Future of Library hangs in limbo
Ohmer to take interim role after director steps down; petition calls for improvements

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Editor

The Hesburgh Library may boast a nationally recognized image on its facade, but the future of the Library itself is not as clearly established. After a year of renovation talk, a petition calling for the Library’s improvement and the recent stepping down of its director, the Library hangs in a state of limbo.

But Assistant Provost Susan Ohmer, who was recently named interim director of the Hesburgh Libraries, said she is ready to fill the gap. “I’m really excited about it. It’s a great opportunity,” Ohmer said. “I’m happy to serve as long as needed.”

Strategic plan
Ohmer said a major goal is formulating a strategic plan for the future direction of the Library. The University is currently in the planning stages for the strategic plan, but nothing has been written yet, she said.

Ohmer will also chair the committee for the strategic plan, which she hopes will be finished next spring.

Washington chosen as top of class for 2010

By KATIE PERALTA
Assistant News Editor

Notre Dame announced Katie Washington of Gary, Ind., as the valedictorian of the graduating class of 2010 Wednesday.

Having earned a 4.0 GPA in biological sciences with a minor in Catholic Social Teaching, Washington said she owes the success she’s had to the support she’s gotten from loved ones.

“No by means do I feel like I’ve done this on my own,” she said. “I’m humbled and grateful to have had this experience at Notre Dame.”

Washington, who received the announcement Tuesday evening, said she is still processing the news.

“I’m still trying to distill my feelings and get a grasp on what it really means,” she said. “It’s very surreal.”

During her time on campus, Washington was the

College increases tuition by 4.76 percent

By ALICIA SMITH
Assistant Saint Mary’s Editor

In order to maintain the quality of the academic and co-curricular programs at Saint Mary’s College, the Board of Trustees have authorized an increase in tuition for the 2010-11 academic year, Richard Speller, vice president for Finance and Administration said.

The percent of increase for the 2010-11 academic year will be 4.76 percent, raising tuition costs from $24,900 to 30,360. Additionally, Speller said fees will increase 3.77 percent, from $616 to $660. Students can also expect a 2.96 percent increase in room and board, making an average double room price rise from $9,206 to $9,480.

Speller said the projected increase is smaller than in previous years.

“Tuition increases for the four previous years were five percent each year,” Speller said.

Speller said the increases would be beneficial to enhance programs that directly affect students.

In the previous year, the

Construction to close campus roads
New hockey arena, other projects expected to be finished on time

By AMANDA GRAY
Assistant News Editor

Although new construction projects — such as a new arena for the hockey team — are expected to close some roads around campus, Vice President of Business Operations James Lybouth said he expects the construction will proceed smoothly.

Roads around the Joyce Center, including Holy Cross Drive, will be closed until Sept. 7 for the construction of the new ice arena.

“We have worked with Barton Malow, the construc-

Participants in last year’s CommUniversity Day help make signs outside of the Robinson Community Learning Center.

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An artist’s rendering provides a glimpse of what the new hockey arena will look like when it opens in Dec.
INSIDE COLUMN

Survival of the Frosh

As Ferris Bueller once so famously remarked, “Life moves pretty fast. If you don’t stop and look around every once in a while, you could miss it.”

If I just about a month, I will be returning home to the great state of South Carolina for the summer and will have successfully survived my first year of college. For me, that is pretty hard to believe.

In the midst of the endless papers and countless tests, it may seem like the days don’t go by fast enough. But before we know it, the days eventually turn into years and we’ll be out in “the real world,” the comforts of our homes under the Dome far behind us.

I was reminded of that fact this past weekend, when my family came to visit me for Easter.

As we sat and visited with my dad’s former Howard Hall mate (yes, Howard Hall was once a men’s dorm), they began to discuss their approaching 30-year reunion this summer. Both my dad and his friend could not believe that so much time had passed since they themselves had been Notre Dame students, but still said that it “felt just like yesterday.”

As much as it pains me to say, I know that all too soon, my friends and I will be in the same situation: reminiscing and longing for the “good old days” of Notre Dame.

Time is certainly a tricky thing and it is a concept that has always been puzzling to me. Some moments in life seem to drag on, while others happen in the blink of an eye.

As my father’s conversation with his old friend suggested, events that may have occurred years ago, often feel as if they happened just yesterday. Meanwhile, things we may have experienced in the not so distant past, seem like the days don’t go by fast enough. But before we know it, the days eventually turn into years and we’ll be out in “the real world.”

Meanwhile, things we may have experienced in the not so distant past, seem like the days don’t go by fast enough. But before we know it, the days eventually turn into years and we’ll be out in “the real world.”

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Emily Schrank at eschrank@nd.edu.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: If you could have a Hollywood best friend, who would it be?

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

off beat

Judge fired over teen arrest for overdue DVD

LITTLETON, Colo. — A longtime Colorado judge has been fired after issuing an arrest warrant for a teenager over an overdue library DVD.

Municipal Judge James Kimmel issued the warrant after 19-year-old Aaron Henson failed to show up in court Jan. 14 over the overdue DVD, “House of Flying Daggers.” On Jan. 25, police stopped the teen for speeding and held him for nearly eight hours after discovering the warrant.

Henson had moved and didn’t receive the summons to court. The teen said he had packed the DVD in a box, and returned it about a week before Henson issued the warrant. The library notified the judge the DVD was back.

Workers strike over beer drinking at work

COPENHAGEN — A few hundred warehouse workers and drivers at Danish brewer Carlsberg halted work for a second day on Thursday to protest a company decision to limit beer drinking at work to lunch breaks.

The strike in Denmark followed the company’s April 1 decision to introduce new rules for employees on beer drinking at work, said Jens Rinde, spokesman at the world no. 4 brewer. “There has been free beer, water and soft drinks everywhere,” he said. “Yesterday, beers were removed from all refrigerators. The only place you can get a beer in future is in the canteen, at lunch.”

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

The Halftime A Cappella Student Musical Group are performing their Spring Concert tonight at 7:30 p.m. in Washington Hall. Tickets are $3 in advance or $5 at the door. Call 574-631-8128 for tickets.

A classical music concert will be performed by the Academy of Saint Martin in the Fields tonight at 7 p.m. in the Leighton Concert Hall at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets are $7 for students, $22 for faculty and staff and $32 for general admission. Tickets can be purchased by calling 574-631-2800 or by visiting the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center box office.

The 2010 BFA/MFA Candidates’ Theses Exhibition will be shown Saturday at 2 p.m. in the Browning Cinema at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets are $3 for students, $5 for faculty, and $6 for general admission. Tickets can be purchased by calling 574-631-2800 or by visiting the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center box office.

The film “Seven Samurai” will be shown Saturday at 2 p.m. in the Browning Cinema at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets are $3 for students, $5 for faculty, and $6 for general admission. Tickets can be purchased by calling 574-631-2800 or by visiting the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center box office.

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Students receive henna tattoos in the Saint Mary’s College Student Center

Thursday for SMC Tostal. The opening of the event featured activities and freebies including t-shirts, a photo booth and food vendors.

The Observer regrets any 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 obsnews.nd@gmail.com so we can correct our error.
Two ND juniors awarded Truman Scholarship

By CARLY LONDON
Notre Dame juniors Elizabeth Simpson and Puja Parikh were named as prestigious Truman Scholarship, an award given to college juniors to pursue graduate studies to attend school, according to Roberta Jordan, assistant director of the Center for Undergraduate Scholarly Engagement.

“A lot of people don’t know about the Truman Scholars. But it’s the domestic equivalent of the Rhodes,” Parikh said. “They have obviously differences between the two but it is a national scholarship for graduate school.”

The application process started in November for Notre Dame students with the Center for Scholarly Engagement contact-eligible applicants.

We begin the process in mid- fall when we reach out to junior- ers who have attended an application identical to the Truman Scholarship. We have a set of criteria that accesses all the students’ applications and decides who will want to nominate,” Jordan said.

“ar year we had eight appli- cans, of whom we nominated four. Two of those four were invited to regional interviews with the Truman Scholarship Foundation.”

Included in the application were three essays, two letters of recommendation from professors and an interview.

“The Truman scholarship is the most extensive scholarship application that I’m aware of, even more so than the Rhodes and the Marshall and the Fulbright applications,” Jordan said. “There are a lot of compo- nents to it but they are broken down to really help the student access what they want to do in the future.”

Simpson said she used the application process to examine what type of civil service she was passionate about and use that discovery to plan her future goals.

“The university wants to work on safety and alertness on campus,” Gagnon said. “We are pleased that the stu- dents to use Safewalk more and don’t utilize us as much as we would like.”

Gagnon said the service averages two to three escorts a night.

During the academic year, Safewalk offers confidential escorts to and from anywhere on campus from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Safewalk employees are in radio contact with Notre Dame Security Police (NDSP), can take photo identification cards and wear a vest with lighting when illuminated at night.

Dave Chapman, assistant director of NDSP, said four sex offenses have been reported this academic year, one of which occurred in 2009. This year we’ve had a total of two sexual offenses.

Chapman encouraged students to take precautions, including telling a friend, calling Safewalk or reporting suspicious behav- iors.

“We can’t be everywhere at all times so we have to depend on students here to be our ears and eyes and to let us know if they’re out of order,” Chapman said.

Chapman said students should contact NDSP with any information.

“One lead can change a whole case, and it may be something where someone thinks this isn’t going to do them any good, and it’s the best lead that we have, and it leads to the arrest of a per- son so we encourage people to call us for anything at all,” he said.

Last year, Chapman said a Notre Dame student reported an individual’s “out-of-the- ordinary behavior.” Although the student doubted whether the information would be valuable, NDSP discovered that the individual had been trespassing following a band from entering onto campus.

The student’s tip led to the investigation of a suspect.

Students can report infor- mation anonymously and to further prevent crime, sign up for a Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) class, self- defense program taught by NDSP officers.

Chapman said RAD has become more popular, follow- ing campaigns by crime pre- vention officer Keri Shihtah.

“Now we are running classes every couple months and they’re full, and we have to turn people away, and so we run them as often as we can,” Shihtah said.

Overall, Chapman said students’ perceptions of safety on campus can interfere with the safety precautions.

“When nothing happens to you while you are here, you get that mentality that noth- ing can happen to you, and that’s the kind of mentality that we want to discourage,” Chapman said. “Yes it can happen to you, and we don’t want it to happen to you but here’s what we can do to prevent that from happen- ing to you.”

Contact Katlyn Smith at ksmit83@nd.edu

Levi Strauss & Co. wins University award

Special to The Observer
Armin Broger will accept the 2010 Theodore M. Hesburgh Award for Exemplary Ethical, Environmental, Social and Governance Practices from the University of Notre Dame April 12 (Monday) on behalf of his company, Levi Strauss & Co.

