

## Students adjust to new environment

### *International freshmen experience American culture*

By **CHARLIE DUCEY**  
News Writer

Notre Dame's newest freshman class contains 350 international students, representing 70 different countries. Last week, all of these students participated in International Student Orientation, which aimed to help foreign students adjust to an American university.

McKenna Pencak, assistant director of communications and outreach, said the orientation process for international students differs from the traditional freshman orientation. International Student Orientation, which took place

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Photo courtesy of McKenna Pencak

*Several new students meet with international ambassador Zhaoze Hu (third from left). The University selects students as international ambassadors to mentor incoming freshmen.*

### *Transfers acclimate to Notre Dame customs*

By **MEG HANDELMAN**  
News Writer

Notre Dame's 2013 transfer orientation, led by former transfer students Joseph Ragukonis and Heather Bartlow, welcomed 129 new Domers this past week during a four-day orientation.

Ragukonis said the purpose of transfer orientation is to make transfer students' transition into the Notre Dame family as smooth as possible.

"Our goal during orientation is focused on helping them adjust to Notre Dame, the community and making new friends right from the start," Ragukonis said. "We especially emphasize what

see TRANSFER **PAGE 5**

## Campus welcomes six new rectors

By **TORI ROECK**  
Associate News Editor

As the school year begins, new rectors are getting acclimated to their roles as community leaders and mentors in Cavanaugh Hall, Farley Hall, Keough Hall, Lewis Hall, O'Neill Hall and Ryan Hall.

All of the new rectors have studied at Notre Dame or Saint Mary's College in the past and

have returned to give back to a residential system that allowed them to grow.

O'Neill Hall rector Chris Tarnacki, who lived in the dorm as an undergraduate, said he felt called to be a rector because of the unique nature of Notre Dame's residence life.

"I wanted to become a rector because I believe deeply in Notre Dame's residential mission.

It really is as simple as that," Tarnacki said. "There isn't another career choice I could make that would give me the fulfillment of working with the young men and women that come here."

Keough Hall rector Pat Reidy, a seminarian who lived in Sorin College as an undergraduate, said Notre Dame's Holy Cross heritage is his inspiration for becoming a rector.

"The University's founder, Fr. Edward Sorin, had a dream that Notre Dame would become a powerful means for good, that its graduates would be good people who cared deeply about the world and one another," Reidy said. "That lofty dream is shaped in the day-to-day, in classrooms and dorm rooms. Rectors strive to build community in the dorms through the work of family, an

ideal strongly resonant with my own upbringing and my discernment of religious life in Holy Cross."

Reidy, who will be ordained a priest next year, said his only long-term plan is to preside over Mass in the dorm.

"I'm most looking forward to celebrating Mass in Keough's the

see RECTORS **PAGE 4**

## Department offers new engineering majors

By **LILY MCGILL**  
News Writer

The Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences (CEEES) underwent a major rearrangement this year by adding environmental engineering and environmental earth science majors and removing a previously offered environmental geosciences major.

Dr. Elizabeth Kerr, director of undergraduate studies for the College of Engineering, said the department takes an interdisciplinary approach to the study

of the environment.

"The new environmental engineering and earth sciences curriculum merges environmental earth systems, chemistry, hydrology and water flow and transport into a unique interdisciplinary curriculum focused on the environment at a range of scales," Kerr said.

Previously, an environmental concentration was available through the CEEES department, but it was relatively unknown, Kerr said.

Environmental Engineering

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SAMMY COUGHLIN | The Observer



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

*Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor-in-Chief Andrew Gastelum.*

**Post Office Information**  
The Observer (USPS 599 2-4000) is published Monday through Friday except during exam and vacation periods.  
A subscription to The Observer is \$130 for one academic year; \$75 for one semester.  
The Observer is published at:  
024 South Dining Hall  
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779  
Periodical postage paid at Notre Dame and additional mailing offices  
POSTMASTER  
Send address corrections to:  
The Observer  
P.O. Box 779  
024 South Dining hall  
Notre Dame, IN 46556-077  
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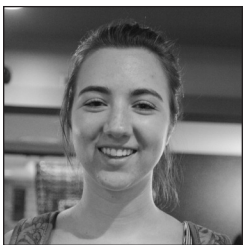
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The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at (574) 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

## QUESTION OF THE DAY:

What is one event all freshmen should attend before they graduate Notre Dame?

*Have a question you want answered?**Email [obsphoto@gmail.com](mailto:obsphoto@gmail.com)*

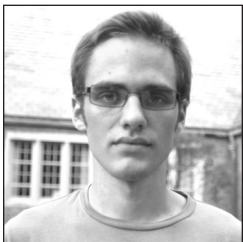
**Emma Kusters**  
junior  
Lewis

“All the musicals.”



**Catherine Clark**  
sophomore  
Farley

“Muddy Sunday.”



**Matthew Staffelbach**  
sophomore  
Siegfried

“Anything with swing club.”



**Carolyn Comes**  
junior  
Farley

“Farley Fiasco and bobsleds on ice.”



**Kevin Cloetingh**  
freshman  
Alumni

“Rally in the Alley and the USC game.”



**Lizzy Helping**  
senior  
Lyons

“Fun, exciting, free stuff. And Activities Night.”



ALLISON D'AMBROSIA | The Observer

*Two Morrissey residents share their mutual love of cycling at Main Circle. Tandem bicycles offer twice the pedaling power of conventional bicycles, with only slightly more frictional loss.*

## THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

*Want your event included here?**Email [obsnews.nd@gmail.com](mailto:obsnews.nd@gmail.com)***Thursday****Zen Meditation**

Coleman-Morse Center  
5:15 p.m.-6:15 p.m.  
Meditation for students and faculty.

**Film: “The New World”**

DeBartolo Performing Arts Center  
7 p.m.-9:15 p.m.  
Screening of Terrence Malick’s epic.

**Friday****Football Pep Rally**

South Quad  
6 p.m.-7 p.m.  
Support Coach Kelly and the Fighting Irish.

**Women’s Soccer**

Alumni Stadium  
7:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.  
Versus Oakland.

**Gameday****Lecture: Saturdays with the Saints**

Geddes Hall  
10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.  
Talk about Franz Jagerstatter.

**Lecture: “Feeding, Function and Fossils”**

Jordan Hall of Science  
12 p.m.-1 p.m.  
Part of the Science Exploration Series.

**Sunday****Confirmation Info Session**

Coleman-Morse Center  
1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.  
Learn about initiation into the Catholic Church.

**Rejoice! Mass**

Coleman-Morse Center  
8 p.m.-9 p.m.  
Mass rooted in the African-American tradition.

**Monday****Lecture: “Dignity and Justice for Migrants and Refugees”**

Geddes Hall  
7 p.m.  
Panel discussion on conflict in Syria.

**Labor Day**

Campus-wide  
All day  
Administrative offices closed. Classes in session.

# Saint Mary's hosts summer leadership institute

By KAITLYN RABACH  
Saint Mary's Editor

*Editor's Note: A version of this article appeared in the South Bend Tribune on Aug. 24. Kaitlyn Rabach served as a student program coordinator for the Study of the United States Institute.*

Saint Mary's has a 169-year history of women's leadership. The college's founders, the Sisters of the Holy Cross, crossed many boundaries as they traveled to Indiana from Le Mans, France. Over the years the sisters have worked hard to meet the needs of the South Bend community through avenues like education and health care, while also acting globally.

Similarly, the students at this Catholic women's college cross boundaries often, serving Michiana as volunteers and interns while choosing, in many cases, to study abroad. So notes Elaine Meyer-Lee, director of the college's Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership (CWIL).

For the second summer in a row, the college has connected the global community with South Bend's local needs in a unique way. This year Saint Mary's hosted 19 undergraduate women leaders from Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Libya and

Tunisia for a five-week U.S. Department of State sponsored program titled "Study of the United States Institute" (SUSI) for Student Leaders on Women's Leadership.

"We are very gratified the State Department recognized the college's accomplishments in promoting intercultural exchange by awarding us this grant," Meyer-Lee said. "It is this type of exchange that broadens everyone's horizons."

This program not only offered global interaction for faculty and students at Saint Mary's, but also for several service organizations in South Bend. Each of the 19 participants volunteered in the community for a total of 12 hours, Meyer-Lee said.

"For the participants' curriculum, we cover various proficiencies we think women should acquire to become effective agents of change," said Mana Derakhshani, the SUSI academic director and associate director of CWIL. "The theory they get in the classroom is reinforced with the practice at the service locations."

This year's service locations included the Center for the Homeless, Chiara Home El Campito, Hannah's House, Hope Ministries, Saint Margaret's House, Sister Brannick Clinic and North



KAITLYN RABACH | The Observer

**Anood, an 18-year-old Jordanian college student, tutors a young girl at Saint Margaret's House in South Bend. Anood volunteered there as part of the Study of the United States Institute.**

Central Indiana YWCA.

"We picked the locations carefully to fit the theme of women's leadership and rights," Meyer-Lee said. "Many of the service placements have strong women leaders running the programs and many of these places are focused on serving women's needs, which dovetails with the curriculum."

Derakhshani said many of the participants only knew about the United States

from Hollywood movies and TV shows, contributing to misconceptions.

"They see extremes like gangsters and criminality as well as very rich and very plastic Hollywood images of women," Derakhshani said. "The service component, among other aspects of this program, helps to debunk some of those stereotypes. This way, participants can meet individuals from diverse ethnic, racial and economic backgrounds."

Anood, an 18-year-old Jordanian college student, volunteered at Saint Margaret's House in South Bend for her 12 service hours. (The State Department does not permit the participants last names to be published.) She said volunteering at the day house for women allowed her to see the importance of communicating and befriending others.

"This house is all about giving to people in need," Anood said. "You give to them by being friends with them, by communicating with them and by becoming close to them rather than just offering them food, money or other needs."

For most of these women, this type of service is not common in their home countries. Hajer, a 21-year-old Libyan college student, said volunteering in Libya is very different from volunteering in the States.

"What I saw at St. Margaret's House was volunteers giving their time on a regular basis and volunteering long term," Hajer said. "In Libya, this kind of volunteering is usually only for a few days. Most of my peers volunteer for non-profits as project managers."

Kathy Schneider, executive director of St. Margaret's House, said the young women have been working with the house's Girls Club, which serves young girls from ages 8 to 13.

"This has been a very humanizing experience," Schneider said. "These young girls see their world being much bigger than just their house and town. They then think if these girls could come all the way here maybe one day they could travel the world as well."

Anood said her experience with the Girls Club was very much related to the concepts learned during her SUSI experience.

"SUSI is all about overcoming obstacles and crossing borders together to make a brighter future for each and every woman," Anood said. "At the Girls Club, we learned a leader should be a person who gives support to others and serves others. If a leader can't give to the community or the people around her than she is not a true leader."

Contact Kaitlyn Rabach at [krabac01@saintmarys.edu](mailto:krabac01@saintmarys.edu)

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# Cinema upgrades technology

By **ABI HOVERMAN**  
News Writer

Due to a technology upgrade in the Browning Cinema, the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center can now screen digital cinema packages (DCPs), the high-quality digital format used to film most movies today.

