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We are prepared

My entire college experience has been defined by my work at The Observer. One of my freshman year roommates was responsible for the other day, and remembered how excited I was to have my first article on the front page, and how late I stayed in the office to earn a measly $10 paycheck. It wasn’t about the money, though. It was about being involved in something important, about being part of a group. I think in high school we all had several of these places, teams and clubs that gave us that feeling. And even though at Notre Dame we each call another part of the same family, it was so nice to have a smaller part of that family to grow close with.

Working at The Observer has not been the easiest job. I couldn’t go five minutes without checking my e-mail without making sure I knew everything that was going on, without having the feeling that I was in control of what was going on at the paper.

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Jenn Metz
Editor-in-Chief Emeritus

COMMENCEMENT TO BE HELD IN STADIUM
University announces location of ceremony, adds departmental diploma ceremonies

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Editor

Last year, graduating seniors could bring only three guests to Commencement. This year, some students will have as many as 60 family members and friends present when they graduate as a result of the University’s decision to move the Commencement ceremony to Notre Dame stadium.

“Parents from each year would say, ‘It’s really hard on us to have so few guests for such an important event and can you please do something about that?’” University Registrar Harold Pace said.

As a result of the change, seniors can have an unlimited number of guests, and their guests will be able to sit together in the stadium. Something that would not have been possible in the Joyce Athletic Center.

Commencement had been held in the Joyce Center since 1969, but the Center’s recent renovations made seating limited and sparked the decision to change locations. Pace said.

“We were already down to three or four tickets per family. We didn’t feel like that was going to go in the future,” Pace said. “We decided to go with this renovation because it was that the year that we needed to make formal recommendations to move to a different stadium.”

Pace estimated that 25,000 people will attend the ceremony, a substantial increase from the 9,000 people who attended the past. He said the crowd is expected to fill half the stadium.

The large bulk of the crowd will be guests. Stephanie Manhout, Senior administrative assistant for the Office of Registrar, said.

Approximately 22,000 guests are expected to attend, with students bringing an average of eight guests, she said.

“The responses that I got were wonderful. It was like yes, I really do have that many family members coming. The one has 60 coming,” Manhout said. “We think it’s wonderful.”

Pace said there will be two large screens broadcasting the ceremony in the stadium, as well as a broadcast in DeBartolo Hall for those who wish to be inside.

Commencement was last held in the stadium in 1959. Commencement has also previously been held at the Grotto, University Mall, Stepan Center and Washington Hall.

In addition to the change in Commencement location, the University will hold diploma ceremonies separate from Commencement.

“What happened in the past was gradu- ating students would go to the field house and faculty were there to distrib- ute the diplomas to them, but not in the ceremony,” Pace said. “They would actually walk into Commencement holding their diploma in hand.”

Assistant Registrar Lora Spaulding said this method of diploma distribution was missing a key element.

“What was lacking there was the individual recognition,” she said.

Eighteen diploma ceremonies, which needed to occur Sunday afternoon, were moved to the Joyce Center. A total of 25,000 people will attend the ceremony.

Pace said the decision to implement diploma ceremo- nies also came in response to parent and student feedback.

“We had requests from parents saying that would be really nice if they could actually see their student receive their diploma in hand and we felt that was an important part of the weekend,” Pace said.

An addi- tional change this year will be the time of the ceremony, Pace said.

Previously, the ceremony was held Sunday afternoon, but this year it will be held at 9 a.m. Pace said.

The addition of diploma ceremonies, which needed to occur Sunday afternoon, contributed to the time change.

Pace said.

“The most common feedback was for the ceremony to be held in the Joyce Center, but severe weather will not affect the number of guests who can attend the diploma ceremonies in the afternoon,” Manhout said.

Pace said the decision to move Commencement to the stadium would be a long-term change.

“It is our location moving forward,” he said.

Spaulding said she thinks the change will be a positive one.

“There is no other venue that can handle the number of people that come,” she said. “I think the students are excited about being able to graduate in the stadium.”

Students can pick up guest tickets today at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu

Nine thousand people gathered in the Joyce Center for last year’s Commencement. This year, an estimated 25,000 people will attend the ceremony at the Notre Dame Stadium.

Pace said.

BLAIR CHEMLIN/Observer Graphic

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Jenn Metz
Senior from Westfield, N.J., graduating Magna Cum Laude with a double major in English and Romance Languages and a minor in Journalism, Ethics and Democracy. She served as Editor-in-Chief of The Observer from 2009-2010. She will be working at ABC News in Manhattan.

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

CORRECTIONS
The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If you’ve made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu
Seniors pleased with selection of NBC anchor Brian Williams

Students say host of Nightly News provides insight and experience without controversy of Obama invitation

By JOSEPH McMAHON
Associate News Editor

University President Fr. John Jenkins selected the host of NBC Nightly News Brian Williams — a journalist who has said he does not even tell his wife who he votes for — to deliver the 2010 Commencement address.

Jenkins’ decision to invite Williams comes on the heels of last year’s controversy over President Barack Obama’s invitation to deliver the address, and seniors say they are pleased with this selection.

“I think Notre Dame made a good selection,” senior Nicholas Dan said. “I’m glad there is no drama about the speaker.”

Dan said he was initially disappointed at not having a speaker with the gravitas of the president of the United States, but he said this changed when he learned more about Williams and his career.

“When the Commencement speaker was first announced, I was fairly unimpressed,” he said. “But after some reflection, I think he will do a good job. Reporters have a wide variety of experiences, and speak for a living. I’m sure he will be interesting.”

Although some Notre Dame seniors said they are not devotees of any nightly news program, senior Keith Ruelmann said he knew of Williams from his humorous appearances on 30 Rock and The Daily Show.

“I liked him on 30 Rock, so I approve,” he said. Ruelmann said although he is sure Williams’ address will contain the same messages as speakers in the past, he is confident that his experience as someone who has traveled the world and met numerous heads of state would make the Commencement speech memorable.

“I’d imagine it’ll be the same ‘go out and change the world, you are the future’ talk, but as someone who has made a career out of covering the news around the world, I think he’ll be in a unique position to offer insight from his experience,” he said. “I’m looking forward to hearing what he has to say.”

Jenkins said he was very happy the University was able to secure a speaker with the stature of Williams.

“Mr. Williams is one of this country’s most respected and trusted journalists, and we are absolutely delighted that he has accepted our invitation,” Jenkins said in a press release. “He has tremendous insight into the current state of our world, and I know his perspectives will be of great interest to our graduating class of 2010.”

When he heard Williams would deliver the address, senior James Redden said he was glad there would be no controversy at Commencement this year.

“I am not disappointed that Brian Williams is the speaker,” he said. “I think he will be engaging and entertaining. I am glad that this year’s speaker is not controversial because it keeps the focus on the celebration of the seniors instead of the speaker.”

Dan and Ruelmann also said they were very happy there would be no drama this year.

“I’m glad that I won’t have to worry about the firestorm that existed last year,” Ruelmann said.

“Mr. Williams is one of this country’s most respected and trusted journalists, and we are absolutely delighted that he has accepted our invitation.”

Fr. John Jenkins University President

“I’m glad that I won’t have to worry about the firestorm that existed last year.”

Keith Ruelmann senior

Thapa said she is impressed by Williams’s looks.

“He is handsome and hopefully he’ll have something resonating to say,” she said. Thapa said she really wished one of Williams’s NBC co-workers could have given the address.

“I really wish Alec Baldwin, Tina Fey or Amy Poehler would’ve been selected,” she said. “I have the utmost confidence that one of them would have delivered the speech of a lifetime.”

Williams is the seventh anchor of the NBC Nightly News and has reported on events such as Hurricane Katrina, the death of Pope John Paul II and the war in Iraq. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations in New York and on the Board of Directors of the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation.

He received his undergraduate degree from George Washington University and then studied at the Catholic University of America.

Contact Joseph McMahon at jnmcahoh6@nd.edu.
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FIVE YEARS IN REVIEW

Friday, May 14, 2010 page 5

The top Observer news stories from the 2006-2010 academic years

After months of controversy, President Barack Obama delivered the University’s 164th Commencement address, asking graduates to seek common ground on abortion and other divisive issues facing the country.

Obama acknowledged the controversy surrounding his visit to campus and noted the irreconcilable differences in the abortion debate.

“Your class has come of age at a moment of great consequence for our nation and the world — a rare inflection point in history where the size and scope of the challenges before us require that we remake our world to renew its promise, that we align our deepest values and our commitment to the demands of a new age,” he told the Class of 2009.

University President Fr. John Jenkins invited Obama to speak at Commencement and receive an honorary degree in March of 2009 — a decision that sparked protests from students, alumni and groups unaffiliated with the University.

The student group ND Response formed days after Jenkins’ announcement, staged demonstrations and submitted a petition to Jenkins criticizing his decision.

Yet a count by The Observer in April showed that out of 345 Letters to the Editor authored by students, 74 percent were in favor of the invitation and 29 were against after a decision.

In an interview with The Observer, Jenkins said he was “honored” when Obama accepted the University’s invitation. “Presidents from both parties have come to Notre Dame for decades to speak to graduates about our nation and our world,” Jenkins said. “They’ve given important addresses on international affairs, human rights, service, and we’re delighted that President Obama is continuing that tradition.”

Five students die during past four school years

Senior Caitlin Brann, 22, died in a car accident after her tire blew out on the Indiana Toll Road in November 2006. More than 200 students gathered a day later at the Grotto to pray and sing in her memory, and Brann’s friends called her “a spark of fire.”

Brann was a marketing major from Oklahoma Park, Ill., and was expected to major in business.

Student groups from the 2009-2010 academic year included: The South Bend Common Council passed an amended form of an ordinance that would require permits for parties of 25 or more people. The ordinance lays out rules that, if enforced, would force residents of boarding houses to obtain a permit to have a party of 25 or more people where alcohol would be served.

Future legislation could enact the ordinance.

City council passes party ordinance

Two students shot outside Club 23

Seniors Matthew Collins and Mitchell Depree were shot by a man in an SUV around 1 a.m. on August 21 following a conversation with the shooter.

Collins was shot in the abdomen and leg, wounds that were originally considered life-threatening. A bullet in Collins’ abdomen remains.

Depree was shot in Collins’ abdomen.

The Mendoza College of Business was named the top undergraduate business school in the nation in Bloomberg Businessweek’s annual rankings. Notre Dame was ranked second in 2009, beat out schools like the University of Virginia, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University of Pennsylvania.

Eddy Street Commons opens

Eddy Street Commons opened for business at the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year. Restaurants like Five Guys Burgers and Fries and Chipotle have opened and four more tenants — Kildare’s Irish Pub, Nicholas J. Salon and Spa, Camellia Cosmetics and an upscale diner called The Mark — are expected to open in the coming months.

Business school named No. 1

Students ask to add sexual orientation to clause

Members of the Campaign for Human Dignity petitioned University President Fr. John Jenkins to add sexual orientation to the University’s nondiscrimination clause.

The University did not change the clause, which states, that it “does not discriminate based on race, ethnicity, color, national origin, sex, disability, veteran status or age.”

Mary Ann Glendon, former U.S. ambassador to the Holy See, declined the Laetare Medal in a letter to University President Fr. John Jenkins on April 27, saying that she was “dismayed” President Barack Obama was selected to receive an honorary degree. In 1979, the first time the award has been accepted and then declined in its 120-year history.

Glendon declines Laetare Medal

Senior Connor McGrath, a sophomore, was shot with the shooter.

McGrath was a resident of Sorin College.

Business school named No. 1

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Poet Dana Gioia will receive Laetare Medal

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Editor

Dana Gioia, poet and former chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), will receive the Laetare Medal, the University’s highest honor, during the 2010 Commencement ceremony on May 15. The University announced in a press release March 14 that the Laetare Medal is the oldest and most prestigious honor given to American Catholics and is awarded annually to a Catholic “whose generous heart has studied the arts and sciences, illustrated the ideals of the Church and enriched the heritage of humanity,” the University said.

Mary Ann Glennon initially accepted the Laetare Medal last year, but then declined the honor after hearing the University would award an honorary degree to President Barack Obama. University spokesman Dennis Brown said last year’s events did not affect the selection process this year.

University President Fr. John Jenkins commended Gioia’s commitment to both faith and culture. “Gioia is a model of faith, writing, and avocation as arts administrator. Dana Gioia has given vivid witness to the mutual flourishing of faith and culture,” Jenkins said in the release. “By awarding him our highest honor we hope both to celebrate and participate in that witness.”

Gioia is the second poet to receive the Laetare Medal. The University presented poet Phyllis McGinley with the medal in 1973.

Gioia has published three collections of poetry, including “Interrogations at Noon,” which won the 2002 American Book Award. He also published eight smaller collections of poems, two operas, libretti and many translations of Latin, Italian and German poetry.

He also has edited more than 20 literary anthologies and writes essays and reviews for magazines, such as The New Yorker, The Washington Post Book World, and The New York Times Book Review and Slate. Gioia served as chairman of the NEA from 2003 to 2009. During his tenure, he sought to strengthen bipartisan support for public funding of arts and humanities education, to champion jazz as a uniquely American art form, to promote Shakespeare readings and performances nationwide and to distribute NEA grants more widely.

In a lecture he delivered in 2000, Gioia said “Catholicism and Catholicism work together because the ‘Catholic, liberal church’ by birth, when he or she is baptized, is raised in a culture that understands symbols and signs.”

“In Catholicism also trains you in understanding the relationship between the visible and the invisible. Consequently, allegory finds its greatest realization in Catholic artists like Dante.”

