

THE OBSERVER

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Ward and McCormick to face off

Initial election results leave two tickets remaining for the runoff; debate planned for tonight

By MELISSA FLANAGAN
News Writer

After a campaign violation delayed the results for a day, the Election Committee of the Judicial Council announced the Pat McCormick-Brett Rocheleau and James Ward-Heather Eaton tickets will proceed to a runoff election for the offices of student body president and vice president.

A runoff debate featuring the McCormick-Rocheleau and Ward-Eaton tickets will take place tonight at 10 p.m. in the Main Lobby of LaFortune Student Center. The runoff election will be held Thursday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

To win the initial election, a ticket must win a majority of the votes cast, Michael Thomas, Judicial Council Vice President of Elections, said. No ticket received more than 50 percent of the vote in the election.

The council received 4,036 votes in total, which is slightly lower than the 4,177 votes cast in last year's election.

see RUNOFF/page 4

Election Results 2011



- McCormick-Rocheleau - 38.07% (1536)
- Ward-Eaton - 22.59% (911)
- Soler-LeStrange - 22.42% (904)
- Bevington-Colangelo - 6.60% (266)
- Noonan-Thomas - 6.37% (256)
- Abstain - 4.04% (163)

Total votes: 4,036

The Runoff Election Debate will be held at 10 p.m. tonight in the Main Lounge of LaFortune.

The Runoff Election will take place on Thursday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

LAUREN KALINOSKI/The Observer

Freshman founds website

By TORI ROECK
News Writer

A Notre Dame freshman recently founded a news and opinion website that publishes content daily from universities across the country.

NextGen Journal, the site that is geared toward college students, launched last week.

Freshman Connor Toohill manages the site and currently serves as editor-in-chief. Toohill said he was inspired to start the news site for college students in 2009 when the national budget debate sparked interest in many of his classmates at his high school.

"There were a lot of things being talked about that had a lot of impact on the next generation," Toohill said, "but our voices were never really in the conversation."

Toohill said he wanted to create a forum for the opinions of the younger generation.

NextGen Journal currently staffs over 50 college students from universities around the country.

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Movie to be filmed on ND's campus

Movies filmed on Notre Dame's Campus:

Film:	Year Released:
'Knut Rockne, All American'	1940
'Rudy'	1993
'Two Miles From Home'	2012 (tentative)



LAUREN KALINOSKI/The Observer

Observer Staff Report

Notre Dame gave approval for the filming of a motion picture on campus beginning this year, according to a Tuesday press release.

The film, which will be the third to be filmed on campus in Notre Dame's history, is

about Haley Scott DeMaria, a Notre Dame swimmer who was paralyzed for a week after a 1992 bus accident that killed two of her teammates, the press release stated.

"Though we receive many

see MOVIE/page 4

Newsweek: South Bend a 'dying city'

By SAM STRYKER
News Writer

The city of South Bend is suffering an identity crisis.

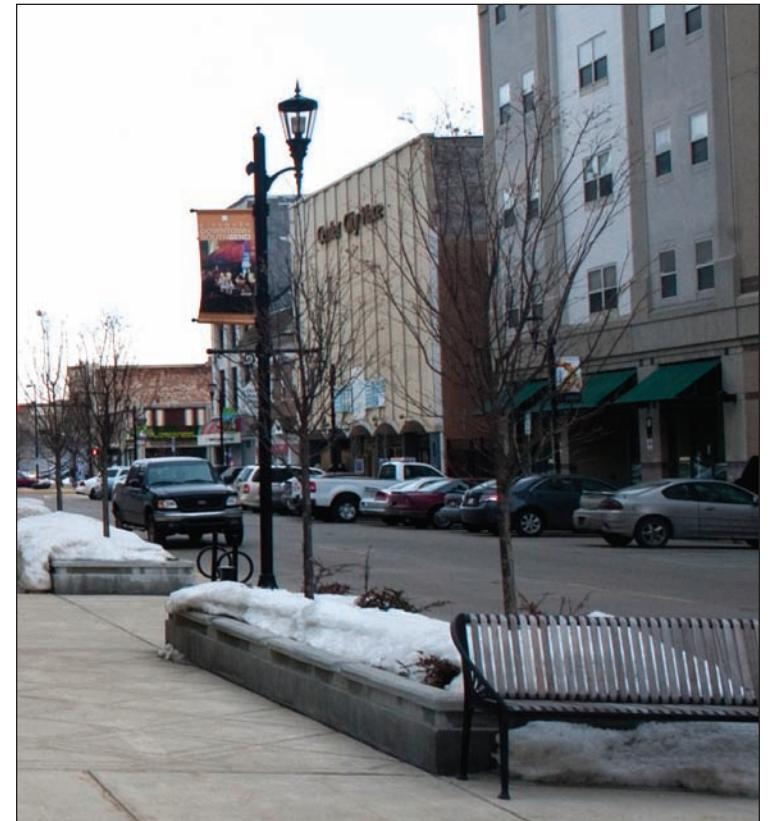
On Jan. 21, Newsweek named South Bend as eighth on its list of "Dying Cities." However, the National Civic League also recently recognized South Bend as an "All-American City."

University spokesman Dennis Brown said Newsweek's ranking system, based on negative population shifts, is misleading.

"We think South Bend and other cities that were singled out by Newsweek have been mischaracterized with a negative label that is based on a narrow, random, flawed methodology," he said. "We think it's wrong."

Don Bishop, associate vice president of Undergraduate Enrollment, said he felt the magazine's ranking failed to grasp the true characteristics of what makes a city

see CITY/page 4



MATT SAAD/The Observer
A street in downtown South Bend is pictured. Newsweek recently listed the city among the nation's "dying cities."

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

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CORRECTIONS

Due to an editing error, a Feb. 14 article, "Students plunge into lakes," misidentified the residence hall for which Professor Ann-Marie Conrado is a fellow. Conrado is Badin Hall's fellow. The Observer regrets this error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: What's on your Notre Dame Bucket List?



Andrew Lamb



Ben German



Brian Vogt



David Ellett



Dominic Robertazzi



Duncan Smith

"The Hesburgh challenge."

"Climbing Stepan Center."

"Chop down one of the old oak trees."

"Win a football national championship."

"The Hesburgh challenge."

"Creating a music scene on campus."

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



ASHLEY DACY/The Observer

IBM representatives Kevin Bolyard, right, and Lee Blakemore speak at a Jeopardy! watch in LaFortune Ballroom Tuesday evening. Students gathered with the company representatives to watch super computer Watson take on former Jeopardy! winners.

OFFBEAT

Girl with 12 fingers, 14 toes reaches for a record

YANGON, Myanmar — From almost the moment Le Yati Min was born, her mother knew the girl had a little something extra.

"I asked the nurses whether my kid was born complete with hands and legs," says her mother. "They replied that the baby even has more than she needs."

Born with 12 fingers and 14 toes, Le may be the most "digitally enhanced" person in the world. Now, the 16-month-old girl's family in impoverished Myanmar is seeking a Guinness World Record to prove it.

A neighbor is helping her

mother apply to claim the record hearing that a boy from India currently holds bragging rights for the most digits, with 12 fingers and 13 toes.

Polydactylism — being born with an extra finger or toe — is fairly unusual, but it is even more rare for someone to have spare functional digits on both hands and feet, as Le does.

Cameron finds new ally: Tabby cat to battle rats

LONDON — Prime Minister David Cameron turned to a new recruit Tuesday to help fend off his foes — an ally armed with whiskers, claws and sharp teeth.

Larry, a four-year-old

tabby cat, arrived at his new home at 10 Downing Street, tasked with warding off a pack of rats seen scuttling close to the British leader's official residence.

The former stray, adopted from London's Battersea Dogs and Cats Home, is the latest pet to be appointed Chief Mouser to the Cabinet Office, an unofficial pest control post.

Television cameras had captured several sightings of rats around Downing Street — a common problem in London, where the trash on sidewalks provides a constant supply of food.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

A lecture on "Sustainability: A Marketing Emphasis" will be presented by Patrick Murphy today at 12:30 p.m. in the Giovannini Commons of the Mendoza College of Business. The lecture is part of Ethics Week 2011, and it is free to the Notre Dame community.

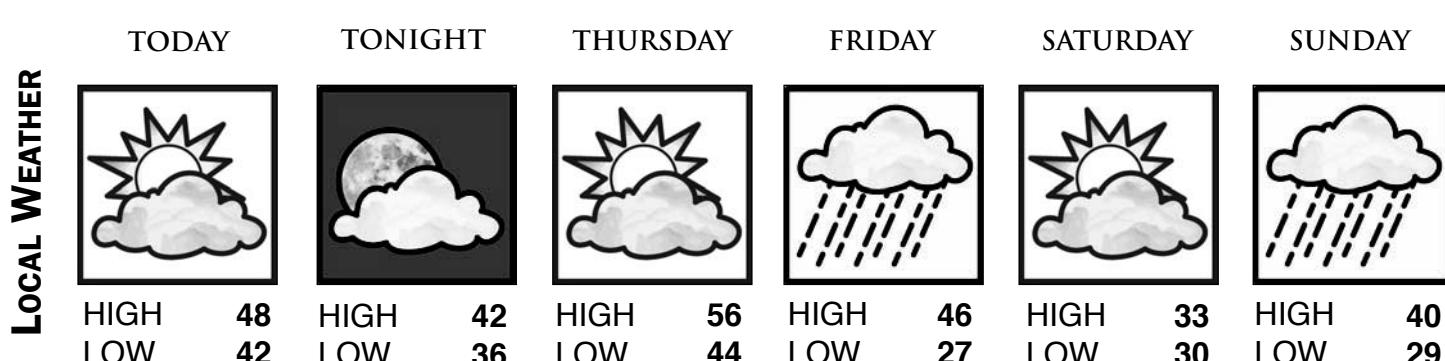
The colloquium "Challenges in Statistical Analysis of Complex / High Dimensional Data" will take place today at 4 p.m. in 129 Hayes-Healy Center. Wenjiang Fu is a professor from Michigan State University's Biostatistics Department and will host the event.

Geoff Eley will give a lecture on "The Past Under Erasure: History, Memory and the Contemporary" today at 5 p.m. in the Geddes Auditorium. The event is free and a reception held by the Nanovic Institute for European Studies will follow.

Kelcey Parker will be reading from her short story collection "For Sale By Owner" at the University of Notre Dame's Hammes Bookstore on today at 7:30 p.m. The reading is free and open to the public.

"Proof," a play by David Auburn, will be presented tomorrow night at DeBartolo Performing Arts Center at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for regular admission, \$12 for seniors, and \$10 for students/youth. This cerebral mystery approaches issues such as what the link may be between genius and madness and whether either or both can be inherited.

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



COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Council discusses sexual assault

By JOHN CAMERON

News Writer

At this week's Council of Representatives (COR) meeting, members were given a presentation on the Committee for Sexual Assault Prevention's (CSAP) online site as well as the upcoming Sexual Assault Awareness Week.

Senior Mariah McGrogan, co-chair of the gender issues committee and a CSAP member, said the site offers a collection of resources for survivors looking for the next step in dealing with the assault.

"As a part of student government's Sexual Assault Awareness Week, we're trying to raise awareness of the CSAP website, which is the most centralized location for all the information you would possibly need about sexual assault," McGrogan said. "There's a page for victims and survivors who've been sexually assaulted and it walks you through the process of reporting a sexual assault."

McGrogan said the site highlights the different ways victims can report a sexual assault.

"There are also two ways that you can report a crime when you decide to go forward for disciplinary punishment of the attacker. The first is through University proceedings, which would be a ResLife trial," she said. "The second would be an off-campus pursuit of disciplinary action which would be through the prosecutor's office as well as the police department."

McGrogan also described the events planned for student gov-



Student body president Catherine Soler presides over a Jan. 26 COR meeting alongside vice president Andrew Bell.

ernment's Sexual Awareness Week, starting next Monday.

"On Tuesday, there will be a dinner in LaFortune from 6-8 p.m., free and open to the public. It includes a bunch of speakers who will be talking about sexual assault and how sexual assault affects members of our community," she said. "It's not just for survivors of sexual assault or people who know survivors, but it's for the entire community to show that this is really something Notre Dame cares about."

McGrogan said there would be information tables set up during the week in LaFortune, the dining halls and the Joyce Center staffed by student government, CSAP, Men Against Violence, Feminist Voice and the

Gender Relations Council.

Outside of informational programming, she said there would be religious and social events later in the week.

"On Wednesday, there's a mass of healing that will take place in Dillon Hall," she said. "On Friday, there is a 'You're Not Alone' reception. ... it is going to be an outlet that student clubs, organizations, departments and offices on campus can get involved with sexual assault by making a quilt square for a quilt that will be hung up on campus ... just to show that Notre Dame won't stand for sexual violence on this campus."

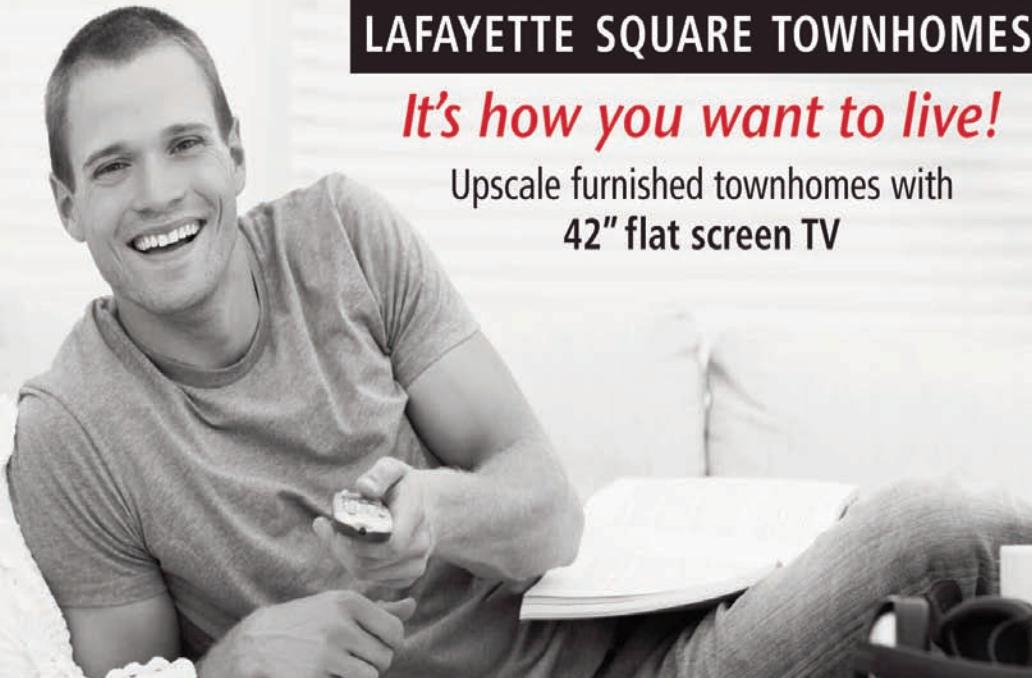
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RHA brings home top program award

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY

Saint Mary's Editor

Saint Mary's Residence Hall Association (RHA) faced nine other RHAs from Indiana universities and colleges and brought home eight awards from the Indiana Residence Hall Organization Conference (IRHOC), which was held at Purdue University from Feb. 4 to 6.

