Bengal Bouts celebrates 80th year

Program plans to send millionth dollar to Holy Cross Mission in Bangladesh, will host prelims Saturday

By MADALINE BUCKLEY
News Editor

This year’s Bengal Bouts tournament, which begins this weekend, marks two milestones for the boxing club, as the group will celebrate its 80th anniversary and send its millionth dollar to the Holy Cross Missions in Bangladesh.

“There’s so much surrounding the club right now,” senior captain Michael Sayles said. “The goal is to raise $80,000 on the 80th.”

The club — started in 1920 by Knute Rockne — will hold the $80,000 on the 80th.”

Senior captains, from left to right, Tim Thayer, Will Burroughs, John Maier, Patrick Burns, Nicholas Ponzo, Chris Cugliari and Michael Sayles pose in a promotional photo for this year’s tournament.

Visiting scholar addresses sustainability

By KATIE PERALTA
Assistant News Editor

Access to food and clean water is an essential human right, and science and technology have a key role to play in sustainable development.

This loaded message was the theme of a lecture titled “The Fight Against World Hunger: Phase II of the Agricultural Green Revolution,” delivered Tuesday at the Hesburgh Center Auditorium by Reilly Center visiting scholar Margaret Carroll Boardman.

From a family of Notre Dame graduates and daughter of a U.S. diplomat, Boardman lived in a number of different developing countries growing up, one factor that stimulated her interest in sustainable development, she said.

“It’s controversial and complicated,” Boardman said.


The lecture focused on ways technology can develop agricultural methods that would achieve food security for the world.

LNO celebrates 24th anniversary

Event helps raise funds for St. Joseph County Special Olympics

By CAITLYN KALSCHEUR
News Writer

Late Night Olympics (LNO), an interhall competition that benefits St. Joseph County Special Olympics, is back for the 24th time, beginning tonight at 6 p.m., coordinator Tim Novak said.

The Games will involve 14 events and take place in the Joyce Center field house and the Rolfs Aquatic Center. Events will include: volleyball, men’s and women’s 3-on-3 basketball, innertube water polo, target golf, cornhole, broomball, men’s and women’s racquetball, kayaking, dodgeball, and two broomball games.

Students play dodgeball in during the Late Night Olympics at the Joyce Center last year.
Bad romance

It has often been noted that the relationships and interactions between members of the opposite sex are strained here on this campus. People note unfair gender relations, segregation of dorms, partitas, the ring by spring and the infamous "Hook-up culture we cultivate here under the Golden Dome, as just a few examples of those growing tensions.

In this midst of all this criticism, it is great to be reminded that romance isn't dead. Boys on campus will get girls numbers and text them, which is practically the love note of this century. Members of the opposite sex will still slip up and the occasional lunch-date occurs. There are the infrequent Starbucks or Eclectors meetings, and even the clumsy dorm date — just "chilling" in a dorm room. Norpe, romance really isn't dead. Life at Notre Dame must confirm it. Valentine's Day is heading our way, and it will bring us the reassurance that love is alive and well. Thankfully, we don't even have to go far as the dining hall will be hosting a romantic feast, sure to win you the girl or boy of your dreams.

Here's a few ideas for how to meet that special someone.

Go up to that cutie from class. Last semester, a boy in class came up to me and asked if I wanted to hang out or get lunch or something. I apologized saying I had a boyfriend. To which he promptly responded with a sideways glance saying he had a girlfriend. We haven't talked since, but hey maybe it'll work for you. I'll cross my fingers.

An even better idea is utilizing the romantic setting of the Library to your advantage. For three hours, he sat there, without a conceal deadly weapon, was charged with carrying a marijuana pipes. Senior Cpl. Trinidad Navarro said the teen was released to be free of vehicles to allow thousands of vehicles ticketed or towed during a snow-storm that never was won't.
Campus flower shop anticipates Valentine’s Day

By KRISTEN DURBIN

With Valentine’s Day just around the corner, Irish Gardens is facing a huge spike in business, but Notre Dame’s student-run flower shop strives to maintain its personal approach to customers while dealing with a large increase in orders.

Valentine’s Day is the busiest time of the year, hands down,” Maloney said. “This year we’ve been trying to make it even easier for customers to order flowers.”

Irish Gardens, which has been operating since 1972 when women were first admitted to the University, is trying to make ordering effortless for students, the shop has staffed a table in LaFortune where customers can place orders. The store’s hours have also been extended for the weekend to accommodate last-minute orders.

Despite the inevitable rush of late orders, Maloney said that Irish Gardens encourages customers to place orders early by providing discounted delivery on orders placed prior to Feb. 10.

“This year, the shop is offering eight different pre-made Valentine’s Day bouquets that incorporate a variety of flowers and vary in size to accommodate any budget. In addition, custom orders can be created by choosing from the shop’s selection of flowers sold by the stem,” Maloney said.

Maloney said one of the shop’s defining characteristics is their level of personal interaction with customers. “It helps us learn more about our customers and understand exactly what they’re looking for, which is really useful when a guy comes in completely unsure about what kind of flowers he should order,” Maloney said.

Maloney also said Irish Gardens receives a great deal of business from other sources, such as girls ordering flowers for friends, parents ordering from across the country for their children and even faculty and staff members placing orders at the shop. Even though cross-country customers may not have direct contact with employees, the shop strives to maintain a personal connection with every customer.

“The personal experience is really what Irish Gardens apart,” General manager Michelle Maloney said.

Maloney also said Irish Gardens apart. “We all work really hard throughout the year for which figures are available.

The IRS said it would begin a three-year study of the issue this month. State crackdowns include:

- New York: A multi-agency report found nearly 31,500 cases of employee misclassification and nearly $390 million in unreported wages from Sept. 2007 and the end of 2009. It had ordered employers to pay more than $28 million in past-due wages, taxes and penalties.

- New York’s numbers were up significantly. Its team found 12,300 misclassification cases in the 16 months ending in December 2009, by a year later it had found about 19,200 more.

- California: Orange County prosecutors said last year they would seek $38 million from a couple for workers’ compensation fraud for failing to pay premiums and submitting claims for 42 injured but uninsured workers at their construction companies.

In Ohio: The state’s Bureau of Workers’ Compensation ruled last year that a former state attorney general’s top aide improperly classified all four employees at his Youngstown construction firm; an appeal only two were found misclassified.

The state won’t say how much he owes in restitution. Matthew Capece, an officer with the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, called the states’ efforts encouraging.

“We’re beginning to see the state and federal government fighting back and taking more interest,” Capece said. But, “There’s a lot of road left to travel to fix this.”

Companies say using independent contractors helps them keep costs down and stay flexible in an increasingly tough and competitive economy.

“Some companies desire to focus on core business functions,” said Kevin Ishita, an Atlanta-based lawyer who represents employers in labor relations matters. “They may feel they do not have the expertise to handle a particular function or that it would be more efficiently handled by others.” He offered as an example “a carpet manufacturer who decides, ‘I really don’t need to be in the installation process.’”
Bouts
continued from page 1

the preliminary fights Saturday.
Sayles said the boxers are currently striving to hit that $80,000 mark, and making significant progress.

"There are more people participating this year than ever before," he said. "The really unique thing about this is that we have so many people learning about a sport that not many people learn about these days, but we can also help out thousands of people."

In order to raise money, each boxer is given 15 tickets to sell. Co-president and senior captain Patrick Burns said 199 students are fighting in this year's tournament.

Burns said a high number of novice fighters joined the club this year — something he attributes to increased awareness for the service mission of the tournament.

Former boxing club president Mark Weber, a 2009 graduate, co-produced a documentary, "Strong Bodies Fight. Rough Cut," to highlight the relationship Bengal Bouts has with the Holy Cross Missions in Bangladesh.

"I think it's a good diversification. It's a good service to the Missions. 200 guys have the opportunity to help out someone halfway across the world," Burns said.

Co-president and senior captain Chris Cugliari said the club has been pushing to create a more "self-sustaining" relationship with the Holy Cross Missions in the country. "Our help has been moving to something more along the lines of education and working to help and maintain build schools," he said.

The boxing club recently teamed up with the Center for Social Concerns to establish an International Summer Service Learning Project in Bangladesh.

Along with its service component, though, Cugliari said boxing is an opportunity for Notre Dame students to fulfill a competitive drive.

