Notre Dame sophomore dies
Keenan Hall gathers to honor peer in dorm Mass; student remembered as easygoing, passionate

Sophomore Sean Valero, described by friends as a quiet and hardworking student, died last week. He was 21.

Valero, originally from Niskayuna, N.Y., was a resident of Keenan Hall and a double major in pre-professional studies and philosophy.

Sophomore Stephen Schwaner said Valero was both easygoing and thoughtful, and he valued his friendships with in Keenan. Valero loved to joke around with friends and had “a really big, kinda goofy smile,” Schwaner said, but he would also often engage his friends in philosophical debates.

“Although he could be really goofy and joke around with us, he was pensive and intellectual too,” he said. “It seemed like philosophy was one of his favorite subjects, and he told me that it was one of his favorite classes.”

While Valero was more introverted than outgoing, Schwaner said he most enjoyed spending time in the dorm with his friends. “He was a really good guy, and had a really good heart,” he said. “Every single person that he did meet seemed to take an immediate liking to him.”

Valero earned an affectionate nickname from his friends.

Observer awarded third at conference

The Observer won third place in the Division I “Newspaper of the Year” category at the Indiana College Press Association (ICPA) awards ceremony, held Saturday at Indiana University in Bloomington.

The Observer staff won an additional ten awards. Other University publications represented at ICPA were Scholastic, which won second place in “News Magazine of the Year,” Dome, which won second place in “Yearbook of the Year” and The Juggler, which tied for first place in “Literary Magazine of the Year.”

Former News Editors Sarah Mervosh and Laura McCrystal took second place in “Breaking News Reporting” for their coverage of junior Declan Sullivan’s funeral and second place in “Non-deadline News Reporting” for their story covering off-campus relations involving the South Bend police titled “Students respond to arrests.”

McCrystal also took third place in the category for her article “Gay alumni to present awards.” Mervosh, who currently serves as editor-in-chief, won third place in “Feature Reporting” for her article “The Other Side of SMC.”

University awards Medal

Sr. Mary Scullion and Joan McConnon, co-founders of Project H.O.M.E, will jointly receive the Laetare Medal, the oldest and most prestigious honor given to American Catholics, during the 2011 Commencement ceremony on May 22, the University announced Sunday in a press release.

The Laetare Medal is the University’s highest honor and is awarded annually to a Catholic “whose genius has ennobled the arts and sciences, illustrated the ideals of the Church and enriched the heritage of humanity,” the University press release said.

Scullion

McConnon

Women’s basketball upsets Connecticut; headed to title game

Notre Dame students cheer on Irish coach Muffet McGraw and her team during second-seeded Notre Dame’s 72-63 victory over No. 1-seed Connecticut Sunday night.

SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer
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BUSINESS MANAGER:
In Brief

Today is the first day of the three-day “Dimensions of Goodness Conference” sponsored by the Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study. The conference will explore the subject of “the good” through both lectures and discussions. The conference will take place all day in the Notre Dame Conference Center in Mekenna Hall.

So Impact Week, sponsored by the Office of Sustainability, continues today. There will be a Water Bottle Pledge in the Elevator Lobby of LaFortune Student Center from 4 to 6 p.m. today. Volunteers will be collecting students’ pledges to not purchase disposable water bottles.

David Luminus, Assistant Professor of Italian at Yale University, will give a lecture today titled “Alberto Mussato and the Politics of Poetry in Fourteenth-Century Italy” in the Hesburgh Library from 4:30 to 6 p.m. The talk, sponsored by the Department of Italian studies, will explore Luminus’s research.

Howard Stone, the Donald B. Dixon and Elizabeth W. Dixon Professor of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at Princeton University, will give a lecture titled “Surprises in the Battle with Laminar Viscous Flows” tomorrow from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in Fitzpatrick Hall from 258.

The annual “Battle of the Bend” men’s baseball exhibition game against the South Bend Silverhawks will take place tomorrow in Eck Baseball Stadium at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are free, but donations will be accepted for the Ara Parseghian Medical Research Foundation at the gates.

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

TODAY’S STAFF

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Policies
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Question: If you could be an ice cream flavor, which one would you be?
Kelsey: Cookies ‘n Cream

Question: You’re on a lifeboat with 10 people, but you only have food for nine. What do you do?
Kelsey: Travel, so I can eat!

Q: Would you rather have enough money to buy whatever you wanted or enough money to travel?
Kelsey: Travel, so I can eat!

Q: What’s your least favorite TV show?
Kelsey: “Jersey Shore”...

Q: What’s something you’re secretly afraid of?
Kelsey: Color

Q: Do you dream in black and white or color?
Kelsey: The red chicken in North Dining Hall

The Observer
PAGE 2
Monday, April 4, 2011

Know someone chill for Monday’s Icebreaker? Email obsphto@nd.edu

Mass public pillow fights take place in multiple cities
LONDON – People in cities across the globe have taken part in mass pillow fights as part of International Pillow Fight Day.

In London’s Trafalgar Square, people came dressed in pajamas, dressing gowns and fancy dress to take part in the good natured pillow fight. Saturday afternoon. Most people carried feather-filled pillows that exploded as they fought.

London’s Metropolitan Police said Sunday that the event had been peaceful and they had no reports of any trouble.

Organizers listed similar events in more than 130 cities around the world. The fights were organized by The Urban Playground Movement which wants to encourage people to make use of public spaces.

Man struggles to sell personal Staten Island ferry
NEW YORK – A man who bought a used 300-foot Staten Island Ferry to convert it into a waterborne dorm for New York college students is drowning in a bad case of buyer’s remorse.

Former marina owner Jacques Guillet bought the orange ferry for $162,000 at a closed-bid auction three years ago. But he’s failed to find an affordable parking spot along the area’s waterfront for the 3,500-passenger boat, named the Gov. Herbert H. Lehman. The city wanted to charge him $1,000 a day.

Now he’s paying $6,000 a month to dock it in Staten Island.

He tells The Wall Street Journal in Saturday editions that he’s trying to sell the ferry. Any buyer would need to deal with complicated logistics, including the boat’s size.

There were no bids when he advertised it on eBay.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

The Conseco Fieldhouse in Indianapolis awaits the arrival of fans and teams for the Final Four matchups Sunday night. Texas A&M topped Stanford on a last-second bucket in the first game, and Notre Dame defeated defending champion Connecticut during the nightcap.

LOCAL WEATHER

The Observer

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regrets its role as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.
Right to Life hosts shower

By MARISA IATI
New Wine

Notre Dame students in the Right to Life Club supported soon-to-be mothers who decided to have their babies with the Project Mom Baby Shower Saturday.

“These are all women that considered abortion at some point in their pregnancies and decided instead to have their babies,” coordinator Kellie Raddell said. “We want to say as the Right to Life Club, ‘We’re really glad you decided to have your babies, and we’re going to help you do it.’

About 80 students collaborated to provide gifts and activities for the six mothers-to-be at the shower, which took place from 12 to 2 p.m. in Lewis Hall. The event was co-sponsored by the Right to Life Club, Lewis Hall, the Fund for Life, University Life Initiatives and the Institute for Church Life.

“There are three locations of the Women’s Care Center in South Bend, and all of the women have come there for some type of assistance during their pregnancies,” Raddell said. “Now most of the women are in their sixth or seventh month of pregnancy, and their family and friends don’t have the money to put on a baby shower for them, so we put on this shower so they can have basic baby supplies.

Raddell said students welcomed the mothers-to-be when they arrived and mingled and ate with them. Everyone then played games, which allowed the women and students to get to know each other.

During one of the games, students blindfolded the mothers-to-be and handed them their gifts, and the women guessed what they were. Raddell said. The women then opened their gifts and held them up for the shower participants to see.

“Each woman received the exact same sort of gifts, ranging from the most little stuff like a teething ring, a sippy cup, baby wipes and baby powder to biggest items like a baby bath, a diaper bag, a stroller, and a car seat,” Raddell said.

Raddell said the shower participants also played a game of Bingo in which each square had the name of a baby item in it.

“The mothers-to-be were very appreciative, and I don’t think they expected this much,” Raddell said. “A couple of them brought children and friends with them.”

Raddell said one of the mothers-to-be who attended the fall semester’s Project Mom Baby Shower came to Saturday’s shower with her baby.

“She was using the blankets that we had donated … [and] one of the toys that we had given her,” she said. “It was really nice to see the people we had been helping and see that the babies are using our gifts.”

Raddell said the most rewarding part of coordinating the Project Mom Baby Shower was seeing the students leave their comfort zones in order to interact with the mothers-to-be.

“The shower was very successful,” she said. “This event has grown from three people two years ago, to 25 or 30 in the fall, to 50 in the spring. It was great to be a part of CommUniversity Day because we were joining with everybody else that was giving to the community.”

Contact Marisa Iati at miati@nd.edu

Co-op supports local growers and families

By ANNA BOARINI
New Wine

The Monroe Park Grocery Co-op, a co-op created by students through a theology class last spring, held its first market day at The Our Lady of the Road Catholic Worker House Saturday.

Sophomore Kathyrn Chew said the class, “Synergies: The Theology of Food Co-ops,” helped connect Catholic tradition with the local community. The class was designed to help get this food co-op off the ground.

“People in Monroe Park have trouble getting access to healthy foods,” Chew said. “They have to take the bus and then carry their groceries home, so they can’t always buy a lot. We are trying to get local growers to get the food Co-ops off the ground.”

