INDIANAPOLIS — With less than a minute to go in the national championship game, Notre Dame’s star was at the free throw line to shoot two. Skylar Diggins hit both free throws, her team’s final points.

This time, the shots did not give the Irish the lead, but rather made the score 73-70 in favor of Texas A&M.

2001, this was not. Notre Dame fought back from multiple deficits but ultimately couldn’t catch up as Texas A&M won its first national championship in school history Tuesday 76-70.

A minute before Diggins stepped to the line, Aggies guard Tyra White stepped to the arc with two seconds left on the shot clock and hit a 3-pointer to put her team up 73-68.

“That was a knife right in my heart. That was the game,” Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. “… It was an unbelievable shot.”

Diggins finished the game with a team-high 23 points, but didn’t score her first two until the 7:47 mark in the first half. That the game came down to a late 3-pointer was a testament to a Notre Dame team that was down 29-16 after 12 minutes of play. Texas A&M went on an early 8-0 run to make the score 12-4 and continued to build its lead.

“We were very nervous. I thought we were flustered offensively and just completely out of sync,” McGraw said.

Layups by junior guard Natalie Novosel and Diggins began an 8-0 run for Notre Dame, which brought the score to 29-24.

“We wanted this bad … and we fought hard, but we couldn’t come out with a win.”

Brittany Mallory
Irish senior guard

Aggies coach Gary Blair said, “Just make better decisions and be solid on defense.”

The Irish continued the run after halftime and led by as many as seven.

Then Danielle Adams took over.

The Texas A&M guard scored 22 points in the second half and finished with 30 on the night. She also led her team with nine rebounds, five of which she grabbed in the second half.

“We did not find an answer for her,” McGraw said. “She’s just a great player. She’s got a big body, we couldn’t get around her.”

Adams used that body to draw fouls inside from freshman forward Natalie Achonwa and senior forward Devereaux Peters. Achonwa fouled out with 4:10 left. Peters, who committed her fourth personal with 4:52 to play, had to re-join the game but was limited by the risk of being disqualified as well.

Adams scored four straight points to give the Aggies back the lead at 50-48 with 13:39 left in the second half. The lead changed four more times after that, and no team led by more than five until Adams’ last free throw with two seconds to go.

“We got back on our heels a little bit, got in foul trouble,” Novosel said. “And I think they just kept pounding it into the post and we didn’t have an answer.”

Diggins and Peters were both named to the all-tournament team following the game, along with White and Connecticut’s Maya Moore.

“We got back on our heels a little bit, got in foul trouble,” Novosel said. “And I think they just kept pounding it into the post and we didn’t have an answer.”

Peters finished the game with 21 points on 8-of-10 shooting and 11 rebounds, and Novosel scored 14 points.

“Skylar” really stepped up her game, especially in the NCAA tournament,” McGraw said. “She really gave herself a big shot of credibility going into next year as one of the best players in the Big East and one of the top players in the country.”

Senior captain Becca Bruszewski is the only player who will not return for the Irish in the 2011-2012 season.

“Becca is a great leader for us. We’re going to miss her, the intangible part of her game,” McGraw said. “She really got things going. Set the tone. So it will be tough to replace her, but we have some good players coming back.”

Contact Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu
IRISH INSIDER

Andrew Owens
Associate Sports Editor

Irish senior forward Becca Bruszewski boxes out Aggies guard Tyra White Tuesday. Bruszewski is the only Irish player who will not be returning next year for Notre Dame's attempt at another trip to the Final Four.

INDIANAPOLIS — When the final seconds ticked off the clock in Notre Dame's 76-70 loss in the championship game, green, blue and yellow confetti streamed down from the rafters in a moment of celebration for Texas A&M — the first championship in school history.

But it was the Irish who were pursuing destiny — they were supposed to win, right? After all, it was the 10-year anniversary of the program's only title, the Final Four was held in Indiana, and Notre Dame's sensational point guard eerily resembled her mentor and current assistant coach in a dynamic postseason run. It only seemed right that Notre Dame would send its iconic coach into the Hall of Fame this summer fresh off a national championship.

They even exorcised demons of the past in the three games leading up to the tournament run. Even without Peters' knee turned out to be a non-factor, as she played in every game this season, was named the Big East Defensive Player of the Year and, along with Diggins, was a member of the All-Tournament team. She averaged 30.6 points per game of offensive production. Skylar Diggins was asked to move to the point guard position after hurting onto the scene in a successful freshman year. Senior forward Devereaux Peters was a large question mark heading into the season with knee problems. The bench situation was even more difficult to get a grasp on heading into the season. But those questions were all answered as the season progressed.

Diggins embraced her new role and responsibilities and blossomed into one of college basketball's most dynamic players and interesting personalities. She spearheaded the deep tournament run and was named a member of the All-Tournament team and the most valuable player of the Dayton Regional.

"She really stepped up her game, I thought, in the NCAA tournament, particularly as the games went on," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said after the loss.

The maturation of senior guard Skylar Diggins was asked to move to the point guard position after

Once the dust — and confetti — settled, the Irish will look back on this magical run and realize what an achievement it was. They defeated Oklahoma, a team that had haunted them in recent tournaments, knocked off No. 1-seeded Tennessee, a program they had never beaten (0-20 coming into the game), and saw it all culminate by handing beaten (0-20 coming into the game), Tennessee, a program they had never

Irish will reload in 2011-2012

freshman Kayla McBride, who left the team for personal reasons in January, the Irish bench provided key minutes throughout the season. Freshman forward Natalie Achonwa transformed into a key contributor and especially turned her game up a notch once the Big East tournament started. Junior guard Frederica Miller and sophomore guard Kalia Turner gave valuable minutes and played strong defense against some of the nation's top guards.

The scary thing is that this team should be even better next year. Forward Becca Bruszewski graduates, but she is the only player not returning for the 2011-12 season. McBride is expected to be back with the team in the fall. Diggins will be near the top of everyone's preseason awards lists, and another year of experience will only strengthen her leadership and determination to earn the program another national championship.

While Bruszewski's leadership will be greatly missed, Achonwa is ready to step in and match her production on the court. If Peters can stay healthy, the Irish will have one of the top frontcourt duos in the Big East.

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

Contact Andrew Owens at aowens2@nd.edu

Check out more coverage at ndsmcobserver.com
Mass to remember Valero

Observer Staff report

A Mass of Remembrance for sophomore Sean Valero will be held Thursday at 10 a.m. in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart for the entire University community.

Valero, a native of Niskayuna, N.Y. and a resident of Keenan Hall, died last week.

University president Fr. John Jenkins asked members of the Notre Dame community to keep Valero and his family in their thoughts and prayers in a Friday statement.

“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 during this difficult time.”

Fr. Joseph Carey, interim director of campus ministry, will preside over the ceremony. Fr. Tom Doyle, vice president of Student Affairs, will deliver the eulogy.

The funeral for Valero, a native of Niskayuna, N.Y. and a resident of Keenan Hall, will be held today at the Daly Funeral Home, located at 242 McClellan Street in Schenectady, N.Y. from 4 to 7 p.m.

A visitation for the entire University community will be held Thursday at 9 a.m. at St. Helen’s Catholic Church in Schenectady.

A Funeral Mass will be held Thursday at 10 a.m. in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart for the Irish. Texas A&M secured the national championship for the first time with a 76-70 victory over the Irish.

Sophomore Katherine Damo traveled to Indianapolis to be a part of the student section. She said watching the national championship game in person was an intense experience as the lead changed frequently.

“I would say it was a really exciting game to watch,” she said. “They put on a really good show for us. It was really exciting to the last minute. The whole game was nerve-wracking. We really wanted to win.”

Though star sophomore guard Skylar Diggins led the Fighting Irish with 23 points, Aggies center Danielle Adams countered with 30 and drove the Texas A&M win.

Freshman Aaron Zeese said the Aggies simply played stronger on the national stage than Notre Dame.

“They were pretty solid. They executed better than we did,” he said. “They just did better tonight. (Adams) played a heck of a game.”

Though Texas A&M led by 13 points at one point in the first half, Notre Dame held a 35-33 lead entering halftime. Zeese said he was confident in an Irish victory when the team entered the break.

“It was really devastating and heartbreaking,” he said. “The way the girls were playing at halftime, it seemed like they were going to win, but it just didn’t end up that way.”

Damo said she and her friends see IRISH/page 3

THE BALD AND THE BEAUTIFUL

Juniors Michelle Grady and Liz Palwlak shaved Professor David Veselik’s head Tuesday for the upcoming fundraiser.

Badin Hall named Hall of the Year

By CHRISTIAN MYERS
News Writer

The Badin Hall Bullfrogs played leapfrog over the 28 other dorms on campus to win Hall of the Year for the 2010-2011 academic year, the Hall Presidents Council announced Tuesday evening.

Keenan Hall and Walsh Hall received the awards for Men’s Hall of the Year and Women’s Hall of the Year, respectively.

Baldin is the first residence hall to receive the honor for two consecutive years. Hall President’s Council co-chair Alexa Doyle said the distinction was duly earned.

“We stand by our decision,” Doyle said. “The applications from all dorms were especially strong this year, but Badin had a little something extra.”

Baldin president Lauren Baldwin said the environment within the dorm separated her hall from the others.

“Getting Hall of the Year again wasn’t our goal,” Baldwin said. “Our goal this year was to be the best community on campus.”

Baldin Hall vice president Margaret Bellon offered an explanation for how, as dorm leaders, they maintained such a strong sense of community.

