**Students wear class rings to show pride, ‘solidarity’**

By NICOLE TOCZAUER
News Writer

Notre Dame’s legendary ‘ring by spring’ tradition has invaded campus once again, though not in the usual sense of the phrase, as sophomores recently received information to order Notre Dame class rings.

But the shamrock-embellished ring is much more than a piece of jewelry. According to Notre Dame’s official class ring website, only alumni and seniors and juniors who have earned at least 60 credit hours are eligible to purchase a ring. Graduate students are required to complete 50 percent of their work before they qualify to purchase a ring. The website said it verifies all orders to confirm customer eligibility.

Junior Drew Davis said he wore his class ring. Davis said $100,000 is designated for The Rector Fund, where rectors can request money for students.

"I wanted to have people recognize it and say, ‘Oh, my solidarity.’" Davis said when he was younger he noticed how his uncle’s fellow college alumni easily recognized him when he wore his class ring. Davis wanted to experience that same sense of camaraderie with fellow Notre Dame graduates.

I wanted to have people recognize it and say, ‘Oh, my solidarity.’" Davis said when he was younger he noticed how his uncle’s fellow college alumni easily recognized him when he wore his class ring. Davis wanted to experience that same sense of camaraderie with fellow Notre Dame graduates.

**Judge expunges record**

**Professors reflect on budget deficit**

By KRISTEN DURBIN
News Writer

President Barack Obama presented his plan to cut $4 trillion from the nation’s budget deficit over the next 12 years Wednesday, but American Studies professor Bob Schmuhl said party polarization will continue to be an obstacle in alleviating the country’s economic woes.

"Most of the budget is non-discretionary spending, so even if you cut out all discretionary spending, that still wouldn’t balance the budget,” he said. “Then you have to go beyond difficult.”

Top members of Congress narrowly avoided a partial government shutdown last week by agreeing to a deal that would cut $38 billion in federal spending for the remainder of the 2011 fiscal year. Both the House and Senate approved the budget deal Thursday, sending it to Obama for final approval.

But this short-term agreement will not achieve the country’s long-term debt goals, which includes the attainment of a national legal debt ceiling of $14.29 trillion in May, Nelson Mark, professor of economics, said.

Mark said while both Obama’s plan and Congress’ deal promise to slash federal spending, the overall budget deficit will still be nearly insurmountable in the near future. "Most of the budget is non-discretionary spending, so even if you cut out all discretionary spending, that still wouldn’t balance the budget,” he said. “Then you have to go beyond difficult.”
**Question of the Day:** What color do you hope *“The Shirt”* is this year?

- Andy Heck, sophomore, Keough
- Kevin Broderick, freshman, Keough
- Victor Hernandez, freshman, Keough
- Becky Sees, junior, Lewis
- Amanda Rahle, junior, Lewis
- Elena Rodriguez, sophomore, Pangborn

*“Navy blue with a touch of gold. Maybe some gray to mellow it out.”*

*“Green and gold plaud.”*

*“Navy blue with some green and gold pride.”*

*“As long as it’s not yellow again.”*

*“Not orange.”*

*“Dark blue.”*
Shepard speaks against hate

By ANNA BOARINI
News Writer

Judy Shepard, the mother of Matthew Shepard, a Wyoming resident who was murdered in an anti-gay hate crime 12 years ago, spoke at DeBartolo Hall Thursday night as part of Core Council’s Stand Against Hate Week.

Core Council member Brandon Buchanan said the message they want to spread focuses on combating hate, not engaging in a religious or political debate.

“This is not a political or ideological stance,” he said. “It is saying that hate is not okay for anything and asking what are we going to do about it.”

Buchanan said the week’s events, including Shepard’s speech, allow members of the community to come together at events and engage in open dialogue to provide individuals with the tools to create a better campus community for lesbians, gay, bisexual, transgenders and questioning (LGBTQ) students. These events also help students become better allies for the cause.

Shepard became an anti-hate and gay rights activist in the wake of her son’s murder.

“I love and miss him more than I can express,” Shepard said. “He was my son, my first born, but more than that he was my friend.”

Matthew Shepard was murdered in Laramie, Wyo., but his parents lived in Sandia Arabia at the time of his death. When they were informed of his hospitalization, they rushed home to see their son.

“It was an eternity of not knowing if Matt was even still alive,” Shepard said. “All I could see was Matt alone on the prairie and tied to a fence post for 18 hours.”

When Shepard and her husband arrived at their son’s side in Fort Collins, Colo., she could not recognize the figure lying in the hospital bed.

“I wasn’t even sure it that was Matt,” she said. “But as I approached him, I could tell that this was my precious son.”

Shepard said she recognized her son’s blue eyes, one of which was partially open, and a bump on his ear.

“But the twinkle of life wasn’t there anymore,” she said.

Matthew died two days after his hospitalization, they rushed home to Fort Collins, Colo., and her husband and friends came to Colorado to be with him.

“Matt is no longer with us because two men learned that it is okay to hate. Society condones or is at least indifferent to violence against people that are different,” Judy Shepard activist.

Shepard now uses Matt’s story to combat hate against all minorities. She said ignorance among the greater community prevents the gay community from achieving full equality.

Although she blames her son’s murderers for his death, she also blames society.

“Do I blame the young men who killed Matt? Of course I do,” she said. “But I blame society equally for creating an environment that made them think it was ok to do that. We as a society need to atone.”

Shepard said American society wrongly treats gay community like second-class citizens.

“This is about civil rights, pure and simple. We deny things we have no right to deny them,” she said. “Shepard said she wants to promote acceptance rather than just tolerance of diversity.

“It’s just not okay,” she said. “This is about humanity and being kind. You tolerate had hair — you don’t tolerate people.

In order to promote the end of hate crimes against the gay community and minorities in general, Shepard said everyone must work to remedy this issue by speaking with state representatives and voting.

She said it is not a matter of liking gay people or not. Rather, it is a matter of respecting people for who they are and affording them the civil rights they deserve, especially the right to marriage.

“You don’t like gay people getting married? You don’t like gay weddings? Then don’t have one.”

Shepard said. “I’m not asking you to become your new best friend. I am asking you to grant them equal rights.”

Overall, Shepard said the problem of hate could be changed through education and acceptance.

“Educate, educate, educate. Bring light where you see darkness, bring freedom where there is fear because you are who you are and you love who you love.”

Judy Shepard activist.

Contact Anna Boarini at aboarini@nduknightobserver.com

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**Shepard’s quote of the day**

"I love and miss him more than I can express," Shepard said. "He was my son, my first born, but more than that he was my friend."
Kwok promotes interfaith dialogue
By ABIGAIL FORNEY
News Writer

International theologian Dr. Kwik Pui Lan delivered the 26th annual St. Mary's Lecture, titled “The Future of Interfaith Dialogue: The Role of the Catholic Church.” The lecture was sponsored by the Center for Spirituality.

Kwok is a professor of Christian Theology and Spirituality at Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge. Mass., discussed the development of interfaith dialogue throughout a rethinking of the approaches to interfaith issues among church leaders, communities and politicians in a post-secular age.

She also addressed the role of colonization and missionary movements in fostering interfaith relations and the impact of women on interfaith discussions.

“As women, we need to testify,” Kwok said. “Since I was a teenager, I heard the Gospel differently.”

Kwok said interfaith dialogue is a crucial component in achieving world peace, but that the goal is impossible to achieve if the world does not recognize the religious beliefs of people in Third World countries.

She said faith must be integrated into people’s daily lives.

“Faith can never be separat- ed from other parts of life,” Kwok said.

Diminishing the influence of Christianity and recognizing the other six major world religions — Judaism, Islam, Confucianism, Buddhism, Hinduism, and Shinto — is crucial to fostering constructive interfaith dialogue, Kwok said.

She said members of each faith must recognize that the major questions change from, “How can we talk with people previously termed ‘heathens?’” to “How are we going to work with our religious neighbors in [the midst of] poverty, war and violence?”

Kwok said the Church needs to help students understand the importance of working for justice, but one special group of students incorporate that commitment into the academic lives of their community.

Sophomore Patrick Crowe was a student in Dr. Jan Pilarski’s class during the Spring semester of 2010, “American Society in Global World,” a step towards fulfilling the justice studies minor, which requires students to perform either community service or start a campaign on an issue they are passionate about.

“The issue of human trafficking is not getting enough attention,” Crowe said. “This is an issue that is very serious and pressing matter,” Crowe said. Human trafficking, which involves modern-day slavery, is a global issue that involves the coerced labor of men, women, and/or children, for sexual or human exploitation. According to the AAMC’s recommendations, Dr. Jeff Koetsje said preliminary recommenda- tions present certain challenges for test-takers, said Dr. Koetsje, director of academics for Kaplan Test Prep’s pre-health professions. “They are unique to the new format and concern the new time requirements as well as the new content.

“We know pre-med students are dedicated to becoming doc- tors, and they will take on these challenges,” Dr. Koetsje said. “We know that students need the support of their universities and advisors, and Kaplan is prepared to sup- port them on plans to adjust the curriculum.”

Contact Casey Kenny at ckeny@smu.edu

“Human trafficking is an issue few people are familiar with,” Pilarski said. “There seemed to be great potential to educate the campus about a relatively unknown problem, with this project.”

Dr. Jan Pilarski director Justice Education Program

According to court docu- ments, a “no-contact” order was placed on the female student when the charges were filed.

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Crowe added that current courses in human trafficking, especially with involvement of the Justice Studies department, are relatively unknown problems.

Despite the group’s initial reluctance, Crowe said the group still wants to accomplish more, especially with the involvement of the South Bend community in their efforts. By next fall, the group hopes to start an organized club.