Ted Barron, senior associate director of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, said this recent transformation would ensure the theater stays current with changing film industry standards.

"Because of the investment the University made, we are at the cutting edge of current technology," Barron said.

The noteworthy installation of a server and projector to play DCPs allows for higher definition image and improved audio, he said. In addition, a move to only one panel of projection room glass helps maximize image quality and brightness.

"The quality is a world of difference from what we had before," Barron said. "It really benefits everyone."

Barron said movie theaters across the country have undergone similar transformations to the user-friendly DCP

technology as the industry moves away from 35-millimeter film.

"This is a huge change within the film industry," he said.

This digital capability also ensures much easier transpor-

***"The quality is a world of difference from what we had before. It really benefits everyone."***

Ted Barron  
senior associate director  
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center

tation and projection of films, Barron said. Before, only 35-millimeter films could be shown, which involve manual threading of projectors and multiple bulky film reels for each film, which are much more difficult to handle than the DVD-box-sized DCP that simply needs to be uploaded to the cinema's server.

Barron said he was grateful the Chicago-based film projection specialist Full Aperture Systems could install the upgrade because the company employs experts in the field.

Browning Cinema used to

not be able to project student films in the high digital quality in which they were recorded, so Film, Television and Theater (FTT) students will now benefit from the technology upgrade, Barron said.

"It better reflects and showcases what the students are doing for FTT students who are making films," he said. "The technology they've been using was incompatible with the projection capabilities we had."

Barron said the project fits in with Notre Dame's mission of leadership and excellence.

"Professors are awestruck about the quality of the presentation they have," he said. "This is a huge benefit to their academic mission."

"Faculty can now make the best use of their resources in a way they have not before."

This University-funded project, largely completed in June, marks the first major upgrade to the Browning Cinema since its 2004 opening, Barron said.

"This is the biggest change we've done to the cinema to ensure that it is around for years to come," he said.

Contact Abi Hoverman at  
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## Rectors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

dorm.

"I'm most looking forward to celebrating Mass in Keough's Chapel of Our Lady of Guadalupe as a newly-ordained priest next Easter, surrounded by the men with whom I've been privilege to journey this year," Reidy said.

Farley Hall rector Elaine DeBassige said she will model her actions as rector on those of her former rector in Lewis Hall.

"One of my rectors (both are still on campus!) was in Lewis when my dad died. It was during finals of my junior year. I was devastated and she was amazing, along with my AR," De Bassige said. "They made things happen and got me home so that I could be with my family. That kind of support is unheard of. Friends who went to other schools are always shocked when I tell this story."

DeBassige said she has big plans to open a café within Farley Hall.

"My first big project is to create Café Far Far in the basement in a part of Farley that is rarely used," she said. "I want to maximize the use of the space that we have for study groups and be a place where everyone wants to be."

Cavanaugh Hall rector Jeannine DiCarlantonio said she intends to emphasize a sense of community in her hall.

"Community truly can have an

incredible impact on our life and experiences, and the residence hall system at Notre Dame reflects the importance of community in helping us lead lives full of faith, hope, and love," DiCarlantonio said.

Ryan Hall rector Allison Greene said she was overjoyed at how welcoming the residents of her dorm have been toward her.

"They impressed me from the beginning by introducing themselves to me and offering sincere welcomes; they were also quick to show me what bright, fun, spiritual, and fully engaged students they are," Greene said. "I am looking forward to supporting them, being present for their athletic and club events, celebrating liturgy together in our beautiful chapel, and living a year of campus life at Notre Dame together."

Lewis Hall rector Katy Patterson said she is looking forward to building relationships with her residents as they continue on their life's journey.

"I am excited to journey with the women of Lewis Hall through their years of undergraduate education and formation," Patterson said in a press release. "I feel honored and blessed to be the rector of this community as these women discern who they are called to be and what they are called to offer for the good of the world."

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## Transfer

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

is special and unique to Notre Dame and show them that even though they are transfer students, they are just as much a part of the University as everyone else.”

Bartlow said the Transfer-O committee is aware transfer students come to Notre Dame already having had some college experience, and therefore the program focuses more on orienting students with their new school.

There are many challenges that come with transferring to a brand new school, Ragukonis said, including a change in academic difficulty and adjusting to a new college experience while your peers have already settled into life at Notre Dame.

“Transfer students who come to Notre Dame have left everything they have worked hard to achieve at their old school in order to attend a new school where they must adjust to different academic expectations, a different social environment and a new campus,” Bartlow said.

Transfer students are also offered last pick of classes, which can make it difficult to build an optimal schedule, and they can have trouble meeting peers who have already formed their friend groups during freshman year, she said.

“To help alleviate any challenges, we keep open as many lines of communication as possible so that the new transfers can seek our help if they want,” Ragukonis said. “We also make clear that everyone at Notre Dame is happy to help them with a transition.”

Bartlow said the orientation

involves many social events, such as a welcome mass, a campus tour, a scavenger hunt, a trip to the Indiana dunes, a field day and a grotto visit to help the students make friends and feel comfortable in their new environment.

“My favorite part of the orientation was the grotto visit,”

***“We especially emphasize what is special and unique to Notre Dame and show them that even though they are transfer students, they are just as much a part of the University as everyone else.”***

Joseph Ragukonis  
co-commissioner  
transfer orientation

Bartlow said. “A few of the committee members gave a brief history, led a prayer and shared a personal reflection with the new students. I think this event gave students the opportunity to bond in a unique way due to their shared experiences.”

She said the grotto visit allowed students to reflect on their journey to Notre Dame, and each student received a specially made Transfer-O candle, which the students could light at the grotto.

The Football 101 program, held Friday afternoon, was a favorite for Ragukonis.

“During Football 101 we were able to get one of the leprechauns and cheerleaders to help teach the new transfer

class the cheers and other aspects that make up game days on campus,” he said. “That was definitely one of the best parts.”

Students also meet with advisors to aid in scheduling their classes and can choose to “Adopt-a-Dorm” if they are living off campus, to connect them with an on-campus hall, she said.

“The Transfer-O Committee understands what it is like to transfer to Notre Dame since each member has been in the exact same shoes as the incoming students,” Bartlow said.

Knowing what the transfer students were going through during the program was a huge motivator in her decision to lead the program, Ragukonis said.

“My previous two experiences of Transfer-O, both as a new transfer student and last year as a transfer orientation committee member, were two of the most amazing experiences of my life,” he said. “I wanted to be co-commissioner so that I could have a change to make the new transfer class have as great an experience as I had, at the University that I love.”

Bartow said she received excellent feedback at the events and was very thankful for the support of their fellow committee leaders.

“We had great attendance at all of our events throughout the four-day orientation, and every new student I talked to said they enjoyed it,” Ragukonis said. “I know it went well when multiple new transfers were asking me how they could go about getting on the orientation committee in the future.”

Contact Meg Handelman at  
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## Engineering

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

associate professor Dr. Joshua Shrout said because of the obscurity of this concentration, the CEEES department needed a restructuring to publicize its offerings.

“The idea for some change in environmental engineering has been on the table for years,” Shrout said. “It became clear over time that we were a little bit hidden, so we needed to change that.”

Kerr says the program’s merits should be more well-known.

“We wanted to make it so students knew we had this environmental portion in our department,” she said. “We have faculty that are very strong in these areas, and we really wanted our undergraduates to be able to benefit even more from those strengths.”

Students participating in the environmental engineering program will obtain an accredited environmental engineering degree, Kerr said. Also, although housed in the College of Engineering, students participating in the environmental earth sciences program obtain a science degree, she said.

Dr. Jeremy Fein, director of the Center for Environmental Science and Technology, said the two disciplines often coincide.

“There’s a lot of overlap between environmental engineering and earth sciences,” Fein said. “Because of that overlap and because the College of Engineering had more of an established graduate program, it was combined that way.”

Fein also said the environmental earth science degree offered through the CEEES

department differs from the environmental science degree offered through the College of Science in that it is more specialized and focuses specifically on earth sciences, or processes that occur near or at the surface of the Earth.

Students graduating with a degree in environmental engineering or environmental earth sciences will be prepared for a variety of fields, Shrout said.

“Many issues pertain to water, air and soil,” he said. “Protecting human health, cleaning up contamination [and] preventing contamination are some of the things that environmental engineers do.”

The Environmental Engineering and Environmental Earth Sciences programs are open to all students entering the CEEES department with sophomore status in the fall of 2013 and future years.

Although there are currently only 16 environmental engineering majors, Kerr said the CEEES department soon hopes to have upwards of 30 to 40 students enrolled between the two programs.

Those who graduate with these degrees will be prepared to look at environmental issues from a big-picture perspective, Fein said, opening up important career goals in their futures.

“Graduates can also go on and contribute to policy,” he said. “We’ve had graduates go on and work for senators and congressmen, educating them about global climate change and things like that.”

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## Orientation

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

from Aug. 20 to 21 in the Jordan Hall of Science, is as much about America as it is about Notre Dame, she said.

“International Student Orientation provides an opportunity for new international students to learn about Notre Dame’s campus and resources as well as American culture,” Pencak said.

In the spirit of America and Notre Dame’s shared passion for football, the Football 101 workshop was a highlight of the program, Pencak said.

“Football 101 [was] presented by ND’s football announcer Mike Collins and [helped] the new international students learn the basics of football just in time for the first home game,” Pencak said.

Freshman Fernando Huyke of Puerto Rico said his experience with the 2013 International Orientation was slightly different because of his background.

“It was a different experience because many students were legit international, while I am a resident of a U.S. territory,” Huyke said.

He said the activities were very informative, even though it wasn’t his first exposure to American culture.

“I enjoyed the lecture on the American classroom and the crossing cultures chat,” he said. “Sometimes Americans don’t understand where you’re from. You have to find a system to stay focused.”

***“The activities were really fun. It made me feel as part of a family.”***

Fernando Huyke  
freshman

In comparison to his dorm’s Frosh-O, Huyke said his residence hall orientation was more enjoyable.

“Stanford Hall has a lot of really nice guys. They don’t care about what you are,” he said. “The activities were really fun. It made me feel as part of a family.”

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## INSIDE COLUMN

## Savor the spontaneity



Nicole Michels

Assistant Managing Editor

In the past month, I have helped a close friend with medical school application essays, listened to others vent about studying for the GRE and the LSAT and decided that I am interested in attending law school. I have congratulated friends who received full-time employment offers after successful summer internships, listened to stories about summers spent around the globe and consoled friends looking for new direction after frustrating summer employment.

Though the seniors might be, by some numeric standards, the “dumbest” class (here’s looking at you, amazing test takers in the Class of 2017), we all made it to Notre Dame because we work hard. We are ambitious, driven and more than willing to do the necessary work to achieve our goals.

We didn’t let up when we got to Notre Dame. Most of my friends have accrued numerous leadership positions, membership in various clubs and positions on hall staffs, sports teams or volunteer organizations.

