Students to meet with police

By MEGAN DOYLE
News Editor

As student government turnover approaches Friday, the outgoing administration finalized an agreement this week to establish formal meetings throughout the year between student body leaders and local law enforcement.

“This serves as a commitment to the student body, community and law enforcement leaders towards goals of safety and communication,” the agreement stated.

The document included signatures from St. Joseph County Sheriff Michael Grzegorek, South Bend Chief of Police Darryl Boykins and Indiana State Excise Police District Commander Lt. Tim Cleveland. Notre Dame Security Police Chief Phillip Johnson and Vice President of Student Affairs Fr. Tom Doyle also signed the agreement.

Student body president Catherine Soler added her signature to the document to represent future students in their current position.

After a spike in off-campus arrests in the fall, Soler and her administration reached out to local law enforcement on behalf of the student body.

“We all felt that it really made a difference for students to interact with police officers,” she said.

Soler said the agreement lays a foundation for a good relationship between students and local law enforcement in the future.

(This relationship) has to be a priority,” she said. “This affects so many people, students on-campus and off-campus, the administration, the community.

Doyle said the agreement built a foundation for the leadership of future student government administrations.

“As new student leaders are elected each year, they will reap the benefits of the bridge building done by Catherine, Andrew and Nick and the dedication of Chief Boykins, Sheriff Grzegorek, Lieutenant Cleveland and Chief Johnson,” he said. “It

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Students abroad in London build community, experience traditions

LONDON

Time for tea

Students abroad in London build community, experience traditions

By SARAH MERVOSH
London Correspondent

LONDON — On any given Tuesday afternoon, Notre Dame students studying abroad in London can only be found in one place — the London Undergraduate Program Library. But they are not there to use the abundance of books or to find a quiet place to study. In fact, the library is anything but quiet.

Students, teachers and administrators gather each Tuesday around noon for “tea time,” during which the London study abroad community socializes and enjoys hot tea and an assortment of cookies.

Alice Tyrell, the librarian at the Notre Dame London Centre who is known by students as “Miss Alice,” has been hosting tea time for five years. Originally, she began tea time as a way to get to know students so they would be more comfortable asking her questions about research.

“I wanted students to get used to coming into the library and make it really easy for people to ask me questions,” Tyrell said.

Director of the London Program, professor Greg Kucich, mingles with students of the study abroad program. Kucich calls the London program an “international hub.”

see LONDON/page 5

AT&T improves cell coverage

By MEGAN DOYLE
News Editor

When sophomore Caitlin Koscielski walked into her dorm last year, she said she was guaranteed to lose her cellphone call.

“If I was walking into Badin and talking on the phone, I would lose the call by the time I got to the fourth floor,” she said.

“But now I can continue up the stairs and into my room without losing it.”

Koscielski’s cellphone carrier is AT&T. Her coverage improved over past months after AT&T improved its service across Notre Dame.

AT&T representative Jennifer Thomas said the upgrade would

see PHONE/page 6

Football announces new prices

Observer Staff Report

Notre Dame announced game times and ticket prices Wednesday for the 2011 football season.

The Oct. 22 matchup against USC is set for a 7:30 p.m. kickoff and will be the first night game at Notre Dame Stadium since the No. 2 Irish defeated Michigan 28-24 on Sept. 15, 1949.

“When we will do this only on a selective basis, we think it is important to occasionally use the platform of a prime-time game to promote the University and our football program,” Notre Dame athletics director Jack Swarbrick said in a press release distributed by the University.

“When you look back at the previous home night games we’ve played, a number of those have been hallmark events in the history of our program. We are confident this year’s USC game will continue that tradition.”

The home games against South Florida (Sept. 3), Michigan State (Sept. 17), Air Force (Oct. 8) and Navy (Oct. 29) are all slated for

see SEASON/page 4

CD to aid Haiti relief efforts

By BRIDGET FEENEY
News Writer

Coldplay. Madonna. Dr. Jeffrey Jacobs, Saint Mary’s professor.

These three people have one thing in common — they are all musicians who have contributed to the Haiti relief efforts.

Jacobs is a professor of music and a world-renowned pianist who will soon join the ranks of other

see CD/page 3
QUESTION OF THE DAY: IF YOU HAD A VENDING MACHINE IN YOUR ROOM, WHAT WOULD BE IN IT?

Have an idea for Question of the Day? Email obsphoto@gmail.com

OFFBEAT

English tabby poised to set world record for loud purring

LONDON — A gray-and-white tabby by the name of Smokey has cat-apulted to fame with purring so loud it has been recorded at a potentially record-setting 73 decibels.

Sometimes she purrs so loudly it makes her cough and splutter,” Adams said on a website devoted to the cat, which was rescued from a shelter about three years ago. Smokey “even manages to purr while she eats.”

Hopfing to see Smokey recognized as top cat, Adams asked Northampton College in central England to provide the equipment needed to submit a world-record application.

The recording has been submitted to Guinness World Records, the college said.

OUTBACK

English tabby poised to set world record for loud purring

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IN BRIEF

The College of Engineering will host a seminar titled, “Reaching Beyond 1 Kilometer: Nakheel Super Tall Tower,” in room 129 of DeLell targolo Hall. The seminar will take place from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. today, in the latest session in the Challenges and Innovations in Civil and Environmental Engineering series.

Tonight from 5 to 7 p.m. the Irish softball team will face Purdue in Melissa Cook Stadium. Student admission is free. Tickets are $5 for adults and $3 for seniors and youth.

The film “The Imaginarioum of Dr. Parnassus” is playing in the DeLellargolo Performing Arts Center from 7 to 9 p.m. tonight. It is the story of a travelling show where members of the audience get an irresistible opportunity to choose between light and darkness.

In the Notre Dame Conference Center in Mendoza Hall the conference titled, “Catholic Diasporas: The Irish and Mexicans in America,” will begin at 7:30 p.m. tonight.

The Black Students Association is hosting its annual film festival at LaFortune tonight. The film “House Party” will be shown from 9 to 11 p.m., and refreshments will be provided.

During the concert “Best of Acousticale” this year’s best Acousticale performers will play from 10 p.m. to midnight at Legends. Free food will be served.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, email detailed information about an event to obnews.nd@gmail.com

Students in the College Mentors for Kids program took Holy Cross Elementary students on South Quad to play games and take advantage of the nice weather Wednesday.

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Pub proposes major changes

By AMANDA GRAY
News Writer

Major changes, including a new name, are ahead for Kildare’s as the local pub changes hands, said Angela Maternowski, director of marketing and events at the restaurant.

Students and community members can suggest new names for the pub on Kildare’s Facebook page or at the Eddy Street location, Maternowski said. Kildare’s began collecting suggestions April 4 and the owners have received hundreds of suggestions so far. They will narrow the possibilities down to three names for the final vote.

“As the community’s public house, we thought it would be nice for our guests to suggest our new name,” she said. “We have been accepting suggestions since St. Patrick’s Day.”

The new name will be announced April 16. Changes to the pub’s menu will also be incorporated by mid-April. Maternowski said some menu changes could include using more food products from local providers.

“Our menu is now the same, but with better quality ingredients, and some other aspects of our menu will be completely revamped,” she said. “Prices will be adjusted as the plates are but ... we will still keep your favorites.”

Kildare’s general manager Rick Stoner said the surface problems lay. Of course, we will have listened to our guests’ suggestions and criticisms and already know exactly where our problems lay. Of course, we will strive to continue to provide a great service and this national pride for all of our guests.”

Contact Amanda Gray at agray3@nd.edu.

CD continued from page 1

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Road Studios and with the Philadelphia Chamber Orchestra. Jacobs said he recorded the final piece himself on the piano.

“Four pieces explore and celebrate the incredible earthquake,” Jacob said. “The classics that I have been working on throughout the year.”

Jacobs said he recorded the final piece himself, the beginning this year by student body president Catherine Soler and vice president Andreo Bell, needs to be codified into the constitution for future leaders.

“Although Pat and Brett have been here and seen the importance of the people’s emotions,” Jacobs said. “The pieces are representative of the people’s emotions. Grief for the anguish they felt at the loss of their family and livelihoods, fear for their present and hope for the future.”