The awards for the College included Best Display, Best Roll Call and Top Program. The group's winning program was entitled "Don't Talk Your Diet to Me." Senior and RHA president Marianne Jones presented the program alongside fellow senior and RHA member Jessie Robbins.

Individual awards went to Jones and Katherine Nelson for Four Year Service Pins, Holy Cross Hall director Christine Mihalopoulos for Advisor of the Year, and Robbins received an Outstanding Service Award.

"We went with high energy and it all paid off in the end," Robbins said. "I'm really proud of the group we brought to IRHOC, and was proud of all the ideas other schools liked about Saint Mary's."

The Saint Mary's group at the conference included five members of RHA, two resident advisors and the president of the College's Straight and Gay Alliance (SAGA).

In order for the group to be nominated for individual awards, Laura Glaub, senior and National Communications Coordinator for RHA, said she put together bids for each nominee.

"I nominated Marianne Jones for Student of the Year, Jessica Robbins [for the] outstanding service award and Christine Mihalopoulos for Advisor of the Year by writing a 10 to 20 page bid with a theme that defined them," Glaub said. "The 10 to 20 bid included what they have done during their time at Saint Mary's, a letter from me why I think they

deserve it and then other examples of what they have done to make our RHA improve."

According to members of the group, Glaub led the group to its success during the weekend.

"The biggest reason SMC was so successful this year at IRHOC was because of Laura Glaub," Jones said. "She spent countless hours preparing us with matching shirts for spirit, getting all of the supplies for the banner and display and writing five 15 page bids. She was a true inspiration and deserves recognition."

The whole group put forth a collective effort for the event by meeting two hours every week for the month leading up to competition.

"We went with high energy and it all paid off in the end," Robbins said. "I'm really proud of the group we brought to IRHOC, and was proud of all the ideas other schools liked about Saint Mary's."

Mihalopoulos, who works as a supervisor for resident advisors on campus, said the opportunity to work closely with RHA in preparation for IRHOC helps inspire improvement throughout the campus.

"I love working with the extraordinary students in RHA," Mihalopoulos said. "It is important to me that they continue to grow as student leaders on campus, and because of this, I try to provide as much guidance and support to these students to ensure they are successful in their positions." Not only did Saint Mary's RHA present its ideas to other students, but the weekend was also a chance for them to learn new things from other universities and colleges at the conference, Jones said.

"Attending these conferences allows RHA to bring back ideas for improving [Saint Mary's]," Jones said.

Contact Ashley Charnley at acharn01@saintmarys.edu

we're trying to do something national with it."

Creating and developing the site was a long process for Toohill. He spent months laying the groundwork for the launch by contacting possible staff and finalizing the objectives and format of NextGen Journal.

Toohill said much of the success of the recent launch to technical director and freshman Chas Jhin, who designed the website's layout.

Now that NextGen Journal has officially launched, Toohill and Moran said they are concentrating on publicizing and growing their venture.

"We definitely want to expand as much as we can and focus on expanding it nationally and getting as many people aware of it as possible nationwide," Moran said.

Toohill said he shares this aspiration.

"We want to become the foremost site for news and opinion by students for students," he said.

Toohill said students interested in contributing to NextGen Journal can visit the nextgenjournal.com and click on the "Join NextGen" page.

"More than anything, [NextGen Journal] is interesting to the reader," Toohill said. "There's a lot of really great, interesting, cool, practical content."

Contact Tori Roeck at vroeck@nd.edu

Movie

continued from page 1

requests, the University has allowed just two movies to be filmed on our campus, — ‘Knute Rockne, All American’ and ‘Rudy,’” University President Fr. John Jenkins said in the press release. “The perseverance, courage and faith that Haley demonstrated in overcoming the critical injuries and medical setbacks she suffered can inspire many and so should be told to the widest audience possible.”

The movie’s tentative title is “Two Miles from Home,”

and it is based on DeMaria’s book, “What Though the Odds: Haley Scott’s Journey of Faith and Triumph.”

The bus accident on which the film is based occurred Jan. 24, 1992. DeMaria, a freshman at the time, and her Notre Dame teammates were on their way back to South Bend from a meet at Northwestern University, according to the press release. Due to heavy snow, the bus slid off the Indiana Toll Road two miles before the exit to return to campus.

Meghan Beeler and Colleen Hipp, both freshman swimmers, died in the crash.

After two operations at South Bend’s Memorial

Hospital and several days without sensation in her legs, doctors told DeMaria that she would likely spend the rest of her life in a wheelchair, the press release stated.

One week after the accident, DeMaria regained some feeling in her legs, was able to walk with a cane one month later and returned to classes on Notre Dame’s campus in the spring of 1992.

That summer, the rods in DeMaria’s legs meant to keep her spine straight came loose and she was rushed to San Diego for three more surgeries. She almost died during one of the surgeries, accord-

ing to the press release.

DeMaria returned to classes in the fall of 1992 and slowly began to swim again. On Oct. 29, 1993 she swam a 50-meter race and won her heat.

DeMaria and co-producers Chris Jones and Dan Waterhouse are raising money and hope to begin filming this year, according to the press release. They plan to release the film in 2012, the 20th anniversary of the accident.

Robert C. Thompson, who produced the 1973 Academy Award-winning film, “The Paper Chase,” will serve as executive producer for “Two Miles From Home.”

Waterhouse wrote the script and is also the director.

Former Irish head football coach Lou Holtz said in the press release that DeMaria’s story has inspired him.

“I don’t know of any story more heartwarming, encouraging or motivating than Haley’s story,” Holtz said. “She is a very special young lady and has had a positive influence on my life as well as many others.”

DeMaria and her husband, Jamie, who also graduated from Notre Dame, live in Annapolis, Md., with their two children, according to the press release. She is also a board member of the Notre Dame Monogram Club.

City

continued from page 1

great.

“I think it was overly simplistic,” he said. “They didn’t even reflect on the deeper understanding of what it means to be a great city.”

He said such attributes garnered recognition for South Bend in 2009 when it was chosen as a finalist for the National Civic League’s All-America City competition.

South Bend Mayor Steve Luecke said in an interview with The Observer that Newsweek’s article does not reflect on the vibrant culture of the city.

“If people come to know the heart of the people of South Bend, and come to see great opportunities we have with recreation, cultural, entertainment opportunities, and now even more so with job opportunities coming based on research parks, they can form a different picture of South Bend,” he said.

Brown said people often do not realize the positive influence higher education has in

regions such as South Bend.

“The University believes there is a lot going for [South Bend],” he said. “What I think is lost sometimes is South Bend has an anchor — one of the preeminent universities in the country, and we are not going anywhere.”

Brown said this effect is created not only by Notre Dame but also by the five other colleges in the region.

He said even though South Bend faces challenges, students continue to apply to the school in record numbers.

“The fact of the matter is, the problems cities like South Bend face aren’t new. This past fall, we attracted 16,000 applicants for the incoming class,” Brown said. “That broke the application record by 2,000 [applicants]. It wasn’t just barely beating the record.”

Brown said the article also does not seem to have impacted the interest of faculty the University is currently recruiting.

Bishop said while prospective students and their parents are more drawn to Notre Dame than the surrounding area, these potential faculty are interested in

the relationship between the city and the school.

“Notre Dame itself is a destination that people come to,” he said. “One of the things they like is the increased relationship between Notre Dame and the city.”

Bishop said most applicants are more interested in what they can do for the surrounding community rather than what the community can offer them.

“Today’s students want to be more public service oriented,” he said. “They’re not looking so much at the services of the city as much as can they be of service to the city.”

Students applying to the University focus on Notre Dame as a college rather than South Bend as a city, Bishop said.

“Most families considering Notre Dame are more concerned with whether they can get admitted, whether financial aid will be sufficient and whether our programs are better than their other choices,” he said.

While applicants and their parents may be interested in dining, housing and shopping options in South Bend, Bishop said they recognize

what the Notre Dame campus itself can offer.

“They understand at Notre Dame there is more entertainment on campus than at most colleges,” he said.

Bishop said students looking for an urban campus probably should consider options other than Notre Dame. However, he said what the campus does offer is special even though it is not in a metropolitan area.

“With the defined campus today, [students] want it to have a relationship with the nearby city,” Bishop said. “They like the best of both worlds. They like having their own defined space and the ability to get out of that space.”

Brown said there is a tendency among students to not recognize all that is offered in South Bend. Brown is originally from San Diego and has lived in South Bend for 20 years.

“This kind of community is not for everyone. If you want a big city or warm weather all the time, this is not the place for you,” Brown said. “But if you want a place that has great values and is centrally located, close to big cities, has a great cost of living index, then South Bend is

the place to live.”

Brown said one of the most exciting things about South Bend is the growing relationship between the city and Notre Dame.

“The community and Notre Dame are working together to reinvent the city. Everyone knows it was a blue-collar based city for decades,” he said. “Now there is a new move towards technology and service.”

Luecke said the city certainly is well situated despite some struggles.

“The South Bend that I see is a vibrant community,” he said. “It certainly has challenges, but I believe they are in our capacity to deal with, and continue to grow and improve.”

Working together, Brown said Notre Dame and South Bend have the capability to make the city a better place.

“There are a lot of things happening. It is not a place that is sitting back and throwing its hands up in the air asking, ‘What are we going to do?’”

Madelaine Buckley contributed to this report.

Contact Sam Stryker at sstryke1@nd.edu

Runoff

continued from page 1

Thomas said the number generally remains the same, and that this year’s was a respectable turnout.

The McCormick-Rocheleau ticket received 1,536 votes, which is equal to 38.07 percent of the votes, followed by Ward and Eaton, who received 911 votes, or 22.59 percent.

The Catherine Soler-Emily LeStrange ticket, with 904 votes, or 22.42 percent, received only seven votes less than Ward and Eaton.

The two remaining tickets, Ricky Bevington-Olivia Colangelo and Kevin Noonan-Matt Thomas, received 266 votes, or 6.60 percent, and 257 votes, or 6.37 percent, respectively.

One hundred and sixty-three students, or 4.04 percent, chose to abstain from voting.

Following the results, Ward said he is glad the results prove that he and Eaton connected with students.

“We’re absolutely overjoyed to know that people do have confidence in us,” he said. “That’s what continues to inspire us to go through this whole process.”

Ward and Eaton also both expressed their positive feel-

ings toward McCormick and Rocheleau.

“It’s nice to know that no matter which way it goes we will be happy with the results,” Eaton said.

McCormick and Rocheleau said they are excited about the possibility to see their plan for a new vision of student government through.

“It’s been an honor for us to have the chance to have this conversation with the student body,” McCormick said.

McCormick said the palpable excitement on campus is because this campaign has never been about the candidates.

“It’s about Notre Dame students’ hopes for the school,” he said. “We’re fired up to realize a broader vision and to put our hope in action for Notre Dame.”

Rocheleau said he is both excited and hopeful for things to come.

Soler said she and LeStrange planned to continue their involvement in student government despite their loss.

“I am disappointed Emily and I won’t be able to serve the student body in the way we had hoped,” she said. “But we want to say thank you to everyone who supported us, and we will contribute to the student body in any way we can.”

Although he will not proceed

to the runoff election, Bevington said he truly enjoyed his experience of running for student body president.

“I had an awesome time,” he said. “There were so many great tickets willing to run and trying to help the student body.”

Noonan said he and Thomas are simply glad their number of votes is higher than the number of students who abstained.

The Judicial Council distributed a link to the voting website by e-mail on Monday, and students were able to vote on the site between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.

The results were delayed 24 hours due to a campaign violation by the Ward-Eaton ticket. Ward sent an e-mail titled “Your year next year” that was found by the Judicial Council to contain campaign misconduct.

As a sanction, Ward was required to send a second e-mail to the student body apologizing for his prior message by 11:59 p.m. Monday night. Although an appeal was filed within Student Senate, the appeal was later dropped and the decision of the Election Committee stood.

Ward complied with the given sanction before the deadline.

Contact Melissa Flanagan at mflanagan3@nd.edu

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SMC picks new residence life director

By BRIDGET MEADE
News Writer

Saint Mary's recently announced Janielle Tchakerian as the College's new director of residence life.

The enthusiastic director assumed her new position with a few goals in mind.

"In general, I would like to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our processes to better serve the residents," she said. "I look forward to working with the student leaders on campus, such as the resident advisors and the Residence Hall Association, to improve the quality of life for our residents."

Tchakerian said her role as director of residence life will focus on providing leadership for the administration and a sense of community among the college's residence halls.

Tchakerian, originally from Dearborn, Mich., received her master's degree in higher education from the University of Toledo, in Toledo, Ohio.

The new director came to Saint Mary's after previously serving as the director of Residence Life at Lawrence Technical University in Southfield, Mich., for seven years.

Tchakerian said that she looks forward to working with the college's students because of her own past interaction with her residence life department as a student.

"I have always enjoyed working with college students," she said. "I had a lot

of wonderful experiences as an undergraduate student and want to provide similar opportunities for students at Saint Mary's."

Two weeks into her new position, Tchakerian said she feels she has made a smooth transition into the SMC community.

"[My first week] went very well," she said. "Many of the students, faculty and staff stopped by to welcome me."

Tchakerian is married to her husband, Andre, and enjoys scrapbooking and making cards in her spare time.

Contact Bridget Meade at bmeade02@saintmarys.edu

"In general, I would like to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our processes to better serve the residents."

Janielle Tchakerian
director
residence life

Bill hits illegal immigrants

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — A Senate committee on Tuesday easily approved a pair of Republican-sponsored bills designed to crack down on illegal immigration, despite concerns from Democrats that the bills were an example of "mean-spirited" political pandering.

The Senate Judiciary Committee approved both measures on party-line votes.

One would deny Oklahoma citizenship to babies born to illegal immigrants, while the other, dubbed "Arizona-plus" by its author, would allow police to not only question people about their immigration status, but also to confiscate property — including homes and vehicles — belonging to those in the country illegally.