We all have a responsibility to help these people. I can see the group’s potential for social change,” Crowe said. “Our choices as con- sumers can make a difference in the lives of children and others around the world.”

Students interested in joining the club or obtaining more information should contact Crowe at crcrowe01@saintmarys.edu.

Dr. Koetsje said he has been working with Kwok and is currently interested in a future project that may be based on Kwok’s work.

“We are very serious about getting these changes but are looking at the potential benefits, and are unique to the new content,” Pilarski said. “There seemed to be a social issue.”

Crowe opted to enlighten the Saint Mary’s community about the real- ities of human trafficking through this semester.

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Pilarski, director of the Justice Education Program, supported Crowe’s decision to make the issue more widely understood on campus.

“Human trafficking is an issue few people are familiar with,” Pilarski said. “There seemed to be great potential to educate the campus about a relatively unknown problem, with this project.”

Pilarski said her class is a learning-based experience in order to teach students how to apply classroom knowledge to their extracurricular activities.

“Students in this class are studying the intersection of faith, justice and action this semester,” she said. “We use the praxis cycle in our course, which connects experience, social analysis and action.”

The class’s efforts to help students understand the importance of working for justice in society in our through the principles of Catholic Social Teaching and how crucial it is for us to apply the principles to our daily lives, Crowe said.

Crowe and her classmates created several projects and put together to spread awareness.

The class held a Tuesday showing of the documentary “The Dark Side of Chocolate,” which discusses the ways chocolate is produced in countries like Nestlé and Starbucks.

Contact Bridget Feeaney at bfeeane01@saintmarys.edu

Saint Mary’s students are committed to promoting social justice, but one special group of students incorporates that commitment into the aca- demic lives of its members.

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District Courts on Aug. 19, 2009. Augustyn was arrested on campus Aug. 26, 2009, and The (South Bend) Tribune reported he was no longer enrolled at the University.

The rape charge against Augustyn was dismissed in April 2010 when the victim said he may have “had a reasonable belief that consent was given,” which makes it difficult to determine who has the power to speak for whom in the dis- cussion.

Contact Abigail Forney at aforney01@saintmarys.edu

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According to court docu- ments, a “no-contact” order was placed on the female student when the charges were filed.

Expunged means no information about the incident or crime is left in the individual’s public criminal history.

The order for expungement demands that all files, photos and records regarding the case will be removed from the sheriff’s office, local and state police, the prosecutor’s office and the clerk’s office.

Court documents also show that no information about the charge will be retained by the state.
The Notre Dame ring was one of the items that graduates usually consider when buying their graduation regalia. Marzouca said the ring idea, but I don't think I'd wear it anymore because it's just too heavy and bulky. I wore it for a few years, and then I switched to something more modern. The ring was really on trend when I was in school, but now I think it's time to move on to something else.

This year, the entire committee was able to design a new ring that reflects the Notre Dame theme. The new ring features a monogram, and I'll think of all my friends when I look at it. The design is inspired by the tradition of the Notre Dame leprechaun, which is a significant symbol for the university. The ring is a great memento of my time at Notre Dame, and I'll be proud to wear it as a reminder of the special times I spent there.

Marzouca said that the ring is a popular item, and many graduates choose to purchase it. The committee has learned to get to the design process this year, and they are pleased with the final product. The ring is made of gold, and it is traditional in style. The committee is also considering options for future years, and they are open to feedback from students and alumni.

The Shirt Project

The Shirt Project sells more of one designed clothing item than any other service or company in the United States.

Lauren Marzouca
President The Shirt Project

"Our floor cooks do a great job of planning out the logistics in the kitchen to maximize what we can produce with each piece of cooking equipment, " said Marc Poklinkowski, general manager, South Dining Hall. "Student reaction to the wide variety of dishes served at the dining halls has been overwhelmingly positive through out the years."

"Some students have learned to take the dinners very quickly after the game to avoid the crowd," he said. "Others wait it out and come later after the craziness settles down."

On a typical football Saturday, South Dining Hall usually serves about 1,700 people during the hour following the conclusion of the game, said Poklinkowski. Although the dining halls host other special events throughout the year, the Christmas Dinner and the Lenten Buffet, candlelight dinners only take place during home football game weekends. Poklinkowski said, "I think our busiest Saturday dinners of the year, was second only to last year's Shirt in terms of over-all sales."

"They're definitely our biggest Saturday dinners of the year."

Marc Poklinkowski
General Manager South Dining Hall

"I can't imagine being on campus without seeing the Notre Dame leprechaun. I'll think of all my friends when I look at it."

Drew Davis
Junior

"I always find it interesting to see how the colors and designs of The Shirt change from year to year. It's a great way to show school spirit and support the university."

Contact Emily Schrank at eschrank@nd.edu

Candle

"Candle" is a new dining option on campus that offers a variety of food and drink options. The cooks enjoy the challenge of formulating and presenting new dishes each week. They are always looking for ways to improve and innovate in the kitchen. For example, they try to vary the colors of The Shirt every year, which is a popular item among students.

"The Shirt Project" operates a Memorial Fund for the families of deceased students, and they are able to donate funds to this fund. The website indicates that the first year of The Shirt Project, the organization tried to raise $1 million, but they only raised roughly $300,000. This year, they are aiming for a target of $600,000. The proceeds from the shirt sales are used to help students and fans understand Notre Dame themes, and they are also used to support the football season.

"We usually consider color in terms of over-all sales, but we also take into account the popularity of the items. For example, this year we have focused more on the fans, the stadium, football players themselves, golden helmets, cheerleaders, and the leprechaun."

In choosing a theme for The Shirt, Marzouca said that it is important to stay true to Notre Dame traditions while still giving the Shirt a modern spin that incorporates feed-back from students, alumni and fans, said. "Each year the committee strives to come up with an original design that mirrors the eager anticipation of the upcoming football season. We feel that this year we've appropriately captured these emotions."

Contact Sam Szyker at sszyker@nd.edu

Rings

"You can't walk anywhere on campus without seeing the monogram of Notre Dame," said Drew Davis. "I see it on everyone's shirts, hats, and even on their rings."

Drew Davis
Junior

"I think the ring is one of the most important mementos of my time here, and I'll keep it with me wherever I go."

Contact Nicole Toccazer at ntoccazer@nd.edu

The Shirt Project

"The Shirt Project has raised roughly $7 million. What many students don't know is that Marzouca said, the significance of The Shirt Project.

"The Shirt Project sells more of one designed clothing item than any other service or company in the United States."

Lauren Marzouca
President The Shirt Project

"We worked really hard to create something that people are going to love. We want it to be unique and special, and we hope that students will be proud to wear it."

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CAMPUS NEWS

The Shirt Project

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Federal jury convicts Jacques

Jurors began deliberations on Tuesday and told Ponsor on Wednesday that they were deadlocked on two of the charges. But the judge told them it was too early for a hung jury and asked them to start discussions fresh on Thursday morning. The convictions came after the seven women and five men asked the judge several questions, including requesting that the judge better define reasonable and abetting.

“Some of the jurors are having a hard time with the definition of reasonable doubt,” a juror said in a note to Ponsor at about 1:30 p.m. Thursday.

Both Schmuhl and Mark said the debate represents a long-term fiscal issue that will challenge the enduring political climate of the country in years to come.

“It’s relatively easy to deal with the economic problems in the short term, but that carries you only so far. At some point, the people in Washington — especially in relation to dealing with [entitlements] directly. The question, of course, is whether these things can be done with a divided government.”

Schmuhl said America’s fiercely opposing political parties “draw strength from the mandate of the opposition.” Schmuhl said this extreme political polarization cannot go on forever, but it will have a significant impact on the 2012 presidential election.

“It has led to a resolution of these problems going into a presidential election year,” he said. “Either we make this determination from now until November or we deal with it after the election through the lens of electoral politics.”

Mark said the current focus on the economy, the war and long-term budget problems is constructive, but significantly more comprehensive cooperation will be crucial to solving these problems.

“We need a tipping point because the problems need to be fixed, and we’re not going to happen,” he said. “Hopefully thoughtful, useful ideas will be heard and be taken over the country and once set end up in a situation like that of Greece or Argentina.”

Contact Kristen Durham at kdurbin@nd.edu

Fort Sumter re-enactors ‘surrender’ on 150th anniversary

Fort Sumter re-enactors, hag¬gered from 34 hours of bombardment, which rained shells on Union re-enactors marching out of Fort Sumter National Monument in South Carolina. Union and Confederate re-enactors commemorated the fort’s surrender Thursday.

Fort Sumter re-enactors played “Yankee Doodle” as they took their “surrender” on the 150th anniversary of the surrender of Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor on April 14, 1861, a singular event marking the start of America’s bloodiest war.

Re-enactors watched a 15-minute surrender reenactment as those playing Union forces marched away, bayonets at rest, firing blanks, including those of states splintering away in secession. The national-renamed Fort Sumter began before dawn Tuesday with the first shots of mock bombardment as an authenticated coastal mortar sounded out and Confederate cannons rimmed the harbor.

“Those were the first shots of a civil war that would stretch across four years of tremendous sacri¬fice,” President Barack Obama said Tuesday in a proclamation on the start of sesquicentennial events commemorating battles to come. “The meaning of freedom and the very soul of our Nation were combined in the hills of Gettysburg and the roads of Antietam, the fields of Manassas and the woods of Wilderness.”

The war, over four bloody years to follow, cost more than 600,000 lives.

“While guns fell silent and the fate of our Nation was secured, blue and gray would drown in blood and the institu¬tion of slavery would be forever abolished from our land,” the president said.