Broger, a 1986 alumnus of the Notre Dame MBA pro- gram, serves as president of Levi Strauss & Co.

Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C, Notre Dame president emeritus, will present the award at 4 p.m. in the Jordan Auditorium of the Mendoza College of Business. The award is presented annually by Notre Dame’s Institute for Ethical Business Worldwide and Center for Ethics and Religious Values in Business.

The apparel company Levi Strauss was nominated for the award for its contribution, explains event organizer, Eric Murphy, a professor of marketing at Notre Dame. First, in 1991, Levi Strauss became the first multi-national apparel com- pany to extend a comprehen-

sive code of conduct beyond its own facilities, to its suppli- ers to provide the highest standards making their products world- wide with safe and healthy working conditions.

Second, this year Levi Strauss became the first major retailer to include mes- saging encouraging con- sumers to donate unused cloth- ing on its product care tags.

The “A Care Tag For Your Purchase” program asks its partner- ship with Goodwill Industries to provide consumers to participate in their mission to reduce waste and increase the life cycle of clothing.

The award ceremony, which is free and open to the public, will be followed by the Frank Cahill Lecture featuring a discussion with content creator for current MBA students Molly larcocci, Karl Jensen, Matt Kelly and Religion. Those will discus- sion ethical issues they have faced in the early years of their professional careers.

Previous winners of the award include General Electric, Starbucks Chairman Howard Schultz, and Ronald Gryzyme and Mary Houghton of ShoreBank Corp.
for nearly 70 years, we’re including the victims of the resources to be used for Colombia’s existing DDR process. The students’ plan calls for the two groups of paramilitary and guerrilla combatants from paramilitary and guerrilla groups. The plan focuses on reintegrating more than 40,000 former combatants, in part to promote peaceful co-existence and reconciliation among all members of society, including the victims of the conflict.

“In a war that has gone on for nearly 70 years, we’re not talking about victims and perpetrators anymore,” said Snider. “Former fighters and victims all live next door to each other and need a way to transcend their war identities. If everyone can work on common goals and benefit collectively, there is less reason to take up arms in the future.”

The goals of the project go back to a class the five students took together in 2009 with John Jacobs, professor of international peacebuilding, who asked students to form teams and work together to map out one major world conflict. Last fall, Notre Dame’s Kroc Institute for International Studies was invited to participate in the SPIRIT competition. After hearing about the competition, students decided to turn their academic presentation into a proposal. A flurry of transatlantic e-mails ensued, such that Jacobs said of the students’ proposal: “I think that has to happen before the renovation,” he said. “Right now, they want the new building, but they have no place to store books.

Susan Ohmer said she would like input from students on what they normally use the Library for during the semester. She encouraged students to contact her at soblsher@nd.edu.

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu.

The students whose “La CARA de la Paz” project will be presented to the UN pose in Hurely Hall.

Students present at United Nations

Peace studies classmates develop proposal focused on Colombia

Special to The Observer

Five University of Notre Dame students, who developed an innovative proposal to advance peace in Colombia, will present their recommendation to a panel of experts at the United Nations headquarters in New York on Friday, April 9.

The proposal, developed by classmates Maria Helena Armani, Jennifer Younger, Jennifer Son, Laura Snider, Holguin, Colombia; Rachel Araz, Colombia; Jimena Aranda, Colombia; and Jennifer Younger, Washington wrote for her fellow graduates and their families and guests. Associate Provost Dennis Jacobs said Washington is an exemplar for the graduating class.

“Katie’s time at Notre Dame exemplifies the pristine spirit that has defined the excellence in all she does, whether it be in community service, in those to those in need and a deeply rooted faith life that animates her work,” said Jacobs. “Katie’s humble but determined spirit represents well the Holy Cross tradition. She will serve as an inspiration for generations to come.”

Upon graduation, Washington plans to pursue a doctorate in public health from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Md.

Contact Katie Peoria at kpeoria@nd.edu.

Student continued from page 1

The Valedictorian Selection Committee was unanimously comprised of Katie Washington, a group of 11 students. “The Valedictorian Selection Committee was greatly moved by the commitment and dedication that Katie demonstrated throughout her time at Notre Dame,” said Committee Chair Carrin Dedmon. “Her dedication to community service, her work in the lab with mosquitoes that transmit diseases like dengue fever and malaria has cultivated her interest in global health equity.

Today’s diseases affect many of the deaths of people in impoverished countries,” she said.

University spokesman John Jacobs said the Valedictorian Selection Committee unanimously chose Washington for her work in a group of 11 students.

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Director of the Voices of Faith and Action was active with the Center for Social Concerns, serving as the student coordinator of its “Lives in the Balance: Youth Violence and Society Seminar.”

For more than two years, Washington has worked on a research lab with biology professor David Severson, with whom she co-authored a research paper.

“Washington said working as an undergraduate in a research lab has been one of the most significant parts of her college experience. “It has been a really transformative experience,” she said. “I was able to take charge of my project, own my own but also build relationships with people in my lab.”

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS
Outburst shows wounds unhealed
JOHANNESBURG — A white politician stormed off a live TV debate about race relations and a black leader of the ruling African National Congress threw racial epi-

phets at a journalist he kicked out of a news conference.

The incidents are just part of the fallout in South Africa after the slaying of a notorious white supremacist. Eugene Terreblanche, leader of the once-feared Afri-ﬁ
community group, was bludgeoned to death on his farm April 3. The acronymic aftermath reveals strains in race relations 16 years after apartheid collapsed and Nelson Mandela became president, urging all races to come together.

Former bishop accused of abuse
OSLO — Norway’s Catholic Church has received new allegations of clergy abuse after revealing that its former bishop had admitted to molesting a minor in the early 1970s in a church official said Thursday.

The current bishop, Bernt Eidevig, told The Associated Press he had received e-mails alleging new cases of abuse. But said in nature and seriousness of the claims remain unver-

ified.

“Maybe there is nothing very serious there. But there may also be things that are definitely wrong,” he said.

“Whether it is abuse of minors or stupid priests doing things which are sinful but not bad, or things between adults — I can’t say yet.”

NATIONAL NEWS
Sikhs protest minister’s appearance
NEW YORK — Several dozen Sikhs on Thursday protested a speech by an Indian minister who spoke against Sikhs and Hindus in his homeland.

About 100 members of the Sikhs for Justice, a U.S.-based human rights organization, gath-

ered outside McGraw-Hill’s headquarters in Manhattan where Kamal Nath, India’s federal minister in charge of road transport and high-

ways and a Congress party member of Indian Parliament, was addressing McGraw-Hill Construction’s Global Construction Summit.

“We were shocked and appalled. Anyone guilty should be behind bars,” said Avtar Singh, 70, from Queens, the group’s coordina-

tor.

The group’s legal adviser, Gurpalwant S. Pannu, called Nath “a living symbol of human rights” who shouldn’t be in the U.S.

Ex-employee guilty of torturing elderly
LOS ANGELES — A former nursing home worker accused of body-slaming one 78-

year-old woman and encouraging wheel-

chair-confined residents of a pricey assisted-

living facility to fight was found guilty of Thursday of torture and elder abuse.

Jurors deliberated for less than a day before returning their verdict against Jesus Bela-

dia, 41, on Tuesday.

“He attacked the most vulnerable people, and he laughed while doing it. This was sport for him,” Deputy District Attorney Robin Allen with the Elder Abuse Unit said. The Torrance Senior Living facility in Calabasas specializes in caring for people with dementia and charges $70,000 a year or more for care, prosecutors said.

LOCAL NEWS
U.S. Rep. Pence leads GOP comeback
INDIANAPOLIS — U.S. Rep. Mike Pence helps a crowd in Indianapolis Thursday night that the president in November and the presidency in 2012.

Pence is the third-ranking Republican in the 112th Congress and has been an outspoken critic of Democratic President Barack Obama’s poli-

ies.

Formerly Democratic House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, who attended Pence’s New Jersey Statehouse.

The teen then gave police her name and said she was prostituted out by her 15-year-old stepsister, who watched as she was raped.

“All five men and boys have been arrested on suspicion of raping the girl,” the father said.

The Associated Press does not identify sex crime victims and is not naming the father so as not to identify his daughter.

In all, five men and boys have been charged, and three of them, saying they tried to get his daughter out of the apartment where she was staying, were stymied by others who held them at gunpoint.

“These three had nothing to do with nothing. I don’t know why they locked them up,” the father said.

According to police, the 7-year-old was prostituted out by her 15-year-old step-sister, who watched as she was raped by as many as seven men and boys at a party March 28. As many as a dozen people were at the party, held in a vacant apartment in a crime-plagued public housing complex not far from the New Jersey Statehouse.

Friday, April 9, 2010

Noxious gas levels fall in coal mine

Conditions improve, offer hope to find four missing workers

Associated Press

MONTGOAL, W.Va. — Levels of noxious gas dropped Thursday in a coal mine where 25 workers died in an explosion, giving rescuers hope that they might be able to get inside soon to look for four still missing.

Teams spent more than four hours working their way through the Upper Big Branch mine by rail car and on foot in the morning, but had to turn back because of an explosive mix of gases in the area they needed to search.

Crews at the surface resumed drilling in an effort to get fresh air into the mine.

Joe Manchin said Thursday evening that the levels were near those con-

dered safe.

“We’re just moving as quickly as we can,” Manchin said.

“We hope to bring the loved ones back.”

Rescue teams had made it within 500 feet of an air shaft, but were held in one chamber with four days worth of food, water and oxygen, and the workers who warned the miners might have sought refuge Monday after the worst U.S. mining disaster in more than two decades.

Chris Atkins, chief operating officer for mine owner Massey Energy Co., said the rescue teams were stopped when told to abandon the mission, but their safety was paramount. He said the teams are off their feet and resting, but too anxious to sleep.

Massey’s chief executive officer, Don Blankenship, contin-

tued to defend his company’s record and disputed accusations from miners that he puts coal profits ahead of safety.

“To some extent the fact that there were more survi-

vivors than those that are lost suggests that the mine was in pretty good shape relative to what we were told was the worst U.S. mining disas-

ter,” he said.

With the bodies now confirmed to be where the bodies were, rescuers will have to walk through air quality was deemed safe.

“Rescuers had already had to wait to enter the mine until crews drilled holes deep into the earth to ventilate lethal carbon monoxide and highly explosive hydrogen as well as methane gas, which has been blamed for the explosion. The air quality was deemed safe early enough in the day for four teams of eight members each to go in, but later tests showed the air was too dan-

gorous to continue.