Both measures now advance to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Republican Sen. Ralph Shortey, who wrote the immigration bills and represents a heavily Hispanic district in south Oklahoma City, said he disagrees with the current interpretation of the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution that babies born in this country automatically become American citizens. He said his bill on asset forfeiture would give law enforcement an incentive to capture and jail illegal immigrants.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Protestors follow Egyptian example



AP
Demonstrators chanted and waved flags on a main square in Manama, Bahrain, on Tuesday.

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Thousands of protesters took over a main square in Bahrain's capital Tuesday — carting in tents and raising banners — in a bold attempt to copy Egypt's uprising and force high-level changes in one of Washington's key allies in the Gulf.

The move by demonstrators capped two days of clashes across the tiny island kingdom that left at least two people dead, parliament in limbo by an opposition boycott and the king making a rare address on national television to offer condolences for the bloodshed.

Security forces — apparently under orders to hold back — watched from the sidelines as protesters chanted slogans mocking the nation's ruling sheiks and called for sweeping political reforms and an end to monarchy's grip on key decisions and government posts.

The unrest in Bahrain, home to the U.S. Navy's 5th Fleet, adds another layer to Washington's worries in the region. In Yemen, police and government supporters battled nearly 3,000 marchers calling for the ouster of President Ali Abdullah Saleh in a fifth straight day of violence.

Yemen is seen as a critical partner in the U.S. fight against a network inspired by al-Qaida. The Pentagon plans to boost its training of Yemen's counterterrorism forces to expand the push against the al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula faction, which has been linked to attacks including the attempted airliner bombing in December 2009 and the failed mail bomb plot involving cargo planes last summer.

Saleh has been holding talks with Yemen's powerful tribes, which can either tip the balance against him or give him enough strength to possibly ride out the crisis.

The political mutinies in the Arab world show the wide reach of the calls for change spurred by the toppling of old-guard regimes in Tunisia and Egypt.

In Jordan, hundreds of Bedouin tribesmen blocked

roads to demand the government return lands they once owned. Saudi activists are seeking to form a political party in a rare challenge to the near-absolute power of the pro-Western monarchy.

Yemen's grinding poverty and tribal complexities also stand in contrast to the relative wealth and Western-style malls and coffee shops in Bahrain's capital of Manama.

But many in Bahrain still boiled down their discontent to a cry for economic justice as well — saying the Sunni rulers control the privileges and opportunities and the Shiite majority struggles with what's left over and are effectively blackballed from important state jobs.

"I demand what every Bahraini should have: a job and a house," said student Iftikhar Ali, 27, who joined the crowds in the seaside Pearl Square. "I believe in change."

Protesters quickly renamed it "Nation's Square" and erected banners such as "Peaceful" that were prominent in Cairo's Tahrir Square. Many waved Bahraini flags and chanted: "No Sunnis, no Shiites. We are all Bahrainis."

Others set up tents and distributed tea and kabobs for those planning to spend the night under one of the city's landmarks: a nearly 300-foot (90-meter) monument cradling a giant white pearl-shaped ball that symbolizes the country's heritage as a pearl diving center.

Someone used stones to spell out the message in Arabic: "The real criminals are the royal family."

There is no direct call to bring down the king, whose family has ruled Bahrain for more than two centuries. But he is suddenly under unprecedented pressure to make serious changes in how the country is run.

The key demands — listed on a poster erected in the square — included the release of all political prisoners, more jobs and housing, an elected Cabinet and the replacement of the longtime prime minister, Sheik Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa.

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THE OBSERVER

VIEWPOINT

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Wednesday, February 16, 2011

INSIDE COLUMN

Spring training

It's that time of year again. The snow starts to melt, spring break is in sight and pitchers and catchers are reporting to camp.

Arguably the best season is approaching — one with warmer temperatures, March Madness and the upcoming baseball season.

It gives everyone a chance to take a break from the most boring month of the sports year, February, when the only topics seem to be about the NFL labor deal and how the Cleveland Cavaliers would not be able to beat Caltech at this point.

You know it is bad when a golfer spitting receives this much attention, even if it is Tiger Woods.

But the thought of Opening Day and another baseball season conjures up thoughts of a fast approaching summer — one with vacations, no homework and less stress.

The thought of a new baseball campaign is exciting. The sport has purged itself of the Steroid Era, as shown by the 2010 season — the Year of the Pitcher.

With four no-hitters last year (including the second in postseason history) and two perfect games (would have been three had it not been for umpire Jim Joyce ruining the bid of former Detroit Tiger Armando Galarraga), along with the lowest ERA in nearly two decades, it is obvious that the game is returning to its purist form.

Critics like to point out that baseball's lack of a salary cap hinders the game. After all, the difference between the game's largest payroll (the Yankees with \$206 million) and the smallest (the Pirates with nearly \$35 million) is about \$171 million, which in itself is a larger amount than the payroll of any team but the Yankees.

Despite that gap, there has never been more parity or a higher competitive balance in the game than what has been seen over the past decade.

During the past 10 seasons, only one team has won more than one championship and only four have appeared in more than one.

Another common argument on why not to watch baseball is that the game is "dying." Sure, it might not be America's favorite sport as it has been for most of its existence, but it is hardly dying. The game is so popular that the league has created digital arenas such as MLB.TV and MLB Network through which its product continues to thrive.

There are certainly enough intriguing subplots for this season — the contract situation of Albert Pujols, if the Giants can once again make up for a weak offense with superb pitching, the perennial Yankees-Red Sox drama.

So, as we see the end of winter and the beginning of spring in the coming weeks, let the soothing sounds of Vin Scully once again hit the airwaves.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Andrew Owens at aowens2@nd.edu



Andrew Owens
Assistant
Sports Editor

Some phrases sear themselves into our cultural consciousness, and, rightfully or not, define events. "Death panels" will certainly represent the health care debate of 2009-10 for future historians. In retrospect, the life cycle of these two words seems bizarre. Sarah Palin introduced the term on her Facebook, objecting to a provision in the health-care bill that subsidized conversations between ill patients and their private doctors about their intentions for the end of life. Palin saw the provision as code language for faceless government bureaucrats making simple decisions on who lives and who dies.

News outlets latched on to the idea, and policy makers caved accordingly. In a memorable comment, Senator Chuck Grassley said that no one would be "pulling the plug on grandma" and the provision was summarily removed. More than a year later, death panels mean different things to different people: the denigration of the national conversation; an irresponsible media; the feverish pitch of the health care debate itself. However, a more interesting question is why these two words touched a national nerve, a collective insecurity. The answer is that we as a society have a death problem.

That same summer the phrase was introduced, I was shadowing a neurosurgeon at a local hospital in Michigan. After he had scraped part of a tumor out of the head of an 89-year old patient, we discussed the case in his office.

"Unfortunately, there was no way to remove all of that tumor. We were able to buy her more time, but she will still die," he said. The words were matter-of-fact, but there was a longing in his eyes that gave me the distinct impression of regret, a sadness that he couldn't do anything more.

"How much time did we give her?"

"Probably about a year. She would have died in three months, and we gave her another year. That year will cost about a million dollars when it is all said and done."

That's the essential difficulty in health care reform."

A million dollars for one year. A grand sum, no doubt. But those nine months were certainly no less significant — more time for that woman to spend with her loved ones, to relish the joyfulness of being; to hold hands and get her affairs in order. Whether this woman knew these aspects of the situation, I don't know. But imagine if she had chosen to let the disease run its course and forego the surgery. It seems strange to us. We as a culture can not wrap our minds around a surrender like this. When approaching disease — cancer, Alzheimer's, AIDS — we march unthinkingly into battle. It's a cost-benefit analysis minus the cost.

Earlier this year, Atul Gawande wrote an exquisite article in the New Yorker, "Letting Go." It deals with the difficulty of dying; the unsatisfying nature of the medical struggle until the end. It was a beautiful, heart-wrenching article, and it asked the difficult questions about death that we as a society have trouble answering. Would I rather have a month of relative health, or five months of misery? Do I want my loved ones to sit at my bedside for a month, while I am unresponsive, chemotherapy coursing through my veins; fighting an unwinnable battle?

He was a fighter until the very end. She took advantage of every option. We're using the most aggressive therapy possible.

These are the refrains we hear in hospitals. And they are not inappropriate — anyone who has seen the strength and dignity of the severely ill gains such an appreciation for their fight. In our zeal for battle, however, we lose recognition of the grace of approaching death with a placid demeanor, head held high. It's a fight, the fight against cancer, and we as a society will be damned if every last person doesn't go kicking and screaming until the very end.

In 2011, we are oddly removed from our mortality. Movies and video games are saturated with exotic scenarios of "death." Note the quotation marks — death in the movies is about as close to reality as The Sims. Notice how easily people die. Someone gets stabbed, shot, hit by a car and 10 seconds later they are dead. The illusion hardly registers; the struggle is never shown.

Real death, by contrast, is bizarrely absent from the modern world. We rarely see dead people. We don't see scenes of the process of dying on the news — it is considered too graphic. Football is humane compared to the gladiatorial bouts of ancient Rome. Our religions preach eternal life. We all have doubts about that, and we don't ask ourselves what real, never-ending eternity would be like. Rather, we accept and cling to it with desperation. Not long ago, the average age of death in even advanced areas of the world was about 25. The psychological effects of this cannot be overstated — imagine if many of your siblings and friends had died before the age of 10. In the 21st century, death is something to be shut away in the recesses of our mind for most of our life, brought out under compulsion during sickness or old age.

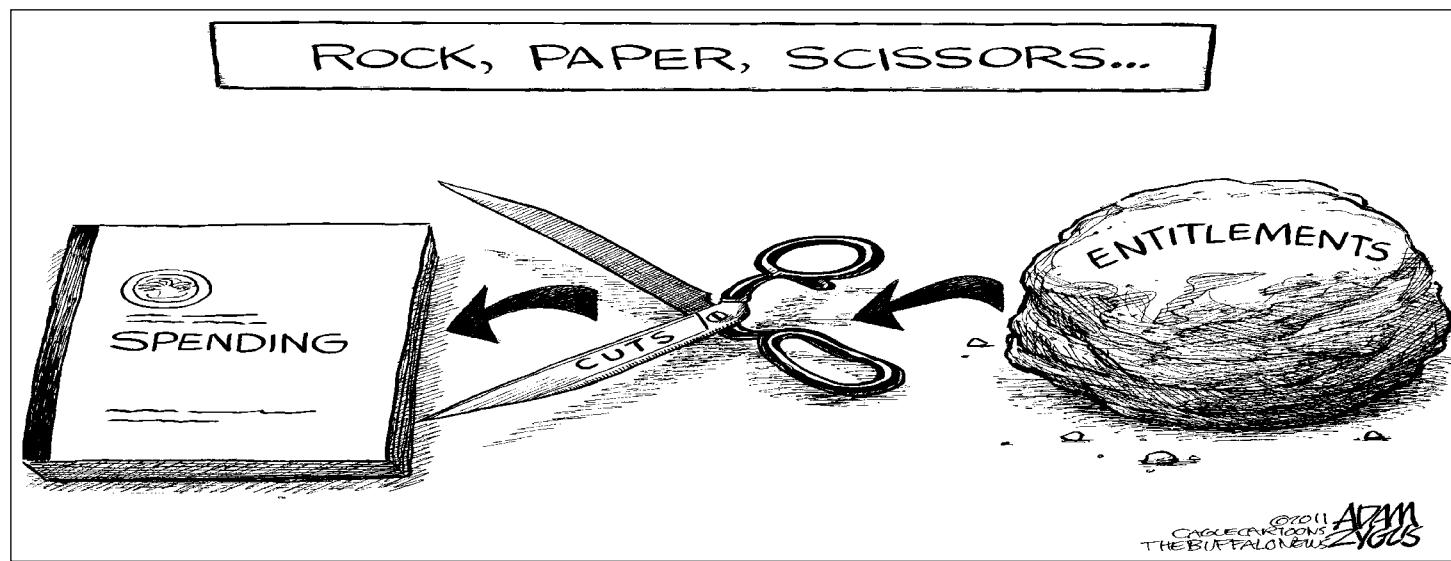
Behind the humming of biomedical research laboratories, the rapturous proclamations of futurists like Ray Kurzweil, the philanthropic foundations to fight against cancer, is the desire to fend off death for as long as possible. We may eventually learn to survive for lengths of time that aren't even currently comprehensible. Indeed, researchers at Harvard Medical School recently demonstrated in a much-hyped paper in Nature that they could reverse aging in genetically modified mice. Others claim that future humans will be able to download their consciousness to computers and fuse with robots, and therefore last into eternity. Extending life is a noble quest, no doubt. However, by denying it so violently, we fail to understand the inevitability. When we are confronted with death, it's no wonder we are completely ill equipped to cope.

As Atul Gawande says at the end of Letting Go, "there is no prettifying death." This is true — the final exhalation will be forever shocking in its finality, a defeat. However, there is prettifying life — it's what each of us strives for, every day. An ultimate acceptance cannot make death any more beautiful. Not so for the end of life.

Edward Larkin is a senior majoring in biological sciences and classical civilization. He can be reached at elarkin1@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

"I believe in God, only I spell it Nature."

Frank Lloyd Wright
U.S. architect

Submit a Letter to the Editor at
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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The possession of unlimited power will make a despot of almost any man. There is a possible Nero in the gentlest human creature that walks."

Thomas Bailey
U.S. writer

THE OBSERVER

VIEWPOINT

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

page 7

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Thank you, Notre Dame

On behalf of the men of Siegfried Hall, I would like to thank every one of you, the Notre Dame community, for contributing to the success of Day of Man. Last Wednesday, we woke up to temperatures hovering around zero degrees with negative wind chills. At that point, any man who is about to walk outside in shorts and a t-shirt has to question his sanity. However, the embrace of the Notre Dame community pulled us through. We asked only that you give us what spare change you had, and you gave us so much more. As of now, the Notre Dame community has collected \$6,250 for the South Bend Center for the Homeless. The Day of Man was more successful than any before because of the help that each of you gave us. Whether you donated money or gave us some hot chocolate to warm up, your help buoyed our efforts. We cannot thank you enough for your help.

This leaves only one thing to say. Congratulations, Notre Dame community! When we asked for help, you responded. When the homeless of South Bend needed your help, you willingly donated your hard-earned money. Most importantly, by you standing in solidarity with the homeless, people in South Bend will have the basic warmth and shelter that is needed in a South Bend winter. Your contributions as a community showed what it truly means to "Man Up!" (or "Woman Up!" if you prefer).