The state’s Palmetto Guard was there to ensure no one came in his instructions to the jury.

The congregation continues to worship at its long-time home on King Street. After the fire, it decided to rebuild on the same site and the new building is nearing completion.

The church’s leader, Bishop Bryant Robinson Jr., could not reach Thursday. No one answered his home phone and a mes¬sage was left at the King Street church.

Robinson testified during Jacques’ trial that he and others were excited when Obama was elected as the country’s first black presi¬dent. He got a phone call from his brother at about 3:30 the next morn¬ing saying the new church was on fire.

Robinson said he spent the next several hours at the church watching it — “I want to see my congregation’s dreams — burn to the ground.”

No congregation members were at the courthouse as a testament to the weeks left without commenting.

Union re-enactors march out of Fort Sumter National Monument in South Carolina. Union and Confederate re-enactors commemorated the fort’s surrender Thursday.

The only casualty of the bom¬bardment, which raised shells on Fort Sumter nearly without pause for 34 hours, was a Confederate office’s horse. But two Union sol¬diers died as a result of a can¬non misfiring during a salute marking the surrender cere¬monies. The two men were consid¬ered by the many first casualties of the war and there is a memorial in their honor in a corner of the Sumter parade ground.

There will be an event to honor the soldiers Saturday while other events here conclude Sunday.
The Four Horsemen Ride Again

A whistle-blower complaint recently filed with DOT's Inspector general's office said such arrangements are the norm at FAA centers nationwide, and that high-altitude air traffic, one of the busiest in the nation, is performed by control offices that have widespread abuse of a system.

FAA regulations forbid sleeping at work, even during breaks. Controllers who are not on a nap cycle are not permitted to sleep, and then they switch off, controllers said.

Much more common is taking a nap cycle, but still an unusual event, said when one controller is assigned to the "midnight" shift, which usually runs from about 10 p.m. to 6 a.m., one controller will work two positions while the other one sleeps and then they switch off, controllers said.

The arrangements sometimes allow controllers to sleep as much as three or four hours out of an eight-hour shift, they said.

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Remember what you play for

It seems the sun has come out at just the right time for Notre Dame students to compete for a cause.

Last weekend, hundreds of students ran in the Holy Half Marathon to support three local charities — Keenan Hall hosted their inaugural Keenan Klassic basketball tournament in memory of sophomore Sean Valero, interhall lacrosse teams participated in the Playing For Peace tournament for accord in Sudan and remaining teams in the Bookstore Basketball tournament continued to support the Jumpball charity, which benefits Jamaican children, with their play on the court.

The action continues this weekend as Notre Dame Special Olympics will host the first intercollegiate match in the history of Special Olympics when it takes on Northwestern on the soccer pitch at 1 p.m. Sunday.

Suffice to say, the only thing Notre Dame students like more then social activism and sports is the combination of the two.

As a Catholic university, Notre Dame’s Mission Statement challenges students “to create a sense of human solidarity and concern for the common good that will bear fruit in learning becomes service to justice.”

Our concern for this common good is not limited to the classroom or the service seminars we may participate in. From the loss of Lizzy Soeherr in September, I learned that although our community is extremely blessed, we are not immune to hardship. As Fr. Tom Doyle asserted at the memorial Mass for Declan Sullivan about a month later. “It is too easy, too easy to dismiss the assumption that this place and this community has enjoyed only good fortune. We have experienced anguish, distress, persecution and famine.”

Lizzy’s sudden passing drove home the age-old lesson that none of us are guaranteed tomorrow, and it helped me begin to understand that life is for living.

Our time is limited. There is no use in spending it in restless, dissatisfied pursuit of something better. This sad event highlights the value of what we have in this exact moment — because that is all there is.

In October, we lost Declan Sullivan. I re-watch his memorial Mass from time to time because in the Mass’s enormous sadness, I find great strength.

On the night of the memorial Mass, amidst the crowd gathered outside the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, the men of Fisher Hall united in solidarity. As they walked across campus, arms around each other, I learned what is meant by the phrase “the Notre Dame Family.”

Lizzy Goepel, with that phrase, I was simply looking to see if “family” needed the suit of something better. This sad event has bearing to the phrase “the Notre Dame Family.”

The phrase “the Notre Dame Family,” a term that is never used lightly, is true. In our crazy world, it is a blessed reality.

Our current loss was only two weeks ago. It, too, has a lesson to teach. The passing of Sean Valero should start a chain of action.

Most of us passionately express our love for our school. Although this is wonderful, it also makes it easy to forget the conflicts many students face. Sean’s death should remind us that everyone has a story and a struggle and that it is important to see those of other people.

How do you truly know about the girl you eat lunch with after philosophy class? The guy you befriended on your trip to Appalachia? Your roommate?

Maybe, by learning about and supporting one another, we will find healing from our wounds. It is in strength garnered from each other that the true meaning of the phrase “the Notre Dame family” becomes apparent.

The views expressed in this Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Marisa Iati at miat@nd.edu
I only barely remember medical school. The most memory of it is of a skeleton — a ghastly colossal that towered over me, its eyes empty, its teeth bared in a deathly grin. Its arms, still gripped by sinews, were open, as though in expectation of my empty, cold, unfe- ulted cadaver.

And hunger. It was only a mural, but it scared the crap out of me. Of course, I could not have been more than a year old. It is only in hindsight that I realize that what I was seeing was an anatomical diagram — a painting not of a skeleton but rather of the human skeletal system. It was, in fact, one of several such stylized repre- sentations of the human body, drawn from the work of the Renaissance anatomist Andreas Vesalius, that deco- rated the foyer of the Medical College of Wisconsin. His paintings of the digestive system, the circulatory system, the respir- atory system and others honored the roots of medicine in the many centuries of scientific labor that had brought humanity from darkness into light. Each painting was a celebration not of death, as I thought as a child, but of life, of the ability to abstract from her child- ship reactions to the world — to bring those reactions under the harsh light of introspection and thus to understand herself objectively for the first time. This distinctive sort of introspection, made possible by what Christine Korsgaard calls "the reflective structure of the mind," is what she argues is the source of not only practical reasons but also theoretical reasons, of not only the endorsement of certain inclinations as right but also the endorsement of certain impressions as true. If "we fall into doubt," she argues, "about whether we really ought to believe — that is, if we fall into doubt about whether our beliefs are true — we cannot dispel the doubt by comparing our beliefs to the world to see whether they are true. We have no access to the world except through the verdicts of the understanding itself, just as we have no access to the good except through the verdicts of the various points of view from which we make judgments of good- ness. The only point of view from which we can assess the normativity of the understanding is therefore that of the understanding itself." It is this process of reflective endorse- ment, this distinctive sort of introspec- tion, that makes objectivity out of mere subjectivity — makes, that is, knowledge out of mere impression. While any ani- mal reacts to sense impressions in its environment, only a rational animal reflects upon these sense impressions and, in endorsing some and rejecting others, constructs out of them a theory — constructs, in other words, a set of reasons to believe. The paintings in my mother's school glorified the rise of med- ical science, and in so doing, glorified this essential mark of a human being, that she is a rational animal, one capable of taking up the reflective perspective, or, in the terminology of Simon Blackburn's, of "splitting' the input and the output [so] that the reaction can be seen suffi- ciently clearly for what it is." It was just this that my mother — tak- ing me to class, even as she was preg- nant with my sister — was learning to do. To learn to practice medicine is to learn to see one's patients, and by exten- sion oneself, not just as a subject but also as an object, not just as a person but also as a machine, the components ordered in a way that, while complex, can be under- stood and thus repaired when damaged. There is not, in this, anything obviously moral, thus not to say that it did not require the cultivation of a number of virtues, one first among them: Like any medical student, my mother studied and worked during the eight years of medical school and residency without meaningful sleep. During this time, she not only managed to somehow stay alive herself but also to save the lives of oth- ers. I find this almost incomprehensible. I too can function without sleep, but only if function" means something quite mini- mal. I lose the ability to really under- stand much of anything — to say nothing of the ability to interact politely with my fellow human beings. Without sleep, the valence — moral and otherwise — of my world shifts dramatically: I can no longer abstract from my reactions to the world, can no longer pry apart the factual input from the normative output as Blackburn demands. Whatever hostility, suspicion, fear or unbridled glee I feel colors the world that I experience and its inhabi- tants. The third-person perspective is closed to me. I have no cognition but only impressions, no volition but only inclina- tions. In Kantian terms, I lose my ration- ality — my humanity — and become a mere animal. While I am fairly awake while writing this — the coffee helps — I live in the fear that, by the time it is read, I will have lost myself again.

Daniel John Sportiello is in his third year in the philosophy Ph.D. program. He listens to his radio show on WVF1 at 1 p.m. on Thursdays. He can be reached at deportievo@nd.edu

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

I had written head Basketball Coach Digger Phelps every year since I was in second grade telling him of my dream to play for The Irish. I finally made it as a walk-on my senior year in 1988. But my t-shirt transgression was too much for Red Life to handle and I was promptly booted from the team 13 days later. The harsh- ness of that decision robbed me of my chance to live out my dream at Notre Dame. Keeping dreams alive for college students is a great way to go. Michael Floyd, when you see Fr. Tom, give him a high five for me and make us proud you get to live out your dream.

Patrick Walsh
alumnus
Class of 1989
April 12

I would like to extend a “high five” to...
St. Baldrick's Day: Shave for a Cure

By COURTNEY ECKERLE
Scene Writer

The idea is pretty daunting. It takes a lot of confidence for ladies and gents to rock the Natalie Portman “V for Vendetta” or Bruce Willis look. It’s normal to want to switch up your look, but the bald-headed birthday suit is definitely a hard care move. For St. Baldrick’s participants, it definitely makes a statement — that you care.