"A lot of guys come in with self doubts, not sure if they can cross certain boundaries, and when they go through training and step through the ropes in front of thousands of people it shows a lot about their growth and character," he said.

For senior captain Nicholas Ponzio, four years as part of the club has offered a chance to build relationships.

"My freshman year, I won my first fight, and then my second fight was against a kid who became the president of team next year. I ended up losing, which was a humbling experience," Ponzio said. "But he and I ended up being good friends, and we trained together the next year."

Ponzio said the energy in the Joyce Center on the day of the fight brings him back every year, and is what he will most miss when he fights in his last tournament this week. There are two rings going at once, and all this yelling and screaming," Ponzio said. "There's just this certain atmosphere that comes with the start of the fight."

Sayles said the best part of the fight is the support of his dorm, Sorin College.

"Having 70-plus guys from the dorm screaming your name is far and away the coolest thing," Sayles said. "It's just insane."

Cugliari said boxing has a reputation as a violent sport, but the service and character-building aspect of the tournament offer a positive contribution to the Notre Dame community.

Despite the reputation boxing might have as a brutal sport, it helps people push boundaries and really discover a lot about themselves. It's a sport really helps people grow," he said.

Sayles said Irish basketball coach Mike Brey will open the preliminaries with a few words, and the captains are working to procure another special guest to speak at the finals. The preliminaries begin Saturday at 1 p.m. The quarterfinals will take place Feb. 16 at 6 p.m. and the semifinals, Feb. 23 at 6 p.m. The final fights will be Feb. 27 at 7 p.m.

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

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THE OBSERVER ◆ CAMPUS NEWS
Friday, February 12, 2010

CAMPUS NEWS

Professor
continued from page 1

empty.”

At this time, Chattopadhay decided to leave finance and go into teaching.

"After a six-month visit to India where I grew up, I decided to come back and pursue studies in international development and education. That's the current life, right now," Chattopadhay said. "It is the life I really wanted." Chattopadhay joined Notre Dame's ranks in August 2008, after finishing his doctorate at Columbia University and consulting for international organizations like UNICEF.

"After finishing my doctorate, I realized that coming into an academic institution, finding a career as a teacher and researcher, is my path," Chattopadhay said.

Chattopadhay dedicated himself to equality in education and such initiatives. Working as a professor in the Education, Schooling and Society minor as well as with the Institute for Educational Initiatives, Chattopadhay has begun comparative research working with students in Brazil, India and the United States.

"One of the research projects we undertook last year was an action research project in education in India," Chattopadhay said. "There's a very charismatic, educational leader who's a 74-year-old Irish nun who runs an amazing school in Calcutta. Notre Dame's News and Information Office detailed the group's research on Notre Dame's home page and in Notre Dame Magazine's most recent issue on student research and volunteering initiatives.

"When I first came to Notre Dame, I was unsure. I had my doubts about teaching at the undergraduate level. I've never taught at a Catholic university. But I think what fascinated me, what continued to fascinate me, about Notre Dame is how well-prepared I find the students are, and how engaged and aware they are about issues of social justice — how keen they are to engage," Chattopadhay said.

"There's an ethos about service, social justice, human rights, which is for me, teaching international issues about development and education, a tremendous source of inspiration. I am enriched a lot by my students, and that really changed my perspective on teaching in many ways," he said.

Contact Amanda Gray at agray3@nd.edu

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TOP: Brian DeSplinter trades punches with an opponent during the preliminaries in 2009. Bottom, Kris Perez prepares to enter page 4 Friday, February 12, 2010
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Shooting occurs ahead of Carnival
RIO DE JANEIRO — Gunfire erupted Thursday in the Jacarezinho slum, killing at least seven suspected drug traffickers and a policeman a day before Carnival celebrations kick off.
A police spokesman said the gun battle in the Jacarezinho slum, which started while police were on a routine patrol. He declined to be quoted by name, citing standard department policy.
Jacarezinho is located in northern Rio, far from the tourist areas and the Carnival parties that open Friday and draw about 500,000 visitors each year.
But drug violence adds to concerns about the city's image and how much it will be able to curtail violence as it prepares to host the 2016 Olympics.

Milkshake murder case overturned
HONG KONG — Nancy Kissel has always maintained that she killed her investment banker husband using a defense, fending off a physical and sexual attack, but a Hong Kong jury found her guilty four years ago of smothering him with a laced milkshake before bludgeoning him to death.
In a stunning reversal Thursday, however, the territory's highest court overturned that conviction, ordering a retrial in the case that has grabbed headlines and spawned a book and TV special with its lurid tale of adultery, drug use and sex abuse in the rarified world of wealthy American expatriates.

Tension fills Oregon over extremists
EUGENE, Ore. — The students stomped their feet, heckled and then stood and turned their backs as the speaker at the University of Oregon delivered a lecture, but Joseph McCarthy and called Martin Luther King Jr. a communist dupe.
With more than 30 security officers assigned to keep the peace, the 90-something patriarch of the group sat in a wheelchair next to the speaker, solemnly observing the spectacle while at times half-asleep.
A campus with a reputation for young, leftist radicals has been roiled in recent weeks as the aging collection of extremists had a deemed a hate group by those who track the ins and outs of its activities, including a Hitler salute at an event in December.

Condoms used in environmental crusade
TUCSON, Ariz. — An Arizona-based environmental group has introduced species plans to distribute 100,000 free condoms across the U.S. beginning on Valentine's Day.
The plan is to promote the environmental group's message, including a Hitler salute at an event in December.

NATIONAL NEWS

East Coast blizzards set records
Winter weather surpasses previous highs, closes schools and causes turmoil

Another winter blizzard obscures the view of the Capitol in Washington on Wednesday. During whiteout conditions keeping most people in doors until the weather passes.

Learning occurs ahead of Carnival
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Indiana knocks new climate proposal
INDIANAPOLIS — A former Indiana health commissioner who ran a drug treatment program said Wednesday that federal health experts are criticizing a move in Congress aimed at preventing states from issuing regulations to reduce pollution blamed for climate change. It must first pass Congress and be signed by the president.

In a statement, Joe Coombs said the report was misleading.

Republican U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska recently introduced a measure that would prohibit the Environmental Protection Agency from issuing regulations to reduce pollution blamed for climate change. It must first pass Congress and be signed by the president.


East Coast blizzards set records
Winter weather surpasses previous highs, closes schools and causes turmoil

Another winter blizzard obscures the view of the Capitol in Washington on Wednesday. During whiteout conditions keeping most people in doors until the weather passes.
Housing
continued from page 1
a small community for them,” Dieujuste said.
Residence Life will also begin posting information for room selection, including lot-
tery numbers and times for selection, on its Web site. Dieujuste said. In the past, there has been a bulletin in Le Mans Hall, but she said that “wasn’t the most efficient way to do things.”
Unlike in the past, students will also be receiving their lot-
tery numbers via e-mail rather than a list in Regineaux Lounge in Le Mans Hall. Dieujuste said.
Due to the changes being made, there will also be infor-
mation sessions offered to students to con-
side. “I really think it will be a great kickoff to the night,” she said. “We have to keep the system.”
Room selection itself has been moved from Regineaux Lounge to the Earley Conference rooms and Vander Vennet Theater in the base-
ment of the Student Union according to Holy Cross Hall director Christine Mihalopoulos.
In order to avoid making students wait all day for selec-
tion if they have higher-
lottery numbers, Residence Life has created time slots for students in two-hour incre-
ments. Dieujuste said. “The system will have a time to come during room selection and they [won’t] have to be there the whole night like in the past,” she said.
Dieujuste said students can also play a part in helping the night run better by paying attention to deadlines and the mail that is sent to them.
“It’s frustrating for me and I think for us to hear students ask for exceptions because they forgot a deadline and it’s something we cannot make out of fairness to everyone,” Dieujuste said. “We have to keep the system.”
A Roommate Social will be held for the students in search of a roommate for next year on March 4 in McCandless Hall from 7 to 8:30 p.m.
“We are still kind of working to see how it’s going to go, but it’s going to look at trying to find people that have similar living habits to them and just an opportunity to meet people in the Saint Mary’s community that they haven’t met yet,” Mihalopoulos said.
One thing that will not change in the room selection process is the requirement for students to remain on campus with a roommate according to Dieujuste, it is in keeping with the mission of the College, which is to be a women’s resi-
dential institution.
That was something that was voted in by the cabinet even before I came here,” she said. “Every year we hear rumors from the students that it has been done away with. It’s here to stay.”
Lastly, Dieujuste advises stu-
dents to be thoroughful of the roommates they have that conversation with their friend and be sure that both parties know what they are getting into.
“Choose your roommate carefully,” Dieujuste said. “[Students] need to have an honest conversation about their lifestyles and their habits, and even the room-
mate’s plan of when they will back next semester or if they are going abroad or if they are transferring. It is their responsibility to make sure they have that conversation with their friend and that they are on the same page.”
Contact Ashley Chanley at acham01@slaintymarys.edu