Professor Margaret Pfeil and Bert Fitzgerald, who works with the Catholic Worker House, led the group of students in their initiative. All of the students were separated into four groups of three. The students were given different tasks to help the project operate grow. Chew is a member of the communications group, whose job is to help spread the word about the project by designing the group logo and signs to advertise the project. Other groups worked in community outreach, helping get local growers and friends to door asking what services they had been helping and see that the babies are using our gifts.”

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Contact Marisa Iati at miati@nd.edu

Student films mass, works with NDtv

By COURTNEY ECKERLE
New Wine

Saint Mary’s junior Stephanie Cherpak spends many Sunday mornings at Mass like her Catholic peers. What distinguishes her, however, is that she is usually watching the Mass behind the lens of a camera.

Cherpak works for Pentavision, a company that helps stream the Basilica Mass live each week on www.NDpraytv.com and also archives it on an iTunesU podcast.

“At the beginning of the year, one of my co-workers from NDtv, Erin Zacek, was talking about the lack of workers at her Sunday morning job filming Mass at the Basilica,” Cherpak said. “I asked her how I could get involved because, as a Mass Communications and Religious Studies double-major, I thought the job fit in well with my interests.”

The week started by Folk Choir director Steve Warner, includes weekly reflection and sacred music, according to Daniel Skendzel, who hires students to work the technical production of the Mass.

“There are three positions required to stream the Mass: a camera operator, an audio specialist and a director,” he said.

Camera operators, like Cherpak, are in front of robotic cameras in the Basilica, while the audio specialist ensures clear audio levels and the director calls the sequence of video shots and the associated audio.

Cherpak said that besides merging both of her majors, the job also provides her a great opportunity to get experience shooting live shows. In addition to this film experience, Cherpak is in the third semester of producing “Dining In,” a cooking show on NDtv, and also produced a video journal and documentary called “The Abroad: Italy.” The journal showcased Saint Mary’s College Summer Program and allowed her to capture the sequence of video shots and the associated audio.

Cherpak said that besides merging both of her majors, the job also provides her a great opportunity to get experience shooting live shows. In addition to this film experience, she’s also doing a lot of the logistics and planning, like building a website and business plan, Chew said. “This co-op has been in the process for awhile and our class was designed to get more people aware.”

The first market day went well and Chew said the class still needs to get more students involved and really continue to help grow. All of the foods offered are low cost and include health foods across from five food groups. Some essential household items will also be available for purchase and the market day will be able to replace trips to a large grocery for three weeks a month.

“Everything is still in the making, but there were a lot of students who came out for the first time, and we had about 20 to three hours of their time each month,” Chew said. “Eventually, they will become a place for community activity.”

“Everything is still in the making, but there were a lot of students who came out for the first time, and we had about 20 to three hours of their time each month,” Chew said. “Eventually, they will become a place for community activity.”

“Our goal is really to have the people in the community know about this project,” Chew said.

Contact Anna Boarini at aboarini1@Saintmarys.edu

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SMC walks to feed the hungry of South Bend

By ABBIGAIL FORNEY

Saint Mary’s College raised $100 and 150 cans and boxes of food Sunday at their third annual “Yes, Can’t! Walk for the Hungry.”

The purpose of the event was to raise awareness among the campus community about the poverty in South Bend, Ind., and help raise food for local food pantries, said Carla Leal, one of the event’s organizers.

Leal said students are in the Saint Mary’s “bubble” and don’t encounter people who need help when they go off campus.

The city of South Bend has a high poverty rate and most of the schools are Title I, which means they have a high percentage of students in poverty or at risk for poverty, Leal said. These students and families are the people local food pantries serve through the Catholic Charities network.

Students working for the Walk for the Hungry event believe that even if they can’t stop hunger worldwide or nationwide, they can work toward stopping hunger in South Bend, Leal said.

Fifty people showed up for the walk in spite of bad weather, knowing the event would take place even in rain and cold. Student Maire Ready said that if it did, she would still be out walking because the Walk for the Hungry supported a good cause.

“It’s the little actions — they take a minute of our time,” Ready said.

Alicia Grumley, one of the event’s organizers, looked to the Koran, Judaism and Christianity to support the event’s message, and said that all three call for followers to assist the less fortunate.

“It is our responsibility and our call to feed the hungry,” Grumley said.

The entire group walked from the Saint Mary’s Student Center, down the Avenue to the Grotto. All participants were invited to say a prayer or light a candle before walking back to Saint Marys as a group.

The Office for Civic and Social Engagements (OCSE), which started the Walk for the Hungry three years ago, was pleased with how many people participated in the event and hope it will continue to grow.

The food and money the event raised will be donated to local food pantries through Catholic Charities.

Contact Abigail Forney at aforney02@saintmarys.edu

Medals continued from page 1

Opportunities for Employment, Medical Care and Education, an organization dedicated to ending homelessness in Philadelphia, Scullion serves as executive director for Project H.O.M.E., and McLoughlin is the assistant executive director and chief financial officer.

“In their work for the homeless in Philadelphia, Sister Scullion and Joan McLoughlin have splendidly answered the Gospel summons to brotherly love,” University President Fr. John Jenkins said. “Serving the unsheltered Lord on the streets of their hometown, they have provided an example for us all to follow and be inspired by the values it stands for in our city and in the world.”

Scullion and McLoughlin, both Philadelphia natives, founded Project H.O.M.E. in 1989, according to the release. Project H.O.M.E. began providing emergency shelter for about 50 homeless men and women and grew to form a community for chronically homeless men and women. The project provides them with food, clothing, medical care, employment and a sense of dignity, the release stated.

Project H.O.M.E. now includes 480 units of housing and two businesses that provide employment for formerly homeless people. Scullion and McLoughlin developed the project into a national model for community development in low-income neighborhoods. The two initiated renovation of inner city vacant lots, economic development, home-ownership initiatives for working poor families, and education and employment programs for youth and adults.

According to the release, of the homeless who participate in their project, 95 percent have not returned to the streets. Project H.O.M.E. is widely credited for reducing Philadelphia’s homeless population by half.

The daughter of Irish immigrants, Sr. Scullion entered the Sisters of Mercy in 1976 after graduating from St. Joseph’s University. She earned a master’s degree in social work from Temple University in 1986.

Joan McLoughlin graduated from Pennsylvania State University and earned a master’s degree in taxation from Drexel University in 1989. She returned to Philadelphia to work with the homeless after six years as an accountant.

The Laetare Medal is named for Laetare Sunday, the fourth Sunday of Lent. The University traditionally announces its recipient on this day. The award began in 1883.

The last recipient of the Laetare Medal was poet Dana Gioia in 2010. Past recipients include opera tenor John McCormack, United States President John F. Kennedy, Catholic Worker founder Dorothy Day and Cardinal Joseph Bernardin.

University of Notre Dame Discount Days at Wrigley Field

1. Go to Cubs.com/fightingirish
2. In the Ticket Center Box, click on College Discount to view select dates available
3. Type in your promo code: Fighting Irish

CALL 773-404-6262 FOR GROUP ORDERS OF 20 OR MORE.

CPC
continued from page 1

as Managing Editor, took third place in the category of “In-depth Story” for her story “Victims, administration speak on sexual assault” and second place in “News or Feature Series” for “Muslim students at Notre Dame.”

The Editorial Board of The Observer took third place in the category of “Staff Editorial” for “University should not impede activism.”

Former Sports Editor and current Editor-in-Chief Douglas Farmer won third place in the category of “Sports Feature Story” for his article “Walk-on, walked” about former Irish kicker David Ruffer.

Former Managing Editor Madeleine Buckley won third place for “Sports News Story” for her coverage of Fighting Irish football coach Brian Kelly’s press conference following junior Declan Sullivan’s death. “Kelly addresses Sullivan’s death.”

Photography Editor Pat Coveney and former Graphics Editor Blair Chemidlin won third place for “Special Section Cover” for their portrait of Fighting Irish linebacker Manti Te’o, “Family man.”

Coveney and Former Photography Editor Dan Jacobs won third place for “Photo Essay/Picture Story” for “Notre Dame vs. Army game in NYC.”

The Observer’s award-winning submissions are available on its website, ndmonitor.com.
continued from page 1

De Vela said Valero had an "eager" passion for academics. "Sean wanted to be a doctor," he said. "That desire showed me how much he loved learning and how compassionate he was for others." Valero hoped to be a neurosurgeon after graduation, De Vela said. Keenan rector Fr. Dan Nolan said Valero was a dedicated student. "He spent a lot of time studying," he said. "It was not unusual to see him running down late at night to get a paper he wrote from the print center." The sophomore loved being a part of Keenan, Nolan said. While he was usually not a leader inside the community, he was often present at dorm events. After Valero took a leave last semester, Nolan said he expressed interest in returning to the residence hall. "He wrote to me in December, late November, and told me he really wanted to come back to Keenan," he said.

Nolan said Valero looked forward to his upcoming months at Notre Dame. "He felt really good about next semester," he said. Nolan said he called Keenan hall staff together early Friday morning and then notified Valero's roommates of his death. Nolan said he emailed the members of the residence hall within a few hours. The members of Keenan Hall gathered for a dorm Mass Friday evening. Keenan Hall's Holy Cross Chapel was full as members of the Notre Dame community gathered to remember Valero. After mass, student government hosted a meal of pizza and pop in honor of Valero. Nolan said the residents of Keenan are coming to grips with their peer's death in different ways. "In talking with some of the guys, many of them have never experienced this death before," he said. "This is the first time a lot of the guys have experienced the death of a peer. This causes some time to pause and realize how fragile life can be." University President Fr. John Jenkins asked the Notre Dame community in a press release to remember Valero and his family in their prayers. "On behalf of the Notre Dame community, my deepest condolences go out to Sean's family and friends," Jenkins said. "My prayers are with them in this difficult time."