It wasn’t just the ladies giving up long locks this year. Jonathan Schommer, a sophomore from Knott Hall, shaved his dreadlocks for St. Baldrick’s on Thursday. He invested two years into his dreadlocks, and the experience was the he first time he had cut his hair since his senior prom.

“It’s just hair,” he said. “I’m doing this because I think this cause is really great and I really believe in standing in solidarity with others, and this is just a little way to do it.

Schommer’s main reason in making the change was his grandmother, who died of ovarian cancer when he was five.

“I was really close to her, so cancer has always been a part of my life,” he said.

His friends were also a big part of his project, with 81 attending the Facebook event he created to help raise money. The ones who showed up on the special day got a special prize — each got to cut off a dread.

“A lot of people always joke that they are going to cut them off, so I figured I would give them the experience.” Although a part of Schommer’s look for two years, he said losing his dreads wasn’t so bad.

“The most nerve-wracking part was having people constantly ask if I was ready for it,” he said. “The anticipation was the worst part.”

The best part? Schommer raised around $170 and received a new ‘do that — if possible — makes an even bigger statement than the dreadlocks. He also loves his look.

“I think it’s great that I now have hair shorter than my roommate who is in Air Force ROTC,” Schommer said.

Take note of and maybe give a ‘hey there’ whistle to one of these bold and bald beauties like Jonathan Schommer. Caring and confidence is way sexier than any hairdo could ever be.

Contact Courtney Eckerle at ccker01@ saintmarys.edu
By CLAIRE STEPHENS

A tale of two lovers both sought by others but only craving each other has made its way to the Decio Mainstage. Opera Notre Dame’s production of “Le Nozze di Figaro” (“The Marriage of Figaro”) took audiences by storm last night when it opened to a full house in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

Figaro (Zach Angus/Dan Crupi) tries to marry his love Susanna (Bridget Mullins/Lindsay Schwartz), despite the opposition of other suitors. The powerful Count Almaviva (Stephon Lancaster) chases Susanna, old Marcellina (Paulette Curtis/Lauren Desrochers) chases Figaro and the teenage Cherubino (Jessica Gorski/Lina Delmastro) chases any and every girl. In the end, however, true love conquers all.

Director Mark Beudert said this year’s production took a lot of planning but consisted of less time than usual on the actual stage.

“It is much more elaborate… and we had a very short time in the theater — just three rehearsal days before opening night,” Beudert said.

The script consists of mostly Notre Dame undergraduates, with some faculty, staff and Saint Mary’s students on board.

“It’s amazing that all college would dare to attempt one of the most difficult works in the repertoire, almost complete, in the original, with undergraduates,” Beudert said. “I am proud to say that the performance experience will be very satisfying for each of our four sold-out houses.”

Sam Osborn, who plays Barbarina in the Thursday and Sunday casts, said he enrolled in an opera workshop this fall and a production this spring to prepare for the role.

“My responsibilities as a performer have included weekly rehearsals, a paper, translating every word of Italian, learning all of the Italian pronunciation, learning the music and staging,” Osborn said.

“Le Nozze” is one of her favorite operas and getting the chance to act as the Countess was an exciting learning experience.

“I’ve definitely put so much of myself in this role, and, over the course of this year, the Countess has taught me more than I could have imagined,” she said.

Crupi sought to make the plot relevant to the student body by pointing out themes young adults can relate to.

“Mozart and Da Ponte aren’t around to adapt the text to the present day — we have to make it relatable,” Crupi says.

“But I think that the casts have done a remarkable job in making it an accessible show. The show is about love, lust, betrayal, jealousy and ultimately, forgiveness — and I think everyone is doing a wonderful job in making this an accessible, entertaining and fun production.”

Senior Kate Mullaney has worked hard to make this production its best and appreciates getting the opportunity to sing “Le Nozze.”

“I’m so glad it’s happening my senior year — so many of us are seniors, and it really feels like a fitting culmination of everything we’ve done in the voice program for four years,” she said.

“Since I’m not pursuing voice, this is a last hurrah for me, and it couldn’t be more fitting or special.”

The Decio Mainstage Theater, which holds 360, sold out for all four nights of performance by Tuesday afternoon. The production is conducted by Maestro John Apeles and stage managed by Terry Dawson. Melissa Blaiko manages the costumes. The cast alternates roles between a Thursday/Saturday group and a Friday/Sunday shift. The opera is sung in Italian and projected in English. For more information about the casts, see the Facebook event group, “Opera Notre Dame presents Le Nozze di Figaro.”

Contact Claire Stephens at cstephe4@nd.edu

On campus

What: Opera Notre Dame presents “Le Nozze di Figaro”

Where: Decio Mainstage Theater, DeBartolo Performing Arts Center

When: Thursday, April 14-Sunday, April 17, 7 p.m.

How much: $15 general public, $12 faculty/staff, $12 seniors, $5 students

Learn more: performingarts.nd.edu

By TROY MATHEW

I am, admittedly, a Matthew McConaughey hater. His cheesy smile, annoying surfer drawl and propensity for asinine romantic comedies have always rubbed me the wrong way.

This is part of the reason I had to be dragged in — just three rehearsal days before opening night,” Beudert said.

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Contact Troy Mathew at tmmathew@nd.edu

Lincoln Lawyer

Lionsgate

Director: Brad Furman

Starring: Matthew McConaughey, Ryan Philippe, Marisa Tomei

By TROY MATHEW

Scene Writer

I am, admittedly, a Matthew McConaughey hater. His cheesy smile, annoying surfer drawl and propensity for asinine romantic comedies have always rubbed me the wrong way.

As the movie started, I tried to look on the bright side. At least the movie’s budget went toward her face-work and Botox.

McConaughey’s character is consult- ing with past clients, buying guns and pulling deals with biker gangs, all of which detracts from the central plot concerning the main plot case.

The physical appearance of the characters contributes to the storyline as well. Haller, as he slaves over legal work and Botox, wears designer suits, white collared shirts and Botox.

The Lincoln Lawyer” is an overly-ambitious, formulaic legal thriller, the performances are stellar and there isn’t a dull moment.

Contact Troy Mathew at tmmathew@nd.edu
NHL

Lightning’s St. Louis eager to even series with Pens

Associated Press

Tampa Bay Lightning forward Martin St. Louis won’t have any trouble adjusting to his playoff game face.

Three broken teeth and a fat lip took care of that.

Following a late-night trip to the dentist during which he endured two root canals, St. Louis was at practice Thursday morning sitting in the score area a day after a series-opening 3-0 loss to the Pittsburgh Penguins.

"That was one of the biggest hits I’ve ever seen, especially against a player of that guy’s cali- lebrity," Lovelty said. "That really set the tone for our team."

Stamkos, after his playoff debut, shrugged off questions about the hit, and chalked it up as a learning experience.

"Although you want to perform right away," he said, "I think I can go through things and learn from that game that I can apply for the rest of the series.

"You’re not alone. Lighter teammates made their playoff debuts. But St. Louis, who won the Stanley Cup with the Lightning in 2004, isn’t worried about the team’s lack of experience.

"Well, the first one’s under their belt," he said. "So, they know what to expect."
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Questions? Contact Maureen Clark (mclark9@nd.edu) or
Stephanie Nguyen (snguyen4@nd.edu)
BOSTON — Carey Price saw the puck much better Thursday night than it saw him and started just one of his team's 19 shots before being pulled. Brian Gionta scored twice and Montreal opened the series with a 2-0 win over the Bruins.

"If we were able to write down on paper how we would have wanted to start the series this game would have it," Price said.

Gionta scored on both of Price's first 31 shots, few of them challenging and most with no Bruins in the slot to block a shot.

"You need to take away his vision," Boston coach Claude Julien said. "We were all around the net but we weren't in front." Games of the best-of-seven series are Saturday in Boston.

Price was a spectator for most of last year's playoffs, watching Jaroslav Halak carry the Canadiens to the Eastern Conference finals. Halak was traded to the Philadelphia Flyers. But Halak was traded to the St. Louis Blues in June and Price regained the starting job he had lost at mid-season last year.

This season, he started 70 games. He was our most valuable player in the regular season and he gave us a chance to win every night," Montreal coach Jacques Martin said.

Price finished third in the NHL with eight shutouts, seventh with a .923 save percentage and 10th with a 2.35 goals-against average. Eight shutouts ranked third. But in last year's playoffs, he was the best in the league with a 2.00 goals-against average, a .938 save percentage and a .718 winning percentage and second with nine shutouts.

But Thomas couldn't do much to stop Gionta's goal at 2:44 of the first. He turned aside Gomez from the left boards. Gomez fed Mathieu Darche directly in front of Tim Thomas on a slapper midway through the second period when the Flyers fed a 1-on-3 edge to the goalie and his goalie and the Flyers did not have the puck on the power play either. Price was a spectator for most of the playoffs after missing most of the last month of the season with a bruised knee.

Miller was flawless from there and the Sabres - the hottest team in the Eastern Conference since Jan. 1 - kept rolling in the postseason. Sabres winger Brian Gionta scored during their 20-1st round play and was healthy game on a rebound, was healthy on paper how we would have wanted to start the series this game would have it," Price said.

"I tried to stay contained, stay cool," Miller said. "I know, in the first period, that it didn't always look that way. But I knew I'd get some help around me.

The Flyers attacked the net with a barrage of shots that went nowhere except straight into Miller. The former MVP of the Olympics stopped Kimmo Timonen on a slapper midway through the second period when the Flyers held a 5-on-3 edge. Flyers coach Peter Laviolette called timeout when the Flyers had 24 seconds of a two-man power play.