“St. Thomas Aquinas understood that the universe is a grand poem and that the arts are the means to understand a universe that contains more than 7,000 species of marine life. Aquanauts in 1970 and holds the record for the deepest solo dive.”

In September 2009, she published “The World Is Blue: How Our Eyes Helped Create the Universe,” which discusses the need to protect our oceans and the work people need to do to keep them clean.

“Doctor Earle is a passionate advocate for the survival of our planet,” Mooney said in the release. “We need the oceans and we need to know them. I know our graduate students will be inspired by her work and her passion for our planet.”

Sylvia Earle, left, will deliver Saint Mary’s 2010 Commencement address and receive a honorary doctor of humanities degree. Author Lois Lowry will also be receiving an honorary doctor of laws degree.

Earle has written more than 75 pieces relating to the global ecosystem, namely the ocean. She was the first woman to receive an honorary degree on the Comedy Central program “Colbert Nation” to convey her message of protecting the environment.

According to the press release, Earle has been monitored and protected areas across the globe. These include a more than 140,000 square-mile ocean home called the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands National Marine Sanctuary, which contains more than 7,000 species of marine life. Lowry, a Newbery and a National Book Award winner, will receive a Medal for her book “Number the Stars” and “The Giver.” She is also author of the “Anastasia Krupnik” series.

Biblical studies at the Holy Cross School of Theology in Brookline, Mass. After the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, he presided at many memorial services and funerals for the victims.

The University will award Fr. Reginald a doctor of laws degree. Nicknamed “the Papal Pilot,” Foster is considered an expert on the Latin language and has worked in the “Latin Letters” section of the Vatican for many years. He has taught Church documents into Latin.

In 2006, Foster founded a free Latin academy for English speakers wishing to learn the language or improve their Latin skills.

MaryAnn Mathile, a top philanthropist, will receive a doctor of laws degree. She is the chief executive officer, board chair and treasurer of the Mathile Family Foundation. Mathile and her husband, Clayton, established their foundation to support children and families in the Dayton, Ohio area.

Among the foundation’s largest gifts was an academic building at Saint Mary’s College.

Marc Maurer, a 1974 Notre Dame graduate, will receive a doctor of laws degree. Maurer, who was blinded by an overexposure to oxygen after birth, now serves as president of the National Federation of the Blind (NFB). Under his leadership, NFB has expanded its headquarter and accelerated development of innovative education, technology, products and services to improve the independence of blind people.

Ted McCormack, who graduated from Notre Dame in 1960, will receive a doctor of laws degree. McCourtney, who was appointed as a cardinal in 2001, is the lead partner of Venrock for 30 years. Venrock was an early investor in Apple Computer and Intel.

McCormack has also served on the University’s Board of Trustees and he remains an Emeritus Trustee.

Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O’Connor will receive a doctor of laws degree. A native of England, Murphy-O’Connor served as rector of the Venerable English College in Rome and president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales. Pope John Paul II made him a cardinal in 2001. His ministry is well known for his ecumenical work, the protection of human life and the rights of immigrants.

In addition to these honorary degrees, the University will award the Laetare Medal, its highest honor, to Dana Gioia, poet and former chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) at the Commencement ceremony.

Last year, much controversy surrounded the University’s decision to award President Barack Obama an honorary doctor of laws degree. Obama was the ninth U.S. president to be awarded with an honorary degree, a March 20, 2009, press release said.

This article originally ran in the March 31 edition of The Observer.

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu

SMC awards Earle, Lowry

By ASHLEY CHARNEY
Saint Mary’s Editor

Marine biologist Sylvia Earle will deliver Saint Mary’s 2010 Commencement address and receive an honorary doctor of humanities degree. Author Lois Lowry will also be receiving an honorary doctor of laws degree.

Earle has written more than 75 pieces relating to the global ecosystem, namely the ocean. She was the first woman to receive an honorary degree on the Comedy Central program “Colbert Nation” to convey her message of protecting the environment.

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Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu

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Five rectors to leave at end of school year

By SARA MERSOVAH
News Editor

Although Linda Grillo, rector of Lewis Hall, attended the University of Southern California, previously worked at Georgetown University and will now be moving to Ohio State University, she said she will always be a Domer at heart.

“I’ll make a choice today on which university I would have gone to, Notre Dame would be the one,” Grillo said. “Do not worry that I will start cheering for the Buckeyes. I really feel that I am a Domer.”

Grillo and several other rectors will leave their positions at the end of the academic year. Other rectors who will be leaving include Sr. Janet Stankowski of Walsh Hall, Fr. Jim King of Sorin College, Sophie Henriks of Pasquarilla West Hall and Amy de la Torre of Cavanaugh Hall.

Henrichs, who will leave the position after her rectorate is over, said she tried to keep a balance between allowing fun to occur and responsible because any decision she made just isn’t going to affect the world.

Washington earned a 4.0 grade point average and will receive a degree in biological sciences with a minor in Catholic Social Teaching.

After graduation, Washington will address her classmates from her position as an academic leader during the Commencement ceremony Saturday.

“I really hope that my class will reflect on the last few years in hopeful anticipation for what is next,” Washington said.

“It’s a scary step, but I hope that we all choose to approach it with confidence and resolve, knowing that we have what it takes to affect the world.”

Washington said it was a privilege to experience the randomness, the joy and I make just isn’t going to affect the world.

Both Grillo and Henriks said they will remember their participation in dorm events after leaving the University.

“It was my second year here and I allowed them to paint me up just like them and it was really fun,” Grillo said. “[It was] the pep rally for the football game. I allowed my chicks to paint my face, and I was part of the cheering group.”

Henrichs also showed dorm pride when Pasquarilla West Hall was in the interhall football championship game and she dressed up as the dorm’s mascot.

“I wore a weasel costume out onto the field,” said King. “I don’t think anybody else can actually say they’ve worn a weasel costume down Library Quad and right into the tunnel of Notre Dame Stadium. A rector in a weasel suit.”

King, who was the rector of Sorin College for seven years, said dorm life is integral to the Notre Dame experience.

“I believe that Holy Cross’ model of residence hall ministry is the heart and soul of Notre Dame and the single most important explanation of why alumni feel as strongly about the University as they do,” King said.

King will serve as Religious Superior for Holy Cross priests and will move to Corby Hall to take over his new position.

Grillo, who is moving to Ohio to be a hospital chaplain, also said she will have fond memories of her students.

“I think the most important thing is probably the joy that comes for me to see my freshmen when I came in as a freshman, helping them to transition as seniors and also I’m graduating,” she said. “That has been a lot of joy. To see them blossom and see them grow into young beautiful women that are mature and ready to go out into the world.”

University President Emeritus Fr. Theodore Hesburgh and several of the University’s first female graduates toasted to Class of 2010 valedictorian Katie Washington at Hesburgh’s birthday lunch Tuesday.

Washington will address her classmates from her position as an academic leader during the Commencement ceremony Saturday.

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Washington’s research experience has included work at the Cold Spring Harbor Labs and genetic studies in the University’s Eck Institute for Global Health on dengue and yellow fever, according to a University press release.

“A lot of times, when I have found myself worrying about whether or not the work I do will matter for the big picture of global health care or to universal efforts towards social justice in general. I try to shift my frame of reference to realize that there are people all over this University and the world who are working just as hard as I am to find solutions to problems that matter,” Washington said.

Washington said the classes and professors that she has encountered in her years at Notre Dame established her desire to give as much as she can, no matter how big or small, to her community.

“I realize how blessed I am to be able to participate in a community of people who have similar goals, hopes and ambitions for the world,” she said.

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By MEGAN DOYLE
News Writer

“I feel so content and overwhelmed with gratitude.”

Katie Washington valedictorian

“I feel so content and overwhelmed with gratitude.”

Katie Washington valedictorian
Four years ago, the Class of 2010 arrived on Notre Dame's campus, ready to make new friends and start a new life beneath the shadow of the Golden Dome.

Now, as Commencement approaches, seniors say they are ready to move on but will miss the community they have found here on campus.

"My favorite part of Notre Dame is the people I've met here," said Jenny Heil, a senior human osteology major, "I've made phenomenal friends, and I'll miss them all. I've got great memories from Dillon Hall."

Bodewig, who is applying for graduate school, said she can see a silver lining to the tough job market.

"I think companies' needs have changed," Bodewig said. "In the past, they used to pay to go to college. Now, they don't have to pay for education. So now you have companies without an edge, and you have more competition."
Congratulations
Class of 2010

Want to make a difference in the world?
Contact us for the opportunity of a lifetime.

We heard a summons to give over our lives in a more explicit way. It was a call to serve all people, believers and unbelievers alike. We would serve them out of our own faith that the Lord had loved us and died for us and risen for us and that He offers us a share in his life, a life more powerful and enduring than any sin or death.

Constitutions of the Congregation of Holy Cross

vocation.nd.edu
New residence Ryan Hall opens

The University's newest residence hall, Ryan Hall, opened at the beginning of the school year to house nearly 250 women. It is located between Welsh Family Hall and the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore.

Ryan features traditional single, double and quad rooms, but also has modified "super doubles," which have bay windows, and "super quads," which have private bathrooms. The dorm established their identity as the turquoise and white Ryan Wildcats.

As the newest dorm on campus, Ryan is a "green hall," with amenities to save energy. Some green features include high efficiency washing machines, energy efficient windows, and toilets that have two flush sizes to save water.

SMC enrollment highest since 1991

Despite the economic downturn of the past year, Saint Mary's College saw its highest enrollment since 1991.

The College currently has 1,664 students, up from 1,527 in 2006.

Vice President for Enrollment Management Daniel Meyer said the increase can be attributed to two things.

For the past four years, we have had more than 425 students in each of the first-year classes," Meyer said. "Secondly, this year we had greater than expected retention of first-year students to second-year students.

College President Carol Ann Mooney named an enrollment increase as a goal first-year classes," Meyer said. "Secondly, this year we had greater than expected retention of first-year students to second-year students.

College President Carol Ann Mooney named an enrollment increase as a goal in her recent state of the plan, written to strengthen diversity and stabilize the campus community financially. According to the plan, the College's operating budget is strained when the enrollment falls below 1,500 students.

In a struggling economy, Saint Mary's families need more financial aid, which has resulted in an 11 percent increase of an average amount of $2,700 per student, according to a press release. In response to this, the College increases its institutional aid budget by around $2.6 million.

Budget cuts and changes allow Saint Mary's College professor and playwright Susan Brabant Baxter's play, "Confessions of the Chaff," directed by Professor Mark Poorman said the University is making a safety priority, in response to the assault.

Eddy Street Commons opens

Following years of planning and development by the University, Eddy Street Commons opened this past September, providing students and faculty with services such as a number of new restaurants and high-end housing.

"Eddy Street is still under development and some aspects such as a full-service hotel have been delayed because of the recession, others, such as a Chipotle restaurant, have proved to be popular with students and been declared a success by the University.

SMC prof. writes award-winning play

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Jenkins marches with students in pro-life rally

The shadow of the 2009 controversy over President Barack Obama’s invitation to deliver the Commencement address, University President Fr. John Jenkins participated in the March for Life in Washington D.C. Jan. 22.

In the shadow of the 2009 controversy over President Barack Obama’s invitation to deliver the Commencement address, University President Fr. John Jenkins participated in the March for Life in Washington D.C. on Jan. 22.

Jenkins accompanied about 400 students to the Capitol and he said there was a “certain energy” in the students marching that day, after abortion colorized the debate over Obama’s presence on campus the previous spring.

Before the March, Jenkins celebrated a Mass in St. Agnes Church in Arlington Va. with the students who were staying in the Irish Center.

“Out of all the controversy from last spring, we wanted to take steps to deepen the pro-life cause,” Jenkins said to The Observer after the March.

Students petition for addition of sexual orientation to nondiscrimination clause

Over 200 students and faculty rallied outside the Main Building on Jan. 27, demanding the University change its nondiscrimination clause to add sexual orientation.

The “No Home Under the Dome” demonstration presented a petition and letter to University President John Jenkins asking for the policy change, and the protesters attempted to enter the Main Building before being denied access by Notre Dame Security Police (NDSP) officers.

The demonstration followed an offensive of student parties about violence against the gay community that ran in The Observer on Jan. 13.

The petition asking for the inclusion of sexual orientation into the nondiscrimination clause has been presented to Jenkins several times in the past, and each time has been rejected.

The University issued a statement that afternoon upholding its current nondiscrimination policy and the “Spirit of Inclusion,” which represents the University’s “commitment to an inclusive community.”

Economics dept. branch dissolved

The Academic Council voted to dissolve the Department of Economics and Policy Studies (EOP) at a February meeting, a decision that received backlash from students and faculty in the Department.

The University has supported two economics departments since 2003, when the Academic Council voted to split the Department of Economics into Economics and Policy Studies and Economics and Econometrics.

The remaining Department of Economics and Econometrics will become the University’s only economics department starting next academic year.

The College of Arts and Letters students said they would honor the tenure of EOOP professors and find places in other areas at the University.

But economics students submitted a petition to Arts and Letters asking to continue EOP, and students to sexual orientation passed a resolution calling for a delay of the dissolution of the Department.

Business school ranked No. 1

The Mendoza College of Business was named the top undergraduate business school in the country in Bloomberg BusinessWeek’s fifth annual rankings.

Notre Dame, which was ranked second in 2009, finished ahead of the business schools of University of Virginia, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and University of Pennsylvania.

The criteria included students’ response to teachers, SAT scores, recruiters’ response to students and student-faculty ratio.