Valero's body was found late Thursday night in the area near campus lakes, the release said. His death was ruled a suicide by the county coroner's office. "We're continuing to support Valero's family and friends through this difficult time," the release said. A Funeral Mass will be held Thursday at 9 a.m. at St. Joseph Church in Schenectady. The funeral will be held at 242 McClellan Street in Schenectady, N.Y., from 4 to 7 p.m.

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Envoy seeks to end nation's crisis

Associated Press

BENGHAZI — An envoy of Moammar Gadhafi's government on Sunday met with Libyan rebels and his superior forces had begun working on a military campaign.

"The Gadhafi's regime is seeking a solution," Greek Foreign Minister Dimitris Droutsas said in a statement after the meeting in Athens.

The move, said Droutsas said, was "Full respect and implementation of the United Nations Security Council's decision, an immediate cease-fire, an end to violence and hostilities, particularly against the civilian population of Libya." 

Gadhafi's government has declared several cease-fires but has not abided by them.

Few other details of the Athens talks were released publicly.

On Friday, the Libyan envoy had said Gadhafi's government was attempting to hold talks with the U.S., Britain and France in an effort to halt the international air strikes that began March 19 and which have pounded Libya's troops and airspace.

Gadhafi's forces have been close to taking the rebel capital of Benghaz in eastern Libya by the rebels' regional military.
Disasters stress children

Associated Press

KARAKUWA — Zoom in for a snapshot of apparent normalcy: children sitting in a circle, clasping playing cards tightly in their hands. They laugh, chat and occasionally hop up to break into a goofy dance. Zoom out and the picture changes: The children are kneeling on mattresses in a chilly classroom they now call home. An elderly woman cries near her window. Downstairs, her mother was killed by Japan's tsunami. Outside the school, children fiddle with a radiation detector, checking to ensure the levels aren't high enough to make them sick — or worse.

Behind the smiling faces of thousands of children in shelters across this wave-battered wasteland, experts say there is often serious anxiety as everything these youngsters once held as normal is suddenly anything but.

"That's what is so wonderfully adaptive about children. They can move very easily into playing or laughing," says psychologist Susie Burke, a disaster response specialist with the Australian Psychological Society. "But that's not saying they're not deeply distressed and upset about what's going on.

Reminders of the tiniest victims are scattered throughout the wreckage: a little girl's white shoe caked in mud, a red rubber ball coated in dust, a sodden comic book whose ink has run.

As many as 25,000 people may have been killed in the March 11 earthquake and tsunami that devastated Japan's northeast coast and damaged a nuclear plant, Japan's tsunami. Outside the shelter in Los Angeles. Experts say getting children back into a routine — even an unusual one — is key.

Unoura and his family are doing this. Every morning, they join others at the shelter for group exercise sessions broadcast on the radio. They have breakfast as a family, and then Fumie and her older sister Shiko have time to play until they all meet for lunch. Fumie's teacher stops by regularly with homework assignments — a source of complaint for her daughter, her father notes with a grin.

That kind of basic structure to the day helps prevent long-term psychological damage," says Burke, the Australian psychologist. "It gives them a sense that their world is predictable, and when we feel things are predictable, we begin to relax," she says. "A disaster makes us realize how small the world isn't predictable."

Save the Children, an international aid agency, has set up safe spaces for children to meet and play throughout the tsunami zone, with toys, games, crayons and paper.

"The stories they were sharing with me were about first an earthquake, then a tsunami and now their fears for radiation," says Ian Woolverton, a spokesman for the group. But one fear reigns supreme, he says: "Being alone is the thing they're most afraid of."

THE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSE AS POETRY

DANTE’S DIVINE COMEDY: THE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSE AS POETRY

Professor Zygmunt Baranski Notre Dame Professor of Dante and Italian Studies Fall of 2011 (TR from 2:15-3:00pm) (LLRO 40114-01; MI 40565; ROIT 40114)

Dante is the greatest religious poet of Western culture, and his great epic poem, the Divine Comedy, offers a remarkable and original synthesis of his view of the fundamental relationship between God and humanity. The course offers an introduction to Dante's Commedia (the title of the poem is Comedy and not Divine Comedy as is commonly believed) by focusing on the first of its three parts, Inferno, while also paying significant attention to its other two parts, Purgatorio and Paradiso. Classes will principally concentrate on providing readings of individual cantos. (The course will be divided into 4 introductory lectures, 12 classes on Inferno, 7 on Purgatory, and 6 on Paradise.) At the same time, broader issues central to Dante's masterpiece will be discussed. In particular, attention will be paid to Dante's ties to classical and Christian culture, his political views, his ideas on language, his involvement in contemporary intellectual debates, his efforts to use poetry for ethical and religious ends, and his literary experimentation (including his perplexing choice of title for his masterpiece). The course is open to all second-, third-, and fourth-year students, and will be taught in English.

The Divine Comedy, too, will be taught in English translation, though students with a reading knowledge of Italian are encouraged to read it in both languages. The translation is that found in the annotated bilingual edition by Robert and Jean Hollander (Doubleday). [This is a one-semester lecture course on the entire Comedy, distinct from ROIT40115-40116, Dante I and Dante II.]

AFGHANISTAN

Quran protests spread protesters’ day of rage

Associated Press

JALALABAD — Demonstrators battled police in southern Afghanistan's main city on Sunday and took to the streets in the turbulent east for the first time as Western forces failed to halt a third day of rage over a Florida pastor's burning of the Quran.

An officer was shot dead in a second day of clashes in the city of Kandahar, said provincial health director Qayum Pokhila. Two officers and 18 civilians were wounded, he said.

In Jalalabad, the largest city in the east, hundreds of people blocked the main highway for three hours, shouting for U.S. troops to leave, burning an effigy of President Barack Obama and stomping on a drawing of a U.S. flag. More than 1,000 people set tires ablaze to block another highway in eastern Parwan province for about an hour, said provincial police chief Sher Ahmad Maladani.

The violence was set off by anger over the March 20 burning of the Quran by a Florida church leader, with police10494-2

Robert and Jean Hollander (Doubleday). [This is a one-semester lecture course on the entire Comedy, distinct from ROIT40115-40116, Dante I and Dante II.]

JAPAN

Disasters stress children

Associated Press

KARAKUWA — Zoom in for a snapshot of apparent normalcy: children sitting in a circle, clasping playing cards tightly in their hands. They laugh, chat and occasionally hop up to break into a goofy dance. Zoom out and the picture changes: The children are kneeling on mattresses in a chilly classroom they now call home. An elderly woman cries near her window. Downstairs, her mother was killed by Japan's tsunami. Outside the school, children fiddle with a radiation detector, checking to ensure the levels aren't high enough to make them sick — or worse.

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As many as 25,000 people may have been killed in the March 11 earthquake and tsunami that devastated Japan's northeast coast and damaged a nuclear plant, Japan's tsunami. Outside the shelter in Los Angeles. Experts say getting children back into a routine — even an unusual one — is key.

Unoura and his family are doing this. Every morning, they join others at the shelter for group exercise sessions broadcast on the radio. They have breakfast as a family, and then Fumie and her older sister Shiko have time to play until they all meet for lunch. Fumie's teacher stops by regularly with homework assignments — a source of complaint for her daughter, her father notes with a grin.

That kind of basic structure to the day helps prevent long-term psychological damage," says Burke, the Australian psychologist. "It gives them a sense that their world is predictable, and when we feel things are predictable, we begin to relax," she says. "A disaster makes us realize how small the world isn't predictable."

Save the Children, an international aid agency, has set up safe spaces for children to meet and play throughout the tsunami zone, with toys, games, crayons and paper.

"The stories they were sharing with me were about first an earthquake, then a tsunami and now their fears for radiation," says Ian Woolverton, a spokesman for the group. But one fear reigns supreme, he says: "Being alone is the thing they're most afraid of."

THE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSE AS POETRY

DANTE’S DIVINE COMEDY: THE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSE AS POETRY

Professor Zygmunt Baranski Notre Dame Professor of Dante and Italian Studies Fall of 2011 (TR from 2:15-3:00pm) (LLRO 40114-01; MI 40565; ROIT 40114)

Dante is the greatest religious poet of Western culture, and his great epic poem, the Divine Comedy, offers a remarkable and original synthesis of his view of the fundamental relationship between God and humanity. The course offers an introduction to Dante’s Commedia (the title of the poem is Comedy and not Divine Comedy as is commonly believed) by focusing on the first of its three parts, Inferno, while also paying significant attention to its other two parts, Purgatorio and Paradiso. Classes will principally concentrate on providing readings of individual cantos. (The course will be divided into 4 introductory lectures, 12 classes on Inferno, 7 on Purgatory, and 6 on Paradise.) At the same time, broader issues central to Dante’s masterpiece will be discussed. In particular, attention will be paid to Dante’s ties to classical and Christian culture, his political views, his ideas on language, his involvement in contemporary intellectual debates, his efforts to use poetry for ethical and religious ends, and his literary experimentation (including his perplexing choice of title for his masterpiece). The course is open to all second-, third-, and fourth-year students, and will be taught in English.

The Divine Comedy, too, will be taught in English translation, though students with a reading knowledge of Italian are encouraged to read it in both languages. The translation is that found in the annotated bilingual edition by Robert and Jean Hollander (Doubleday). [This is a one-semester lecture course on the entire Comedy, distinct from ROIT40115-40116, Dante I and Dante II.]