They came up empty on a power play that has failed them down the stretch.

"It's a momentum killer," Flyers defenseman Matt Carle said. "I think it was the turning point."

It wasn't the only wasted opportunity. The Flyers went 0 for 5 on the power play and missed 11 shots.

The Sabres stuffed the crease and the puck had no chance of finding the back of the net. With the aid of the stout defense, Miller stopped 16 shots in the second period.

"Bob was good. Ryan was even better," Flyers center Danny Briere said. "There will be nights like that. If we keep playing like we did tonight, we'll be in good shape."
### Irish squad feels confident approaching Collegiate Classic

Friday, April 15, 2011

page 15

The Observer • SPORTS

By LAURA COLETTI

Senior captain Katie Conway of Notre Dame has been rigorously training all week and will travel to Palm Harbor, Fla., Sunday with their sights set on bringing home the 2011 Big East tournament title.

The Irish placed eighth in the Big East tournament last year, but plan on an improved performance this season as the team consists of three 18-hole rounds. Each team's lineup consists of five golfers, with the top four scores from each round counting towards the team score for each day of play.

"Our biggest rival is Louisville," Conway said. "The Cardinals have won the past two years and have been playing well recently. While we are ranked higher, we're going to all need to play well and come together as a team to earn back the title of reigning Big East champion."

Katie Conway senior captain

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## MLB

Prosecutors weigh options after Bonds trial

San Francisco — After five years of investigation, three weeks of trial and nearly 200 witnesses, the jury in the trial of Barry Bonds began deliberating on Wednesday — deciding whether to convict the home run king of using performance-enhancing drugs.

The panel of eight women and four men convicted Bonds on perjury charges but deadlocked on two others. Ilston declared a mistrial on Wednesday after Graham agreed not to appeal his conviction.

Keane said that the "government was fighting with one hand behind its back" because Bonds' former personal trainer Greg Anderson refused to testify. Prosecutors could not link Bonds with performance-enhancing drugs, but the government said that evidence from the trial suggested the government's conviction was valid.

"The government will be satisfied with the perjury conviction," said defense attorney William Keane, according to The Associated Press. "They had to overcome because of Anderson." 

Keane represented former track coach Trevor Graham, who was acquitted of obstruction of justice but deadlocked on two others. The jury also deadlocked on the obstruction of justice but acquit him of lying about a new trial.

Melinda Haag only saying in a written statement that a decision would be made as soon as possible.

"A retrial is warranted," said Stanford University law professor William Gould, who as chair of the National Labor Relations Board cast the decisive vote to end the baseball strike of the 1990s. "At a minimum, they should retry Bonds on his perjury testimony." 

Former MLB all-star Barry Bonds exits the courtroom after being convicted of obstruction of justice Wednesday in San Francisco.

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## ND Women's Golf

Irish squad feels confident approaching Collegiate Classic

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Katie Conway senior captain

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Irish face Big East opponent

The Irish will be participating in more than just this game series against Louisville, as the team is hosting Strike Out Cancer, an event that raises both money and awareness for cancer patients.

The event is especially poignant this year as the squad will stand beside Irish coach Deanna Gump's five-year old daughter, Tatum, who was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia last summer. Money raised will be donated to the pediatric oncology wing of the South Bend Memorial Children's Hospital.

Notre Dame hosts Louisville Saturday at noon and again Sunday. Contact Jack Yusko at jyusko@nd.edu

SMMC TENNIS

Belles return home to take on Adrian

By MATT UNGER
Sports Writer

Following a 2-1 road trip, Saint Mary's will try to continue its recent winning ways with its first home series in over a month when it meets Adrian College Saturday and Sunday.

The Belles (10-6, 3-2 MIAA) are winners of eight of their past 11 matches, due in large part to their strong singles play. This strength was evident in their last match against Alma College April 11. After losing two of their three doubles matches, the Belles dominated singles play, with all six players tallying wins. In addition, the Belles singles' players did not lose a single set to Alma.

Saturday’s opponent, Adrian College (6-9, 0-3 MIAA), has been in the opposite direction than the Belles in the standings after dropping three straight contests in conference play, including an 8-1 road defeat to MIAA foe Calvin College Thursday.

However, Bulldogs’ junior Sarah Brooks, who normally plays No. 5 singles, will pose a challenge with her 6-4, 6-4 record, as she leads Adrian in singles wins. Brooks’ likely opponent will be Belles’ senior Kate Grabarek.

Brooks has also been dominant in No. 3 doubles play when paired with sophomore partner Jordinne Ferenze, as the duo holds a 9-2 record, which includes the Bulldogs’ only match win against Calvin.

However, the Belles’ No. 3 doubles tandem consisting of junior Lisa Kosinski and freshman Mary Catherine Fuller has been their most consistent doubles’ pair in what has been the team’s overall weaknesses. The pair is 6-1 on the season.

The Bulldogs’ weaknesses this season have been magnified in No. 1 and No. 2 singles and doubles play, as the squad is a mere 12-44 in those categories. In No. 1 singles play, Saint Mary’s senior Jillian Hurley will take on Adrian senior Kaitlyn Simecka, while Kosinski will face Adrian junior Shelby Kiesel on Saturday.

With a win against the Bulldogs, the Belles will guarantee themselves a winning regular season record for the second straight season. Following Saturday’s match, the team only has three matches remaining before the MIAA tournament commences on May 5-6.

Play begins Saturday at 1 p.m. at the Saint Mary’s tennis courts.

Contact Matt Unger at munger3@nd.edu

SMMC GOLF

Saint Mary’s seeks tournament berth

By JACK HEFFERON
Sports Writer

No. 9 Saint Mary’s will need to repeat history if it hopes to win an MIAA playoff berth and automatically qualify for another NCAA tournament.

The Belles competed Thursday in Marshall, Mich., in the first round of the MIAA NCAA qualifier, a tournament in which they have a history of success. Last year, they overcame a deficit after shooting a first round 333, winning the tournament by eight strokes over Olivet College. That win automatically qualified Saint Mary’s for the NCAA championships, where it posted an impressive fourth place finish.

This year, the Belles once again find themselves in an early deficit in the tournament. With another opening score of 333, they sit in second place, twelve strokes behind first round leader Olivet. While Saint Mary’s script may be set itself up in the same fairy tale fashion, Belles senior captain Mary Kosinski said her team would rather not play the underdog again.

“Everyone played just about average today,” Boyce said. “But in a qualifier like this, that’s not going to be good enough. There was a little wind out there, but conditions were fine, and now we’ll have to play from behind.”

Part of the reason for the Comets’ successful 321 first round was their familiarity with the course. The nearly 7,000-yard host site, The Medalist Golf Club, has been Olivet’s home course for years. Boyce, however, refused to accept “home-field advantage” as an excuse.

“It’s their home course, but we’ve played there a couple of times, as well,” Boyce said. “We both played pretty consistently today, they were just consistently a little better.”

Despite the seemingly bleak outlook, there were several bright spots for the Belles. One such highlight was the out-standing play of Junior Natalie Matuszak. Her 9-over-par 81 was the second best individual score in the entire tournament.

Even more promising for the Belles is the fact that they will return to their home course, Blackthorne Golf Club, for the final two rounds of the qualifier from April 29-30. With a familiar eighteen holes ahead and another two weeks to prepare, the Belles believe they have an opportunity to take the lead and qualify for the NCAA championships.

“I like our chances to rally at home,” Boyce said. “We need to get after it in practice, and then we need to get a lead on that first day. Everyone’s going to have to cut out a few more strokes, but I think that we have a good shot if we can get that good start.”

Contact Jack Hefferon at wheffero@nd.edu
Kate Heit
Sports Writer

The Observer • Sports

Friday, April 15, 2011

Team travels to Invitational

By CORY BERNARD
Sports Writer

After his team’s varsity eight-boats raced poorly in their last regatta, Irish coach Martin Stone verbalized his disappointment over the result.

“Kubinski described his team’s eight-stroke victory as its best golf of the spring. “We’re excited,” Kubinski said.

The win was especially important for the Irish given the loss of No. 1 golfer Tom Usher, who broke his hand last weekend. “If we play well, we will win. There’s not a doubt in my mind,” Jim Kubinski Irish coach.

Irish senior Connor Alan-Lee chips a shot during Notre Dame’s victory in the Battle at the Warren Apr. 12.

Kubinski continued from page 20

The Belles will take the field against Olivet at home Saturday at 1 p.m.

Contact Katie Heit
kheit@nd.edu

SMC SOFTBALL

Belles look for second MIAA win

By KATIE HEIT
Sports Writer

Saint Mary’s, having recently broken a four-game losing streak against Franklin, will now try to keep up the momentum as it takes on Olivet College Saturday in a doubleheader Saturday.

Though the Belles are just 1-5 in conference play, coach Erin Sullivan said she has confidence in her squad. “We need to hit the way we did in game two on Tuesday,” Sullivan said. “Olivet is scrappy and never goes down without a fight.”

The Belles have won their last four contests against Olivet, including two close contents against the Comets in October. Saint Mary’s won that pair of matchups 5-4 and 8-5.

Sullivan said she is eager to see the Belles play given they have the drive that other teams lack. “It’s about who wants it more. I believe in them and I know how badly they want to win.”

The Belles will take the field against Olivet at home Saturday at 1 p.m.

Contact Katie Heit
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ND WOMEN’S TENNIS

Irish gear up for Marquette

By MEGAN FINNERAN
Sports Writer

Last weekend the No. 22 Irish overpowered the Comets, who need a win to keep up the momentum as it prepares to face the Big East and the way through, as Northwesterner overcame Notre Dame’s initial 3-0 lead by taking the final four singles matches to win 4-3 overall. This weekend, Notre Dame will try to learn from its mistakes as the team prepares to face Marquette.

