Kate Grabarek at kgrab02@saintmarys.edu

MLB

Giants win World Series in game five



San Francisco Giants Edgar Renteria and Cody Ross celebrate after Renteria's three run home run in the seventh inning.

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Edgar Renteria saves his most memorable moments for the World Series.

After getting the hit that won the 1997 title for Florida and making the final out for St. Louis in Boston's 2004 win, he pushed the Giants to their first championship in 56 years.

Renteria's three-run homer off Cliff Lee in the seventh inning stunned the Texas Rangers and their fans, sending San Francisco to a 3-1 victory Monday night in Game 5. His unexpected offense from the No. 8 spot in the batting order earned him World Series MVP honors.

Not bad for a guy who began the postseason on the bench.

"It was a tough year for me," Renteria said. "I told myself to keep working hard and keep in shape because something is going to be good this year."

A five-time All-Star who has declined dramatically the past three seasons, Renteria hit .412 (7 for 17) with six RBIs in the Series. He had all of three homers and 22 RBIs during an injury-filled regular season that landed the shortstop on the disabled list three times and prompted him to openly ponder retirement.

"I don't know. I'm going to think about it and see what happens," he said Monday night.

But he's used to the big stage — Renteria is one of only two players to get a World Series-ending hit and hit into a World Series-ending out, according to STATS LLC. The other was Goose Goslin, who struck out for Washington against Pittsburgh in 1925, then singled for Detroit against the Chicago Cubs in 1935.

In 1997, Renteria's 11th-inning single up the middle off Cleveland's Charles Nagy won the title for the Florida Marlins, only the fourth Game 7 in World Series history to stretch into extra innings.

Seven years later, his comebacker to Keith Foulke finished Boston's four-game sweep of St. Louis and gave the Red Sox their first title since 1918. He was the one who hit the ball that Doug Mientkiewicz made famous.

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Martin

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got going there and got more comfortable," he said. "[The first shot] was nice. I just stepped into it, and knocked it down. I was wide open so I had to shoot it."

Atkins, a freshman from Columbia, Md., finished the night with eight points on two-for-two shooting, along with one assist.

Before the game, the only people who had really seen Martin and Atkins in action were the players passing them the ball.

"It was [a long time coming], but it was fun," said Martin, who sat out the 2008-09 season after transferring from Purdue and then missed last season due to a torn ACL. "I'm just happy I got out there and played with [my teammates] rather than against them for once."

Martin, still sporting a knee brace to protect his surgically-repaired knee, said he entered Monday's contest with relatively low goals, especially when compared to his 15 points.

"Individually, I was just happy to get into the game," he said. "That's all I wanted to do, to play for a minute and then I would have been happy. That was where my goals kind of stopped."

Instead, Martin logged 26 minutes, while Atkins notched 21 in his first action at the college level.

"I would say the best thing is I didn't miss a shot. two-for-two. Everything was good," Atkins said. "Everybody else got involved. Scott [Martin] being back is a big part."

Atkins came off the bench with 13:30 left in the first half,

extending his wait by six and a half more minutes.

"I was excited all day to get out there. It felt good to finally get out there with everybody," he said. "After pre-game shootaround, I felt like [the game] was right there, but we had to wait another three or four hours. It's good to get the first one out of the way."

Preventing Atkins from starting alongside Martin was the newly-named quartet of Irish captains: Abromaitis and seniors Tyrone Nash, Carleton Scott and Ben Hansbrough. In 27 minutes, Nash, a forward, tallied nine points and eight rebounds, while Scott added 13 points and seven rebounds. Hansbrough contributed 14 points.

Despite the balanced offensive attack, the captains said the best aspect of Notre Dame's game was its defense, which led to a quick start and a 24-8 lead after less than nine minutes had passed.

"We did well defensively," Scott said. "We came out of the gate, jumped on them early and didn't let up. ... They are a great team. They control the ball well. Coach is going to say we have to get out there and defend shooters, and that is what we did."

Notre Dame held the Knights to 33.3 percent shooting on the game, including 27.6 percent in the second half. Meanwhile, the Irish ended the game at 59.2 percent shooting from the field, including 9-of-16 on three-pointers.

Notre Dame will play its second and final exhibition game Saturday against Catholic University from Washington, D.C., at 7 p.m. at the Purcell Pavilion.