Economists for their school’s commitment to ethics. Catholic beliefs and compassionate professors helped land Mendoza in first place, the BusinessWeek article said. “During an economic crisis that has left many young people unemployed, Mendoza also managed a strong showing in career placement, with 95 percent of graduates landing a job offer within three months of graduation.”

Carolyn Woo, dean of Mendoza College of Business, said a commitment to undergraduate education as well as the entire Notre Dame experience came true.

She said Mendoza does not tailor its curriculum to rankings, but rather strives to fulfill Notre Dame’s mission.

“One is a school to honor the Blessed Mother, and (University President Emeritus Fr. Howard) Hesburgh once said, ‘You are not the school to fulfill the Blessed Mother,’” she said.

“What we do, we should do as well as we can. We did what we did because it is our mission.”

Admission

Glenn Close speaks at SMC

Glenn Close visited Saint Mary’s College March 15 as the Margaret Hill Endowed Lecturer in “An Evening With Glen Close.” Close spoke about her journey as an actor in the College’s O’Laughlin Auditorium. She shared stories about her life and told tales of past auditions, her childhood and her family.

As a 12th generation Connecticut Yankee, actress Glenn Close found her inspiration and strength in her two grandmothers and her mother to pursue her dreams.

Close introduced herself with an anecdote about a woman who spotted her at the airport and mistook her for Meryl Streep.

“You should be in a certain stage of your career to deeply influence my perception of me,” Close said.

Close showed us some of her characters and her grandmothers’ strong personalities. Both of her grandmothers were talented — one dreamed of being a famous singer, and the other longed to become an actor.

Though she had been successful in her career and had been awarded many of the parts she wanted, Close said she was greatly influenced by others.

“I’ve had so many brilliant people constantly whispering in my ear,” Close said.

Saint Mary’s March Dance Marathon raises $77,328

Saint Mary’s and Notre Dame students gathered in “Dance for a Chance” at the College’s Angela Athletic Facility March 26-27.

The event, which was hosted by the College with the help of Notre Dame’s Pre-Professional Society, raised $77,328 and will donate $2,000 to the Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis.

This year, we were focused on fundraising, making our presence known and trying to raise awareness,” said Dance Marathon president Kelly Deranek, a senior.

The night included live performances by the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s Irish dance team and bands such as South Asian. In addition, raffles, crafts and card games were among the many activities of the night.

Children from Riley attended the event including Marty Manges, who said arm wrestling with a Notre Dame football player was one of the funnest things he had ever done. The Saint Mary’s College Student Senate also came to teach volunteers how to dance.

Soler, Bell elected student body president, vice president

Sophomores Catherine Soler and Andrew Bell were elected student body president and vice president Feb. 8 and took office April 1.

The duo became the first all-sophomore ticket to win the election when they defeated their opponents with 54.6 percent of the vote. Soler and Bell won without a runoff election.

“This is the first time in at least four years that we haven’t had a runoff,” then-Official Council president Ian Sevick said.

Soler previously served as sophomore class president while Bell was a student senator. They defeated juniors Eras Noel and Julian Corona and freshmen Peter Ledet and Gabe Alvare in the election.

Soler and Bell promised a textbook rental program and to focus on community relations during their time in office.

Chesley, Smith take SGA office

Saint Mary’s juniors Rachael Chesley and Laura Smith said they would bring a “fresh perspective” to their roles as Student Government Association (SGA) president and vice president, respectively, when they took office April 1.

The pair defeated junior Meg Griffin, current SGA vice president, and sophomore Emily Skirtich, SGA executive secretary in the Feb. 26 election.

“Shaylee and I are a team for the students,” Smith said.

One of their main goals is to be a strong voice for the student body, Chesley said. They are both music business students, and they want to bring more music related programming to the campus.

One of their main goals is to be a strong voice for the student body, Chesley said. Their main goal is to bring music related programming to the campus.

Chesley and Smith said their mission can be stated in two words: “Community” and “integration.”

“I am excited for the opportunity to be a visible and involved voice for the students,” Chesley said. “This opportunity will be a challenging and rewarding one, and it will surely be an opportunity to provide a fresh perspective and an enthused and involved leader for the student body.”

Soler and Bell take over as student body president, vice president

Sophomores Catherine Soler and Andrew Bell were elected student body president and vice president without a runoff election Feb. 8. The duo became the first all-sophomore ticket to win and took office April 1.
Music video draws mixed reactions

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Writer

A video project for the Athletics Department featuring the Notre Dame pom squad, football fans, football games and basketball games and Ohio-based funk band Freekbass has sparked a stir among students — resulting in a Facebook group protesting the video with almost 4,000 members.

The video is a Notre Dame footage featuring Freekbass singing the chorus “We are ND. We are Notre Dame. Notre Dame, Notre Dame,” in the Notre Dame Stadium, the Joyce Athletic Center and under the “Play Like a Champion Today” sign.

“It was really awesome working with equipment and helping professors do something on a professional level rather than as a student,” he said.

Senior Stephanie Jensen, a member of the Notre Dame Marching Band, plays the tuba during a scene filmed at Notre Dame Stadium. Jensen said her scene was filmed in about five or six takes, which took about half an hour. A scene showing the whole video was filmed in one day.

“It’s always fun being with band kids,” Jensen said of the experience filming the video. “It was kind of weird. I can’t really verbalize it. I wouldn’t be something Notre Dame would usually do. I guess it was just atypical,”

Grunewald said he was surprised how fast the Facebook group protesting the video grew.

“I started it and within about 20 minutes, there were already over 100 people, and it exponentially grew from there,” Grunewald said.

But Mandell said he heard positive feedback on the video as well.

“I think being posted on the University YouTube channel set certain expectations for the viewer. No one expected to see a video from the O.S.C.A.R.S. No one expected to see a guy like Freekbass. No one expected to hear a funky little fan song,” he said.

“I think some viewers applied their expectations of what they thought it would be to, in what it really was, and that produces negative opinion.

“I’ve gotten nothing but positive feedback from how faculty and administrators who see it. They’ve been happy — fun and goofy. Freekbass certainly doesn’t take himself seriously. He makes himself funny.”

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu
"Act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with your God." —MICAH 6:8

The University of Notre Dame Center for Social Concerns wishes to honor the following graduates of the Class of 2009 who have committed a year or more to full-time postgraduate service. Our thoughts and prayers are with you as you go forth.

Allison Ackerman
Karla Albite
Jaime Amrein
Michael Angulo
Gregory Arbogast
John Ania
Marie Bader
Emily Bal拉斯ar
Kyle Barrett
Stephan Beach
Marisa Behan
Nathan Bernardi
Robert Bernardin
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Sarah Boelding
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Margaret Condi
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Margaret Culhane
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Julie Garcia
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Matthew Gelchion
Christina Golubski
Michael Gotsch
Thomas Haan
Patrick Hagan
Greer Hannah
Ashley Hardy
Michael Hawking
Kathleen Hedrick
Caitlin Hildebrand
Lucy Hirt
Patricia Hughes
Caitlin Ivester
Kathleen Janik
Dana Jason
Rebecca Jones
Amy Karvoski
Jonathan Kearney
Damian Kearney
Robert Kessler
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Brendan McCarthy
Michael McDonald
Kathleen McDonnell
Kerry McGuire
Lourdes Meraz
Michael Merz
Michael Mesterham
Agata Michalka
Stacy Mick
Andrew Miller
Sarah Miller
Geoffrey Mooney
Miranda Moyer
Adrienne Murphy
Caitlin Murphy
Patrick Needleman
Emilie Norton
Adi Nott
Kristine Nugent
Elizabeth Nye
Christopher Ochoa
Theophilus Ossei-Anto
Katherine Palumbo
Katherine Paquette
Courtney Parry
Leann Parson
Diane Patterson
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Daniel Reimer Jr.
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Asa Rocha
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Michelle Webb
Faustina Weber
Thomas Weiler
James Welle
Laura Wilczek
Ashka Wilkinson
Bryan Wintner
Margaret Wong
Nicole Yergler
Whitney Young
Alyssa Zamora
Eileen Zander
Tessa Zientek
Daniel Zimmerman
...and many more.
After attending the same school for 17 years, Saint Mary's College graduate Mooly Guan was recognized as a senior by the College during Honors Convocation. Guan has been recognized for her cross tradition of information, and so she can be considered a worthy candidate for the award.

The two plan to give a joint speech at the Honors Convocation. Guan said she was thrilled to receive the award, but she didn't expect it. Guan had been recognized by the College, she also went to the Marble Awards in 1993, which is an award that recognizes "quality of teaching done in courses for first-year students." Guan is an economics and English student, and she has been recognized by the College because of her hard work and dedication to the student body.

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@saintmarys.edu and Ashley Charnley at acharl01@saintmarys.edu

---

Guan is the student representative for the College Alumnae Association and the Student Academic Council. Guan has demonstrated personal excellence and a commitment to the College Community. She is for a conscious student who has been recognized by the College because of her hard work and dedication to the student body.

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@saintmarys.edu and Ashley Charnley at acharl01@saintmarys.edu

---

Eisterhold is a senior who has been recognized by the College because of her hard work and dedication to the student body. Eisterhold is the student ambassador who shows the young women. It's a privilege to teach here, and she really enjoys teaching and giving a well-rounded education.

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@saintmarys.edu and Ashley Charnley at acharl01@saintmarys.edu

---

O'Connor is a senior who has been recognized by the College because of her hard work and dedication to the student body. O'Connor is the student representative for the College Alumnae Association and the Student Academic Council. O'Connor has demonstrated personal excellence and a commitment to the College Community. She is for a conscious student who has been recognized by the College because of her hard work and dedication to the student body.

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@saintmarys.edu and Ashley Charnley at acharl01@saintmarys.edu

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Mary's College on May 2.

Saint Mary's was founded in 1842 by the Sisters of the Holy Cross and is the oldest Catholic college in the United States west of the Mississippi River. The College is a private, co-educational institution located in North Bay Village, Florida, and offers undergraduate and graduate programs in various fields of study.

The College is unique because it is the only college in the United States that has a full-time resident director of the College, a position that is filled by a member of the College administration. The College is also unique because it is the only college in the United States that has a full-time resident director of the College, a position that is filled by a member of the College administration.
Teams win $15,000 competition

By KATIE PERALTA
Senior Staff Writer

The Gigot Center for Entrepreneurial Studies recently announced Weekend Student Adventures (WSA) and Morph and Thru as the winners of its annual business venture competitions, awarding each team top prizes of $15,000.

The competitions were held at the Mendoza College of Business. This year’s McCloskey Business Plan Competition and Social Venture Plan Competition drew entries from 101 student and alumni teams, which is its highest number yet, Karen Slaggert, program manager for the business plan competitions, said.

“This year we had such a great mix of student and alumni teams,” Slaggert said. “We were blown away by the quality of the presentations of the undergraduates.”

Led by senior BFA student Andrew Steves, the winning McCloskey team, which conceived the WSA idea, was comprised of MSA candidate Patrick Carey, JBA candidate Helen Lee and MBA candidate Jeff Harker.

WSA presented a multi-faceted business plan that serves American college students studying abroad in Europe. It offers guided tours and open international youth hostels.

Steves said he and Carey plan to go to Europe in August to research some number of initial destinations based on popularity.

“The most rewarding part of winning the competition was receiving all the support and insight from distinguished alumni and competition mentors,” he said.

The other competition, the Social Venture Competition, was composed of all undergraduates who developed a plan called Red Carabao to commercialize Progenitex™, a laboratory process that rapidly expands progenitor bone marrow cells collected from umbilical cord blood.

Ultimately, Jacobs said most peer institutions have similar positions already established, and Entrikin would help the University be “a powerful force for good that was not restricted to U.S. boundaries.”
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The Observer

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The views expressed in this column are necessarily those of The Observer.

The Observer is indexed by (hopefully) visiting his adventure

viewpoint space is available to all readers. The free expression of all opinio through letters is encouraged. Letters to the Editor must be signed and must include your name, college, major, year and address.

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor-in-Chief/Mary Camarillo

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Chinese philosopher

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Kara King

Viewpoint
Editor Emeritus

Kara King is graduating with a BBA in Accounting and a B.A in Economics. She still isn’t sure how useful two degrees will be, but figured that she should take the University up on its buy one get one free offer. She would like to thank her parents and siblings for everything. 800 words is not nearly enough! She hopes that you’ve had the ‘privilege’ of counting and reading the hundreds of letters congratulating Obama’s visit to campus in my last few weeks on the job. I’m definitely not the same person who cockily assumed I’d be given the AME position after a year on Ed Board and allowed that overconfidence to affect the quality of my work. Every day I was challenged and through undertaking these challenges that I was able to grow into who I am now.

Ultimately, The Observer allowed me to show who I have become here at Notre Dame. It granted me the opportunity to prove that all the hype and rankings around the football team, its fans, and its ethics curriculum are an actuality not lost on the students. While recruiting is the biggest reason that I had to do here, in a way it was a final lesson that I had to learn before graduating. Actions have consequences regardless of intention, and those consequences are much easier to accept when still sheltered under the Notre Dame Bubble. I have no regrets in how I reacted after the situation arose, and would much prefer that to the alternative. I’m still pretending I don’t have to leave the bubble yet. But I know that after I receive my diploma and finally leave, I will be more than prepared for whatever awaits, partially because of Notre Dame, the institution, but much more so because of Notre Dame, the family. And especially because of those annoying nights spent laboring away in the basement of South Dining Hall, hoping to leave before breakfast.

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I feel like I only just started. The prospect now of not knowing what the future holds is especially daunting. 