Contact Mel Flanagan at mflanag3@nd.edu.

SENATE Group makes resolutions prior to annual turnover

By MEL FLANAGAN
News Writer

Student Senate passed two resolutions during its final meeting Wednesday, April 19, prior to the anticipated April 1 turnover, as the current senators close their term, student body president Pat Kildare said.

As the current senators close their term, student body president Pat Kildare said. “As the community’s public house, we thought it would be nice for our guests to suggest our new name.”

At the meeting Wednesday evening in the Senate chamber, Kildare said. “It really crystallizes what has been going on this whole year.”

The meetings will take place during the months of August, September and October.

Contact Bridget Feney at bfeene01@saintmarys.edu.

Kildare’s of South Bend, located at the corner of Eddy Street, will announce its new name April 16.

“The pieces are representative of the people’s emotions. Grief for the anguish they felt at the loss of their family and livelihoods, fear for their present and hope for the future.”

Contact Bridget Feney at bfeene01@saintmarys.edu.

CD continued from page 1

mflanag3@nd.edu

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CD continued from page 1

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mflanag3@nd.edu

Contact Bridget Feney at bfeene01@saintmarys.edu.
**Student Government Association**

**Board hosts discussion with incoming staffers**

By MEGAN LONEY

New Writer

Saint Mary’s outgoing Student Government Association (SGA) hosted the incoming members at its last meeting of the 2010-2011 administration before their April 1 turnover.

Current student body president Rachael Chesley welcomed the new administration members in attendance.

“We’re excited to look ahead and see what you [the new board] are going to do next year,” she said.

Members of both boards participated in a “break-out session” to facilitate conversation between the outgoing and incoming staff. Current commissioners met with the new board members who will fill their respective positions for the upcoming 2011-2012 academic year.

“We felt that having this discussion was important for all of us, whether we’re graduating or just leaving SGA, because we’re All SMC sisters,” Chesley said. “By facilitating discussion among strangers that you just don’t know yet, it lays a stronger foundation for the incoming administration.”

Chesley said this discussion was not meant to push the ideas of the current administration on the new one.

“We don’t want next year to do exactly what we did this year,” she said. “We know that next year is going to be the best year ever.”

Chesley’s final activity as student body president was giving the board an update on the printer initiative and the LeMans Hall basement renovation.

“The printer has been delivered, and it will be installed tomorrow,” she said. “The printer will be up and running on Friday, April 1.”

Chesley said the LeMans Hall basement renovation is almost complete.

“The TV and the DVD player are here, but we are waiting on the furniture to arrive before setting them up,” Chesley said.

Chesley said she would send an email to all students once the furniture arrived and the basement was complete, which will occur before the end of the semester.

“This really is a great way to end our administration,” Chesley said.

Other ongoing SGA initiatives include a fundraiser for tsunami relief efforts in Japan. Students can donate money in the collection buckets at every Diverse Student Leadership Conference (DSLC) event.

“We’re just trying to help contribute to efforts to alleviate the terrible event that happened in Japan,” Chesley said.

Contact Megan Loney at mloney01@saintmarys.edu

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**Police**

continued from page 1

will be up to successor student government leaders and students to preserve and enhance the advances that made this agreement possible.

The parties who signed the agreement committed to meet at least three times each year. The meetings will be held in August and January to begin each semester. An additional meeting will be held in April during student government turnover to facilitate the transition between old and new administrations.

Student body vice president Andrew Bell said outgoing and incoming leaders would be present at the April meeting.

“They will meet once in April in a transition meeting, and that is important because we have developed good relationships with certain law enforcement officers but we aren’t going to be in those meetings in the future,” he said. “So that April meeting is to pass the torch on so that our relationships that we formed can hopefully lay a foundation for the relationships in the next administration.”

Educating students about safety and local laws is a significant part of student government’s commitment to law enforcement leaders.

“The agreement states that student government will coordinate programming events to introduce new students to law enforcement expectations and practices.”

Student government also pledged to coordinate events for off-campus students to ensure good neighbor relations. Bell said things this year with administration were a source of information on both sides.

“It just makes sense. They give us suggestions, and we pass those on to students,” he said. “We give them the student perspective on things. Students don’t want to be antagonistic when you come into an apartment, but when a student doesn’t know what’s about to happen, tensions can come up.”

Bell said student government should reach out to students across different mediums to educate them about safety issues. This past year, student government sent informational emails to the student body with safety tips for the weekend, but they also hosted discussions for face-to-face meetings between local law enforcement and students.

“I think big programming events though focused on this can give students the opportunity to meet law enforcement outside of the spectrum of being in trouble,” Catherine said. “That is really helpful and beneficial.”

Chief of staff Nick Ruf said the meetings could help avoid future negative interactions between students and police.

“Out of this we want this to be a proactive body, to stop the problems before they actually happen,” he said. “We don’t want another outbreak [of arrests] like we had in September and August so we feel like a table with everybody talking will be a place where we can work out the kinks before they happen.”

Doyle said the agreement signifies good will between law enforcement and students. “There now exists a new opportunity for students to be in forward-thinking partnerships as they seek to be good citizens and neighbors with those who live beyond the borders of our campus,” he said.

Bell said future student body leaders should approach law enforcement with both respect and persistence.

“You have to take the perspective of being a respectful member of the South Bend community,” she said. “We were humble in those meetings but also assertive about the needs of the student body.”

The current administration will meet in coming weeks with incoming student body president Pat McCormick, vice president Brett Rocheleau and local law enforcement for the April meeting planned in the agreement.

Contact Megan Doyle at mdoyle1@nd.edu

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**Season**

continued from page 1

3:30 p.m. The home finale, against Boston College (Nov. 19), set for a 4 p.m. kickoff. The neutral site contest against Maryland (Nov. 12 at FedEx Field in Landover, Md.) will start at 7:30 p.m.

For the first time in the program’s history, the school has introduced variable game ticket pricing, a model followed by many universities. Single game tickets will cost $70 for the South Florida, Air Force and Navy games, and $80 for Michigan State, USC and Boston College. Tickets for the Maryland game range from $50 to $130.

“The reality of our budgeting process is that football ticket revenue is critical to our ability to contribute to the University’s academic programs and finance our other varsity sports,” Swarbick said in the statement.

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**Contact Megan Doyle at mdoyle1@nd.edu**

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London

continued from page 1

“That’s why we do it in the library.”
Over the years, Tyrell said tea time also developed into an opportunity for students to socialize with each other and with faculty. Though attendance varies by semester, Tyrell said tea time seems ‘really popular’ this spring, with about 60 students attending each Tuesday afternoon.

Since the London program’s creation over 25 years ago, it has developed traditions such as tea time and has moved into a building once used as an exclusive gentlemen’s club for members of the universities of Oxford and Cambridge. The program has grown since its beginning and now accommodates 130 students each semester.

Junior Nick Arnold said the sense of community felt at Notre Dame carries over to the London program. “Its size is a strength, not a weakness,” he said. “With a large group of students, we are able to meet entirely new people, while at the same time continuing to hang out with previous friends.”
The long history of the program also provides a chance for previous students to recommend where to go for nightlife or to eat.

Junior Manali Patel said many students received emails with recommendations prior to their semester abroad. As a result, many Notre Dame students tend to frequent the same locations on the same nights, which contributes to the program’s sense of community. “Everyone interacts with each other more because you’re in a smaller group,” Patel said.

But some students said this sense of community does not come without a trade-off. “It’s nice to know that you have friends you can go out with and you always have something to do with someone,” Patel said. “But compared to other [study abroad] programs, I wish that I could meet other people.”

Junior Nick Bortolotti said aside from temporarily meeting British people in pubs, he finds it difficult to branch out while abroad.

“The fact that we don’t go to a local university here means that we’re constantly surrounded by Notre Dame kids,” he said. “I expected it to be easier to interact with locals.”

However, students and administrators countered the stereotype that studying in London is exactly like studying at Notre Dame.