“Northwestern was a tough match to lose because we were up and we lost all three set matches,” junior Kirsty Frilling said. “We know we can beat them in five sets and I think our best tennis is ahead of us.”

The Golden Eagles (17-7) are in the midst of a seven-match winning streak, with their No. 1 doubles pair of seniors Rachael Hush and Christina Ruiz carrying 11 straight wins and a 23-6 record overall. Junior Irish duo Frilling and Shannon Mathews will try to end that streak, as the pair has turned in 13 consecutive wins.

Despite a lower season ranking, the Belles have seen more success than the Golden Eagles in all three matches this year against common opponents. The Irish (11-9) beat Wisconsin and Indiana by the score of 6-1, both of which defeated the Golden Eagles in dual-meet competition. The final commonality, USF, came out on top against both teams, but the 5-2 win over the Irish was less impressive than the 7-0 sweep of the Golden Eagles.

Frilling said her team knows just how vital the last few contests of the regular season are as the Irish head into postseason play.

Contact Megan Finneran
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Check out more coverage at ndsmcobserver.com

Women’s Rowing

I think we prepared well and we’re excited to get into Lake Natoma.

Martin Stone
Irish coach

“I think we prepared well and we’re excited to get into Lake Natoma.”

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Coyne

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a little bit of an edge but they are an up-and-coming team that has given some top programs a scare.”

Notre Dame’s 12-7 loss to the No. 13 Orange was preceded by a 15-4 domination of Villanova Friday. Over the weekend, four different Irish players scored in both contests, including senior attacker Ansley Stewart, who chipped in four goals and two assists across the pair of games.

Junior attacker Maddy Tamasitis also extended her point streak to 30 games, making her the fifth player in program history to hit the 30-game plateau.

“We’re getting better every day,” senior third baseman Greg Sherry said. “They’ve been tough. We’ve worked on our game to try to get better.”

Tamasitis also extended her point streak to 30 games, making her the fifth player in program history to hit the 30-game plateau.

Her best asset is field vision. She can see plays develop ahead of time and is able to set up teammates,” Coyne said of Tamasitis. “She’s also very sneaky around the cage for goals.”

Tamasitis, however, is not the only one with a streak.

Connecticut junior attacker M.E. Lapierre has a 34-game goal streak into Saturday’s game against the Irish and Orange. Prior to the games, Lapham has scored nearly 100 goals, making her a dangerous threat. Huskies freshman attacker Lauren Kahn has accounted for 41 percent of Connecticut’s points, posting a challenge to nearly every conference foe.

“It’s a huge game. We want to be in the tournament, but not to make the tournament.”

Tracey Coyne

Irish coach

Dupra

continued from page 20

The Saturday and Sunday games will feature senior right-handers Cole Johnson and Todd Miller on the hill for Notre Dame. Though none of the three weekend starters have a standout record, they all carry ERAs of below four into the weekend, an indication of the consistent pitching the Irish have put together.

The pitching has been great all season, pretty much every day…our third baseman Greg Sherry said. “They’ve done a great job…they’ve been nice.”

The staff will face its toughest test of the conference slate this week in the Mountaineers, a lineup that enters the weekend with a .312 team batting average. That dwarfed Notre Dame’s .243 team mark. The Mountaineers (20-14, 6-3) feature strong hitting from one through nine in the lineup with seven hitters in their regular lineup hitting over .300 on the season.

Designated hitter Jeremy Gum, who represents one of the top bats in the conference, anchors the West Virginia bats. The senior is batting .364 on the year and has clubbed three homeruns and a triple, in addition to 11 doubles — a mark good enough for third in the conference.

The Mountaineers’ strong offensive history suggests Notre Dame will have to improve upon its early-season offensive struggles. However, the offense, which has averaged four runs per game, broke out in Notre Dame’s last contest for a 14-run outburst Sunday against Connecticut. Sherry said the offense is rounding into form.

“The hitters are starting to get their timing. We’ve been working hard.”

Greg Sherry

senior third baseman

Irish sophomore midfielder Pat Cotter sheds a defender during Notre Dame’s 7-6 win over Georgetown at home Apr. 10.

St. John’s

continued from page 20

Randall said, “You have a whole week to prepare. There is really no reason to take a day lightly.”

For the Irish, preparation leading up to each game consists mainly of fine-tuning their own play rather than adjusting to the opposition, and this week has been no exception.

“We certainly prepare for the other team but we do not concentrate on the other team, we concentrate on our team, and we will continue to do that,” Corrigan said. “If we are worried about beating St. John’s today, then we are making a mistake. We need to worry about what is on our plate today, and that is correcting the things we need to correct with ourselves and working on becoming a better team.”

The Mountaineers will face one of the nation’s top teams, Notre Dame’s attention to detail is sure to make it even more formidable this week. The Irish have clubbed three homeruns and a triple, in addition to 11 doubles and 28 caused turnovers while averaging four runs per game, broke out in Notre Dame’s last contest for a 14-run outburst Sunday against Connecticut. Sherry said the offense is rounding into form.

“The hitters are starting to get their timing. We’ve been working hard.”

Greg Sherry

senior third baseman

With vital conference seeding and the possibility of making the NCAA tourney, each conference game is called on to improve every week.

“Defensively, there is always room for improvement,” Randall said. “We gave up six goals last week, and I know a lot of teams would be happy with that, but we watched film and we realized that there are definitely still a lot of things that we can do better.”

The anchor of the Notre Dame defense, sophomore goalie John Kemp was named Big East Player of the Week for his performance against Georgetown last weekend, a game in which he recorded 12 saves. Kemp has filled in admirably for graduated All-American Scott Rodgers and ranks second in the nation in save percentage (62.0) and third in goals against average (6.13).

“Last year we had Scotty, who was really good, so it is just really nice knowing that there has not been a drop off at all,” Randall said. “John is extremely calm. He is definitely not rattled at all — it is just great to have someone so confident in net.”

With all the pieces in place, the Irish should continue to improve as a team, Randall said.

“Just think as we play more together we will just continue to grow and understand each other, and that will help us become a better team,” he said. The Irish look to continue moving in the right direction when they face off against St. John’s Saturday at 7 p.m.

Contact Joseph Monaco at jmonardo@nd.edu

The Observer COUNTIES

Friday, April 15, 2011

SPORTS

Irish sophomore midfielder Pat Cotter sheds a defender during Notre Dame’s 7-6 win over Georgetown at home Apr. 10.

Marketing and the Common Good: A Symposium
April 18-19, 2011

The Department of Marketing will host a Symposium on Marketing and the Common Good, on April 18-19, beginning at 8:30 AM, in the Oak Room on the Notre Dame campus.

The Symposium will explore the tendency of marketing to ramify far beyond simple economic exchange, into the realms of ethics and moral economy, into issues of public policy, and into practices of accommodation and resistance to consumer culture.

Discussion will build upon the research tradition of the Mendoza College Department of Marketing, which is to discover fundamental insights into marketplace behavior and to apply those insights in the service of more enlightened managerial practice, consumption and public policy initiatives.

The event will feature presentations by faculty members and marketing practitioners, and will examine such topics as consumer sentiment, sustainability, cultures of consumption, distribution of firearms, slotting organization, globalisation, truth telling in marketing, normative concerns, and managerial viewpoints of marketing in society. A marketing perspective of Common Good will also be considered. Presentations will be cogent, and discussion time ample, to encourage a participatory atmosphere among all in attendance.

All members of the university are invited to attend, and the event is open to the public.

Presentation times and titles will be available at http://business.nd.edu/Marketing/Marketing_and_the_Common_Good_Symposium/ and will be posted on flyers around campus. The Symposium is staged under the umbrella of the Notre Dame Forum, and funded by the Mendoza College of Business.
THE OBSERVER

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Join the more than 13,000 readers who have found The Observer an indispensable link to the two campuses. Please complete the accompanying form and mail it today to receive The Observer in your home.
Scott announces decision to enter NBA draft

Observer Staff Report

Irish senior forward Carleton Scott announced his declaration for the NBA Draft Wednesday night after the 2011 men’s basketball awards’ banquet. Scott has one year of eligibility remaining, and did not sign a contract with an agent, so he can remove himself from the draft after pre-draft workouts and return for his final season of eligibility. If Scott is to return to the Irish, he must declare such before May 8.

“I declared last week but I’m not going to sign an agent,” Scott told IrishIllustrated.com. “We’ll just see how the process works out and then go from there.”

The last Irish player to declare early for the draft was Luke Harangody, who declared after his junior season only to rescind his declaration and return for his final season. Scott said that he plans to talk to Harangody to discuss the former Irish star’s thought process.

“I called [Harangody],” Scott said to Irish Illustrated. “I haven’t talked to him. I’ve tried to talk to him just to pick his brain and see how he went through the whole process.”

Scott also talked to Irish coach Mike Brey before making the decision.

“I talked to coach and got his blessing on it,” Scott said. “He thought it was a pretty good idea just seeing how that option goes.”

Brey downplayed Scott’s decision.

“I think it’s an official way to get feedback on status,” Brey said. “It opens up the channels to officially be able to get the feedback instead of trying to do it, if he doesn’t put his name out there through an agent and through a third party. We’ve been very good at circumventing that.”

Scott averaged 11.2 points, 7.4 rebounds, and 1.9 blocks per game in Notre Dame’s 2010-11 season as part of a senior-heavy rotation that carried the Irish to a No. 2 seed in the NCAA tournament.