Seniors, let’s take a collective breath. Yes, we need to do everything we can to succeed in the tough job market. Yes, being involved is fun, and, yes, this work will facilitate both personal and professional development. But if we book our days so full that all we are doing is surviving from day to day, if we’re rushing toward some undefined post-graduate destination, are we really spending our last year at Notre Dame as we should be?

If I’ve learned anything during my time here, it is that you look back on your achievements with pride but treasure the spontaneous memories you make much more.

That late night Huddle run, post-parietals Taco Hut run or post-Fefe Vesuvios stop. That movie night, poker tournament, volleyball game at Stepan. The trip to the Grotto, Easter Vigil mass, the spontaneous retreat sign-up. Tailgating, volunteering, cheering, running, hoping, praying.

So many of the best things we do, we do together. We need to study hard in our classes and work hard in our jobs and activities because that’s why we pursued higher education after we finished high school.

But that’s not the only important thing; we are more than the sum of our accomplishments. We are also the friendships we build, the connections we maintain, the selves we let out when we’re busy not making plans and just living for a change.

That’s my goal for senior year; that’s how I want to spend my last year officially “home under the Dome.”

Though we’re all busy, hopefully we can refuse to let our commitments pull us in so many directions that there’s no ‘us’ left. Let’s take time for ourselves and for each other this year, so in May we can look back on more than a collection of achievements, so that we will remember a rich tapestry of life as seniors at the University of Notre Dame.

Good luck this year seniors, and Go Irish!

Contact Nicole Michels at [nmichels@nd.edu](mailto:nmichels@nd.edu)

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

## Responding to God’s call

Scott Boyle

The Sincere Seeker

A few weeks ago, my family travelled to Colorado for vacation. Not a big deal, on the surface; many families take vacations, after all. For my family, however, this was a different sort of vacation.

You see, for the first time in five years, me, my two brothers and my Mom and Dad were all in the same place, together, for an extended period of time. Outside the range of cell phone towers and internet service, we left behind swim meets, rowing regattas and work responsibilities, commitments that had consumed much our time and taken us away from one another.

Here, we were really present. It wasn’t long, however, we began to realize how distant we had grown from each other.

We were out of sync, and nobody listened. Everybody had different ideas for what the vacation should look like, what we should do and how we should do it. Some of us wanted to hike and go fast, others wanted to bike and go slow. Feelings were hurt, and people got mad. And this was only the first day.

The disagreements reached their peak in a hotel room in Vail. After a couple of hours of this, however, it became clear we were getting nowhere. Unbeknownst to us, these disagreements regarding vacation plans were masking our true feelings, insecurities and hurts that had built up from years of emotional and physical distance.

All of a sudden, my brother Steven blurted out: “I never told you this, Scott, but when you left for college, I was really sad. I went in my room and cried.”

We all stopped. His vulnerability cut through our tension. I never knew my brother felt that way about me. For all I knew, I didn’t think he even cared when I left for Notre Dame. Tears immediately welled up in my eyes.

It was in that moment I realized I had played a big role in all of this. I had not known (or even thought to ask) how Steven might feel because I had not taken the time to care. Swept up in everything I had going at Notre Dame, I had not only neglected him, but my whole family as well. I had taken the very people who had been my support for granted.

As we talked more, however, it became clear I was not alone. All of us realized we had forgotten the family at some point during those five years. We had all become so absorbed by our passions and interests we could not say, “I know you and I love you” to one another.

Our disagreements about vacation were ineffective attempts to brush that fact aside. We had lost touch with each other, and we were paying the price.

In the movie “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part II,” Albus Dumbledore makes a poignant observation: “Words are our most inexhaustible source of magic, capable of both inflicting injury and remedying it.” Led by Steven’s example, the very words that had previously divided us became the source of our openness and our transformation.

As we shared what was in our hearts, we were transported to depths we had not traversed in a long, long time. Our own walls came down, and there, in that cramped hotel room, we brought

years of unshared feelings out of the darkness and into the light. We realized how much we longed for that love from one another. And slowly but surely, we journeyed back to the magical reality we had been longing for: love.

But this is just the beginning. We are recommitting ourselves to making that reality of love more fully present in our family. For me, that began when my brother Steven helped me to realize we never really stopped loving one another. We had just simply chosen to turn away from it for a time.

And this struggle can be, I think, the same with God. Although we sometimes take Him for granted and turn away, God’s love, the fundamental reality of our lives, is always there waiting.

Isaiah 43:1 reminds us of this: “I have called you by name; you are mine.” It is just up to us to respond to that call.

No matter what I do, I belong to my family. I am made more complete because of their love.

But it is in God that we are drawn to our ultimate completeness and glory. In him, the triumph of love is celebrated. We just have to play our part, recognizing we have choices to accept or reject that love.

But we must not take God’s love for granted. We must rather always act to make it manifest in our own families — and the world.

*Scott is a graduate of Notre Dame and is currently pursuing his Master’s degree in Theology through the Echo program. He can be reached at [sboyle2@nd.edu](mailto:sboyle2@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

“A ship in port is safe, but that’s not what ships are built for.”

Grace Murray Hopper  
US admiral & computer scientist

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Submit a Letter to the Editor | Email [obsviewpoint@gmail.com](mailto:obsviewpoint@gmail.com)

# Coming home from a long summer

**Bianca Almada**

This is Real Life

After making the long journey to return to my humble dorm room, having a dramatic reunion with my Notre Dame friends and talking for hours on end about all of the exciting things that will take place under the dome this year, I have to say I am beyond excited to be back at school. The promise of a new beginning looms in the air, as everyone is eager to set new goals and create new memories. Everyone seems to have a spring in his or her step, soaking in the comfort and the excitement that comes with moving back in and enjoying the first few days with limited schoolwork.

College summers truly are the longest summers. Although I was blessed with an eye-opening internship experience for eight weeks as well as six weeks in my hometown this summer, many times I found myself longing for my life in South Bend. I wholeheartedly enjoyed spending time with my family as well as gaining work experience, but the time away from the Notre Dame campus often

felt long, even dragged out. I missed my friends, the familiarity, the freedom and the easiness of living within walking distance from everything I need.

Much to my surprise, however, many of my friends from other universities found these sentiments funny, even strange. I would say something along the lines of “I can’t wait to get back to school,” and people would just look at me oddly and ask why. “Isn’t schoolwork stressful?” they would ask, along with, “Doesn’t it feel nice to just relax and not have to worry about everything?” and “Didn’t you miss your family?” I would answer all of these questions in the affirmative, which of course only furthered their confusion.

The truth is that I could never eloquently put into words exactly why I was so excited to return to Middle-of-Nowhere, Ind. I could never really say what it was about Notre Dame that made me love it and miss it so much. The spirit of Notre Dame is really an indescribable feeling. It is as if one cannot fully understand what Notre Dame is and what it means without spending some time on its campus.

Notre Dame is walking back to the

dorm after a long day and the sparkle of the golden dome providing encouragement to keep going. It is walking around campus on a blissful football Saturday and realizing that every visitor wishes that he or she were in the students’ shoes. It is going to the Grotto on a quiet night and feeling solidarity from the other community members praying. It is singing the alma mater arm-in-arm with fellow students at the end of a sporting event. For me, it can even be taking in the beautiful trees and buildings that decorate campus as I walk alone, looking around me and taking in the fact that, yes, I go to school here and, yes, this is real life.

And now this coming weekend, as my family flies in all the way from Los Angeles for their very first home football game, I cannot wait to share this with them. Of course, my parents already sing the school’s praises to anyone who asks, my 16-year-old sister has her eye on the school, and they were all present for Frosh-O weekend. But I know this will be different. The electricity of a football weekend and the overwhelming amount of school pride is enough to make anyone emotional, and the

experience will answer the question “What makes Notre Dame so special?” better than my words will ever be able to. This will come along with their realization that Notre Dame is my home now. California with my family will always be my home, but this campus and its people are my home for the time being.

This is life — messy, complicated, beautiful, rewarding, scary, real life. It is the here-and-now, the who-I-am, and the where-I-am-going. It is this beautiful campus, this talented student body, the promise of a new school year and the feeling that there is nowhere else quite like this university. For the time being, my reality consists of Notre Dame, my budding career and my college shenanigans. This semester, I hope to help you to accept yours, and to see the beauty that it holds.

*Bianca Almada is a sophomore residing in Cavanaugh Hall. She is studying English, Spanish and Journalism. She can be contacted at [balmada@nd.edu](mailto:balmada@nd.edu)*

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## U-WIRE

# Obama should think long term on college affordability plan

**Editorial Board**

The Daily Orange

President Barack Obama must provide more details and think in the long term about the latest government proposal he has laid out for millions of college hopefuls.

During his upstate New York tour last week, Obama outlined plans to make higher education more affordable by using strategic federal pressure. His plan includes a rating system to illustrate how much progress colleges are making in increasing scholarships, diminishing costs and admitting more disadvantaged students. The further the progress, the more aid these colleges would receive to support incoming students.

This rating system could potentially push colleges to drive down tuition, which would attract applicants toward education that was once financially out of reach.

The plan could even affect fellow peers. Chancellor Nancy Cantor said she thinks Syracuse University would rate highly on Obama’s rating scale.

SU has both the socioeconomic diversity and strong financial aid program to rate high enough to get additional aid. According to the White House’s College Scorecard, the median amount of money an SU

student borrows is \$24,300 in loans.

However, before underprivileged students get their hopes up about this proposal, Obama must lay out more of its details. Currently, it is too vague to fully support.

More graduates will eventually enter the workforce, so Obama must think long term about this proposal.

He must continue to focus on building jobs within the economy. This will ensure there are plenty of jobs open for the stream of students he hopes to help one day attend and graduate from college.

It is important that Obama has stepped forward and started to lead the discussion on the affordability of higher education.