Andrew Ritter
Peter Thompson
sophomores
Siegfried Hall
Feb. 14

Consequences of ignorance

Yesterday, I read a frustrating piece in which Michael Falvey recycled a number of debunked arguments against allowing gays to serve in the military ("Consequences of repealing Don't ask, Don't tell," Feb. 15). He talks about the 60 percent of infantrymen who, in their infinite wisdom, have been able to predict how their units would function were gay people allowed to serve with honor and integrity in the military. I know that I don't need to throw out numbers from the report, as Mr. Falvey has certainly already read it, but he seems to have missed some key statistics: 70 percent of the overall military think that gay service members serving openly would have little to no effect on unit cohesion, and of the 69 percent of service members who responded that they believed they had served with someone who was gay, 92 percent said that their unit's ability to work together was either very good, good or neutral. There's also the fact that countries such as Israel, England, Germany, Australia, Italy, Canada and at least 20 others already allow gays to serve openly in the military. Unit cohesion has not been adversely affected in their militaries.

Desegregation of the U.S. military offers a pertinent historical parallel. When the question came whether or not to allow blacks to serve with whites, there was much greater opposition than there is to gays serving in the military. The same arguments about unit cohesion and effectiveness were made then; the same fear-mongering ensued to prevent black and white soldiers from mixing. We have been desegregated for over 50 years, and our military is as strong as ever.

Mr. Falvey also brings up the fact that service in the military entails a life of discomfort about which civilians cannot know. I argue that this is the very reason the military should be able to handle gay soldiers. If servicemen cannot accept the reality that they already serve alongside gay people, how can we expect them to be able to adapt to the stresses of serving in hostile territories among people far more different from them than are their gay compatriots? We expect our military to be resilient and brave, not a bunch of weak-kneed schoolchildren who can't function alongside openly gay fellow soldiers. As many soldiers have said, in the heat of battle the last thing they are thinking about is the sex lives of the men around them.

The last issue I want to address is the effect that DADT has on gay soldiers. Gay people are attracted to the military for the same reason straight people are — they want to serve their country with honor and integrity. Forcing them to lie about who they are and who they love not only degrades them, but betrays the traditional American values of honesty and decency that our armed services strive to uphold.

God
Country
Notre Dame

Eric Routen
senior
off campus
Feb. 15

Consequences of not repealing DADT

"The repeal of 'Don't ask, Don't tell' will introduce conflicts and concerns at the small unit level will take away from the actual training leading to war ("Consequences of repealing Don't ask, Don't tell," Feb. 15)."

Yes. The repeal of DADT will introduce conflicts within units. Any number of differences can spark conflict in units; most times, those conflicts can be resolved with some applied maturity. A more concrete demonstration, if you'll allow:

Hi, Michael Falvey. I'm Robert. I graduated from Notre Dame in 2009, majoring in English and art. My favorite Ninja Turtle is Raphael, but my favorite Renaissance painter is Michelangelo. I lived in Alumni Hall for four years. I love Notre Dame.

And I'm gay. Michael, I love men. My telling you this might create conflict between us. But we're both Domers. I would hope our bond is stronger than that, or else the much-hyped Notre Dame family is just a couple of empty

words.

Michael, you're a freshman, so maybe you're inexperienced with LGBT people. We're not some new group, invading your social circle; we're already a part of it and always have been. Roughly 10 percent of everyone you know. So when, not if, some of your friends come out of the closet, it'll create conflict within your social unit. Would you kick them out of your circle of friends and avoid the issue, or would you accept them and work past your conflict to strengthen your friendship?

Think about what you'd do for a friend or a fellow Domer. And that goes for all of you in the military, too. We are Americans; we are ND.

Robert Scully
alumnus
class of 2009
Feb. 15

Just laugh, ladies

Dear all the people freaking out over the Keenan Revue,

Please calm down. It was comedy skits written for one reason — comedy. They weren't putting personal names of women at Saint Mary's in the skits. What, did you expect them not to talk about us? It was called "Too Big for Saint Mary's" (which I thought was brilliant). These skits are not written down and published for the world to see. It's not like everyone outside "the bubble" thinks when you hear "Saint Mary's College," it's "Oh yeah, I heard in the Keenan Revue they said they were sleazy and dumb. I am going to believe what they have to say". The only negative remarks I have heard about the Revue was what I have read in the latest Viewpoints.

Personally, I was looking forward to the Revue all week. I had a tough week and needed to cheer up and what better way to do it than laugh at yourself and others. I saw the Revue on Thursday when it was a fresh little creation these men had made so I got to see the "original stuff" and trust me it was not that bad. I think it is healthy to laugh at yourself once in awhile. It is not like you see Jimmy Clausen or Golden Tate writing to the Viewpoint and complaining about how they were the punch line of an entire skit. And they have been getting made fun of for the last three Revues I have seen! Also, I have not read one article about the men who were parading around in nothing but short shorts and at

times getting a little too close for comfort during certain dance scenes. Technically they were being discriminated against for being purely objects while they showed off their bodies (which is a wonderful part of the Revue) to raise money and get some excitement out of the women in their presence. I don't hear any males at Notre Dame getting up in arms about it. Face it, we live in a society where sex sells. It is terrible but it's true.

I will say this though. There were a lot of jabs at Saint Mary's College for various things that I could laugh at and brush off my shoulders (even the Education major stab) except one thing. To the men who wrote the script — did you really have to call us fat? That is just rude. Did your mom ever teach you some manners?

So overall I hope everyone can take a chill pill for a second and just laugh at yourself. We all need some laughter in this stressful time in our lives. We all know who we are and should be comfortable enough to have a giggle. Also, I hope no one takes my response too seriously. I just wanted to voice my opinion like so many have in the past that I do respect.

Yours truly (and proud to be a SMC Chick),

Megan Flaherty
junior
Le Mans Hall
Feb. 15

Acting for love

Alex Coccia, in his Valentine's Day article "Be For Love" (Feb. 14), depicts what I take to be pangs in the hearts of our homosexual brothers and sisters at the University of Notre Dame. Seeing a man and woman holding hands, caressing, kissing, can awaken a deep longing for a fulfillment that can only be found in the heart of another. These bodily acts of love are done so casually in our culture that one begins to question, "Why can't anyone do them?"

I think I've come to learn that most people shouldn't; at least, most people who currently do them shouldn't. At the Edith Stein Conference last weekend, Professor O'Connor addressed the discrepancy between negative and positive uses of our body. We take murder seriously, but conception casually. A punch in the face is a grave pain, but a caress isn't a big deal.

We touch, caress and kiss so often in our culture that now what was once an intimate act of affection is something one does with a stranger in a dim dorm room party. They mean close to nothing today, and so our relationships with the people we do these things with have a kind of superficial air about them.

But we should take seriously our actions and understand that romantic relationships should be seeking and ordered towards one thing: marriage. If not ordered for marriage, or at least the discernment of marriage, then the relationship isn't ordered towards anything.

This teleology explains what Mr. Coccia calls "straight privilege." I don't have time in this letter to explain why, but I will only repeat the Church's stance that marriage is for a man and a woman.

And actions that are ordered toward marriage, likewise, should be between a man and a woman.

Please don't take me to be a homophobe or whatever. If any homosexual (or heterosexual) students on campus would like to meet with me for a legitimate discussion on these matters, or just to hang out, I think I can find some time. You certainly have my prayers.

In Notre Dame,

Christopher Damian
sophomore
Morrissey Hall
Feb. 15

The 'Proof'

is at DPAC

By MARIELLE HAMPE
Scene Writer

Whether you love theatre or instead enthusiastically prefer science, the Department of Film, Television and Theatre's production of "Proof" appeals to everyone. In "Proof," Catherine, the daughter of a brilliant but mentally disturbed mathematician, questions whether she is also becoming insane.

When Catherine's father dies, one of his former students, Hal, searches through his papers in hopes of discovering a unique mathematics proof. "Proof" explores the bounds of mathematics, love, ambition and madness as Hal and Catherine discover themselves through a mathematical proof.

"Proof" is directed by professor Cheryl Turski. Senior Ryan Belock plays Hal and freshman Ashley Lawrence plays Catherine. "Proof" was selected over a year ago by the Department of Film, Television and Theatre as an ongoing effort to connect science with theater.

"This show is great for Notre Dame," Turski said. "Students will

easily be able to identify with the characters on stage because the characters are hardworking, highly intelligent students trying to make their way in a university atmosphere."

"In college you learn so much about yourself," Belock said. "You come from high school and everything just explodes."

The action of "Proof" occurs around the University of Chicago campus, and we did a lot of table work talking about the differences between the atmosphere of the University of Chicago and the University of Notre Dame. The University of Chicago campus seems to be a more competitive atmosphere, and this helped us to understand the pressure Hal felt trying to make a big mathematical discovery."

Catherine is a socially awkward genius who is afraid she is going insane and who in the play seems selfish, but I think she is selfless," Lawrence said. "She stopped going to college so she could take care of her father, and her mathematical proof helps to make up for that loss.

"She has a lot of emotion in what she says. To portray her, I tried to

find things comparable to not only Catherine's emotional loss of the death of her father, but also the feeling of achieving a world-changing proof."

Catherine appears emotionally detached until Hal enters her life. "Hal is an intelligent, semi-hip young adult trying to find his place with high achieving mathematicians. He is an easy-going guy who is sometimes arrogant," Belock said of his character.

Although "Proof" involves suffering and loss, it goes beyond that and explores other human emotions.

The reception after Catherine's father's funeral is one of the livelier, more positive scenes. This scene reflects real-life awkwardness, and it's the first time the audience gets to see the relationship start to develop between Catherine and Hal. In a show touching on more emotional issues, the after-funeral party is ironically the most comic scene in the show," Belock said.

Once Catherine sets out to prove that she is the author of a mathematical proof discovered in one of her father's notebooks, Hal and Catherine's friendship becomes more

uncertain. Through a variety of emotions and intimate connections with the four main characters, "Proof" proves it is a play about more than mathematical proofs. The play explores the proof required to trust or love someone and the necessity of believing in your own capabilities.

On campus

What: The play "Proof"

Where: DPAC

When: Thursday, Feb. 17, 7:30 p.m.

How much: \$15 regular, \$12 for seniors, \$10 for students, \$10 for youth

Learn more: performingarts.nd.edu

Contact Marielle Hampe at mhampe@nd.edu

Grammys Culture tantrum



During awards season, I inevitably get asked, "What did you think of the Grammys?" This is met with some basic frustration every time. See, I am an awards season groupie. I live for the red carpet, the interviews between stars and late night hosts discussing nominations and wins and the endless stream of news analyzing, dissecting and celebrating film and television. And, of course, Entertainment Weekly's Oscar Ultimate Viewer's Guide.

From the Golden Globes in January to the Academy Awards the last weekend in February, it's the one time of the year when everybody in Hollywood is about everyone else's business, sharing gossip, inside scoops and juicy stories about filming and/or someone's "real" personality. I celebrate baseball season, Irish football season (which is pretty much a lifestyle), the Christmas season and, right about when my Seasonal Affective Disorder kicks in, the blessed, blessed awards season.

So what about the Grammys, then? If you



Stephanie DePrez

Scene Writer

happen to ask me if I was excited to watch them, like my roommate did on Sunday, or what I thought of them, like a friend did today, I will tell you, I don't care. I didn't watch. I don't find them interesting. And frankly, I think the Grammys are irrelevant.

This is a bold statement to make, especially since I am (in addition to being a television major, which I stressed last week) a music major. I geek out over film and TV — where's the musical love?

Easy. I love music. I love my music. I love my music collection. I love the radio, where I find new music. I love my friends' music, where I tend to find new things. I love when friends send me music. I love to proselytize music, sending it to my friends. I read about it, blog about it, and complain when people don't understand it. But honey, the Grammys ain't about music.

I'm not saying the pop music flaunted during the telecast isn't good. I love it. Lady Gaga, Katy Perry, Lady Antebellum — I've got all the albums, and I listen to them. They are not the problem. The Grammys as an awards show is the problem, because, when it comes down to it, it isn't really awarding anything an artist hasn't already got. It's a popularity contest, plain and simple. I'm not saying that's bad, I just find it boring.

It's generally accepted that the biggest winner of the year musically is the one

who's made the most money. I'm thinking Gaga and Perry, here. They had slam dunk years, along with people like Eminem and Rihanna. People everyone has heard of win Grammys. That's the precedent. That's why I don't bother. The only reason to watch is to see musical performances, most of which I can just YouTube later if I hear they're any good. Other than that, it's just a parade of the obvious.

But not this year. This year, something happened that shook the very foundation of the Grammys. Arcade Fire won. Yes, the band named Arcade Fire, (which does exist, even if you've never heard of it). And not just anything, but Album of the Year. Which is a huge category, from what I can tell.

This has unleashed a storm of unrest. Here is a sampling of tweets from the last few days: "So, has anyone worked out who Arcade Fire are yet?" "Who even are Arcade Fire? I mean they can't be that good if no one has heard of them. Silly." And my personal favorite, "While arcade fire perform I will listen to some proper music on my ipod #katyperry."

There is an outrage at the mere thought that someone who isn't world renowned, someone who has flown under the radar, and even helped invent the genre and subculture of "indie" (shut up hipsters, I don't want to hear it) could win Album of the Year

at the Grammys. Even I was surprised. But as the incredulous world has spoken out against such an event, appalled that the award was pulled out from under other such worthy stars like #katyperry, I point to Arcade Fire as the exception that proves the rule.

Last year, "The Hurt Locker" won Best Picture, beating out mammothly popular "Avatar." Everyone in Hollywood congratulated themselves, picking the hard, less successful war movie for the top prize. No one griped that, since Avatar made a billion dollars worldwide, it deserved the prize. Its net gross seemed irrelevant, perhaps detrimental to its Oscar success.

Last year Meryl Streep, a total dark horse nominee for her role in the movie Doubt, won Best Actress at the Screen Actor's Guild awards. She was so convinced she wouldn't win she hadn't even worn a dress to the ceremony. Everyone was ecstatic. But at the Grammys, the heavy hitters miss out on one award, and people are flabbergasted, even insulted. Which is why the Grammys are, in my humble opinion, irrelevant.

The views expressed in this column are those of the authors and not necessarily those of The Observer. Stephanie DePrez can be contacted at sdeprez@nd.edu.

Halftime: A Notre Dame a capella group

By CHRIS COLLUM
Scene Writer

Halftime, an up and coming 20 member a capella group on campus, recently released its second album, "noted." The album consists of 10 covers of popular songs like Coldplay's "Viva La Vida" and Sara Bareilles' "Love Song." The Observer had the chance to interview the group's president, senior Meghan McDermott.

How did Halftime start? Tell me a little bit about the formation of the group as well the members' previous a capella experience.