Greg Kurich, director of the London program, said the program is an “international hub” for the University because the London program works to not only integrate Notre Dame students with British culture, but also to bring Notre Dame’s presence to London.

He said classes in the London program are similar to Notre Dame in terms of their high academic standard, but classes draw on the cultural resources of London to offer different learning opportunities.

Specifically, Kurich said classes are not scheduled on Fridays to give students the opportunity to travel and the majority of classes are designed to include field trips to relevant locations across London.

“This is one of the most exciting and distinctive features of the London Program — its capacity to engage students internationally with the vibrant cultural life of London,” he said.

Patel said she often explores London for class.

“We go to tons of galleries.

London study abroad student when in doubt, pinkie out.

Kristy Cloetening decides that

We go on walks to look at architecture. We go to gardens,” she said. “Places I never would find on my own.”

In addition to the opportunity to interact with British and European culture, studying in London also offers a different residential life compared to Notre Dame.

Because the drinking age is 18 years old in London, students are allowed to consume and possess alcohol in their rooms. Ric Whaite, one of two rectors living in the residence halls, said.

The residences themselves, which are apartment-style and co-ed, also contrast with the single-sex dorms at Notre Dame. The result, partisans do not apply in the London program, Whaite said.

But, Whaite said, the different rules have not created problems.

“I don’t consider our experience as a program with a residential life component in London to experience greater issues thanks to the perceived liberality of our policies,” he said.

Bortolotti said the different residential life policies have been beneficial to his abroad experience.

“I think it contributes to a more relaxed social interaction because you’re not constantly worried about intervention for alcohol or presence of the opposite sex,” he said. “I haven’t heard anybody complain about it. I think it’s definitely a good thing.”

Because of such differences, and the very nature of living in London, Arnold said the London program would always differ from studying on campus at Notre Dame.

“All in all, the London program will never be ‘just Notre Dame,’ because the atmosphere of London encourages students to go beyond the way they live and study in South Bend,” he said.

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu

London study abroad students Nick Bortolotti (left) and Adam Cowden enjoy tea in London Tuesday afternoon.

Howard Fuller

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Phone
continued from page 1
improve coverage on highly-traf- ficked areas on campus.

The upgrade on 19 nodes will enhance wireless coverage for students, faculty, staff and visi- tors on Notre Dame’s campus, including at Notre Dame Stadium and at many other major buildings and attractions such as the Hesburgh Library, Joyce Center, Main Building and residence halls across campus,” she said.

Thomas said antennas for AT&T are placed strategically around campus for the best pos- sible coverage.

“The upgrade is expected to help improve cell reliability and enable more consistent network access in many areas on campus to help customers make the most of their AT&T devices,” she said.

Notre Dame’s Chief Information Officer Ron Kraemer said the Office of Information Technology works with all of the cellular providers to improve their customer ser- vice at Notre Dame.

“One of the things to keep in mind is that our students, faculty, staff make individual con- sumer choices regarding their preferred cellphone provider, and we want all cell service to work well on campus,” he said. “It is also important that whatever we do, it allows every provider to advance their service offerings.”

Steve Ellis, director of Integrated Communication Services, said Notre Dame works with a company called NextG to improve coverage from major cellphone carriers such as AT&T, Verizon and Sprint.

“One of the things we are trying to do, going forward, is identify these places where we have more complaints than others,” Ellis said. “We go in and survey them. We actually go in and measure them.”

Ellis said NextG then receives feedback about these locations and problems with campus cov- erage. The company then works with individual carriers to improve coverage around the University.

“There are a number of build- ings we know have poor cover- age because of how they are constructed,” he said. “One that is universally had for all the car- riers that I know is Bond Hall.”

Ellis said his office is also reviewing coverage in all the dorms on campus and hopes to present complete information about their problem spots to NextG by the end of the year.

All carriers are “equally guilty” and struggle with cover- age around campus, Ellis said, and Verizon plans to follow AT&T and improve its coverage over the summer.

Ellis said he receives feedback about campus coverage through the Office of Residence Life as well as from hall staff.

While her calls around cam- pus generally improved, Koscielski said she would still like to see increased coverage in certain areas.

“Coverage in [Coleman Morse] is still bad,” she said. “But it has improved and we are happy about that.”

Contact Megan Doyle at mdoyle11@nd.edu

CHINA
Quake affects global market

Associated Press
BEIJING — A shortage of auto parts and other compo- nents after Japan’s earthquake has stirred unease about two pillars of manufactur- ing: the country’s role as a crucial link in the global supply chain and “just in time” production.

Manufacturers slashed costs by adopting Japanese-style small inventories and close links to a tight circle of suppli- ers. But that left them without a cushion of raw materials to ride out disruptions, forcing factories as far away as Louisiana to close when the March 11 quake and tsunami battered Japanese producers.

“There is no question people are saying: Look, we may have gone too far. Let’s revisit this and do some different things about just-in-time,” said Jim Lawton, vice president of DBS Supply Management Solutions, a unit of Dun & Bradstreet Inc.

Companies can use more suppliers spread over more countries but that would mean they have less bargaining power to lower costs. Manufacturers may hold more inventories. That might mean higher prices for consumers.

“Tsunami damage and power shortages that idled thousands of Japan’s factories highlight- ed its role as a key player. It sometimes the only — source of auto parts, graphics chips and other high-end compo- nents. Lack of parts from Japan prompted General Motors Co. to temporarily shut down a Louisiana factory that makes pickup trucks. Other companies have warned of possible disruption in supplies of mobile phones, personal computers and other goods.

CEOs embraced “just in time” production in the 1990s, imitating Japan’s automakers and other manufacturers. They boosted profits by cut- ting stockpiles of parts and won discounts by buying more parts from a smaller group of suppli- ers.

“All these things have made companies lower-cost and much more competitive but they have made them much more brittle in cases like this,” said Lawton, a former proc-urement executive for Hewlett-Packard Co.

GM, Nokia Inc. and other major companies said they were closely watching their supply chains in Japan but declined to say how their long- term strategy might change.

Already, suppliers of elec-
tronics and other components in Taiwan and Southeast Asia are seeing a spike in orders as customers look for alterna-
tives to Japan or Japanese companies outsource work from their idled factories.

Irish Studies Classes
Fall 2011

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Keough-Naughton Institute for Irish Studies

Irish Studies Classes

Gadhafi’s forces adapt to airstrikes

Associated Press

AJDABIYA, Libya — Moammar Gadhafi’s ground forces recaptured a strategic oil town Wednesday and moved within striking distance of another major eastern city, nearly reversing the gains rebels made since international airstrikes began. Rebels pleaded for more help, while a U.S. official said government forces are making themselves harder to target by using civilian “battle wagons” with makeshift armaments instead of tanks.

Western powers kept up the pressure to force Gadhafi out with new airstrikes in other parts of Libya, hints that they may arm the opposition and intensify negotiations behind the scenes to find a country to give Gadhafi’s forces an audience.

Also on Wednesday, an American official and former U.S. intelligence officer told The Associated Press that CIA operatives were sent to Libya this month after the agency’s station in the capital was forced to close. CIA officers also assisted in rescuing two crew members of an F-15E Strike Eagle that crashed, they said. They spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the information.

Airstrikes have neutralized Gadhafi’s air force and pounded his army, but his ground forces remain far better armed, trained and organized than the opposition military. His air force and pounded his army, but his ground forces remain far better armed, trained and organized than the opposition military.

The change not only makes it harder for civilian “battle wagons” to target Gadhafi’s forces with precision strikes but that Western aircraft need air cover and we could do this. They should be helping us,” Haith said.

NATO planes flew over the zone where the heaviest fighting was under way earlier Wednesday and an Associated Press reporter at the scene heard explosions, but it was unclear whether any airstrike hit the area. U.S. Marine Corps Capt. Clint Geheke, a spokesman for the NATO operation aboard the USS Mount Whitney, said he could not confirm any specific strikes but that Western aircraft were engaging pro-Gadhafi forces in areas including Sirte and Misrata, the rebels’ last significant holdout in western Libya.