“Lauren and I are both sophomores, so we only knew last year’s Hall of the Year Badin Hall,” Bellon said. “We won again because we didn’t know how to live in a dorm that isn’t as united as Badin.”

see BADIN/page 6

Traveling hordes leave disappointed

By SAM STRYKER
News Editor

A green mob of Notre Dame fans descended upon Conseco Fieldhouse in Indianapolis Tuesday night in hopes of witnessing the women’s basketball team capture its second national title.

Fans rode waves of emotion as the score remained close throughout the game, but the thrilling game ended in defeat to the Texas A&M Aggies in the NCAA championship game Tuesday evening in Indianapolis.
The Observer

FBI in Vegas touting Internet bank robbery gallery

LAS VEGAS – The FBI in Las Vegas is touting an Internet gallery that posts images of Nevada bank robbery suspects in hopes of drawing tips and solving cases.

FBI Las Vegas Special Agent in Charge Kevin Favreau says the site is similar to ones in cities including Los Angeles and Baltimore.

"It’s got the faces of suspects and dates, but doesn’t provide details about the banks or robberies. It also features a solved cases gallery.

Right now, the site lists six unsolved and five solved cases from 2011, and 31 unsolved and 26 solved cases from 2010.

The site also has links to Las Vegas and Henderson police, and a link to let people email tips.

Cops: Ohio man charged after barking at police dog

MASON, Ohio – Police say a 25-year-old man who they said "was harassing an animal" was charged with a misdemeanor for barking a dog.

An officer said the man was barking uncontrollably inside his patrol car while he was investigating a car crash at a pub early Sunday morning.

Walker reported that Stephens said “the dog started it” when asked why he was harassing the animal. The officer said Stephens appeared highly intoxicated.

There was no answer to calls to Stephens’ home in Mason. He is to appear April 21 in municipal court.

FBI: Illegal gambling website went online in 2009

The FBI said it recently shut down an illegal gambling website that opened its doors in 2009.

The site, www.shanghaislotteries.com, was shut down at 3 p.m. Friday.

The website took bets on Las Vegas, Asian and European lotteries.

Notre Dame fans watch as the women’s basketball team plays for the national title Tuesday night at Conseco Fieldhouse in Indianapolis. The Irish lost to Texas A&M 76-70.
Irish
continued from page 1
began anticipating a national championship after the team’s hot finish.
“At halftime, we were really confident Notre Dame could win. It was really exciting seeing them come back and get the lead at halftime,” she said. “Coming back from the deficit was memorable. It was really scary in the first half. It was particularly exciting to see.”
Sophomore Michael Nelligan said the rally leading into the break was unforgettable.
“I thought the comeback at the half was memorable, to see them fight back and come from behind,” he said.
Notre Dame had an overwhelming fan turnout, Damo said. She said a noticeable sea of green filled the stands.
“You could definitely see it throughout every single section,” she said. “It might have been three-quarters Notre Dame fans.”
Damo said Fighting Irish fans made their presence known vocally throughout the game. Despite the loss, she said the sense of school pride was memorable.
“I could hear the Notre Dame fans over the A&M fans all the time,” Damo said. “I was just really excited to be a Notre Dame fan, no matter the score.”
The immense attendance of Irish fans contributed to a memorable event. Zeese said Notre Dame fans should be excited for its next season.
“I feel proud of the team for making it this far to the national championship with huge wins over UConn and Tennessee,” he said. “I think the team has huge promise, especially with Skylar. I would say things are looking up.”
Zeese said he hopes the basketball team’s low profile on campus rises with its strong play this spring.
“They deserve a lot more respect than they’re given,” he said. “I hope a lot more students, including myself, go to their home games next season.”
Though the final buzzer just rang for the 2011 championship, Zeese said he is already anticipating next year’s team.
“The team had a heck of a season. They should not get down on this loss,” he said. “I hope they keep it up going into next winter.”
Contact Sam Stryker at sstryke1@nd.edu

DR. BERNARD NATHANSON WAS AN ABORTIONIST TURNED PRO-LIFE CHAMPION. AN OBSTETRICIAN WHO OVERSAW NEARLY 70,000 ABORTIONS, PERFORMING NEARLY 5,000 HIMSELF. DR. NATHANSON WAS THE CO-FOUNDER OF NARAL (ORIGINALLY KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE REPEAL OF ABORTION LAWS). RENOUNCING HIS PRO-ABORTION POSITION, DR. NATHANSON BECAME PRO-LIFE IN 1979. AMONG HIS MORE NOTABLE PRO-LIFE WORK IS THE FILM, SILENT SCREAM, WHICH SHOWED THE POWERFUL ULTRASOUND IMAGE OF A UNBORN CHILD SHRINKING FROM AN ABORTIONIST’S INSTRUMENTS. IN A 2009 INTERVIEW WITH THE WASHINGTON TIMES, DR. NATHANSON REMARKED:

“M y switch to pro-life had nothing to do with religion . . . I changed my mind, based on fetoscopies and ultrasound studies. Once we had ultrasound in place, we could study the fetus and see it was a member of our community. If you don’t do that, you’re just a creature of political ideology. In 1970, there were approximately 1,100 articles on the functioning of the fetus. By 1990, there were 22,000. The data piled up swiftly and opened a window into the womb.”

Please join us for the monthly Respect Life Mass on Thursday, April 7th at 5:15 p.m. at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

SPONSORED BY NOTRE DAME FUND TO PROTECT HUMAN LIFE

Please recycle The Observer.
Results of campus-wide cereal poll revealed

By EMMA RUSS
News Writer

Breakfast lovers across campus expressed mixed reactions to the upcoming dining hall cereal selection changes that will be implemented next fall. Notre Dame Food Services revealed the long-awaited results of the annual cereal survey conducted March 24. South Dining Hall will add Cheerios, Rice Chex, Trix and Captain Crunch to its current list. Raisin Bran Crunch, Fruit and Sugar Cookie Crisp will be eliminated from South.

New to North Dining Hall will be Cheerios, Blueberry Muffin Bran Crunch, Raisin Bran Crunch, Raisin Nut and Honey, Cookie Crisp, Cocoa Krispies and Fruit Loops.

North will lose Kashi Heart-To-Heart, Low-Fat Granola with Raisins, Banana Nut Crunch, Raisin Bran, Golden Graham, Captain Crunch and Trix.

"Not enough people were able to participate in the survey for it to be an accurate measure of student opinion."

Kyle Smith
junior

While in Chile, Bill Jordan said University President Emeritus Fr. Theodore Hesburgh got him that shaped his career. When Hesburgh and other priests from Notre Dame came to visit the volunteers, Bill Jordan asked him about the d i c h o t o m y between the powerful representations from Notre Dame and the poor farmers in Chile.

"He replied, 'We want you to have this experience and I know that service has taken Notre Dame students to the far corners of the world, much more isolated than Chile. But develop talents. Get graduate degrees. You will do more good if you learn about solar [power] and help bring it to people than if you just work with that small group of farmers your year in life,'" Bill Jordan said.

Since they left Chile, the Jordans said they have done work that can change the lives of the 1.7 billion people, or 24 percent of the global population, living without electricity worldwide, while still maintaining their for-profit business. Bill Jordan said as the global supply of oil depletes, the future of energy is in solar power. The solar industry already grosses $6 trillion per year.

Other students expressed frustration about the survey itself, which allowed students to pick their top three cereals from a list of 60. "I like to eat a different cereal every day," senior Molly Casanova said. "That could be anywhere from five to seven different cereals per week, in some cases even more. I eat breakfast. It doesn't make sense that we only get to pick three cereals." Andre said an online survey might increase participation in years to come.

"This is going to be a more dramatic change in our lifetime than the Internet revolution was."

Bill Jordan
Let's Share the Sun Foundation

By TORI ROECK
News Writer

Bill and Nancy Jordan, co-founders of the Let’s Share the Sun Foundation, discussed how they strike a balance between their for-profit work and charitable work in solar energy Tuesday.

Their lecture, titled “Making a Living Making a Difference,” recounted the couple’s journey to从事慈善工作 with sustai�ility. The Let’s Share the Sun Foundation works in conjunction with both the Jordans for-profit business, Jordan Energy and Food Services, to harness the power of the sun for poor people around the world.

The Jordans began their lecture with a presentation of "Lord, inspire us here tonight to make a difference in the world and to have a sense of purpose."

Nancy Jordan
Let’s Share the Sun Foundation

"I said to myself, ‘This is where Notre Dame needs to be, here amongst the rubble, here making a difference and here being a sign of hope.’"

Nancy Jordan
Let’s Share the Sun Foundation

The Jordans said their charitable work through the Let's Share the Sun Foundation helps maintain this focus.

Nancy Jordan said she and her husband allotted 10 percent of their assets to the Let’s Share the Sun Foundation. The foundation made great strides in bringing solar energy to Haiti, in particular when it partnered with the Notre Dame Haiti Program. When Nancy Jordan visited the University’s facility in Haiti, she said she felt confident in their work.

"I said to myself, ‘This is where Notre Dame needs to be, here amongst the rubble, here making a difference and here being a sign of hope.’"

Contact Tori Roeck at vroeck@nd.edu
The Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts (ISLA) invites you to think about creating a senior thesis on the broad topic of engaging the American Dream.

Calling all Arts and Letters juniors: Start Your Summer Dreaming Today

- What is the American Dream?
- Did your family pursue the American Dream?
- What is your American Dream? Should you have one?

All Arts and Letters students are encouraged to investigate the American Dream as a research topic. Whether you’re studying economics or literature, sociology or art, film, history, or American studies, consider this topic for a possible senior thesis.