Contact Douglas Farmer at dfarmer1@nd.edu



Senior guard Scott Martin drives to the basket against Marian Monday night. Notre Dame won 85-52.

Par

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teams got two rounds in on the final day. Park shot two rounds of 74 in the event, which she was able to improve upon with a Sunday total of 73 and a 72 on Monday.

Freshman Kristina Nhim, who has also had a standout first season with the Irish, narrowly trails Zhang and Park with a 147 total from her round one score of 75 and round two 72. Nhim is currently tied for 15th. Junior Becca Huffer, who led Notre Dame last weekend at the Landfall Tradition in Wilmington, N.C., stands in fourth for the team. Her first round

total was a team-high 79, but she managed to come back with a 72 for an overall 151. Currently, she is tied for 33rd after being in 54th after the first round.

Closing out the Irish scoring is junior Katie Allare whose 154 total ties her for 50th, a five spot drop from her day one 45th place finish. She finished Sunday with a round of 78, but was able to come back with a 76 on Monday.

Tournament play will continue tomorrow morning with the third and final round of the tournament. Tee times begin at 8:30 a.m. at the Briggs Ranch Golf Course in San Antonio, Texas.

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel01@saintmarys.edu

Reunion

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games because of an American boycott instituted by President Jimmy Carter during the height of the Cold War.

Returning to the training grounds where so much happened with Brown and her teammates made the recognition and the reunion even more special.

"It's a lot of fun, any time I can get together with my teammates from the 1980 Olympic team, we always have a good time," Brown said. "It was probably a little extra special just being in Colorado Springs because that's where we trained and where we went through so much; [it was] where we trained and lived and spent so much time there. It was nice to be back and it was really nice to be recognized by the city."

Not only was the weekend special but it was also an honor for Brown and her teammates to be reminded of how much the city cared for them and had taken them under its wings. The 1980 Olympic team was the first group to train in Colorado Springs, and none of the players had any connections to the city or were from the state of Colorado. It was all an unknown for them, but the team quickly gained local support after they arrived.

"We didn't know how it was going to be," Brown said. "None of us had friends or family or anything there, and it was really special the way the city of Colorado Springs just really adopted us. From the minute we were there, whenever we would play there, we would play to sell-out crowds. A lot of people in the community just really took an active interest. They would have us over for home-cooked meals, just took us in, as if we were from there and had lived there all along."

Returning to her old training grounds with her teammates reminded Brown of the bonds that had been formed and that continue to play a role in her life today.

"We stay in touch quite a bit. Obviously not with every single person on the team but the bonds that we formed when we played together and for the amount of time we played together are still very strong and these are still my best friends," she said.

Although they never competed on the Olympic stage, a "bittersweet thing" for Brown, she said her team has been recognized by a number of organizations for their role in putting USA Volleyball on the map.

"It's a great honor to be recognized and always a good time when we can get together with our teammates because, like I said, there's such a close bond and because we are such good friends, so it was pretty special to come together and be able to celebrate something like that," Brown said. "And 30 years after, it's kind of crazy to think of that, but it was 30 years ago and it's kind of special to know that those bonds are as strong as ever."

When asked if it felt like 30 years had passed by since she and her teammates were training in Colorado Springs, Brown laughed and said, "No, not at all. That seems crazy."

None of the 1980 Olympic coaching staff were able to attend the event because of current coaching duties and scheduling. The team's head coach, Dr. Arie Selinger, is currently



PAT COVENEY/The Observer

Irish coach Debbie Brown talks to her team in a game against DePaul on Oct. 15.

coaching the Israeli National Team, while the two assistant coaches are coaching in Japan and at St. John's University. Four of Brown's teammates have also gone on to become college head coaches.

The bonds Brown forged with her teammates that continue to play an active role in her life were an important part of her experience as a player, and an important aspect that she encourages the Irish players she coaches to consider.

"I have shared with them and I have told them that it's possible that their teammates will turn out to be the best friends that they'll have in life, and it's just a matter of cultivating friendships and relationships," Brown said. "I'm sure that for the Notre Dame players, for the 20 years that I've been able to coach, I know that some of them, for a fact, are still best friends with their teammates."