The retreat Wednesday looked like a mad scramble. And as the fighting approached Ajdabiya, residents said they had an exodus of their own. The road to the rebels’ de facto capital, Benghazi, was packed with vehicles, most of them full of families and their belongings. Streets on the western side of Ajdabiya were deserted and silent.

Rebel military spokesman Col. Ahmed Bani said the rebels had made a “tactical retreat” to Ajdabiya and will set up defensive positions there. “Even with courage and determination, the forces need power to be able to fight back,” he said.

Coffee at the Como

For GLBT & Questioning Students at Notre Dame

Tuesday–April 5
310 Coleman Morse
7:00pm–9:00pm.

The Conseil Council invites GLBT & Questioning Notre Dame students, their friends, and allies, to an informal gathering at the CoMo.

Everyone is Welcome • Confidentiality is Assured

Coffee and Refreshments will be Served
Lent in the dining hall

With yet another season of Lent upon us, we at Notre Dame are once again beset by those intriguing peculiarities which are unique to this particular time of year — including the numerous entreaties from campus ministry urging us to use the season to finally change our rotten ways, the subtle braggarting from overzealous Catholics about just how many things they are giving up for Lent and how difficult it has been for them and, of course, the conspicuous absence of meat from the menu of the dining halls each Friday. This last practice seems excessive and draconian to me, and so during a recent meatless Friday lunch I tried to consider all the possible reasons why the University would feel justified in instituting such a policy.

I’ll admit that I’ve never found a satisfactory answer as to why the Catholic Church requires its followers to abstain from eating meat on Fridays during Lent — or rather, one that doesn’t involve deference to superstition or archaic traditions but — let’s set aside this trifling philosophical disagreement and focus solely on Notre Dame’s decision to enforce this policy in rather dramatic fashion here on campus. First of all, it strikes me as grossly unjust to the sizeable and growing minority of students at this University that aren’t either Christian or which does not observe Lent to force all students who eat in the dining hall to comply with this mandate. Why should my eating habits be subject to the whims and dictates of religious leaders who have been dead for centuries? The obvious retort to this is that I freely chose to attend a Catholic university and this is merely one of the consequences of that decision. I might be inclined to accept this reasoning if I could see legitimate grounds for why the Catholic nature of Notre Dame compels it to ban meat from the dining hall on Fridays, but I honestly cannot find that justification. It’s my understanding that the practice of giving up something for Lent or abstaining from eating meat on Fridays only has meaning if one truly wants to participate in the tradition and freely chooses to do so. Forcing someone into compliance serves no moral or theological purpose, and only creates bitterness and resentment.

What then is this University’s goal in not serving meat on Fridays? Surely those students who actually wish to abstain from meat do not need Notre Dame’s assistance — they are perfectly capable of not eating meat on their own. We’ve already seen that forcing people to comply with the requirements of the Church won’t magically make people better Catholics, and so the only real objective that this policy achieves is to perpetuate a brazen injustice against the students who comprise the non-Christian minority on campus.

However, I don’t think Notre Dame actually considers any of these consequences when it sets the dining hall policy. In truth, I think the primary reason why meat is not served in the dining hall on Fridays during Lent is so that the University has a reply to the deluded and disgruntled alumni who accuse the school of betraying its “Catholic identity.” But let’s be honest here, these highly disaffected and irrational people are not going to be even the slightest bit impressed when Notre Dame points to the dining hall policy and says “Look how Catholic we are!” They are far too busy marching around with pictures of aborted fetuses during presidential commencement addresses and devising new arguments for why gays and lesbians should be treated like normal human beings to be swayed by this empty gesture.

Now it’s true that I already just go to Reckers and order a hamburger on those Fridays during Lent when the dining halls aren’t serving meat, but that would require me to needlessly spend money above and beyond the cootidiant sum that I already pay for my meal plan. Until the university allows me to use dining hall meals at Reckers during Lent, or until it is able to provide a cogent and persuasive argument for why it forces all of its students to abide by the Lenten fast, Notre Dame ought to abandon its policy of not serving meat in the dining hall on Fridays during Lent.

Ryan Williams is a sophomore. He can be reached at rwill15@nd.edu.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Regatta is coming

Notre Dame fishes.

April is here, which can only mean one thing. Regatta is coming! That’s right, less than one month left until the greatest college event in the history of the world. Commonly (and by commonly, I mean just this one time) referred to as the Fisher Bregatta or Fisher Forgotta, the Regatta is celebrating its 25th anniversary at Notre Dame. Contrary to popular belief, the Regatta did not begin at Notre Dame. Our founder Fred Fisher’s great-great-grandfather, Christopher Columbus, won the Fisher Regatta in 1492 with a boat called the Santa Maria. We all know how that turned out. Even before that, God and Noah Fisher teamed up to construct the Ark for the deadliest Fisher Regatta in history.

Many boats have come and gone since then, and now it is your chance to enter the annals of history next to legendary Regatta champions like Ferdinand Magellan, Captain Morgan, Leif Ericson, The Skipper and Captain Crunch. Take advantage of your opportunity to become a champion (luckily, we’re not racing against Tulsa or Florida State) and start building your boat today. YOU GOTTA REGATTA.

Ryan Williams

EDITORIAL CARTOON

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"An idealist is a person who helps other people to be prosperous."

Henry Ford
U.S. Industrialist

Viewpoint

INSIDE COLUMN

Labor lessons

Two months ago, Aaron Rodgers received the snap from center Scott Wells and last year was a world champion. Pandemonium ensued, as grown men were moved to tears and content filled the air.

That was the last time we saw football on television, but the recent development of the collective bargaining negotiations is any indication, our televisions could be without football for a very long time.

With the year-round interest the NFL has created, this time of year we are usually concerned with which free agent sport our team will pick up or hooked on which college prospect our team will draft. Instead, we are forced to watch the same B-roll footage on ESPN of Roger Goodell and other sports walking into some New York City office building.

This labor stoppage is not unique. As with every sporting labor strike, the players think the owners are egotistical and making too much money, while the owners think the players are making too much money, while the owners think the players are making too much money... and so on. This is how the standard. Other sports model themselves after the NFL’s business plan. They see the NFL as the gold standard, and if the NFL can strike and bring the sport out of the doldrums — all we care about is that on Sunday afternoons in the fall we have football on our televisions.

Fan interest is what fuels the NFL to says they are out of touch with the fans. Fan interest is what fuels the NFL to says they are out of touch with the fans. Fan interest is what fuels the NFL to says they are out of touch with the fans. Fan interest is what fuels the NFL to says they are out of touch with the fans. Fan interest is what fuels the NFL to says they are out of touch with the fans. Fan interest is what fuels the NFL to says they are out of touch with the fans. Fan interest is what fuels the NFL to says they are out of touch with the fans. Fan interest is what fuels the NFL to says they are out of touch with the fans. Fan interest is what fuels the NFL to says they are out of touch with the fans.

Both sides lose money. Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right? Do I think the NFL is right?
Are you on a mission?

Kate Barrett

Raise your hand if you would have liked to be one of the people who was in the locker room facing Coach Pat Summit's wrath at halftime of the Notre Dame-Tennessee women's game Monday night. Coach Summit, known to be, um, blunt when she's unhappy, found her group in unfamiliar territory: behind to a team they'd beaten 20 times in every single previous meeting. There were only five points at halftime with two key players already in foul trouble, she attributed much of Tennessee's difficulties to the Notre Dame women, saying, “They are on a mission.”

Are you on a mission? Because we are at a halftime as well: today we are halfway through the holy season of Lent. It’s worth taking a brief trip to the locker room to regroup and think about how our second half will play out.

A halftime — whether the midpoint of a game, the intermission at a concert or play, or that week of spring break which follows midterms — adds great value to an event in symbolic ways, but also more importantly in real ways as well. Halftime is to turn the page: they can focus our attention, strengthen our resolve, lift our spirits.

Players and fans get to pause and take a breather. The coach and the team get to assess how they’re doing and where they need to adjust and improve. Musicians regain their focus and energy so that they can offer their best performance in the second half. Students and teachers examine what they've accomplished and learned and map out what they still need to study, teach on or write.