Adkins said rescue teams described seeing evidence of “a horrendous explosion and a lot of destruction.”

He also said they may have found an alternate route that will allow them to get where they need to be faster when they can safely go back in.

Once that happens, rescuers will have to walk through an area officials have described as strewn with bodies, twisted railroad track, shattered concrete block walls and vast amounts of dust. Each team member wears 30 pounds of breathing equipment, lugs first-aid equipment and must try to see through total darkness with only a cap lamp to light the way.

Candles are displayed in Whitesville, W. Va., Thursday as a tribute to each of the 25 miners known to be dead following Monday’s mine explosion.

Dad defends men accused of raping daughter

ATRENTON, N.J. — The father of a girl police say was gang-raped at a party by at least five men is defending three of them, saying they tried to get his daughter out of the apartment where she was staying, but were stymied by others who held them at gunpoint.

“All five men and boys have been arrested on suspicion of raping the girl,” the father said.

According to police, the 7-year-old was prostituted out by her 15-year-old step-sister, who watched as she was raped by as many as seven men and boys at a party March 28. As many as a dozen people were at the party, held in a vacant apartment in a crime-plagued public housing complex not far from the New Jersey Statehouse.

Investigators said that soon after arriving, the older girl took money to have sex with several men at a party, including Leary. The teen then gave police some of the money she had collected to the younger girl to get the men start touching her.

It soon escalated to rape, police said, and the men threatened to kill the child if she screamed or told anyone, accord-

ing to police.

The girl later put on her clothes and left the apartment; her older sister stayed, police say. Two women found the child crying outside the apartment and walked her home, where police were waiting because the girls’ parents had reported them missing.

Leary’s lawyer suggested Thursday in court that the child had been pressured to make up the story.

“She was not raped, was not gang-

raped,” Robin Lord said. “I’m 100 per-

cent certain that the 7-year-old was not sexually assaulted. The allegations will not be substantiated by any forensic evidence.”
Service

The event was started last year by the Community Relations and Social Concerns committees of student government, and participation in the event is projected to be higher than last year's total, Roseberry said.

"Students have been doing service in the community for a very long time," senior Denise Baron, co-director of the event and outgoing Community Relations chair, said. "The idea of sending sorority women into their participating sorority's community really shines through in CommUniversity Day because students are doing service in the traditional sense, but they are also participating in community involvement by working with public school students.

Baron also said the University is modifying its commitment to serving the community by creating new partnerships with community relations and increasing funding of service projects. She said CommUniversity Day lends its success to the collaborative efforts of students, Notre Dame staff and administrators, community leaders and city officials.

"The role of community relations and CommUniversity Day is to make sure we are the best possible neighbors to South Bend," Baron said. "Our free labor and volunteer service definitely help to improve the community, but they also help students understand the diversity in a broader sense and their place in the world outside South Bend as well.

Both Roseberry and Baron hope the event will expand and be improved in the future based on the needs of the students and the community and the ideas of the faculty.

"The model will be different every year based on what is involved," Baron said. "It's an organic, self-defining project that is always changing."

Contact Kirsten Dubin at kdubin@nd.edu

Tuition

The Observer • CAMPUS NEWS
Friday, April 9, 2010

continued from page 1

In addition to discovering new ways for Notre Dame to interact with the South Bend community, Baron said she believes CommUniversity Day allows participating students to learn something about themselves.

"The day recognizes the reciprocal nature of Notre Dame's relationship with South Bend," Baron said. "Our free labor and volunteer service definitely help to improve the community, but they also help students understand the diversity of people in the world outside South Bend as well.

Both Roseberry and Baron hope the event will expand and be improved in the future based on the needs of the students and the community and the ideas of the faculty.

"The model will be different every year based on what is involved," Baron said. "It's an organic, self-defining project that is always changing."

Contact Kirsten Dubin at kdubin@nd.edu

Building

continued from page 1

The event was started last year by the Community Relations and Social Concerns committees of student government, and participation in the event is projected to be higher than last year's total, Roseberry said.

"Students have been doing service in the community for a very long time," senior Denise Baron, co-director of the event and outgoing Community Relations chair, said. "The idea of sending sorority women into their participating sorority's community really shines through in CommUniversity Day because students are doing service in the traditional sense, but they are also participating in community involvement by working with public school students.

Baron also said the University is modifying its commitment to serving the community by creating new partnerships with community relations and increasing funding of service projects. She said CommUniversity Day lends its success to the collaborative efforts of students, Notre Dame staff and administrators, community leaders and city officials.

"The role of community relations and CommUniversity Day is to make sure we are the best possible neighbors to South Bend," Baron said. "Our free labor and volunteer service definitely help to improve the community, but they also help students understand the diversity in a broader sense and their place in the world outside South Bend as well.

Both Roseberry and Baron hope the event will expand and be improved in the future based on the needs of the students and the community and the ideas of the faculty.

"The model will be different every year based on what is involved," Baron said. "It's an organic, self-defining project that is always changing."

Contact Kirsten Dubin at kdubin@nd.edu

Tuition

The Observer • CAMPUS NEWS
Friday, April 9, 2010

continued from page 1

College increased tuition and fees by five percent, and room and board by three percent.

"The increases are taken into account in determining financial aid awards and may impact need based financial aid, in particular," he said.

Overall, the average rate of increase for tuition, fees, room and board is 4.32 percent. Tuition for the 2009-10 academic year was 4.5 percent.

The administration reviewed the need for pricing increases in the context of the projected 2010-11 budget," Speller said. "The administration also considered the pricing structure to the Board of Trustees who have the authority for setting tuition prices. The Board of Trustees approved the 2010-11 student charges at its meeting in February."

The College has continuously increased the cost of attendance since 2006. According to Speller, the total annual cost for the 2005-06 academic year was $32,538. The total cost of attendance for the 2010-11 academic year will be $40,500.

According to a College press release, 80 percent of Saint Mary's operating revenue comes from tuition, room and board.

The College also supported by gifts from alumni and friends. Additionally, the College gains financial resources through its earnings on endowment.

Speller said a letter discussing price increases was sent to parents in March.

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@nd.edu

Please recycle
**IN BRIEF**

Steak n Shake parent changes name

Indianapolis-based Steak n Shake Operations Inc. posed the name change to avoid confusion in February that the parent company proposed the name to Biglari Holdings Inc. Shareholders approved the name change Thursday during Steak n Shake's annual meeting in New York City. With the name change, the parent company moved its corporate headquarters from Indianapolis to San Antonio last year, but most Steak n Shake employees remain in Indianapolis.

Winfrey plans night show on network

NEW YORK — Gearing her new venture “the network built on great intentions,” Oprah Winfrey says her shows are rolled up to make the Oprah Winfrey Network “all that I know it can be.”

Winship said he’s most concerned about how much overlap they have. “It’s a net bad thing for consumers because it’s less competition,” he said.

Both United and US Airways have been improving their operations. In February, even as massive storms tied up East Coast flights, United and US Airways had the top two arrival rates among international carriers, according to Transportation Department data released Thursday. It’s far from certain that a deal will actually take place. Antitrust regulators would have to clear it, and pilots from different unions would have to be integrated. And it’s unclear which name would survive, where the combined company would be based, or who would run it.

Bloomberg asked political donors to think of NYC

NEW YORK — Mayor Michael Bloomberg is expanding his effort to persuade political donors to write checks only to candidates who pledge to keep New York City’s priorities in mind.

Bloomberg has for years lobbied a small group of donors to dole out their money in politics. “This is the mayor of New York City, the mayor for Responsive Politics, which tracks money in politics. “This is the mayor of the most powerful city in the United States lobbying for his agenda through folks with a lot of influence and clout.”

Seven of the 10 ZIP codes that wrote letters to 50,000 New Yorkers who gave money in politics. “This is the mayor of the most powerful city in the United States lobbying for his agenda through folks with a lot of influence and clout.”

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**Trial team heads to Nationals**

By CASEY KENNY

Notre Dame's Mock Trial Team 925 will compete with the best team in the country at the American Mock Trial Association's National Championship Tournament April 16-18 in Memorial Union.

In February, Notre Dame hosted the South Bend Regional from which the top teams advanced to the National Round National Championship series recently held in Illinois. The Mock Trial Team 925 was among the top six teams from that competition to advance to nationals. The top six teams from each of six opening round tournaments around the country advance to the nationals in Memphis. The top 24 teams will be taking part in the 48-team national round.

"We have spent countless hours preparing for the case, and I am really proud of our team for advancing this far," Puja Parikh team-co-captain and senior team member senior David Crisostomo said. "I am especially excited since this is the first time I have participated in the later levels of competition and it provides a great end to my mock trial career."

"Mock Trial classes, which have been offered for credit by the College of Arts and Letters since 2002, provide an introduction to the process of arguments of a trial. Mock Trial classes teach students how a criminal or civil trial is carried out by using a hands-on approach," David Crisostomo, senior on Team 925 said.

"Mock Trial teaches students who a criminal or civil trial is carried out by using a hands-on approach," Puja Parikh team-co-captain and senior team member said.

"Basically, we simulate what occurs during a real trial," Parikh said. "We get to be attorneys, both for the prosecution and defense, we put on witnesses that the attorneys direct and cross-examine in order to receive testimony, and as attorneys, enter in evidence, make objections and to open and closing arguments."

According to the association's constitution, the purpose of the organization is "to stimulate reasoned and analytical thinking, to improve parental speaking, to further individual and group experience in the legal field and in the courtroom, and to succeed in intercollegiate competition at the regional and national levels."

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"I think it is the most dedicated people I’ve ever met and I have become some of my closest friends," he said. "By the end of each year, the team is more like a family. "I guess the best evidence of the affinity for this program is more like a family. "I guess the best evidence of the affinity for this program is more like a family."

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G A O  r e p o r t  r e v i e w s  e n v i r o n m e n t a l  e f f e c t  o f  s a l e s

**Offshore leasing investigated**

*Associated Press*

ANCHORAGE — The federal Minerals Management Service in Alaska has conducted its environmental reviews of petroleum drilling, leaving it vulnerable to litigation and allegations of scientific misconduct.

The report released Wednesday said information within the Alaska region was selectively shared. Reports submitted by industry that contained both proprietary and nonproprietary information, and that should have been available to environmental analysts, were withheld. Managers told the GAO that circulating reports on “need-to-know” basis allowed them to protect proprietary information.

In its official response, the agency promised to do better, but environmental groups long frustrated with the MMS seized on the report as proof that the agency has made poor decisions in conducting lease sales in sensitive Arctic waters.