While Brown and her teammates were together during such a tumultuous time where they didn't know what their Olympic fate would be, she said that she tries to pass on the importance of her daily experiences with her teammates to her players.

"There's something about the things you go through as a teammate, and all the practices and hard work, just the experiences that you have that create a special bond," she said. "I have shared with them that if they have the opportunity to develop the friendship like I have with my teammates, it makes it all worthwhile for sure."

Brown and the Irish are currently 15-9 overall and 8-3 in the Big East in her 20th season at Notre Dame.

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel01@saintmarys.edu

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Phoxes

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pleased with the season the Finest had.

"This year was lots of fun. We peaked at the right time. I'm proud of our seniors," Ritt said.

The Phoxes will battle No. 1 Howard next Sunday for the right to go to the Stadium.

"We lost to Howard in the regular season," Tate said. "We know we've got our work cut out for us, but we've got a fair chance if we play as well [as we did today]. It will be a good game."

Howard 7, Welsh Family 6

Without its starting quarterback, No. 1 Howard made up for it with a pair of sisters and ended its hopes of a No. 8 Welsh Family upset, defeating the Whirlwind in a close-fought game.

The Ducks were missing senior captain and starting quarterback Kayla Bishop, so sisters Kaitlin and Clare Robinson filled in, with freshman Clare taking over passing duties in the first half and senior Kaitlin replacing her for the second half.

Though Howard did not have its usual offensive firepower, the Ducks' timely interceptions held down the Whirlwind passing attack. Kaitlin Robinson, who also played middle linebacker, had two interceptions in the first half, both of which occurred with Welsh Family just yards from a touchdown. She returned her second interception for a touchdown to give Howard the lead.

The Whirlwind fought back with a successful drive late in the first half. Junior wide receiver Charlotte Seasy caught a pass from sopho-

more quarterback Vicky Moreno in the end zone, but Welsh Family was unable to convert the extra point.

Both offensive units were stymied in the second half, which featured three punts, an interception and two turnovers on downs. The interception came courtesy of Clare Robinson, who also served as safety and rusher.

On game's final drive, Welsh Family appeared to complete a long pass that would have put the Whirlwind within scoring range, but the play was called back due to a holding penalty. Welsh Family was unable to make a first down in the next three plays, and the clock expired as the Howard offense took the field.

"The game was really close," Kaitlin Robinson said. "Welsh Fam came out strong but our defense held up and that's why we were able to win the game. We made some good interceptions and good stops."

"The game started off pretty slow, but we got to see that when our offense is more lackluster than usual our defense can really step it up and give us a big win," senior coach Fritz Schoenhut added.

With the victory, Howard will play No. 4 Pangborn in next Sunday's semifinals.

"We're glad we're still in it and we're looking to repeat our title," Kaitlin Robinson said.

McGlinn 13, Cavanaugh 6

In a shocking upset, No. 6 McGlinn toppled regular-sea-

son juggernaut No. 3 Cavanaugh with stout defensive play and creativity on offense in a victory.

Both teams appeared rusty at the outset as the two sides traded punts for the greater part of the first half. The Chaos (4-1) scored first on a touchdown pass from junior quarterback Becca Cink to junior running back Brittnei Alexander. The Shamrocks (3-2) would answer with a touchdown pass from junior Lauren Miller to sophomore Emily Golden as time expired to end the first half.

McGlinn would take the lead with its second score midway through the second half, when Miller and Golden connected for their second touchdown on the day. The Shamrocks followed up their touchdown with an interception by senior defensive back Caitlin Carlin, her first of two. Carlin was a standout

for a McGlinn defense that picked off four passes on the day, including one by junior wide receiver/defensive back Kate Tucker on a Cavanaugh Hail Mary as time expired.

"We played to our strengths on offense," Carlin said. "We were able to capitalize on the turnovers that the defense was able to force."

Offensively, the Shamrocks showed some imagination with their play calling, repeatedly using the hook-and-ladder and moving the quarterback all over the field. McGlinn's impressive performance was countered by a disappointing showing from the Chaos, who entered the game with an undefeated

"The game was really close. Welsh Fam came out strong but our defense held up."

**Kaitlin Robinson
Howard Senior**



MACKENZIE SAIN/The Observer

Pangborn senior Gabby Tate looks to pass against Farley Sunday. The Phoxes won in overtime.

record.