This Sunday we will celebrate Laetare, or “Rejoice” Sunday in the Church. It’s the halftime Sunday in Lent: we can see where we’ve come so far in our journey as well as the joy of Easter awaiting us up ahead. Hopefully as Lent has progressed, our Lenten practices have swept away some of the noise and clutter that surrounds us. The superficial fuss and shallow distractions are the weaknesses and vitality that keep us from following God freely: have we, through our loving obedience to the call of Jesus Christ, cleared any of those obstacles from our path this Lent? As we reach this halfway moment, this turning point, we can see the hope of the resurrected Jesus ahead of us with new eyes, with a fresh spiritual vision.

Surely it is no accident, then, that the gospel readings we hear at Mass during these halftime days call us to examine whether or not we truly can see Jesus, and see ourselves, with the focus and clarity of vision that come only from pausing in prayer to remind ourselves of our purpose. In the past, when we were concerned about the few next days, as well as for Sunday, the people who thought they were watching Jesus the most intensely were the ones whose sinfulfulness impeded their ability to see. And yet the man born blind whom we meet in Sunday’s gospel had the vision to stop and consider the possibilities for his past and his future and to say, “I do believe. Lord.”

Alexander Schmemann, a prominent 20th century theologian and author, described the “bright sadness” of hope inherent in this middle time of Lent: “Little by little we begin to understand that the sadness of Lent is indeed ‘bright’, that a mysterious transformation is about to take place in us.”

So perhaps these next few days will become a halftime moment for each of us. Can we consciously call for a brief intermission and take some quiet time to pray about our own journeys of preparation for Jesus’ passion, death and resurrection? Make an honest assessment about how the first half has gone for you and ask the Lord for the wisdom and courage to face the mission ahead: to change any habits or weaknesses we’re keeping you from.

Kate Barrett is the director of the Emmaus Program in Campus Ministry. She can be reached at kbarrett@nd.edu The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
When comedian Daniel Tosh introduced the world to singing "sensation" Rebecca Black, there were a few immediate, inevitable consequences.

First, thanks to Tosh’s reputation and the sheer atrocity of the song, Black became instantly infamous. Second, many people were forced to eat their words concerning Justin Bieber. He may be annoying, but Rebecca Black makes many people long for the days when "Baby" was the worst thing they’d ever heard.

And third, with such fame achieved through such an obvious lack of any real talent, Black was destined to produce imitators. It may seem quizzical that anyone would want the kind of "fame" Black has received, but becoming a YouTube sensation, no matter how painful it is to watch or listen to you, is a goldmine.

A 2010 socialtimes.com article estimated that YouTube user Smosh, whose videos had similar view counts to Black’s "Friday," earned about $113,000 a year. That means that if Black partners with YouTube and accrues advertising income, she could conceivably make six figures for her inability to make music.

The comparisons between Shearing and Black are obvious. Besides sharing a first name, the two are close in age — Black is 18 and Shearing is 19 — and both are seeking fame through YouTube and social media. On the surface, it is not hard to figure out why Shearing’s publicist is painting her as the British version of Rebecca Black.

A simple analysis of Shearing’s song, however, tells a different tale. It isn’t bad. It isn’t especially good, but it isn’t near the level of terrible that vaulted Black to fame. It’s clear that Shearing can actually sing, and that a producer with at least some talent helped her out. The lyrics, while not in the vein of Bob Dylan, are nowhere near the hilarity of "Friday." It simply isn’t atrocious enough to be famous.

The real story is played out in the world of social media. Without ever hearing either song, it is possible to tell quite a bit about each artist simply from seeing what the Internet is saying.

Contact Kevin Noonan at knoonan2@nd.edu
By CLAIRE STEPHENS  
Scene Writer

"Since her decade-defining albums "Baby One More Time" and "Dope!... I did it again" at the turn of the century, Britney Spears has only had an average of two to four big singles per album. "Femme Fatale," however, may bring the almost-30-year-old celebrity back into cultural relevance once again."

"Though still singing in her characteristic pop style, Spears incorporates a more techno, electronic sound in nearly all of her new songs. We grew up with her bubblegum-pop songs as children, and now she has the potential to enter the college dance club scene. More on par with other Billboard Top 100 artists like Lady Gaga, Ke$ha and Dev, Spears' new style follows the epic dance party hits on the rise without abandoning her signature pop sound."

"The pop princess' new style balances her vocals with catchy melodies and prominent electronic beats. By adapting to the sounds of today's dance music without directly imitating any artist or genre, Spears keeps her music distinct and develops a unique style."

"In the mix are a few duds: "Criminal," for example, has a very basic, childlike melody and doesn't flatter Spears' vocals, which sound nasally. "How I Roll," though musically promising at the beginning, quickly becomes very middle-school sounding both in music and message. The song also features a very bothersome, repetitive sound, resembling a door hinge squeaking and a descending moan put together. "He About to Lose Me," despite its dramatic and impressive vocals at the beginning, transforms into a refrain outside of Spears' vocal range."

"Some tracks with the most fame-potential feature other artists, like Spears' duet with Sadi in "Drop Dead Beautiful" and will.i.am in "Big Fat Bass." Both songs' guests artists are minimally heard throughout the song, but still manage to outshine Spears. The songs would be decent with Spears alone however, Sadi and will.i.am add another dimension to the album."

"The highlights of "Femme Fatale" are "Till the End," released in March as a single, "Till the End" matches the more powerful and catchy songs of the album, like "Gasoline" and "Up N Down." The best-known song on the album, "Hold It Against Me," echoes the quieter, more emotional electronics songs on the album, such as "Trip To Your Heart" and "Inside Out.

"The only element missing from Spears' new album is the empowering, independent female anthem she has become known for. Expected themes of partying, sexuality, boys and romance are scattered throughout the album, but there is no single song to compete with the brazen sexuality and individuality of Spears' past hits, like "Stronger.""

"Womanizer" and "Circus.

""Till the World Ends" has the best prospect of being the hallmark song of the album. Although "Femme Fatale" is missing powerhouse singles like "Toxic," or "Gimme More," the album has a greater quantity of good songs than the handful of mega-hits present on her past albums."

While Spears' relevance in pop culture seemed to fade after her commanding comeback several years ago, her new album easily brings her back into pop Top 40 music. Her dance-pop and electro-pop sounds have also brought her back into the minds of her original fans — our generation. By transforming her music to match the times, she has allowed herself to insert her unique pop vocals into today's music scene.

"Despite the many controversies and mishaps of Britney's personal life, her album has proved that in the world of pop culture and music, she is still a femme fatale."

Contact Claire Stephens at cstephe@nd.edu

'SFemme Fatale' Britney Spears

Label: Jive Records

Best Tracks: "Till the World Ends," "Gasoline"

SOFIA FURRER | Observer Graphic
Purdue's Painter signs eight-year contract

**Associated Press**

Purdue's sales pitch to Matt Painter was good enough.

After interview sessions with Missouri about its coaching vacancy, Painter decided to stay at his alma mater Wednesday and has agreed to an eight-year contract through the 2018-19 season.

I am extremely excited about continuing my career at Purdue,” Painter said in a statement. “I believe we have built something very special. At the same time, I feel we have much more ahead of us to accomplish.”

At the end of the day, my heart is at Purdue, and this is a place where I want to win a national championship.”

Purdue officials spoke with Painter by telephone on Monday, then met with Missouri officials on Tuesday while on vacation in Florida.

Missouri officials on Tuesday moved into 12th place on the NCAA basketball bench.

The No. 24 Tigers are now behind 11th-ranked Indiana, Michigan State, Wisconsin and Mississippi State in both the AP and coaches polls.

Missouri coach Frank Haith hopes the move will help his team, which is coming off its third straight home loss.

“After the past two games we’ve had, we’re really excited to get back at it,” Haith said.

Missouri is now 0-3 in SEC games.

The Tigers had scored 141 points in their first six SEC foes.

But for two other teams in the league, the story was the opposite.

Tennessee won its 15th straight SEC game by beating Kentucky and Ole Miss.