Halftime was founded in 2004 by Zack Madden and Kevin



Hoelscher. They saw a gap in the Notre Dame musical community and decided to fill it with a coed pop/rock a cappella ensemble. In the last few years the audition process has become much more intense and competitive. We accept any and all applicants — some have extensive a cappella experience, some sang in their high school choir and some have no experience at all. Most of the members who are accepted into the group have musical experience, however.

Do you have any long- or short-term goals for the group?

Producing this CD was a huge goal for the group. For some time now we have wanted to create a physical product that could stand on its own as a representation of Halftime. This semester our spring concert is very early, so we'll have lots of time at the end of the year to work on my next goal for the group, which is to sing at more off-campus events, possibly in some South Bend high schools.

Tell me a little bit about the recording and production of "noted." How did that happen? How long did it take?

The recording process was very extensive. We started in October 2009, and finished in the spring of 2010. Recording entailed individual sessions for every part on every

song, so we spent a lot of time in the studio. After recording, Zack Madden edited all of the tracks before sending them to a professional studio for mixing and mastering. In all, the whole process took over a year to complete.

I found the variety of songs on your CD (from Keith Urban to The Hush Sound) interesting. How do you guys choose songs to cover?

Basically, we just choose songs that we like. All of our music is arranged by Halftime members, so

everyone has a say in what we sing. Now that the group has been around for a few years we have a fairly large repertoire that we can dig through and pull out "old" songs in addition to arranging new songs that are popular right now. The diversity of musical interests of our members results in a wide variety of musical styles and songs.

How would you respond to comparisons to the popular Fox TV show "Glee," which seem to be inevitable for many a capella groups recently?

You're right — comparisons to "Glee" are inevitable. If "Glee" is making more people interested in a cappella, then we don't mind. We are definitely not the same as "Glee" (for instance, they don't actually sing a cappella on the show; they always have instrumental accompaniment) but we are all fans of the show. We do generally try to stay away from the songs that are on "Glee" though, because we don't want to be a "Glee" cover group. I think that the only song we both sing is "Don't Stop Believing," which we already had an arrangement of before "Glee" started.

On campus

What: Halftime
Where: TBA
When: Saturday, March 26, 7:30 p.m.
How much: TBA
Learn more: Email halftime@nd.edu

Contact Chris Collum at ccollum@nd.edu

Justin Bieber: Say Never



I'll give a disclaimer to start this review: Justin Bieber had to do a lot for me to get me to like him in the new documentary, "Never Say Never," which is, get this, based on his "life." By its simple nature, this film had several obstacles to clear before some critics (this one included) could seriously consider it legitimate.

Obstacle number one:

This is the life story of a 16-year-old boy. Granted, this is not the average 16 year old. He is an international superstar and commands the hearts of 14-year-old girls everywhere, and therefore controls the wallets of the parents of 14-year-old girls everywhere. But come on — the kid still has yet to hit puberty.

Obstacle number two:

Bieber's music is polarizing. Yes, junior high and early high school girls love him and his overly catchy, over-played singles, but it would be hard to find a large constituency of Bieber fanatics at this university, especially among the male population.

Obstacle number three:

I think he's a punk. Call it unprofessional, call it editorialization, call it whatever, but I know that I don't speak just for myself. There is a stigma, fair or not, surrounding him as a bit of an annoying little kid.

With seemingly divisive biases levied against it, one might think it would be wise to address said obstacles within the documentary. Show the amazing story that brought this teenager from an unknown to a household name in less than two years. Show him to be not just a normal kid, but a good kid as well. Show that his musical talent extends beyond his childlike voice and catchy choruses.

I'll give the makers of the film credit — they tried, kind of. The film gives anecdotes of the singer's early life, showing him to be a musical prodigy from an early age. It gives some light to the difficult path that he had to overcome to achieve his stardom.

It even shows Bieber as a regular teenager who wants to play basketball with his friends and just have a good time.

The film also tries to show him as a good guy in a painfully awkward encounter between Bieber and a young girl playing the violin on the same street corner that Bieber used to sing from for money. I felt sorry for everyone involved.

However, for the most part, whatever insight into Bieber that is gained from the film is superficial and is cut short by the lack of focus in the documentary. Seemingly over half of the film is dedicated to clips of live stage performances and to the unbelievable adoration of Bieber by teenage and preteen girls.

At one point, I tried to play a game with myself that I entitled "count how many shots

of girls crying because they love Justin Bieber so much this movie can show in a one minute span." But then I lost count at 20-something and slapped myself instead.

But the real problem with the film rests in its purpose. I wanted to see this documentary because I wanted to find out for myself why it was made. I walked out slightly irked and still not able to tell for certain.

It could have been an inside look at the possibilities created by the fact that this kid became what he is today because of the internet and social networking. Bieber is the first YouTube-created superstar, which could cause an interesting shift in the dynamic of the career process for future artists. But while this idea is mentioned, it is not dwelled on.

The film could have focused on how Bieber is dealing with this rapid shift from being a normal kid to a household name seemingly overnight. But again, this is mentioned but not really expanded upon. In fact, there are remarkably little personal views of Bieber in this documentary. Most of his airtime is in video from his concerts.

The only real purpose that seems to be present in this documentary is to further the brand of Justin Bieber. The film seems mostly concerned with convincing the audience that this kid is a star. Which, frankly, seems a little foolish. It's safe to say that if a person is going to this documentary, he or she already knows that he's a star.

But enough negativity — I'll end on a positive. This film did do one thing very well. It showed Bieber's incredible musical talent. Yes, he can sing. But he can also play the piano, guitar and trumpet. He is quite possibly a better drummer than he is a singer. He writes all his own songs.

He can dance and has an intangible talent for entertaining a crowd. So bad news, Bieber haters, this kid isn't going away for a long time, even after he hits puberty.

But even with that said, unless you've already been struck with a bad case of Bieber Fever (a phrase that I would personally punch in the metaphorical face), you have grade school aged girls or you're that creepy old woman who sat behind me, there really is not much reason to pay money to see this.

The views expressed in this column are those of the authors and not necessarily those of The Observer. Kevin Noonan can be contacted at knoonan2@nd.edu.

Justin Bieber: Never Say Never

Paramount

Director: Jon Chu

Starring: Justin Bieber, Miley Cyrus, Usher, Boys II Men



CLUB SPORTS

Men's volleyball steals victory from Spartans

Special to The Observer

The men's volleyball team squared off against Michigan State for the annual Battle at the House of Noise. The teams traveled to St. Joseph High School in Michigan, where the Spartan team puts on a volleyball clinic, and as an end of the week event, the two teams played in a best of five match.

The Irish were off to a slow start, barely edging out a win in game one by a score of 25-23, and losing game two, 25-19. After a short break, Notre Dame came out and dominated early in the third game and won 25-19, giving them a 2-1 advantage. Notre Dame started game four poorly and was down early. Led by junior Kevin Padden, the Irish came storming back to knot the game at 24, and eventually win 27-25.

The win over the rival Spartans was important for the Irish, as it gave Notre

Dame its best start in years with a 14-3 record. The Irish play next on Feb. 26 at the Hoosier-Illini Classic at Indiana University.

Figure Skating

The figure skating club closed its season with a second place showing at the Tri-States championships this weekend. With three second place finishes and one first place championship, the club posted its most successful season. Senior Anna Katter has been a mainstay and driving force for the past four years as the club progressively improved under the tutelage of coach Tracey Mulherin.

Gymnastics

On Feb. 12, the Notre Dame-Saint Mary's gymnastics club traveled to Purdue for the annual Golden Grips Invitational Meet. This was the first meet of the season for the Irish, and the team

showed great promise.

The women's team, comprised of freshman Kelsey Teske, freshman Mary Katheryn Snyder, junior Elizabeth Bonne and junior Sarah Cole placed eighth in team standings. The finish was bolstered by an impressive score of 33.55 by Teske, who placed 14th overall.

On the men's side, strong scores were posted by juniors Mike Hannigan and Kyle Sandberg and senior Patrick Gorman, who led the team to a 4th place finish. Hannigan additionally took fourth on rings with a score of 8.3. The Gymnastics Club's next meet is their home meet, the Clover Classic, which will be held on Feb. 26 at Gymnastics Michiana in Mishawaka.

Ultimate

In their first tournament with a full roster, the Notre Dame Ultimate Men's A-Team had a disappointing weekend at the Queen City Tune-Up in

Charlotte, N.C. Despite the return of juniors Thom Kenealy and Will Cernanec from study abroad programs, the team finished 1-5 on the weekend with losses to Wake Forest, Ohio, Georgia, Michigan State and North Carolina State. The lone win came against East Carolina.

Troubled by the zone defense of Wake Forest and Ohio, Notre Dame started slowly, falling behind 7-0 to both teams. Led by senior captains Justin Browne and Mike DellaPenna, the team staged a furious comeback against the Demon Deacons, but fell short, losing 14-13.

Against Ohio, despite playing better in the second half, the first half deficit was too large to overcome. In the next game against perennial Nationals contender Georgia, the Irish finally turned in a strong first half, trading points with the Bulldogs for much of the first half. The Bulldogs took control in the

second half, however, winning 14-8.

Finally, against East Carolina, Notre Dame put a complete game together, beating the Pirates, 14-7, without surrendering a break on offense. Freshman Connor Haney played shut-down defense and cut well on offense in his first game experience. Junior James Denue added experience on offense, and sophomore Zack Woodruff made big plays on both sides of the disc.

On Sunday, a visibly tired Notre Dame struggled to keep up with Michigan State on defense. The loss to the Spartans was followed by another defeat at the hands of North Carolina State. A bright spot came in the form of sophomore Jonathon Koch, whose constant bids kept the team energized throughout the day. Notre Dame will look to rebound at the Midwest Throwdown in St. Louis, Mo., on March 5 and 6.

MLB

Beckett preparing for comeback performance in 2011

Associated Press

FORT MYERS, Fla. — At spring training last year, Red Sox manager Terry Francona called Josh Beckett "the leader" of the pitching staff.

The two-time World Series champion's style of leadership?

"I don't think that it's what you say," he said then. "I think it's what you do."

He didn't do much last year.

Now, after his worst major league season, Beckett's starting another spring training not trying to make up for what went wrong, just focusing on doing things right.

"Like my dad said, 'Just throw the rearview mirror away because you can't change what's already happened,'" he said Tuesday after Boston's first official workout for pitchers and catchers. "I'm not trying to change last year. I'm trying to have the best 2011 I can and put this team in position to do what we all think we're capable of doing. And that's winning another World

Series."

Beckett joined the Red Sox in 2006 in a trade with Florida, two years after they won their first World Series in 86 years. In 2007, he went 20-7 with a career-best 3.27 ERA and won the opener of the World Series sweep over Colorado, striking out nine in seven innings in a 13-1 win.

But last year, back problems, inconsistency and too much reliance on his cutter made him the worst of Boston's regular starters. He went 6-6 with a 5.78 ERA in 21 outings. His problems and a succession of serious injuries to key players left the Red Sox out of the playoffs with an 89-73 record.

"I don't know if embarrassing's the right word, but, yeah, you're not happy," Beckett said. "It's not a good feeling leaving the season knowing that things could have been better for the whole team if you would have just done your part."

He struggled from the beginning.

In his fifth straight opening day start, Beckett allowed five runs in 4 2-3 innings in

a 9-7 loss to the New York Yankees. The next day, the Red Sox announced that he had signed a \$68 million, four-year contract starting in 2011.

Did that add pressure that affected his performance?

"I don't think so," he said. "But who knows?"

After his eighth start, he was 1-1 with a 7.29 ERA. And that outing sent his season spiraling downward even more.

Pitching on a wet mound against the Yankees on May 18, he strained his lower back and spent the next two months on the disabled list.

"The back injury happened at Yankee Stadium on that rainy day that we just had to get that game in on," Beckett said with a tone of displeasure that the game was played in those conditions.

But his problems began even before the season.

"I got sick during spring training," he said. "I was trying to catch up then and when I felt like I did get caught up then I felt like I still had to do more."

Manager Terry Francona



Boston Red Sox starting pitcher Josh Beckett works out at the team's training facility in Fort Myers, Fla. AP

noticed. He thought Beckett was trying to make up for poor outings by trying to do too much too quickly.

"I think he tried too hard at times last year and it kind of ganged up on him after a while," Francona said. "It got to be too much and it was so hard on him. It shouldn't be that tough but, again, he fought some things physically. He never was able to get on a roll. Now he's got a fresh start, so let's use what

happened last year to our advantage."

Beckett made his biggest splash in his second full season in 2003 when he was named MVP of the Florida Marlins' World Series victory over the Yankees. In the decisive Game 6, he allowed five hits in a 2-0 complete-game win.

But he had three stints on the disabled list in 2004, two in 2005 and two more in 2008.

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NFL

Manning gets franchise tag

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis Colts are keeping Peyton Manning — no matter what it costs.

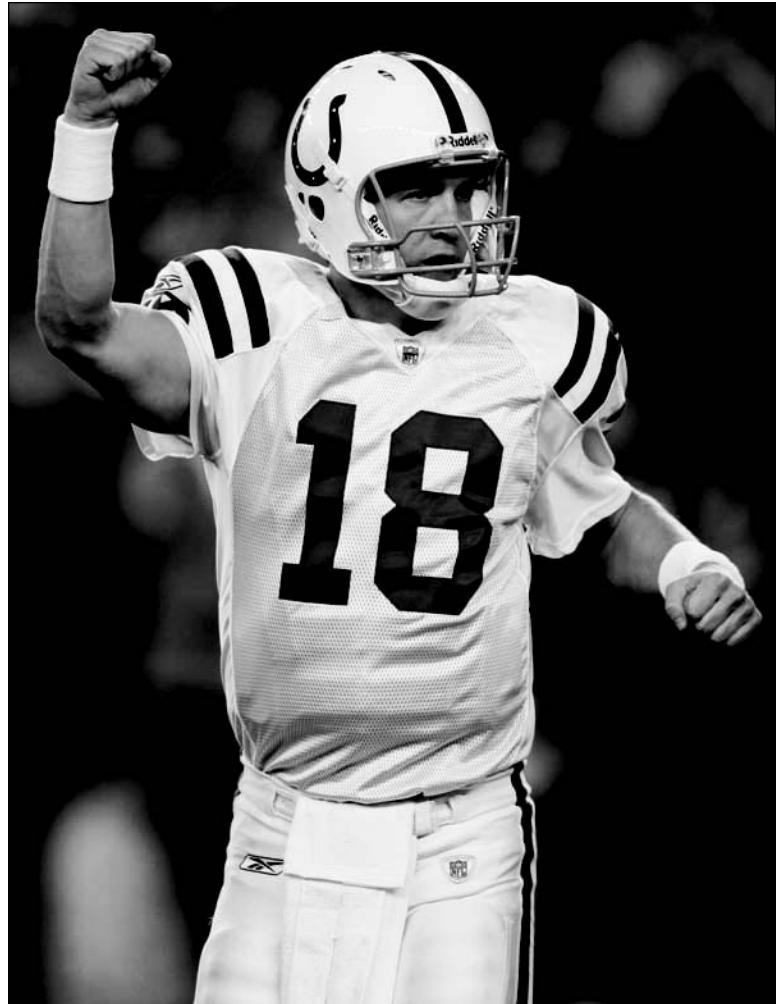
Manning, the only four-time MVP in league history, has been given the exclusive franchise tag, a move that could cost the Colts \$23 million

next season. Team owner Jim Irsay announced the decision Tuesday night on Twitter.