AFGHANISTAN

Quran protests spread protesters’ day of rage

Associated Press

JALALABAD — Demonstrators battled police in southern Afghanistan's main city on Sunday and took to the streets in the turbulent east for the first time as Western forces failed to halt a third day of rage over a Florida pastor's burning of the Quran.

An officer was shot dead in a second day of clashes in the city of Kandahar, said provincial health director Qayum Pokhila. Two officers and 18 civilians were wounded, he said.

In Jalalabad, the largest city in the east, hundreds of people blocked the main highway for three hours, shouting for U.S. troops to leave, burning an effigy of President Barack Obama and stomping on a drawing of a U.S. flag. More than 1,000 people set tires ablaze to block another highway in eastern Parwan province for about an hour, said provincial police chief Sher Ahmad Maladani.

The violence was set off by anger over the March 20 burning of the Quran by a Florida church leader — the same church whose pastor had threatened to do so last year on the anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks, triggering worldwide outrage. The protests, which began Friday, also appear to be fueled more broadly by the resentment that has been building for years in Afghanistan over the operations of Western military forces, blamed for killing and mistreating civilians, and international contractors, seen by many as enriching themselves and fueling corruption at the expense of ordinary Afghans.
ABIDJAN — Residents barricaded themselves inside their homes Sunday, blanketing windows and pushing furniture against doors as this country on Africa’s western coast tensely awaited the final battle between the two men who claim the presidency.

Fighters backing the internationally recognized president, Alassane Ouattara, amassed at a tollbooth on the city’s northern edge, preparing for the final assault. Their leader was declared the winner of last November’s election, but Ouattara has not been able to assume office because outgoing president Laurent Gbagbo is refusing to yield power.

Water has been cut off to much of Abidjan, and on the empty streets, a handful of women with basins could be seen hurriedly crossing the waterfront highway to reach the lagoon. Men ventured out with plastic bags to scoop up water, holding the bags high in the air to signal to soldiers in firing positions that they were not armed.

Only about 20 miles separates the thousands of pro-Ouattara foot soldiers readying for battle from the lagoon-side district where the presidential palace and mansion are located.

A resident of the Cocody neighborhood where the mansion is located said around 700 Gbagbo supporters had gathered at the gates of the compound Sunday, after state television, still controlled by the entrenched ruler, called on the population to form a human shield to protect the presidential palace. The resident, who asked not to be named for fear of retribution, said the supporters had been armed with AK-47 assault rifles.

Toussaint Alain, Gbagbo’s representative in Europe, told reporters in Paris that Gbagbo is not giving up.

“President Gbagbo, I have said, is at the residence of the head of state, his usual workplace, and he is managing the crisis with teams that have been put into place to deal with this aggression coming from the outside,” Alain said. “It’s not up to America or France to decide who must lead the Ivory Coast.”

The international community has been nearly unanimous in backing Ouattara, whose win with over 54 percent of the vote was confirmed by Ivorian election officials and a 900-strong United Nations observation mission.
INSIDE COLUMN
To UConn, with love

Dear UConn,

Be ready. Tonight, you have to do more than rely on Kemba Walker. Tonight you will have to play ball old school style. Remember the movie “Hoosiers”?

Remember how they were that little team, going up against the big boys, and you knew they were that is your life.

So you think that Butler is just another little team that you can squash with your big school budget and conference. Think again boys — Pitt thought the same thing. And they’re going to watch this game from their couches at home. Get cocky. See if it will stop Matt Howard, Shelvin Mack or even D.J. Vanzant. You might get a lead. You might start to outscore the Dawgs. But don’t rest on your laurels. The minute you do, well, you can kiss that title goodbye.

You might have a bigger and better team, UConn. You might have the more experienced coach. But the Bulldogs have something else. They have some unfinished business. Last year, they lost the title in their home city. Their home city. Think about that for a minute. How would that make you feel?

The Dawgs are here, at the final game in a tournament for the second year in a row. They made it the same way they made it last year. They worked hard and they are not going to give up just because they want it. They don’t just want it for themselves, or their school or their fans. The Bulldogs want to win this title for the entire state of Indiana. It’s been a while since we’ve had a national title, and we want it. And tonight, the Bulldogs are going to bring the national title back to it’s rightful home.


Day after day, I kept asking myself, “This is so unfair. When is this going to end?” Describing this year as a tragic one is certainly an understatement, but the last thing I want to do is harp on the stories themselves. We all know them and they will live on in our memory. How do we go forward now? What is there to gain? These are the questions.

Butler is just too young to actually coach at this stage. Say that the Bulldogs are just too little. Just keep thinking all those things. What you don’t realize is that it doesn’t matter. Remember the movie “Hoosiers”?

Just live your life.
Dear ladies of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's.

Last week in South Dining Hall, I was shocked by the fact that a woman of our age and our generation would display this kind of behavior in public. The woman was wearing a shirt that revealed a significant amount of skin from her shoulders to her waist. The shirt was sheer and the woman was wearing a bra underneath, which was visible through the shirt. The woman's outfit was not in keeping with the respectful and modest behavior that we would expect from any woman, young or old.

I believe that it is important for all of us to respect each other, regardless of age or status. The woman in question was violating the rules of conduct that we expect in a respectful and appropriate manner. It is not acceptable for anyone to dress inappropriately in public, especially in a place like the dining hall.

I hope that this incident serves as a reminder to all of us to act responsibly and to respect each other. We should all strive to maintain a high standard of behavior and to treat each other with the respect and dignity that we would wish to receive ourselves.

Sincerely,
Seamus Donegan
Athenaeum
This year the Film, Television and Theatre Department’s spring production combines all the enthusiasm of student-run shows with the precision and training of professional theatre. The Department will join for the first time with the Notre Dame Shakespeare Festival to present “The Two Gentlemen of Verona” this week.

The play is among the lesser-known works of Shakespeare, which will give new audiences a chance to experience it without any preconceived notions about how the play should be performed.

Though the play was written in 1590, its themes are ones audiences still struggle with today. The main plotline follows two men, Valentine and Proteus, as they travel to Milan and find love in the same woman, Silvia. As one can imagine, no good follows when the two friends begin to compete for her affection.

The issues covered in the play are especially relevant to a college-aged audience. “Shakespeare was a young person when he wrote it. He’s writing about young people so the issues in this play, the things we explore in the play, are really relevant to young people,” Donald Carrier, the show’s director, said.

“I’m here to see actors improve and become more comfortable doing Shakespeare, and I find when Shakespeare’s put in its period ... it distances the actor from it a lot. It becomes very presentational, and I wanted to avoid that,” Carrier explained in regards to his decision to move away from the traditional Elizabethan setting of most Shakespeare plays.

He also described why the 1950s would make a successful setting for the play. “I found an era which I thought was fairly neutral, but at the same time it means something, even to young people. Even if they’re thinking of “Grease” or “Mad Men” ... it’s a time they understand and have a little more familiarity with.”

Through the creative use of an appropriately chosen era, the cast and crew have transformed an age-old play into something audiences can more easily understand. The language holds new meaning when placed in a different context and shows the depth of Shakespeare’s work. Shakespeare’s plays can be performed hundreds of years after being written and still hold meaning.

By COURTNEY COX
Associate Scene Editor

Contact Courtney Cox at ccox3@nd.edu

On campus

What: The Two Gentlemen of Verona
Where: Declo Mainstage Theater, DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
When: April 5-10
How much: $10 for students, $12 for faculty, staff and seniors, $15 for the general public
Learn more: performingarts.nd.edu
Name: Katie Firth
Spotted: Ryan Hall

Katie is ready for a night out with her friends in this trendy outfit. Her sequined metallic blouse is very much en vogue this season and looks great paired with her black skinny jeans. Her black leather boots also give an edgy and cool feel to her effortless ensemble. Katie looks simply sophisticated.

Contact Maria Fernandez at mfernan5@nd.edu

There are some things in life I consider inalienable rights. While the Declaration of Independence of our dear, beloved country may consider these to be among the greater themes — life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness — I consider smaller issues to be just as, if not more, inalienable. These include but are not limited to shopping, traveling around the globe, visiting museums, attending good entertainment, lounging in bookstores for hours on end and my own “Italian moments.”

The last may seem intriguing. Indeed, it is the very “pane e vino” of my existence. As any student who has drunk from the Bacchus blessed fountain of the study abroad experience knows, days in Italy are not spent solely in the pursuit of study, but in the pursuit of the Italian life. In other words, there are many cappuccino breaks.

Indeed, the day is defined by the morning jaunt to the local bar for “cappuccino con un bombolone” (translation, coffee and a doughnut, but oh how much more glamorous it sounds in that Romance language!). Then comes a mid-morning coffee break. Later there’s pranzo, followed by a two hour afternoon break where we all join our friends for relaxed conversation in the piazza. Afterward we head back to work for just a few hours before breaking once again for a congenial aperitivo and three-course dinner. Ah, I can feel you sighing as the memories come flooding back. Remember those days of meeting your friends around the corner after class to watch the water flow from the Trevi fountain? The afternoons spent crossing the Ponte Vecchio in pursuit of that perfectly scooped gelato? Before you mean that these days are lost to you forever, fear not. Darling, we may not be in Italy, but who says we can’t have our own “Italian moment” stateside? All we need is that classic staple of Italian casual living: the driving shoe.

The Italian driving shoe is, let’s be frank here, a loafer with attitude. Originally made for the obligatory Italian weekend drive to the country from the hustle of the city (hence the name “driving shoe”), it immediately conveys relaxed luxury.