You have to go back to 1989 for the last time the Volunteers had won 15 straight SEC games.

LSU knocked off Arkansas in overtime.

In the SEC opener, Tennessee overcame a 15-point deficit to beat Kentucky, 89-83.

Four of those Wildcats scored 20 or more points.

As for Ole Miss, the Rebels snapped a 13-game SEC losing streak.

It was only their 10th win in 43 SEC games.

After the game, Ole Miss coach Andy Kennedy said his team had been working hard to improve.

Kennedy said his team could benefit from the experience.

In other SEC action, Arkansas beat South Carolina, 85-72.

Alabama beat Georgia in overtime, 93-89.

Arkansas coach Mike Anderson said his team had the ball most of the second half.

The Razorbacks are now 11-12 overall and 4-2 in the SEC.

Alabama coach Tom Appling said his team had the ball for the last 94 seconds of the game.

The Crimson Tide is 17-2 overall and 4-2 in the SEC.

Missouri coach Frank Haith said his team had the ball for the last 87 seconds of the game.

The Tigers are 14-3 overall and 3-3 in the SEC.

In other action, Georgia Tech defeated Auburn, 81-66.

Tennessee hosted Kentucky.

Ole Miss took on Arkansas.

Arkansas beat Ole Miss, 81-79.

The Razorbacks are now 16-10 overall and 6-6 in the SEC.

Ole Miss is 15-13 overall and 5-7 in the SEC.

University of Missouri is on Thursday.

The Tigers are 14-12 overall and 6-6 in the SEC.

Basketball: Purdue coach Matt Painter gives instructions during a game against Indiana in Bloomington, Ind. Feb. 23.

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 624 South Dining Hall. Deadlines for next-day classifieds is 1 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is $5 cent per character, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without running refunds.

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**Purdue coach Matt Painter signs eight-year contract**

The oldest active player in the NHL, Recchi scored his 1,532nd career point in a 3-0 victory over the Chicago Blackhawks on Tuesday night to surpass Paul Coffey for third all-time.

Everyone ahead of Recchi — Bruins great Ray Bourque is 11th with 1,579 — is still in either in the Hall of Fame or not yet eligible.

“Big names that he’s passing there, and it’s crazy how many points it is,” said Bruins center Patrice Bergeron, who’s 25. Recchi is 43. “It’s a seven-time All-Star, whose 576 goals put him 19th all-time and 956 assists have him 13th. He is incredible.

It’s big names that he’s passing there, and it’s crazy how many points it is,” said Bruins center Patrice Bergeron, who seems even more excited than Recchi when the milestone was reached. “I’m just happy to be on the ice with him and to have a chance to enjoy something like that... It’s obviously going to be a Hall of Famer, and I feel blessed that I have a chance to be with him and learn from him.”

Originaly a fourth-round draft pick by the Penguins back in 1988, Recchi is a four-time All-Star, whose 576 goals put him 19th all-time and 956 assists have him 13th. He is incredible — with 1,647 games played, he’s young at heart, and players sense that.”

**Death, Destruction**
Purdue
continued from page 20

things regardless, especially after Spring Break and deal-
ing with those losses, coming back and playing with a dif-
ferent mentality,’ Clay said. ‘With the fact that we’re
home now instead of on the road all the time I think that
there’s just a lot of things going on for us and maybe that
to contribute to how we
played on Tuesday.”

The squad, however,
remains confident in their
ability to finish out the week
of home games in a winning
fashion after they face
Purdue (19-7) tonight.

The Boilermakers travel to
South Bend fresh off five
straight wins, and in their
last game senior pitcher
Suzie Rzegocki tallied seven
strikeouts, boosting her
career total to 626, a school
record.

Facing a formidable
Purdue squad and with
Tuesday’s loss looming in the
back of their minds, the
Irish will take nothing for
granted.

“The team knows that
Tuesday’s loss was unaccept-
able,” Clay said. “I think
that people are upset about
it, but with the group of peo-
ple we have, while we are
emotionally tied to the game,
we don’t dwell on it too much.
We like to move on.”

“So we talked about what-
ever it was and we’re look-
ing forward to the next thing
because the reality is if we
dwell on it it’s not going to
change anything. Purdue has
always put together a pretty
good team so we’re going to
take one out and play a lot
better softball than we have been.”

The Irish will face in-state
rival Purdue at Melissa Cook
Stadium tonight at 5 p.m.

Contact Kelsey Manning at
kmannin3@nd.edu

Sophomore catcher Amy Buntin takes a pitch in Notre Dame’s 4-1 win over Northern Illinois
Friday. The Irish host in-state rival Purdue tonight.

MLB

Dodgers host rival Giants

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The Dodgers and the San Francisco Giants play each other 17 times, and
Clayton Kershaw figures there’s no better time than the season opener for Los Angeles to meas-
ure itself against the World Series champions. The 23-year-old left-hander starts Thursday
night against Tim Lincecum and the Giants, who dominated the headlines long after the
Series title to celebrate is annoy-
ing enough to many Dodger
fans.

For the Dodgers, fifth-starter
Jon Garland (oblique), third
baseman Casey Blake (back),
and the Giants are just one more
year is a brand new year and
there are a lot of expectations
with every team coming in, and
the Giants are just one more
team we’ve got to beat.”

The Giants will have to wait
until their second home game on
April 9 to receive their cham-
pionship rings. But just knowing

energy fills the ballpark because
it’s the Dodgers-Giants rivalry.”

The Giants will be without two
of their top players to start the
season. All-Star closer Brian
Wilson is on the disabled list
because of a strained oblique,
while Cody Ross, their best hit-
der during the playoffs, has a
strained calf.

For the Dodgers, fifth-starter
Joe Garland (oblique), third
baseman Casey Blake (back),
catcher Andre Ethier (hand) and
pitcher Vicente Padilla (arm surgery) are on the
disabled list.

Kershaw got the opening day
nод a year after starting the
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“It’s an exciting opportunity,
I’m worried about us and
how we play, and how
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have been.”

Dodgers left-handed pitcher Clayton Kershaw will start on Opening Day against Tim Lincecum
and the defending champion Giants.

Thursday’s game is the first of
seven meetings between the
teams in the first two weeks of
the season.

“It’s going to be a tough series
no matter what,” Dodgers out-
fielder Andre Ethier said. “It
always is between these two
teams, and it’s something where
a lot of emotion and a lot of
energy fills the ballpark because
it’s the Dodgers-Giants rivalry.”

The Giants will be without two
of their top players to start the
season. All-Star closer Brian
Wilson is on the disabled list
because of a strained oblique,
while Cody Ross, their best hit-
der during the playoffs, has a
strained calf.

For the Dodgers, fifth-starter
Joe Garland (oblique), third
baseman Casey Blake (back),
catcher Andre Ethier (hand) and
pitcher Vicente Padilla (arm surgery) are on the
disabled list.

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NBA
Kings poised to leave Sacramento for Anaheim

The two Maloof brothers, right, are pushing for their team’s relocation to Anaheim after being denied a new stadium.

Sacramento, Calif. — The trademark cowbells are just a faint echo.
A faithful following once considered among the best in American professional sports has only one thing left to cheer for now. They bring signs that read “Save our Kings” and “Please Don’t Go.”
If this isn’t the end of Sacramento’s NBA franchise, it sure feels like it.
All indications are the Kings are moving south to Anaheim after 26 seasons in California’s capital. Anaheim’s City Council issued the bonds needed to entice the franchise, new federal trademark rights have been requested and about everything else needed to put a simple majority vote before NBA owners is in motion.
Suddenly, Sacramento is on the verge of being wiped off the NBA map.
“I’ve had nightmares about that,” said Friday night, 19-year-old son, Christopher, sitting next to him in a matching Tyrek Evans jersey. “I was hoping to share the Kings with my son for years to come. Now I almost want to cry.”
Even if the Kings make it through the vote, it seems they’ll be leaving town.
There was a time not so long ago that Sacramento was the NBA’s model of success.
A smaller-market franchise that had thrived on being the hometown for the worst teams in the league, the Kings had the franchise to be profitable. To a certain extent, they had the moneymaking luxury suites that are in so many new facilities, the sightlines prime and they had the franchise to be profitable.
Some also have criticized the Maloofs for not pushing hard enough for a new arena when the Kings were in their prime and they had the franchise to be profitable. The building formerly known as Arco Arena lacks the moneymaking luxury suites that are in so many new facilities, the sightlines are poor and the 17,317-seat capacity is small by NBA standards. Cash-strapped Sacramento has refused for years to contribute public dollars to a new arena, which Kings owners Joe and Gavin Maloof argue is critical for the franchise to be profitable.