"We have placed the franchise tag on Peyton while we continue to negotiate a long term deal," Irsay wrote.

The move is hardly a surprise.

Last year, Irsay promised to make Manning the NFL's



The Colts placed the franchise tag on quarterback Peyton Manning in order to guarantee that he is a part of the franchise in 2011. AP

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highest-paid player. He has reiterated that position many times since then with one caveat — if the Colts couldn't reach a new deal with Manning before free agency started they would use the franchise tag.

The Colts did the same thing in 2004 before eventually agreeing to a seven-year, \$98 million deal. The Colts then pulled the tag.

Irsay hasn't backed down on either promise, and Manning, as he usually does, has remained silent about the contract.

Three weeks ago, the Colts put their first formal proposal on the table. It was an offer Irsay and team president Bill Polian wanted to make last October, but Manning informed the team then, through his agent, that he did not want to start negotiating until after the season.

The current offer is believed to be richer than the four-year, \$72 million contract that New England quarterback Tom Brady signed in September. Brady's contract also included \$48.5 million in guaranteed money, and Irsay has called that deal the standard.

"It's not a normal negotiation, his legacy and our relationship, it's very unusual," Irsay said last month.

On Tuesday, Indy decided not to wait any longer to make its decision.

By "tagging" Manning, no other team can negotiate with the Colts' franchise quarterback.

How critical is Manning to the Colts' success?

In 13 seasons, he has broken all the franchise's career records for quarterbacks and has never missed a start. He's taken Indy to the playoffs 11 times, captured seven AFC South titles in eight years, won two AFC championships, one Super Bowl title and a Super Bowl MVP Award.

And the Colts won more regular-season games in the past decade (115) than any team in NFL history.

The move does free up the Colts to work on other contracts before the collective bargaining agreement expires March 3.

The list of their potential free agents includes running back Joseph Addai, kicker Adam Vinatieri; Charlie Johnson, Manning's blind side protector; Melvin Bullitt, a key backup at safety who is ready to start; starting linebacker Clint Session and starting defensive tackle Dan Muir.

Irsay also has promised "significant" announcements in the coming weeks.

But, of course, none would be bigger than giving Manning the richest deal in league history in what could be his final NFL contract.

"It's important," Irsay said when asked about the importance of reaching a new deal with Manning.

"But it's something that you don't totally control, so I think you have to be prepared to work on your roster while you're doing that. That's a big part of the equation, but I think you have to be able and ready to shape your roster."

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

No. 15 Wildcats escape Seton Hall on road

Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. — James Bell made a name for himself Tuesday night. The reserve freshman guard more than doubled his season high with 21 points as No. 15 Villanova beat Seton Hall 60-57 in one of those games that won't be rerun as a classic anytime soon.

"A road win in the Big East. That's the nicest thing I can say about that game," Wildcats coach Jay Wright said after his team snapped a two-game losing streak with one of those performances that left a lot of people shaking their heads. "The Pitt game was one of the ugliest games ever (a 57-54 loss on Saturday) and so was this game and the common denominator was us. We just had to gut it out and our young guys played great."

One of the young guys played the best game of a freshman season that started late because of a leg surgery.

The 6-foot-5 Bell, whose previous high was 10 points against Delaware and who scored a total of 31 points this season, became the offensive star for the Wildcats (20-6, 8-5), who committed 22 turnovers, three over their season high and double their season average.

The Wildcats were without second-leading scorer Corey Stokes, who has missed two games with a turf toe injury, and there wasn't a whole of offense coming from anyone but Bell.

"He didn't play all summer and all fall," Wright said. "He couldn't do anything. We shut him down in June and he couldn't do anything until December, so he's been working his way back. He's been playing great in practice but he gets tired very quickly. He really arrived tonight."

Bell had stress fractures in both tibias. He tried rest from June until September but the doctors decided on surgery. Rods were inserted into both legs on Sept. 8 to help the bones. He started practicing with his team in December. He saved them on Feb. 15.

"I didn't play for 6 months straight so it took some time," Bell said of his return. "College basketball is a fast game. I was really frustrated but I knew I was doing everything for the right reason."

He was extremely modest about his 7-for-9 shooting performance that included making 4 of 6 from 3-point range.

"I got an opportunity and it's not that I stepped up but I was put in the right position to make plays," he said. "These are shots we always take in our offense and they just happened to fall."

Jeremy Hazell had 25 points to lead the Pirates (11-15, 5-9) but he missed two shots in the final 13 seconds, the second a 3-point attempt to tie with 3 seconds to play.

"They stepped up on the drive big. I tried to get it over them. I thought it was going down but it just rimmed off," he said of his drive that could

have tied the game with 13 seconds left. "The 3-pointer I thought that was going down but I left it a little short."

Villanova beat Seton Hall for the ninth straight time, a streak that dates to 2004, and this was the 100th meeting of the schools and the Wildcats own a 63-37 advantage.

Corey Fisher had 12 points for Villanova and Antonio Pena had 10 points and 12 rebounds.

Villanova turned the ball almost every way possible, from passes off teammates' legs to passes that reached the stands to offensive fouls and even two 35-second shot clock violations.

"We're playing more forwards and (starting guards) Maalik (Wayns) and Fish got in foul trouble and they were sitting for long periods and Seton Hall has great quickness," Wright said in explaining the turnovers. "They got rusty on the bench."

The Wildcats somehow managed to overcome all those mistakes and Bell, who came in averaging 1.8 points, was how.

Jordan Theodore hit a jumper with 10:35 to play that brought Seton Hall within 45-43. Bell hit the first of his two second-half 3s to give the Wildcats a five-point lead, but Hazell hit one of his four 3s to make it 48-46.

Bell's next 3 gave the Wildcats a 54-46 lead with 6:38 to go. Over the next 3:10 Villanova committed five turnovers, including four in as many possessions.

Bell made three free throws with 5:34 left to give Villanova a 57-48 lead. Seton Hall took advantage of the Wildcats' miscues to go on a 7-0 run and was within 57-55 with 2:14 to play.

After Bell's layup and two free throws by Herb Pope of Seton Hall, it was again a 2-point game with 1:12 to play.

With 40 seconds left Villanova turned it over again, this time when Fisher dribbled the ball off his leg right in front of Wright.

Hazell missed a drive after that turnover and Antonio Pena made one of two free throws with 13 seconds left.

Hazell's 3 to tie was off the rim and the Pirates lost for the third time in four games.

"James Bell killed us. He hit some tough shots," Seton Hall coach Kevin Willard said. "We're just not getting a break, we're not getting a bounce."

Hazell finished 9 of 23 from the field and he made four of 17 3-point attempts. The Pirates, who came into the game last in the Big East in 3-point shooting at 29 percent, were 4 of 26 from beyond the arc.

"We're shooting too many 3s at home and I think that is one of our biggest issues," Willard said.

Herb Pope, who had seven points in a foul-plagued 29 minutes for the Pirates, couldn't get over that they couldn't beat a team that committed 22 turnovers.

"They gave us a chance to steal the game and we gave them a chance to steal it right back," he said.

Griffin

continued from page 13

Jack "Rabbit" Johnson def. James "The Bull" Durham

Both fighters came out on the defensive, though Durham was able to connect with some early body blows. Durham attempted to keep his momentum going into the second round by using his long wingspan, but was unable to land many of his attempts. Johnson kept things close and continued to pummel Durham's body inside. Johnson landed several big right hooks in the final round, which propelled him to victory by unanimous decision.

Matt "Don't Tell My Mom" Stolze def. Tom "Atom Bomb" Reilly

The senior Stolze bested junior Reilly in one of the most exciting fights of the day. Stolze drew blood on Reilly's face with one of his first punches, but Reilly recovered and knocked down Stolze later in the round. In the second round, Stolze was able to dodge many of his opponent's punches and counter with some jabs of his own while Reilly's defense was down. After a stop to clean his face early in the third round, Reilly recovered and chased Stolze around the ring, knocking him into the ropes as the final bell rang. In the end, though, Stolze was victorious in a unanimous decision.

Tim "The Brick" Wallace def. Nick Donnelly

Senior Tim Wallace claimed the last quarterfinal berth in the 192-pound bracket over freshman Nick Donnelly. Wallace dominated early, landing several combos before both fighters settled in defensively. The second round began as a melee, as both fighters threw relentless hooks with no regard for defense. Towards the end of the round both boxers slowed the pace, and the older Wallace took control. Donnelly came out strong in the final round, and was able to force Wallace into a corner and land some heavy jabs. Despite that final push, it was Wallace who won by unanimous decision.

Mike "The Bringer of Rain" Doran def. David "El Diablo" Diaz

Doran, an off-campus senior, controlled the bout from the bell, proving too fast and powerful for Diaz. Doran landed some strong blows in the first round including multiple combinations despite Diaz's game efforts. Doran came out even stronger in the second, pinning Diaz against the ropes and pummeling his body with punches, fatiguing the already-weary freshman. Finally, a series of combinations to the Diaz's head forced the referee to stop the fight thirty seconds into the second round, giving Doran the win by the referee stopping the contest.

Alex "Mac Attack" Macomber def. Aaron O'Dell

Macomber came out with a fury in the first round. The Siegfried senior landed combinations right off the bat and quickly had his opponent pinned on the ropes in the corner. In the midst of a flurry of blows, Macomber unleashed a right to the body of O'Dell that felled the law student. O'Dell stayed on the mat for a few minutes, and Macomber

earned the win by the referee stopping the contest.

Bill "Italian Stallion" Straccia def. Joe "Van the Man" Vanderberg

Straccia used punishing body shots to score points off the skinnier Vanderberg in the first round and never looked back. Straccia, an off-campus senior, dominated the second round as well, pushing Vanderberg, a Duncan sophomore, against the ropes and landing a series of blows that forced him into clinches on numerous occasions. The third was more of the same as Straccia, despite the Vanderberg's best efforts, took the fight by unanimous decision.

Pat Handy def. Steve Bonomo

Handy came out in the first round with defensive tactics that served him well early, but he abandoned that technique in the second. This change in tactics proved to be the difference as he came out brawling in the second, landing punch after punch on the bewildered Bonomo. The junior from Siegfried continued this strategy in the third round, punching almost wildly at times, but it was enough to earn him the win by unanimous decision.

198 Pounds

Daniel Hyzak def. Alex Boll

Hyzak took control from the opening bell, using his longer wingspan to pummel Boll, eventually knocking him to the ground late in the first round. The law student continued to dominate early in the second, but Boll responded late with several sharp jabs of his own. Both fighters appeared to tire in the final round, but Boll went for the win late with several strong punches before the final bell. The junior's late effort was nearly enough, but Hyzak prevailed in a split decision.

Evan "Sting" Wray def. Alex "The Ogre" Szymborski

Both fighters came out aggressively, with the left hand jab of Wray holding off the heavy combos of Szymborski in an evenly contested first round. The pace slowed in the second round, as Wray squeezed in some quick jabs between the freshman's strong handed punches. Both fighters appeared to fatigue in the final round, and neither was able to keep up much of a defense as they swapped vicious, high percentage jabs. In the end, the junior was the last man standing, as Wray won by unanimous decision.

Brian "Caesar" Salat def. David "Tough Actin'" Thaxton

Both fighters began the fight with great energy, swapping a flurry of early punches. The two settled in later in the opening round, as both tried to stay low and attack their opponent's body. Salat was able to distinguish himself in the second round by keeping himself at a distance and landing several blows to his opponents face. The fight was won in third round, where Salat's high energy level allowed him to best a fatigued Thaxton. The sophomore won in a unanimous decision.

Daniel Yi def. Anthony "Takes a Tumble" Pavlov

Freshman Daniel Yi easily defeated junior Anthony Pavlov to win the last match of the day. Yi showed his agility in the first round, landing sharp jabs directly through Pavlov's

defense and into his face, while dodging most of the punches thrown at him. Pavlov landed some body blows early in the second, but Yi was able to absorb most of them and fire back with flurries of his own. The referee was forced to stop the fight early in the third, and Yi was declared the winner, ending the long first day of preliminaries.

James Hasson def. Daniel Colston

In a fight that was remarkably even from the outset, both Hasson and Colston landed numerous blows in the first round. Hasson gained the upper hand in the second round, connecting on multiple punches while avoiding almost all those from Colston. In the third and final round, Hasson furthered his advantage as Colston was forced to remain on the defensive for the entire round, unable to mount any sort of offense. This was enough to give Hasson the victory by split decision.

Christopher "Stud" Sarkis v. Karl "The Woodsplitter" Kingery

Sarkis, a sophomore from Fisher, had the upper hand in this fight this fight from the opening bell. Kingery, an off-campus senior, was assaulted from all sides by the powerful Sarkis despite his best efforts to go blow-for-blow. Sarkis landed a big right hook in the first round in addition to multiple smaller combinations. In the second, Kingery walked into a massive right hook from Sarkis and hit the mat hard. The referee stopped the match thirty seconds into the second round, giving a Sarkis a win by the referee stopping the contest.

Jordan Smith def. Robert "The Sledge" Hammer

Both boxers came out with remarkable intensity in the first round as Smith proved slightly more aggressive, while Hammer held his own. Smith was the patient aggressor in the second round, carefully following Hammer around the ring and landing the majority of good blows, including a sharp right to the face that stunned Hammer midway through the round. In the third and final round, Hammer came out with life, absorbing the surgical jabs of Smith and evening up the match, but it would be Smith who prevailed by unanimous decision.

Eric "What the" Frick def. Matt "Welcome to the Thunderdome" Kearney

In a highly anticipated match-up that lived up to its billing, both Frick and Kearney came out hard in the first round, throwing punch after resounding punch at the other with each connecting on his fair share. Frick, however, landed a number of massive combinations that Kearney was unable to escape and finally struck a concussive right hook that stunned the off-campus senior. The fight was stopped after the first round, giving Frick a victory by the referee stopping the contest.