“The report highlights the inconsistencies with the way the Minerals Management Service in Alaska has conducted its environmental analysis,” said Mike LeVine, an attorney for Oceana, which has challenged the validity of leases sold in the Beaufort and Chukchi seas.

Decisions on offshore lease sales are guided by the National Environmental Policy Act, a 1969 law that requires agencies to consider the environmental impacts of their proposed actions.

Interior Department policy directs agencies to prepare handbooks on how to implement the law. MMS did not develop a handbook, citing in part the agency’s small size.

“Managers in the Alaska OCS Region told us that they rely on institutional knowledge of experienced staff to help new staff learn the process,” the report said. The GAO found gaps in that institutional knowledge: Only two of 11 Alaska environmental assessment staff members interviewed in May 2009 had been in the office more than 3½ years.

Without strong guidelines, MMS regions varied in what constituted significant environmental effect. Alaska officials told auditors that they would not use explicit “significance criteria” because criteria are hard to develop.

A basic tenet of Oceana and other environmental groups is that too little is known about Alaska wildlife to allow drilling to begin. There are whales that swim far off the coast, ice seals that spend much of their lives in subsurface or below ice, and walruses spread over coastal areas and thousands of square miles.

“The report reaffirms what we have been saying all along. The Arctic is a very sensitive and understudied area, and there is no rational basis for concluding that impacts from oil development will not be significant,” LeVine said.

Levine said MMS has not fulfilled its basic obligation under NEPA.

“They’re saying that given the little we know about the Arctic, it’s difficult to figure out whether what we’re doing is having a significant effect or not,” LeVine said.

As Alaska spokesman John Callahan said Thursday that the agency is taking steps to put the GAO recommendations in place. The GAO report addressed Alaska’s Bristol Bay, but Callahan said offshore frontier areas need additional exploration and analysis before other areas are offered for leasing.

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**Saint Mary’s to host Little Sibs Weekend**

*By ALISON MEAGHER*

This weekend, the Saint Mary’s College Residence Hall Association (RHA) will be hosting Little Sibs Weekend, which gives Saint Mary’s students an opportunity to visit the campus, Kady Shea, RHA co-advisor, said. “Siblings are given the chance to hang out and stay overnight with their older sibling to get a little glimpse of college life.”

Little Sibs of all ages will be attending the event. Siblings must be over the age of three and male siblings must be under the age of 12 to stay in the residence halls.

“There is no better way to inspire the younger generation to pursue high academic achievement than to show them the opportunities they can have,” Leslie Robinson, co-advisor of RHA said.

Check in begins at 4 p.m. and is followed by an ice cream social for the whole family beginning at 8 p.m.

Students and siblings will have breakfast between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Saturday in the Noble Family Dining Hall. A County Fair on the Library Green begins at noon and includes inflatables, tug of war, crafts, a petting zoo, a magician and a clown. Lunch will be served at the event.

After dinner Saturday night, the movie “Barnyard” will be shown in Carroll Auditorium.

The weekend ends with breakfast and Mass Sunday morning.

More than 160 little Sibs are registered to attend this weekend.

Event planning began in October. Saint Mary’s sophomores Catherine Moore and Andrea Firth organized the event with various members of the RHA board.

“This year, we have even changed under the age of Lil Sibs weekend so that more people can become involved,” Robinson said. “We now offer three packages at different price ranges, so that all students can have a Lil Sibs weekend that is more catered towards their needs.”

Contact Alison Meagher at ameagher01@saintmarys.edu
With joy and thanksgiving we invite you to celebrate the ordination to the priesthood of:

Rev. Kevin G. Grove, C.S.C.  
Rev. Gerard J. Olinger, Jr., C.S.C.

The Sacrament of Holy Orders will be conferred by The Most Rev. Daniel R. Jenky, C.S.C., Bishop of Peoria

Saturday, April 10, 2010  
2:00pm  
Basilica of the Sacred Heart

“We heard a summons to give over our lives in a more explicit way”  
(Constitutions, I.3)

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Li Guo, Acting Director (2009-2010) (li.guo.6@nd.edu)
Ghada Baydoun, Director of Undergraduate Studies (ghbaidoun@nd.edu)

The Tradition Continues

STAND AGAINST NATE WEEK
APRIL 12 - APRIL 16, 2010

- ALLY PLEDGE SIGNING
- DAY OF SILENCE BANNER SIGNING
- DAY OF SILENCE CARDS DISTRIBUTION
- April 12 – April 14 • Monday – Wednesday 11am to 1pm • SDH, NOH, LaFortune
- "THE LARAMIE PROJECT" Film Screening
- April 12 Monday • 7-9pm • Carey Auditorium, Hesburgh Library
  *Discussion facilitated by Counseling Center following the film.
  *Noire Dame & St. Mary’s Students Welcome. CLOSED to the Public.
- Professor Dominic Porratt Presentation
- April 15
  *Wednesday Evening • 7-8:30pm • 122 Mendoza
  *Heather Racozky Russell, Gender Relations Center
- Tee-Shirt Distribution
- April 15
  *Thursday • 11:30am-1pm • Fieldhouse Mall
- Coffee House
- April 16
  *Thursday • 7-9pm • Reckers (Hospitality Room)
  *“Meet and Greet”
- Day of Silence
- April 16
  *Friday • 3pm • Front Steps of the Main Building
  *Walk with banners to Coleman-Morse for a prayer service.
  *Fr. Joe Carey, CSC, Presiding
  *Ice-Cream Social immediately following in CoHo lounge.

Parole oversight leads to death of teen girl

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Parole officers should have done a better job watching a paroled California sex offender, but closer scrutiny may not have stopped the murder of one teenager girl and the assault of another woman, a draft report released Thursday said.

Even if suspect John Albert Gardner III had been sent back to prison for one of his repeated parole violations, he was unlikely to have qualified as a sexually violent predator, members of the California Sex Offender Management Board said.

The board softened language in the draft report that contradicted previous statements from mental health officials who said Gardner would have been strongly considered for commitment to a mental health hospital.

The board began discussing the report Thursday. Its final report to the governor is due by the end of the month.

Gardner, 30, has pleaded not guilty to murdering 17-year-old Chelsea King of Poway, whose body was found in a park last month, and to the attempted rape of another woman in December.

He is being investigated but has not been charged in the death of 14-year-old Amber Dubois of Escondido, who disappeared in February 2009.

The report pointed out that those crimes occurred after Gardner has been released from parole and was under no formal supervision.

Even while Gardner was on parole, “it is unlikely that a revocation would have changed anything with respect to the crimes that Gardner is now charged with committing,” the report said. However, it acknowledged that parole agents had failed to review whether Gardner should have been reclassified as a high-risk offender after he was found living too close to a school and daycare center while on parole.

They also should have immediately required him to move farther away instead of letting him live nearby for nearly two years, the report said.

His location could have been enough to send Gardner back to prison, but the parole board decided to keep him on parole for the remainder of his three-year term, which ended in 2008.

Authorities also could have sought parole revocation after Gardner was cited for possessing less than an ounce of marijuana in 2008, the report said.

“There was an opportunity to potentially violate his parole,” said board member Pamela King of the San Bernardino County Public Defender’s Office. “They had that opportunity for an extended amount of time and they chose not to violate.”

The report was prepared by Deputy Attorney General Janet Neeley and Robert Ambroselli, director of the state Division of Adult Parole Operations, which supervised Gardner for three years after his release from prison in 2005. Gardner spent five years in prison for molesting a 13-year-old neighbor girl in 2000.

Most of Gardner’s parole violations were considered technical, including four for letting the battery on his ankle bracelet run low and one for missing a meeting with his parole officer.

Other violations surfaced later, including his use of a social networking Web site. The report called on the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to devise new policies for deciding which offenders should be banned from the Internet and better ways to track violations.

The 19-page draft report said Gardner would not likely have been classified as a sexually violent predator and been sent to a state mental hospital because he did not have a diagnosed mental disorder and the molestation he committed in 2000 involved a victim he knew, not a stranger.

Still, the report said California should provide treatment to sex offenders in prison and after their release, and follow the model of other states by requiring sex offenders to periodically undergo polygraph tests.

In addition, there should be more money for local law enforcement to help supervise offenders, and better communication with local agencies to catch potential violations, several of which were missed in the Gardner case, the report said.

It also questions whether tracking Gardner’s movements with an electronic device after he was released from parole supervision would have made a difference. It cites research that GPS tracking can help solve crimes but rarely prevents them.

“There is no crystal ball and you cannot prevent every crime from occurring,” King said.

Write News for the Observer. Call 574-631-5323.
LETTER TO THE EDITOR

March 29

So, we know that no one reads the Scene section, so the labeling of absurdly misguided music reviews and terrible music recommendations have gone by unnoticed and uncommented upon. But there is no recommendation of supposedly obscure electropop bands ground our gears. There are electropop bands that actually deserve widespread recognition, not the wholesale Postal Service knockoff Owl City or a band that’s been featured in a blockbuster movie’s soundtrack. And you are seriously imploring us to “tap” tracks by international dance sensation La Foui who is in the top 40 in at least eight different countries? Give us a break.

For your perusal, here are 50 electropop bands that are uncommented upon. But the real asset of this kind of debate on campus is not the debate between the academics themselves but rather the discussion it provoked among students, professors and other members of the Notre Dame community.

As students at a Catholic University, we naturally grapple with contentious issues — the death penalty, abortion and premartial sex, for example. What we should take away from the God Debate is that not only is it important to discuss contentious issues with those who disagree, but in the manner in which we do it is just as important.

We encourage you to support your assertions and be respectfully critical of the opposing view, but also courageously stand up for what you believe in. These are all crucial lessons to be learned from this event.

Mychal Stanley
Anthony Logan
Michael Cianculli
In 1974 Richard Nixon resigned from the presidency as a result of his role in the Watergate scandal, an example of widespread sexual abuse problems within the Church. This created a crisis for the U.S. and worldwide. Since then, Church leaders have been involved in several high-profile cases, including the sexual abuse of children and other vulnerable people. The Church has had to respond to these allegations and to address the underlying issues.

The Church has taken steps to address these problems, such as implementing new policies and procedures to prevent sexual abuse. However, these efforts have not been enough to stop the abuse. The Church has had to face the reality that sexual abuse is not just a problem for children, but also for adults.

In addition, the Church has had to deal with the public scrutiny of these allegations. The public has demanded accountability and transparency from the Church. The Church has had to respond to these demands by addressing the allegations and by taking steps to prevent future abuse.

The Church has also had to address the issue of accountability. The Church has had to face the reality that it is not immune to corruption and that it has had its share of criminals.