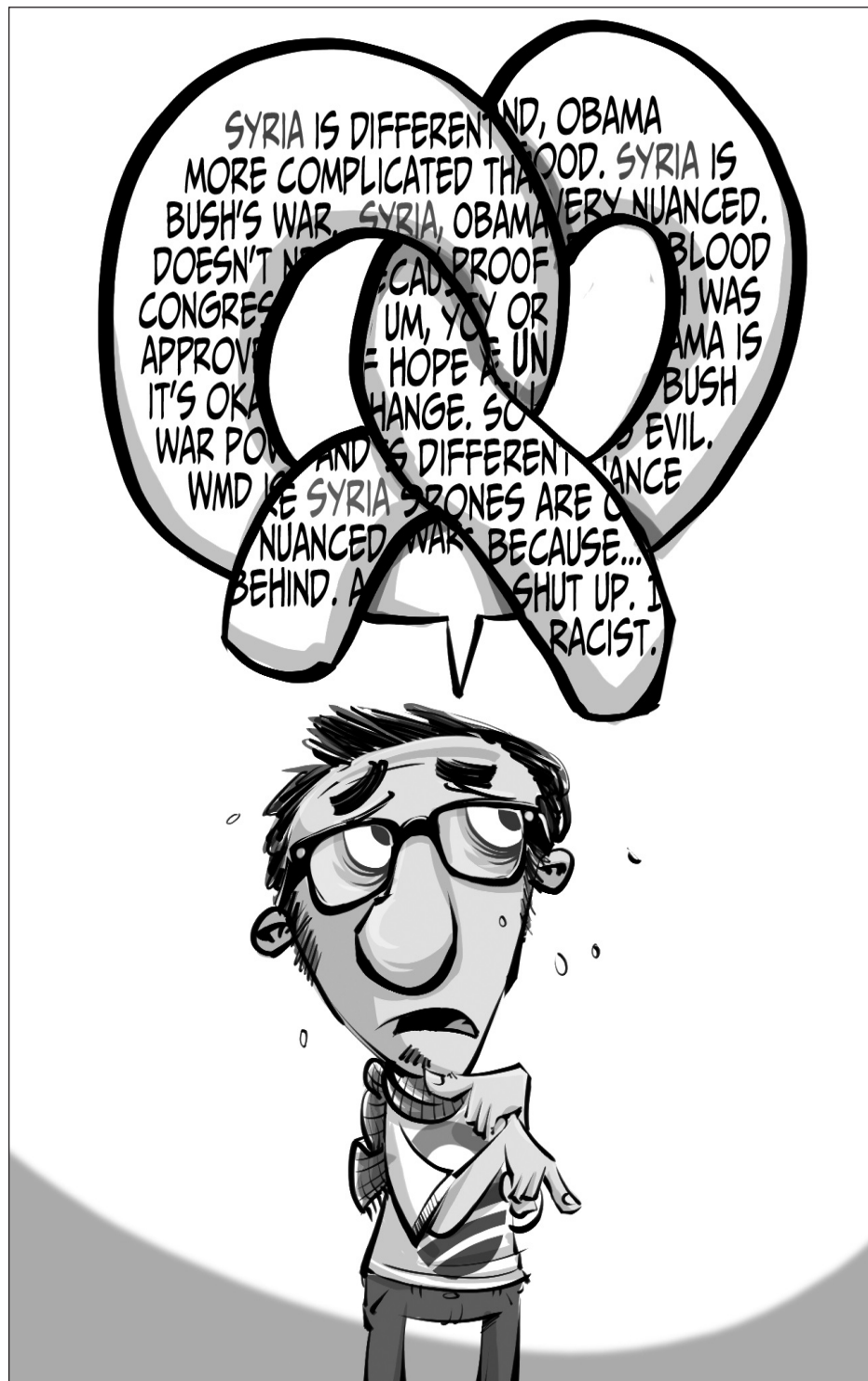
Alongside Obama, Congress should put partisanship aside and work to make the country’s system of higher education more affordable.

The next generation of college students will be the future of this country. Obama’s proposal could allow for the education of an underprivileged student who might just be the next generation’s great innovator.

*The Daily Orange is the student newspaper serving Syracuse University.*

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

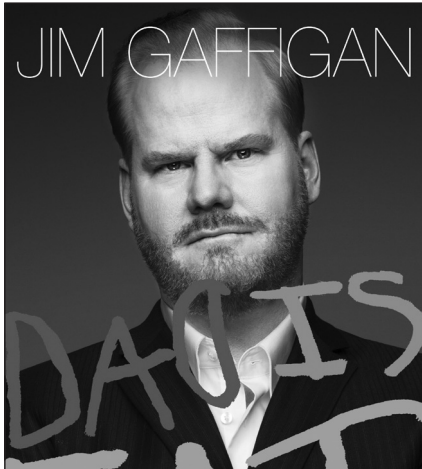
## EDITORIAL CARTOON



## SAMANTHA COUGHLIN | The Observer

# WEEKEND EVENTS CALENDAR

## THURSDAY



**What: Comedy on the Quad**  
**When: 10 p.m.**  
**Where: South Quad**  
**How Much: Free**

Head to south quad tonight to see comedian Jim Gaffigan perform for free under the stars. Unless it rains, in which case head to Stepan Center. Gaffigan is famous for his hilarious stand-up career, including his “Hot Pocket” bit that you should definitely look up if you haven’t heard. Others may recognize him as the “meow guy” from the classic comedy film, “Super Troopers.”

## FRIDAY



**What: B1 Block Party**  
**When: 8 p.m.**  
**Where: Legends Parking Lot**  
**How Much: \$10**

The annual B1 Block Party brings OK Go to campus this year, three years after their last trip to campus when they performed at halftime of a Notre Dame football game. Food and beverages will be sold onsite, and the event will be held rain or shine. You must have a valid student ID card from Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s or Holy Cross.

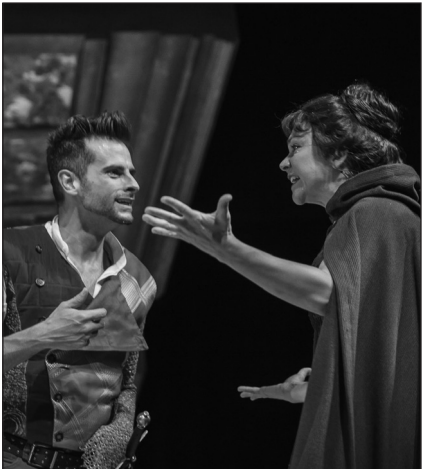
## SATURDAY



**What: FOOTBALL**  
**When: 3:30 p.m.**  
**Where: Notre Dame Stadium**  
**How Much: Free (with a ticket)**

The football season kicks off this Saturday against Temple. If that alone doesn’t get you stoked out of your mind, there’s nothing else to say.

## SUNDAY



**What: Richard III**  
**When: 2 p.m.**  
**Where: DPAC**  
**How Much: \$12**

The Notre Dame Shakespeare Festival’s Professional Company presentation of “Richard III” closes its run at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center on Sunday. Michael Gotch’s performance in the lead role as the deformed Richard was praised by our own Meghan Thomassen in her review of the play.

# ON KENDRICK LAMAR’S ‘CONTROL’ VERSE



**Andrew Gastelum**  
 Editor-in-Chief

### PRO

It was just one verse. One verse. It’s not on an album. It’s not on the radio. It’s not even his own song.

But, somehow, he caught everyone’s attention. He had the crumbling world of rap crying: All hail King Kendrick.

It was just one verse, yet it jumpstarted Twitter, blew up the internet and will continue to feed blogs for the rest of the year until he wins the Grammy for Album of the Year.

What Kendrick Lamar did in one verse has never been done before. He’s rebuilding the allure of rap while incarnating the lore of Pac and Big. The amount of response verses and disses that immediately burst from the underground, home studios and labels alike is unmatched.

The lucid passion and rising anger of a 26-year old whose only studio album just went platinum has drawn a quick response and the ire of vets Lupe Fiasco, Joell Ortiz and Joe Budden along with the younger generation of rap like Joey Bada\$\$ and B.o.B.

Who in history has drawn that sort of response, that sort of reaction? Not from individuals but from rap itself.

In his “Control” verse, Kendrick

condemns the poppy trends that have led to the decay of rap with trifling Macklemorian verses and “Molly” club bangers from across the board.

What Kendrick did is pull the dying art over his back, and pull it up single-handedly while calling on his peers. Rap fans put too much focus on who he didn’t mention, when they are just missing the real point.

We’re tired of sitting around and watching rap fall. It’s time to do something about it and it starts with a ceremonial call to action. And here Kendrick does that.

He wants the new generation to step up, or let this art fall by the wayside. He doesn’t care if you’re his friend or if you share his song. He’s here to win.

It’s the ultimate competition, something along the majestic lines of Bird vs. Magic: the fiercest competition on the court and the best of friends off it.

That’s how rap used to be, coast-to-coast, lyric-to-hook. And that’s where Kendrick Lamar wants it to return. The way he did it: stunning. The culture he brought back to life: legendary.

All hail King Kendrick.

*Contact Andrew Gastelum at agastell1@nd.edu*

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**Kevin Noonan**  
 Scene Editor

### CON

Kendrick Lamar’s music, in general, sounds like bad cartoon characters rhyming over nails-on-a-chalkboard beats. All right, that might be a bit aggressive. He’s not, say, the Alanis Morissette of hip-hop. “Swimming Pools” is a solid song and his verse on A\$AP Rocky’s “F\*\*\*ing Problems” is not only straight fire, it gave us the most creative combined usage of the sounds “Dih” and “Deh.” But as for the G.O.A.T. claims and the critics calling his latest album, “good kid, m.A.A.d. city” one of the greatest rap albums of all time, get out of my face. I’m not a music critic in the slightest, but to me, he’s hip-hop’s answer to Arcade Fire or Kings of Leon; somebody who sounds different enough to allow “true” genre fans to love him and lord their knowledge and fan hood of hip-hop over the masses of idiots who think music is “just for the radio” or “just to enjoy.”

All of which leads me to this discussion of his verse on “Control,” Big Sean’s latest attempt to get hype for his upcoming album. It’s a lackluster song overall, and won’t be released with his album due to apparent sampling issues.

Lamar’s verse is ostensibly a “shots

fired” call-out of rappers he considers beneath him. First, he sets himself on the level of Jay-Z, Nas, Eminem and Andre 3000. He then proceeds to cast the ultimate hip-hop insult of “you’re not as good as me so don’t even try” upon a bunch of recent upstart rappers and Drake. Drake is the biggest name of the group, but is also clearly the least likely musician on the face of the earth to try and answer back to something like this.

Oh, and before he dissed all of these rappers, he makes sure to say that he’s friends with all of them so that their feelings don’t get too hurt. I don’t know too much about hip-hop, but I don’t think friendly rivalries were always a big part of it.

It sounds aggressive, but on closer look it’s really pretty lukewarm. But because of his status as the Hipster King of Hip-Hop (that’s an insult, just fyi), this verse will likely draw grandiose and hyperbolic praise despite it’s thinly veiled averageness.

And somewhere, Tupac rolled over in his grave (or Puerto Rican hammock) in disgust.

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

## SPORTS AUTHORITY

# ‘Fox Sports 1’ underwhelms



**Brian Hartnett**  
Sports Writer

Like nearly every avid sports fan that grew up in the late 1990s or early 2000s, my daily morning routine consisted of turning on ESPN and watching as much “SportsCenter” as I could before going to school.

I loved the show for its cool graphics, thorough sports coverage and memorable catchphrases. Quite simply, in an era when the Internet was still developing and social media was still a dream in the minds of budding entrepreneurs, it was my connection to the sporting world.

Unfortunately, somewhere down the line, ESPN shifted its approach from news reporting to loud opining. The network began employing and promoting pundits, such as “First Take” contributor Skip Bayless, who often have bigger egos than the athletes they’re interviewing.

Add in ESPN’s borderline obsession with certain athletes (Tim Tebow, anyone?), frequent misuse of social media (does anyone really care what LeBron James tweets about the Yankees-Red Sox game?) and failure to credit other journalists for many of their scoops, and it’s easy to see why many are now tired of the self-proclaimed “Worldwide Leader in Sports.”