Made of leather, which, as we know from our experience with the leather satchel, molds to your everyday personal needs, the driving shoe is most often worn with a pair of crispy jeans, an oxford shirt, a great tote and a killer pair of shades.

When choosing a driving shoe, obey the fit rules of the loafer: never more than a quarter of an inch space between the back of the shoe and your heel, your toes should lay flat and allow for luxurious wiggle room. The best part of driving shoes are the absolutely delectable, decorative raised rubber circles which align the backs, emphasizing your slim ankles and the attractive curves of your legs as you promenade per la strada.

This decoration also has a practical purpose: when driving it prevents the heel of your shoe from sliding forward, and also prevents the scuffing of that fine Italian leather. While traditionally Italians have flocked to Tod’s to purchase this fashion right of passage, Zappos currently offers a pair for $79.00. While this may seem steep, keep in mind they last for years and are a wonderful investment. So, dear readers, if the shoe fits, wear it...Italian style.

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

Contact Felicia Caponigri at fcaponig@nd.edu

Felicia Caponigri
Scene Writer

Driving Shoe, zappos.com, $79.00

Photo Courtesy of Zappos

Monica O’Hearn has an Italian moment

Felicia Caponigri
Scene Writer

By MARIA FERNANDEZ
Scene Writer

Monday, April 4, 2011
SMC SOFTBALL

Saint Mary’s drops two contests to Alma

By JOSEPH MONARDO
Sports Writer

On a snow-flecked field in Michigan, the Belles dropped both games against conference juggernaut Alma Saturday, coming up short in consecutive hard-fought contests, 10-6 and 7-1.

Alma (19-2, 2-0 MIAA) may have emerged victorious from the weekend matchup, but Saint Mary’s (10-5, 0-2 MIAA) gained confidence from its outings, as they went toe-to-toe with one of the conference’s top teams.

“They have a very strong team, they have a very deep lineup, so all their players are phenomenal,” junior outfilder Lauren Enayati said of Alma. “I definitely feel like they are a great team and I think that we are also a very good team as well and unfortunately both games went to them but we had a good fight and we definitely could have won both games.”

The Belles put up an especially good fight in the first game, when freshman first baseman Chrissy Porter drove in Enayati for the game’s first run and the Belles stayed in the game throughout. The Belles added two more runs in the second inning on a double by Anna Selnar, and with four runs in the third inning, the teams traded runs in the fourth before the home team plated four more in the fifth, effectively putting the game out of reach.

Despite the disappointing loss in game one, Enayati said she and her teammates were satisfied with their performance in the day’s opener.

“Our hitting was not lax at all and we had a really great battle for so I thought that ourmental toughness was really good the entire game,” she said. “Unfortunately, we did have a few innings where we struggled a bit defensively but we definitely did come back and prove that we are a really great team offensively. We kept hitting and we never gave up, and I think that was the game overall.”

In game two, the Belles rode the pitching of junior Monica Palicki, combined with some great defense, through three scoreless innings. Alma notched three runs in both the fourth and fifth innings and tucked away a 7-1 win as they outlasted the Belles in the seventh.

Freshman pitcher Callie Selinar improved her game one loss, and Palicki took the loss in game two. Selinar also put forth one of the best offensive performances of the day, coming up just a triple short of a cycle in one game. She came around to score three times and drove in two runs, and went 2-3 in the second contest.

Selinar summed up her offensive success quite simply, belying how impressive of a performance she put forth.

“I just go out there and hit the ball, really,” Selinar said.

Enayati added that she takes solace in the fact that her team put forth strong showings in both losses.

“Even though we lost we played a good game and we never gave up and that is what we need to do for every game, learning to never give up,” she said.

Enayati agreed that Saint Mary’s has done a good job thus far of giving what she deems “110 percent” and that the team must be sure to maintain their positive outlook.

“I think that everyone just needs to stay up, stay positive and know that we can and will produce these runs and be really strong defensively as well,” Enayati said. “I think that just knowing we are a great team and believing it is something that everyone can improve on a little bit at least.”

Enayati has certainly taken on a positive attitude herself, as coach for the Belles to put forth some strong showings as they try to move beyond their most recent loss.

“I think that anybody can have a bad day,” she said. “I think we have a very strong team as a whole: pitching, hitting and defensively. I am definitely not worried, I think we can come back and definitely prove that we are a great team overall.”

Contact Joseph Monardo at jmonardo@nd.edu

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WOMEN’S LACROSSE

ND splits pair of games

By MATT HEW DeFRANKS
Sports Writer

The Irish got back to their winning ways in a victory over Rutgers Friday night, but lost to No. 4 Loyola Sunday in a close match.

Notre Dame (4-6, 1-1 Big East) sparked by freshman midfielder Kaitlyn Brooks, opened its Big East schedule an 11-6 win over the Scarlet Knights (6-4, 1-2). Brooks continued her stellar freshman year with a three-goal, four-ground ball performance, helping the Irish snap their brief two-game losing streak.

Notre Dame outshot the visiting Scarlet Knights 37-17, marking the seventh time in nine games that the Irish have outshot their opponent. While the Irish never trailed, they only put away the game with a 4-0 scoring run that spanned 3:48 in the second half.

“I am very pleased with how we played,” Irish coach Tracy Coyne said. “We had great execution and capitalized on strong defense. We also did a great job of fast-breaking off the face-off.”

Senior defender Jackie Doherty led the Irish defensively, scooping five ground balls and forcing six Rutgers turnovers. Rutgers attack Kristen Anderson scored three goals in a losing effort.

On Sunday, however, the Irish couldn’t put four turnovers in a 13-10 loss to the Greyhounds (10-0, 2-0). The Irish had trouble containing reigning Big East Attack Player of the Year Grace Gavin, who scored four goals and assisted on three others.

The seven-point game for the senior was only one away from tying her career-high.

“We knew that she was that kind of player,” Coyne said. “She is exceptional and that’s why they won the game.”

Junior attack Maggie Tamasitis extended her point-streak to 28 games over the weekend, chirping in two goals and two assists against the Greyhounds.

The Irish led early in the first half following unassisted goals from Tamasitis and senior midfielder Kaitlin Keena. But the Greyhounds, however, answered with three goals in 58 seconds, grabbing a two-goal lead.

Notre Dame fought back in the second half but could only manage a victory in game six with two goals in just over two minutes. Loyola answered with a 4-1 spurt keyed by three free-position shots goals. The Greyhounds converted on 4-of-8 free-position shots and capitalized on 34 Notre Dame fouls.

“We played with a lot of heart today and we are all bitterly disappointed,” Coyne said. “The team was really intense and focused and everybody really stepped up.”

The defeat marks the third time the Irish have lost by three goals or less to a top-10 team this season.

“All the girls are disappointed but they want to play them again in the Big East tournament,” Coyne said. “These are the weekends that prepare you for a championship.”

The Irish return to action Friday in a Big East contest at Villanova.

Contact Matthew DeFranks at mdefrank@nd.edu

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Coach earns 400th career win

By JACK YUSKO
Sports Writer

Irish coach Deanna Gumpf earned her 400th career win this weekend, as the Irish swept Big East opponent Providence in a three-game series at Melissa Cook Stadium, winning 12-4, 7-3 and 9-0.

The outstanding performance, including two five-inning victories, put Coach Gumpf's record in 10 seasons with the Irish at 400-172-1, a .699 winning percentage.

“Coach Gumpf works around the green,” said Johnny’s sec-ond RBI record — she set the single-season record in 2010 with 68 runs batted in.

“weather is a great player for our team,” Maldonado said. “She always finds a way to produce runs.”

Johnson’s hitting has greatly helped the Irish since the begin-ning of the home season. In the five home games played so far, she has gone 12-for-17 at the plate with 15 RBIs and three home runs.

Maldonado herself was a key part of the Irish offense, with multiple hits in each game, runs scored and bases stolen. Senior catcher Lex Clay has also been an integral part of the offense, scoring multiple times, notching multiple RBIs and hitting a home run.

Impressive pitching by fresh-mana Laura Winters and senior Jody Valdivia controlled Providence, allowing only seven runs over three games.

Maldonado said the coaching staff has been key to the team’s recent success.

“We really appreciate coach Gumpf as well as our two assis-tant coaches, Lizzy [Lemire] and Kris [Ganeff], and our volunteer coach, Dawn [Austin],” Maldonado said. “They work hard for us and we produce wins for them.”

The Irish go on the road Monday to face Wisconsin.

Contact Jack Yusko
jyusko@nd.edu

SMC Golf

Belles look to maintain momentum at Invitational

By JACK HEFFERON
Sports Writer

After a record-breaking start to the spring season, No. 12 Saint Mary’s will try to keep the ball rolling in Texas this week at the Southwestern Invitational.

The Belles got off to a hot start in the season-opening George Fox Invitational, held two weeks ago in Phoenix, Ariz. After the first day, the team’s tally of 302 was good for first place and a six-shot lead. That effort was led by sen-ior captain Mary Kate Boyce, who shot a 66 in her very first round of the season. The score was the lowest in school history. While host George Fox University caught the Belles, their second-place finish was a solid early-sesa-son showing. In addition to her record-breaking first day, Boyce’s two-day total of 142 shattered the Saint Mary’s record by six strokes, as well.

“We just hope that we can stay on that same level we were at in Arizona,” Boyce said. “I don’t know if I can go quite that low again, but our goal is winning, and we’ll see if we can break that record in the process.”

Since that first tournament, the Belles have had two weeks to practice and fine tune their game and we’ll see if we can break that record in the process.