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When I first heard that hip hop had won the student poll for the Student Union Board (SUB) concert, I was concerned. Coming from a hip hop fan, this may come as a surprise. I love the music, my fears rested with the audience. Since I’ve been at Notre Dame, at least two excellent but under-appreciated MCs, Brother Ali and Devin the Dude, have played shows at Legends to less than enthusiastic crowds. To see two of my favorite rappers practically beg the enthusiastic crowd. To see two of my favorite rappers practically beg the enthusiastic crowd.

Granted, this could change if SUB could pull in a huge name. Artists such as 3OH!3, Kid Cudi, Big Sean, Bun B, One Be Lo and Eric Holljes. Posner used several samples in the tape, including Donnis and Eric Holljes. Posner used several samples in the tape, including and Keziah Jones’ “Pleasure is Kisses” in “Who Knows?” Head” in “Still Not Over You,” Electric Light Chain, Donnis and Eric Holljes. Posner used several samples in the tape, including and Keziah Jones’ “Pleasure is Kisses” in “Who Knows?” Head” in “Still Not Over You,” Electric Light Chain, Donnis and Eric Holljes. Posner used several samples in the tape, including and Keziah Jones’ “Pleasure is Kisses” in “Who Knows?” Head” in “Still Not Over You,” Electric Light Chain, Donnis and Eric Holljes.

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More importantly, their music is unique. Besides using samples sparingly, a full band produces an energetic, organic sound reminiscent of garage rock. They avoid falling into hip-hop’s common criticisms of materialism, violence or misogyny. They can discuss politics without sounding preachy, inner-city life without being exploititive and music without sounding insincere.

Blackthought, the group’s MC, has the classic flow of a battle rapper but is perfectly at ease singing hooks. As a whole, The Roots embody racial and musical potential commercial hip-hop near-universally lacks.

As for Saturday night, The Roots will put on a hell of a show. They easily live up to their title as one of Rolling Stone’s top live acts. Their shows quickly transform into a show-case of not only the group’s impressive discography, but also of individual talents and creativity. Guitar riffs and strong baselines push the show towards rock; animated percussion pulls it towards jazz, all while hip-hop provides the central focus. The Roots occupy a level of fame just outside of household names. Everyone is aware of someone with whom they are associated, but may struggle to name the group itself. As the house band for “The Late Show” with Jimmy Fallon, they’ve proven consistently to be the best piece of the show. Beyond their current comedy gig, The Roots appeared in Dave Chapelle’s “Block Party” and Jay-Z’s “Fade to Black,” with “testlove,” the group’s drummer and founding member, serving as musical director for both. Their music has shown up in “Superbad,” “Entourage” and “Men in Black.” Even toddlers may recognize them following an appearance on Nickelodeon’s trippy “Yo Gabba Gabba.” The Roots are one of the few unique acts in hip hop. Their most obvious departure from traditional form is the presence of a full band. Beyond an MC, drummer, guitarist, bassists and keyboardist, they also feature another percussionist as well as a sousaphone. The band leader, “testlove,” manages the group from his drum set in the back. Their awaggar is undeniable and derived from skill instead of exaggerated street cred or youthful bravado.

More importantly, their music is unique. Besides using samples sparingly, a full band produces an energetic, organic sound reminiscent of garage rock. They avoid falling into hip-hop’s common criticisms of materialism, violence or misogyny. They can discuss politics without sounding preachy, inner-city life without being exploititive and music without sounding insincere.

Blackthought, the group’s MC, has the classic flow of a battle rapper but is perfectly at ease singing hooks. As a whole, The Roots embody racial and musical potential commercial hip-hop near-universally lacks.

As for Saturday night, The Roots will put on a hell of a show. They easily live up to their title as one of Rolling Stone’s top live acts. Their shows quickly transform into a show-case of not only the group’s impressive discography, but also of individual talents and creativity. Guitar riffs and strong baselines push the show towards rock; animated percussion pulls it towards jazz, all while hip-hop provides the central focus. The show may prove to be extra compelling for alumni established fans who hope to hear cuts from the upcoming album “How I Got Over.” Veterans of touring, The Roots will work Saturday’s crowd like the masters they are, including The Fray. Whether you’ve listened to their albums or not, the show will absolutely floor you. There is no other group capable of putting on a show like them. Saturday night there will be no rock, hip-hop, pop or country fans. Instead, Stepan will be packed with music fans seeing some of the true greats.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily that of The Observer. Nick can be reached at wanders5@nd.edu
A young actor who does excel is Coleman as the adorable, precocious younger brother who can’t wait to spend the summer with his father. You might recognize him from “Martian Child” or “Post Grad.” He succeeds where Cyrus fails at expressing true grief. Coleman brought the best out in the other actors especially in heartwrenching scenes with Hemsworth and Kinnear.

As basically the only adult in the film Kinnear does alright. He has proven himself to be a fantastic actor (“Little Miss Sunshine”) but this film is not one to showcase his abilities. He does an average job with average material.

It’s true the film’s failure is not completely Cyrus’ fault. The storyline itself has problems. For one, there are too many plot points for such a short film, a common problem in adapting a book to the big screen. A church fire sets the backdrop of the entire film, but a sudden illness out of nowhere causes the last third of the film to feel like a completely new story. Unfortunately, not even beautiful shots of the Georgia coastline can salvage the poor screenplay.

In the end, “The Last Song” does an okay job at exploring first love and the tenuous relationship between a father and his daughter. No, this film won’t be Miley’s swan song — she is after all a huge star — but it should make her consider taking back that comment about retiring from music soon, or at least get acting lessons.

Enter the theater with caution because for all its faults, “The Last Song” is still a tearjerker and enjoyable chick flick.

**“The Last Song”**

Directed By: Julie Ann Robinson
Writer: Nicholas Sparks, Jeff Van Wie
Starring: Miley Cyrus, Greg Kinnear, Liam Hemsworth, Bobby Coleman

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**Hidden**

These New Puritans were back on the punk scene with their sophomore full-length, “The O bserver” that was recently released. This album was a big departure from their previous work, which was more focused on a single aspect, like sampling, the album is a true journey.

This is a truly weird album. This isn’t to say that the British post-punk quartet known as These New Puritans were ever a by-the-numbers band, but “Hidden,” their sophomore full-length is something else.

Though their prior album was driven mostly by the rhythm section with little emphasis on guitars, “Hidden” takes that initiative to a whole new level. Guitars are almost entirely absent and a wide swath of new instrumentation is introduced in their place. A has soon is heard on far more than one song, and even more surprisingly, it doesn’t sound out of place. The closest comparison in terms of stylistic departure, if not musical content, is Radiohead’s “Kid A.” Like that classic, “Hidden” is the work of a band utterly unconcerned with commercial success and it too succeeds all the more because of it.

From woodwind sections to samples of swords being drawn to Castlevania-esque keyboards, the group seems to have turned away from the idea of this album, no matter how far out there. Make no mistake, this is an album that was composed — there is a few listens to the whole album it becomes easier to pick out the subtleties of each individual track. Once everything has sunk in, it’s not difficult to see how truly excellent “Hidden” is. After hearing this album, one can conclude that the band’s name is almost certainly a joke, because nothing about this music is puritanical.
NEW YORK — Hank Aaron watches games that are dear to his heart and it upsets him when his beloved Atlanta Braves, the former home run king, are not being saluted as much as he believes they deserve. He mentions how the team was "never mentioned" in a recent baseball poll to determine the greatest team of all time.

"I'm saying it not because I'm bashful, but I'm just saying that I think it would have been respectful to shut up and say, 'The Atlanta Braves,'" Aaron said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press. "I think they deserve a little bit more than that." Aaron has cheered on the Braves, his former team, from his Atlanta home when the team is playing in the National League East, which he once ruled. As of Thursday, the Braves were leading their division, followed by the Philadelphia Phillies and the New York Mets.

"I think people are saying the Braves don't belong in that category," Aaron said. "As you know, they've had some big stars in the past, and I think a team needs to be given some more respect than they've been getting."

Aaron is one of four players with more than 700 career home runs, along with Barry Bonds, Mike Schmidt and Frank Robinson. Bonds, though, has been far more successful in the home run derby since 2000. Aaron is now second, with 755 career home runs, to Schmidt's 756. The 756 is expected to be surpassed when Schmidt is inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame on July 26.

Aaron has been on the ballot for 16 years, with the most recent vote coming on Wednesday. His 2006 and 2007 totals were 57 and 60, respectively. He believes that the voters, considering his 1954-76 run, would have made him a sure Hall of Famer if there had been one vote.
PGA

Tom Watson chats with fellow tour golfer Ben Crane during a practice round at Augusta National on April 6, 2010. Watson, after surprising at last year's British Open, again finds himself near the leaderboard after Masters Day One.

Watson a surprise yet again at Masters

Associated Press

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Tom Watson’s week began on 13th green with his son posing to his girlfriend in an elaborately staged surprise that included the chairman of Augusta National.

His day began standing on top of a stool to get a view of a few old friends hitting ceremonial shots off the first tee.

His round began with a pop talk from the groom-to-be, who also happened to be the guy carrying his bag.

“Come on dad, let’s go out and play a good round of golf,” Michael Watson told him.

A storybook week deserves a fairy tale ending.

And who could argue that anyone deserves one more than the man who had one stolen from him last year at Turnberry in a heartbreak heard around the world.

The odds still are it won’t happen here. For now, though, there’s a senior citizen near the top of the leaderboard at the Masters.

“It doesn’t matter what it is right now,” Watson said. “It matters on Sunday. That’s all that matters. Every player in that field knows that.

Let’s not spoil the moment. We all know what’s supposed to happen when old nerves meet fast greens.

But if Turnberry was one for the aged, why couldn’t Augusta National turn into one for the aged?

For now Watson a surprise yet again at Masters.
Meadowlands facility prepares for trial run

The new Meadowlands stadium is slated to open this fall, playing home to the Giants and Jets.

Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — When Mark Lamping talked about a truly soft opening of the New Meadowlands Stadium, the chief executive of the $1.6 billion home for the Giants and Jets wasn’t kidding.

Fans showing up for a college lacrosse tripleheader on Saturday will see that the concourse around the stadium isn’t complete, the access roads leading into the 82,500-seat facility aren’t finished, and there’s work to be done on some of the concourses and the concession areas in the upper levels.

And the 4,000 or so people who work at the stadium and have undergone 16 hours of training are going to be working their first game. So they might be as confused as the fans coming to the stadium for the first time.

“There will be some fumbles and dropped passes like any training camp,” Lamping said before giving a tour of the stadium to about 40 media members Thursday.