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Belles

continued from page 16

"MIAA tournament play," Belles coach Jennifer Henley said after the Albion game.

The Belles entered the game with four players averaging double figures in points – junior forward Jessica Centa, Mahoney, junior guard Maggie Ronan and junior forward Kelley Murphy. Murphy is also second in the MIAA in rebounding, bringing down 9.5 boards down per game.

Saint Mary's will look to take advantage of Albion's somewhat shaky offense to tie their record for wins in a season. The Bulldogs rank eighth (out of nine) in the MIAA in scoring, averaging just 50.1 points per game. Their offense is also prone

to turnovers, averaging a league-worst -6.05 turnover margin per game.

The Bulldogs are led by junior forward Kellee Wonders, who at 8.3 points per game and six rebounds per game, leads the team in both marks.

This will be the Belles' last home game and second to last regular season game before postseason play.

The Belles will be playing in their second consecutive Pink Zone game, a nationwide initiative across women's basketball aimed at raising not only awareness about breast cancer but also donations to the Kay Yow Cancer Fund.

The Belles aim for a record-tying win tonight at 7:30 p.m. at Angela Athletic Facility.

Contact Matthew DeFranks at mdefrank@nd.edu



ASHLEY DACY/The Observer

Freshman Rich Neville lands a punch against fellow freshman Henry Duden during Bengal Bouts Sunday. Neville was victorious.

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Bouts

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punches. Both fighters fatigued in the third round, and fewer punches were thrown than the first two rounds. Skelly landed a few towards the end, however, to gain full control of the match, and win unanimously.

Kevin Kray def. Grant "The Grantelope" Erickson

Erickson attempted to land a few punches early, but Kray used agility and footwork to avoid them. Late in the first round, Kray landed a few jabs and uppercuts to take the lead. Both seniors exchanged jabs early in the second round. In the middle of the round, the match was stopped briefly due to a cut Erickson received on his face. Kray then landed another big punch later in the round. The match was stopped again early in the third round after Erickson began bleeding again. The referee stopped the match a third time late in the third round so the trainer could again attend to Erickson just before the bell, and Kray earned the unanimous decision.

Nick Severyn def. Israel "The Sugar" Peck

The fight began slowly as both fighters took a defensive approach. The senior Severyn landed a few jabs late in the round, and the grad student Peck countered with a few punches. The second round was more intense as Severyn came out highly aggressive, landing many punches. Peck rose well to the challenge, and each knocked the other against the ropes twice. Severyn, however, took control in the third round and landed a big punch on Peck near the end of the fight, cementing the unanimous decision.

Daniel "The Conquistador" Balcarcel def. Tyler "Raging Bull" Thomas

Balcarcel took control of the fight early in the first round with as many as seven jabs at a time to Thomas' face. The sophomore also darted away from the freshman Thomas' counter-blows. The start of the second round was a repeat of first, with Balcarcel's jabs overwhelming Thomas. While Thomas started the final round with some success in connecting on blows to his opponent's head, the sophomore never lost control. Balcarcel emerged victorious in a unanimous decision.

Daniel "Dan Dan Revolution" Chapman def. Gerrit "Son of Hob" Hobson

One of the more even preliminary round matches started with the junior Chapman gaining a slight edge in the number of blows to the freshman Hobson's face while both fighters tried to discern the other's style. In the second round, the freshman Hobson took control, twice leading his junior opponent into the ropes and landing a left-right combo jab move on him. Chapman came through in the third round to earn a narrow victory by initiating the round with multiple jabs to his opponent's head. The judges awarded Chapman victory in a split decision.

Robert "I'm All Jacked Up on Mountain Dew" Manfreda def. Nick "Gimme Some Fries with That" Grasberger

Throughout most of the first round, the fight looked like an even match before Manfreda closed with an onslaught of

punches to Grasberger's face. The sophomore continued where he left off in the second round with more jabs until the referee delayed the fight for medical staff to attend to junior Grasberger's nose. After the fight resumed, Manfreda continued to dominate with multiple blows to his opponent's body and face, resulting in the judges giving him the victory in a unanimous decision.

Joseph "Send in the Troll" Garrity def. Ryan "Rhino" Murphy

The intra-hall bout between the two juniors from Dillon Hall turned in Garrity's favor in the second round, when he pinned Murphy against the ropes and landed multiple face and body shots. While Murphy entered the third round aggressively, Garrity quickly suppressed any notion of a comeback. He frustrated his opponent with as many as ten jabs at a time to the head and body, leaving no time for counter-blows. Garrity earned the victory in a unanimous decision.

176 Pounds

Alphonse Harding def. Michael Rice

The freshman Harding took control early, landing numerous big punches at the beginning of the first round on fellow first-year Rice. The referee had to stop the fight twice in the first round to check on Rice, though he connected on a few punches against Harding near the end of the round. In the second round, however, Harding dominated, eventually causing the referee to stop the match 37 seconds into the round and earned the win by the referee stopping the contest.

Brian "Half Man, Half Hair" O'Connor def. Corey Scott

The fight commenced with O'Connor delivering most of the punches in the first round. It quickly became evenly contested, however, when the junior Scott finished the first round landing shots to his senior opponent's head and continued the pounding in the second round. The fight was decided in the third round, with O'Connor regaining his composure and fending off a mid-round surge by Scott to earn an edge in the number of shots delivered. O'Connor was the winner by unanimous decision.

Adrian "Yo Adrian" Moreno def. Thomas "The Studman" Stedman

Another intra-hall showdown between Dillon juniors proved more decisive than the first as Moreno took control of the fight in the first round. Moreno's quick jabs to the face put Stedman on defense, and his aggression carried into the second round. The fight was delayed when Stedman's nose began spewing blood in the second round. It subsequently ended early in the third round after Moreno's powerful left-right combo to the head left medical staff attending to Stedman's nose and Moreno won by the referee stopping the contest.

Joseph "Bag o' Donuts" Sweeney def. Jose "Can You See" Aguirre

The two fighters felt each other out early, swapping quick flurries of punches. Towards the end of the first round, Aguirre landed a couple of strong combos, and appeared to take the upper hand. Aguirre took that momentum into the second round, overwhelming Sweeney as soon as the bell rang. Sweeney was able to settle in



Senior Ryan Slaney throws a punch against sophomore Brian Benedict during their preliminary match on Sunday. Slaney won by unanimous decision.

late in the round, and fought his way back into contention. In the final round, Sweeney was able to slow down Aguirre and landed some heavy blows as the fight concluded. That late surge proved to be enough, as Sweeney won by split decision.

Giacomo Minafra def. Lon "El Gingar" Gold

Minafra, a junior southpaw from Zahm House, began the bout as a counter-puncher and ended it as a finisher. Gold came out aggressively in the first round, and Minafra countered to perfection, landing left after hard left to the head of the fifth-year architecture student. Gold fought admirably, but the stronger Minafra proved too much, unleashing a lethal combination of blows to start the second round, and he earned the win 30 seconds into the round by the referee ending the contest.

Paul "Paul from the Hall" Barron def. Ali "I Thought This was Cricket Club" Ahmed

In a battle of two freshmen, Barron emerged victorious in a fight that hung in the balance into the final round. The two came out brawling in the first round as the first 30 seconds saw both fighters throwing punches constantly. They soon tired, however, and by the second round the fighting was noticeably sloppier with fewer punches landed all around. Barron recovered quickly and came out with renewed intensity in the third and used his strong left jab to defeat Ahmed, eventually triumphing by unanimous decision.

182 Pounds

Leo "Release the River" DiPiero def. Tim Kaiser

DiPiero took control early, using his height and wingspan to keep control of Kaiser throughout the opening round. Kaiser answered the bell with energy in the second round, landing several punches before DiPiero once again took control and went to work. The third round was all DiPiero's, as the sophomore hopped around his opponent, jabbing occasionally to keep the fatigued Kaiser at bay. The judges gave the victory to DiPiero in a unanimous decision.

Matt Enzweiler def. Keith "El Gringo Filipino" Arago

Enzweiler took control from the start, launching several combinations and immediately putting Arago on the run. Arago, a law student, was forced to grab and tie up the sophomore on

several occasions. Enzweiler continued to control the fight in the second round, practically sprinting after Arago and pouncing on him when he arrived. Arago tried to win the fight back in the third and came out jabbing with a singular focus on the offensive. He was able to land several big shots to Enzweiler's head, but the late rally wasn't enough, as Enzweiler won in a unanimous decision.

Rich "Spooner" Neville def. Henry "Hank the Tank" Duden

Both freshmen came out cautiously in the opening round and attempted to feel each other out by trading a few jabs. The second round was much more eventful, as Duden came out firing and put Neville on the run. Duden was able to force his opponent into the corner, but Neville recovered and landed some huge hooks at the end of the round. The final round was a free-for-all, as both fighters traded blows with little regard for defense. In the end, Neville emerged victorious in a unanimous decision.

Tom "Son of Ted" Carnevale def. Mike Browder

In the final preliminary in the 182-pound weight class, Carnevale came out strong and forced the Sorin senior around the ring with quick jabs. Browder found his footing in the second round though and swung hard, connecting on several punches before the junior could tie him up. Carnevale recovered in the third round, and was able to come in close to throw several body blows under Browder's defenses. That effort gave Carnevale the win in a unanimous decision.

Mike "Nobody Puts Baby in a Corner" Urciuoli def. Erik "Big Country" VanEperen

In a classic battle of length versus power, power came out

victorious as Urciuoli, an off-campus senior, defeated VanEperen, a Keough Hall sophomore. From the outset of the bout, VanEperen attempted to use his superior height and reach to keep Urciuoli at bay. VanEperen danced all over the ring, counterpunching Urciuoli at every opportunity. The senior, however, found success in getting inside the reach of VanEperen and landed a series of torrid combinations to the sophomore's head and body that won him the fight by unanimous decision.

Tyler "Tuna" Plantz def. David Fosselman

Both fighters came out brawling in the first round and set the tone for the entire fight from the first bell. Both fighters landed good blows in an exciting first round. The second round was more reserved at the start but picked up towards the end as Plantz landed a series of combinations with Fosselman backed up against the ropes. The third round was appreciably slower as both fighters grew tired, and although Fosselman landed a number of punches, Plantz's torrent in the second round proved too much to overcome, as he won by split decision.

Rob "All Gloves No Love" Cimino def. John "The Eight Man" Heinrich

Heinrich, a senior from Duncan, attempted to utilize a distinct height advantage over the smaller Cimino, an off-campus law student, in the first round as both fighters looked fidgety. They danced around the ring early, and it seemed as though neither wanted to engage the other fighter. Heinrich, however, proved to be the aggressor throughout the first round and carried that into the second as Cimino was forced to counterpunch to perfection. The third round saw both come out hard yet clearly fatigued. Cimino, however, emerged victorious by unanimous decision.

192 Pounds

Pat "Brian" Griffin def. Dan "Miami Vice" Barrera

Griffin jabbed strongly from the opening bell, landing several punches and keeping Barrera on the run. Barrera took back control in the second round with an aggressive volley of sweeping punches. Both fighters seemed to fatigue late in the second round, but Griffin came back in the third round on the offensive and ended the fight with a final combo for the judges. The late heroics worked as Griffin won by

Swim

continued from page 16

titles helps give us confidence going into the meet," senior Samantha Maxwell said. "Each one of those championships has a story behind it, has a different set of circumstances leading up to it, and reminds us that we are carrying on a tradition. To be able to continue that tradition would be awesome and a lot of fun for our girls."

Senior Katie Casey agreed that keeping the streak alive was strong motivation for the team.

"We've won 14 titles in a row, so we want to win another and make it 15," Casey said.

Maxwell said that the pressure of maintaining such a long title run will not affect

the team's performance.

"I think it is in the back of our minds, but at the same time our goal is to qualify girls for the NCAA championships," Maxwell said. "Winning Big East is just a stepping stone to doing that, but it isn't the only way."

Though the Irish expect to be competitive in every event, they will face stiff competition, especially from Louisville, Villanova and West Virginia. Nagging injuries have hampered several team members this season, but all swimmers are healthy enough to compete this week.

Notre Dame heads into the swimming portion of the competition with the lead courtesy of the Irish divers, who competed this past weekend. Sophomore Jenny Chiang won the 3-meter board competition for the second year in a row and finished second in

the 1-meter dive, while senior Heidi Grossman took third in the 1-meter and fourth in the 3-meter competition.

Maxwell, who was named the Most Outstanding Swimmer of last year's Big East championships, hopes to see her teammates match her accomplishments at this year's meet.

"I'm excited to see what's to come this year, and I'm especially confident in my teammates and their abilities to perform at a level deserving of the same award," Maxwell said. "Our team has become much more mature and grown a lot in their abilities."

The meet will begin on Feb. 16 at the University of Louisville's Wright Natatorium and conclude on Feb. 19.

Contact Vicky Jacobsen at vjacobsen@nd.edu

Welsh

continued from page 16

the 1995-96 season and has finished in the top four the conference championships 13 consecutive years.

The championships stretch over four days with preliminary races starting at 10 a.m. each day and finals beginning at 6 p.m.

"There's seven swimming sections left, we want to swim fast in all seven," Welsh said. "Getting seven where you want them is a hard thing to do. So we know it's a challenge."

Today, the 800-yard freestyle relay and 200-yard medley relay finals will take place.

Thursday, fans will see the 500-yard freestyle, the 200-yard individual medley, the 200-yard freestyle relay and the 50-yard freestyle finals.

Friday will host the 400-yard individual medley, 100-yard butterfly, 200-yard freestyle, 100-yard breaststroke, and 100-yard backstroke, and 400-yard medley relay finals.

Saturday, there is a senior recognition ceremony shortly before the finals kick off. Saturday's finals are the 1,650-yard freestyle, the 200-yard backstroke, 100-yard freestyle, 200-yard breaststroke, 200-yard butterfly, and 400-yard freestyle relay.

It is a potentially grueling four days, but Welsh is supremely confident in his team.

"If you look at the way the guys have been training, it's been very consistent all year long," Welsh said. "The preparation on their part has been excellent."

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NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Ohio State rebounds after loss with 71-61 victory over Michigan State

Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — William Buford scored 23 points and Aaron Craft had a hand in two critical plays down the stretch to lead No. 2 Ohio State to a 71-61 win over Michigan State on Tuesday night.

It was a hard-fought struggle for the Buckeyes (25-1, 12-1 Big Ten), playing for the first time since having their unbeaten season ended with a 61-57 loss at Wisconsin on Saturday.

Jon Diebler and David Lighty each had 12 points. Jared Sullinger, averaging 18 points and 10 rebounds, was limited to 11 and 2. Craft, a freshman substitute point guard, had seven points, four assists, four steals and three rebounds.