"We just didn't have the answers," Cavanaugh senior wide receiver Holly Hinz said. "We knew they were a good team, we knew they had a powerful offense. Just all around our team didn't have a great day."

The Shamrocks realize how important their first round victory is, as they now have the confidence to make a deep playoff run.

"I think when you are ever the underdog and can pull off the upset," Carlin said, "you just have to ride the wave of having momentum."

As the Cavanaugh football season ends earlier than the players would have hoped, McGlinn gets set to enter the second round of the playoffs with momentum to carry it forward.

Pasquerilla West 19, Lewis 18 (OT)

No. 7 Lewis was fired up on Sunday and nearly pulled off a huge upset against No. 2 Pasquerilla West in its overtime loss to the Purple Weasels.

The Chicks made it clear they were going to give Pasquerilla West a challenge from the opening whistle. The Lewis defense danced onto the field and was able to hold the explosive Purple Weasel offense on a goal line stand. The Lewis offense was unable to take advantage of the turnover, however, and after three plays punted the ball back to the Purple Weasels. With a second opportunity, Pasquerilla West maneuvered its speed option offense down the field and senior quarterback Simone Bigi was able to sneak in for the score.

On the following Lewis possession, sophomore quarterback Connaught Blood took over the field. She ripped off multiple long runs shaking off Purple Weasel defenders left and right. She capped off the drive with a 40-yard bomb, setting up the Chicks on the

one-yard line, which allowed them to score a touchdown on the following play.

Not to be outdone, Bigi marched her squad down the field and put the Purple Weasels back on top. After the Pasquerilla West touchdown, Lewis took over with a minute left in the half. Blood marched her team down the field and scored on a one yard run with only seconds left in the half.

Both defenses locked down in the second half. Pasquerilla West's defense broke up multiple pass attempts and Lewis's defensive line, led by senior captain Sarah Ceponis, sacked Bigi for multiple losses. The teams traded the ball back and forth until regulation expired.

Entering overtime, Pasquerilla West scored on an end around reverse. After converting the extra point, Pasquerilla West gave Lewis the ball back. The Ducks punched in a touchdown almost immediately, but could not convert the extra point, and the Purple Weasels emerged with a one point victory.

Despite the loss, Ceponis was proud of her team.

"We played real flag football out there today," Ceponis said. "We wouldn't want to go out any other way."

Pasquerilla West senior captain Libby Koerbel was not as excited about her squad's effort.

"The defense started out a little slow," Koerbel said. "We felt good in practice this week, though, and we're excited to go up against McGlinn on Sunday."

Pasquerilla West will face McGlinn in the semifinals on Sunday.

Contact Laura Coletti at lcoletti@nd.edu, Victoria Jacobsen at vjacobse@nd.edu, Joseph Monardo at jmonardo@nd.edu and David Kenney at dkenney1@nd.edu

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McMahon

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it in any way. I know individuals are certainly dealing with it."

Before the game, Fisher said a prayer as a team in memory of Sullivan.

From the outset the Big Red's defense came out with intensity, forcing a fumble within the first few minutes that allowed the offense to take over. Throughout the game the Big Red were all over the field, leading to two interceptions and 14 more incompletions from Fisher junior quarterback Pat Hertenstein.

"Our [defensive] strategy was to come out, hit hard, and play fast and intense," Dillon senior captain Jordan Smith said. "Our defense was perfect today."

Despite a strong effort from Fisher on the defensive side of the ball, Dillon was relentless on offense. The Green Wave came up with a few big stops, highlighted by two in the red zone in the second half, and a blocked extra point. In the end, they were simply worn out by Dillon's dual-threat offense featuring sophomore running back Terry Howard and the passing duo of freshman quarterback Kevin Fink and sophomore receiver Will Salvi.

"Not many teams have the luxury of being able to run and pass," Smith said. "Not a lot of kids play quarterback like that, so it's great having [Fink]."

Fink credits the success of Dillon's passing game to his on-field chemistry with Salvi as well as his other receivers.

"[Salvi and I] work well together," Fink said. "We have been working hard and getting our timing down and that's really paid off. I'm very comfortable throwing to him. We're lucky to have a great core of receivers."