The Observer  sports

The Observer  sports

NFL
Vick vies for Madden cover

MIAMI — Michael Vick’s return to the cover of the popular “Madden” football video game hinges on fan voting — and nothing else.
Despite already hearing complex and often contradictory messages from animal-rights activists, EA Sports President Peter Moore said Wednesday that if Vick emerges as the last one standing in a 32-player “bracket” to determine Madden’s latest cover athlete, the company would have no reservations about giving the opportunity to the Philadelphia Eagles quarterback.
“We believe that Michael Vick, as the runner-up in MVP for the league and the come-back player of the year, deserved his slot,” Moore said, while appearing at the World Congress of Sports, a state-of-the-industry summit presented by SportsBusiness Journal.
Vick returned to the NFL in 2009 after spending 18 months in federal prison for involvement with a dogfighting ring. During the 2010 season, he led the Eagles to the NFC East crown with career-highs in passing yards (3,018), passing touchdowns (21), rushing touchdowns (9), completion percentage (62.6) and passer rating (100.2). One player from each NFL team was selected to be on the bracket. The contest runs through April 27.
“I can tell you we’ve already received the letters from our good friends at PETA urging us to take him out of the bracket,” Moore said. “I’m not here to comment on what he did. I personally believe, and this is personal commentary right now, that Michael served his time. He’s had a tremendous season.”
Vick has said in recent weeks that he’s hopeful of being on the cover for a second time. He also graced the Madden game box for its 2004 edition.
SAN FRANCISCO — Former New York Yankee Randy Velarde testified Wednesday that he purchased human growth hormone from Barry Bonds’ personal trainer throughout the 2002 season, making him the fourth major league leaguer to admit drug use during Bonds’ perjury trial.

Velarde said the HGH gave him more “endurance and strength,” and that personal trainer Greg Anderson would help him inject the performance-enhancing drug.

The 48-year-old Velarde was the latest athlete to testify about his desire to work with Anderson because of his connection to Bonds. Like other players, he saw that the home-run king experienced a surge in hitting power after he teamed up with the trainer. Bonds owns the major league career (762) and a season (73) records for home runs in a season Thursday against former San Francisco Giant Marvin Anderson.

Further, Velarde and former New York Yankee Randy Velarde, who hit 100 home runs and batted .276 over a 16-year career, spent less than 15 minutes on the witness stand and testified that he never took two designer steroids that prosecutors alleged Bonds knowingly used with help from Anderson.

Velarde, who played for the Yankees, Angels, Athletics and Rangers, followed Benard to the witness stand Wednesday morning. Benard, a Bonds teammate with the Giants, testified that Anderson supplied him with the designer steroids dubbed the “clear” and “cream.”

Prosecutors hope to use the players’ testimony to undercut Bonds’ position that Anderson misled him into using steroids by telling the seven-time MVP they were legal supplements. Bonds is charged with three counts of lying to a grand jury when he denied knowingly using performance-enhancing drugs. He also is charged with one count of lying to the grand jury when he denied that he had used another designer drug.

Anderson himself is in jail on contempt of court charges for refusing to testify, which deprived prosecutors of a trove of evidence connected to the personal trainer. Rather than rely on Anderson’s direct testimony, prosecutors have been left with showing how he dealt with the baseball players who flocked to him for fitness help because of his link to Bonds.

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Fiesta Bowl executive fired

Associated Press

STORRS, Conn. — Heading into the season at the turn of February, Connecticut coach Jim Calhoun had lost his battle with the NCAA, his sister-in-law to cancer, and four of five basketball games.

He’s had a better March.

Star guard Kemba Walker said he thought Calhoun go through those hard times, and one of the best parts of UConn’s run to the Final Four was seeing a smile return to his face.

“I heard guys say he lost it, you know his coaching ability, something like that,” Walker said. “So, for us to be in the Final Four, especially being a team that was picked to be 10th in the Big East … it’s special after all this program has been through.”

On Feb. 22, Calhoun was cited by the NCAA for failing to create an atmosphere of compliance within his program and was suspended for the first three Big East games during the 2011-12 season.

The NCAA also hit UConn with scholarship reductions for three years, recruiting restrictions, permanent disassociation of a booster and three years probation for recruiting violations.

Calhoun missed the next game at Marquette to attend the funeral of his wife’s sister. The Huskies lost that game and two of the next three to end the regular season.

Calhoun said he began to see the team getting down on itself. So, after losing to Notre Dame 78-67 on senior night, a loss that dropped the Huskies to the ninth seed in the Big East tournament, Calhoun put them through one of the hardest practices of the season.

“It’s a young team, 21-9 wasn’t a bad ending,” he said. “We were going to the NCAA tournament. But dammit, we weren’t going to put our shoulders down and we were going to play. He said that’s exactly what they decided to do.

The BCS has set up a task force to help determine if the leaders of major college football want to continue doing business with the Fiesta Bowl. It is in the second year of a four-year deal to be part of the BCS.

The BCS is one of three bowl systems that have been vying for the title since 2006. The others being The Associated Press and ESPN/USA Today.

The reimbursements, listed as at least $46,539, are an apparent violation of state campaign finance laws and the charter that allows the Fiesta Bowl its nonprofit status. Arizona state prosecutors are also conducting a probe.

The Fiesta board unanimously fired Junker “for his improper and inappropriate activities documented” in the report.

“The entire Fiesta Bowl family is angered and disappointed by what we’ve seen in the report and by the actions of Mr. Junker,” board chairman Duane Woods told reporters at the event’s head-quarters in downtown Scottsdale.

“The Fiesta Bowl is greater than a few individuals, and the lesson here really is that we placed too much trust in a single individual,” he added. Woods did not take questions.

Junker, in his ubiquitous bright yellow Fiesta Bowl sports jacket, had been the face of the game for three decades, leading it from an upset event to one of the BCS giants. The others are the Rose, Orange and Sugar bowls.

The Fiesta, which also operates the Insight Bowl and many other smaller events, staged the highly anticipated matchup between Auburn and Oregon for the national championship this year.

With an annual salary of about $600,000, Junker had been on paid administrative leave since Feb. 4 after the board said, he failed to comply with two written directives to cooperate with the investigation.

Junker’s attorney, Steve Dichter, said via email that his client did not have access to the report before it was made public. He said the document was being studied before it was determined whether Junker would have a comment on it.

The 276-page report of an investigation conducted by Fiesta Bowl board members and a retired Arizona Supreme Court justice was published on the bowl’s Web site fiestabowl.org.

The investigators said they found the “apparent scheme” to reimburse at least $46,539 for employees’ political contributions.

The probe also found “an apparent conspiracy to conceal the reimbursement scheme” from the bowl’s Board of Directors and state officials,” according to the news release accompanying the report.

Woods outlined the timeline that started with a report in The Arizona Republic in December 2009 that five former or current Fiesta Bowl employees had been reimbursed for political donations they were encouraged to make.

A brief investigation by former Arizona Attorney General Grant Woods, no relation to the board chair-man, led to the conclusion that there was no credible evidence to support the allegations.
Stability

continued from page 20

run a team's season.

For Notre Dame, Notre Dame's quarterback for next season is probably the most important topic of conversation this spring not centered on Michael Floyd.

Junior Dame Cristiano, freshmen Tommy Rees and Andrew Hendrix and early enrollee Everett Golson each have a legitimate shot at being the starting quarterback, and this is both a positive and a negative for the Irish football program.

Cristo began last season as the starting quarterback, has the most experience and probably has the best grasp of Brian Kelly's offense. His physical tools are exceptional and as long as his recovery goes well, he can be a successful quarterback for Notre Dame.