Kalin Lucas led the Spartans (14-11, 6-7) with 14 points, while Adreian Payne and Draymond Green each had 10.

The Buckeyes finished the game on an 18-10 run to pull away.

The game turned the game with two quick defensive stops.

With the Buckeyes hanging on to a 45-44 lead, Buford stepped in front of a bad pass by Lucas and went coast to coast for the basket. The next time down the floor, Craft forced Lucas to give the ball up in the backcourt, leading to two free throws by Diebler. After the Spartans scored a second-chance bucket, Diebler flipped in a line-drive 3 from the top of the key for a 52-46 lead.

A capacity crowd of 18,809 roared its approval.

During one span, the Spartans had turnovers on four of five possessions.

Now with the lead, the Buckeyes relied on Buford.

After Michigan State had cut it to 53-51, Buford hit consecutive jumpers — the first a 3 from the left wing and the second a stop-and-pop jumper from 15 feet to make it 58-51.

Craft came up with a big effort play soon after.

As the ball was going out of bounds under the Michigan State basket, center Garrick Sherman turned and fired it down the court. For an instance no one reacted. But then Craft sped the length of the floor, corralled the ball and hit a twisting reverse layup while being fouled. He completed the three-point play.

Craft also figured in another pivotal play. With the Buckeyes on top 66-59, he had a steal and was fouled by Green at the other end with 1:42 left. Green was then assessed a technical foul. Craft stepped to the line and hit three of the four shots to swell the lead to 69-59, the biggest of the game for either team to that point.

Moments later, Ohio State fans taunted the Spartans —

who have made it to the Final Four in six of the last 12 seasons — with a cheer of "N-I-T! N-I-T!"

The victory extended Ohio State's home winning streak to 18. In coach Thad Matta's seven seasons, they are 102-2 against unranked teams in Columbus.

Diebler hit two 3-pointers to move into a tie for second with Michigan State's Shawn Respert, one back of Big Ten career 3-point leader Pete Lisicky of Penn State, who had 332.

Ohio State led 35-34 at halftime of a wild, physical and stressful first half. There were nine ties and 11 lead changes, with both teams saddled by foul trouble to key personnel. Six players had two fouls apiece, four of them Spartans.



Michigan State center Derrick Nix defends against Ohio State's Jared Sullinger last night.



Ohio State forward Dallas Lauderdale guards Michigan State center Adreian Payne during Ohio State's 71-61 win last night.

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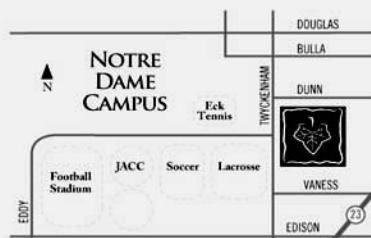
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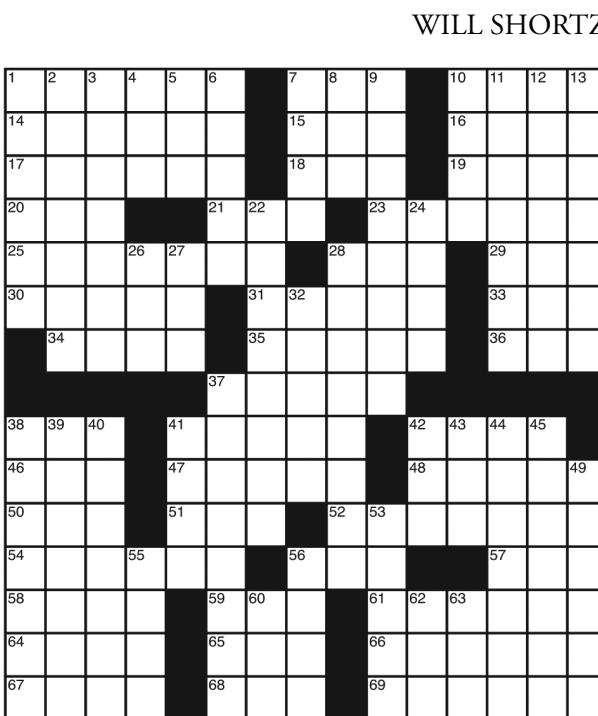
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Across

- Poorly developed, as an idea
- Clear of dishes
- 10 50%
- 14 Milton Berle's longtime sponsor
- 15 Actress — Alicia
- 16 —-Dixie Stores
- 17 Spoil, as a parade
- 18 "Stat!"
- 19 "___ homo"
- 20 Tony winner Hagen
- 21 Joule fraction
- 23 "Misty" composer Garner
- 25 The second "T" in TNT
- 28 Vitamin label fig.
- 29 Rock's ___ Lonely Boys
- 30 Sunken ships
- 31 Unmoved
- 33 Anka's "___ Beso"

Down

- Port on the eastern Mediterranean
- Go ___ length
- Q's point value in Scrabble
- Coffee additive
- Bikini part
- Draws back
- Big Apple enforcement org.
- Improviser's asset
- Artist Matisse
- Tahitian-style wraparound skirt
- Dam-building org.
- Western treaty grp.
- Most dismal
- Worker in a cage
- Pickup truck feature
- Book before Esth.
- Joy Adamson's lioness
- Way of the East
- "As if!"
- Marsh growth



Puzzle by Jim Hilger

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

38 Wife, colloquially
39 In a tangled mess
40 Amu Darya's outlet
41 Do some blacksmith's work on
42 "Wait Wait ... Don't Tell Me!" ainer

43 Shaggy animal in a herd
44 Marriage contracts, briefly
45 Provisional Mormon state
46 Jacob Riis subjects, with "the"

53 Moe parodied him in some W.W. II-era Three Stooges shorts
55 Tramp's love
56 Broadway hit, slangily
60 Pub offering
62 Yes, in Yokohama
63 Big ___, Calif.

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Happy Birthday: Don't let uncertainty hold you back. There are deals to be offered and money to be made this year. Do your homework and get the lowdown on what's involved, but don't stop there. Taking action will lead to your success. Your numbers are 3, 12, 16, 24, 28, 33, 40

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You'll be prone to overreact and to take things too personally. Step back from whatever situation you face and rethink your next move. Don't allow emotional matters to overrule common sense. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Learn all you can about a given situation before you take part in a discussion that could be costly. Someone will burden you with responsibilities that don't belong to you. Be prepared to say no. Put your money and time where it counts most. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): There is money to be made and advancement that will give you the clout required to make a difference to your future. Serious talks will lead to a commitment you've been trying to get from someone for some time. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Expect someone to try to head you in a direction that isn't right for you. Instead, stick to what you know and do it well. A love relationship will take an emotional turn. Respond positively. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take care of any paperwork concerning a contract, settlement, legal, financial or health matter that has been pending. You need to be ready to push whatever needs updating through as quickly as possible in order to avoid a penalty. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Avoid impulsive purchases or quick decisions that could cost you financially, emotionally or personally. Focus more on home, family and being prudent. Socialize on a shoestring and diminish stress. ★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A partnership will cost you if you cannot come to terms with what you both feel is required to move forward. Be prepared to compromise so you can put uncertainty behind you. Once you have come to an understanding, you can enjoy the benefits. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Not everyone will be upfront about feelings and future plans. You have to ask questions and read between the lines if you want to know what you are dealing with. Change will be required. ★★★★★

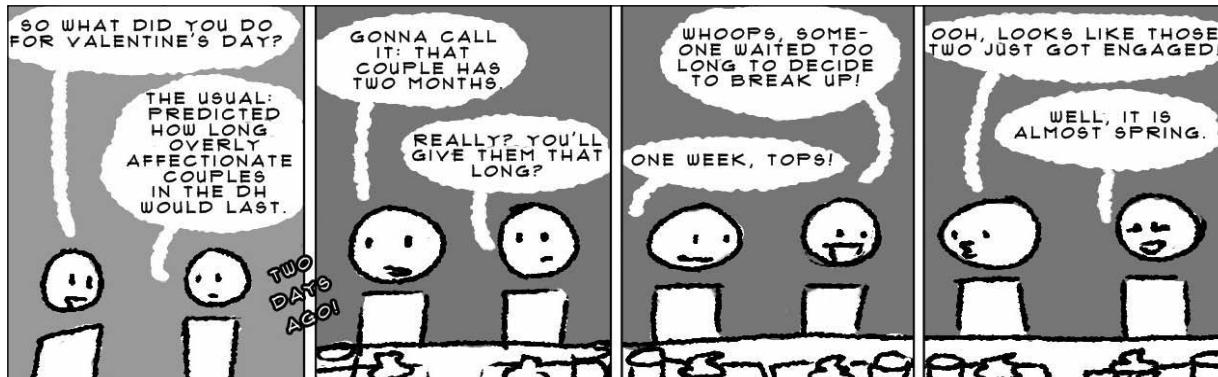
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You'll be walking a fine line, so make sure you look at all sides of whatever situation you face before making a move. Sticking close to home will help keep you on track and out of harm's way. Someone will withhold important information. ★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Added responsibilities and worries regarding a dependent or burden you've incurred can be expected. Rely on past experience or someone you used to know to help you find a solution that will work for everyone involved. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Look over your personal paperwork and discuss your financial or medical plans with someone you feel can offer insight into your current situation. Don't let someone who has disappointed you in the past have another chance. ★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Keep secrets and avoid meddling. Get involved in an organization you believe in or offer your services to a worthy cause. Socializing will lead to a new friendship that can alter your personal life in the future. ★★★★★

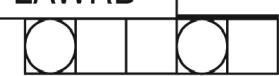
Birthday Baby: You are inquisitive and original. You are concerned with the welfare of those less fortunate and are willing to work hard to improve your life and others'.

TUESDAY VARIETY SHOW

LAURA MCGINN

JUMBLEHENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION**JUMBLE**THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Mike Argirion and Jeff KnurekUnscramble these four Jumbles,
one letter to each square,
to form four ordinary words.

LAWRD

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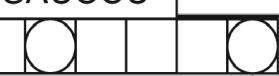
BISSA



TIVNAY



SAUCCU

WHY THEY STAGED
A SIT-IN TO
SAVE THE TREES.Now arrange the circled letters
to form the surprise answer, as
suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: IT A " " (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: MAUVE PAPER STRONG TYPING
Answer: What the electrician discovered when he traced his family tree — THE "GENERATORS"

The Observer apologizes for the absence of PleasaNDville.

THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community.

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THE OBSERVER SPORTS

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

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FOOTBALL

Montana to transfer as Irish look ahead toward spring practice

Observer Staff Report

Spring practice doesn't begin until March 23, but the first roster shakeup of the spring season has already occurred. Notre Dame announced Tuesday that junior quarterback Nate Montana had left the Irish in a transfer to the University of Montana, where he is enrolled for the spring semester.

"After much discussion with Nate regarding his future

with our football program, Nate decided it was in his best interests to leave Notre Dame and pursue opportunities at a different school," Irish coach Brian Kelly said. "I enjoyed working with Nate and he was a valuable member of his team this past season. I wish him and his family all the best."

Montana saw limited playing time in 2010 as part of a competition to back up junior quarterback Dayne Crist. Montana saw his most exten-

sive action against Michigan, when Crist missed much of the first half due to a head injury; he split time in that game with freshman Tommy Rees.

Rees would eventually take over as starting quarterback after Crist's season was ended by a knee injury. Montana saw little playing time in the second half of the season despite entering the fall as the second quarterback on the depth chart behind Crist.

By transferring to a Football

Championship Subdivision school (FCS) rather than a Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) school, Montana will be able to immediately compete for playing time rather than sit out a year and lose a year of eligibility due to NCAA transfer rules.

Crist and Rees will again compete for the starting position during spring practice, which will run four days a week (Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday) from March 23 through the 82nd

Blue-Gold Game, which is scheduled for Saturday, April 16.

The five recruits who enrolled early — kicker Kyle Brindza, quarterback Everett Golson, and defensive ends Brad Carrico, Aaron Lynch, and Ishraq Williams — will participate in spring practice as their first formal experience with the Irish. The rest of the recruiting class will report for summer camp in June after they graduate high school.

BENGAL BOUTS

Fight Night is back

Bengal Bouts returned to Joyce Center Sunday

By ANDREW GASTELUM,
MATTHEW DeFRANKS,
VICTORIA JACOBSEN,
KELSEY MANNING, MATT
UNGER, SAM GANS, JACK
HEFFERON and CONOR
KELLY
Sports Writers

170 Pounds

Connor "The Skeletor" Skelly def. Sukesh "Cosmic Tiger" Shekar

The grad-student Shekar knocked the junior Skelly back into a corner with a few early haymakers. Shekar tired as the round went on, however, as Skelly landed many jabs and uppercuts. Both fighters landed many jabs, combinations, and uppercuts in the first 15 seconds of the second round. Skelly took control near the end of the round, as the referee had to check on Shekar after a few

see BOUTS/page 13



SARAH O'CONNOR/The Observer
Law student Brian Salvi attempts an uppercut against sophomore Dallas Bunsa during Sunday's Bengal Bouts. Salvi won by unanimous decision.

ND WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

Irish look to finish strong

By VICKY JACOBSEN
Sports Writer

Every conference has a defending champion, but it's not very often that a team competes for a 15th consecutive title. Yet that is what the Notre Dame swimmers will attempt as they head to Louisville for the swimming portion of the Big East championships.

The impressive streak of Big East conference championship victories is a source of motivation and confidence for the Irish (5-7), who currently hold the Big East record for most consecutive titles in any sport.

"Holding 14 consecutive

see SWIM/page 14



SUZANNE PRATT/The Observer
Junior Amy Prestinario competes in an event during the Shamrock Invitational Jan. 29.

MEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

Big East title meet is final hurdle of season

By MATT ROBISON
Sports Writer

Coming off a first-place performance in the diving portion of the event, Notre Dame looks to capture a Big East championship as it faces the conference's best in Louisville, Ky., starting today.

Capturing a share of the lead in diving is significant for the Irish moving into the swimming portion, which begins today.

Irish senior Eric Lex was named Big East Diver of the Year and Caiming Xie was named Big East Diving Coach of the Year.

"They just did a great job,"

Irish coach Tim Welsh said. "We're going in with a lead, and that's a great thing."

Welsh has been pleased with his team's production this entire season, and the Big East championships are a chance to prove its mettle again.

"This team has been a real joy," Welsh said. "It's had energy, it's had spirit, it's had camaraderie, it's has enthusiasm and at the same time, it has gotten faster meet after meet."

The Irish finished second last season after winning titles in 2005, 2006, 2008 and 2009. Notre Dame has only been a member of the Big East since

see WELSH/page 14