Recently, however, some welcome news came to me and many other sports fans. Not long after NBC launched NBC Sports Network, Fox announced that it would be entering the television market with a 24-hour sports channel of its own, Fox Sports 1. Unlike NBC, which seems content to focus on niche sports for now, Fox did the unthinkable and announced it was planning to directly challenge the evil empire over at ESPN.

As I sit down to write this, it’s been 11 days since the launch of Fox Sports 1, and the network hasn’t exactly loosened ESPN’s grip on the sports world.

In fact, Fox Sports 1 has many of the same problems ESPN had when it launched in 1979 — limited live sporting events, production that is clunky at times and difficulty drawing viewers to the network. The channel’s answer to “SportsCenter,” “Fox Sports Live,” even drew a 0.0 in Monday’s overnight Nielsen ratings.

Now, it’s still too early to write off Fox Sports 1, as many sports fans haven’t even discovered what channel it’s on yet. But there are still several improvements the network can make to help it become the refuge sports

fans have been seeking.

One thing Fox Sports 1 can do is tone down the “fun” theme it has been promoting since its launch. It’s fine for a show to bring a little levity to sports, but the antics of “Fox Sports Live’s” hosts, Canadians Jay Onrait and Dan O’Toole, occasionally border on the verge of ridiculous and detract from the highlights they’re reporting. Similarly, “Fox Sports Live” frequently features so many graphics, most of them with irrelevant information, that it gives the show the feel of a Times Square billboard.

Another issue for Fox Sports 1 is its overreliance on panels, particularly on “Fox Sports Live.” For one, the panels largely consist of former athletes, which isn’t necessarily a formula for success. For every athlete who’s succeeded on television (see Charles Barkley), there have been several who’ve failed (see Jerry Rice). Going along with that theme, it’s a little strange to hear former athletes on Fox Sports 1 discuss sports they’ve never played. Should the average fan care about former quarterback Donovan McNabb’s views on the Dodgers, or former tennis star Andy Roddick’s college football predictions? This issue extends to one of the network’s other main shows, Crowd Goes Wild, which features Regis Philbin and five other media personalities but is a little too cluttered to give us insight into each of the panel members.

One major factor for Fox Sports 1’s survival is the live sports programming it shows. Right now, the network seems to be a little too similar to the Speed Channel, the network it replaced, as it’s shown several NASCAR races thus far. It has also heavily marketed UFC, a sport that hasn’t exactly become mainstream in the United States. But with college football, college basketball and soccer on the horizon, Fox Sports 1 should soon have little issue with live programming.

The executives at Fox Sports 1 have undoubtedly figured out that launching a sports television network, even a well-funded, high-profile one, is far from easy, a lesson its main competitor learned over a quarter century ago. But as the success of the network over in Bristol shows, an all-sports network can endure, even when it deviates from what made it successful.

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

## NCAA FOOTBALL

# Treacherous openers set tone for SEC’s season

## Associated Press

Coaches always preach it: No looking ahead.

Kind of hard in this case, considering all the big games the Southeastern Conference will be involved in the opening month of the season.

No one has it tougher than Georgia. The fifth-ranked Bulldogs open the season Saturday at No. 8 Clemson, then return home the following week to face No. 6 South Carolina in a game that, as usual, will establish the early balance of power in the SEC East.

“We’re preparing one game at a time,” Georgia cornerback Damian Swann said, relying on another familiar cliché, “and both of them are big games.”

But Georgia is hardly alone in facing some early tests that will set the tone in the SEC — and, therefore, the nation.

Top-ranked Alabama, which has won three of the last four titles in the league’s unprecedented run of seven straight national championships, kicks off its season in Atlanta against Virginia Tech, which is admittedly a bit down at the moment but certainly a tougher challenge than facing some Directional U.

After an off week, the Crimson Tide hits the road again to take on Heisman Trophy winner Johnny Manziel and Texas A&M, the only team to beat Alabama last season.

Those games made it easy for coach Nick Saban to keep his team motivated during the offseason.

“It really helps enhance your offseason program, your spring practice, your summer conditioning, because players are looking forward to the challenge of playing an outstanding opponent early,” Saban said

Wednesday. “When you play somebody good, you really see where you are, which is helpful.”

No. 12 LSU will find out rather quickly how well it’s going to cope with heavy losses to the NFL. The Tigers begin the season Saturday against No. 20 TCU at AT&T (formerly Cowboys) Stadium in Arlington, Texas. In late September, they hit the road again to face Georgia in what very well could amount to an elimination game in the national title race, if either or both teams are already saddled with a loss.

Also keep an eye on this game: No. 10 Florida faces a potentially treacherous trip to play state rival Miami in Week 2. The Gators shouldn’t have any trouble in their opener against Toledo.

Georgia has some experience with this kind of early season schedule though it would prefer to avoid a repeat of two years ago, when the Bulldogs opened with losses to Boise State and South Carolina.

Even though that team bounced back with 10 straight wins, good enough to claim the SEC East title, it would be nearly impossible to contend for a national championship after an 0-2 start.

Swann said Georgia is treating its opener much like it would a game at the end of the season.

“You never want to have that start we had back in ‘11,” the junior said. “That’s what you try to avoid, so we’re preparing like we prepared for the SEC championship game, like we prepared for the Nebraska game” in the Capital One Bowl.

Teammate Malcolm Mitchell said this opener feels “a lot bigger” than the 2011 opener against Boise State. Maybe that’s because the Bulldogs have a

lot higher expectations after coming up just short of being the team that played Notre Dame for the BCS championship last January. In a heart-stopping SEC title game, the clock ran out on the Bulldogs as they closed in on the winning touchdown against Alabama.

Under Saban, the Crimson Tide has made a habit of opening the season with neutral-site games. Last year, Alabama set the tone for a second straight national title with a 41-14 rout of then-No. 8 Michigan at Arlington. This will be the third time in six years the Tide has opened the season in Atlanta, preceded by a 34-10 rout of Clemson in 2008 and a 34-24 victory over Virginia Tech in ‘09.

“When you play in these neutral-site games, it’s almost preparing your team a little bit of what it’s going to be like to play against a good team on the road,” Saban said. “In our league, it’s critical to be able to play well on the road against good teams.”

That will certainly be the case on Sept. 14, when Alabama travels to College Station looking to avenge Texas A&M’s shocking 29-24 upset a year ago — a game that largely propelled Manziel toward becoming the first freshman to win the Heisman.

Any chance of Manziel not being eligible to the rematch because of allegations he accepted money for providing autographs to memorabilia brokers ended Wednesday when it was announced he would only be suspended for the first half of the Aggies’ opener against lowly Rice, for what was described as an “inadvertent” violation of NCAA rules.

Not that Saban is ready to talk about Texas A&M.

Remember, no looking ahead.

## CLASSIFIEDS

### FOR SALE

NAME YOUR OWN PRICE  
GARAGE SALE. Sat. 8-31-13. 18301 Clairmont S. Bend near ND behind Castle PT Apts. 8am-2PM. Everything you need! Delivery Available for small fee.

CONDO FOR SALE - SEDGWICK HOUSE \$119,900: Large beautiful 3 bedroom 2.5 bath condo. Great view of river and park. Underground garage. Individual storage units. Well maintained secured building. Lots of

amenities. Located in Mishawaka. Call Beth Sargent Re/Max 574-235-3088 or Estella 574-255-3862

Oak computer desk and hutch in excellent condition. Features pullout keyboard tray, printer shelf and writing shelf. \$250 Call 574-298-0228

### FOR RENT

HOMES AVAILABLE FOR ND FOOTBALL: Please email for info and photos [nd-house@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nd-house@sbcglobal.net)

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

### WANTED

Affordable Housing Intern: Work with a small consulting business helping non-profit and for-profit organizations develop affordable housing. Good communication and detail skills, EXCEL experience, access to a car and flexibility needed. Office close to downtown South Bend. 10-15 hours/week. \$10/hour. Send resume && cover letter to [amannix.nda@comcast.net](mailto:amannix.nda@comcast.net)

## NCAA FOOTBALL

# Manziel to sit first half of home opener

## Associated Press

HOUSTON — Johnny Football's season will start a little late.

Johnny Manziel was suspended for the first half of Texas A&M's opening game against Rice on Saturday for what the school called an "inadvertent" violation of NCAA rules by signing autographs.

The penalty appears to have brought a quick end to an investigation that could have ruined the seventh-ranked Aggies' upcoming season.

The school issued a statement Wednesday saying it declared the Heisman Trophy winner ineligible and that the NCAA agreed to reinstate Manziel after he sits out

the first half against the underdog Owls.

"I am proud of the way both Coach Sumlin and Johnny handled this situation, with integrity and honesty," Texas A&M Chancellor John Sharp said in the statement. "We all take the Aggie Code of Honor very seriously and there is no evidence that either the university or Johnny violated that code."

The quarterback was being investigated by the NCAA for allegedly accepting money for signing autographs for memorabilia brokers, a violation of NCAA rules that could have led to a much longer suspension. ESPN first reported the allegations against Manziel earlier this month.

According to the statement, Texas A&M and the NCAA "confirmed there is no evidence Manziel received money in exchange for autographs based on currently available information and statements by Manziel."

Conditions for reinstatement include Manziel discussing his actions with teammates and A&M revising how it educates student-athletes about signing autographs.

"Student-athletes are often asked for autographs from fans, but unfortunately, some individuals' sole motivation in seeking an autograph is for resale," said Kevin Lennon, NCAA vice president of academic and membership affairs. "It is important that schools are cognizant and educate student-athletes about situations in which there is a strong likelihood that the autograph seeker plans to resell the items."

He likely will be replaced in the starting lineup by either junior Matt Joeckel or freshman Kenny Hill. Joeckel has thrown only 11 passes in his college career.

The news of Manziel's suspension was the talk of Twitter on Wednesday afternoon, with many questioning the length of the suspension. Former NFL and MLB star Deion Sanders was incredulous at the brevity



AP

*Texas A&M sophomore quarterback Johnny Manziel warms up during an Aggies practice at College Station, Texas on Aug. 5.*

of Manziel's suspension, after Dez Bryant was suspended for an entire season while at Oklahoma State after lying about having dinner with Sanders.

"Can we investigate the investigators? @DezBryant got suspended a season 4 lying about a dinner that wasn't a violation & Manziel gets a half," Sanders tweeted soon after the ruling was made public.

The decision also had a major impact in Las Vegas, where the odds of Manziel's chances of repeating as a Heisman winner and Texas A&M's chances of winning the national championship shifted dramatically on Wednesday. RJ Bell, the founder of sports betting web site Pregame.com, said that Manziel's chances of winning the Heisman jumped from 12/1 to 6/1 on Wednesday, and the team's shot at the title increased from 18/1 to 10/1.

The latest problem isn't the first time off-the-field trouble has put Manziel's career in jeopardy.