“We had our practice round on Sunday, so we’re pretty prepared for the course,” Boyce said. “It’s open to a lot of wind, so the con-ditions will be very demanding on every shot.”

The Belles will begin their first day of play today at 8 a.m.

Contact Jack Hefferon
jhefferon@nd.edu

IRISH STUDIES CLASSES

Fall 2011

IRISH 30360:01
MW 1:30-2:45
Melissa Dinisman
Irish Modernism

IRISH 30111:01
MW 3:00-4:15
Ian Kupf
Archaeology of Ireland

IRISH 30423:01
MW 3:00-4:15
Sean McGraw
Irish Politics: 1916-2009

IRISH 20314:01
MW 3:00-4:15
Shan-Yun Huang
Bewildered Beginnings: Coming-of-Age Novels

IRISH 20831:01
MW 4:30-5:45
Alibbe Darcy
Irish America

IRISH 10101:02
TR 11:00-12:15
Peter McQuillan
The Hidden Ireland

IRISH 30413:01
MW 9:35-10:25
James Smyth
British History: 1660-1800

IRISH 10202:02
MW 10:40-11:30
Tara MacLeod
Beginning Irish I

IRISH 30435:01
TR 11:00-12:15
Declan Kiberd
Wilde and Synge

IRISH 43505:01
TR 3:30-4:45
Susan Harris
Seminar: Gender Troubles: Contemporary Irish Fiction

IRISH 30362:01
TR 9:30-10:45
Denis O’Hearn
Irish Connections

IRISH 20305:01
TR 12:30-1:45
Sarah McKibben
Great Irish Writers

IRISH 20108:01
TR 2:00-3:15
Jeremiah Gillan
Verbal Arts & Oral Traditions

IRISH 45013:01
TR 3:30-4:45
Mary Burgess
Culture and Politics of Northern Ireland

IRISH 20541:01
TR 3:30-4:45
Christopher Fox
Anglo-Irish Identities

Keough-Naughton Institute for Irish Studies
Men’s Golf

Team struggles to place again

Freshman Niall Platt swings during the Fighting Irish Gridiron Golf Classic Sept. 27.

By CONOR KELLY
Sports Writer

A trip to Baton Rouge for the LSU National Invitational proved frustratingly similar to many other tournaments for the Irish as they captured eighth place out of 12 teams with a three-day score of 53-over-par.

Host LSU took home first place overall (+22), narrowly edging Chattanooga by just one stroke. Iowa, Michigan and Minnesota rounded out the top five. Chattanooga’s Stephanie Jaeger finished a full seven strokes ahead of the competition (-7), running away with the individual title.

The Irish have yet to place in the top five of a tournament this spring and have not resumed the form they displayed this fall on their way to four tournament victories and a preseason No. 24 national ranking.

“We’re just having a hard time putting three good rounds together,” coach Jim Kubinski said. “We’re not the same team we were in the fall.”

Though their final place may not have been as high as they had liked, the Irish recorded a number of strong individual efforts, led by sophomore Paul McNamara III, who posted a three-day score of 227 (+11), earning a share of 19th place overall. McNamara was particularly solid on the first two days, finishing +2 Friday and under-par Saturday.

The rest of the Irish effort came in right behind McNamara as junior Max Scordo carded a third-round 77 to finish a consistent plus-15 and in a tie for 31st place for the tournament. Junior Tom Usher, coming off of a Big East Player of the Week award the week earlier finished a disappointing 33-over-par in 61st place.

“We certainly had some good rounds, but that was kind of the course that can tear you apart if you don’t have your shots,” Kubinski said.

The Irish were tied for seventh place heading into the third and final round but were unable to put up another quality score, keeping them out of the top five.

One tune-up remains before the team heads to Florida for the Big East Championships. The Irish will host the Battle at the Warren Apr. 12 in their only home match of the year. Kubinski said he hopes the familiar course will help his team which is in need of a good showing before its most important match of the year.

“We just need a good couple weeks of practice before the Big East,” Kubinski said.

“We know we have the talent.”

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Women’s Golf

Irish claim eighth after tough first day

By VICKY JACOBSEN
Sports Writer

After a disappointing opening round that left Notre Dame in 17th place in the field of 23 teams, the Irish battled back to claim eighth place in the Liz Murphy Collegiate Classic. Consistent improvement throughout the weekend propelled the Irish past the twin challenges of a new scoring system and a highly talented field.

In typical college golf tournaments, three competitors from three different schools play together, but this weekend all five members of the team competed together. The four best scores from each were counted towards the team total.

While the unique scoring format required some adjustments, it also provided an exciting experience for the team members.

“This tournament was one of the best experiences I’ve had in college golf,” senior captain Katie Conway said. “Having the opportunity to watch my teammates compete and witness their determination during actual competition was awesome. We were able to feed off of each other and ride waves of momentum from a birdie putt dropping or a clutch par save finding the hole. It was a lot of fun to fight for every shot together.”

Waves of good momentum were integral to No. 26 Notre Dame’s effort. The Irish followed up a first day tally of plus-14 with an impressive second round of two-under-par in which every golfer improved her score from the day before. The Irish played even better Saturday by shooting a collective four-under-par Sunday for a final tally of eight-over 872.

The competitive field included five teams ranked in the top ten and seven more ranked in the top 25. No. 2 Alabama took first place, while No. 4 Duke, No. 5 Purdue, No. 12 Arkansas and No. 28 Florida rounded out the top five. Notre Dame outdistanced six higher-ranked teams, including No. 6 LSU and No. 7 Virginia.

The field strength was stronger than even an NCAA regional championship, and being able to come back like we did to beat a number of highly ranked teams proved that we can compete with the best,” Conway said.

Notre Dame was led by freshman Nicole Zhang, who finished the weekend tied for 15th place at eight-over-par. Conway was second for the Irish, finishing with a final total of 226 strokes, good for a tie for 32nd place.

Senior So-Hyun Park tied for 35th place after shooting 227 and junior Becca Huffer tied for 63rd place overall with a total of 234. Freshman Kristina Nhim rounded out the Notre Dame finishers in 73rd place after shooting 233.

Conway said she believes the unique experience will prove beneficial as they prepare for the championship season.

“This tournament wasn’t just about keeping ourselves going individually, but rather keeping each other going as a team.”

Katie Conway
Irish senior captain

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No. 24 Notre Dame wins three

By KATELYN GRABAREK
Sports Writer

The No. 24 Irish dominated all three matches this weekend with wins over Ball State University, Southern Methodist University and IUPUI.

“We had a great weekend,” Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. “Our guys played well on pretty fast courts at Ball State and turned it around today with a great effort in singles against an SMU team that will be heard from before this season ends.”

Senior Dan Stahl, ranked 89th in the country, won his sixth consecutive match at No. 3 singles in the country, won his sixth consecutive match at No. 3 singles in the country, won his sixth consecutive match at No. 3 singles in the country, won his sixth consecutive match against an SMU team that will be heard from before this season ends.

Senior Dan Stahl, ranked 89th in the country, won his sixth consecutive match at No. 3 singles in the country, won his sixth consecutive match against an SMU team that will be heard from before this season ends.

The Irish doubles pairs also came out strong in the match, claiming the doubles point with victories by all three teams.

Sophomore Spencer Talmadge and junior Nadi Fitzgerald had the tightest match at No. 1, defeating juniors Zane Smith and Derek Carpenter 9-7.

Junior Casey Watt and senior Andres Monroy defeated freshman Austin Smith 8-4 at No. 2 doubles.

No. 125 Havens also defeated No. 39 senior Austin Smith in singles, dropping only one game.

“Senior Havens has really matured as a senior and played very well in besting a good baseline player in straight sets,” Bayliss said.

Notre Dame defeated No. 64 Southern Methodist University 6-1 in its opening match on Sunday.

The only dropped point for the Irish was the loss of the doubles point, but Notre Dame bounced back with strong singles performances.

Watt defeated No. 39 senior Artur Baradach 7-5, 7-6 (7-5).

“Casey Watt played his best match of the year in avenging last year’s loss to Baradach 7-5, 7-6,” Bayliss said.

Havens followed suit defeating sophomore Gaston Guadarranit 6-3, 6-2 at No. 2.

The Irish also beat IUPUI 7-0 on Sunday at the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

Notre Dame started off strong again claiming the doubles point with victories at all three positions. Talmadge and Fitzgerald teamed up for an 8-1 victory over freshman Joe Hammond and junior Bren Vasalaki at No. 1, while freshman Ryan Bandy and senior Sean Tan defeated sophomore Armando Diaz and junior Ivan Mozjev at No. 3 by the same score.

The Irish will travel to Columbus, Ohio on April 13 to take on Ohio State, with first serve set for 3 p.m.

“The rest of the season consists of two big matches on the road, each 10 days apart,” Bayliss said.

“First are the Ohio State Buckeyes at No. 3 in the country, followed by last year’s Big East and NCAA Round 1 of 16 Louisville Cardinals.”

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Irish doubles continue to improve as team wins

By MATTHEW ROBISON
Sports Writer

The No. 19 Irish took down two rivals in the Eck Tennis Center this weekend as they beat Long Beach State Friday 5-2 and followed with a 6-1 victory over Texas A&M Saturday.

Against the 49ers, junior Kristy Frilling, junior Shannon Mathews, freshman Jennifer Kellner and senior Kristen Rafael won at the top four singles spots and swept the doubles portion.

The Irish (11-8) then won five of the six singles matchups and two of the three doubles matchups to beat the Aggies.

Notre Dame is getting ready to head into its final stretch of the season before the postseason tournaments begin. The pair of wins at home was crucial to both momentum and positioning.