Consider how your academic field conceptualizes and engages the American Dream... Freedom, opportunity, hope, and optimism are often mentioned as hallmarks of the American Dream—but is the American Dream a reality for everyone? How do you see the American Dream today? What about in the future?

Get a start this summer!
- We are offering seven summer study grants, on a competitive basis, to kick off your exploration.
- Each grant can fund up to $4,500 to assist you in your research.
- The grants are open to all current juniors.

How do you get involved?
- Sign up for a senior thesis during course selection for fall 2011.
- Contact ISLA for more information on how to apply:
  101 O’Shaughnessy Hall
  email: uropl@nd.edu
  phone: 574.631.1135
  web: isla.nd.edu

Applications due
April 29, 2011
**Badin continued from page 1**

Baldwin said Badin collaborated with other dorm events on Keenan and submitted Acousticafe on the dorm porch, which contributed to the dorm’s success.

Badin’s school spirit and hall spirit was a big part of the Hall Presidents Council’s decision, according to Hall Presidents Council executive co-chair Mike Oliver. “Badin stood out compared to every other dorm,” Oliver said. Keenan Hall worked hard to earn the distinction of Men’s Hall of the Year. Keenan president Raymond Gallagher said. “[Hall of the Year] was a goal that we had going into this year,” Gallagher said. The effort was a collaboration of different groups and classes in the dorm. Instead of adding many events to the dorm portfolio, Keenan worked to make their signature events bigger and placed a large emphasis on the Keenan Rejuvenation event. Gallagher said.

Keenan vice president Dennis Smith will serve as hall president next year. He said he hopes Keenan can continue its success. “It is going to be a hard act to follow next year,” Smith said.

According to Walsh Hall president Julie Zorb, the Wild Women of Walsh were honored to earn Women’s Hall of the Year. “It’s great to get recognition for the amazing community we had this year,” Zorb said.

Walsh worked to improve past events and create new traditions under strong senior leadership and an entirely new hall staff, she said.

Dante’s speech was supported by two groups of the Hall Presidents Council determined the award recipients based on monthly Rockne portfolio submissions and the dorm’s overall contribution to campus life. The Rockne submissions keep the Hall Presidents Council updated on each dorm’s activities as they promote the academic, athletic, liturgical, environmental, social and multicultural aspects of dorm life.

“We take a step back and look at who enriched campus life the most through their residence hall,” Oliver said.

Contact Christian Myers at cmyers8@nd.edu

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**DANTE’S DIVINE COMEDY: THE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSE AS POETRY**

By KATIE CARLISLE

Three Middle Eastern and Asian-American women will perform their piece "Dis-Oriented" at Saint Mary’s Thursday to challenge ethnic stereotypes, following last week’s Diverse Students’ Leadership Conference (DSLIC).

Stephanie Bridges, director of multicultural services and student programs, discovered "Dis-Oriented," as she searched for acts related to May’s Asian Pacific American Heritage month.

"It will allow the audience to look at Asian heritage from multiple perspectives and gives everyone an opportunity to look at the impact stereotypes have," Bridges said.

The most prevalent stereotype is that Asian culture is synonymous with Chinese, Bridges said, which is precisely what these women intend to disprove.

Performers Coke Nakamoto, Zahra Noorbakhsh and Thao Nguyen drew from their own life experiences to write skits about the struggles they face as Asian-American women. The women are Japanese, Iranian and Vietnamese, respectively.

The women will combine theatre and education in their three-skit show. In "Dis-Oriented," each woman presents her own unique story and perspective on Asian stereotypes.

“This should be a great opportunity to take a look at a different cultural experience through theatre, but also an educative experience about the transitions other cultures make in America,” said Bridges.

The event is sponsored by the Center for Women’s Intercultural Leadership (CWIL). CWIL director Elaine Meyer-Lee said she hopes “Dis-Oriented” will impact the College. Everyone can take something away from this event, whether it be critically examining personal beliefs or simply enjoying the comedic performances.

"We look forward to this performance as an engaging and powerful intercultural experience for our whole community," she said.

The show will open with a performance at noon Thursday in the Student Center Lounge. A second performance will be held at 7 p.m. in the Moreau Little Theatre.

Contact Katie Carlisle at kcarlisle@saintmarys.edu

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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 Purgatorio, and 6 on Paradiso. 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. Dante’s poem, too, will be read 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 Hollandier (Doubleday). [This is a one-semester lecture course on the entire Comedy, distinct from ROIT40115-40116, Dante I and Dante II.]
SMC to institute new minor

By OLIVIA BRACH
News Writer

Saint Mary's students who want to go green with their degree will get the chance this fall when the Environmental Studies department offers a minor in their program for the first time.

Christopher Cobb, assistant professor of English, will direct the minor. "Environmental studies brings together natural science, social science, the humanities, and professional life to understand and solve environmental problems," Cobb said.

Current and prospective students expressed interest in environmental studies as the discipline increases in popularity at liberal arts colleges, Cobb said. "[The new minor arose from] ongoing interest in environmental issues on behalf of the students," Cobb said. "The actual development of the program was initiated by faculty interest."

Initial efforts for a minor in environmental studies began four years ago. Cobb said the plans came to fruition when he teamed with Dr. Cassie Majetic, professor of biology at the College.

"[The new minor arose from] ongoing interest in environmental issues on behalf of the students," Cobb said. "The actual development of the program was initiated by faculty interest."

"Our goal is to incorporate not just the scientific disciplines but to help students understand how many perspectives and disciplines contribute to understanding and solving environmental problems," Majetic said.

Cobb said formal approval of the minor occurred in three steps. First, Majetic and Cobb comprised a "prospectus" that demonstrated the need and value for the minor, Cobb said. Faculty Dean Patricia Fleming then approved the plan.

Once the prospectus was approved, the duo created a formal proposal that included a full design of the minor, required courses and objectives. The proposal was then presented to the curriculum committee. After the formal proposal was approved, academic affairs, the ultimate decision-making body, gave final approval.

Cobb said the interdisciplinary minor, which consists of sixteen total credit hours, will draw from courses in English, humanistic studies, political science, nursing and justice education.

Students in the minor will also take three courses directly related to environmental studies, Cobb said.

Cobb and Majetic said they have high hopes for those students who choose to pursue the new minor.

"I hope that the students will gain the knowledge and skill to make a difference in the world, as our society struggles to make our way of life sustainable," Cobb said. "[If I hope students] develop an awareness of their relationship to nature in a way that will be enriching to their lives."

Majetic said the hopes students will learn to engage others in dialogue about environmental concerns and advocate for environmental change.

Contact Olivia Brach at obrach01@stmarys.edu

Obama urges parties to compromise on cuts

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Prodded by an insistent President Barack Obama, Congress’ top lawmakers sought to reincorporate compromise talks Tuesday aimed at cutting tens of billions in federal spending and averting a partial government shutdown Friday at midnight.

There was at least a hint of flexibility, accompanied by sharply partisan attacks and an outburst of shutdown brinksmanship.

According to Democrats, House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, suggested at a White House meeting that fellow Republicans might be able to accept a deal with $40 billion in cuts. That’s more than negotiators had been eyeing but less than the House seeks.

Democratic Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid sounded an accusatory note. "I hope the Republicans do what the country needs, not what they believe the tea party wants," he said at the Capitol.

"I mean, it seems that every step we take, it’s something just to poke us in the eye," he said.

Boehner and Reid met privately later in the day. While there was no indication of substantive progress, there was a marked change in tone afterward.

Spokesmen for the two issued identical statements, saying the two leaders “had a productive discussion. They agreed to continue working on a budget solution." Obama stepped forcefully to the dispute, at times sounding like an exasperated parent.

He convened a meeting at the White House with the chief congressional antagonists, rejected a Republican proposal for an interim bill with sharp cuts and then announced Boehner and Reid would meet later in the day.

"If they can’t sort out their differences, he said, “I want them back here tomorrow.”

And if that doesn’t work, he added, “We’ll do it again the day after that. And I will have my entire team available to work through the details of getting a deal done.”

Obama, eager to regain the confidence of independent voters as he seeks a new term, said the American public expects that its leaders “act like grown-ups, and when we are in negotiations like this, that everybody gives a little bit, compromises a little bit in order to do the people’s business.”

At issue is legislation needed to keep the government running through the Sept. 30 end of the budget year, and a desire by all sides to avoid a possible domino effect during a shutdown.

Twin closures in the mid-1990s boomeranged on Republicans when Newt Gingrich, conservative Washington nights back, helped Bill Clinton win re-election in 1996.

This year, both the White House and lawmakers have used the threat of a shutdown to seek leverage in the talks.

Republicans issued a 13-page pamphlet during the day providing guidance to congressional offices on operations during a shutdown. Bosses in Boehner’s office said Monday night the document had been prepared “in the event Senate Democrats shut down the government.”

President Obama addresses members of the press at the White House regarding the possibility of a government shutdown Friday.

Reid’s spokesman, Jon Summers, likened the maneuver to a “dress rehearsal for a shutdown that the tea party so desires.”

But one Republican official said it was a response to a meeting that was well attended by Jeffrey Zients, deputy director of Obama’s Office of Management and Budget.

Zients wrote that all parties wish to avoid a shutdown but, “given the realities of the calendar, good management requires that we continue contingency planning for an orderly shutdown should the negotiations not be completed by ... this coming Friday.”
The Observer  
Wednesday, April 6, 2011

INSIDE COLUMN

Disappearing of a Finish

Monday's NCAA men's basketball championship was significant, if sloppy, conclusion to the 2010-2011 season. The uncommonly low final score of Connecticut's 54-41 win over Butler leads me to ask only one question: When do they play the second half?