Olympics
continued from page 1
ball, men’s and women’s table tennis, and an obstacle course.
Though the games have been in action for 24 years, there are a few changes to this year’s schedule.
“This year’s games will begin with an opening cere-
mony featuring the Notre Dame Marching Band and some Special Olympics from St. Joseph County,” Novak said. “I really think this will be a great kickoff to the night.”
Any student is eligible to be a part of the Night Olympics and all dorms have a repre-
sentation of students to con-
tact if they’re interested in participating in the games.
“I’m excited for volleyball — we get competitive,” Lyons Hall representative junior Kate McKeeough said.
Aside from the competitive aspect, students say the impact this event has on the community, namely the St. Joseph County Special Olympics.
“Last year, St. Joseph was one of the few counties that didn’t have to cancel its win-
ter or summer games because they had enough money, due in part to funds raised from Late Night Olympics,” McKeough said.
The Special Olympics will take part in what both Novak and McKeough call their favorite part of the event: the Notre Dame staff basketball game.
“You get the chance to meet Olympians and talk with them. To see the people you affect is uplifting,” Novak said.
If being an Olympian isn’t the kind of thing you’re into, there are other ways to help out, Novak said.
“There will be T-shirts for sale at the event for $10 and there is a penny war going on all over campus,” Novak said.
Contact Caitlyn Kalsheur at chalsche@nd.edu

Lecture
continued from page 1
poor and excluded of the world,” a significant goal given the booming world population.
“The world population has exploded as never before in his-
history,” Boardman said. “Most of the expected growth is in de-
developing countries.”
Sustainable development, she said, means something differ-
tent to everyone. It can mean food protection, technological innovation, protection of the environment and respect for indigenous people, among other definitions.
“Pope Benedict noted that we can’t solve problems of devel-
opment in the world without addressing technology,” Boardman said.
Boardman outlined three agricultural systems and metho-
dologies in practice: organic, biotechnological and hybridization.
“The systems are not mutual-
ly exclusive in theory, however, in practice they currently are exclusive due to national regu-
ulatory systems,” Boardman said.
Hybridization, she said, includes scientists crossing plant genomes to isolate and introduce new traits like height and sun tolerance.
The first two, organic and biotechnological, however, she said, are the most important agricultural systems in play today.
“Organic farmland has grown tremendously over the past 10 years,” Boardman said.
Although it is growing, she said, organic farmland is still relatively small and occupies only 1 percent of planted acreage in the United States.
“It’s challenging, I have to wonder since I can’t feed myself or my family from my own [organic] garden, how will we feed the [hungry] people of the world?” she said.
Boardman noted the problem of labor shortage as hindering the development of the organic industry.
“If we’re going to do organic gardening, we are going to have to find more labor,” she said.
Pest management, market expansion and sanitary storage are among other hindrances to organic farming, she said.
Biotechnology advancements have, Boardman said, helped farmers around the world develop technology that fortifi-
crops and fosters a stronger possibility for distribu-
tion and consumption. They have been monitored in the United States for more than 20 years, she said.
Genetically engineered (GE) crops — and Africa, where they are one such innovation.
“Most of you have been eat-
ing genetically engineered food for years,” she said. “GE foods are the fastest to grow in acreage than any other crop in history.”
Boardman said Europeans are much more wary of GE crops than Americans are.
Boardman outlined the biotechnological advancements of a number of countries and continents, including China, Mexico, Brazil — which in 2008 was third largest producer of GE crops — and Africa, where the situation is “very complicat-
ed.”
“The population going to soar because of international aid,” she said. “The problem is that aid is not going to teach Africans how to solve their own agricultural problems.”
Boardman pointed to aware-
ness and education as two key factors that will progress sus-
tainable development.
“Lack of understanding can delay the progress of sustain-
able development,” she said.
The talk was sponsored by two groups focused on global sustainable development, the International Development Research Council and The Reilly Center for Science, Technology and Values.
Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu

Contact the Observer
Please recycle the Observer.
IN BRIEF

Google seeks compromise with China

Google's top lawyer, David Drummond, initially said that Google would take a few weeks to meet with government officials before deciding what to do. But Google officials now say the company might parse its Chinese search results for several more months while it steers through a political and cultural minefield in search of a compromise that the government deems subversive or offensive.

Citing the sensitivity of the talks, Google officials won't say how the negotiations have been going since the company showed its Jan. 12 threat to shut down its China-based search engine and publicly leave the country altogether. Google is demanding that the government tear down the so-called "Great Firewall" that seeks to keep China's citizens from finding politically sensitive information and images.

Google's top lawyer, David Drummond, initially said that Google would take a few weeks to meet with government officials before deciding what to do. But Google officials now say the company might parse its Chinese search results for several more months while it steers through a political and cultural minefield in search of a compromise with the ruling party.

Dairy industry fights for control

Shedding China's shackles on free speech is proving to be easier said than done for Google Inc.

The Internet search leader is still censoring its results in China a month after Google's leaders publicly broke with China's leaders to make the company independent. Google's leaders have defied the government in a way that would have been considered subversive a decade ago. But Google's top lawyer, David Drummond, initially said that Google would take a few weeks to meet with government officials before deciding what to do. But Google officials now say the company might parse its Chinese search results for several more months while it steers through a political and cultural minefield in search of a compromise with the ruling party.

Health insurer raises questions

WellPoint Insurance price hike defense fails to satisfy feds and creates confusion

The O bserver

WellPoint Insurance price hike defense fails to satisfy feds and creates confusion

In an interview, he declined to specify the size of the unit's loss. Affected customers can choose plans with lower premiums or higher out-of-pocket costs, he said.

Sassi told Sebelius that insurance costs also continue to rise because medical prices are increasing faster than inflation, and people are using more health care. That increase is driven by an aging population, new treatments and "more intensive diagnostic testing," he said.

Sassi said as much as one-third of their individual insurance customers leave every year. That volatility can lead to big changes in the mix of people covered and rate swings. Administrative costs also can be higher for individual lives because the insurer has to sell each policy individually instead of to a larger group.

Feds pass on surest solution to Asian carp

Braly at a Feb. 24 hearing.

Also, pulled in different directions...
You’ve probably never seen Skylar Diggins play. It’s a shame. Really. She’s quite a spectacle to see. But she also plays for the No. 4 team in the nation, which happens to play in a competitive conference right here on campus and it’s free for you to see.

But you don’t.

You all go to the football games. That team hasn’t posted a winning season since the majority of you have been here, yet there you were, clad in yellow, screaming away, counting down until the 1812 Overture so you could boo.

But the women’s basketball team moves down opponent after opponent, goes 22-1, 9-1 in the Big East, and you don’t go.

It’s no fluke. The Big East is a tough conference. And Irish coach Muffet McGraw has shown she can win a championship. She did it in 2001. The team has a talented group of seniors in Lindsay Schrader, Ashley Barlow and Melissa Lechlitner. Add Skylar and that lineup can deal with anyone in the country.

The impact Diggins has had on this team is incredible. You really should see for yourself — but even money says you haven’t, so here’s a taste. She was named the 2009 Gatorade National High School Female Athlete of the Year. That’s the whole nation, every sport. That puts her in the company of LeBron James and Candace Parker. She’s currently 12th in the Big East in scoring and averages 15 points per game in conference play. She was the Most Valuable Player of the Paradise Jam tournament (which the Irish won) and recently had 23 points and 10 rebounds in a win over Cincinnati.

But that won’t resonate with any of you because none of you have seen her play.

So come out. Don’t just come for Skylar, though. Come watch Schrader, the team’s leader, a passionate player who is third in the conference in field goal percentage. Come watch Barlow, a stout defender, or Lechlitner, a veteran with great court vision.