Dillon's second drive of the contest ended when Howard dove into the end zone for the score, while its third concluded with a long catch and run on a pass from Fink to Salvi for a touchdown. Fisher managed to hold Dillon out of the end zone after the Big Red's second score until Fink hooked up with sophomore tight end Ben Ferry for a touchdown on their final drive.

The Big Red now look ahead to their next opponent, Siegfried. When asked about

improvements to be made before that game, however, Dillon seemed extremely confident.

"Nothing," Salvi said. "We're perfect."

The Big Red will take on Siegfried in the semifinals Sunday.

Siegfried 28, Stanford 3

Siegfried began the defense of its interhall championship in style Sunday, as the No. 5 Ramblers rolled past No. 4 Stanford.

Led by senior quarterback Matt Meinert's two touchdowns — one passing, one rushing — and sophomore running back David Whitmore's 75 rushing yards on 5 carries, the Siegfried (4-1) offense proved it was just as good as its vaunted defense.

"The offensive line blocked really well today. I think this was their first really complete game," Meinert said. "They stayed on their blocks and really took it to them today."

The offense turned in their best performance this season, amassing 221 total yards and scoring a season-high 28 points. In an opening drive that chewed up the entire first quarter, Siegfried marched 65 yards on 14 plays, capped by sophomore running back Bryce Burton's 4-yard touchdown plunge. Burton finished the game with 37 rushing yards on 9 carries.

The Ramblers defense was determined to start strong as well. After allowing a couple of long completions by Stanford senior quarterback Tony Rizzo, Siegfried forced Rizzo out of the pocket and intercepted an errant pass. On the second play of the ensuing drive, Whitmore followed a block by senior left tackle Michael McDonnell and sprinted 55 yards down the sideline for a Siegfried score, giving the Ramblers a 14-point lead.

The Griffins (3-2) showed signs of life late in the first half, with a 31-yard field goal that cut Siegfried's lead to 11.

The Ramblers took complete control of the game in the second half, however, as their defense allowed just 17 total yards in the second half and repeatedly frustrated Rizzo, who finished the day 14 for 27 with 141 yards and 2 interceptions.

"[Stanford] threw a lot. Our secondary gave up some big plays but kept them out of the end zone," Meinert said. "That was really what we

needed to do."

The lone bright spot on the Griffins offense was junior wide receiver Griffin Naylor, who hauled in six passes for 56 yards.

Siegfried will continue its title defense against No. 1 Dillon in the semifinals.

"We'll be ready," Meinert said. "Dillon's good but we'll definitely be ready."

Alumni 18, Carroll 6

In Sunday afternoon's quarterfinal matchup between No. 3 Alumni and No. 6 Carroll, the Dawgs' offense could have easily been mistaken for Navy's against Notre Dame, as they ran the triple option to near perfection in their 18-7 win over the Vermin.

The Dawgs (4-1) didn't attempt a single pass and junior captain and fullback Dan Dansdill led the charge with 24 carries for 127 yards and a touchdown.

The Dawgs' ball-control offense limited the pass heavy Vermin (3-2) offense to just five possessions, two of which occurred at the end of the first and second halves.

The Alumni offensive line was nearly impenetrable in its 213-yard rushing performance.

"The offensive line was stellar today," Dansdill said. "The credit definitely goes to them."

The Vermin appeared poised to pull off the upset when they took an early 7-0 lead. After missing a field goal on the opening drive, the Vermin regained possession on an Alumni fumble. Two plays later, freshman quarterback Jake Gardner completed a 40-yard screen pass to junior running back Nick Tammerine for a touchdown. Gardner completed 12 of 18 passes for 155 yards on the day.

Alumni would cut the lead to one at the end of the first half after a touchdown on a five-yard quarterback sneak from freshman quarterback Will Cronin, but the Dawgs missed the extra point. The game was decided in the third quarter when Alumni, trailing 7-6, drove 65 yards on the opening possession of the second half and capped off the drive with a one-yard quarterback sneak for a touchdown. Despite missing the two-point conversion, Alumni's 11-minute drive demoralized the Vermin defense. A three-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter by Dansdill sealed the win for Alumni.