The dearth of scoring in Monday's title game is just one of a number of reasons why the game was a disappointment to fans (myself included). Not that I need high-paced, light up the scoreboard, fast-paced, shoot-them-out-of-their-minds action to entertain me, but when a team shoots 18.8 percent from the field for the entire game (in the national championship, for Pete's sake!), I can't help but want to turn away. Before the second half would have made drawl ridicle from even the most polite group of bystanders at a Rose Bowl Tournament, so for one I am grateful that I avoided hearing Charles Barkley's postgame analysis.

That the Bulldogs had garnered national supremacy for its improbable run to the final game of the 2010, I mean, 2011 tournament makes their showing even more disappointing. Time and tune, Matt Howard and Shelvin Mack had led the Bulldogs against more imposing opponents, surmounting the seemingly insurmountable. Butler had proved the odds wrong so many times I'm not the only one that had them losing to Old Dominion. That we had finally come to expect them to pull off stunning victory after stunning victory. But, as they have made a habit of doing, the boys from Indianapolis proved us wrong once again, this time by coming up short.

It is truly unfortunate for the Butler players and coaches, the NCAA and fans of basketball everywhere. I could watch a blowout in such a futile offensive performance. For Butler's sake, I hope we can forgive a blunder on a remarkable couple of years, threatening their legitimacy as a power on the court.

For the NCAA, it is lamentable that on the game's biggest stage, a product that was anything but ideal was delivered. For the fans, the memory of the tournament's collapse, rather than any number of great moments from the past season, will remain freshest in our minds throughout the long offseason.

Compounding my disappointment in Butler's loss is my disappointment in Connecticut's win. Jim Calhoun is a known violator of NCAA rules, and Notre Dame has a new Kamba Walker-led unit twice in the regular season. Enough said.

So, no matter whether I have a day of disappointment, I realize that some congratulations are in order. First, congratulations to coach Jim Calhoun and the Connecticut Huskies for winning the national championship. Second, congratulations to Kemba Wade—led unit twice in the regular season. Enough said.

When we hear about education these days, the typical news is both dire and ominous. One of the most prevalent refrains is that America lags embarrassingly behind other nations in standardized test scores. Another is the inadequacy of our STEM education — science, technology, engineering and math. We are barraged by information about how American students are in free-fall compared to our ruthlessly ambitious Chinese counterparts.

books revealing how our university system fails to develop critical thinking skills, reports on the mess of our public school system. Some debates are bitter and rage daily from year of stagnation (think affirmative action and teachers unions). Other debates are simply bewildering — we hear contradictory valleys about the private tuition paid by students. One side claims that teachers and academicians are far too liberal, while the other bemoans the efficacy of religious fundamentalists in forcing the pseudo-science of intelligent design to be taught as a viable alternative to evolution.

One only need watch the viral spread between New Jersey governor Chris Christie and state teachers to gain a different picture of America's collective feelings towards education. Peter Thiel, the famous venture capitalist who invested in Facebook in its very early days, recently set up an initiative that will pay promising under-20-year-old students $100,000 to drop out of school. That certainly sounds like a vote of no confidence if I've ever heard one.

Is there any room for optimism against this harsh backdrop of disappointment and fear? Actually, yes. When you ask people why they fear about modern education might make us sincerely worry about both the future of our country and the fitness of our next generation to inherit the earth. Recent developments in technology promise a bright new future in education.

First, there is the rise of open courseware. The idea consists of putting all content and material from university classes online, accessible to everyone in the world. It promises to unlock the knowledge of our greatest schools and universities and disperse it to any eager learners in the general public. The most prominent open courseware system was spearheaded ten years ago by Massachusetts Institute of Technology. They now have over 2,000 courses, many complete with video lectures by esteemed MIT professors, class notes, tests, assignments and projects. MIT claims to have over 100 million individual users. Stanford has a similar setup, offered through iTunesU. Notre Dame was also actually a fairly early pioneer of open courseware, and has its own entire collection of classes available to anyone at ocw.nd.edu. Everyone from intellectually curious highschoolers, to university students who want to expand their knowledge, to older professionals looking for training to learn, stand to benefit from this development.

Another transformative movement, started recently, is the Khan Academy. Sal Khan started recording brief lectures on algebra in 2006, posting them to YouTube. Since, it has blown up in both scale and publicity — there are more than 2,200 free lectures from Khan on YouTube and iTunesU. Bill Gates, the eminent education analyst, has spoken glowingly of the Academy. Kahn, who holds degrees in mathematics and electrical engineering from MIT and an MBA from Harvard, has given a talk at the ultra-high profile TED conference about his ideas on education. Google pledged $2 million to the Academy to translate the videos into ten of the world's major languages.

Other possibilities of such online learning are very provocative indeed. Peer-to-peer access becomes even more available in a variety of formats (laptops, phones, tablets), this online educational system will accordingly become more accessible. School districts that struggle to find quality teachers or have consistently low results can implement such technology to make sure that all students are learning from the very best in the field. Independent learners can get even further ahead as well. Independent schools may at some point in the future need only a network connection to gain access to the greatest teachers and the greatest ideas in the world.

These developments will by no means solve our educational problems. Students still need support networks to make learning a consistent habit. Making online lectures more responsive to individual classrooms with diverse learners synthesizing information at different paces will also need to be implemented. These are only a few of the formidable challenges facing our educational system. But the overall trend is promising — the barriers to entry to elite education are being overcome by advancing technology.

In the meantime, we might temper our own instincts toward pessimism by adopting a more realistic view of America's place in the educational world. First of all, we haven't been troubled so many times (I'm not the only one who has them losing to Old Dominion) that we had finally come to expect them to pull off stunning victory after stunning victory. But, as they have made a habit of doing, the boys from Indianapolis proved us wrong once again, this time by coming up short.

To me, that is a disrespect to the person and promotes public sexual- esty in men as well. However, I wonder if we have allowed standards of attractiveness to really improve our educational system — quite the contrary. But in the meantime, we might as well do so smiling rather than frowning.

Edward Larkin
Scientific Notation

The Observer  
Wednesday, April 6, 2011

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Respect

In response to the light dusting of con- traversy surrounding the letter “Ladies, be decent” (April 4), I offer the following thoughts.

First of all, whether intended or not, immodesty in both women and men leads to a publicization of sex. We hear from numerous sources that our sexuality is a private matter, and I agree. Public sexuality, then, should not be promoted. One thing that it can do is make a person's sexual expression more general. Which is exactly what the consticts that struggle to find quality teachers or have consistently low results can implement such technology to make sure that all students are learning from the very best in the field. Independent learners can get even further ahead as well. Independent schools may at some point in the future need only a network connection to gain access to the greatest teachers and the greatest ideas in the world.

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Edward Larkin is a senior majoring in business administration and international civilization. He can be reached at elarkin.3@nd.edu.

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

The Observer  
Wednesday, April 6, 2011

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"A woman is like a tea bag — you never know how strong she is until she gets in hot water."

— Henry David Thoreau

U.S. transcendentalist author

The Observer  
Wednesday, April 6, 2011

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I stand in awe of my body."

— Nathaniel Gotcher

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Dear Kevin,

You finally noticed me!

Sweater vest after sweater vest, peasant skirt after peasant skirt, for three years I have endeavored to dress in a style that would leave you desiring a woman with class, I have routinely dined at South on Friday nights wearing an assortment of beige button ups in the hopes of finally meeting you. I would annually throw on some leggings. You would then throw darts at my back and scream, "What are you wearing?" in any case, whether in South Dining Hall or Club Fever, is never reasonable reasoning.

The right conscience

What comes to mind when you hear “HEI”? The University of Nevada, which after years of studying the workforce. Our universities are where mental illness is not stigmatized, but understood. Everyone has a right to education, and depression is a serious illness.

A member of our community committed suicide last week. I do not know Sean Valero, nor do I know any of the circumstances surrounding his death. What I do know, however, is that suicide is often the end result of untreated or unsuccessfully treated depression, and depression is a serious illness.

An estimated 19 million Americans have major depression, a clinical depression that is not simply suffering from depres- sion commit suicide. It’s the second leading cause of death amongst college students. It’s an all too common problem that is talked about much too little. If you’re feeling depressed or suicidal and you are not alone, but you do need to seek help. There are a variety of resources available, both at this university and in the greater community, to effectively treat depression. Make an appointment at the University Counseling Center (574-631-7336), where anything you discuss will remain confidential. If you’re suicidal, call 911, or get to the nearest Emergency Room, where you can receive immediate help. You can also call the National Suicide Prevention Line 1-800-273-8255 to speak with trained personnel at a crisis center.

You don’t need to have any experience with depression to be a friend to someone suffering. All you need to do is sit and listen. If you think someone may be depressed, please talk to them. Let them know you care, and encourage them to seek help. Go to the UCC with them or on their behalf, and don’t just watch a talk of suicide; if you think a person is a danger to themselves, call 911 or take them to an ER.

I do not know Sean Valero or his family and friends. However, I know his death is a tragedy. In memory of him, let’s make Notre Dame a place where mental illness is not stigmatized, but understood. Everyone has a right to education, and depression is a serious illness.

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Fashion is never fluff. It’s a weapon of communication. An accessory or a complete ensemble can project strength to your opponent, encouragement to your team and unstoppable confidence to all those TV cameras. If you have any doubt, just tune into a Notre Dame women’s basketball game, and take a look at Muffet McGraw on the sidelines for proof. Like the armor of an Amazonian woman prepared to do battle, Muffet’s outfits fly in the face of expectation and disarm you with their fierceness.