Rees filled in for Cristo after he was hurt in the Tulsa game, and few people have ever seen him play all four games he started. He would not need much work to grasp Kelly's system, and he has proven himself a winner, if not much else.

Hendrix and Golson are still giant question marks. Neither has played a snap for the Irish, and few people have ever seen them in practice for an extended period of time. Hendrix has good size and speed for a quarterback, and Golson has the throwing and running tools to be a star, but only Kelly knows how ready either of them is to step into the starting role.

Each potential starter has his positives, negatives and unknowns, and I certainly will not claim to have any special insight into who will be the quarterback next season. Cristo is capable if he's healthy, but he did struggle at times last season. Rees wins games, but does not look like he has the physical skills to be a game-changer at quarterback, and struggled mightily against USC, the most athletic defensive corps he faced. Hendrix looks like he fits the quarterback mold, but he may not have the athleticism to fit well into a spread offense. Golson, beastly on his high school film, looks to be the best fit for Kelly's offense, but he's only a freshman and learning the offense this quickly may be too much to ask.

But there is one major difference between this year's team and the 2007 Fighting Irish — the coaching staff. Kelly is in charge now, and he will not play games with arguably the most important position on the field. By fall practice, Notre Dame almost certainly will have named a quarterback, and he will be the guy. He will not have to worry mid-game about his job being in jeopardy, and the rest of the team will not have to question which player is their leader.

The other thing in which Irish fans can have confidence is that Notre Dame's quarterback will be capable. Cristo is a capable quarterback — he's proven that, no matter how often people point out the mistakes he made. So if he is named the starter, the Irish will have a solid player under center. The more important fact, though, is that if Cristo is not the starter, whoever is has been judged by Kelly as more capable. Fans should trust Kelly's judgment and should trust that whichever quarterback Kelly chooses, he will be the right one.

A team with four quarterbacks has no quarterback, and right now Notre Dame does not have a quarterback. But rest assured, by the time Sept. 3 rolls around and the Irish prepare to take the field against South Florida, everyone — the coaches, the players and the fans — will know who Notre Dame's quarterback is, and he will be the man for the job.

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

Contact Eric Prister at eprister@nd.edu

Roberson

continued from page 20

Roberson will undergo surgery, and his return date is currently unknown. The team has three walk-ons to take some of the load off Wood and Gray — senior Patrick Coughlin, Derry Honesty and freshman Tyler Plantz.

“We’re at five with those bodies and it’s fun, because three of the five really don’t know a lot, so we’re working the heck out of those guys,” Plantz, whose father played for the Irish as an offensive guard from 1982-85, was added to the roster Monday after Notre Dame held open walk-on tryouts.

“[Plantz] is a good man and he’s going to go out there and help us in whatever we need to do,” Hinton said. Despite the lack of depth, offensive line coach Ed Warinner has been encouraged with the development of the two healthy scholarship running backs.

“Gray] is coming along really well,” he said. “We feel like if we just keep developing Jonas he can be a 230 lbs. power back and he’s got some speed with it too.”

Wood, who gained valuable experience after senior Armando Allen went down with an injury mid-season, will serve as the team’s primary back this fall.

“I think he understands what he needs to look at in there and what he needs to read,” Warinner said. “He’s doing a good job of looking in the box are so much different than the reads out on the perimeter.”

Roberson was not the only casualty of spring practice. The team also announced that junior inside linebacker Anthony McDonald will miss the remainder of the spring session with a partially torn pectoral muscle. Although he will undergo surgery, he is expected to be ready at the start of training camp in August.

Contact Andrew Owenses at aowens20@nd.edu

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Freshman quarterback Andrew Hendrix takes a snap during Saturday's practice.

THOMAS LATCHN-Observer
NEW YORK — The Knicks knew how badly the Nets wanted to beat them, for a half New York wasn’t doing anything about it. As a result, the Knicks were dominating the game, and a lot of Carmelo Anthony sent New Jersey home disappointed.

Anthony scored 39 points for the second straight game, including the tiebreaking jumper with 1:08 left, and the Knicks rallied from a 16-point deficit for a 120-116 victory on Wednesday night.

Chauncey Billups added 33 points, six rebounds and six assists, and Amar'e Stoudemire scored 23 points for the Knicks, who have won two in a row after a 20-point third, but also grabbed 10 rebounds after a 20-point third, but also grabbed 10 rebounds

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The Observer
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FOOTBALL
Spring Fever
Irish down to only two scholarship backs
By ANDREW OWENS
Associate Sports Editor

With only three scholarship running backs on the team entering spring practice, the Irish knew they couldn’t afford any one of those players to go down with an injury. The team’s depth took a serious hit Wednesday when it was announced freshman running back Cameron Roberson would miss the remainder of spring practice.
Roberson, the No. 3 running back behind sophomore Cierre Wood and junior Jonas Gray, left practice Saturday and was unable to return. The team announced Wednesday he suffered a torn lateral collateral ligament and partially torn anterior cruciate ligament.

Tynan wins Rookie of the Year
By CHRISS ALLEN
Sports Writer

Irish freshman center T.J. Tynan garnered another of his three scholarship offers Wednesday when Notre Dame baseball coach Pat Connaughton offered the first baseman the opportunity to play baseball and football at Notre Dame.

Iron assistant coach uses experience to help team
By MATTHEW ROBISON
Sports Writer

Under the lights in College Station, Texas, in the spring of 2009, junior Shannon Mathews — then just a freshman — took Notre Dame to where it had never been before: the semifinals of the NCAA championships. For third-year Irish assistant coach Julia Scaringe, that was the highlight of her coaching career.

But Scaringe does not consider Notre Dame’s semifinals berth — a feat the Irish accomplished last season as well — an anomaly. Rather, she sees it as motivation.

“Last year was the perfect situation because every Irish fan was rooting for the Irish,” Scaringe said. “This year, T.J. Tynan, senior guard and junior guard are the leaders. We’re just hoping to get to the next level.”

Scaringe said the team’s goal is to play for a national championship.

ROBERTSON/

ND SOFTBALL
Team faces challenge in the Boilermakers
By KELSEY MANNING
Sports Writer

After a heart-breaking loss Tuesday that ended Notre Dame’s 21-game home winning streak, the Irish hope to regain some momentum tonight against Purdue.

The 3-2 loss to Western Michigan (5-18) came as a shock to the Irish (17-7), who were seemingly getting back on track after a disappointing spring break.

The squad struggled to pinpoint an explanation for the unexpected defeat.

Battle between four quarterbacks heats up
A team that has four quarterbacks has no quarterback.

This was a lesson learned the hard way by the 2007 Irish football squad, which battled three quarterbacks in the first game and went on to win the same amount of games that season. It doesn’t matter what style of football a team plays, if it’s defensive-minded or if it has a Heisman candidate at running back, it’s not having a set quarterback to look to for guidance and stability can be problematic.

Eric Prister
Senior Sports Writer

HOCKEY
Tynan wins Rookie of the Year
By ANDREW OWENS
Associate Sports Editor

Irish freshman center T.J. Tynan garnered another of what is sure to be many postseason awards Wednesday, winning the College Hockey News Rookie of the Year Award.
The forward from Orland Park, Ill. bested Colorado College’s Jaden Schwartz, Denver’s Jason Zucker and fellow teammate and forward freshman Anders Lee to win the award. Tynan leads the Irish in scoring with 53 points on the season. Tynan’s 21 assists are also tied for the most on the Irish roster. Irish

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But Scaringe does not consider Notre Dame’s semifinals berth — a feat the Irish accomplished last season as well — an anomaly. Rather, she sees it as motivation.

“I see [the Irish] returning [to the semifinals] and taking it to the next level,” Scaringe said. “It motivates you even more once you’ve been there and know what it’s like.”

Scaringe, a graduate of the University of Florida, joined the Notre Dame coaching staff in 2008 after playing for four years at Florida, where she was a two-time All-American and helped lead the Gators to their first national championship in 2003.

ROBERTSON/

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