“Both teams we played this weekend had some really strong players so we were really pleased to come away with two wins,” sophomore Christie McGaffigan said.

McGaffigan dropped her match at No. 2 singles Friday, but followed up with a 6-2, 3-0 win Saturday. Both days, McGaffigan and senior Kristen Rafael won their doubles matchups.

“I feel like our doubles continue to improve with each match,” McGaffigan said. “Our hard work is paying off.”

Mathews said the doubles point is crucial to consistently winning matches.

“Winning the doubles point in both matches this weekend was very key,” Mathews said. “Our doubles teams are starting to click with each of the teams stepping up and making major contributions in capturing the doubles point.”

With only three matches remaining in the regular season against No. 18 Northwestern, Marquette and DePaul, the Big East tournament is rapidly approaching. The Irish, it appears, seem to be hitting their stride at the right time.

“We have been training really hard and I feel like we are going to be at our best for the Big East Tournament,” McGaffigan said.

The Irish faced some tough teams earlier in the season and their record took a hit because of it. In March, Notre Dame dropped three straight to Baylor, USF and Duke. The Irish have since turned their season around and look to keep the winning streak alive heading into the postseason.

The Irish face Northwestern Thursday in Evanston, Ill.

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Waiting for “Superman”

2011 | Directed by Davis Guggenheim
PG, 111 minutes | English language

The American public education system falls under the probing eye of documentary Davis Guggenheim (An Inconvenient Truth).

Featuring interviews with Geoffrey Canada and Michelle Rhee, the film follows a group of children whose families struggle within the system to make sure that they are not left behind.

Thursday, April 7, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. and Sunday, April 10, 2011 at 3:00 p.m.

Browning Cinema, DeBartolo Performing Arts Center

One free ticket available to Notre Dame students with valid student ID. For additional ticket information contact: TICKET OFFICE: 631.2800 | PERFORMINGARTS.ND.EDU

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World View

World View is an initiative from the Office of the President to promote constructive dialogue about issues of race, class, ethnicity, religion, and gender through the arts.
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high level. Right now, I think both of those guys have made us very comfortable with the depth and the number of players we have at the positions, and now we can look towards the Cat and the Will and the depth at the Mike (linebacker positions)."

Sophomore linebacker Dan Fox has been excellent during spring practices and should also factor into the mix as a backup at both positions, but that Spong has opened the season at the defensive side of the ball, Kelly said.

Fox didn’t play a lot as a position player last year, but he was obviously on all special teams. He’s impressed me. Danny Spong probably would be singularly the one guy that has been very impressive on a consistent basis. He plays with heavy hands. He’s very good in the pass game."

Bill, a luxury, sophomore inside linebackers Carlo Calabrese and Manti Te’o will reprise their roles as starters in 2011. However, Kelly said that Calabrese—by far the best player between the weakside and strongside linebacker positions and at both linebacker positions. Freshmen Kendall Moore and Justin Utupo have also been earning expectations at the inside linebacker spots.

Cornerback, junior Robert Blanton and senior Gary Gray, who will be a graduate student next year, are expected to hold roles as starters. Freshmen Lo and Brown and junior Chuck Martin have battled for the backup positions, and Kelly said cornerbacks coach Charlie Strong and safeties coach Chuck Martin were impressed.

“They’re happy with their progress,” Kelly said. “Bennett probably won’t see the field this year, but he’s got a great, great athlete. He’s got a natural fit for his backpedal. He stays in. He seems to have a sense for it [and] plays the ball very well. Lo has made really good progress for us. Diaco and Strong and Chuck feel really good about the progress those two have made.

Kelly added that early enrollee Ishaaq Williams should see the field as a true freshman, albeit in a simplified role.

“When you have somebody that is gifted physically like that, I think it’s on the coaches to not make it so difficult,” Kelly said. “If we ask him to do all those things, it’s going to be paralyzing by analy- sis. We’re going to let that kid line up and play.”

Kelly had nothing but positives to describe the performance of junior Darius Fleming. Fleming, who has emerged as a mentor to Williams, spent time in and out of the outside linebacker rotation last season, but looks to be a mainstay at that position in 2011.

“I’ve looked at film from last year and I know what I need to fix,” Fleming said. “I’ve been working on that every day. I’m getting better every day, and I feel like I’m helping the guys around me as well as being that type of leader.”

Notes
◆ Junior Michael Floyd possibly will meet with the Office of Residential Life this week, Kelly said. There are open lines of commu- nication between the Irish coach and the office, and he described the relationship as “healthy.” He added that any decision will be made by the University.

“What I heard was that he would be meeting with residential life this week and that some kind of decision relative to that meeting would be very soon after,” Kelly said. “They have informed (Floyd) that a decision would be made quickly. My first reaction is always about, ‘How can we learn? But that’s me. I’m not in that other office.’"

Kelly also mentioned that Floyd has taken steps to educate him- self following his arrest on the morning of March 20 for operat- ing a vehicle while intoxicated.

“He’s already taken definitive action,” Kelly said. “He’s already reached out to make that happen in a very positive way.”

◆ Freshman wide receiver Daniel Smith remained inactive after suffering a grade one hamstring injury during practice last week. Kelly said Smith will complete a medication cycle before returning to practice, but did engage in a platelet-rich plasma procedure to accelerate the healing process.

“The MRI looked good — superficial tearing,” Kelly said. “This is nothing deep into the belly of the muscle. We just want to make sure we get him 100 per- cent. Our goal is to have him playing in the spring game.”

◆ Notre Dame has been using Adidas tech-fit pants during spring practices. Worn by the New York Giants last season, the lighter pants feature no stitching, panels or belts.

“They look hideous, but our kids seem to like them,” Kelly said. Obviously we are trying them out to see if it’s something we want to pursue. The entire line of clothing and apparel and shoes is faster. If they like them and as long as they’re gold, I’m good with that.”

◆ Notre Dame and Michigan will be wearing throwback jerseys for their matchup on Sept. 9, the first night game at the Michigan Stadium. Kelly said the Irish jer- seys should resemble those worn during the Joe Kuharich era (1959-1962).

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ND TRACK AND FIELD

Irish record ten top finishes

Freshman Brown takes two firsts at Mike Poeheim Invitational

Observer Staff Report

After a lone first-place fin- ish Friday in the field events, the Irish captured the top spot nine more times Saturday in the Mike Poeheim Invitational in West Lafayette, Ind.

Junior Doug Onuscheck took first place in the pole vault, giving the Irish their lone top finish on the first day. Freshman Peter Kristiansen also placed third in the javelin throw.

On the women’s side, sen- ior Theresa Cattuna crossed the finish line first in the 5,000-meter run and sophomore Nevada Sorensen won the 100-meter hurdles. Freshman Michelle Brown came out on top of two events, the 400-meter dash and the 200-meter dash.

“I gained some much needed confidence after I won both the 400 and the 200 at Purdue and that is going to carry onto my upcoming races,” Brown said. “Irish sprints and hurdles coach Alan Turner has been mak- ing us work extremely hard both on the track and in the weight room and the results are just starting to show in our races. We all are very excited for how fast we can run this outdoor season.”

For the men on the second day of the invitational, host- ed by Purdue, senior Edward Hitchler and sophomore Brendan Dougherty finished one-two in the 400-meter dash, and senior Ryan Gambos took first-place honors in the 3,000-meter steeplechase.

“With having to deal with the elements at Purdue, our team was very strong and still ran exceptionally well which is exciting because we know we can run much faster,” Brown said. Notre Dame will be in action again when it travels to Louisville, Ky. to compete on the Cardinals April 9.

Check out more coverage at ndsmobserver.com

Cheerleading and Leprechaun Tryout Information Meeting 3:30-6:30 p.m. April 6, 2011 Gym 2 – Joyce Center (above Gate 10)

We will teach you how to stunt.

Everyone is Welcome. Come Meet Us

Come Learn About ND Cheerleading

Make Life-Long FRIENDSHIPS

Please pick up forms to complete at Gate 3 Reception Desk ...you can also get these forms at the meeting.

Questions: (Kaitlyn) kstrand@nd.edu or (Chris) edlinks@nd.edu

Dear Parents:

We would like to invite you to come to the Tryout Information Meeting for the Leprechaun and Cheerleading teams. This meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 6, 2011 in Joyce GYM 2 from 3:30-6:30. This will be a great opportunity for your son/daughter to learn about the teams and the commitment required of the Leprechaun/cheerleader experience. Please have your son/daughter fill out the registration form that you will receive at the meeting. This form will need to be returned to the Sports Information Office by Sunday, April 17th. Our coaches will be there and they will be happy to answer any questions that you may have.

This is a great opportunity to learn about our teams and how your child can be a part of this exciting and fun experience. Please feel free to contact me at 631-6508 if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Megan Schutt

Assistant Director of Athletics & International Affairs
Villanova

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24 seconds remaining in the first quarter, but fell behind 5-2 after they allowed a Villanova goal three minutes into the second quarter. Cue the comeback.

In the final 12 minutes of the half, Notre Dame embarked on a run that showcased the prowess responsible for its undefeated record. The team rallied off five straight goals to capture a 7-5 lead before the break. Notre Dame’s ability to mount such a comeback is a credit to the Irish players’ ability to react to the opposing team’s style of play.

Corrigan said, "Our guys recognized what they were doing and really moved the ball well today," he said. "Our guys did a great job of not holding the ball ... and letting the ball do the work. You are tough to defend when you do that.

Villanova continued to challenge the Irish for the remainder of the game, tying the score in the third quarter. After two goals in 12 seconds’ time by freshman attack Westy Hopkins, though, Notre Dame regained the lead, this time for good.