Looking back at the past four years, though, I am starting to realize how much I have grown and how ready I am to move on. I might be graduating without summa cum laude status, a ring on my finger or a job but I am still feeling like much more of a big kid than the wide eyed 19-year-old that I came in as. 

And also cliché as it may sound, I often find this feeling to the experience I had here. Of course the fabulous American Studies faculty I have been privileged to know here (thank you especially professors Aridzzone, Meissner, Doss and Schmalh) and the courses I’ve taken have contributed to my overall growth. Of course the papers I’ve written, the books I’ve read and the lectures I’ve attended have made me into a more learned and well-rounded individual. 

But the experiences I’ve had outside the classroom — from The Observer to studying abroad in Spain to volunteering within the South Bend community — have built me up and made me ready to take on whatever comes next. 

I remember toward the beginning of the second semester of my freshman year someone told me I would find my niche by really rethinking what I want and being assertive. On somewhat of a whim, I picked up an Observer, obeyed one of those annoying grey boxes on the bottom of the News section advertising the need for writers and chatted with then-Editor-in-Chief Maddie Hanna. 

Being never written for any kind of publication, I couldn’t sleep the night before my first article came out. It’s embarrassing to admit the fact that I was like a kid on Christmas Eve that night, but I somehow knew before it even happened that I was about to start something meaningful. 

Throughout sophomore year my friends at the newspaper used to joke that it was kind of ironic that we were actually college students since everything we did in the basement of South Dining Hall (Observer office) seemed to trump our actual schoolwork. 

The good of GPA had its ups and downs throughout my Observer career as a result of a number of distractions, revelations and inspirations, but after a year’s hiatus when I was in Europe, I, for some reason or another, decided to come back to the paper senior year, and I’m honestly so glad I did. 

So this wasn’t meant to be some kind of cheesy shout out at the paper or anything, but I just want to say how grateful I am for this experience. I’m going to miss so much about college life, but I’m ready now to move on and I’m so grateful for all I’ve been given her. 

Good luck, Class of 2010. I’m really glad to call you my family now.

Katie Peralta is graduating with a degree in American Studies and Spanish. She would like to thank you to the girls of Morgan Street as well for a great four years and a good luck to the rest of the senior class. 

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Dear six guys I've hooked up with this semester,

I'm assasside and boring and don't have anything interesting to say. If you feel the need to contact me, then you probably think I'm up for it. If so, then that's great. But if you don't, then don't. There's no reason for me to give you the benefit of the doubt.

Sincerely,

Melissa Buddie

P.S. — Don't worry about our kiss under the arch — it's not that great anyway. I doubt you would answer even if I could call you.

Of course, I don't render myself blameless. Our relationship was based on mutual consent. Our consensual relationship allowed us to enjoy each other's company and to have a mutual understanding of each other's desires.

Chris Beasley

alumnus

Jan. 29, 2010
With the rise of stalkerazzi and gossip websites like Perez Hilton, details of the intimacies of celebrities have been made public. The world was shocked in 2009 when the relationship between singers Chris Brown and Rihanna crumbled in light of domestic violence. Many star couples have split because of publicized infidelity. Recently, the singer who cheated with Sandra Bullock’s husband, Jesse James, announced his divorce to the world, causing their marriage to come to an end.

One of the most memorable celebrity moments occurred at the 2009 Video Music Awards. The leggings were hung on their spindly legs with care, in hopes that a pair of Uggs would accompany them there. South Bend fashion was fairly predictable this year, but not overtly behind the times, thus proving we are pretty much a staple school in trend-following. Many students worked their clothing on a day-to-day basis, mixing and matching and trying not to outfit repeat for fear the Facebook police would see they wore the same outfit twice. Overall, this year has been fairly decent in the land of style, but as always there is room for improvement.

Legging/Skinny Jeans with Brown boots/Uggs

Almost every fashion-oriented girl on campus explored this trend at least once this fall, winter and spring. Never have so many skinny jeans and leggings been congregated in one area over such a long period of time. Uggs should just go ahead and start selling leggings or skinny jeans along with their boots because chances are, you won’t find one without the other.

Plaid Shirts

Loose, tight, cinched, collared, buttoned or left open, plaid shirts of every color, shape and size spread like a particularly vicious and rampant virus through every girl’s and guy’s wardrobe, but also men’s, making the chances of seeing a matching couple grossly high. Though plaid has pretty much finished its rounds with the females, hopefully guys have their shirts ready to whip out once the leaves begin to change.

Toms Shoes

This is one trend Notre Dame can be proud to be a part of. For every pair of Toms Shoes bought, a new pair of shoes is given to a child in need. The company started in California and has since spread its reach across the country. Toms Shoes are made of canvas or cotton fabric and based off the footwear of Argentinean farmers. They come in a wide variety of colors and patterns but Notre Dame students seemed most apt to sport navy blue, possibly because it is a school color, after all.

Celebrity News

Cell phone news has not been a guilty pleasure. It has been a share of highlights, from a rain-soaked comeback at Michigan State to Jeff Samardzija’s (pictured) touchdown in for the win in the final seconds of the home game against UCLA.

The Shirt 2006 was a student favorite and the last one to see a winning record in the regular season. Which of your four The Shirts will you wear again?

Catherine Carrel

Myrtle Beach, S.C.

"Wake Up The Echoes"

Alex Tomala

Chicago, Ill.

"The Tradition Shirt"

Mike Wrapp

Phoenix, Ariz.

"Dan Collins"

Courtney Klosterman

Gilbert, Ariz.

"Dan Collins"

DAN JACOBS/The Observer

Graduating senior Dan Collins spent a year as the Blue Squad leprechaun before taking over full mascot duties for 2009-10.

Ben Folds played at Legends Nightclub in November of 2006 and made a favorite Senior Class memory.
Scene

Friday, May 14th, 2010

The O bserver

SOFIA ITURBE | Observer Graphic

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As Taylor Swift graciously accepted her award for Best Female Video, rapper Kanye West stormed on stage to express his outrage at her win, and exclaimed that "Beyoncé had one of the best videos of all time." The world was stunned to see America's sweetheart awkwardly dealing with the insult, and it attracted a lot of media attention in the days following.

Sadly, some great talents of our era have passed away in the past few years. In 2006, "The Crocodile Hunter" Steve Irwin died at 44 after being pierced in the chest by a stingray. In 2007, model and television personality Anna Nicole Smith died at 39. Heath Ledger shockingly died at the age of 28 in 2008, before the premiere of the eventual box office hit, "The Dark Knight," for which he won a posthumous Oscar for his role as the Joker. In the summer of 2009, Heath Ledger died in a pattern as Ed McMahon, Farrah Fawcett and the Michael Jackson died within a matter of weeks.

Days before the fall semester began in 2007, two Notre Dame students were shot and wounded while waiting for a ride outside Club 23.

Hulu.com

Life today is hectic and busy. Sometimes is even feels like there aren't enough hours in the day to do everything important, let alone watch TV. Enter Hulu.com. Almost every TV show is available online to play whenever you would like to watch. Now, if you miss an episode of "LOST" one week because of a big Orgo test you had to study for, you can still be ready for next week's episode by visiting Hulu whenever you'd like. Procrastinating has never been so easy.

Vampires

The vampire bug has officially hit America. From tweens to older moms, people are tuning in to TV shows like "Vampire Diaries" and "True Blood." Since the "Twilight" series, the tall, dark and handsome stereotype has been replaced with a new one: sparkly and possessive. Thanks to Stephenie Meyer, mortal men will now never seem good enough. Once the youth of America were entranced by wizards with scars, but Harry and Ron will eventually die, while Edward will always live on.

Reality Dating Shows

From "The Bachelor" to "Rock of Love" to "I Love New York," people love to watch people they have never met embarrass themselves while trying to find true love. And who doesn't love that one crazy girl who undermines her competitors by backstabbing and trash talking? Every celebrity who has lost the limelight knows the best way to get America talking is to proclaim from the colorful box in the living room that they need to find someone to love.

Mystery Dramas

As Arthur Conan Doyle knows well, people have always loved a good mystery. In this modern era, this love has manifested itself in mystery dramas like "LOST." For six seasons, JJ Abrams's creation has entranced scores of people from all walks of life with questions like "Why is there a polar bear on a deserted island?" and "Will Kate end up with Jack or Sawyer?" Unfortunately, the show finally comes to an end on May 24. Hopefully all of the questions will finally be answered.

ESPN's College GameDay came to Notre Dame in January 2009 for the men's basketball match-up against the Connecticut Huskies. Students camped out overnight in the JACC for a chance to appear on TV.

TV Trends

President Barack Obama was a controversial but memorable campus visitor.

A group of students parades out of DeBartolo Hall on St. Patrick's Day in 2007. In the last few years, South Bend has experienced sunny weather on March 17, adding to the holiday's jubilant atmosphere.

The spoon train became an annual event on South Quad to help get Domers in the record books.
WOMEN’S TRACK

Top individual honors highlight ND season

By MEGAN FINNERAN
Sports Writer

As a team the Irish may have struggled to bring home overall hardware this season, finishing sixth at the Big East Championships. But many athletes found success individually, setting new records along the way. With the season coming to an end, and most performances extending into the summer, they also still have plenty of opportunities for their future careers.

Perhaps the best showing for the Irish came from sophomore sprinter Joanna Schultz, who consistently came in first or second in meets throughout the season. Tall and lanky at 6-foot-2, the Irish Hughes athlete has proven to be consistent in both the indoor and outdoor seasons, the conference standings, but also set a Notre Dame and her fourth conference title, pionships, she not only won enough for first in the Big 400-meter hurdles with her 50.02 meters.

“I feel like our outdoor season has really just started, and with regionals at the end of May and nationals in June,” Espinoza said. “We still have a lot of time to accomplish big things.”

Through both the indoor and outdoor seasons, the women have continued to improve not only in the conference standings, but also individually in personal time and distance records. The women’s season is coming to an end on June 12 at the NCAA Championships, where the seniors look to end their careers on a high note.

Contact Megan Finneran at mfinnera@nd.edu

WOMEN’S LACROSSE

Irish claim berth in NCAAs

By LUKE MAN SOUR
Sports Writer

A Notre Dame team with five all-conference players earned an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament and will take on No. 2-seeded Northwestern tomorrow at 4 p.m. Eastern.

Junior midfielders Shaylyn Blaney and Jackie Doherty and sophomore Gina Scioscia were named to the Big East all-conference first team, while junior midfielder Alex Alt and senior defense Rachel Guerrero were named to the all-conference second team.

Blaney earned first-team honors in her final season, while Scioscia earned her second straight spot on the team.

“We were very pleased to have such strong representation,” Irish coach Tracy Coyne said. “It’s such a competitive conference, and anyone who gets recognitions has earned it. They have all been instrumental in our success this season.”

While the recognition of many of the key players on the squad was well-deserved, the Irish had their eyes set on a Big East championship. But after scoring an overtime victory over Connecticut in the opening round of the Big East tournament, the Irish fell to Syracuse 12-11 in a heartbreaking loss in the fourth quarter.

“We were very pleased to win the Big East tournament title. After falling to Syracuse 12-11 in a heartbreaking loss in the fourth quarter, the Irish (11-6, 6-2 Big East) had to reevaluate their place in the national tournament,” Coyne said. “We still have a lot of time to accomplish big things.”

Through both the indoor and outdoor seasons, the women have continued to improve not only in the conference standings, but also individually in personal time and distance records. The women’s season is coming to an end on June 12 at the NCAA Championships, where the seniors look to end their careers on a high note.

Contact Luke Mansour at lmanso@nd.edu
By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Editor

Notre Dame met North Carolina in the College Cup for the third time in four years, and, for the third time in four years, the Tar Heels ended any Irish dreams of a third National Championship.

The two storylines met in the second week of the regular season, in a match-up of the top two teams in the country that served as a grand opening for Alumni Stadium. But within the game’s first 23 seconds, North Carolina robbed the back of the net, and never looked back, winning 6-0.

“To open the stadium with an unbelievable crowd, fans turned away, I couldn’t have asked for more from the students or the local community. Everybody did their part, and for that, I’m thankful for that day,” said Bednarski.

“I think a little bit is because she was finally coming back into form off those season injuries. In fact, Henderson ended the season with 18 goals and five assists, including 10 goals and two assists in eight postseason games. Bednarski said. “First, it shows that you are a good defender and battle-tested for the big stage in front of all the cameras. This will bring calm to a team… the best season as a senior break out, he showed leadership in the regular season, and Battle tested in the tournament final, and, in 2008, made it to the NCAA Championship. Jackson's first season in 2006. It was a national championship," he said. "It's like basketball, when you looked back, you looked back at history. But in the big stage in front of all the cameras. This will bring calm to a team... the best season as a senior break out, he showed leadership in the regular season, and Battle tested in the tournament final, and, in 2008, made it to the NCAA Championship. Jackson's first season in 2006. 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ND Women’s Basketball

Successful season ends in Sweet 16 OT loss

By CHRIS MASOUD
Sports Writer

Heading into the 2009-2010 season, expectations couldn’t have been higher for a team laden with talent and experience, but with little to show for it. Notre Dame had not advanced past the first round of the NCAA Tournament since 2008, the program was breaking in a new home court and the squad featured four starting seniors and a number of questions about the future.

Yet the Irish met each challenge in turn. Notre Dame advanced to the Sweet 16, falling to Oklahoma in a gut-wrenching overtime loss. The team finished with a 16-1 record in the newly renovated Purcell Pavilion, notching a record six sellouts. Finally, the squad’s future success appears safely secured in the hands of freshman sensation Skylar Diggins, who put together one of the most complete rookie campaigns in program history.