Manziel was arrested last summer after a bar fight near campus and charged with disorderly conduct, possession of the fake ID and failure to identify himself to police. It was an incident that put him in danger of being suspended from school and left him having to earn the starting job in fall camp.

Manziel admitted this June that he failed to identify himself to police following the altercation. As part of a plea deal, other charges against the 20-year-old, including disorderly conduct, were dismissed, and it looked like Manziel's trouble was behind him before the latest problems came to light.

Manziel became the first freshman to win the Heisman Trophy last season, setting numerous school and Southeastern Conference records while leading Texas A&M to an 11-2 mark and a victory over No. 1 Alabama in its first season in the SEC.

He followed that with a high-profile offseason of road trips to Las Vegas and the NBA Finals.

Manziel got to meet Heat star LeBron James and rapper Drake, and he posted some Tweets that made headlines.

His biggest misstep, however, came during the summer when he departed early from a quarterback camp for high school players run by the Manning family in Louisiana. Manziel said it was a mutual decision after he overslept and missed meetings and activities.

Dat Nguyen, an All-America linebacker at Texas A&M in the 1990s and former assistant coach for the Aggies, lamented Manziel's mistakes, but noted what he's done for the program.

"I'm a little bit disappointed with what's going on down there," Nguyen said recently. "Going into the season I thought this would be the year for A&M to win a national championship and this has been a distraction. He made a bad decision and he's just got to move on ... but overall the guy has put A&M back on the map."

Former Texas A&M coach R.C. Slocum, who is now a special adviser to Texas A&M's president, has watched Manziel's career with great interest and is looking forward to seeing how he'll follow up his incredible first season.

"This young man has been in a position that no one has ever been in," Slocum said on Wednesday before the suspension was announced. "He's been a freshman and a 20-year-old winner of the Heisman Trophy, and he's done some great things with that and he's had a few things I'm sure he'd like to have a do-over with. And if I were advising him, I might have said, 'That's probably not in your best interests to do that or say that or be there,' but in terms of the upcoming season, I'm as anxious as anybody to see what happens and see what the results are."

Manziel was the main attraction at SEC Media Days, where he was peppered with questions but answered with the same cool and calm he often shows in the face of a pass rush.

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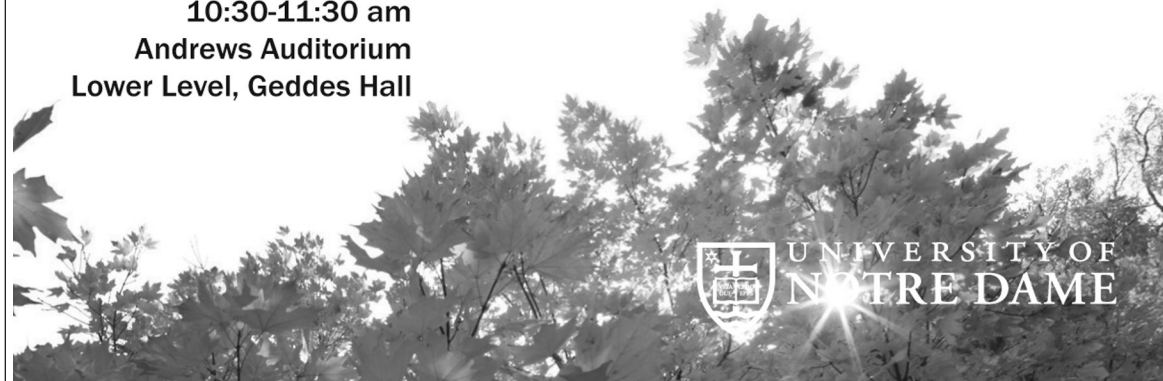
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## MLB

# Bloop single gives Boston victory over Orioles

## Associated Press

BOSTON — Pinch hitter Mike Carp's bloop single to left in the eighth inning dropped just beyond the glove of Baltimore third baseman Manny Machado, scoring Jarrod Saltalamacchia from second base with the tiebreaking run and lifting the Boston Red Sox to a 4-3 win over the Orioles on Wednesday night.

Shane Victorino drove in a run for Boston with an RBI single after collecting a career-best seven RBIs and hitting two homers in a 13-2 win on Tuesday night. Craig Breslow (4-2) got two outs to earn the win and Koji Uehara got his 14th save with a perfect ninth for the AL East-leading Red Sox, who won their fourth straight.

Chris Davis hit his major league-leading 47th homer and added an RBI double for Baltimore, which lost for the sixth time in its last eight games.

Saltalamacchia hit a

two-out double high off the left-field wall against Tommy Hunter (3-3) and Stephen Drew was walked intentionally before Carp's bloop fell just past the glove off Machado in short left field.

The Red Sox rallied against Baltimore's bullpen, tying it 3-3 on Dustin Pedroia's two-run single off Darren O'Day in the seventh. Jacoby Ellsbury barely beat center fielder Adam Jones' throw to the plate, sliding in before a sweeping tag attempt by Matt Wieters.

Ellsbury left the game for a defensive replacement in the top of the eighth. During his seventh inning at-bat, he fouled a ball off his right foot.

With the Orioles leading 2-1 in the sixth, Davis belted a leadoff homer into Boston's bullpen.

The Orioles had grabbed a 1-0 lead in the first on Davis' RBI double into the right-field corner after Machado singled. They made it 2-0 in

the third on Machado's homer over the Green Monster.

Baltimore starter Bud Norris held Boston to one run and four hits, striking out seven and walking four over 5 1-3 innings. He lost to the Red Sox when he was with Houston on April 28, giving up five runs in six innings.

Boston's John Lackey lasted 7 1-3 innings, giving up three runs, seven hits, striking out four and walking one.

The Red Sox cut it to 2-1 on Victorino's RBI single in the third, but they left the bases loaded when David Ortiz struck out swinging and Daniel Nava was called out on strikes.

Ortiz, mired in a 0-for-18 slump, flew out to the left-field track twice in four at-bats. After the second one, which was caught in the corner for the final out of the fifth, he stood at first base for a while, looking toward the outfield before slowly walking to the dugout and slamming his helmet.



AP

Boston center fielder Jacoby Ellsbury fouls a ball off his foot during the seventh inning. The Red Sox won 4-3 over Baltimore.

## U.S. OPEN

## Venus Williams ousted early from U.S. Open

## Associated Press

NEW YORK — After her latest early Grand Slam exit, Venus Williams was asked what the future holds for her at the U.S. Open.

In one breath, Williams brushed aside the unspoken reference to retirement, saying, "I definitely want to come back for the atmosphere."

And in the next, she added, "I mean, next year's Open is so far away right now."

At 33, slowed the past couple of years by an autoimmune disease that saps energy, and hampered much of this season by a bad back, Williams knows by now that such queries are going to arrive, particularly after results such as her 6-3, 2-6, 7-6 (5) loss to 56th-ranked Zheng Jie of China on a wet Wednesday at Flushing Meadows. It is the third year in a row that the two-time champion is out of the U.S. Open after two rounds.

"If I didn't think I had anything in the tank, I wouldn't be here," said Williams, who was ranked No. 1 in 2002 and is currently 60th. "I feel like I do, and that's why I'm here."

The American acquitted herself well for stretches, erasing deficits over and over again, until she simply ran out of solutions against Zheng, a former top-15 player and twice a major semifinalist.

"I just kept trying to fight today," Williams said.

In what she took as an encouraging sign, Williams was out there

for 3 hours, 2 minutes, tying for the fifth-longest women's match since 1970 at the U.S. Open. The third set alone lasted 1½ hours.

"I was like, 'Wow, this is a marathon,'" Williams said.

Near the finish line, she faltered. On the final two points, Williams missed a volley, then a return. She wound up with 44 unforced errors in all, half on forehands, in part because Zheng kept scrambling along the baseline to get to balls and block them back, making Williams hit extra shots.

During her on-court interview, Zheng addressed the partisan crowd that was raucously pulling for Williams in Louis Armstrong Stadium, saying: "First, I want to say, 'Sorry, guys.'"

Rain began falling in the early afternoon, jumbling the schedule, and eight women's singles matches were postponed entirely, including Williams' younger sister Serena against Galina Voskoboeva. More than four hours of delays during the day meant 2012 champion Andy Murray did not play his first point of the tournament until 9:55 p.m., making for the third-latest start to a U.S. Open night session.

Men were playing in the first round, women in the second, and Murray's match against Michael Llodra began in Arthur Ashe Stadium only after 2009 champion Juan Martin del Potro wrapped up a contentious 6-3, 6-7 (5), 6-4, 7-6 (7) victory over 74th-ranked Guillermo Garcia-Lopez of Spain

that stretched more than four hours.

Del Potro was irked by his opponent's repeated calls for a trainer to treat his left leg, while Garcia-Lopez kicked a towel and got into an argument with the chair umpire over a ruling to replay a point in the closing tiebreaker.

No. 17 Kevin Anderson of South Africa, No. 20 Andreas Seppi of Italy, No. 21 Mikhail Youzhny of Russia, 2001 U.S. Open title winner Lleyton Hewitt and 109th-ranked American wild-card entry Tim Smyczek also were among the winners. No. 16 Fabio Fognini and No. 29 Jurgen Melzer lost.

Women's winners included 2011 French Open champion Li Na, 2012 Wimbledon runner-up Agnieszka Radwanska and 30th-seeded Laura Robson of Britain. Robson beat Li last year in New York, and now they'll have a rematch.

"I remember being so nervous when I walked on court," the 19-year-old Robson said. "She made a lot of mistakes in the first set, which helped quite a lot. Hopefully she'll do that again."

Venus Williams and Zheng played all of two points before being interrupted by showers. When they resumed two hours later, Williams kept making mistakes.

"I couldn't pray a ball in," she said.

But in the second set, Williams more like someone who won the U.S. Open in 2000 and 2001, and five Wimbledon titles.

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## ND WOMEN'S GOLF

# Irish lose All-American but remain strong

By GREG HADLEY  
Sports Writer

Coming off its fifth conference championship in its final year in the Big East, Notre Dame enters the fall season full of confidence and eager to prepare for its first campaign in the ACC.

Irish coach Susan Holt, entering her eighth year at the helm of the program, has four returning golfers, all of whom scored for the Irish last year, including Big East co-medalist sophomore Talia Campbell. With this core, Holt has high expectations, even as her team enters the highly competitive ACC.

"We're going to do what we always try and do," Holt said. "We want to win championships. That will always be our goal, no matter what."

In preparation, the Irish have a challenging fall schedule that includes some of the top invitations in the country, such as the Mercedes-Benz Collegiate Championship from Sept. 20-22 at Knoxville, Tenn., and the Tar Heel Invitational from Oct. 11-13 at Chapel Hill, N.C.

"We want to get off to a good

start and be competitive in every event," Holt said. "The fields we're going up against are very competitive with some teams in the top 25 so we want to position ourselves for spring, know where we stand and move forward."