Lamping said the positive aspect to opening the facility some four months ahead of schedule, and holding several concerts and an international soccer game, is it will allow the staff to work out the kinks before the Jets and Giants open the regular season in September.

The outside of the new stadium is metallic, looking some what like an open Venetian blind. The inside is spectacular, with fans bound to be impressed by the cozy feeling of the seating and four Jumbotron screens that are 118 feet long and 30 feet high, with each presenting a crystal clear picture from its mid-stadium level.

“The idea was to put them lower in the bowl than typically where they would be and have them in a location that, no matter where you’re sitting or where the action is, you can always see two video boards,” Lamping said.

“The facility, to be called the New Meadowlands Stadium until the Giants and Jets find a title sponsor, is taller and bigger than the adjacent Giants Stadium, which opened in 1976 and served as the dual home of the Giants and Jets since 1984.

The new stadium, constructed in 34 months, can be converted from a Giants game to a Jets game in a couple of hours. Buttons can be pushed to change signage from Giants blue to Jets green almost instantaneously. The end zones with the team names can be switched by rolling up two rug sections on the Fieldturf surface.

Even the outside of the stadium can change colors by shining light off the stadium fins. The fins also serve to limit the rain and wind entering the stadium.

The new stadium, which includes 9,500 club seats and 222 luxury suites, has 1.9 million square feet, about a million more than Giants Stadium.

The suites are impressive, particularly the 20 units that seat 400 people in the Commissioner Club. The suites range in price from $750,000 to $1 million and give the occupants access to both teams.

The common area of the Commissioner’s Club is impressive, with black walnut walls and bamboo floors. The mezzanine level has 7,000 club seats.

For those who have the less expensive seats near the top of the stadium, the upper levels are high. However, the seats don’t make you feel like you are sitting on the side of a cliff.

All the concessions, suites and sound systems are tied into a data center in the basement of the building.

Lamping said the demolition of Giants Stadium should be finished by July and the land should be transformed to parking hopefully by the start of the NFL regular season.

Please recycle The Observer.
Cabrera’s bat leads Tigers to win over Royals

Dontrelle Willis returns from mental struggle to earn win; Dodgers sit five starters but still outhit Pirates

Associated Press
KANSAS CITY, Mo. — He walked the first batter on four pitches.

Would Dontrelle Willis’ 10-month struggle to recover from social anxiety and chronic wildness blow up in his face the first time out?

In a word, no. The former two-time National League All-Star walked two batters in the first inning but none over the next five as the Detroit Tigers beat the Kansas City Royals and its shaky bullpen 7-3 Thursday, giving hope that Willis’ troubles may finally be a thing of the past.

“It was a gritty ballgame early,” said Willis, who had appeared in just 15 games since signing a three-year contract with Detroit in 2008. “They had me on the disabled list the rest of the season. ‘I’m going to keep working, wait me out to see if I’m throwing on me. I think they’re going to have the same approach from making any fuss one way or the other. Treat him the way you do everybody else. If you do the job you pitch. I’m excited for him. I’m happy for him.”

“He’s got every teammate himself into that role.”

Dontrelle Willis, 26, has been in some of his past, said manager Trey Hillman. “He threw enough strikes for us to have to be ready.”

Cabrera hit a three-run home run on a 0-2 count off Luis Mendoza (0-1) in the eighth, putting the Tigers on top 4-2. He added an RBI single in the three-run ninth as the Royals’ bullpen blew a save for the third straight game.

While losing two of three games in this season-opening series, Royals starters Zack Greinke, Luke Hochevar and Brian Bannister gave up only two earned runs.

“It’s just a matter of making pitches on quality hitters,” said Hillman. “When you leave pitches over the plate especially to guys like Cabrera, Magglio (Ordonez) and (Carlos) Guillen, they are going to get you.”

“This is a good park to hit, this big park,” said Cabrera, who hit the tying home run on Wednesday night. “When you see a big park, you try to use the gaps. That’s an advantage.”

DODGERS 10, PIRATES 2

The Los Angeles Dodgers didn’t need Manny Ramirez or Andre Ethier, Casey Blake or Russell Martin to finally find a way to beat what is usually one of the majors’ worst teams, the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Manager Joe Torre simply established No. 1 starter, they take it one start at a time and one game series by the Pirates for the Dodgers.

“We needed a win,” Billingsley said. “We have to take it one start at a time and one win at a time.”

With the Dodgers having no established No. 1 starter, they would welcome Billingsley or left-hander Clayton Kershaw pitching himself into that role.

“We needed a win,” Billingsley said. “You always want to be that guy who is the one who can stop it (a losing streak).
PGA TOUR

Woods lost morality, not golfing prowess

Associated Press

AUGUSTA, Ga. — If you want to know what Woods was doing, his golf course was probably the last place to look.

Tiger Woods might have lost his moral compass. But his swing? It’s still amazing.

He stripped what might have been the most pressure-packed career round of all time — the first tee, then hit his approach shot 12 feet left of the hole — this as a plane circled lazily overhead towing a banner that read: “Tiger: Did you mean Bootsy?”

Woods’ birdie try at the first hole narrowly slid past the cup and spun away. Four other times his birdie tries hit the cup and spun out. He let a half-dozen similarly good birdie opportunities on the back nine get away — this time with a plane tow ing a different banner. Date: 26 April. Right. Sure. Me. Too!

For all that, Woods still shot 68, the lowest opening round ever at a major in 15 years. He won four times last year. And he might have won more, but he was arrogant, unapproachable, the kind of guy who seems to have golfing anything to do with how his game looks.

And remember: If only half the stories of his extramarital flirtations were true, Woods would have won a dozen times around the world knowing full well his second secret could blow up at any moment. When he said this time around that his marriage is stronger than ever before, how could anyone believe him?

“I normally do feel pretty good about the golf course. Sometimes,” Woods said. “It may be a little difficult at home. It’s tough being married and over- heading, taking pictures. But normally, I do feel pretty good.”

He was cheered on the range, the practice putting green. No matter what, somewhere, somewhere else he stomped the closest thing to derision were muted con- versations along a few fair- ways. Not that the group of friends either dared one another to yell something nasty, or wanted to bother anyone else might. No one did.

That could only have some- thing to do with all the extra security cracking across the grounds. Even when Woods sneaked over to a portable toilet, his guards were standing by. He was tri ed by two guards. He was also escorted all the way around the course by Tiger Woods. Which consisted of a dozen people at various times, but always included his mother, Tida, swing coach Hank Haney, Nike holes in one agent Mark Steinberg and a few staff members from the Tiger Woods Foundation.

The cheers were tentative at first, with fans looking at one another. But all of them were searching for the right tone. But once through the Gate, they gathered steam in direct pro- portion to how Woods was playing.

When he walked onto the 12th tee, he politely tipped the bill of his cap, then realized those in the gallery just ahead of him were women. He dropped the hat off of their seats. Woods took his cap off to the still-standing ava- tion, then moments later, hit his tee shot at the par-3 hole just feet below the pin and responded to the full-throated rear by taking his cap off and putting it on his head. He followed that with an awkward smile.

“I said thank you all the way,” Woods said. “I was say- ing thank you all day.”

That wasn’t the only thing he said. Of course. For all the talk about a new, more fan-friendly Tiger, flashes of the old one resurfaced as he climbed the leaderboard. He pumped his first with every birdie try that fell and nearly dropped in his knees several times when they didn’t.

At the 14th, the fairway is a little better-per- fect drive down the right side of the fairway, Woods pulled his approach right of the pin and long of the green, dropped the club and let out what sounded like the beginning of a howl. “God...” But he caught himself mid-turn, then just stopped, stared into the dis- tance, then dropped his head and hit himself for the next shot. One of his three bogeys followed anyway. Yet those disappointments were muted compared to the five months of wall-to-wall right that preceded them. As a reminder, he was ripped of his green jacket, perhaps the Augustan chairmain Billy Payne, who publicly called out Woods for being a role model for kids.

“We did have a conversation, yes we did,” Payne said about it. “I was disap- pointed in myself to give him the same advice.”

Payne’s admonition, how- ever, was mild compared to the blistering that Woods caught for a new Nike commercial that aired a day earlier, in which he strides into the camera as his late father asks, “What are you thinking?”

The ad has been parodied dozens of times already, most notably with the voice-over replaced by a message Woods was said to have left for one of his mistresses.

“I think that’s what my dad would say,” Woods said last Thursday, back on the defen- sive for one of the few times all day.

“It’s amazing how my dad used to speak to me from different ways, even when he’s long gone. He’s still helping me. He’s not the last a father that meant so much in his life, I think we understand the spot,” he said.

Maybe. The simple fact that Woods and his backers at Nike have decided to push back tells you two things. First, they’re as determined to cash in on his misfortune as every- body else and, two, whatever things Woods needed to work on in rehab, his cap- case confidence was not one of them.

NCAA FOOTBALL

Saban likes Tide offense

Associated Press

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Alabama coach Nick Saban isn’t one to lavish praise on his football team, especially not during spring practice when the goal is improvement.

“He’s having trouble finding much fault with an offense that returns virtually every play- er from last season, including Heisman Trophy winner Mark Ingram.

“I feel really good about the way we’re going on offense,” Saban said on Wednesday. “The quarterbacks are playing well. We’ve got good skill players all the way around, and they’ve done a really good job.

“I think we’ve improved the passing game, offensively, that would be an important objective for spring practice and next season.

Sure, the Crimson Tide won a national title last season largely with a relentless running game and one of the nation’s best defenses. The forward pass was mostly an afterthought in the national championship game vic- tory over Texas, when Greg McElroy threw for just 58 yards.

A little more firepower might come in handy with a defense that returns only two starters.

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McElroy still has wide receivers Julio Jones and Marquis Maze and Darrius Hanks in a passing game that was serv- icable but not particularly con- sistent.

“We left a lot of plays out on the field last year,” tight end Preston Dial said. “We’re trying to capitalize on the plays and have more plays from scrimmage and limit the penalties. When you’ve got guys like Maze, Hanks and Julio outside, there’s no reason we can’t pass the ball.”

McElroy’s only significant miss- ing target is tight end Colin Peek, who was fourth on the team with 26 catches for 313 yards. Saban said he has seen “a lot more explosive plays not in the scrimmage but every day in the lab.”

A little more firepower might come in handy with a defense that returns only two starters.

He stepped it up tremendously. We’ve got good skill players all the way around, and they’ve done a really good job.

“Tiger Woods Professional golfer”

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Alabama head coach Nick Saban wants his team to be more bal- anced on the offensive side of the ball in 2010.

“My instinct is to say that he’s a different player,” McElroy said. “He stepped it up tremendously. He’s even probably surpassed what he did as a freshman.