In the eyes of Irish coach Muffet McGraw, it was a pretty good year.

“I was really pleased with the season,” McGraw said. “We thought we achieved our potential, we improved throughout the year. Individually, we had a lot of people who really had good years, which of course translated into the team’s success. I thought our senior leadership was outstanding — just a great group that we’re going to miss in so many ways next year on and off the court.”

Leading Notre Dame to a 29-6 (12-4 Big East) record, the senior class brought a number of tangibles to the floor — great ball-handling skills, the ability to shoot the floor — great ball-handling number of tangibles to the future.

To miss in so many ways next year was a close second.

“Motivated by a first-round loss at home in the NCAA Tournament in 2009, Notre Dame began the season looking to run the table. And for a while it did, winning its first 15 games and peaking to the No. 3 spot in the AP polls before falling on the road on Jan. 16 to a Connecticut team who would eventually win it all.

Regardless of the game’s outcome, the Irish made women’s basketball history by becoming the first team, alongside the Huskies, to be featured on ESPN Women’s Basketball College Gameday. College Gameday made its debut in 1993 as Notre Dame hosted Florida State in a matchup of the top two football teams in the country, and McGraw said the players appreciated the significance of the event.

“The first ever Gameday was here (Notre Dame) for a football game, and that’s kind of how the whole Gameday thing got started,” McGraw said at the time. “So it’s kind of fun to see the coach as involved in the first historic event, now for women’s basketball.”

While the season’s success can be traced to the talent and resolve of the senior class, it would be difficult to imagine Notre Dame’s highlight film without the rookie Diggins taking center stage.

A 2009 McDonald’s All-American and the highest-ranked guard coming out of high school, the South Bend native had lofty expectations placed upon her from day one. Diggins not only cracked the starting roster during the Paradise Jam in late November, but was named MVP of the tournament. Diggins went on to lead the Irish in points (13.8 per game), assists (112), and steals (90).

While McGraw came to expect Diggins’ contributions on the offensive end, her rapid development into a threat on defense continued to impress throughout the season complexion.

“For the most part, that surprised me. I think all of us bring leadership,” Barlow said. “We’ve been here four years, some of us even five. We just get along with each other, we know how to work well with each other.”

Diggins’ raw talent alone could have garnered her All-Big East Second Team honors and an AP All-American honorable mention. The seniors’ greatest legacy may not be their own individual contributions, but their success in developing Diggins and the other underclassmen into legitimate Big East competitors in the years to come.

“It was a perfect time for her (Diggins) to come in as a freshman because she was able to learn from a very strong class,” McGraw said. “She didn’t ever have to feel like she had to do it all. She never had to show up in the lege game and play her game without worrying about a lot of other things that the team just took care of. They helped her in a lot of ways, and gave her free reign to be creative and figure things out on her own.”

Lechlitner said she believes the ability of the seniors to maintain their composure and poise in the midst of a difficult situation was especially helpful to their younger teammates, who looked to follow in their example.

“We’re just a steady force,” Lechlitner said. “When adversity’s thrown or a game might be getting tight or we’re struggling, our energy is very steady and very consistent.”

Although the future is bright with Diggins running the offense, the Irish lose a cast of seniors that finishes as one of the most successful in program history. While the Irish fell short in the Final Four, the seniors put together four years of high-octane basketball that Irish fans are not soon to forget.

As the squad begins the task of discovering a new identity and filling out the four remaining starting spots, McGraw believes a talented group coming through the pipes should be a factor in the mix.

“I expect that we will start with the players who came off the bench for us this year and see how quickly the freshmen are ready to challenge them,” McGraw said. “We’re not only going to be looking at depth, but we have a lot of inexperience. We’ll see by the time the Big East rolls around if the freshmen are pressur- ing to get that starting spot.”

Contact Chris Masoud at cmasoud@nd.edu
Irish fall to Cardinals in conference tourney

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

The Irish will wrap up its season with an appearance in the NCAA Tournament when they face Wisconsin in the first round today. The Irish head into the postseason with an appearance in the NCAA Tournament, so that was another positive. Getting into the NCAs for the ninth year in a row, not many teams can say that," Clark said.

While the season ended with the loss to Northwestern, the team’s success did not end there. The players are selected in the MLS draft in January, and one later signed a professional contract.

Forward Bright Dike, the Big East offensive player of the year, was drafted in the first round by the Columbus Crew. Midfielder Michael Thomas and left back Justin Morrow were drafted in the second round by the San Jose Earthquakes, though Thomas opted to go abroad and is now playing in the Swedish first division. Goalkeeper Andrew Quinn later signed with D.C. United.

"It wasn’t just they went to the pros — they all graduated, and I think that’s very telling," Clark said. "To send a player to first division in a European country, that’s a statement right there."

Despite the loss of a strong senior class, Clark said he is cautiously optimistic about his 2010 team. "It’s always good to go to the new stadium," Bayliss said. "It’s always good to go to the opening of Alumni Stadium, where then-No. 10 Notre Dame defeated No. 21 Michigan 5-0.

"Playing in the new stadium was fantastic," Clark said. "I thought that made it very special in many ways. I don’t think any of the players at the opening game against Michigan will ever forget. It was a great game, playing against one of our rivals, beat them 5-0 on a beautiful evening in a beautiful new stadium."

In that game, however, fifth-year captain Cory Bellas went down with a knee injury 10 minutes into the action. This disappointment was amplified just a few weeks later, when sophomore Aaron Maund and freshman Dillon Powers left to play in the under-20 World Cup in Suez, Egypt. This left the team shorthanded to begin Big East play. "It was great for them, it’s hat for the program," Clark said. "Not many teams even had one. Eleven college players in the 22 that went to Egypt, and for us to have two of them was impressive. But the downside of that was you lost them for four weeks."

"So then you go on ... We had a few things in our face, but I thought the team stayed together. We had good depth in the squad."

The Irish finished 8-3 in the Big East, coming in just behind Connecticut in the Blue Division standings. With its NCAA status in doubt, Notre Dame went into the Big East tournament with something to prove and ended up in the finals despite not winning a single game to get there.

The Irish tied South Florida 2-2 and Louisville 0-0 in the quarterfinals and semifinals, advancing through both games with shootouts.

Against St. John’s in the conference championship, the final score was again a 0-0 tie, but the Red Storm won the shootout and the title. However, Notre Dame’s play was good enough to earn an NCAA berth.

"It’s always good to go to the final of the Big East tournament, so that was another positive.
Dear Graduates,

Prayers and best wishes to members of the Class of 2010. On behalf of the University, I would like to thank you for the many and varied contributions you have made to the University as students. By your presence among us, you have enriched this community.

For those of you who are graduating seniors, I hope that your time at Notre Dame has been fruitful, that you are leaving the University not only with a superb education but also with wonderful friends who will be part of your life long after Commencement. I pray also that your years at Notre Dame have allowed you to nurture your relationship with God and created in you the desire to turn your gifts to the service of God’s people. Wherever life’s journey may lead, you are likely to encounter fellow Notre Dame alumni who are working to improve their corner of the world, in every imaginable profession and field of endeavor. We take enormous pride in all of the ways our graduates contribute to and serve their families, the Church, and society, and I am confident that you too will be part of this rich heritage of service.

For those of you receiving graduate or professional degrees, I hope that you will carry with you the best of our traditions as they relate to your discipline. We are certain that you will represent Notre Dame well, not only through your professional accomplishments but also by your commitment to justice and adherence to ethical standards. I wish you much success in all of your endeavors.

May Our Lady, Notre Dame, be with you and watch over you always.

Mark Poorman, C.S.C.
Vice President for Student Affairs

In Notre Dame.
**BASEBALL**

**ND overcomes slow start in Big East play**

By CHRIS MASOUD
Sports Writer

Following a dismal start to the regular season, Notre Dame needs to win seven of its last eight games to finish the season above .500. In a year plagued by injuries and misfortunes, Irish coach Dave Schrage said the seniors have taken it upon themselves to salvage the remainder of the season.

“I feel like they’ve known that their backs are against the wall,” Schrage said. “Two weeks ago they found themselves at the bottom of the Big East, and we’re climbing. They’ve really responded over the last couple of weekends.”

The Irish (21-26, 6-15 Big East) began the season with a weekend sweep of Mississippi Valley State on the road to open the season. But after posting a 5-16 record during a four-week stretch, Notre Dame’s dreams of its first conference title since 2006 and an appearance in Omaha quickly evaporated. But after spending time with hitting instructor and assistant coach Scott Lawler, the hitters regained their form midway through the season.

“We got back to the process of taking the pitch up the middle. Hitting everything back up the middle, moving runners, hitting behind runners, hitting and running,” Schrage said. “When we do that, we’re a very, very good offensive club.”

After opening the conference season with a 1-5 mark, the Irish proceeded to win seven of their next 12 Big East games, earning series victories over Seton Hall, Cincinnati, before a recent slide against St. John’s and West Virginia, the Irish will have to make a late push in order to secure a top seed in the Big East Championship, which begins on May 26. Nevertheless, Schrage is confident his seniors can right the ship and finish the season on a winning note.

“We talked that they had a month left in their careers and they want to make something happen, and they’re going out and doing it,” Schrage said. “They have a lot invested in this program, and they want to make their last year special. I’m expecting them to step up again.”

Contact Chris Masoud at cmasoud@nd.edu

**SMC SOFTBALL**

**Improved Belles reach playoff goal**

By MICHAEL TODISCO
Sports Writer

Entering the 2010 season, Belles coach Erin Sullivan expressed three challenges for her team to accomplish. Sullivan hoped to win 20 or more games, qualify for the MIAA tournament and have a team grade point average of 3.3 or higher. Saint Mary’s accomplished two of the three during a double-header against Calvin on April 28. In sweeping the twin-bill, the Belles earned victories 20 and 21 to earn a place in the conference tournament.

Nevertheless, Sullivan is hopeful that her team can achieve all three goals this season.

“We were looking at the semester break with a 2.35. I am confident we will get the GPA goal as well.”

Although the squad was ousted in the conference tournament in a 3-2 loss to Adrian, Sullivan said the program has taken a significant stride this season.

“We truly establish ourselves as an excellent program in being able to compare ourselves to excellent teams like Alma, Adrian and Trine,” Sullivan said.

Sullivan said the seniors this season — Peterson, Schrage said. “They have a lot invested in this program, and they want to make their last year special. I’m expecting them to step up again.”

Contact Michael Todisco mtodisco@nd.edu

**CLOVER VILLAGE & CLOVER RIDGE**

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Contact Michael Todisco mtodisco@nd.edu
Observer Staff Report

Soccer

After finishing the season with a record of 4-12-1 (1-6 MIAA) to mark another disappointing campaign, the Belles dismissed head coach Ryan Crabbe in the hopes of changing their recent misfortunes. Said athletic director Gary Kuschel in a press release, “It was a difficult decision to reach, since he is a good friend of this institution. However, we need to make changes for the future.”

Last year was the third consecutive losing season for the Belles, but were unable to maintain that success over the course of the whole year. The Belles were off another two teams.

Under the new leadership of Joyce, the Belles will be looking for big improvements from underclassmen to help lead the team in the fall of 2010. The Belles’ first glance at their final conference record.

Crabbe’s tenure lasted at Saint Mary’s, and he played a huge role in facilitating the development of freshman backup goalie Adele Bruggeman, as senior goalkeeper Patty Duffy leaves the goal for good. Crabbe said he has grown into a leadership role, especially from the seniors.

“Some don’t say enough good things about this group of seniors,” Kuschel said. “I came into this year not knowing whether I expected a new coach here at Saint Mary’s. They have truly been a joy to work with. I have seen them grow a lot as a coach in my first year and they have a lot of confidence in what they do. They were fantastic leaders and role models for their younger classmates.”

Senior Lorna Slupczynski was named to the first team all-MIAA last season. She finished her career with the Belles with three consecutive seasons with 300 kills, finishing with 1,360 kills for her career. She also had 931 digs in her career. Next year, Saint Mary’s will be healthy and ready to make the MIAA schedule with a renewed for.

Nicole and junior Jillian Hurley were consistent bright spots for the Belles. At one point in the season, Hurley had 10 straight matches in the 12th position at No. 4 and 11 straight matches at No. 2 doubles with junior Mary Therese McGahey.

“Being named all-MIAA was really rewarding,” Hurley said. “It was nice to be recognized for a good season along with other outstanding players across the conference, including my teammate, Camille Gebert.”

Gebert said her final season as a Belle was a special one because of the way she and Nick Kacem were able to push each other to the limit. “I always wanted to do well throughout the season especially playing singles for the first time in my senior year of Christmas break,” Watson said. “We’ve been through a lot with each other, which helped the team as a whole.”

Tennis

Although Saint Mary’s lost in the first round of the MIAA tournament, the Belles ended the season with five of their six singles players earning a place in the MIAA tournament. Saint Mary’s expected to fare better against conference foes.

“Despite our fifth-place finish in the conference, I think we had a decent season,” senior Camille Gebert said. “I definitely think as a team we have a lot to build on, as I believe we were close in teams like Kacem and Kacem. The Belles (13-9, 6-5 MIAA) ended their season with a win in the MIAA tournament over Otter in the fifth-place match. Gebert was named first team all-MIAA and junior Jillian Hurley was named to the second team.

“Overall, the season was successful, even if the outcomes of our matches wasn’t what we had hoped,” Hurley said. “As a team, we bonded together better than we have in previous seasons.”