However, the Irish will have to move forward without All-American sophomore Lindsey Weaver, who transferred to Arizona after last season. Weaver, who shared the Big East individual title with Campbell, leaves a big hole in the Irish roster that will be filled by freshmen Janie Fineis and Jordan Ferreira, and junior Ashley Armstrong, who ended last season on a hot streak. Armstrong won two tournaments in a row before taking All-Big East honors at the conference championship.

Holt, though, is not as concerned about the overall impact of any one golfer as she is about the overall depth of her squad.

"In our sport ... we need four scores out of five every day, and everyone steps up at different times," Holt said. "Sometimes, someone just has an off day, so someone else steps up and fulfills that role [of leader] and

allows us to be successful. You can't lean on one player and we have very good depth."

The Irish will rely on senior Kristina Nhim and junior Kelli Orde to provide that depth and veteran leadership for the younger golfers.

Beyond the fall, the Irish look to gain momentum to carry through the winter into the spring and, finally, into championship season. A big part of maintaining that momentum will be the Rolfs Family All-Season Varsity Golf Facility the team uses to train in bad weather.

"Recently, we enhanced the facilities and added a simulator which will be really helpful for us, and for the men's team, as well," Holt said. "I think it will only help us prepare better later in the fall and throughout the winter."

Preparation will be key as the Irish enter the ACC, which ended last season with four teams ranked in the top 25 nationally.

The Irish start their fall schedule on Sept. 8 at the IU Fall Kickoff in Noblesville, Ind.

Contact Greg Hadley at  
ghadley@nd.edu



Observer File Photo

Irish junior Ashley Armstrong lines up a putt during the Mary Fossum Invitational on Sept. 15, 2012 in East Lansing, Mich.

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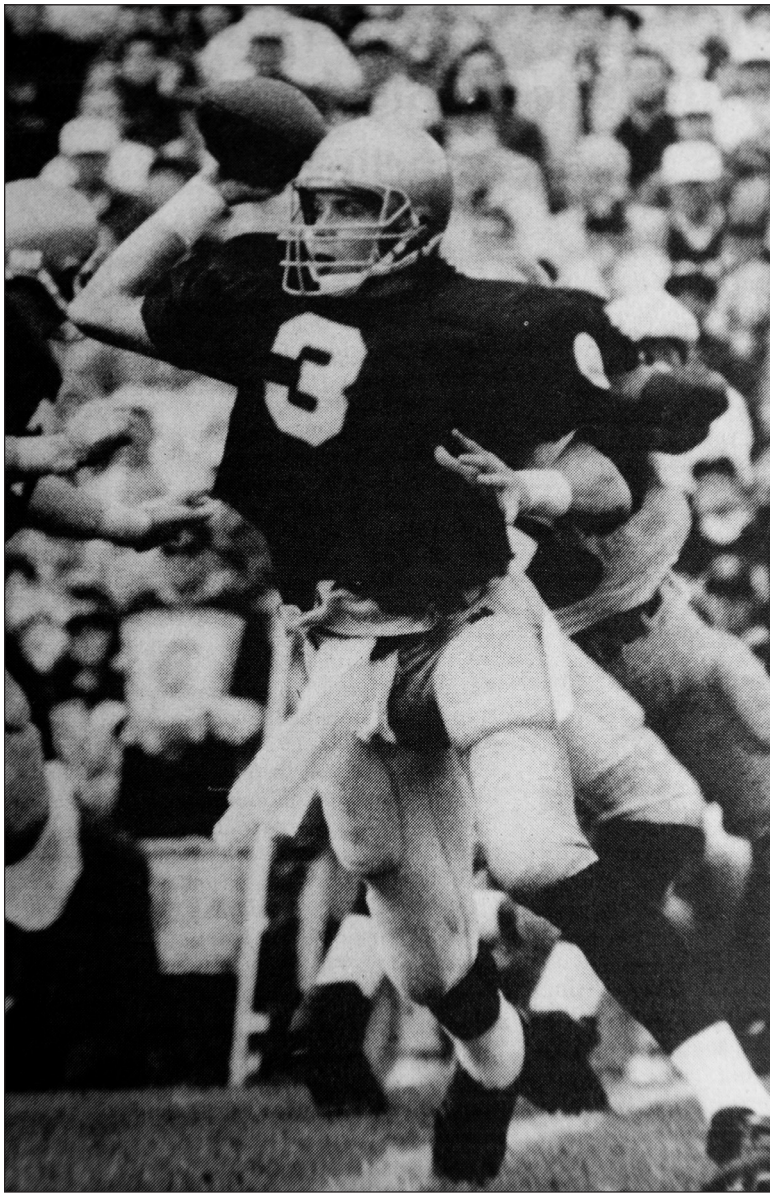
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Observer File Photo

**Former Irish quarterback and co-captain Rick Mirer drops back to pass in Notre Dame's 42-7 victory over Northwestern on Sept. 5, 1992.**

## Mirer

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

When Rees starts Saturday afternoon, he will have started at least one game in each of his four seasons, despite never being the opening day starter.

Rees' last extended playing time came in 2011, his sophomore year, when the Irish went 8-5 and Rees turned the ball over 19 times. Mirer said the jump from sophomore to senior year is a significant one.

"It's a huge difference," he said. "I think that first time through, you're just trying to prove that you deserve to be out there as the guy. But after that season, you get an entire offseason and a spring and you kind of handle all the questions and deal with being the starter for more than just week-to-week. You kind of settle in and have more comfort."

"I don't know how much you change physically or how much faster or bigger you get. It's not like a major metamorphosis happens. You just see things more clearly and it kind of slows down and you can feel more comfortable preparing for the games and the travel that maybe you weren't fully accustomed to the first time through."

Mirer, who graduated in 1993 with a marketing degree, said he did not feel how big the microscope on the Notre Dame quarterback was until he left South Bend.

"I've been away and I can vouch for the number of people that are watching you from all over the place," he said. "Notre Dame has people everywhere. I don't think you fully understand that when you're in that town and on that campus. You don't really get away."

Following his senior season in 1992, Seattle selected Mirer with the second overall pick. Mirer was being hailed as the next Joe Montana and was competing with then-Washington State quarterback Drew Bledsoe for the No. 1 overall pick.

Mirer started all 16 games his rookie season, throwing for 2,833 yards, 12 touchdowns and 17 interceptions during a 6-10 season. He never threw for more yards and only once threw for more touchdowns in 12 NFL seasons spanning seven different franchises.

"Nothing was easy," he said. "I had a lot of opportunities on teams, some were ready to win and some weren't. It was a great experience. Not every situation is an easy one. I was a part of a lot of different coaching

changes and a lot of different systems, probably not the way I would have drawn it up. But in the end, you get a chance to see everything — the good, the bad and everything in between.

"It would have been nice to go win some Super Bowls, but I got out alive and had a lot of great memories."

Mirer now owns Mirror Wine Company, based in Napa Valley. Mirror launched in 2008 and has tripled its production since then, Mirer said. In August, the company released its sixth different wine, a Cabernet Sauvignon.

Mirer said the venture has been rewarding and that Mirror sends wine throughout the country.

"We want it to be accepted by some of the wine experts and that's happening," he said. "Chefs [and] critics have put us in the level of fine wine and luxury level."

"There are plenty of good wines out there, it's just: how do you get recognized in a crowd?"

Mirer, 43, lives in San Diego with three children (Morrison, 15; Oliver, 12; and Charlie, 9) and his wife of 19 years, Stephanie.

**Contact Matthew DeFranks at mdefrank@nd.edu**

## Soccer

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

we like where we stand," Waldrum said. "But the biggest picture is always the [College Cup]. No matter what happens in the conference, we always want to make it back to the final four."

So far, the early returns have been favorable, as the squad has jumped out to two wins to start the season with four goals in each victory. For Waldrum, this is an encouraging development and a sign that the Irish are taking the next step to be an elite team.

"We really struggled [offensively] last year," Waldrum said. "We were a good defensive team but we struggled to create opportunities. So far, in the first two games and in the exhibitions, we've created a lot of chances offensively, which is key for us to take that next step."

The Irish will need to take that next step in order to compete in the ACC, one of the most competitive conferences in the country.

"Unlike the Big East, in the ACC, we are going to get a top-level opponent every night," Waldrum said. "The kids have to adjust to the fact that we have to be at our best all the time, because there are no more games where we can just show up and win. In some ways, it's a positive because it will keep us focused."

Waldrum is also excited about his squad's depth. The Irish return 10 starters,

including All-American sophomore midfielder Cari Roccaro and All-Big East senior midfielder Mandy Laddish. Eight freshmen added to the Irish roster made up another top-five recruiting class for Waldrum.

Some of the freshmen have already made an impact on the young season. Goalkeeper Kaela Little and forward Kaleigh Olmsted have played in both games, and Waldrum has been impressed with their poise.

"[Kaela] exudes confidence for the rest of the team and communicates very well down field," Waldrum said. "[Kaleigh] is a player that I thought was going to be a very good college player and she's panning out for us very nicely."

Leading the incoming class is midfielder Morgan Andrews, who was named the Gatorade National Player of the Year for women's soccer her junior and senior years of high school.

"Morgan is going to be huge for us," Waldrum said. "I see her being a really big key to what we're doing offensively. She's such a creative player and she has such great vision. She's going to be great. Really the entire freshman class will have a big impact, I think."

The Irish look to continue their hot start on Friday against Oakland in the Notre Dame adidas Invitational at Alumni Stadium at 7:30 p.m.

**Contact Greg Hadley at ghadley@nd.edu**

## Roccaro

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

anything I can do to help my team do that is amazing for me."

Embodying the adage that "there's no 'I' in team," Roccaro even credits her placement on the watch list to the players around her in practices and on game day.

"I wouldn't have been named to [the watch list] if it wasn't for my teammates last year," she said. "I think it was based on how the team helped me perform last year."

That strong performance on the pitch in 2012 included six goals — third-most on the team — even though she missed the first seven matches of the season while halfway across the globe, winning a gold medal for the U.S. at the Under-20 World Cup in Japan.

Roccaro, who can play any position on the field except goalkeeper, attributes her individual successes to those around her. But Irish coach Randy Waldrum speaks more freely about the talent and presence that last year's Big East Rookie of the Year brings to Notre Dame (2-0-0), particularly with her versatility on the pitch.

"If we've got her up front, she's dangerous up there and she can score goals," he said. "If we put her in the back, she's one of the best defenders in the country because that's where she plays with the national team. And then it seems if we put her in midfield that she understands



Observer File Photo

**Irish sophomore midfielder Cari Roccaro shields the ball from a Cincinnati defender in Notre Dame's 7-0 home win on Sept. 16.**

the role of distributing the ball out of midfield, so I think just wherever we play her, she understands that role so well and can contribute as one of the key people in that role."

That talent usually led Waldrum and his staff to shuffle Roccaro from position to position on a game-to-game basis last year, and Waldrum expressed his wish that she find a more permanent role this season. He said the midfield would be the ideal spot for her, one that would best utilize everything

her game has to offer.