The Tide had seven new starters last season.

“We started off slow on offense, if you remember the first half of the Virginia Tech game,” Saban said. “There were proba- bly many people that thought we’d never get a first down. We had a lot of new guys playing, a lot of young guys. We were rebuilding the offensive line, got better in the second half and got better each week.”

The spring’s first scrimmage, at least, emphasized passing. To Ingram, it was a positive sign for a simple reason. The receivers were catching the ball.

“They were making plays,” he said. “When we were taking shots downfield, they were mak- ing plays. They were catching the ball. Greg was making the right reads, so that showed up.

Instead of incomplete passes or interceptions, those were big explosive plays. I don’t think it’s anything that anybody should be too concerned with, because we’re going to stay a balanced team.”

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ND WOMEN’S GOLF

Irish look to regain form

By TIM SINGLER Sports Writer

Notre Dame concludes the regular season with the SunTrust Lady Gator Invitational in Gainesville, Fla., as they prepare for the upcoming Big East tournament.

The Irish hope to improve their play this weekend, while adding some consistency to their game. The Invitational will provide excellent practice and preparation for the upcoming Big East championships.

The tournament features 15 teams, including four teams currently in the NCGA top 25. The competition will be fierce, but that only makes the Irish stronger and gives them an edge.

Saint Mary’s travels to Albion

Observer Staff Report

Saint Mary’s (13-9, 2-0 MIAA) looks to extend its winning streak to three as it hits the road to face Albion (6-15, 0-3) in a conference matchup.

Scoring runs has been the Belles’ focus over the course of the season, putting together three solid rounds to explode the Irish. coach Susan Holt said the team knows what it wants to accomplish in the SunTrust Lady Gator Invitational: more consistent production.

“We need to get three solid rounds together,” Holt said. “We are just trying to be more consistent and productive.”

At the Invitational, Notre Dame will get an idea of how they compare to the rest of the competition. With this tournament, the Irish not only face good teams, but they also get a feel for the Florida courses on which the Big East Championships will be held.

Notre Dame looks to make a strong showing at the conference tournament this year, a tournament in which they finished second last season. The Irish return three players that finished in the top 11 last year.

Both senior Annie Brophy and junior So-Hyun Park finished tied for ninth, while sophomore Becca Huffer finished tied for 11th. “I know what we are capable of,” Holt said. “We are close.”

The Irish are out to prove how close they are to being among the elite as they hit the links this weekend at the Mark Bestick Golf Course Saturday.

Contact Tim Singler at tsingler@nd.edu

SMC Golf

Belles welcome Trine for home dual meet

By LUKE MANSOUR Sports Writer

The Belles will try to rebound from a disappointing third place finish at last week’s Southwestern Invitational when they take on Trine University Saturday afternoon in a home dual meet.

“The last couple trips have been a challenge but it’s good to be back in some familiar surroundings,” Belles coach Mark Hamilton said.

The Belles will need a big performance from the trio of junior Mary Kate Boyce, sophomore Natalie Matsuzak and junior Rosemary O’Connor, each of whom has played an essential role this season. With MIAA qualifying right around the corner, Hamilton is looking for a complete performance to boost the Belles to an automatic bid for the NCAA Division III Tournament.

The Belles will take on Trine Saturday at noon at the South Bend Country Club. Contact Luke Mansour at lmansour@nd.edu

SPEND THIS MONDAY EVENING WITH Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, New York Times Best-Selling Author

Discussing: Faith, Hope & Charity

POPE BENEDICT’S PRESCRIPTION FOR CATHOLIC LIVING

100 YEARS OF THE K OF C OF COLUMBUS AT NOTRE DAME

8 P.M. LECTURE AND BOOK SIGNING, EDWARD J. DEBARTOLO HALL, ROOM 155

e-mail: knights@nd.edu
Irish ready to bounce back against Louisville

By MEAGHAN VESELIK Sports Writer

After falling 7-0 to No. 2 Ohio State Wednesday in a tough home match, the No. 36 Irish are looking to get back on their feet Saturday when they face Big East rival No. 14 Louisville.

The No. 36 Irish were tough, but that was [Wednesday] and Louisville comes in here Saturday and I doubt if they are feeling too sorry for us,” Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. “Our job now is to regroup and be ready to take on another top 15 team. We hope that the familiar home courts will give us a boost and that we can bounce back from Wednesday’s loss.”

Notre Dame (6-0-1) returned to campus late Tuesday night after competing in Texas over Easter break. The Irish won 1-1, defeating Southern Methodist and falling to Texas A&M. However, Bayliss doesn’t make up any excuses for his team.

“We believe that the first person or team to find an excuse for losing is the one who is making it a self-fuillfilling prophesy,” he said. “Coach Corrigan believes that as a team and we all have to not allow that doubt to creep into your mind and always find something positive to use to your advantage. Hopefully we will handle any adversity well this weekend.”

Notre Dame is looking to average the season’s two losses to the Cardinals, both of which ended by a final of 4-3. Bayliss said he knows that Notre Dame knows it has to have its own advantage in doubles.

“Doubles is more of a心想 than a sprint, and we need to muster the ability to play with the good teams long enough to be able to take advantage of the momentum swings that go our way,” Bayliss said. “Being patient, yet taking swings that go our way,” Bayliss continued. “If the Irish can come away with a win, it would claim a huge road victory and a boost to their tournament resume. If we do that, it would give them a full head of steam and momentum into their final three Big East games against Providence, St. John’s and two-time defending national champion, No. 3 Syracuse, a game that has already sold out.

“Doubles play is really important to the team,” Bayliss said. “It is important to back up Frilling’s dominance. Her play is important to back up our singles heavily too.”

Fresh off a grueling trip to Texas during which Notre Dame went 1-1 in two matches, the No. 6 Irish return to the familiar home courts of the Eck Tennis Pavilion as they take on No. 19 South Florida Friday.

The Irish will face off with the Bulls at Eck Tennis Pavilion at 3 p.m. Friday.

“Tennis is more of a marathon than a sprint, and we need to muster the ability to stay with the good teams long enough to be able to take advantage of the momentum swings that go our way,” Bayliss said.

The triple jump.

The Irish will compete in the Louisville Invitational this weekend, a four-team event involving a “Border War” between Indiana and Kentucky.

Notre Dame and Indiana University will compete with the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville. The Irish Invitational is among the most prestigious meet in the country. The Irish have been getting equally focused on doubles play, and the Tiger Classic.

Notre Dame picked up three of the top-five in the men’s hammer throw, among other events.

The top Irish performer was junior Greg Davis, who finished third overall.

“I think, as a whole, the team competed pretty well,” Smigelski said. “A bunch of people qualified for the Big East Championships, which is always nice. Also, I heard of a bunch of personal records. Overall, I think everyone came away from the weekend feeling pretty good.”

The Irish took first place in the events. Junior Theresa Cattuna won the 100 meters, and before Joanna Schultz finished first in the 400 meters, sophomore Jonathan Shawel took top honors in the 800-meter run, and senior Sam Schloerke heat out the rest of the competition in the triple jump.

“This weekend, the Irish will have only five events remaining until the Big East championships, which will be held April 30-May 2 in Charlottesville, Va. “Right now our team wants to get as many guys qualified for the Big East meets as we can,” Howard said. “That and maintaining our health are our top priorities in this season.”

This weekend’s match will take place Saturday at the University of Louisville.

Contact Chris Allen at callen10@nd.edu

Irish welcome South Florida

By ANDREW OWENS Sports Writer

The Irish will compete in the Louisville Invitational this weekend, a four-team event involving a “Border War” between Indiana and Kentucky.

Notre Dame and Indiana University will compete with the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville. The Irish Invitational is among the most prestigious meet in the country. The Irish have been getting equally focused on doubles play, and the Tiger Classic.

Notre Dame picked up three of the top-five in the men’s hammer throw, among other events.

The top Irish performer was junior Greg Davis, who finished third overall.

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Contact Andew Owens at aowens2@nd.edu

Corrigan continued from page 28

Corrigan said he needs the Irish to play smarter, more focused on doubles.

The Irish competed in four meets last week, including the Notre Dame and Indiana University will compete with the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville.

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Men’s Tennis

Irish ready to bounce back against Louisville

By MEAGHAN VESELIK Sports Writer

After falling 7-0 to No. 2 Ohio State Wednesday in a tough home match, the No. 36 Irish are looking to get back on their feet Saturday when they face Big East rival No. 14 Louisville.

The No. 36 Irish were tough, but that was [Wednesday] and Louisville comes in here Saturday and I doubt if they are feeling too sorry for us,” Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. “Our job now is to regroup and be ready to take on another top 15 team. We hope that the familiar home courts will give us a boost and that we can bounce back from Wednesday’s loss.”

Notre Dame (6-0-1) returned to campus late Tuesday night after competing in Texas over Easter break. The Irish won 1-1, defeating Southern Methodist and falling to Texas A&M. However, Bayliss doesn’t make up any excuses for his team.

“We believe that the first person or team to find an excuse for losing is the one who is making it a self-fuillfilling prophesy,” he said. “Coach Corrigan believes that as a team and we all have to not allow that doubt to creep into your mind and always find something positive to use to your advantage. Hopefully we will handle any adversity well this weekend.”

Notre Dame is looking to average the season’s two losses to the Cardinals, both of which ended by a final of 4-3. Bayliss said he knows that Notre Dame knows it has to have its own advantage in doubles.

“Doubles is more of a心想 than a sprint, and we need to muster the ability to stay with the good teams long enough to be able to take advantage of the momentum swings that go our way,” Bayliss said. “Being patient, yet taking swings that go our way,” Bayliss continued. “If the Irish can come away with a win, it would claim a huge road victory and a boost to their tournament resume. If we do that, it would give them a full head of steam and momentum into their final three Big East games against Providence, St. John’s and two-time defending national champion, No. 3 Syracuse, a game that has already sold out.

“Doubles play is really important to the team,” Bayliss said. “It is important to back up Frilling’s dominance. Her play is important to back up our singles heavily too.”

Fresh off a grueling trip to Texas during which Notre Dame went 1-1 in two matches, the No. 6 Irish return to the familiar home courts of the Eck Tennis Pavilion as they take on No. 19 South Florida Friday.

The Irish will face off with the Bulls at Eck Tennis Pavilion at 3 p.m. Friday.

“Tennis is more of a marathon than a sprint, and we need to muster the ability to stay with the good teams long enough to be able to take advantage of the momentum swings that go our way,” Bayliss said.

The triple jump.