More than that, come support a good team.

The Irish won’t disappoint. You supported the women’s soccer team when they were highly ranked. Show that same support for women’s basketball. It is one of Notre Dame’s top athletic programs, and with the combination of Diggins and the senior leadership, this is its year to make a push for a championship.

There’s no better time to start than Sunday, when Notre Dame takes on DePaul at 3 p.m., because the Purcell Pavilion will turn into a Pink Zone, where the team will raise money for breast cancer research. There will be a silent auction and Pink Zone merchandise sales, and the team hopes to raise $55,000.

Last year they got $48,000. Help them reach their goal. And help them reach the goal of a championship. Come watch Skylar work her magic, come scream loud on defense, come watch great basketball.

The first two rounds of the NCAA Tournament are being held in the Purcell Pavilion this year as well. That’s when the Irish will really need you. If you cheer enough, maybe they’ll get much farther than that.
She wasn’t on the dance floor at Club Fever sipping on a mixed drink. She was neither dripping with sweat inside The Backer, nor was she chatting with her friends in a small circle at Finny’s. While I suppose it’s possible that I stepped foot into her apartment, I wouldn’t know it now. The love of my life wasn’t in any of these places (or at least I think), because from where I sit right now on a beachfront bar on the Indonesian island of Bali, the love of my life is still absent from my life.

A year ago I wrote a Valentine’s Day-themed piece in this paper describing my quest to find the love of my life at Club Fever. That weekend I spent time searching not only the dance floor of Fever, but also the crowded confines of Finnys and The Backer. I moved between bars and house parties distributing Winnie the Pooh Valentines (complete with my name and phone number) to unsuspecting girls hoping to impress the woman whom I love. After a few disappointing weeks at Finnys, I first crossed the Pacific. For me, trying to date with a girl in the clubs of Shanghai, Vang Vien (Laos) and Bali has been almost as difficult as a complex wrinkle or a lot of drinks. I got fed up with all the aggravation that is thrown in my direction daily both by Chinese and Canadian girls, and I talk to a local for a while. Usually this local is very nice, until she realizes that paying that is actually very difficult. Most Notre Dame students that I met inside that I was at least and I have found some really awesome girl.

Here in Asia, however, there are no legal drinking age, and I have been asked my age more times by other parents than I ever was. A few weeks after I first crossed the Pacific. For me, trying to date with a girl in the clubs of Shanghai, Vang Vien (Laos) and Bali has been almost as difficult as a complex wrinkle or a lot of drinks. I got fed up with all the aggravation that is thrown in my direction daily both by Chinese and Canadian girls, and I talk to a local for a while. Usually this local is very nice, until she realizes that paying that is actually very difficult. Most Notre Dame students that I met inside that I was at least and I have found some really awesome girl.

In case people haven’t been keeping up, there is a lot of discussion on campus and around the nation about gay rights. And yet, I feel like so much of the conversation is lost in the noise of emotional and destructive language. As a student who struggled with identity, I read everything, including the work of the Catholic Church. The Church has written on the issue of human sexuality and human dignity of the individual from the Bible, commonly thrown into the ring when discussing same-sex attraction and gender dysphoria. I read everything (yes, literally everything) the Catholic Church teaches on sexuality. Based on psychological evidence, from what I have read and the testimony of Vatican psychologists, the Church maintains that a biological sex of a person is determined by their biology from the moment of conception, not by their environment. I am an expert! Far from it. I have done my homework.

When people make comments like, “There is no evidence that homosexuality is innate.” It is already clear to me that that individual hasn’t read anything the Catholic Church teaches on sexuality. Based on psychological evidence, from both empirical and psychological research conducted by Vatican psychologists, the Church maintains that a person’s sexual identity is determined by their biology from the moment of conception, not by their environment. What we are asking for is the exact same thing that is being demanded. When people stop labeling those who are different as “others” and start calling them “brother and sister,” they truly are bearing Christ to the world.

I invite every professor and student at Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s to engage in a mature, intellectual and open discussion regarding respect and appreciation for individuals who are different. Part of being a follower of Christ entails a radical call to love. When people stop labeling those who are different as “others” and start calling them “brother and sister,” they truly are bearing Christ to the world.

I have read every passage from the Bible and in isolating and destructive rhetoric. When I read some of the discussion on campus and around the nation about gay rights. And yet, I feel like so much of the conversation is lost in the noise of emotional and destructive language. As a student who struggled with identity, I read everything, including the work of the Catholic Church. The Church has written on the issue of human sexuality and human dignity of the individual from the Bible, commonly thrown into the ring when discussing same-sex attraction and gender dysphoria. I read everything (yes, literally everything) the Catholic Church teaches on sexuality. Based on psychological evidence, from what I have read and the testimony of Vatican psychologists, the Church maintains that a biological sex of a person is determined by their biology from the moment of conception, not by their environment. I am an expert! Far from it. I have done my homework.

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**Scene**

**LOVE IT OR HATE IT...**

**By ALEX KILPATRICK**

It's the American Valentine's version of "Love Actually." "Valentine's Day" is meant to represent the all-embracing spectrum of humanity's views on love and the meaning of Valentine's Day. Whether you're going to see it for the endless list of cameos, to make fun of the chick flick clichés or even for the meaningful insight, the movie will be a must see.

The romantic comedy, directed by Garry Marshall (who directed the classics "Pretty Woman" and "Runaway Bride," along with the "Princess Diaries" movies) and written by Katherine Fugate, will star nearly 20 A-list Hollywood celebrities, which begs the question of why so much money went into making this big-budget movie for such a minor Hallmark-dominated holiday.

According to Associated Content, New Line Cinema and Warner Brothers are hoping that with the expected success of this movie, "Valentine's Day" will become a new money-maker for the movie industry.

What "Love Actually" was for the Christmas season, "Valentine's Day" is now expected to be for the Valentine's Day "season." The film features multiple meshed together plotlines and stars a team of the top romantic comedy stars in the industry, including Julia Roberts, Ashton Kutcher, Jessica Biel, Anne Hathaway, Jessica Alba, Jennifer Garner, Patrick Dempsey, Topher Grace and Bradley Cooper.

Set in Los Angeles, the characters are all loosely related to each other. Julia Roberts plays Kate Hazeltine, a captain in the U.S. Army, who meets Holden (Cooper). In the meantime, florist Reed Bennett (Kutcher) proposes to girlfriend Morley (Alba), while his best friend Julia (Garner), a grade school teacher, falls for Dempsey's character, Dr. Harrison Copeland.

Even just from the preview, one can see the same old trite plotlines, whether it's Emma Roberts' character Grace planning her first time with her boyfriend Alex (Carter Jenkins) or Biel's character Kara planning a "We Hate Valentine's Day" party. One can only hope that the previews will not represent the movie as a whole, or we will be paying $8 to see a bunch of cameos wrapped into one huge cliché of a rom-com.

John Debney composed the score to "Valentine's Day," recorded it with the Hollywood Studio Symphony at the Sony Scoring Stage and wrote the song, "Every Time You Smiled," for the movie with lyricist Glen Ballard, performed by Carina Round. The soundtrack also features Jewel's "Stay Here Forever" and "Today Was a Fairytale" by Taylor Swift, who makes an appearance in the film opposite Taylor Lautner. Overall, the film looks like a clichéd American version of "Love Actually" for the Valentine's Day season, but it does include cameos from several big budget Hollywood actors and actresses, so if you enjoy seeing any of these stars on the big screen, the movie is sure to be a well-produced film.

Contact Alex Kilpatrick at akilpatrick@nd.edu

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**By JACLYN ESPINOZA**

**I'm Still Running Through the Airport**

By Shane Steinberg

1. Like a Star – Corinne Bailey Rae
2. Falling Slowly – Glen Hansard & Marketa Irglova
3. Collide – Howie Day
4. You Picked Me – A Fine Frenzy
5. High – James Blunt
6. First Time – Lifehouse
7. Brighter than Sunshine – Aqualung
8. Somewhere over the Rainbow – Jason Castro
9. Universe and U – KT Tunstall
10. Sea of Love – Cat Power
11. Such Great Heights – Iron and Wine
12. Your Hand in Mine (With Strings) – Explosions in the Sky
13. Say it to me Now – Glen Hansard
14. We Might Fall – Ryan Star
15. Crown of Love – Arcade Fire
16. Blind – Lifehouse
17. Iris – The Goo Goo Dolls
18. Warning Sign – Coldplay
19. Sideways – Citizen Cope
20. Swallowed in the Sea – Coldplay

*Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but the number of moments that take our breath away. So as we think back on or live those moments, the ones that stand suspended in time – a time when nothing else mattered, nothing at all, except for that one person, here it is—the thing that dreams are made of, the one that we dream of: True love.*
Get those spoons ready. There is a flavor for everyone.

just want some fruity fun, lover, dig the cookie dough or Whether you're a chocolate brand of frozen goodness.