By CHRIS ALLEN

Pitching staff to be tested against WV

Something will have to give in Notre Dame’s weekend series with West Virginia as the Big East’s top offense goes head-to-head with the stalwart Irish pitching staff in a three-game set.

Notre Dame (13-16-1, 4-5) enters the game with one of the top pitching staffs in the Big East, but will be put to the test against the Mountaineer lineup. The Irish lead the conference in ERA, with a miniscule 2.92 staff mark. Senior captain and right-hander Brian Dupra will start in the weekend opener, as he does every weekend, against undefeated West Virginia left-hander Marshall Thompson.

By CONOR KELLY

Irish to tee off against Hoyas

One year ago the Irish finished second to Georgetown in a playoff at the Big East championship in Palm Harbor, Fla. The loss has served as a motivating factor for Notre Dame all year, its goal being to return to the Big East championship for another shot at the title.

It seems only appropriate then that the Irish have been paired with the Hoyas for the first round in this year’s tournament. While the pairings are random, coach Jim Kubinski said he thinks the matchup is good for his team.

“When I found out and told the guys that we were paired with Georgetown on the first day, they all were pretty excited to see Georgetown,” Kubinski said.

But Kubinski added that the Hoyas, who won the Big East this season, are no slouches.

“They are a very well-coached team,” Kubinski said.

Men’s Golf

Irish to tee off against Hoyas

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Men’s Rugby

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Men’s Riding

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Men’s Tennis

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WHO WILL IT BE?

DAYNE CRIST?
TOMMY REES?
ANDREW HENDRIX?
EVERETT GOLSON?
This weekend thousands of Notre Dame fans and alumni will descend upon campus to watch a football game. Thousands of Notre Dame fans, alumni, students and even those who despise the Irish will post tens of thousands of messages on forums about a football game.

**Douglas Farmer**

**Sports Writer**

**FOOTBALL RECRUITING**

Over 40 recruits to visit campus

By DOUGLAS FARMER

Saturday will be worth noting.

Then-freshman running back Cierre Wood carried 119 yards and two touchdowns on only 10 carries, and early enrollee receiver TJ Jones added four catches for 56 yards and a touchdown.

This weekend, current early enrollee defensive end Aaron Lynch could tally a few sacks and leap up the depth chart, while another standout performance from Jones could seal him a starting spot.

“Just to get guys from this weekend, Justin Ferguson from Pemroke Pines, Fla., and Amarah Darboh of West Des Moines, Iowa. Ferguson’s appearance in Indiana impressed Frank. "How excited and crazy are you. They run the ball quite a bit,

If it mattered, Irish coach Brian Kelly would not wear a microphone for the entire game to better serve the broadcast.

If it mattered, the four quarterbacks would not wear headsets, again taped by Versus for the armchair quarterbacks.

If it mattered, Kelly would never consider utilizing a huddle for most of the game, the concept even he finds laughable.

“Will we huddle. That’s when you see what you’re made of.”

Kelly said following Wednesday’s practice. “This is going to be (early enrollee Everett) Golson versus (freshman Andrew) Hendrix really, relatively the offensive. They’re going to do everything ... You’ll see ... (the quarterbacks) as probably the biggest end of the running game. They run the ball quite a bit."

If it mattered, Kelly would never consider utilizing a huddle for most of the game... It does not matter. At all.

Yes, the 82nd annual Gold Game will give promising early enrollees and underclassmen opportunities to shine in front of the coaching staff. Yes, this spring football game could shed some light on the depth chart of Irish quarterbacks for next season.

And yes, Saturday’s performance could sway some recruits toward the Golden Dome.

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But really, this game doesn’t matter.
Quarterback battle heats up and stays hot

By ALLAN JOSEPH
Sports Editor

In each of the past three seasons, Notre Dame has known who would take the first snap of the season long before that snap was taken. This year, however, no one knows.

“I’d love to have one guy,” Irish coach Brian Kelly said following Wednesday’s practice. “I don’t think that’s going to be the case.”

Even the coach closest to the quarterbacks doesn’t know who the leader will be.

Any of the four guys could be the guy,” offensive coordinator Charley Molnar said.

“I’ve really taken our system and tweaking it toward the strengths and weaknesses of the four quarterbacks that we have.”

But make no mistake, this is not the next Notre Dame Heisman Trophy winner.

This is not about finding the next Notre Dame quarterback, this is about getting the quarterback in a position to win a championship,” Kelly said. “This is real.

This is not about preparing anybody for the National Football Championship.”

Kelly said. “We’re really taking the gunslingers — but he believes that his experience with the system is his best asset, especially compared to last spring.

“It’s really like night and day,” Crist said. “We look back and say ‘man, we look bad.’ This spring it’s about taking it to the next level.”

Kelly agrees that Crist’s comprehension of the offense is nearly unmatched.

“Dayne probably knows the offense as well as anybody and makes good decisions,” Kelly said.

When Crist went down, then-freshman Tommy Rees took over under center. Underinexperienced, Rees led the Irish to a 4-0 close to the season, including a signature victory over rival USC in Los Angeles.

While the other quarterbacks may be significantly bigger, stronger, and faster than Rees, he has one attribute that stands out all over the others.

“Tommy is efficient,” Kelly said. “You stop and think about him getting beat out, (but) he’s 4-0 as a starter. He wins.”

Aside from Rees, another winner stands out. While the winning instinct of early enrollee Everett Golson has yet to be tested, his athletic ability has already been on full display in Golson’s short time on campus.

“Everett’s got some unique abilities that no one else on the football team has,” Molnar said.

Yet Golson is still far behind the other quarterbacks, who have each had at least a year to digest the Kelly system.

“I’m not sure (Golson) knows what he’s doing all the time, but I’m not going to overcoach him either because he’s got a natural gift for making plays,” Kelly said.

Finally, freshman Andrew Hendrix has shown a unique ability to be a jack-of-all-trades. Simultaneously mobile and strong-armed, Hendrix may be the prototypical dual-threat quarterback.

“Andrew is a great combination of probably all four quarterback packages to the proper place,” Molnar said.

While the four are competing for the most visible spot on arguably the most visible football team in America, the on-field rivalry has only served to bring the quarterbacks together.

“We’re all going to push each other and make each other better,” Crist said. “At the end of the day, it’s our team, and it’s not about one person.”

Eyes on the prize

With four quarterbacks competing for the starting job, Kelly and his coaching staff have a difficult decision to make. In search of more information to help them make that decision, Kelly brought a new tool to practice — the “Helmet Cam.”

“We want to be able to evaluate all the things they do,” Kelly said. “We have to look at every part of their decision-making.”

What Helmet Cam allows us to do is track the eyes of the quarterback through his progression.

The Helmet Cam is merely a small unit attached to the signal-caller’s helmet. Its dividends, however, can be huge.

“Eyes are so important,” Molnar said early in spring practice. “We’ll be able to really see, as long as the camera coordinates where their eyes are, and it should — we’re paying a lot of money for it — we can see if (the quarterbacks’) eyes are going to the proper place.”

The four quarterbacks realize the benefits to the small camera as well.

“It serves as a great teaching tool,” Crist said. “Being able to move a safety is going to be huge for us.”

Decision time

Despite the time poured into the quarterback competition during the spring. Kelly is no closer to naming a starter after the Blue-Gold Game than he was before spring practice started.

“There’s no way we would leave the spring game — unless something dramatic happens — where we would say we found a starter,” he said.

“I’d rather make it tough on us now in the spring and make it easier as we move closer to the season. Molnar would not commit to a future starter high at a bus stop, though he did imply that a starter would be named well in advance of the season opener against South Florida.

“I think it’s going to be as we go through summer camp and someone clearly delineates himself as the No. 1 quarterback,” he said.

The Blue-Gold Game, however, will be a key evaluation point for the younger quarterbacks — mainly Hendrix and Golson, who will play about 75% of the game and won’t wear red no-contact jerseys, thus getting their first taste of five-hitting college football.

“For the guys who are in competition now, it’s serious business. They’re going to go out, and they’re going to get hit,” Molnar said. “We’re going to see how they respond to the physicality of the game of college football.”

Kelly put the offensive focus squarely on Hendrix and Golson, who will be running their full offensive packages Saturday.

“This is going to be Golson vs. Hendrix,” Kelly said. “They’re going to run the ball, they’re going to throw the ball, and we’ll get a really good feel from both of those guys, because we know the other two guys can win football games.”

While the depth chart is fluid, the coaches’ ultimate criteria for selecting the starting spot in the fall is simple and unchanging.

“At the end of the day, we’re going to say, ’This is the guy that gives us the best chance to win,’” Molnar said. “It could be a freshman or it could be an upperclassman. Whoever that guy is, dual-threat or pro-style, that guy will be our guy.”

Contact Allan Joseph at ajoseph@nd.edu
Blue-Gold Game

Projected depth chart

2011

Editor's Note: These depth charts are based on spring practice observations by Observer beat writers Douglas Farmer, Chris Masoud, Allan Joseph and Andrew Owens.

What to watch

OFFENSE

Saturday's scrimmage will feature a number of position battles across the gridiron. Juniors John Goodman and Theo Riddick have emerged as the two leaders at the wideout position but sophomore Luke Massa should have an opportunity to open some eyes. Freshman wide receiver Daniel Smith is listed as doubtful as he recovers from a Grade 1 hamstring injury. Sophomore Robby Toma factored into the receiver rotation towards the end of last season and should split time with freshman TJ Jones at the slot position. A strong showing from Mike Golic, Jr., could help the junior’s case for playing time in the fall, especially after a quality spring season. Also in the trenches, early enrollee Brad Carrico will lineup for the first time in Notre Dame Stadium at the guard position. Saturday’s exhibition will do little to decide the position battle Irish fans are most eager to see play out. Junior Dayne Crist and freshman Tommy Rees will take their fair share of snaps, but Kelly has indicated early enrollee Everett Golson and freshman Andrew Hendrix will see the most time on the field. Expect the playbook to be opened wide, especially for a versatile talent like Golson.