In the past, Saint Mary’s had hovered in the middle of the MIAA standings. Coming into the season, the Belles felt like this was their best chance in recent memory at conference success. Nonetheless, a strong freshman emerged for the Belles.

“It was a hard transition because we had so many incoming freshman and nobody knew each other,” Gebert said. “But we came away with a win that day with the roster and viewed a national expectation as varsity runners is one they have a love for track and field. We were able to have a light through our future.”

“We’ve been through a lot with each other, which helped the team as a whole.”

Soccer hires new coach; Slupczynski leads volleyball to .500 record; tennis claims fifth in MIAA tournament

Friday, May 14, 2010 page 28

Soccer hires new coach; Slupczynski leads volleyball to .500 record; tennis claims fifth in MIAA tournament
With its season on the brink and its best player on the bench, Notre Dame responded by winning its final four regular-season conference games and two Big East tournament games to secure a No. 6 seed in the NCAA Tournament.

All-American senior forward Luke Harangody went down midway through the second half of Notre Dame’s Feb. 11 loss at Seton Hall, which dropped the Irish to 6-6 in the Big East with eight games to play. Notre Dame then lost its next two games to St. John’s and Louisville by a combined three points without Harangody. The 91-89 double-overtime loss at Louisville on Feb. 17 represented a turning point, however, as senior guards Tory Jackson and Ben Hansbrough and junior forward Tim Abromaitis stepped up to lead the Irish to a near-upset in one of the conference’s toughest places to play.

A week later, Notre Dame’s season changed for good. Before the Irish hosted No. 12 Pittsburgh on Feb. 24, the still-sidelined Harangody was the first player inducted into the school’s “Ring of Honor,” as his No. 44 now hangs from the rafters. At the time, it looked like Harangody might have played his final game for the Irish, with NCAA Tournament hopes and a shot at the Big East tournament run looking dim.

But then the Irish introduced a new “slow burn” offense, which was a stark contrast to Irish coach Mike Brey’s fast-paced scheme. The change of pace paid off against the Panthers, as Notre Dame turned a 35-27 halftime lead into a 52-30 advantage in the first six minutes of the second half. The Irish won the game 68-53 behind 10-for-18 shooting from 3-point range.

“I think just being patient on offense was a key for us,” Abromaitis said after the game. “There were a lot of possessions that went down to single digits on the shot clock and we waited until we had the best look we could possibly get.”

Three days later, the Irish went on the road to No. 11 Georgetown, where Notre Dame handed the Hoyas a 78-64 defeat to get back to 500 in the Big East. After a quiet first half, Hansbrough scored Notre Dame’s first 10 points of the second half in a three-minute span to put the Irish up 41-30. The Irish built a 50-38 lead and saw it cut to 50-46 before 3-pointer by Jackson. Junior forward Carleton Scott and Hansbrough built the advantage back up to 59-46, at which point Notre Dame pulled away.

In its next game, the home finale against Connecticut on March 3, Notre Dame overcame a pair of double-digit first-half deficits behind Jackson’s 20 second-half points to beat the sliding Huskies, 50-45. The win ensured the Irish at least a 500 Big East record — a benchmark Brey often said would be good enough for an at-large NCAA berth. But the Irish weren’t done stating their case yet. They closed the regular season with a thrilling overtime win at Marquette on March 6 in Harangody’s return. Scott hit a buzzer-beating 3-pointer to force overtime. Abromaitis had 18 points and Harangody played 11 minutes off the bench, scoring five points and grabbing two rebounds.

The four-game win streak propelled Notre Dame to the No. 7 seed in the Big East tournament, securing the Irish a first-round bye before playing No. 10-seed Seton Hall in a game dubbed by some as a play-in game for the NCAA Tournament. Harangody made an impact for the first time since his injury with 20 points and 10 rebounds off the bench in a 68-56 second-round victory.

“The last couple of days of practice have been great for me, just to get back in the flow. Kind of get my conditioning back up to where it has been,” Harangody said. “I feel right now that I started to get a little bit of swagger I had before the injury, a little more of the confidence. I feel great with the guys out there.”

The Irish won their sixth straight the next night by beating No. 2-seed Pittsburgh, the nation’s No. 16 team, for the second time during the streak. Notre Dame’s slowed-down offense was the difference in the 50-45 victory that sent the Irish to the semifinals of the tournament, against West Virginia.

Harangody and Jackson each had 12 points in the defensive struggle.

“Our interior defense and ball-screen defense has been the most consistent since I’ve been here,” Brey said. “I guess when your life is on the line, you’re really good at it.”

No. 7 West Virginia, the tournament’s No. 3-seed, ended Notre Dame’s win streak and hopes of reaching its first Big East tournament title game in a 53-51 irish loss that was probably closer than it should have been. Jackson missed 3 with four seconds to play after an 11-2 Irish run cut West Virginia’s lead to 48-47 with 2:58 remaining.

Notre Dame learned its NCAA Tournament fate on March 14, surprising some by grabbing the No. 6 seed in the South Region. The Irish were assigned to play No. 11-seed Old Dominion in New Orleans. The Monarchs pulled the upset, 51-50, on March 18.

A pair of six-minute scoreless droughts in the second half doomed the Irish, who made only six of 26 3-point attempts, including both of 12 in the second half. Scott’s game-tying 3-point attempt rimmed out in the final seconds as the Monarchs completed the first-round heartbreaker.

“It just sounds so simple, but we had some really clean looks. You’ve got to make some shots,” Irish coach Mike Brey said. “We’d been a good shooting team. It’s not like I’m saying something the percentages say we can’t do or haven’t done.”

The Irish held a 28-22 lead at halftime, and after Scott scored the first points of the half to give Notre Dame a 30-22 lead, the Monarchs posted a 9-0 run over six minutes to take a 31-30 advantage. Scott broke Notre Dame’s second six-minute drought with a 3 to tie the game, 46-46, with 1:49 remaining.

Hansbrough’s 13 points led all scorers, and Scott scored 14 points and added 10 rebounds.

In his final collegiate game, Harangody was held to four points — both in the final 12 seconds.

“He got the two fouls and I thought he could never really get into a flow,” Brey said of Harangody. “Also, when you’re playing against zone for long periods of time, it’s probably a little harder to establish him, you know, offensively.”

Despite the disappointing finish, the Irish senior class of Harangody, Jackson and Jonathan Peoples leave as the winningest class in school history, with a 93-43 record, including a 43-27 mark in the Big East.

Harangody became a three-time All-American — Notre Dame’s first since Kevin O’Shea in 1948-1950 — after being named a consensus second-team All-American for the second time in his career. He was the first Irish player to score 2,000 points and grab 1,000 rebounds, and his 2,476 career points and 1,222 career rebounds both rank second in the Notre Dame history books.

The Irish finished the season 22-12 and posted a 10-8 record during the Big East regular season.
Second straight 6-6 regular season dooms Weis

**FOOTBALL**

By MATT GAMBER
Sport Writer

Notre Dame failed to finish the regular season above .500 for the third straight season in 2009. This time, it cost former Irish coach Charlie Weis his job.

The Irish began the season 4-1, just as they did in 2008. And then the Irish dropped five of their last seven to finish 6-6 — again, just as they did in 2008. That drop-off ultimately led to Weis’ dismissal on Nov. 20, two days after Notre Dame lost its season finale at Stanford.

“As you look at the entire course of the season, it led you to the conclusion that you couldn’t have enough confidence that a jump up was imminent, that you could know with sufficient certainty that next year’s results would be significantly different,” director of athletics Jack Swarbrick said following the dismissal. “And so I think that probably was the tipping point.”

Notre Dame opened the season with a bang, thrashing Nevada, 35-0, at home on Sept. 5. Junior quarterback Jimmy Clausen threw for 315 yards and four touchdowns in the game, which featured an offensive outburst similar to Notre Dame’s last contest, its 49-21 victory over Hawaii in the Hawaii Bowl on Dec. 24, 2008. At Purdue on the following week, Clausen, whose foot injury was worse than it initially appeared, came off the bench to throw a game-winning, two-yard touchdown pass to sophomore tight end Kyle Rudolph on a 4th-and-28 with 24 seconds to play. Sophomore wide receiver John Drame was also in on the play, and the junior started to celebrate.

“(Clausen) actually wasn’t supposed to play in the second half,” Weis said. “He took some warmups with us, and then he tried to run a or shotgun formations so it would take pressure off his footwork. At the beginning of the fourth quarter, he said he could go and when I saw him in the game situation, I listened to him and went ahead and put him in there.”

The Irish began a three-game home stretch the following week with a 34-12 blowout victory by beating one-ranked bit, topping Washington 37-30 in overtime. Junior running back Robert Hughes overtime touchdown run gave Notre Dame the final lead. But the story of the game was the Irish goal-line defense, which stopped the Huskies six straight times with the ball inside the 1-yard line in the fourth quarter.

“We’re just clutch,” Tate said. “In the trenches we know what to do and we’ve been doing a good job of that, I think.”

After a bye week, the Irish put their three-game win streak to the test in a highly anticipated Oct. 14 home date with No. 6 USC. Clausen almost led Notre Dame to another comeback victory, but the final Irish drive fell four yards short in a 34-27 Trojan win.

“Coming up short, one second to go, it’s heartbreaking,” Clausen said.

Notre Dame trailed 34-14 early in the fourth quarter but scored two touchdowns in six minutes to close the gap with 7:28 to play. Clausen threw for 260 yards and two scores, and Tate caught eight passes for 117 yards and two touchdowns in the game.

“I think anyone that doesn’t realize the fight that’s in the Fighting Irish is missing the boat. It’s evident if you watch the last five games. Every week it’s the same thing,” Weis said.

“This team’s a bunch of fighters. I’m proud of the fight. I’m disappointed with the loss, it’s never OK to lose. But they’re a bunch of fighters.”

The 5-2 Irish used the week of Fall Break to prepare for Boston College, who are riding a losing Notre Dame seven straight times. In another game that went down to the wire, junior linebacker Brian Smith’s interception with 98 seconds to play sealed a 20-17 win. The defense gave up 279 yards passing to 26-year-old freshman quarterback Dave Shinskie but intercepted him three times.

“The story of our season, the game coming down to the last five minutes,” said Tate, who caught 11 passes for 128 yards and two touchdowns. “It’s keeping people at home and making sure they continue to watch the game. I don’t know, I can’t tell you why, but it says a lot about us. We don’t give up.”

The following week, on Halloween night in San Antonio, the Irish finally posted a blowout victory by beating one-ranked Kansas State, 45-38, in an offshore home game. Hughes, starting in place of an injured Allen, ran for a career-high 131 yards, while Clausen threw for 286 yards before giving way to Crist. Crist threw an impressive 64-yard touchdown pass to sophomore wide receiver John Goodman before going down with a torn anterior cruciate ligament that would sideline him until spring practice.

The high of the Washington State victory were immediately erased with the lows of a second straight home loss to Navy, which toppped the No. 19 Irish, 32-21, to begin Notre Dame’s second consecutive November slide and end its hopes of a BCS Championship Series (BCS) run.

“It’s a heartbreaking loss,” said Clausen, who threw for 457 yards but turned the ball over in the red zone twice.

The Irish dropped their second straight the next week at No. 8 Pittsburgh, as Tate’s two fourth-quarter touchdowns weren’t enough to erase a 15-point deficit, and the Panthers prevailed 27-22. The loss was Notre Dame’s eighth straight against a top-10 team and dropped Weis’ record to 6-6 against ranked teams since 2006. A conservative game plan saw the Irish score just one touchdown in the first half before Clausen and Co. got going.

The losing streak continued with Notre Dame’s second straight loss on Senior Day, a 33-30 double-overtime heartbreaker to a reeling Connecticut Huskies. Dealing with the death of a teammate, the Huskies had two different players eclipse 100 yards rushing, and the Irish surrendered their second kick-off return touchdown of the season in the loss. Tate broke single-season school records for catches and receiving yards in the game.

“I really feel absolutely miserable for those 33 seniors,” Weis said, declining to answer questions about his future after the loss dropped the Irish to 6-6. “I’m worried about me tomorrow. I think today I should be worrying about them.”

In what seemed likely to be Weis’ final game, the Irish concluded their season with a 45-38 loss at Stanford. Cardinal running back Toby Gerhart torched Notre Dame for 205 yards rushing and three touchdowns while also adding an 18-yard touchdown pass.

“There’s a bunch of 22, 23-year-old young men right there finishing out their career losing the last four games,” Weis said in a postgame radio interview. “They feel miserable and I feel miserable for them.”

Weis was fired two days later. In addition to Weis and the Irish seniors, it turned out to be the final games for Clausen and Tate, who declared for the NFL Draft on Dec. 7. Clausen finished his junior season with 3,722 yards passing, 28 touchdowns and four interceptions. Tate caught 93 receptions for 1,496 yards and 15 touchdowns, and he scored 18 total touchdowns in 2009, resulting in the junior earning the Biletnikoff Award given to the nation’s top receiver.

Junior running back Golden Tate was second-round selections in the 2010 NFL Draft, with Clausen going to the Carolina Panthers and Tate to the Seattle Seahawks.
FOUR YEARS IN REVIEW
The top 10 Observer sports stories from the 2006-2010 academic years

1. Weis fired after five seasons; Kelly hired

December 1, 2009; December 12, 2009

After leading Notre Dame to the most losses in a three-year span in program history, Charlie Weis was fired on Nov. 30, 2009, and a mere 11 days later, director of athletics Jack Swarbrick named Brian Kelly as the 29th football coach in Notre Dame history. Weis held the reigns to the football program for five years, accumulating an overall record of 35-27. After going 9-3 in his first season and earning an appearance in the Fiesta Bowl, Weis was granted a 10-year contract extension through 2015. Nonetheless, two home losses to Navy and Connecticut Senior Day defeats to Syracuse and Connecticut spelled the end of the Weis’ time leading his alma mater.