Jerry are there for you, ready to provide with their typical ic duo to join you and your significant other for a quality dou-

either way, Ben and Jerry's Frozen Dessert, for the upcoming St. Valentine's Day with the most

Dame. This popular flavor is to be enjoyed by
even if you're not so into Mr. Colbert, even for fellow Vermontians the band Phish to a new level with for fellow Vermontians the band Phish to a new level with

It. cherry ice cream gets mixed with chocolate chip cookies and a fudge swirl. Although originally released as a limited-time-only flavor, its popularity brought Ben and Jerry to their senses, and can now be found year-round.

2. Half Baked
This ice cream, an ode to Dave Chappelle film "Half Baked," features the delicious combo of chocolate and vanilla ice cream mixed with pieces of fudge brownies and bites of cookie dough. Perfect for those couples that just can't seem to decide between Ben & Jerry's Chocolate Fudge Brownie Ice Cream and Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough Ice Cream (both also terrific choices), or for anyone who thinks they can handle a mouthwatering combination of baked goods and ice cream. Again, this flavor can somehow be deemed "healthy" by buying the low fat version, just in case.

3. Phish Food
Ben and Jerry take their love for fellow Vermontians the band Phish to a new level with this entirely unique flavor. In it, one will find chocolate ice cream swirled together with gooey marshmallows, caramel and fudge fish.

4. Dublin Mudslide
Just because it's Notre Dame. This popular flavor is perfect not only for Valentine's Day, but for the upcoming St. Patrick's Day season as well. Treat your taste buds to some Irish Creme liqueur ice cream mixed with chocolate chip cookies and a coffee fudge swirl. Although originally released as a limited-time-only flavor, its popularity brought Ben and Jerry to their senses, and can now be found year-round.

5. Fossil Fuel
For the kid in all of us. Enjoy your sweet cream ice cream with chocolate cookie pieces and a fudge swirl by adding some fudge dinosaurs to the mix!

6. Stephen Colbert's AmeriCone Dream
Stephen Colbert 2012? Even if you're not so into Mr. Colbert, can you turn down an ice cream that sends its proceeds to The Stephen Colbert AmeriCone Dream Fund, which gives money to help disadvantaged children, veterans and the environment? I didn't think so.

The combination of vanilla ice cream, fudge covered waffle pieces and a caramel swirl should be the icing on top of the cake of the best altruistic ice cream out there!

7. Karamel Sutra
Another classic Ben & Jerry's flavor, Karamel Sutra is sure to please any caramel fan out there with its core of soft caramel encircling by caramel and chocolate ice creams and fudge chips.

8. Dave Matthews Band Magic Brownies Encore Edition
This delicious flavor features black raspberry ice cream mixed with sweet cream ice cream and fudge brownies. Regardless of your high expectations, its sure to please all, once again mastering Ben & Jerry's knack for mixing fruit and chocolate to delicious results.

9. ONE Cheesecake Brownie Edition
For the kid in all of us. Enjoy your sweet cream ice cream mixed with chocolate chips and a fudge swirl. Although originally released as a limited-time-only flavor, its popularity brought Ben and Jerry to their senses, and can now be found year-round.

10. Chubby Hubby
And to top off this extensive list of flavors, guaranteed to have a flavor for everyone, comes the complex concoction of vanilla malt ice cream, ripped with fudge and peanut butter and loaded with fudge-covered peanut butter filled pretzels. This flavor was invented with the help of some fans back in 1988, and has stuck around ever since. Perfect for the pretzel lover and the peanut butter lover alike!

Contact Maija Gustin at mgustin@nd.edu@nd.edu
ST. LOUIS — Rumors that the St. Louis Rams were being sold have swirled for years, with some specu-
lation that a group of investors might buy the fran-
chise. But such talk took on a new life recently after Khan said he had been in discussions with The
Rams franchise last season, The Associated Press has learned.

"There isn't a hint of a criminal issue here," Khan told the newspaper,
"he was planning to try to get the money back through litiga-
tion. It wasn't clear whether he's taken legal steps since then to recover the money and an IRS
spokesman declined comment Thursday.

The sale has been announced after Frontiere, the Rams' co-
founder, died at age 73 in 2008. The NFL has said it expects to finish the deal before the end of the
season. The AP has not been able to reach Khan for com-
ment. The Rams have not responded to a request for com-
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ment.

"I was happy to be back on the field, but I feel like the injury is
still there," Thomas said. "I am always disappointed when a training run is canceled, but in this
situation, definitely wel-
come the extra day to heal."

"In the end, all of their
competitors are getting multiple runs down the course. Nobody got to ski as much as I did yesterday, so
these guys, who were sitting on the edge of their chairs watching the rest of the "Greatest Show on
Turf." But lately, the Rams have been one of the NFL's worst teams, going 6-4-2 from 2007-09.

One loophole in the Rams' lease allows them to move after the
2014 season if the Edward Jones Dome is not deemed among the top quarter of all NFL stadiums.

"I am finally progressing a bit. I am not going to pull anything at this
point, and it's looking better
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"It was a relief to the U.S. Ski
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and become the breakout star of
the Olympics, the super-com-
bin, is scheduled for Sunday, and
Vonn's outlook for the World Cup overall champion raised the possibility of her winning a gold,
suddenly became one that convinced Vonn she
was ready to take part in the upcoming men's Olympic
downhill training session later Thursday.

"It was a great decision to
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On Thursday, she raised the
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Calhoun returns to Huskies after absence

Connecticut head basketball coach Jim Calhoun returned to the sidelines on Thursday after missing seven games with an unspecified ailment. Calhoun has stated the ailment is unrelated to his recent bout with cancer.

Associated Press

TORRIS, Conn. — UConn coach Jim Calhoun appears on the mend. The Hall of Famer has to hope his return can salvage an NCAA tournament bid for the ailing Huskies.

Calhoun returned to his coaching duties Thursday after a medical leave of more than three weeks forced him to miss seven games. He has no restrictions on what he can do and will be on the bench for Saturday’s game against Cincinnati.

“I felt that the time away was important for my personal and professional well-being and that I am ready to move ahead from this point at full speed,” Calhoun said.

Calhoun returns to a team that needs a sizzling, upset-heavy winning streak to sniff the NCAA tournament. The Huskies (14-10, 4-7 Big East) have sunk to the bottom half of the conference standings a year after No. 1 seed and a Final Four berth.

UConn’s top moment came Jan. 23 when associate head coach George Blaney led the Huskies to an upset of then-No. 1 Texas. But the Huskies threw away their momentum like one of their 352 turnovers this season when they lost the next game at Providence — and that started the second of their three-game losing streaks this season. UConn ended the skid by eking out a seven-point win Saturday against Loyola (0-14) and lost at No. 2 Syracuse 72-67 on Wednesday night.

“Now, we’re starting to feel like we can win,” Blaney said. “We still think we can be pretty good.”

Blaney said UConn has nothing to do with his three bouts of anger at Schuerholz and Pierce, who signed a $26 million contract as a free agent in 2005, was let go a month after the season and Pierce, 31-year-old veteran who quarterbacked the worst defensive seasons in New York history, was fired after the season and Pierce, the final seven games of the season, a winner was bitter when the Braves let him go, but he said Thursday that any anger at Schuerholz and Pierce, the two stood together before reporters for the first time since Glavine’s unexpected, dissipated.

The two-time NL Cy Young Award winner was bitter when the Braves let him go, but he said Thursday that any anger at Schuerholz and general manager Frank Wren has dissipated.

“I’m happy and comfortable with where we are as far as that is all concerned,” Glavine said. “I talked with Frank, so that is all behind us. If I didn’t feel I could work with Frank or work with John, I wouldn’t be here.”