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Halftime
continued from page 28

Both teams had to contend with cold, wind and rain, making dribbling, passing and shooting the slippery ball difficult at best. This especially hurt Team Melissa, who tried to overcome its numbers disadvantage by pushing the ball up the court and looking for fast-break and sec-
ondary-break situations to score. Cinderblock, however, tried to slow the game down as much as possible on defense, using their more moderate size advantage to go inside against a team that includ-
ed three defending women’s bracket champions. This strategy worked well in the first half, as Cinderblock was able to take an 11-6 lead at halftime on the strength of its offensive rebounds.

Desperate for a fifth player, Team Melissa called on Finance professor Carl Ackermann, who was present to watch another game. Ackermann laced up a pair of borrowed sneakers, took off his tie and suit jacket and was ready to play before Berlin arrived at the end of halftime. Team Melissa seemed energized by his arrival and played hard till the end, with McCarthy even blocking a taller Cinderblock player. Berlin’s arrival was too lit-
tle, however, as Dhingra broke free for a breakaway layup — one point at point at one point, Ceponis said, laughing. “Unfortunately, height is the one thing you can’t overcome in this game.”

Because of their numbers dis-
advantage, Cool Runnings started the game in a triangle zone but were not able to close out quick enough on open shooters, allow-
ing Go Meat to stay close by scor-
ing at the same clip as Cool Runnings. When Cool Runnings had the ball, however, they util-
ized their size through repeated high passes to get open looks underneath the basket and to knock down midranges jumpers. With the game tied at 6-6, Cool Runnings began to dominate, as the cold began getting to Go Meat — at one point, Ceponis said, laughing, “My muscles are freezing!”

Despite the cold, the game began getting chippy just before the half, with Go Meat commit-
ing some hard fouls on Cool Runnings. TheRepeated playing and using swarming defense made it hard for Go Meat players. At halftime, Cool Runnings led by just three points over a hard-
fighting Go Meat team. The arrival of the missing play-
ers, however, energized the Cool Runnings squad, who began passing the ball up and down the court and using superior athleti-
cism to go inside for points. Cool Runnings was able to jump out to a lead, riding a run to game point. Go Meat fought hard until the end, however, scoring multi-
ple points on game point before finally falling on a layup. Ceponis said that the loss was hard to stomach.

“It was a heartbreaking loss. As juniors, we thought this would be our year,” she said. “We played well and we’re, well, done.”

Pandamonium

Super Troopers 21, Partee-Moore Wedding 6

Complete with a bride, a groom, a bridesmaid, a flower girl and a presiding priest, the Partee-Moore Wedding came ready to celebrate their nuptials against the black and white clad Pandamonium.

Consisting of Brandi Mader, the flower girl, Caitlin Brown, the bride, Andy Tran, the groom, Grace Ho, the bridesmaid and Joe Serafin, the priest, the Partee-Moore Wedding never let the disparity on the scoreboard, or the miserable weather, stop them from celebrating their joy-
ous day.

Even though Pandamonium, consisting of juniors Pierson, Gesicki, Liars, Pierson, Neva Lundy, Drake Hepp and Will Gesicki, took a commanding 11-3 lead in the first half, that did not stop the Partee-Moore Wedding from celebrating with a toast at halftime. When she felt the mood getting too tense, Mader would throw flowers into the air or blow bubbles to cheer everyone up.

“It was the perfect day for the wedding,” Ho said. “It was every-
thing we dreamed and more.”

“We couldn’t get the date we wanted, that’s why we went with Pandamonium. They were not able to close out quick enough, allowing our offense to dominate the game,” Pierson said. “Drake Hepp will lead us to victory.”

Super Troopers 21, Britney’s Beat Down 17

The Super Troopers and Britney’s Beat Down, a reference to Brittany’s Griner and the baymeker she laid on Jordan Barnacle, battled the rain, sleet and snow, as well as each other in one of the closer games of the day.

The Super Troopers, consisting of juniors Tom Haddard, David Adams, Donald Kafka, Erich Gesicki, took a commanding 11-3 lead in the first half, but once the Super Troopers built a lead, they never looked back. Britney’s Beat Down made a valiant attempt at a comeback, cutting the lead to two points in the second half, but just could not convert on the offensive end with any consistency.

Cota attributed her team’s victory to their stingy defense.

“Our defense kept us in it,” Cota said. “Our offense struggled at times, but we made a run late in the game that won it for us.”

Britney’s Beat Down, consist-
ing of Brian Malloy, Pat Llew, Kevin Rahill, Connor Wills and Thomas VanVolkenburg, appeared physically drained after dealing with the wet and cold for almost an hour and coming up empty-handed.

Contact Allen Joseph at ajosephk2@nd.edu and Matthew Robison at mrobison@nd.edu

Pitching
continued from page 28

hander Steve Sabatino (2-3, 5.65 ERA) and his right-
hander Brian Dupra (2-2, 5.91 ERA).

“Good pitching should beat good hitting, so hopefully our pitching will be better than their pitching,” Schrage said.

Our Dame is in for a tough matchup against Rutgers, which is currently in a tie for first place in the Big East with Louisville (24-
4, 6-1 Big East) and South Florida (13-8, 5-1 Big East). Rutgers is led offensively by freshman infielder Steve Nyisztor, who paces the team with a .375 batting average while adding 21 RBIs.

Also playing strong offen-
sively for the Scarlet Knights are Pat Biscinta (.335, 38 HR, 10 RBIs, 10 HR), Brandon Boykin (.333, 17 RBIs, 4 HR) and

Please recycle The Observer.
"Recently, we have played a lot of really close games," Zentgraf said. "Basically, our mindset going in is that we can't be satisfied with winning in that fashion. It's not enough to win these games in the last six seconds. [Irish coach Tracy Coyne] is telling us that we should be blowing these teams out.

The weekend will offer no respite to the players as they face off against the Orange (6-3) Sunday. The game will be a huge test for an Irish team that is looking to stay near the top of the Big East. "They are a really great team," Scioscia said. "We beat them last year in the Big East semifinals, so they will definitely be coming after us looking for a little revenge." Zentgraf believes Syracuse's athleticism will call the Irish to rise to the challenge of keeping up with Syracuse players like Big East Player of the Year Christina Dove.

"Syracuse is so athletic and fun to play," Zentgraf said. "We haven't really begun to prepare for them strategically with Villanova in the forefront, but it's always exciting to play a great team like that. We're not looking past Villanova, but we're definitely ready to go." The Irish (6-6) will have to contend with Dove, but the two seniors believe their defensive effort, centered around freshman goalie Ellie Hilling, will be more than ready. "Ellie's past three games have been amazing," Zentgraf said. "She has basically carried us through some of these games."

Besides Hilling, some of the other Irish youngsters have stepped up too and will need to continue their strong play down the final stretch of the season. "[Freshman] Betsy Mastropieri has been huge," Zentgraf said. "She was in and out in the beginning of the season, but the past few games she has really stepped up and she's really converting." Zentgraf believes Syracuse and the rest of the Irish will take the field at Arlotta Stadium Friday at 4:30 p.m. against Villanova and again at 1 p.m. Sunday against Syracuse.

"We have had some good practices, some days focusing on individual fundamentals, sometimes on team situations," Gumpf said. "The Irish also emphasize the benefits of practicing real game situations to avoid any surprises the Bulls might bring with them to South Bend. Lately in practice we have been trying to work on the things that could come up in a game and really make or break us in that situation," assistant coach Kris Ganeff said. "We have been focusing on little fundamental details that we might take for granted at this point in the season."
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WOMEN’S LACROSSE

Defending their turf

Notre Dame opens up critical homestand

By CHRIS ALLEN
Sports Writer

The No. 16 Irish open up the biggest home stand of the year this weekend, as they take on Villanova and No. 7 Syracuse at Frank Eck Stadium in two critical Big East matchups.

Villanova (7-2) is in its first year in the conference, but the Irish are careful not to overlook the first year Big East foe.

“We don’t know a lot about them,” senior attack Gina Scioscia said. “But what we do know is that they are a bunch of really talented girls from the East Coast. They’re a team that loves to hustle.”

Senior midfielder Maggie Zentgraf said the game plan for Villanova has centered on how the Irish have played in recent games.

Senior midfielder Maggie Zentgraf staves down the opposition during Notre Dame’s 15-10 win over Duquesne on Feb. 27. Zentgraf shores up an Irish attack averaging 27 shots per game.

BASEBALL
Revitalized offense propels ND into conference matchup

By JARED JEDICK
Sports Writer

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BOOKSTORE BASKETBALL

Undermanned teams face off

By ALLAN JOSEPH AND MATTHEW ROBISON
Sports Writers

Team Melissa played the first half missing a player and could not recover from the disadvantage, falling 21-16 to Float like cinderblocks, and sting like foam rubber.

Team Melissa senior Nick Berlin was meeting University President Emeritus Fr. Theodore Hesburgh and showed up at halftime, leaving senior teammates Sierra Smith, Matt Meckes, Kim Bugs and captain Molly McCarthy to face the Cinderblock squad of freshmen Danny Waytula, Manin “$” Dhingra, Scott Johnson, Ted Dorcherty and captain Michael.

MEN’S LACROSSE

Squad hits the road against Georgetown

By MATTHEW ROBISON
Sports Writer

Coming off two losses to start their inaugural Big East season, the Irish need a big win over No. 11 Georgetown on the road to get back into the NCAA Tournament hunt.

The Hoyas (6-3, 2-1 Big East) come in battle-tested by one of the toughest schedules in the country.

“Georgetown has a very athletic, very skilled, dynamic offense,” Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said. “Defensively, they are very aggressive and in your face.”

After starting the season strong with wins over No. 6 Duke and No. 9 Loyola (Md.), the Irish (5-4, 0-2) have fizzled out as of late and need a win in order to get back on track. At one point, the Irish had climbed all the way to No. 3 in the rankings. But after losses to Drexel, Fairfield and Rutgers, Notre Dame fell out of the NSILA Coaches’ Poll, and almost out of the NCAA Tournament picture.

“We need to win this game to get into the NCAA Tournament,” Corrigan said. “We’ve lost our fall-back — we just need to win now.”

By MOLLY SAMMON
Sports Writer

After Wednesday’s double-header against Bowling Green was postponed because of weather conditions, the Irish are ready to grace the dirt again with hopes of continuing their perfect record at home in this weekend’s three-game series against South Florida.

The No. 23 Irish (26-5, 5-0 Big East) beat conference opponent South Florida (18-15, 3-0) twice last season, but each game was close as the Irish offense was able to make both of the games interesting.

“They are scrappy and fast,” Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said. “They are a team that makes things happen.”

Though the Irish were successful last season, this year the Bulls have a new player on the