While her team may run in sneakers, she’ll remind you of the feminine strength underneath those jerseys by wearing her killer red stilettos. Think she should fade into the background like her male counterparts in a black pantsuit? Not so fast — she’s breaking out a leopard-print skirt. In a traditionally masculine sport, Muffet hasn’t just shown that she and her team can compete with formidable opponents. She’s shown that a killer sense of style isn’t a liability — it’s that necessary extra spice to an intimidating presence. After all, it’s not just important whether you win or lose. It’s how you look playing the game that counts.

By FELICIA CAPONIGRI

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Muffett takes a cue from abstract artists and goes for a statement jacket, but keeps it classic in black and white. By adding her favorite red accessories, she shows her fashion isn’t just the cherry on the sundae — it’s the dessert you’ve been waiting for.

Black and red — they may be the colors of the opposing team, but once Muffet’s done with them, they’re one winning outfit. Add the gold earrings, and you’ve got a sparkle you know Utah never had.

Muffett proves she’s the mistress of the court with this perfectly tailored gray suit and ruffled blouse. Think she’s all about the rules? Take a look at her green nails — trends, team spirit, and tailoring all rolled into one.

The hammered details of the silver belt pick up on the pattern of Muffet’s skirt, which is in turn brightened by a Kelly green T-shirt and green and blue jewelry. Add a smile to that style and you’ve got a perfect team.

Muffett shows us how to emphasize the waist with a cinched belt over a leopard blouse and knee-length skirt. A great figure obviously comes with great strategy.
Tape may not be admissible in Bonds case

**Associated Press**

SAN FRANCISCO — A federal judge ruled jurors in the Barry Bonds trial may not hear a freshly rediscovered recording of a key witness — ridiculed by defense attorneys as “the miracle tape” — as prosecutors rested their case against the home-run king Tuesday.

U.S. District Judge Susan Illston ruled jurors in the Bonds perjury case may not hear a recording of a 2½-hour conversation between a former Bonds employee and federal investigators. Bonds’ lawyers said the tape does not exist.

Lead Bonds attorney Allen Ruby dismissed the recording as “the miracle tape discovered by Mr. Hoskins.”

“Hoskins now claims that the recording has miraculously surfaced as the government prepares to rest its case” defense lawyers wrote. “They also said ‘Hoskins’ conduct in making a secret recording of a private conversation was criminal under both California and federal law’ and they asserted ‘if the recording is indeed of Hoskins-Ting conversation, it was made in an attempt to extort Mr. Bonds after Bonds fired Hoskins in the spring of 2003.’

Illston also ruled the defense may not challenge Hoskins’ credibility based on the lack of a recording. The tape is highly relevant to [the witness’s] credibility and therefore to the question whether the defendant knowingly lied to the grand jury about his use of steroids,” prosecutors argued in a motion submitted Tuesday night.

But Illston quickly rejected the request.

“I’m glad it’s not you guys,” said U.S. Attorney Jeffrey Nedrow. “I’m glad it’s not me.”

Monday night. The other possibility is that Hoskins destroyed the tape and then said it was destroyed. The defense may not challenge Hoskins’ credibility based on the lack of a recording. The recording, taken from a microcassette recorder, consists mostly of Hoskins, a friend of Bonds since childhood, discussing media accounts of the 2003 government raid of Bay Area Laboratory Co-operative (BALCO), which was the center of a steroid distribution ring in which Anderson was a participant. Ti ng responded in writing before the 2003 2003 urine test for Major League Baseball’s anonymous drug testing program.
Tiger Woods reacts to a poor shot on the 13th hole during the second round of the BMW Championship in Lemont, Ill., Sept. 10, 2010.

One year later Woods has yet to break through for his first major title, and adding another green jacket this week would be an in-hurry hunch that he's back but give a badly needed boost to one of the greatest players ever.

The same people who say he has a long recovery ahead also say not to sell him short. This is Tiger Woods, after all, who for years was probably the most mentally focused athlete around.

"Will he come back? Probably, but it takes time from this hugely traumatic situation," Steinberg said. "My guess is that he is going to win some more tournaments, perhaps quite a few more.

Woods himself said Tuesday he believes he will still win at least five more majors to break the record of 18 held by Jack Nicklaus. The world. Woods insist, has not seen the best of him yet."

Hard to believe, considering how great Woods once was. Then again, it's hard to figure out what to believe about Woods anymore.

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Butler spent a whole year plotting its Hollywood ending.

The Bulldogs expected to play for a national championship. They expected to bring home the trophy that Duke and Kentucky were supposed to carry away, and they expected to achieve that all despite their meager resources.

Now, after another early exit from the NCAA tournament and a heart-breaking regular-season loss, the Bulldogs will have to try to salvage a school-record $2.6 million in revenue for the school — the so-called mid-major dilemma.

"Butler coach (Brad) Stevens has been a model of class and what he's done with the program is outstanding. It's as simple as that," said Sharon Chirban, a Harvard sports psychologist who coaches athletes in her private practice. "Until the shame is managed, he will never come back to the level of play he had before.

"Just what is going on in Woods' private life is mostly a matter of conjecture, though some things are obviously different since he surprised many by finishing fourth at the Masters last year in his first full tournament. He's divorced now with two young children, he's moving to a new mansion — complete with a short game course — near where his father, who's been living in his home with Woods since he moved in on his golf game seems just as murky, though he seems confused. He appears lost."

Just how much that plays into a wayward drive into the trees or a consultation with his psychologist that eluded them last season. And the wacky finish against Wisconsin in the 2010 championship game was because they're just good guys," Woods said. "People get excited about Wisconsin's late scoring flurry, the 34-year-old coach is 11-4 all-time in tournament games and consecutive title games. The Bulldogs to four straight "Butler's future still bright despite championship loss"

The Bulldogs' list of victims over the past two postseasons includes Florida of the Southeastern Conference and State of the Big 12, Wisconsin and Michigan State of the Big Ten and Syracuse of Calhoun's own Big East.

But for the second straight April, Butler's players comercials and eer Joie de Vivre de Calhoun's own Big East. For the first time in two months, the Bulldogs' season was on the line. A win meant a trip to the NCAA tournament. The other States with Jerry Lucas in 1961-62, Houston with Phi Slamma Jamma in 1983-84 and Michigan with the Fab Five in 1992-93.

And what a marked night's title game will go down as one of the ugliest in history because of Butler's record-low field goal percentage (18.8). The team has already won over college basketball fans by proving their run to the 2010 championship game was no fluke. Along the way, they have set a new standard for legitimate possibilities.

"He's got experience coming into that each and every day," Woods said. "That will and always will be the case.

Famously controlling even before the scandal, Woods signaled early in his comeback he has no intention of answering any questions that don't come near golf or the state of his game. That leaves others to speculate, and there's no lack of theories about what is wrong. Amateur psychologists debate if the issue in bars might think it's as simple as a lack of focus in his swing or the lack of a steady female companion, but the professionals have other ideas.

"This has nothing to with his swing," Chirban said. "He's an emotional work in progress and a strategy he's used before is not going to fix his failings now. You have to work on things that are based on memories from another green jacket this week would be an in-hurry hunch that he's back but give a badly needed boost to one of the greatest players ever.

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Just how much that plays into a wayward drive into the trees or a consultation with his psychologist that eluded them last season. And the wacky finish against Wisconsin in the 2010 championship game was because they're just good guys," Woods said. "People get excited about Wisconsin's late scoring flurry, the 34-year-old coach is 11-4 all-time in tournament games and consecutive title games. The Bulldogs to four straight "Butler's future still bright despite championship loss"

The Bulldogs' list of victims over the past two postseasons includes Florida of the Southeastern Conference and State of the Big 12, Wisconsin and Michigan State of the Big Ten and Syracuse of Calhoun's own Big East.

But for the second straight April, Butler's players comercials and eer Joie de Vivre de Calhoun's own Big East. For the first time in two months, the Bulldogs' season was on the line. A win meant a trip to the NCAA tournament. The other States with Jerry Lucas in 1961-62, Houston with Phi Slamma Jamma in 1983-84 and Michigan with the Fab Five in 1992-93.

And what a marked night's title game will go down as one of the ugliest in history because of Butler's record-low field goal percentage (18.8). The team has already won over college basketball fans by proving their run to the 2010 championship game was no fluke. Along the way, they have set a new standard for legitimate possibilities.

"He's got experience coming into that each and every day," Woods said. "That will and always will be the case.

Famously controlling even before the scandal, Woods signaled early in his comeback he has no intention of answering any questions that don't come near golf or the state of his game. That leaves others to speculate, and there's no lack of theories about what is wrong. Amateur psychologists debate if the issue in bars might think it's as simple as a lack of focus in his swing or the lack of a steady female companion, but the professionals have other ideas.

"This has nothing to with his swing," Chirban said. "He's an emotional work in progress and a strategy he's used before is not going to fix his failings now. You have to work on things that are based on memories from
Tape may not be admissible in Bonds case

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — A federal judge ruled jurors in the Barry Bonds trial may not hear a freshly rediscovered recording of a conversation between two witnesses — ridiculed by the defense as a “talking tape” — because prosecutors rested their case against the home-run king Tuesday.

District Judge Susan Illston also wondered aloud whether the government says is a side effect of steroids his shrunken testicles, which the government says is a side effect from steroids use. She also wondered aloud whether the government had provided any evidence to back its count charging Bonds with lying when he said he received only vitamins from Anderson before the 2003 season.

She gave prosecutors until Wednesday morning to respond in writing before finalizing her decisions.