Linebacker Antonio Pierce released by Giants

East Rutherford, N.J. — One of the worst defensive seasons in New York Giants history claimed another victim — middle linebacker Antonio Pierce.

The Giants on Thursday released the 31-year-old veteran who quarterbacked the defense for the past five years in a tenure that included four trips to the playoffs and a Super Bowl victory over the previously undefeated New England Patriots in February 2008.

Pierces status with the team was put into question this season when he suffered a neck injury, forcing him to miss the final seven games of the season, a year in which the Giants surrendered 427 points.

Defensive coordinator Bill Sheridan and defensive line coach Mike Waafle were fired after the season and Pierce, who signed a $26 million contract as a free agent in 2005, was let go a month later.

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Olympics

Uncertainty dominates Vancouver Olympics

Associated Press

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — The XVI Olympic Winter Games begin Friday, and that's about the only thing certain about them.

The weather is uncertain, and there's more snow in Manhattan than on some of the mountains in British Columbia.

Oh, and there could be two Olympics.

Back in Canada for the first time since 1988 in Calgary, the games open with the world's first-ever indoor opening ceremony.

Organizers have kept a tight lid on details, and that's fitting for an Olympics full of questions.

Will the potential headline act, American skier Lindsey Vonn, overcome a shin injury and vie for multiple medals? Will the U.S. broadcaster, which already tested its bruised right shin

competing. Anything dimming whether Vonn will be able to compete. Anything dimming whether Vonn will be able to compete.

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in North America. That roof will go over Olympic inconveniences like it or not. It's a blessing — the forecast cold medication and that's about the only thing certain about them.

One burning question, at least for the first weekend, is the fate of American skier Lindsey Vonn, overcome a shin injury and vie for multiple medals? Will the U.S. broadcaster, which already tested its bruised right shin injuries.

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worldwide as China watched by a couple of billion page 14 Friday, February 12, 2010

Vonn is a dramatic coup for Canada, which has been struggling to build a home team that can dominate the Olympics.

The Associated Press

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Olympics

White prepares new trick

Associated Press

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — Shaun White dropped his iPhone onto the table as David Bowie’s “Young Americans” blasted out of the tiny speakers.

Then the world’s most famous snowboarder shot off his blue Team USA jacket and, with his face buried, shuffled off, shimmied over to the refreshment table in the cramped green room.

They couldn’t help but laugh as the 23-year-old with the iconic red hair finished his impromptu dance while making a cup of tea before meeting the press Thursday. It’s not often White loses, particularly with the guys he spends most of the year trying to beat.

Being the best in the world is a sometimes lonely experience for White, who has built an empire since winning gold in the halfpipe at Turin four years ago and becoming known as the world’s most exciting snowboarder.

Nonetheless, White seems at ease in the spotlight. While some of his teammates fiddled with their microphones in front of the mass of reporters, White riffed on everything from his newest trick to the state of the sport.

He says he’s just a normal guy who worries about girls and his wardrobe, just like his teammates. Maybe, but he’s the only member of the team who owns his own public-relations representative at his side Thursday. And he’s the only one with the household nickname.

Though White like to clarify something. The Flying Tomato is so 2006. He’s got a new moniker — “Animal” — a reference to the wild-haired Muppets character who thrash away on the drums.

“The Animal has become my thing here,” he said.

Yet he’s making an impact beyond catchy nicknames, merchandising and gold medals. He’s also helping pull the sport into the future, thanks to his newest trick, which he calls the Double McTwist 1260.

White has called it “my best friend and worst enemy,” and the relationship has been rocky since he started working on the maneuver, which requires him to flip twice while twisting three and a half times.

He chipped a bone in his hip last spring, then wove crowds in Park City, Utah, last month when he nailed it in competition for the first time.

A week later at the X Games, he smacked his face on the icy pipe while trying to nail it in practice, then stepped back onto the pipe the next day and drizzled it to take gold.

Though he’d probably be a heavy medal favorite even without it, White feels it’s important for the sport to show the world his signature move despite the danger.

“I feel confident with that trick,” he said. “It’s such an amazing thing that I feel like somewhat disappointed if I didn’t keep it in the run.”

It’s a trick nobody else can do and one he honed in secrecy — a method that seems foreign to his teammates, who include Greg Bretz, Scotty Lago and Louie Vito.

“I don’t share that same theory as Shaun, but I think that’s what separates him and maybe makes him so good,” Lago said.

The isolation is nothing new. White is so focused on winning he admits he puts his competitors at a distance. On Thursday, he spent 30 minutes before the news conference sitting outside the green room fiddling with his phone while his teammates hung out inside.

He eventually made his way in and cut a few jokes.

White is trying to embrace the idea of being on a team, at least until they hit the halfpipe on Friday. He says he’s just a normal guy who worries about girls and his wardrobe, just like his teammates. Maybe, but he’s the only one with the household nickname.

“The reason they’re back is they’re deserving of being b a k,” Colangelo said. “James, Wade and Bosh are questionnable to actually play this summer. All three can become free agents and have said their contract situations are their first priority.

“I really think it’s kind of early, but I think you want to play,” Anthony said. “Of course we’ll have that conversation in the near future, but they’ve got to take care of what they’ve got to take care of first, which is their contracts and things like that.”

Paul is currently sidelined after knee surgery and Bryant is battling a number of injuries, so Colangelo knows he’s not going to get all of his players. However, he isn’t worried about that noting that those decisions can wait until the team readiness for their minicamp in July.

“Everything is a matter of waiting. Everyone’s personal situation is going to be a little bit different,” Colangelo said.

That’s why injuries and family issues can be a distraction, all of these things play a role. That’s why you need a pool as strong as we had and that’s why we’re happy about it.”

The only players not returning from the team that won the gold in Beijing are Kevin Durant and Kobe Kidd, who previously said he was retiring from international competition after helping the U.S. to a perfect record, and Michael Redd and Andrew Bynum, who battled injuries this season.

The remainder of the roster includes James Harden, Deron Williams and Nate McMillan already committed to returning last summer. Stoudemire is perhaps the biggest surprise on the roster. The Knicks forward from Phoenix basically talked himself off the team by publicly waffling about his desire to play at the Olympics.

“There was a time when he was really going to be a part of it,” Colangelo said. “He said he really needed to talk about his extreme desire to be part of it, personally and his agent wanted to be part of it. As a result of his expression of wanting to be a part of it, he’s not here.”

Billups backed up Kidd on the 2007 team that went unde feated in Las Vegas, but he withdrew the next year for family reasons. He may not have made the final 12-man roster anyway, since Paul was back from an injury that sidelined him the entire season. The Lakers forward Lamar Odom, who played on the 2004 Olympic team, also was chosen Wednesday. The rest of the players were all 27, with five of them almost entirely young players.

The roster includes: Minnesota’s Al Jefferson and Kevin Love; Rudy Gay and O.J. Mayo of Memphis; Philadelphia’s Andre Iguodala; Boston’s Kendrick Perkins, Indiana’s Danny Granger; New York’s David Lee; New Jersey center Brook Lopez, Oklahoma City guard Russell Westbrook; Portland’s LaMarcus Aldridge; Charlotte’s Gerald Wallace; Portland’s Brandon Roy and Clippers guard Eric Gordon.

The Americans will choose a group from the roster to take part in their minicamp in Las Vegas in July. They are expected to play an exhibition game in New York before heading to Turkey for the Games, although it’s not clear if they’ll be there.

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Colangelo said Lakers center Andrew Bynum and Celtics point guard Rajon Rondo were among the only players who were asked to participate but declined.

USA Basketball

James, Bryant to lead U.S. team through 2012

Associated Press

NEW YORK — LeBron James, Dwyane Wade, Kobe Bryant and most of the reigning Olympic gold medalists could be back in U.S. uniform this season.

If not, USA Basketball thinks it has plenty of players who can help out.

The Americans announced 27 players Wednesday for the national team pool that will be used to select the rosters for the 2010 world championships and the 2012 Olympics in London. It features 11 players who stood atop the medals platform in Beijing and a number of emerging young stars ready for their chance.

“The best player on the one we had in the last quadr ant and the interest level is higher, and so we feel like we’re moving in the right direction,” U.S. coach Mike Krzyzewski said on a conference call, hours before he led his Duke team against rival North Carolina.