In the second half, Dansdill



SARAH O'CONNOR/The Observer

Carroll junior running back Nick Tammerine runs the ball against Alumni on Sunday. The Dawgs beat the Vermin 18-6.

said the Dawg's defense adjusted to Carroll's offensive attack.

"We tried to limit them to short passes and didn't want any big plays," he said.

While Carroll's surprising season ended in a disappointment, Carroll sophomore captain Keith Marrero remained upbeat about the future.

"We're returning our entire squad next season," Marrero said. "You'll hear from us."

Alumni will square off against Sorin in the semifinals on Sunday with a trip to the championship game at Notre Dame Stadium on the line.

Sorin 14, Morrissey 0

The postseason battle between Sorin and Morrissey showcased an exceptional Otters defense, as the No. 2 seed shut out the young Manor attack.

Sorin's (4-1) defense was aided by two interceptions on the day, including one that immediately followed an Otters touchdown.

"I just dropped back in coverage and caught it. He put it up, and I caught it," sophomore cornerback Ted Spinelli said.

Spinelli led the Otters' offense as well, connecting on first-half touchdown passes with seniors Jon Beckerle and Michael Browder.

Morrissey (2-3) freshman defensive back Isaac Evans had an interception in the second half, as Morrissey's defense shut out the Otters in the second half of play. The Morrissey offense, however, never quite found the answer

to their lack of production this season.

"If you look at our season, we could never really get anything going on offense," sophomore lineman Sean Baur said. "We've had three touchdowns this season, maybe. We don't take ourselves seriously, maybe not seriously enough."

Despite the loss, Morrissey will return many experienced players next season.

"We have literally everybody from this year coming back next year, so we're looking forward to that," Baur said.

Sorin senior defensive back Matt Gring ended Morrissey's chances with his third interception in the past three games.

"Our defense stepped up big, led by our senior defensive backs. I feel like our defense can help us make it to the championship. Three interceptions says something good," Gring said. "Happy Halloween."

As far as preparation for next weekend, the Otters will be taking it easy.

"We're taking the week off," sophomore athlete Ryan Robinson said. "We're having a bye week. We're overworked, and we've got injuries, so hopefully this week will bring rest and relaxation."

The Otters have only one goal, and that is to bring a title to Sorin.

"We've made a lot of improvements this year, and a lot of that's due to our unique ability to practice using swimming pools and mouse traps," Spinelli said. "We want to win. We want to go to the Stadium and win."

The Otters will face Alumni on Sunday.

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SMC VOLLEYBALL

Eighth-seeded Belles to play No. 1 Hope in tournament

By KATHARINE MACK
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's will be up against the odds tonight when it takes on Hope in the MIAA tournament.

The Belles (5-20) will enter the nine-team tournament as the No. 8 seed and will look

for a major upset against top-seeded Hope (23-4), which ranks 8th nationally, in their opening match of the double round-robin tournament.

The Belles know exactly what they're up against with the Flying Dutch, whom they have faced twice this season. Both matches resulted in a 3-

0 Saint Mary's losses.

"We were just [at Hope] on Saturday so our team knows what to expect," Belles head coach Toni Kuschel said.

Saint Mary's must be more consistent with hitting, as the last two matchups between the teams resulted in a Belles attack percentage of .078 on Oct. 5 and a .033 attack per-

centage on Saturday.

"We will need to play better. We need to be consistent with the ball and play in system," Kuschel said.

The Belles must also try to contain the potent Hope offense. The Flying Dutch posted a .449 attack percentage in their Oct. 5 match and increased their attack per-

centage to .453 on Saturday.

"We will need to serve tough against a great offense. We will also need to be more focused on service receiving and defense," said Kuschel.

The match begins at 7 p.m. at Hope.

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MEN'S INTERHALL FOOTBALL

Dillon shuts out Fisher

Fisher loses to Dillon, declines game change

By KELSEY MANNING, MATTHEW DEFRANKS, MATT UNGER and MEGAN GOLDEN
Sports Writers

Following Wednesday's death of Notre Dame junior Declan Sullivan, a Fisher resident, RecSports contacted Fisher with an offer to postpone its first-round playoff game against No. 1 seed Dillon.

Without hesitation, Fisher rector Fr. Rob Moss and senior captain Michael McMahon declined the offer.