"She can win balls for you in midfield defensively, but she can score goals for you coming off of that spot," Waldrum said. "It's a little bit, too, up to some of the other players to continue to carry their weight, but right now we hope we can keep her in midfield."

Roccaro and the Irish are next in action Friday when they host Oakland.

**Contact Mary Green at mgreen8@nd.edu**

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- PUZZLE BY PATRICK BLINDAUER
- 36 “Let’s give \_\_\_”  
37 Get rid of  
39 Prefix with pathetic  
42 Juno, to the Greeks  
45 Brew whose name is an article of clothing when read backward

48 Star-studded show, with “the”  
51 Utterly dead  
52 Goggling  
53 Dance version of a record, often  
55 You may be fooled at its beginning  
60 \_\_\_ de boeuf

62 Org. whose motto is “Fidelity, Bravery, Integrity”  
64 Brewed beverage  
65 Music writer Hentoff  
66 R.N.’s are in them

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

HOROSCOPE | EUGENIA LAST

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Florence Welch, 27; Armie Hammer, 27; Jack Black, 44; Shania Twain, 48.

**Happy Birthday:** Keep your personal life private and your emotions in check. Protect what you have worked so hard to achieve and avoid getting involved with individuals who show unpredictable qualities that could harm your position, status or reputation. Put your responsibilities first to avoid meddlers and complainers from causing you grief. Control your situation instead of letting someone else run the show. Your numbers are 5, 8, 17, 22, 31, 38, 46.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Get out and enjoy your friends and new activities. Visiting a destination you have never been to before will open up all sorts of new possibilities. Compromise, but don’t overcompensate for someone else. Romance will enhance your life. ★★★★★

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Don’t allow anger to come between you and a workable solution. Stubbornness is not going to help you get what you want. Reverse psychology will help you gain approval with someone who can persuade others to see things your way. ★★★

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Hold back on allowing others to voice opinions. Once you know where everyone stands, you will be in a better position to make suggestions that will have a positive influence and bring about interesting options. Love is in the stars. ★★★

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Networking will result in suggestions that can lead to travel or experience that will enable you to move in a better direction. Ask questions and share thoughts. A partnership will bring you closer to your goals. Don’t make personal changes. ★★★

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Compromise to avoid a rift with someone who can cause personal problems. Strive to free up time to make directional alterations. Pick up knowledge that will make it easier to deal with those set in their ways and likely to cause problems. ★★★★★

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Keep your feelings and your emotions under control. Emotional deception is apparent and must be considered before you make a move that may have a negative effect on your financial future. Practical choices will far outweigh an impulsive short-term fix. ★★

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Your emotions will not lead you astray. Take note of your feelings, but don’t take action. Someone you are dealing with will overreact, giving you the opportunity to make a move that will put you in a positive position. ★★★★★

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Don’t let anyone bait you into an argument. Listen to what’s being said and take time to absorb what’s happened and what works best for you. You are sitting in a much better position than you realize. Bide your time. ★★★

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Stick close to home. Dealing with institutions or people who are quick to manipulate or twist your words will create problems when you travel or try to take care of paperwork. Domestic changes will bring good results. ★★★

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Look over deals, contracts and investments or research a health issue that concerns you and you will find a way to address it. A problem with a friend, relative or neighbor can affect your relationship with someone you love. ★★

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Talks will not help you solve a problem you have with someone. Do your own thing and follow a path to ensure your happiness and satisfaction. It’s best to be honest. ★★★★★

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Emotions will escalate and confusion will set in with regard to a partnership you thought you could count on. Look over your finances and make sure you have protected your possessions and assets. Expand your interests and friendships. ★★

**Birthday Baby:** You are sensitive, emotional and compassionate. You face challenges head-on.

JUMBLE | DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

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

CTFHE

SAOER

OTHOSM

TAARAV

**Answer here:** (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday’s | Jumbles: DOUSE TEMPT SOCIAL AROUND  
Answer: After realizing he’d misplaced the map, the hiker — LOST IT

WORK AREA



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## ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

## No longer the underdogs

*Young Irish team seeks first College Cup since 2010*

By GREG HADLEY  
Sports Writer

A year after coming within one win of the College Cup, the Irish return a squad loaded with experience as they join the ACC and take aim at a third national championship under coach Randy Waldrum.

A year ago, the Irish, composed mostly of underclassmen, took the nation by surprise and upset two top-10 teams before falling 1-0 in the NCAA quarterfinals against Florida State. Waldrum thinks his team has the talent and experience to exceed expectations once again and win a conference crown, and possibly return to the Final Four for the ninth time in his tenure.

"We know [winning the ACC] will be difficult, but we've played really well over the years against teams like Wake Forest, Florida State [and] North Carolina, so

see SOCCER **PAGE 14**



ASHLEY DACY | The Observer

*Irish sophomore midfielder Cari Roccaro beats a Seton Hall defender in Notre Dame's 5-1 victory over the Pirates on Oct. 5. Roccaro was named to the Hermann Trophy Watch List after her performance in 2012.*

*Roccaro hopes to build upon recent individual success*

By MARY GREEN  
Sports Writer

For any collegiate soccer player, being named to the Hermann Trophy Watch List is a big deal. The award, given annually by the Missouri Athletic Club and voted upon by the NCAA Division I coaches who are members of the National Soccer Coaches Association of America, is presented to the most outstanding players in both men's and women's college soccer.

But for Irish sophomore Cari Roccaro, one of 31 players named to the watch list Aug. 20, individual accolades such as the Hermann Trophy always come second to team goals.

"I want to do anything to help our team win a national championship; that's our goal," Roccaro said. "We want to win the ACC, win the national championship, and

see ROCCARO **PAGE 14**

## WAKING THE ECHOES | RICK MIRER

## Under pressure

*Irish quarterback Rick Mirer took on national spotlight, being the "next Joe Montana" and, now, wine*

By MATTHEW DeFRANKS  
Assistant Managing Editor

Rick Mirer always had big shoes to fill.

First, he had to follow national championship-winning quarterback Tony Rice. Then, he had to live up to the expectations of being called the next Joe Montana. Then, his career was compared with Drew Bledsoe's.

And he would not have it any other way.

"You still have to make things happen and you still have to perform," Mirer said in a phone interview with The Observer. "After going through it, and I think everyone who has gone through it realizes, as I have, sometimes you catch a break and sometimes you don't."

Mirer quarterbacked the Irish for three full seasons after taking the reins as a sophomore in 1990 following Rice's departure. Mirer and the Irish finished that season 9-3.

Mirer said the one season he spent with Rice helped him

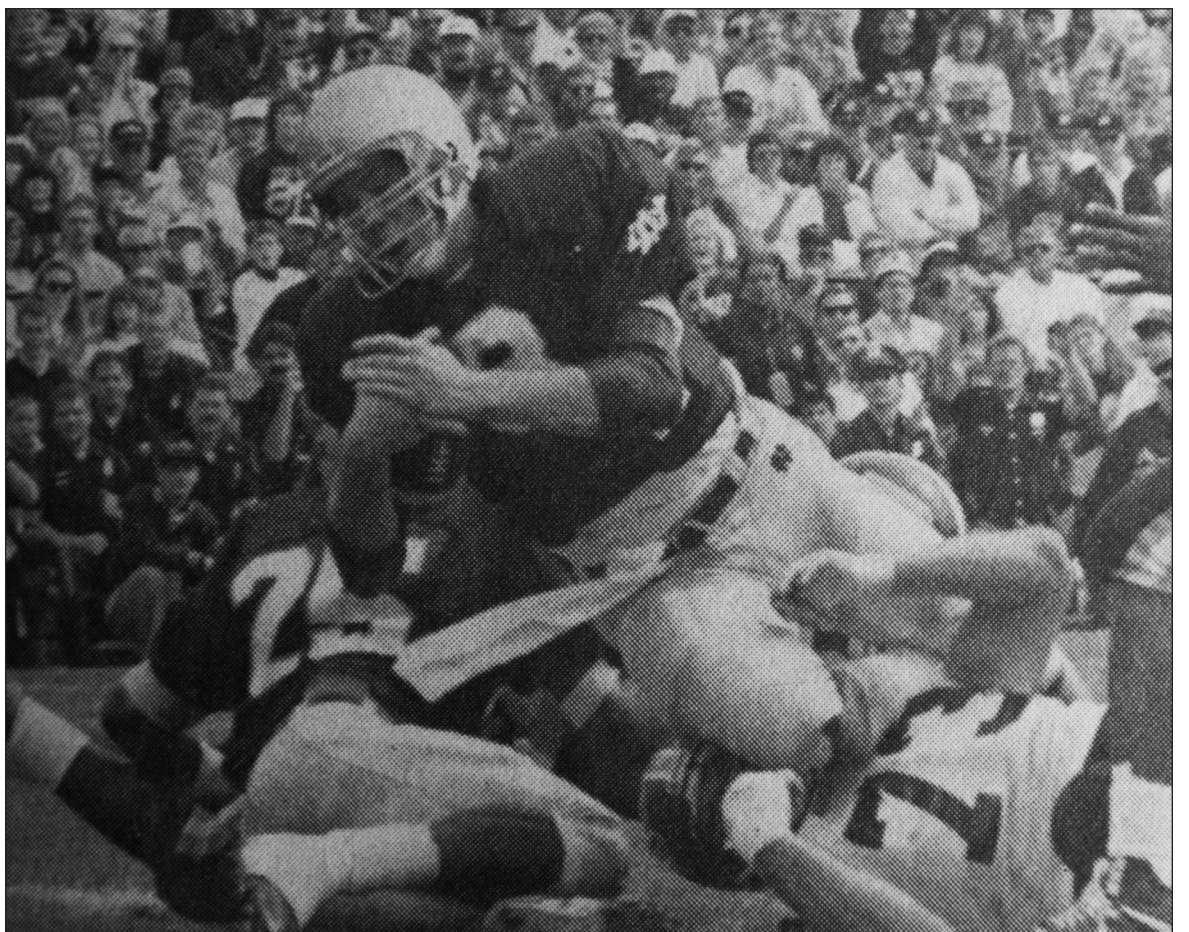
prepare for his turn at the helm.

"I benefitted greatly from being around a team that was coming off a national championship with the quarterback coming back," he said. "That was a pretty big advantage going forward because he was in the spotlight as much as everybody in the country. I could watch how he handled it and it helped me in the future when some of that happened to me."

Current Irish senior quarterback Tommy Rees faces a similar scenario when the Irish open the season against Temple on Saturday. He is taking over for the suspended Everett Golson, who led the Irish to a national championship game berth a season ago.

"He can't seem to avoid the spotlight," Mirer said of Rees. "He's had an interesting run there and I'm pulling for him. I think he's had ups and downs but a lot of good things have happened and he's got a pretty good squad around him."

see MIRER **PAGE 14**



Observer File Photo

*Former Irish quarterback Rick Mirer dives into the endzone for a touchdown against Purdue on Sept. 29, 1990. As a sophomore, Mirer led Notre Dame to a 37-11 victory over the Boilermakers.*