Also returning from the 2008 team that won the Americans’ eight-year gold medal drought in major competitions are Chris Paul, Dwight Howard, Carmelo Anthony, Deron Williams and Carlos Boozer.

All of the returning players are in the Pacific time zone. USA Basketball chairman Jerry Colangelo they were interest ed in having “about 10” of the men spending all or parts of three years with the team that returned the United States to the top of interna tional basketball.

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**WHISTLER, British Columbia** — The signature curve, the unchoky 13th, is nicknamed “50-50.” It’s the only place in the world where icy cliffs occur without accident.

Characterized as a “shiver,” a spine-tingling bend that has made first-time visitors tremble, the 13th is named.

Sinisterly snaking its way downhill, Blackcomb Mountain’s full-throttle Sliding Center track, which will host the Bobsleigh and Skeleton World Championships, is the track from which Whistler’s monster. During a training run in October, Rosen Stramaturaru was knocked into a wall, upend the bobsled, and suffered a torn race suit. And Australian Romanian team official indicated that her injury was not serious.

“Shiver,” a spine-tingling bend that well. “It took me in a while in Whistler, maybe 10 or 12 runs before I could see the lines on the baseball, so to speak. It’s a handful.”

Unlike many tracks in Europe, this one has wider, sweeping turns at the top, allowing sliders to build up early momentum and breakneck speed. By the time the mons lagers reach the third curve called “Wedge,” they’re already approaching nearly breakneck speeds and there’s no exit ramp.

While the speed element makes for dangerous racing and will keep spectators holding their breath, there have also been questions raised about the track’s safety. However, organizers insist every precaution has been taken to minimize the dangers for athletes.

“Crashes are definitely part of the sport, detrimentally part of a new facility the first few years a track is open especially until coaches understand how to coach this discipline through particular corners on this track,” said Craig Campbell-Pegg, the Whistler training center’s director. “On this track, we are prepared for any type of crash as it is very technically demanding and the conditions can change so quick-ly on this mountain which in turn changes the ice conditions very quickly.”

Even pilots who might be used to sliding down this track might not be used to sliding in a slotted track’s slits.

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Saint Mary’s fell in a close, hard-fought battle to Walters State Community College 74-72 in an instant game as the season begins to draw to a close.

Senior forward Anna Kammrath scored four points in the final minute of the game to keep the Belles close. Kammrath attempted a free throw with five seconds to play and hit the first to pull within one 75-74 but accorded the second shot. Freshman guard Annie Doyle’s rebound set up Sophomore guard Patsy Mahoney with a 3-point attempt as time expired but the shot fell short.

The Belles, despite the loss, played well and hung with the Thunder for most of the game. Saint Mary’s started out the game with a 20-14 lead. The Thunder stormed back however and retook the lead 21-20. Saint Mary’s had to battle back for most of the game after the early lead fell out of their grasp. As the Belles surged back and cut the lead to a small margin, the Thunder responded and re-established a comfortable lead.

Despite the outcome of the game, Coach Murphy added that they could play down the stretch of a game, making solid plays during the final minutes of the game. A few crucial rebounds and baskets kept the Belles in the game within the final two minutes.

Saint Mary’s distributed the ball tonight as four players scored in double digits. Kammrath led all scorers and also recorded her sixth double-double of the season with 21 points and 13 rebounds. Sophomore forward Kelsey Murphy added 18 points. Mahoney scored 15 and sophomore forward Jessica Centa added 14 points as well.

Saint Mary’s will move on from this tough loss and hope for success on the rest of the season that lies ahead.

The Belles will travel to Hope on Saturday to take on the Flying Dutch at 3 p.m.

**SCM SWIMMING**

Belles prepare for MIAAs

By MEGAN FINNERAN

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DePaul continued from page 20

A victory would be the ideal ending to complete Sunday’s ceremony, but to do so Notre Dame (22-1, 9-1 Big East) will have to stay focused against a DePaul team that has tradition-
ally caused problems for the Irish.

“They’re always a dangerous team,” McGraw said. “It’s always a huge rivalry between us and DePaul. We’ve had some great games over the years, and it’s always been a battle for us.”

Currently ranked ninth in the conference standings, the Blue Demons (16-9, 5-6) are coming off a blowout loss to Connecticut last Wednesday. DePaul is led by junior Sam Quigley, an explosive point guard whose 16.6 points per game, the most in conference. Quigley’s numbers are even more impressive con-
sidering she is averaging 40.2 minutes per game, the most in
the conference.

“Their size advantage will be the biggest threat for the Irish, who rank in the bottom half of the conference in rebounding and blocked shots. McGraw said rebounding will be the team’s focus in practice leading up to Sunday’s match-up. “They’re a very good rebound-
ing team,” McGraw said. “We’re going to have our work cut out for us on the boards. We’ve got to really, really work on the funda-
mentals of boxing out and getting good position.”

To that end, McGraw will rely on the improved performance of her guards to provide support in the post in addition to their scoring role on the outside. Based on recent success, the tandem of guards senior Ashley Barlow, junior Brittany Mallory and freshman Skylar Diggins will be more than capable of keeping the Blue Devils in check.

“I’m really thrilled with the guards right now and their rebounding. Ashley Barlow has been doing a great job all year long, but in the last game Brittany Mallory got her career-
high with 8 rebounds against Cincinnati and the game before that Skylar got her career-high with 10 against Pitt,” McGraw said. “The guards are finally getting down there and helping out the post, so that’s something that we’ve really kind of needed all year long.”

Tipoff is at 3 p.m. Sunday at the Purcell Pavilion.

Contact Chris Masoud at

SMC Tennis
Belles optimistic about year

By LUKE MANSOUR
Sports Writer

Despite coming off a dis-
appointing fifth-place finish in the MIAA conference last year, the Saint Mary has much reason for optimism as it heads into the new season. The Belles return all nine players from the squad that finished with an 11-10 record from a year ago.

“Because we are a bit more experienced this year, that should help us quite a bit,” Belles coach Dale Campbell said. “Our expectation is to have more confidence, to make better decisions on the court and to handle the flow of the match better mental-
ly.”

Junior Jillian Hurley and sen-
or Camille Gebert, both standouts last year, will once again lead the team. Both were named to the all-MIAA team last sea-
son. Hurley finished with a 4-4 record in conference dual matches at the No. 1 singles position while Gebert finished with an 8-0 record at the No. 2 singles position.

“The experience the Belles gained over the last year will be put to the test early in the season, as they play two very solid teams in Case Western and Olivet Nazarere dur-
ing the first week. Case Western had a successful fall season, going 4-1, while Olivet-
Nazarrene will begin the sea-
son nationally ranked.

The Belles’ early-season schedule should give them a good barometer of their progress before heading into their conference slate.

“Case Western looks to be a very strong team,” Campbell said. “We may be looking at a nationally ranked squad. We think that we will gain some very com-
petitive experience early in the season.”

As the season kicks off, Campbell wants the emphasis to be on improving mental
toughness on the court.

“We need to keep improving strategically and making bet-
er decisions mentally,” Campbell said. Saint Mary’s effor-
t efforts this sea-
son will be bol-
stered by the addition of three new play-
ers who will provide added depth to a somewhat thin roster. Bridig Hurley and Cara Grabarek are freshmen who will join local area senior Kate Grabarek as new additions on the team this year Campbell said.

With the just season begin-
ing, the Belles aim is to improve with every match leading up to conference play.

“Our goals are simple right now, to get better every day, and to give our best effort,” Campbell said. “With that, the results will take care of them-
selves.”

The Belles will begin their season tonight with a home match against Case Western at 6 p.m. in the Eck Tennis Center. They open conference play March 2.

Contact Luke Mansour at

SMC T ENNIS
Belles optimistic about year

“We may be looking
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By LUKE MANSOUR
Sports Writer

The Observer ◆ SPORTS page 17

SC MC T ENNIS
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Sports Writer

SMC Tennis
Belles optimistic about year

“They’re big,” McGraw said.

But the Blue Devils are hardly
one-dimensional. Anchored by
freshman Katherine Harry and
sophomore Keisha Hampton, DePaul has developed an effec-
tive post game to complement its perimeter offense.

“They’re big,” McGraw said. “They’ve got some really good players inside. They’ve got a back line that could go 6-1, 6-2 and 6-4, and of course that’s a much bigger line than we’re going to put up.”