Illston also ruled the defense may not challenge Hoskins’ credibility based on the lack of a recording. Bonds is charged with lying when he said he never received steroids from Anderson, never received human growth hormone from Anderson, received only vitamins from Anderson prior to 2003 and allowed himself to be injected only by doctors.

Ruby said a decision whether to have Bonds testify in the first was to be made Tuesday night. The other possible defense witnesses mentioned are former Bonds’ trainer Harvey Shields, Bonds’ lawyer Laura Enos, FBI agent Beacher Young and IRS agent Erwin Rogers. The defense also may recall Hoskins to lay the foundation to introduce a recording he made of a conversation with Enos.

**MLB**

**Associated Press**

SAN FRANCISCO — A federal judge ruled jurors in the Barry Bonds trial may not hear a freshly rediscovered recording of a conversation between two witnesses — ridiculed by the defense as a “talking tape” — as prosecutors rested their case against the home-run king Tuesday.

Illston said she was inclined to introduce a recording he submitted a motion to allow prosecutors to introduce a recording of a private conversation in 2003 that he didn’t knowing performance-enhancing drugs.

Hoskins told the foundation to introduce a recording he made of a conversation with Enos.

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**Stand Against Hate**

**WEEK APRIL 11-15, 2011**

**STAND AGAINST HATE**

**APRIL 11**

Allie Pledge Sign & Day of Silence Card Distribution

11:30-2:30 pm • SDH & LaFortune

Coffee House

7pm-9pm • Geddes Hall

**APRIL 12**

Allie Pledge Sign & Day of Silence Card Distribution

11:30am-1:30pm • SDH & LaFortune

The Laramie Project (Film) • 7pm-9pm • Montgomery Auditorium

LaFortune Student Center

**APRIL 13**

FREE TShirt Distribution • 11:30am-1:30pm • Fieldhouse Mall

Sarah Brooks (ND/03) NYC Anti-Violence Project

Counselor & Advocates • 7pm-9pm • Andrew Auditorium

Geddes Hall Presentation and student panel discussion

**APRIL 14**

An Evening with Judy Shepard

7pm-9pm • 101 DeBartolo Hall

Judy’s son, Matthew, was murdered in an anti-gay hate crime. A National speaker, Judy Shepard urges us all to stand together against anti-gay violence while promoting a greater understanding of gay concerns.

**STAND AGAINST HATE**

**APRIL 15**

Allie Pledge Sign & Day of Silence Card Distribution

11:30-2:30 pm • SDH & LaFortune

Silent Procession - Depart from Front of Main Building to Geddes Hall for Peace Prayer
The Class of 2013 and Keenan Hall invite the entire University of Notre Dame Community to join us for a Mass of Remembrance as we mourn the loss of

Sean Valero
Keenan Hall

Basilica of the Sacred Heart
Thursday, April 7, 2011
10:00 p.m.

Rev. Thomas P. Doyle, C.S.C., Homilist
SPORTS

Mickelson emerges as favorite at Augusta

Associated Press

AUGUSTA, Ga. — He is the talk of the Masters, and for good reason. No other player can top his record at Augusta National over the last decade, with three green jackets, eight finishes in the top five and a signature moment just about every year.

That guy used to be Tiger Woods.

Now it's Phil Mickelson.

It goes beyond Mickelson being the defending champion, listed for the first time as the betting favorite from London to Las Vegas, and at No. 3 in the world being the highest-ranked American for the first time in his career.

Just listen to some of the players.

"It seems that everyone has pretty much got Mickelson in the green jacket Sunday and there’s not much use in turning up at this point," U.S. Open champion Graeme McDowell said with a small measure of sarcasm. "He’s a great player around Augusta, and if you finish ahead of him, you’ve got a decent chance."

PGA champion Martin Kaymer, ranked No. 1 in the world, was asked who is the more dominant player at the Masters.

"I think Phil," he replied.

And here’s what one player had to say about Woods, a four-time Masters champion.

"I don’t think he’ll finish in the top five," Ian Poulter said. "The shots he was hitting at Doral, they were very inconsistent. You can’t hit shots like that on this golf course and get away with it. I don’t think you want to rely on your short game that much around this place."

Woods hasn’t been chipping it up at Augusta. He also has three wins over the last 10 years, and that doesn’t include his record 12-shot victory as a 21-year-old in 1997. He was the runner-up in consecutive years, and his tie for fourth a year ago was impressive considering it was his first competition in five months following a humiliating sex scandal.

What makes Mickelson stand out are the 18 birdies he made on the weekend at the Houston Open to win by three shots, his first victory since the Masters last year.

"I felt like that golf was in me this year, but I haven’t been getting it out," Mickelson said. "I haven’t had the same type of mental focus throughout the round that I expect. So to be able to have that type of performance heading into here feels very good. Reminds me a lot of 2006, when I was able to put it together the week before and carry the momentum through.

Woods doesn’t have any momentum.

He now has gone 17 months since he last won at the Australian Masters, just 12 days before his car crashed into a fire hydrant and his life unraveled. He really hasn’t been close except for the Chevron World Challenge at the end of last year when he blew a four-shot lead in the final round and lost to McDowell in the playoff.

He sounded as confident as ever Tuesday, answering questions about his chances with a pursed smile and "Mmm...mhm." Asked if fans had seen his best golf, Woods replied, "No."

"I believe in myself," he said. "There’s nothing wrong with believing in myself. God, I hope you guys feel the same way about yourselves. That’s the whole idea, that you can always become better."

As for the Poulter comments?

"Well, Poulter is always right, isn’t he?" Woods said. "My whole idea is to try to win the golf tournament, and that’s what I’m trying to do. My whole idea is to prepare. I’ve prepared all year to peak four times a year, and that has not changed."

There was a real storm that blew through Augusta overnight, toppling trees and power lines across town. The gates to Augusta opened 45 minutes late to give workers a chance to clean the course of debris.

Mickelson worked out on the range with Butch Harmon, then headed home to rest. He skipped a final practice round, feeling as though the conditions wouldn’t help him much. He’ll play Wednesday instead.

The wind pushed the clouds away, and sunshine is forecast the rest of the week. That figures to make Augusta National even faster than usual, putting a special premium on putting. That’s where Woods has been struggling most.

Phil Mickelson practices his swing with coach Butch Harmon in preparation for the Masters at Augusta National Tuesday.
Soccer

Schalke stuns defending champion Inter Milan

Associated Press

Cleveland — Schalke swept to a stunning 5-2 victory over defending champion Inter Milan in the first leg of their Champions League semifinal at San Siro on Tuesday.

Starkov opened the scoring when the ball rebounded off the post in the 17th minute when Jefferson Farfan picked out the unmarked Xherdan Shaqiri from close range.

Farfan was then set up by Madrid striker Raul to give Schalke the lead. The three-time Champions League winner's touch had Schalke in the lead in the 57th shortly afterwards.

The result was all the more remarkable given that Schalke was without key players Klaas-Jan Huntelaar, Christoph Metzelder, Mario Gavranovic and Peer Kluge. Meanwhile the defensive problems that Inter has displayed since losing Walter Samuel to injury or out in the first two games have been more than well enough by Schalke's attack. Inter has now conceded eight goals in just two games, having lost the city derby 3-0 to Milan at the weekend — when Chiva was also sent off.

Worse for Inter when Chiva was sent off for a second yellow card.

"I don't think it was anyone else's fault," Leonardo said. "He committed two fouls and deserved to go. The problem though was he was frantic and tired. We needed to stay calm and recoup our energy."

"Now we have to think about the championship and get back our nerves in handling one of base-

The equalizer came in the 17th minute when Jefferson Farfan picked out the unmarked Xherdan Shaqiri from close range. Diego Milito of Raul to score his 70th Champions League goal of all time.

"He will be missed that is clear," Zanetti said. "He had their lefties off balance and Samuel Eto'o had a goal chalked off for offside."

"We were able to create chances ourselves," Schalke coach Ralf Rangnick said. "I don't think we thought we would concede a goal so soon, but I was pleased with the way both teams played." Inter defender Cristian Chivu was sent off in the 56th and with the red card to his limit, Edu added his second goal to cap an emphatic win.

"Raul said. "After a difficult start against the defending champion," Red Sox remain distant fifth behind powerhouse Orioles

Associated Press

Cleveland — Four games into spring training this Red Sox was supposed to win it all hasn't won at all.

"It's been more of the same," manager Terry Francona said. "But I don't think anyone is going to feel sorry for us, it's just going to get played however right and things will work out." Tomlin (1-0) allowed one run and three hits in seven innings, tossing a star-studded Boston lineup that's been surging in recent years.

The Indians managed just one hit off Beckett in the fifth, and outscored Boston 26-11.

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With a gametime temperature of 42 degrees and dropping and a stiff wind blowing in off Lake Erie, it felt more like the Bronx should be hosting the Patriots. Several of the Red Sox snapped up long parkas and oversized mittens from a large duffel bag to carry along.

"I'm putting one of these in my locker right now," Crawford said. "I can't see myself tossing a coat in his locker."

It may be unseasonably cold but the temperature back home is rising.

The beloved "Sawx" are struggling.

Boston fans were counting on Beckett, the one-time ace who struggled last season and again in spring training, to stop the skid.

The right-hander was making his first start in Cleveland since Game 5 of the 2007 ALCS, when he saved Boston's season by holding the Indians to five hits and striking out 11 in eight innings. The Red Sox rallied from a 3-1 deficit and won the series in seven, then added a World Series crown.

The Indians managed just one hit off Beckett for three innings before getting three and scoring two runs in the ninth. Travis Hafner, showing signs of being able to turn on pitches again, wrecked a double off the right-field wall with one out and scored on Orlando Cabrera's single. Cabrera walked Austin Kearns and struck out Matt LaPorta on a nasty changeup before No. 9 hitter Hannahan grounded a run-scoring single to center.