A secretive coaching search resulted in the hiring of Kelly, fresh off an undefeated regular season at Cincinnati in his third year with the Bearcats. Previously, Kelly was the head coach at Central Michigan for three seasons, leading the Chippewas to a Mid-American Conference in 2006. Kelly began his head coaching career at Division II Grand Valley State, tallying a 118-35-2 record over 13 seasons.

Kelly brought Bob Diaco, defensive coordinator, and Charley Molnar, offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach, along with him from Cincinnati to lead his coaching staff and reunited with Chuck Martin, now defensive backs coach, who took over as head coach at Grand Valley State when Kelly left.

2. Football endures disastrous season

In the worst start to a season in Notre Dame history, the Irish limped to an 0-5 record. It all started with a 33-3 home loss to Georgia Tech. The debacle continued with identical 38-0 losses to rivals Michigan and USC. The Irish won their last two contests to finish 3-9 but did not gain close to earning a trip to a bowl game.

3. Clausen, Tate enter NFL Draft

Quarterback Jimmy Clausen and wide receiver golden Coleman both declared for the NFL Draft after setting numerous individual records in just three years at Notre Dame. Projected as a likely first-round selection, Clausen waited until the 48th pick for the Panthers to pick the Panthers in the second round, and Tate went 12 picks later to the Seahawks.

4. Icers go to NCAA title game

After winning its first CCHA title in 2007, the hockey program continued its resurgence under coach Jeff Jackson. The Irish just sneaked into the NCAA Tournament, capitalized by qualifying for the first Frozen Four in school history. They then topped Michigan to advance to the title game, where they fell to Boston College.

5. Swarbrick takes over AD position

On June 1, 2008, then-director of athletics Kevin White announced that he would be leaving Notre Dame to assume the same position at Duke. Six weeks later, Swarbrick was hired as the 12th athletic director in the school’s history. He was previously a lawyer instrumental in the Indianapolis sports scene.

6. Women’s soccer goes to four Cups

The women’s soccer program reached four consecutive College Cups, falling twice in the finals and twice in the semifinals. In 2007-08, the Irish fell to North Carolina in the national championship, both times by a 2-1 score. In 2007, Florida State beat Notre Dame 3-2 in the semifinals, and in 2009, North Carolina beat the Irish 1-0.

7. Basketball ranked in top 10

The Irish were ranked No. 9 in both preseason polls and rose as high as No. 7 early in the 2008-09 season that had Final Four aspirations. Things started to unravel when a second-game losing skid sent Notre Dame plummeting down the rankings. The Irish ended the season ninth in the Big East, and were not invited to the NCAA Tournament.

8. Football snaps bowl losing skid

Notre Dame earned its first bowl victory in 15 years on Christmas Eve against Hawaii.

Quarterback Jimmy Clausen completed 22-of-26 passes for 406 yards and five touchdowns, both Irish bowl records. Receiver Golden Tate had six catches for 177 yards and three scores as the duo shared MVP honors.

9. Fencing finishes second twice

After a fourth-place finish in 2007, the Irish finished just short in the NCAA Championships in 2008 and 2009, falling to Ohio State and Penn State, respectively. The Irish fell short again in 2010. After holding onto the No. 3 ranking for a full season, Notre Dame falls to third in the NCAA championships.

10. New facilities constructed

After hosting Irish athletic events for over 40 years, the south dome of the Joyce Center opened for renovation in the summer of 2009 and reopened in October as the Purcell Pavilion at the Joyce Center.

New facilities for lacrosse, soccer, track, softball and hockey were also completed in the past two years or are in the works currently.
Top left, freshman Skylar Diggins talks with coach Muffet McGraw in a preseason game against Indianapolis before leading the Irish in scoring during the season. Top right, Brian Kelly addresses the media for the first time as the new Irish coach. Center, Kyle Rudolph catches the game-winning touchdown pass from Jimmy Clausen at Purdue. Bottom left, Frenchy Silva celebrates with teammates during a perfect 14-0 conference season. Bottom right, Josh Sandman takes his approach before claiming first at the Irish Gridiron Golf Classic.
Top left, former Irish coach Charlie Weis walks off the field following a loss at Stanford, his last at Notre Dame. Top right, Tory Jackson reacts following a first-round elimination loss in the NCAA Tournament to Old Dominion. Center, Michele Weissenhofer takes a last look at the field after a second consecutive loss to North Carolina at the College Cup. Bottom left, Kevin Deeth lets it fly during a loss to Providence in coach Jeff Jackson's second-worst season at Notre Dame. Bottom right, Frank Desico tracks down a ball in an extra-inning loss to Rutgers.
ND WOMEN’S TENNIS

ND delivers all season, earns conference title

By CHRIS ALLEN
Sports Writer

Under Irish coach Jay Louderback, the trophy case for the women’s tennis program has become a bit crowded.

The Irish added a new load of hardware in late April, claiming the 2010 Big East title in addition to several individual awards. Louderback earned Big East Coach of the Year honors, sophomore Kristy Frilling was named the Big East Player of the Year and freshman Chrissie McGaffigan garnered Big East Freshman of the Year honors.

The awards came at the tail end of a dominant season for the No. 6 Irish, who carry a 22-3 record heading into the NCAA Championship. After an early loss in the regular spring season to North Carolina, the Irish staked their claim as one of the top teams in the country by defeating then-No. 1 Northwestern on Feb. 21.

“We lost two weekends before to North Carolina, which kept us out of the National Indoor Championships,” Louderback said. “Our kids were definitely down. Then Northwestern came in, and we turned around and played very well. We saw that day that we can play with anybody.”

The squad rode the momentum from the Northwestern win, winning 15 of its final 17 matches. A highlight for the team came during Spring Break, as the Irish traveled to Puerto Rico for a couple of matches, finishing 1-1 on the trip. Riding a four-game win streak into the Big East tournament, the first to be hosted at Notre Dame, the Irish reeled off three dominating victories, including a 4-0 sweep of DePaul in the finals to notch the 10th championship in program history. The Irish did not drop a singles match in the tournament.

“Towards the end of the season, we changed around our lineup a bit,” Louderback said. “Our doubles teams got really comfortable with each other and the chemistry was great. We were so tough to beat because if we win the doubles point, we go into the singles up 1-0, and it’s tough to win four singles matches against our players.”

Pacing the Irish all season at first singles and first doubles was Frilling, posting a 41-5 combined record between the two slots, including a 19-5 record at the challenging No. 1 singles position. Frilling stepped up to replace last year’s Big East Player of the Year, former Irish No. 1 Keczy Tefft.

“She moved from two to one singles was big for her,” Louderback said. “She knew she’d be playing a good player every match and that really helped her mentally.”

Backing up Frilling at the other slots was a talented cast, including sophomore Shannon Mathews, McGaffigan and a host of talented seniors including Kali Kriek and Gomina Gebauer.

“I was worried about [Mathews and McGaffigan] playing two and three because they were injured in the fall,” Louderback said. “They couldn’t prepare, so it’s almost like learning on the job. As for the seniors, their poise under pressure in big matches was excellent.”

Contact Chris Allen at callen10@nd.edu

SMC GOLF

Belles poised for national title run

By LUKE MANSOUR
Sports Writer

Coming off yet another successful season that saw the program earn its second consecutive MIAA conference title, No. 5 Saint Mary’s seems poised to earn a top-five finish in the NCAA Division III Championships.

Saint Mary’s earned its second straight automatic berth to the NCAA Tournament on Tuesday thanks to a huge second day at the MIAA qualifier. Trolling conference rival Olivet University by five strokes, the Belles tore up Blackthorn Golf Course in South Bend and ended the day leading by 28 strokes.

“I believe our team has the potential to be the best in the country if we work hard and perform to the best of our abilities,” sophomore Natalie Matuznak said. “However, I think it’s an honor and a great achievement in itself that we made it to the tournament.”

The path to the NCAA’s certainly had some ups and downs, as the team felt they could have played better in a few tournaments during the season.

“I think there were a couple of tournaments we would have liked to have played better, but overall we had a great season,” Matuznak said. “We pulled together as a team and continued to prove that we are a strong team all the way through the lineup.”

Some of the top players on the Belles included Matuszak and juniors Mary Kate Boyce and Rosie O’Connor. All three were mainstays in the top three positions in Belles coach Mark Hamilton’s lineup throughout the season.

With many experienced players on Saint Mary’s roster, the team expects a big finish to its season down in Howey-in-the-Hills, Fla. The NCAA Tournament consists of four separate rounds, and the Belles will need to be sure to retain their focus throughout the long and arduous competition.

“I’d say this year has definitely been a success,” Hamilton said. “We lost two number one players along the way, so there was a bit of adversity, but you would be hard pressed to find a team that can lose two top players and still be really strong for the national championships.”

As the season comes to a close, Matuznak said she will miss the time spent with such a talented group of seniors.

“We really become like a little family, and so it’s hard to see the seniors go at the end of the season,” Matuznak said. “Although I am sad this season is coming to an end, I am excited for the NCAA Tournament because I think we are about to post some of our lowest scores yet.”

Contact Luke Mansour at lmansour@nd.edu
Lux continued from page 40

numerous as well. She is the only player in conference his-
tory to record 60 runs, 80 hits and 60 RBIs in a career, and
she holds the top spot in career RBIs (66) and home runs
(24) in conference play.

Despite the long list, Lux said breaking records never
got old.

“It’s exciting every time,” she said. “I honestly still don’t
know half the records I break until I break them and (the
coaches) are like ‘Oh congratulation,
you broke two records today!’ and I’m like ‘What records are they?’

“I don’t really like to focus on stats so much, because you
just start getting in your head, and softball’s so much of a
mental game as it is and I don’t want to add more pres-
sure to myself about beating records. If we win, I’m happy. That’s pretty much my reason for being here.”

She’s been out there since her freshman year, when she
played in 45 games, starting 41.

“Some people got injured and I got the chance to play, which was a great opportunity and I kind of took advantage
of it and I’ve been able to play since, which has been great,” Lux said.

In the early part of her career, Lux said she did not feel pres-
sured, despite having estab-
lished herself as an impor-
tant part of the Irish defense.

“Yes, the coaches did want me to perform well, but I was still a sophomore and the team at the time was dominat-
ed by upper-
classmen,” she said. “The underclassmen weren’t that great of an impact at the moment.”

Lux began to take on more of a leadership role on the
2009 team, which upset DePaul for its first Big East tournament title since 2000 and an NCAA berth.

“It ended on a double play, it was a close game, close
game and finally double-play, bang-bang, it’s over,” Lux said. “It was one of the biggest highs I’ve had in my life. It was exciting, because at Notre Dame I’d never won a big champi-
onship. We’d never won r e g i o n a l s , we’d never won the Big East, until last year, and it was
amazing.”

Lux was named to the all-confer-
m ent team that year, and she earned
first-team all-Big East honors to go along with her All-
American distinction.

Now, Lux is one of just three seniors and the only one who
will graduate — seniors Lex Clay and Heather Johnson are both eligible for one more
year. Lux said all three have been important leaders for the
2010 team.

“The three of us right now are a solid group of players who have had a ton of experi-
ence under our belt,” she said. “And we have a calm mentality that kind of just transcends through the team. And they feed off of it, so they’re relaxed and calm. They don’t get all crazy if we’re not doing well. I think the level-headedness and the experience we bring has really helped the team this year.”

The senior trio have led the team to its most successful season in years, helping the team to a 44-9 record and a share in the Big East title.

“Finally, all the work that our team has done has paid off and has shown,” Lux said. “In the previous three years, we’ve put in the hard work but the results haven’t really come through, but this year we are dominating in all respects of the game and we’re finally making a name for Notre Dame softball.

“And it’s just exciting to be a part of that and have this be my last year. I wouldn’t have chosen another team to be a part of.”

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The Observer • SPORTS

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Notre Dame:
Volleyball finishes conference play perfect at 14-0; women's swimming earns 14th consecutive Big East title

Along with Walker, Blake Chaplin, Rachel Clark, Cameron Eckert, Jack Howard, James Notwell and Brier Steenberg are graduating. The seven seniors led the Irish to season opening victories at Valparaiso and in the National Catholic Invitational.

"It was an average year at best," said coach Joe Plone. "We performed pretty well, especially considering what we were up against. We met where we dominated, but beyond that it was somewhat of a disappointment. It hasn't been parred yet because of track, but we will when the time comes."

Men's Swimming

When the swimmers and divers get back in the pool for the start of the 2010 fall season, they will do so with the knowledge that they have some mighty big shoes to fill.

This year's seniors, John Lytle and Andrew Hoffman, graduates as one of the most decorated relay teams in the country.

"This is a very special senior class for me," Irish coach Tim Welsh said. "I'll remember just how much they've given and how much they've contributed to the program over their time here. We've been through two extremely exciting Big East championships, including in 2009 when a relay team with Lytle and Hoffman on the first and last legs won the meet for us.

The 2009 season finished with the Irish taking second place overall including second in the Big East championships. The meet provided a number of individual highlights, including Hoffman's win in the 100 breast. Welsh said how much they've contributed to the program over their time here. The team was so committed to making it happen."

The losses, however, don't trump all of what Notre Dame accomplished this season.