DePaul’s size advantage will be the biggest threat for the Irish, who rank in the bottom half of the conference in rebounding and blocked shots. McGraw said rebounding will be the team’s focus in practice leading up to Sunday’s match-up. “They’re a very good rebound-
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By LUKE MANSOUR
Sports Writer
Wolverines

continued from page 20

wins the three-setters.”

The Irish are coming off a tough loss to Duke in Durham last weekend and are looking to rebound and avenge their loss from last season in the NCAA Tournament.

“Our match with Duke was a disappointment from a competitive point of view,” Bayliss said. “We simply did not win enough big points. We held match points at No. 2 doubles to clinch the point, but didn’t reach out and take it. We had match points at No. 3, won the first set at No. 6, and served twice for the first set at No. 4, but came away with nothing to show for the effort.

“In short, Duke simply out-competed us, a reversal of what happened a year ago. They are a talented team, but we needed to do a better job at crunch time.”

Heading into the season the Irish were searching for answers in their doubles lineup and seem to have found some early in the season having already won the doubles point four out of six times.

“We served for the doubles point against No. 2 UVA and held match points for it against Duke.” Bayliss said. “We have some options here also with [junior] Matt Johnson, [freshman] Spencer Talmadge and [junior] Sean Tan, all of whom were not on the travel squad for Duke. Hopefully this will continue and become a key in more success as the season continues. David Anderson and Dan Stahl have become pretty competitive at No. 3. Havens-Fitzgerald have only one loss at No. 2, and Watt-Davis have shown some promise at No. 1.”

The Irish are now looking for some of their singles players to follow the lead of the doubles pairings to help the team win close matches.

The Irish will next travel to Seattle to take on Washington Feb. 20.

Contact Kate Grabarek at kgrabal02@saintmarys.edu

Sunny

continued from page 20

ular, the team is looking forward to freshmen pitchers Jackie Bowe and Brittany O’Donnell, catcher Amy Buntin, outfielder Kelsey Thornton and Kathryn Lux.

The players have had months together, practicing, eating together and training for tournaments like the Kajikawa Classic.

“We feel like a family. We mesh extremely well and we get along on and off the field. We pride ourselves in carrying the strong bond we have off the field onto the field when we play,” Kathryn Lux said.

The Irish travel to Tempe, Ariz., with games at 9 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Friday, 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Saturday and 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Sunday.

Contact Megan Flannigan at mflinnern@nd.edu

Seton Hall

continued from page 20

time expired.

Senior point guard Tory Jackson posted a season-high 25 points to lead the Irish and added six assists.

After a back-and-forth opening five minutes, the Pirates took an early 15-10 lead. Notre Dame quickly responded, going on a 10-0 run to take a five-point lead.

In the closing minutes of the first half, Hazell in the final minute gave the Pirates a 49-39 lead heading into halftime.

After the break Notre Dame slowly began to chip away at the Pirates lead. A Harangody 3 with 11 minutes remaining tied the contest again at 63-63.

Seton Hall kept firing away from distance, taking back the lead with consecutive 3-pointers from Hazell and senior guard Eugene Harvey.

Hazell’s fifth 3 of the game then gave Seton Hall a nine-point lead with just over six minutes remaining.

The Irish would not quit despite the deficit, even after Harangody went out with the injury. Attacking the Pirate defense, free throws by Abromaitis, Joey Brooks and Tyrone Nash brought Notre Dame back within a point at 83-82 with less than two minutes to go.

Missed free throws down the stretch gave Notre Dame several opportunities to tie or take the lead, but the Irish couldn’t convert from the field. Notre Dame missed three field-goal attempts in the final 30 seconds.

Harangody and Nash each had 13 points and six rebounds in the loss. Abromaitis shot just 2 of 7 from the field but made all 12 of his free throw attempts to finish with 18 points.

Despite shooting 54 percent from the field and 52 percent from 3-point range, the Irish were still outgunned by the Pirates. Seton Hall shot 55 percent overall and 63 percent on 3-point shots.

Notre Dame will next face St. John’s Sunday at Purcell Pavilion, needing a win to continue to stay in the NCAA Tournament conversation. Tip-off will be at 7:30 p.m.

Contact Michael Bryan at mbryan@nd.edu
**Men's Basketball**

Hazell eyes are smiling

By MICHAEL BRYAN

The Irish continued their struggles away from home Thursday, falling at Seton Hall 90-87 for their fifth loss in six away games this season.

Pirates (13-9, 4-7 Big East) guard Jeremy Hazell tore apart the Notre Dame defense, sinking 12 of his 16 field goal attempts for 35 points. The Irish (17-8, 6-6 Big East) played the final four minutes without senior forward Luke Harangody, who suffered an apparent ankle injury coming down after a rebound.

Notre Dame had two looks at forcing overtime in the final seconds, with junior forwards Tim Abromaitis and Carleton Scott both missing 3-point attempts just before the buzzer.

Hazell leads Pirates with 35-point night

By MICHAEL BRYAN

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Hazell eyes are smiling

By MICHAEL BRYAN

Notre Dame looks to make a splash with top three divers

By CHRIS ALLEN

Three divers are set to lead the Irish to a strong showing at the Big East Championship this weekend in Pittsburgh.

Junior divers Nathan Geary and Wes Villaflor both competed in the 1-meter and 3-meter springboard events against the best competition in the Big East, but Irish coach Tim Welsh said he still expects his trio of divers to thrive in the championship.

“Obviously, we want our divers to do well. We expect all divers to score,” Welsh said. “We’d like to have two of our three divers score in the top eight and make it to the championship. All three of them making it in would be a dream scenario, but to have two in the championships and one in the consolation round is our expectation.”

Each diver will complete six dives in both events, five of which will be front, back, reverse, inward and twist, while the sixth dive will be a second dive in one of those categories.

Once each dive is completed, a technical score is multiplied by a degree of difficulty to obtain a score for each dive. At the end of the six dives, the top eight scoring divers advance to the championship round and the next eight advancing to a consolation round.

Welsh said it is essential that the divers start the Championship off on the right foot for the Irish.

“We hope they get us off to a great start. They’re really looking forward to it as well,” Welsh said. “There is ultimately one champion, but these two events will be scored and then the teams will head into the swimming portion, which is next week.”

With a massive blizzard slamming the Eastern portion of the United States, Welsh expressed relief that his divers are already ready and to play and look like a team is ready to break out their cleats and mitts in sunny Arizona.

“In six away games this season, we have been playing outside the state and No. 1 Washington in a very busy three days. Despite the lack of softball weather in South Bend, the team is ready to break out their cleats and mitts in sunny Arizona.”

“The hope for this weekend are to come out strong and ready and to play and look like we have been playing outside for a couple months,” freshman infielder Kathryn Lux said. “We are hoping to win all five games this weekend.”

The Irish will look to Lux’s older sister, senior first baseman Christine Lux, who was an All-American last year. She also led the team in home runs.

The freshmen are especially excited to play their first set of games officially representing the Irish, especially after demonstrating improvements during the off-season.

The Irish will travel to Ann Arbor, Mich., to square off with the Wolverines on Saturday with the opening set to begin at 6 p.m.

**Men’s Tennis**

Wolverines set to come on campus

By KATE GRABAREK

The Wolverines will face a tough challenge in their opening match of the season, as they take on the Irish in a match that will be played on the campus of the University of Pittsburgh.

The preliminary rounds for men begin on Saturday morning with the championship and consolation rounds slated for Sunday at Trees Pool on the campus of the University of Pittsburgh.

Contact Chris Allen at callen10@nd.edu

**Women’s Basketball**

Irish take on DePaul in Pink

By CHRIS MASoud

Irish to take on DePaul in Pink

By MEGAN FINNERAN

Team to open season at sunny Arizona St.

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The Irish split their decisions with the Wolverines a year ago, defeating them at home, and then falling to them in the NCAA Tournament.

“Our matches with Michigan are always emotional,” Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. “We expect a big crowd and it will be exciting.”

They have two outstanding players, both have a strong team. We are pretty much evenly matched at the Nos. 3-6 positions and this one will come down to which team weekend’s events.

“I spoke to them on the phone recently,” Welsh said. “They are all settled and ready to go. I’ll be hoping out there on Saturday.”

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Softball

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