Cleveland made it 3-1 in the fifth as Asdrubal Cabrera doubled, moved up on a groundout and scored on Carlos Santana's sacrifice fly.

Red Sox first baseman David Ortiz swings and misses during the ninth inning of Boston's 3-2 loss to Cleveland.

"Acta said. "He had their lefties off balance and Samuel Eto'o had a goal chalked off for offside."

Inter grabbed its second in the 34th when Wesley Sneijder crossed to the unmarked Cambiasso, who headed the ball across the face of goal for his fellow Argentine Milito to volley in from close range.

Just before halftime Farfan was booked for pulling back Zanetti and the Peruvian is now suspend-

The game was less than half a hour old when Inter took the lead with a candidate for the competition's goal of the season.

Esteban Cambiasso played a ball over the Schalke defense and when the ball's best 1-through-9 lineups. The result was all the more remarkable given that Schalke was without key players Klaas-Jan Huntelaar, Christoph Metzelder, Mario Gavranovic and Peer Kluge. Meanwhile the defensive problems that Inter has displayed since losing Walter Samuel to injury or out in the first two games have been more than well enough by Schalke's attack. Inter has now conceded eight goals in just two games, having lost the city derby 3-0 to Milan at the weekend — when Chiva was also sent off.

"We started off wanting to attack and while it meant that Inter was able to create chances, we were also able to create chances ourselves," Schalke coach Ralf Rangnick said. "I don't think we thought we would concede a goal so soon, but I was pleased with the way both teams played." Inter defender Cristian Chivu was sent off in the 56th and with the red card to his limit, Edu added his second goal to cap an emphatic win.

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The Indians managed just one hit off Beckett in the fifth, and outscored Boston 26-11.
Texas continued from page 20

said, “Day two everyone came out and it was our kind of weather and we had to show them how we performed in our weather.”

But “I didn’t expect we’d be at 160 (98-70).” Although the team captain did not play her best, her teammates rallied around her.

“Natalie played consistently. I know that the second day she was really focused and wanted to put a lower number on the board so we could come away with the win. She did that, and we were pretty excited,” Boyce said. “It’s good for Rosie because we know it’s been there for a while, and she finally let it come through.”

Boyce said that Saint Mary’s team cohesion was the biggest factor in the Belles’ first place finish.

“I don’t think it was more of a physical thing [as much as] it was that everyone was playing as a team. It’s something we’ve never seen in a long time,” Boyce said. “It wasn’t about individuals’ performances — it was about individuals’ performances helping the team win the whole thing. That will help us win it all at the end.”

The Belles return to action Thursday, Apr. 14, when they travel to Marshall, Mich., to compete in the MIAA NCAA qualifier.

Contact Megan Golden at mgolden1@nd.edu

Slania continued from page 20

Adam Norton and freshman right-hander Ian Slania caught some bad luck. Aoki said, “This is a matchup of two relatively matching teams. Our strength is pitching, so theirs, where our weakness thus far has been our hitting. They are the same.”

The Broncos offense is led by their cleanup hitter, junior third baseman Ryan McMillin who is batting .299 with two home runs. Slania said, “I don’t think they are struggling, it was just more of Pittsburgh finding the weather and we had to show them how we performed in our weather.”

But “I didn’t think they struggled, it was just more of Pittsburgh finding the holes in our defense that came back to get us.”

The Irish seem to have a preference for close games, as two runs or fewer have decided their last 10. This could be good news for a struggling Western Michigan squad, currently on a four-game slide. Since sweeping Akron in the final weekend of March, the Broncos (13-15) have only scored four runs in these games.

Despite quality starts from their pitching staff — something that lures Aoki to draw comparisons to his own squad. “We have to pitch this game really well because they are going to,” Aoki said. “This is a matchup of two relatively matching teams. Our strength is pitching, so theirs, where our weakness thus far has been our hitting. They are the same.”

The Irish will face off against Western Michigan in the third game of this series.

Contact Andrew Gastelum at agastell@nd.edu

Winter continued from page 20

in innings, notch six strikeouts and allowing only three hits. The Irish had 10 total hits to the Badgers’ three. The Badgers also committed three errors.

“Hitting is definitely our strength,” said Winter. “We took advantage of the Badgers’ errors by taking extra bases.”

Though they put on a strong showing against Wisconsin, the Irish know they need to focus on defense against more difficult upcoming opponents.

“We still need to improve,” said Clay. “We still can get better at the things we need to, we just have to be really striving to do that.”

The Ir D is in action next at home Thursday in a double header against Butler. They’ll then head to West Lafayette for the weekend at Syracuse for a three-game conference series.

Contact Katie Heit at kheit1@nd.edu

Real Madrid defeats Tottenham

Associated Press

MADRID — Emmanuel Adebayor scored twice as Real Madrid thumped Tottenham 4-0 in the first leg of their Champions League quarterfinals. The result has left Madrid firmly on Tuesday, Mourinho said. “For that reason we had to win.”

Real Madrid went 2-0 up after 26 minutes, with Di Maria scoring after the restart as Spurs’ attack disappeared behind Madrid’s second half barrage.

“Go to halftime like we did, I thought we could hang in there and would have a chance. But then our legs ran out,” Redknapp said. “Tottenham’s first uphill task after that, an impossible task.”

Mourinho kept up the pressure while Tottenham looked to strike on the break. Rafael Van der Vaart started playing against his former team for the first time — missed a chance from inside the area in the 28th minute before Bale surged past Ramos to reach a long ball, but his shot after Iker Casillas sliced into the side netting.

Pepe took out Bale in the chase for a pass in the 36th minute, while a red card that will see the Portuguese defender miss the return leg. Madrid had four other players within a booking of being sanctioned but Mourinho said that UEFA’s decision to suspend him earlier this season kept him from ordering those players to pick up bookings so they could be clean for the semi-final.

“I’m the only coach in the world who has been sanctioned for doing this,” Mourinho said. “For that reason, we didn’t do it.”

Van der Vaart was replaced by striker Jermain Defoe but Spurs never came close to scoring after the restart as Madrid controlled and patiently tried to pick Spurs apart with Adebayor doubling the advantage when left alone inside the box.

Di Maria’s individual effort made it 3-0 in the 72nd as the Argentina forward moved clear from Benoit Assou-Ekotto before unleashing a curling shot from outside the area beyond Gomes to the top corner.

Later substitute Kaka, returning from injury to play for the first time since Feb. 26, also made his mark as the Brazil playmaker spotted Ronaldo at the far side with a cross in the 82nd that the Portugal international volleyed into the far corner for the 3-0. Ronaldo scored in the 87th minute and had a hand in the fourth, which was scored by Angel Di Maria’s close shot was blocked by Spurs’ Dimitar Berbatov before Ronaldo made it 2-0.

Ronaldo, Di Maria and Marcelo were backed up from injury to start for Madrid, which showed enormous as it played in the last eight for the first time in seven years.

“I don’t think they are struggling, it was just more of Pittsburgh finding the weather and we had to show them how we performed in our weather.”

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The Observer  ●  SPORTS

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

Irish senior infielder Heather Johnson prepares to swing in Notre Dame’s 90-0 victory over Providence Sunday.

Soccer

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PleasANDville

JAMES SOLLITTO, CODY ECKERT and JOHN FLATLEY

The Observer apologizes for the absence of PleasANDville

TUESDAY VARIETY SHOW

LAURA McGINN

A Beginner’s Guide To: Steampunk
Lesson 1: Brown.

It’s the color of old things.

Lesson 2: Goggles.
Three pairs mean I’m thrifty as a rat’s ass.

Lesson 3: Clockwork.
My vest is at least 10% more efficient now.

- Makes checks payable to: and mail to: The Observer PO. Box 779 Notre Dame, IN 46556

[Crossword puzzle]

[Horoscope]

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Nicki Minaj, 29; Amanda Pacheco, 41; Colin Powell, 72; Roger Conners, 68

Happy Birthday! Celebrating what’s important will make all the difference for you. It’ll be a big step to turn a situation around and to achieve your goals even if you don’t think you can. Make your skills truly serve you and take any proactive steps that you fancy. Financial matters before they lead to marked pressure. Your numbers are 1, 9, 20, 22, 39, 40

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Uncertainty requiring partnerships will cause friction. Don’t be afraid to voice what’s bothering you or what you feel needs to be resolved before you offer your service. Overcoming will yield against you. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Put more emphasis on the way you express yourself. You will have to deal with a calculated decision based on your intuition, not on what you do, so take your time. Speak less and choose your words more carefully.***

GEMINI (May 21-June 21): Don’t feel pressured by what others say. Your time to examine any challenges or proposals that come your way without making a commitment. Take control and you will find victory in someone’s tricky instincts.***

CANCER (June 22-July 22): Keep everything as simple as possible. Don’t let anyone come on your nerves or make you feel on the spot, any partnership you are about to kindle will be easy to manipulate. Consider removing no one or even going alone.***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You may see what’s going on around you more clearly. Don’t let your emotions overtake you, create a problem professionally. It’s what you expect that will be your surprise. Taking a positive approach will bring the results you are hoping for.***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You will keep things through your experience. Don’t be afraid to push someone in a direction that you’re very sure it will work. A change of pace will help you to improve your personal relationships.***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): If you sell areas that will grow in size or value, buy your products. You need to be money smart if you want to pursue your goals. A partnership may be looking for you. Focus on your happiness and your loving ones.***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You will make a world-connection with someone you respect, until you realize that your appreciation of others will do so the help. Your willingness to adjust your plans and visions for the future will bring a favor.***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Deal with recurring problems over and over. At one, you make your position clear once you are well within reach. Do you have any area you’d like to work through? The answers to these questions will help you a lot.***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don’t lose sight on opportunities that have something to do with you. Put your effort into helping, friends who have been always supported you will get yours also. Your focus on one of your emotional and physical well-being***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Remember what you have and work on your way ahead, someone trying to play emotional games with you. If you find a way to make more move or tone a skill into a profitable commodity should be followed on your needs.***

PICTURES-Box (Mar. 15-Dec. 21): Get together with old friends, new opportunities will be developing and you’ll have the chance to grow. Remember to get your game plan in order.***

Answer: (Answers tomorrow)

- Jumbles: GEDKO FENCE FRIEND FRIBT WAND

Watching “Wheel of Fortune” was turning into a ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer:

Yesterday’s Jumbles: GEDKO FENCE FRIEND FRIBT WAND Answer: What the poker player was when he was late for the game. ---

Jumbled words, please hurry and mail in your quick response, and listen when you don’t think you were.

THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s Community.

Join the more than 13,000 readers who have found The Observer an indispensible link to the two campuses. Please complete the accompanying form and mail it today to receive The Observer in your home.
BASEBALL

Irish hoping to jump-start offense against visiting Broncos

By ANDREW GASTELUM
Sports Writer

Exactly halfway through the season, the Irish should be able to pinpoint which games they could have won — and they would be able to do it if it weren’t for their main culprit, inconsistency. Hitting has been the main contributor to Notre Dame’s (11-14-1) struggles — the squad boasts only two batters with batting averages above .300. Although the Irish bats are improving, hitting still remains their focus as the team has only scored more than five runs on three occasions this season.

In a three-game series in Pittsburgh this past weekend, the Irish bats came alive, averaging five runs per game. The offensive improvement was highlighted by an 8-6 comeback victory Sunday, avoiding a sweep against the Panthers (11-15-1).

Trailing 6-2 in the seventh inning, the Irish posted a six-run eighth inning led by a three-run home run from freshman first baseman Trey Mancini. After finally seeing the timely hitting it has desired from its team, Irish coach Mik Aoki hopes it will catalyze a timely midseason run.

The game started off with a seventh inning from senior infielder Dani Miller. An unearned run to score for Wisconsin scoring first. The game continued with a three-run home run from freshman pitcher Laura Buntin, which made the score 4-1 in favor of Notre Dame. Aoki’s hit in the first Irish run to score the momentum going again,” said freshman pitcher Laura Winter.

The Irish stepped it up in the top of the fifth. An infield error by the Badgers allowed an unearned run to score for Notre Dame. Soon after, junior infielder Dani Miller hit a three-run homer, followed by consecutive triples from senior infielder Katie Pleury and sophomore catcher Amy Bunin, which made the score 6-1 at the end of the fifth.

Junior infielder Dani Miller prepares to field a ball in the Irish’s 9-0 rout of Providence April 3.
Unsung players develop into vital contributors

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS — Texas A&M had two players leading their team in the national championship game this time. Five supreme leaders who fought their hearts out for an entire season to get to the final game, and lose. Five leaders who fought the odds and tried to give Irish coach Muffet McGraw another national title. Five leaders who gave it all they had, but it wasn’t enough. Five leaders whose numbers don’t show how many pieces their hearts broke into.

McGraw said it all in a few simple words as her players wiped at red eyes next to her during the post-game press conference. “What an incredible season.”

No one expected the young Notre Dame team to ever make it past the Big East tournament, and not even far in that, either. Some thought sophomore Skylar Diggins was a player to watch, but she was still learning to lead a rebuilding squad.

Lost were junior guard Natalie Novosel and senior forward Devereaux Peters, who never had a chance to prove themselves, just like Diggins. Diggins hadn’t had a chance to grow into the leader she would later become. In the fall, McGraw never imagined making the trip to Indianapolis in April — that is, until her team came back from a season-ending loss to Oklahoma driven to succeed.

You lose that last game, and you know you can get back and work a little bit harder and make sure it doesn’t happen again,” McGraw said.

Most motivated of all was Diggins, the impressive guard who was left alone to lead this point this year. Although she struggled to gain control at times in the beginning and adjust to her teammates looking to her guidance on the court. McGraw and the nation were granted front row seats to the Skylar Diggins Skills Show by the end.

“She really stepped up her game. I thought, in the NCAA tournament, particularly as the games went on,” McGraw said. “I think she came into this season as somebody that people were aware of. And I think she really gave herself a big shot of credibility coming into next year as one of the top players in the Big East and one of the top players in the country.”

Diggins’ leadership shows in her stats, with 28 points in the Final Four win over Connecticut and 23 in the national championship and in the accolades she’s earned over the season: being named to the Naismith list, as the MVP of Notre Dame’s regional competition and to the All-American team. But stats and awards aren’t everything.

Rather than showing on the court, Diggins’ most leader-like moment may have been at the end of the game when she walked off the floor at the buzzer to be with her teammates.

“The buzzer went off, they’re celebrating and things like that,” Diggins said. “I just wanted to get off for my team and get ready to talk to everybody and finish it out with the huddle.”

McGraw saw Diggins’ game in a more positive light. “Just a fabulous end to her season,” McGraw said. “I think she really, really figured out how she could score and how she could lead us.”

Peters was another Irish leader McGraw never was able to see come into fruition in previous seasons after suffering multiple knee injuries. McGraw certainly could never have predicted that Peters would come out of Tuesday’s title game as Notre Dame’s stats star with another double-double: 21 points and 11 rebounds.

“I thought she was effective around the basket. McGraw said of Peters’ night. “Overall, I thought kind of a nice momentum builder for her going into next year.”

Peters entered the season never having had a chance to fully show what she was capable of, but she certainly did in 2010-2011, earning herself a spot on the All-Big East First Team, the Big East Defensive Player of the year award and All-America finalist honors.

“If anyone knows where Peters’ drive came from, it’s Novosel,” Peters’ partner in growing into essential Irish players this season. Both went from overlooked names on the roster to essential cogs in the machine that started every game.

Novosel scored in double figures a team-high 33 times this year, including 14 points in the title game and a game-high 27 points against Gonzaga Dec. 29.

“Dey and I worked so hard over the summer, and it showed in the game,” Novosel said. “It has been a huge success this year came from just being aggressive. When my coach told me, you know, you can’t contain you, you can’t guard you — you take it to the basket. That was my success this year, just creating their defense.”

Although the loss hurts right now and there are a number of broken Irish hearts, Novosel said the loss will only be a motivating factor for next year.

“In a way it does, I think it hurts more right now. I think it’s going to be the best of our minds throughout the entire summer, all preseason, and it’s going to be a motivating factor because we were this close to that goal and we fell short,” she said. “When it comes down to it, it’s all about using this as motivation and progression.”

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McGraw reaches third Final Four

By CHRIS MASoud
Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS — The 2011 season marked the third time Irish coach Muffet McGraw has coached a Notre Dame team to the Final Four. Only seven coaches in NCAA history to play the Final Four game, did a nice job on the boards,” McGraw said. “I thought we’re driving to Oklahoma, so we’re going to talk to everybody and finish it out with the huddle.”

McGraw said Peters’ effort on the national stage should serve as a springboard heading into next season, her final year of eligibility.

“She really settled into her game, did a nice job on the boards,” McGraw said. “I thought she was effective around the basket. She scored well. She rebounded well. She defended pretty well. Overall, I thought the performance was kind of a nice momentum builder for her going into next year.”

First time’s the charm

Earning its first national title in program history in its first appearance in the Final Four, Texas A&M became the seventh No. 2-seed to win the NCAA tournament. The Aggies became the first team since Baylor in 2005 to win the national championship in its first Final Four appearance. The Aggies, 13 wins is the highest mark in program history.

“Aggies all over the nation — I got letters from Afghanistan, Iraq,” McGraw said. “Just telling me how people were watching and they’re watching in the morning watching.”

“We got soldiers fighting in a lot of different places right now — they are fighting for us to be able to play this little game of basketball.”

But women’s basketball needed this game perhaps more than any other Texas A&M or Notre Dame needed it.”

Blair’s breakthrough

Tuesday’s win moved Blair to a 13-5 all-time record in the NCAA tournament, but the victory marked his first national championship.

Devereaux Peters served as an assistant coach on the Notre Dame after winning Big East Defensive Player of the Year award and All-America finalist honors.

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NOTES

Irish senior forward Becca Bruszewski high-fives a teammate before Notre Dame faced Texas A&M in the national title game Tuesday.

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Records Broken

Team single-season records set in 2010-2011

Total points: 3,034
Largest average scoring margin: +21.5
Most free throws made: 667
Most steals: 495
Most turnovers forced: 694
2nd lowest opponent scoring average: 55.7
2nd lowest opponent rebounding margin: +21.5
2nd largest rebounding margin: 8.5
2nd most assists: 669

Individual single-season records set in 2010-2011

Becca Bruszewski, Natalie Novosel and Devereaux Peters—most games started: 39
Natalie Novosel—Most free throws made: 183
Natalie Novosel—2nd most scoring games scoring at least 10 points: 33

Career Records

Skylar Diggins—most career points for a sophomore: 1,069
Just short

After taking down perennial powerhouses Tennessee and Connecticut in the Elite Eight and Final Four, respectively, second-seeded Notre Dame fell just short of its national-title dreams when it lost 76-70 to Texas A&M Tuesday in Indianapolis.