"We definitely appreciated the offer," McMahon said. "That was very kind of them. While we are all dealing with the tragedy, we have to roll on with what we are doing."

"I don't want to downplay

see McMAHON/page 14



Fisher junior Pat Hertenstein throws a pass in Fisher's game against Dillon on Sunday. The Big Red beat the Green Wave 20-0.

SARAH O'CONNOR/The Observer

ND VOLLEYBALL

Brown and teammates meet again

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

Thirty years may be a long time ago for most people, but when Irish coach Debbie Brown gets back together with her teammates from the 1980 Olympic team, it doesn't feel like a day has passed.

Brown and six other living players from that Olympic team — a team that never had the chance to compete for the gold medal they were favored to win — were honored last Wednesday in Colorado Springs, the city they trained in and lived in, when they were inducted into the Colorado Springs Sports Hall of Fame.

The team was favored to win the gold medal, but they never competed in those Moscow

see REUNION/page 12

WOMEN'S INTERHALL FOOTBALL

Pangborn comes from behind to take Farley in overtime

By LAURA COLETTI, VICTORIA JACOBSEN, JOSEPH MONARDO and DAVID KENNEY
Sports Writers

No. 4 Pangborn showed just how badly it wanted to reach Notre Dame Stadium in the first round of playoffs against No. 5 Farley on Sunday. After Pangborn fell behind early, the Phoxes (4-1) recovered to

force a tie at the end of regulation and scored a touchdown in the overtime period to win the game 25-19.

"This was a give-and-take game," Pangborn senior quarterback Gabby Tate said. "It was one of the greatest flag football games I've ever played in. Either team could have won."

The Finest (3-2) took an early lead when junior receiver Kaitlyn Vitale received a

short pass through the middle in the end zone. Farley's running game was effective in moving the ball down the field to gain better position. Vitale scored again on a similar series to make the score 13-0.

Pangborn answered just before halftime with a touchdown of its own. Freshman receiver Mary Kate Veselik received a long pass on the right side of the field and ran

it in for a touchdown.

The Phoxes tied the game in the second half on special teams when they returned a Farley punt to the house for a touchdown. After exchanging touchdowns, the teams remained tied at the end of regulation. Pangborn's tenacious defense held the Finest scoreless in overtime. When given their chance, the Phoxes made the most of their opportunity when Tate

found Veselik in the left corner of the end zone for the deciding points.

"Both freshmen came up huge today," Tate said. "Mary Kate kept her cool and played great. I'm expecting good things from her in the future."

Farley's loss was not for lack of effort, and senior coach Kevin Ritt was still

see PHOXES/page 13

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Notre Dame off to a good start

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Writer

Irish fans have waited two years to watch senior guard Scott Martin take the court, and they have waited months to see how freshman guard Eric Atkins would do leading the offense.

As Notre Dame defeated Marian 85-52 in an exhibition game Monday, Martin tied with fourth-year forward Tim Abromaitis as the leading scorers in the contest with 15 points apiece. He went six-for-10 from the field, including three-for-five from 3-point range, and hit his first shot of his Notre Dame career.

"I was a little nervous at the start, a couple butterflies, but I

see MARTIN/page 12



Freshman guard Eric Atkins goes up for a shot in the exhibition game against Marian on Monday.

PAT COVENEY/The Observer

ND WOMEN'S GOLF

Irish in fifth despite improved strokes

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

After commencing the 2010 Alamo Invitational with a first-round score of 298 on Sunday and a fifth-place standing, the Irish have cut nine strokes off their second-round team score but remain in fifth place. Monday's compiled score of 289 puts Notre Dame at 587 overall as it heads into the today's third and final round.

Texas Christian University leads the tournament with a two-day total of 575, followed by Tulane in second with 581 and Texas A&M

and Colorado tied for third with a 36-hole stroke total of 582.

Freshman Nicole Zhang and senior So-Hyun Park lead the Irish with rounds of 145, tying them for ninth among the 75-player field. Rookie sensation Zhang, who entered the tournament as Notre Dame's No. 2 seed, shot a 72 on Day 1 and followed it with a 73 on Monday. Her Day 1 score was an even-par total and landed her in third, a position now held by players who shot a 143. Last season, the event was shortened due to rain, but the

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