"I believe we played the best we could at the time," Brown said. "We were physically down with three of our starters at less than full strength. We gave all we could and fell short. It was disappointing for the season to be over, particularly since we had such a good run throughout the rest of the season."

None of Notre Dame's success couldn't have happened without the outstanding leadership of the seniors, Brown said. "In many, many occasions throughout the year, the seniors were absolutely critical to the success of the team," she said. "They have given all they could throughout their four years. Each of them has grown individually and as a group, while bringing different strengths to the table and the combination of all of them was tremendous."

Cross-Country

Although both the men's and women's cross country teams were able to go back-to-back first places in their respective conference championships, the season produced different results for the two squads.

The women's team competed in seven meets during the fall, including two at home — the National Catholic Invitational and Notre Dame Invitational. The two squads mirrored each other several times during the season, finishing in first place at the National Catholic Invitational while falling to sixth at the Big East championships.

A first-place finish at the NCAA Great Lakes Regional meet was enough to send both teams to the NCAA Championships, where the Irish finished 23rd out of 31 teams.

"Our goal every year is to get to the NCAA Championship, and from that perspective it was definitely a successful year," Irish women's coach Rachel Connolly said. "The highlight of this season was winning the regional meet."

Including Ferguson, a total of five seniors will be graduating, according to Welsh, with the underclassmen to carry on. Beth Taci, Molly Sullivan, Analisa Villaflor, Blake Sandoval and Dominique Taylor are planning on continuing their athletic careers. Welsh said the move provided a number of individual highlights, including Ferguson's win in the 100 breast. Welsh said how much they've contributed to the program over their time here. The team was so committed to making it happen."

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**Men’s track and field takes indoor and outdoor conference titles**

“Both Brian Barnes and Kate Keating have brought a great deal for swimming and their energy is contagious,” Farrell said. “Both individuals have different strengths when it comes to coaching and they complement each other which is key. Kate has the ability to develop the Notre Dame swimming program into a national powerhouse.”

The Irish also participated in the NCAA Championships in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 22.30 seconds, which was good enough for an eighth-place finish and All-America honors. Maxwell also earned Honorable Mention All-America honors with a 14th-place finish in the 100-yard breaststroke.

**Rowing**

Notre Dame overcame two disappointing races to capture its seventh consecutive Big East title.

In their second meet of the spring, the Irish struggled against Michigan and Michigan State. Notre Dame then followed that performance with a trip to California face UCLA and USC, only to finish second by at least four seconds in every heat.

“Even we didn’t expect we didn’t race well on the West Coast,” Notre Dame coach Dan Bresette said. “But we’re back against Michigan and Michigan State.”

Irish coach Martin Stone said, “I think we’ve rebounded from every member of the team. Regardless of individual honors, the scores matter from everyone, and sometimes as they all can contribute to a winning season.”

When it came to competition, Stone said, “The better the individual is doing then the better the team is doing,” said Brophy.

“Notre Dame looks to continue playing strong and as they participate in the NCAA Regional May 29 at the Warren Golf Course. Despite competing against teams from all four of the conference, the Irish look forward to showing up for the big games.”

The Irish won the Big East championship. In the hammer throw, with sophomore Jack Howard coming in second place with a season-low of 164-8, the Irish were narrowly defeated in the Big East championships.

Although the Irish failed to win the Big East title, the team still proved to be among the best in the conference. Brophy became one of the top players in the conference in the regular season, finishing third in the regular season at the Fighting Irish National Invitational in Lexington, Ky. While at the tournament, junior So-Hyun Park led the Irish with a 1-over 72 on the final day of play, which earned her a share of eighth place for the overall individual title. This marked the first of many top individual honors for the Irish.

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Brey continued from page 40

pick it up at times." 

Harangody said he and Jackson entered their rookie seasons with a "business-like" attitude, which helped Notre Dame earn a 6-6 seed in the 2007 NCAA Tournament. The Irish lost to No. 11 seed Winthrop in the first round. Harangody averaged 11.2 points per game that season in more than 20 minutes per game and became the first freshman since Troy Murphy to score in double figures in his first five games.

"[The NCAA Tournament freshman year] was a pretty meaty experience for me, which I realize was my first go-around with things," he said. "It was something I'll always remember." Harangody, like any athlete, said he believes in off-season improvement, so he used the summer to hone his game as well as his fitness. The next season, he averaged 20.4 points and 10.6 rebounds per game.

"It was the right time to do work ethic," he said. "I'd been with the team for a year and a half, and it was my first go-around with things." Harangody said he was going to do whatever it took to get better every year. It was that season that earned him conference Player of the Year honors.

The Irish earned a No. 5 seed in the 2008 NCAA Tournament and beat George Mason easily in the first round. Harangody and the Irish rebounded. No. 4 seed Washington State took down the Irish in the second round.

During Harangody's junior season, Notre Dame started 12-3 but lost seven straight games and dropped out of contention for the Tournament. It wasn't for a lack of production from Harangody. He led the team in scoring for 14 consecutive games and averaged a career-best 23.3 points and 11.8 boards per game. Harangody scored 20 points against Kentucky in the NIT quarterfinals and had a double-double in the semifinal loss to Penn State.

Then came decision time. In April 2009, Harangody, then a junior, declared his eligibility for the NBA Draft. He didn't hire an agent, however, which allowed him the opportunity to change his mind and return to school.

I think when you have a kid shooting around at the park, every kid dreams of playing in the NBA and obviously I did and this has always been a dream of mine," he said on April 16, 2009. "So I mean for me, it's neat to be standing up here announcing this decision today."

This is a new territory for me. But you know, one of the best things is that with the team I have, the teammates I have. I told them this week what I was going to do and they have been so supportive, not only the team's leader but the guys that are going to be on the team next year and, you know, I wasn't very surprised at that because I know we have some of the best guys in the world here, in the country."

Those supportive teammates played a role in Harangody's decision to forgo the draft and return to school to finish his senior year.

"It was obvious to see that the NBA is a business," he said on July 15, 2009. "It's not like being at Notre Dame around the group of guys that we have. I realize that's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be with a group like this." Harangody said he wasn't ready to go out on one last go-around with his teammates.

"It was one more year to be around the guys and get a senior year," Harangody said recently. "It's something I truly hold special. Now I get a chance to watch these guys succeed in the postseason and also get my degree." Harangody said his parents and Brey helped him with the decision.

"Brey was very helpful throughout the whole process," he said. "He was always open to me and we appreciated it."

In the end, the Irish continued the season easier? You're not ready.'"

But even with Harangody's presence, the sixth-seeded Irish could not get past No. 11 Old Dominion in the first round of the NCAA Tournament, falling 51-50. In his final game, Harangody played 23 minutes off the bench, and his four points, his only four points in the game, in the final 15 seconds were nearly enough for Notre Dame to slip into the second round.

"When he got here he made us believe again," Brey said. "He was an impact guy. Look at what he's done throughout his career.

"He's been one of the greatest to ever wear a uniform here. Flat out."
Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community.

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Happy Birthday! It’s your turn to be Sarcastic, aggressive and derogatory. You can’t make up your own name and draw strength to whatever you like. If we don’t like it, we’ll let you know. We are the Observer and we are the voice of the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s community. So you want a place in our corner? We’ll let you know. We are the Observer and we are the voice of the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s community. So you want a place in our corner? We’ll let you know.

CARLSON (June 21, 2010): Comic books don’t seem your cup of tea. I’m afraid you’re not going to get very far in our world. You want to be a financial guru? Don’t bother trying to get on a soapbox. You won’t make it.

LEO (July 25, 2010): If you want to make a better future, you need to do something more. You want to be an entrepreneur? Start your own business. Don’t expect our help. You want to be a financial guru? Don’t bother trying to get on a soapbox. You won’t make it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): The information you give people will make you a financial guru. You’ve got some good ideas, but you don’t have the personal discipline you need to make it work. You want to be an entrepreneur? Start your own business. Don’t expect our help. You want to be a financial guru? Don’t bother trying to get on a soapbox. You won’t make it.

CANCER (June 21, 2010): The Observer’s focus is on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s community. If you’re not interested in that, you probably won’t get far in our world. You want to be a financial guru? Don’t bother trying to get on a soapbox. You won’t make it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Set your sights high, and don’t let others do you in. You have the discipline you need to make it work. You want to be an entrepreneur? Start your own business. Don’t expect our help. You want to be a financial guru? Don’t bother trying to get on a soapbox. You won’t make it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your success may be hampered in order to make it work. You want to be involved in a financial partnership? You need to be patient. Don’t expect our help. You want to be a financial guru? Don’t bother trying to get on a soapbox. You won’t make it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Prepare to get counted out if you don’t take care of yourself. You want to make it work? You need to be patient. Don’t expect our help. You want to be a financial guru? Don’t bother trying to get on a soapbox. You won’t make it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You’re in a position to think that you will make it work. You want to be an entrepreneur? Start your own business. Don’t expect our help. You want to be a financial guru? Don’t bother trying to get on a soapbox. You won’t make it.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Make a point of being patient. You want to make it work? You need to be patient. Don’t expect our help. You want to be a financial guru? Don’t bother trying to get on a soapbox. You won’t make it.

Birthday Baby: You’re imaginative, original and a bit of a dreamer. You aren’t afraid to take chances. You are aggressive and competitive.
After failing to post a winning regular-season record in three tries after guiding Notre Dame to back-to-back Bowl Championship Series (BCS) berths in his first two seasons, former Irish coach Charlie Weis was fired on Nov. 30, 2009. His replacement, Brian Kelly, was introduced as Notre Dame's head coach on December 11, 2009. "You want to be the best of the best and that’s why I’m here," he said.

Kelly has made it a priority that he and his players become more involved on campus. "We need to care about Our Lady. We need to care about Notre Dame," Kelly told The Observer in an exclusive interview on April 15, "When I get here, our guys thought about themselves first, then their families, then their teammates, then Notre Dame. I want them to flip that. They’re here for Notre Dame, first and foremost, and that’s really the paradigm shift for our players. They’ve got to care about each other and understand why they’re here.

Harangody sets records, becomes first Ring of Honor inductee

Senior forward Luke Harangody was named an AP All-American three times, the first Irish player honored three times since 1950. His class made the NCAA Tournament three out of four years, including a 12-0 record and a berth in the Sugar Bowl in 2009. He previously held the top jobs at Central Michigan and Grand Valley State. "You do not come to the University of Notre Dame because you want to be average," Kelly said on Dec. 11. "You want to be the best of the best." And that’s why I’m here. It inspires me to be around young men like I had in front of me today.

Kelly has since assembled his coaching staff, completed a solid 2010 recruiting class and led the Irish through spring practice. The staff is now hitting the recruiting trail and has already secured nine verbal commitments from the Class of 2011.

Harangody will graduate as Notre Dame's second-leading scorer and rebounder. His class made the NCAA Tournament three out of four years and has won more games than any other class in school history. He was named the 2008 Big East Player of the Year, was a second-team All-American in 2008 and 2009 and became the first Notre Dame player to be named to the Big East first-team three times.

As a freshman, Harangody said he didn’t anticipate it. "No, there’s no way I ever saw that," he said.

Harangody received four varsity letters at Andrean High School in Schererville, Ind., where he won two conference and three sectional championships. When he got to Notre Dame, he and then-freshman guard Tory Jackson played early in the season.

"We threw them in there, both of them were key guys as freshman," Irish coach Mike Brey said. "They had an unbelievable mental and physical toughness, both of them, that I think has permeated through our group. It’s helped some other guys who aren’t at their level of mental and physical toughness-wise.

Swarbrick fires Weis, looks to Brian Kelly to turn team around

“Nobody does it like Notre Dame.” Kelly said in his introductory press conference on Dec. 11, 2009. “There’s a chapel in every dorm, and there’s a leader around every corner, and we will cultivate that leadership here at Notre Dame, and we will continue to move towards excellence both in the classroom and on the football field.”

A veteran with 19 years of head coaching experience, Kelly spent three years at Cincinnati, leading the Bearcats to new heights, including a 12-0 record and a berth in the Sugar Bowl in 2009. He previously held the top jobs at Central Michigan and Grand Valley State. "You do not come to the University of Notre Dame because you want to be average," Kelly said on Dec. 11. "You want to be the best of the best. And that’s why I’m here. It inspires me to be around young men like I had in front of me today.”

Kelly has received praise from members of the Notre Dame community, including director of athletics Jack Swarbrick, for his energy and his accessibility as the head coach. Kelly has made it a priority that he and his players become more involved on campus.

“‘When I get here, our guys thought about themselves first, then their families, then their teammates, then Notre Dame. I want them to flip that. They’re here for Notre Dame, first and foremost, and that’s really the paradigm shift for our players. They’ve got to care about each other and understand why they’re here."

On March 3, Luke Harangody became the first-ever Irish player to be inducted into the Purcell Pavilion's Ring of Honor. His No. 44 jersey climbed to the rafters, celebrating four years at Notre Dame, and we will continue to move towards excellence both in the classroom and on the football field.”

Lux rewrites record books en route to All-America honors

“I was from the Midwest and normally the softball coaches from all around the United States will go to the warmer climate places like California and Florida to recruit because they play softball year-round,” Lux said. “When I got here I was glad to make an impact and show that yes, Midwest girls are talented and they can be good at softball.”

Christine Lux has always put a lot of pressure on herself to do well. She knew her hard work had paid off when she earned third-team All-American honors after her junior campaign, becoming the first Irish All-American since 2006.

“arangody sets records, becomes first Ring of Honor inductee

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Lux's Big East accomplishments are the No. 1 for all schools.

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