Hopkins and senior attack Colin Igoe both recorded hat tricks on the day, and senior captain and midfielder Zach Brenneman added one assist and two goals. Brenneman displayed his All-American, but did much more than just fill up the stats column as he played persistent defense and dove in pursuit of a player on multiple occasions.

With a leader of Brenneman’s caliber and the talented roster they have, the Irish figure to be in the mix for the national champi-

onship for the second straight year, Igoe said.

"We really have something special this year and we are keeping it going. We don’t have any selfish guys on the field," Igoe said.

The Irish are careful not to get ahead of themselves, though, realizing they still have five more regular season games, including a showdown with No. 3 Syracuse scheduled for April 30. Downplaying the importance of his team’s most recent win, Corrigan emphasized that the Irish will have to keep working hard and improving to get where they want to go this year.

"We are so excited about that we are coming back to practice tomorrow at 2:30 p.m., because we have got to get back to work," he said. "We are playing some of our best lacrosse the last two games, and we want to keep getting better. This is a great win, but in the middle of the season, you don’t sit back and chalk up which ones are big wins and which ones are not."

Still, Igoe could not refrain from reveling in the moment as he praised his defensive counterparts for yet another successful performance in front of sophomore goalie John Kemp, who notched 11 saves in the game.

"Our defense has been our anchor since I have been here for four years, and we are going to rely on them for every game," he said. "Best defense in the country."

Corrigan appreciated Igoe’s enthusiasm, but aimed to avoid such sweeping statements. "I think we can be," he said. "That will prove itself out. Those are things you talk about at the end. Right now, we are playing our tail off."

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Panthers

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The team showed heart in the late comeback. "I thought the guys did a great job of battling," he said. [Senior right-hand Todd Miller] wasn’t as sharp as he usually is, obviously. The way our offense has been, when we find ourselves down four runs it’s been tough, but they did a great job." Aoki said the key to the late comeback was an improvement in the team’s at-bats at crucial time.

"I think the thing that makes me happy is the quality of at-bats late in the game," he said.

"For the most part, it was better. We did a good job of swinging at good pitches, even if the results weren’t what we wanted."

Despite Notre Dame’s sub-.500 record, the coach said that he is seeing on-field improvement as he attempts to turn around a program that has struggled in recent years.

"Maybe the results aren’t coming around as quickly as we would all like, but the players are doing the things that I value on the field.

Notre Dame resumes play with Western Michigan at Frank Eck Stadium Tuesday night.

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Diggins continued from page 20

eight-point deficit with under 18 minutes to go. The Irish were the first team since 2004 to shoot over 50 percent from the field against the Huskies (36-2).

Several times Connecticut made one of its typical runs but, unlike most opponents over the past three seasons, the Irish answered with a counterpunch and hung with the two-time defending champions. We certainly didn’t have anything handed to us,” McGraw said. “And it was an amazing accomplishment, I think, for this team. So I would say not as much fate as hard work.”

With the win, McGraw has beaten legendary coaches Pat Summit and Geno Auriemma in consecutive games. Prior to this year, one in which McGraw will be inducted into the Hall of Fame, no team had ever beaten both Tennessee and Connecticut in the same tournament. “I think this is my week for exercising demons and getting over the hump of some of the best programs in the game,” McGraw said. “This is an incredible victory for our team and our program to beat a quality team with a great player like [senior forward] Maya Moore.”

Moore scored 36 points, but went 14-30 from the field. At one point in the second half the Connecticut leader scored 13 consecutive points, a stretch that narrowed the Irish lead from 12 to three. But in the end, Moore, who was playing in her final collegiate game, missed shots and critical free throws down the stretch and watched as her team’s hopes for a third consecutive championship faded away.

“Notre Dame came to win,” she said. “They came to play. Every single person that they brought in I think came in and did exactly what they could do.”

Moore scored 15 of Connecticut’s 52 second half points, while Diggins scored 14 of Notre Dame’s 26. For most of the game, the matchup between the two resembled a heavy weight bout, with each player consistently one-upping the other.

The Irish took advantage of Huskies’ center Stefanie Dolson’s foul trouble. The Irish man picked up her fourth personal foul with 14 minutes remaining and did not reenter the game until the 8:37 mark. Without its center post presence, the Huskies were vulnerable and Notre Dame imposed its will offensively.

“Once we took [Dolson] out we just didn’t have much of a presence physically inside, and they took advantage of that,” Auriemma said. “They drove the ball into the lane and they forced us to make — as [sophomore guard Kelly Faris] and [Moore] said, we made some mistakes defensively, and sometimes teams can capitalize on your mistakes. But Notre Dame did tonight.”

Aside of Diggins, the Irish struggled to find offensive production in the first half. The sophomore shot 6-10 from the field in the period, while the rest of the team combined for only 12 points.

In the second half we allowed [Diggins] to get everyone else involved,” Auriemma said. “It was the plays she made for other people, and that’s what great players do.”

Junior guard Natalie Novosel scored 18 points in the second half as an Irish surge over the last 20 minutes. She finished with 22 on 8-13 shooting.

“I think Skylar in the beginning kept us in the game,” Novosel said. “We weren’t really playing our game. We were letting [Connecticut] dictate the game for us. And I think in the second half I was frustrated that I didn’t contribute in the first half.

Diggins, a South Bend native, grew up rooting for the Irish and was a fan when Notre Dame, led by current assistant coach and former player Niele Ivey, knocked off Connecticut in the 2002 semifinals. Tonight, it was Diggins’ turn to lead the Irish to the championship game.

“(Reaching the championship game) is pretty high on my list, if not the top,” Diggins said.

Notre Dame, looking for its second national championship in program history, will face Texas A&M Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. at Conseco Fieldhouse on ESPN.

Contact Andrew Owens at owens25@nd.edu

Sophomore guard Skylar Diggins goes up against a defender during the Irish victory. Diggins led Notre Dame with 28 points.

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rer won.

The team that no one expected to get this far, that existed too early in the last two NCAA tournaments, that started the year 2-2 and lost to Connecticut three times, is playing for a national championship. Just like it did 10 years ago. In the national semifinals in 2001, Notre Dame won on the strength of a dominant point guard and a suffocating defense, Connecticut lost, 90-75.

In that game, point guard Niele Ivey scored 24 points. In this game, point guard Skylar Diggins scored 28. The parallels continue.

And they matter. The 2001 team is an important part of this one, through Ivey’s presence on the bench, through the conversations the former and present players have had, and the inspiration they’ve provided.

But it’s time to look at this team in its own light.

It’s time to believe. But not in fate, or destiny.

It’s time to believe in the 2011 Notre Dame women’s basketball team.

“It’s not as much fate as hard work,” Irish coach Muffet McGraw admitted after the win.

Notre Dame went into halftime trailing 34-26. At 5:54, they were up 59-47. Everything seemed to be breaking Notre Dame’s way in those 14 minutes. At one point, a referee called an out-of-bounds ball for Connecticut, then changed the call and gave the ball to the Irish.

The momentum, and the crowd, belonged to Notre Dame.

Not because of luck, or fate, or anything else.

Because of hard work.

Notre Dame made their shots. In its past three meetings with Connecticut, Notre Dame shot a combined 35.3 percent. Tonight, the Irish shot 51.9 percent, and 55.6 percent in the second half.

Notre Dame got inside and drew fouls. Connecticut rarely fouls, which is why it’s successful running a six-man rotation. When center Stefanie Dolson committed her fourth personal, it was a problem for the Huskies.

Notre Dame won in the paint. Senior forwards Becca Bruszewski and Devereaux Peters took advantage of Dolson’s absence to grab eight and seven rebounds, respective-

Notre Dame ended up with a 40-24 scoring advantage in the paint, and a 39-27 rebounding lead.

Most important of all, Notre Dame’s star out-played Connecticut’s. Maya Moore is without a doubt the best player in college basketball. The worst part of this loss for the sport, and the best part for Notre Dame, is that it ended her career.

Tonight, though, Skylar Diggins beat Maya Moore. Before the game, Moore said the win would go to whoever wanted it more. That’s not what happened. It was impossible for either to win it more than they did.

But Diggins played better, and Notre Dame won.

Both played with intensity and at times with carried their teams. Moore finished with 36 points to Diggins’ 28. But Moore also shot 14-30, 5-13 from 3 and a surprising 3-6 from the free throw line. She missed two straight free throws when the Huskies were down 40-47 with 9:31 to play, and missed two of three when down 67-63 with 1:18 left. Who knows how the game would have played if Diggins had made those.

Diggins was the only reason Notre Dame stayed in it in the first half. At the break, she had scored 14, and three other players had scored four. Then she played better in the second half, making the key shots she needed to make as well as making decisions to make.

She ran the team. She led them to victory.

“I like to be the voice of calm, even though sometimes I was pretending, I was really nervous but they thought I was calm,” Diggins said after the game.

That’s how a leader acts in the biggest game of her career.

And that’s why Notre Dame won, and Connecticut lost.

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

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Irish senior guard Natalie Novosel drives on a Connecticut defender. She contributed 22 points to Notre Dame’s effort.
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**ND Women’s Basketball**

**Sky high**

Diggins leads Irish over UConn to finals

By ANDREW OWENS

**Baseball**

**Irish finish series with Pittsburgh in winning fashion**

By CHRIS ALLEN

**Football**

**Diaco’s defense takes shape**

By CHRIS MASOUD

**Men’s Lacrosse**

Irish mount comeback win against Wildcats

By JOSEPH MONARDO