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beit, will almost certainly not play Saturday as he nurses a however, will be on full display as hungry hitters such as the coaches that they will deserve playing time in the fall by enrollees Aaron Lynch and Ishaq Williams should see les will say a lot about how ready they are to step into any guy in the middle — Louis Nix has been working hard to pounds and, if he continues to work himself into shape, A secondary unit missing 2010 leader Darrin Walls middle. A secondary unit missing 2010 leader Darrin Walls by Walls’ graduation. Keep an eye on the play of Bennett Jackson will factor prominently in Notre Dame’s 2011 return efforts. The two most explosive players on the team, receiver Theo Riddick and running back Cierre Wood, could also see some time returning kicks in 2011, though Irish coach Brian Kelly may limit their duties to prevent injuries as Wood is the leader of an already-depleted running back unit and will be heavily utilized on offense.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Special teams will not be a big part of the Blue-Gold Game, as spring games traditionally have restrictions on punt and kickoff coverage to reduce injuries. Expect to see stalwart kicker David Ruffer a few times — every Irish fan knows what to expect out of Ruffer. Nick Tausch should also share some of the placekicking duties Saturday. There will be an interesting battle to watch at the punting position. Ben Turk is now entering his third year of punting, but freshman punter/kicker Kyle Brindza has quite a bit of leg strength and could push Turk on the depth chart if the junior-to-be struggles. While the extent of the return game is somewhat unclear, Bennett Jackson will factor prominently in Notre Dame’s 2011 return efforts. The two most explosive players on the team, receiver Theo Riddick and running back Cierre Wood, could also see some time returning kicks in 2011, though Irish coach Brian Kelly may limit their duties to prevent injuries as Wood is the leader of an already-depleted running back unit and will be heavily utilized on offense.
Early enrollees eagerly await Stadium debut

By CHRIS MASoud Sports Writer

Individually, each of them hails from a different state, plays a different position on the field and dominated the competition in high school, but together the five early enrollees are already making an impact during their first month of organized football at Notre Dame.

While many Irish fans eagerly await the debut of the enrollees in Notre Dame Stadium in Saturday’s annual Blue-Gold scrimmage, the feeling is mutual.

“It’s going to be a great feeling when I walk out of the tunnel since I’ve been a Notre Dame fan all my life,” early enrollee kicker Kyle Brindza said. “I’ve been in pressure situations in high school, so I am able to cope with the pressure pretty well. It’s going to be a challenge in college, so I’m going to be able to cope with the pressure. It’s going to be a challenge for me as a mentor on and off the field and has no misgivings over the sacrifice.

“It’s tough here only playing one sport when in high school I was playing two sports all year around,” Brindza said. “It’s a pretty big transition, but I’m glad I took the leap in. I live with no regrets, and I don’t regret quitting soccer to play football because I love it here.”

Early enrollee Ishaq Williams has also found mentors in juniors Darius Felming and Steve Filer. Williams, an outside linebacker and native of Brooklyn, N.Y., said the veteran linemen have given him advice in his pursuit of the ball, his technique and his quarterback reads.

“Darius and Filer are great guys,” Williams said. “I don’t think I would be able to make the strides that I have made without them. They’re the players I look to tell me what to do. They’ve been there to help me with this process.”

The early enrollment process can be a daunting one for any freshman, let alone five 18-year-olds representing a handful of students in the nation that sacrificed a final semester of high school to compete at the Division I level. That adjustment to college can be especially difficult in the classroom, where Williams said he has made strides to grasp new material.

“I didn’t feel comfortable, but I don’t feel like I made a mistake,” Williams said. “I didn’t want to stay in New York to just get lazier and not work as hard. I just wanted to get into the swing of things and establish myself at this level.

While Brindza and early enrollee Everett Golson said first year composition has been a particularly difficult class, each has been using the available resources to succeed. Pleased with the progress each of the five has made on the field, Irish coach Brian Kelly said he is more proud of their accomplishments as students.

“I think they both have thrown into a very competitive environment, almost more so than football when it comes to academics, and they are fighting their tails off,” Kelly said. “I think that’s what it’s most proud of for the five guys.”

Golson, a native of Myrtle Beach, S.C., has put in additional work inside the classrooms of the Guglielmino Athletics Complex, where he studies film with his fellow quarterbacks. A versatile athlete, Golson said he has received advice from quarterback backs, wide receivers and running backs this spring.

“We could be up sometimes at 8 a.m. and see them on the field as early as 8 a.m. Talking about being that leader on the field and just a lot of stuff from those guys that is not from talking to them.

In the trenches, early enrollees Brad Carrico and Aaron Lynch have also made progress on different sides of the ball. Carrico made the switch from a defensive end to a Division I end.

“Everybody’s just focused on one goal, and that’s winning a national championship.”

Everett Golson early enrollee quarterback

While Carrico and Lynch have thrown much of their attention to academics, Golson has been nonverbal, as he has taken cues from Crist and Rees on the field to develop the leadership skills of the quarterback position.

“I’m learning a lot,” Golson said. “Most things I’ve learned are not really from the playbook, but the intangibles: how to carry yourself, being that leader on the field and just a lot of stuff from those guys that is not from talking to them.

In the trenches, early enrollees Brad Carrico and Aaron Lynch have also made progress on different sides of the ball. Carrico made the switch from a defensive end to an offensive tackle during his senior year of high school in Dublin, Ohio, while Lynch is transitioning from a high school defensive end to a Division I end.

“I was always bigger than everybody, bigger than the offensive linemen, so I guess I had an advantage over everybody,” Lynch said. “I think in high school I’m smaller than all the offensive linemen. You can’t just use your bull rush. We go over all the techniques and the moves because you have to be able to use those at this level. You can’t run over someone here.

A native of Cape Coral, Fla., Lynch committed to Notre Dame following a visit from defensive coordinator Bob Diaco in early January. Lynch and Williams competed together in the 2011 U.S. Army All-American Bowl, and Irish fans will see them on the field together again this Saturday.

“We have a great relationship because we room together,” Lynch said. “Sometimes we’ll go over plays together, and on the field he’s a cat [linebacker], so he’s right next to me sometimes when we’re in a dime or nickel [package].”

Kelly indicated the spring scrimmage will do less to determine starting positions in the fall than performance over the course of the training season.

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Kelly’s first year marked by highs and lows

By ANDREW OWENS
Associate Sports Editor

In a tumultuous 2010 season that featured extreme highs, like a signature victory over archival USC, and extreme lows, including two of the program's worst losses in history, the Irish underwent a transition led by first-year coach Brian Kelly few could have imagined.

The excitement of a new coach led to one of the most highly anticipated season openers in recent memory as the Irish hosted in-state rival Purdue at Notre Dame Stadium to kickoff the Kelly era.

The result was a 23-12 Irish victory — by no means a perfect performance, but one that displayed a commitment to the fundamentals lacking in years past.

Kelly was not the only new face of the team — junior signal caller Dayne Crist started for the Irish for the first time after Jimmy Clausen headed to the NFL. Crist was efficient and managed the game well, completing 19 of 26 passes and throwing for 205 yards and a touchdown in his debut.

Kelly’s honeymoon period quickly evaporated during the final three games in September though — all losses, two of them in heartbreaking fashion.

In the second game of the year, Michigan sophomore quarterback Denard Robinson shredded the Notre Dame quarterback in fashion.

The Irish came home to face eventual conference foe Stanford, and were embarrassed in a 37-14 rout in front of the home crowd. The Cardinals gained 404 yards on the Irish, leading ESPN analyst Kirk Herbstreit to refer to the Notre Dame unit as a “high school defense.”

Notre Dame responded with a three-game winning streak to improve to 4-3 on the season. The Irish defense did its job, forcing a turnover twice the entire game, but they did not need to — the Irish defense with 367 rushing yards. The 35-17 loss was the first over USC in nine years.

By ANDREW OWENS
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The following week, the team played in historic annual game against Army at Yankee Stadium.

After such a strong finish to 2010, Saturday’s Blue-Gold game will only whet fans’ appetites for Sept. 3 when Notre Dame hosts South Florida.

The Irish celebrate a touchdown during Notre Dame’s 20-16 victory over USC Nov. 27. The win was the first over USC in nine years.

The Irish were dealt a heartbreak ending the next week while hosting Purdue at Notre Dame.

In weather that resembled the program’s third loss to the Wolverines in years past.

The Irish lost in similar fashion the next week at Michigan State. The team gave up a fourth-quarter lead, allowing the Spartans to force overtime. Following a converted field goal by senior kicker David Ruffer in the first half of overtime, the Irish defense did its job, allowing a field goal.

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The Irish defense did its job, allowing a field goal. The Spartans coach Mark Dantonio made the signature decision of his team’s 11-1 regular season by calling for a field goal attempt rather than attempting a 46-yard kick. Punter Aaron Bates found himself attempting a 46-yard kick.

The Golden Hurricane upset No. 15 Utah, 28-3. The Cardinals gained 404 yards on the Irish, leading ESPN analyst Kirk Herbstreit to refer to the Notre Dame unit as a “high school defense.”

The Golden Hurricane upset No. 15 Utah, 28-3. The Irish defeated the Cardinals, just past the midway point of the season. The Irish defense did its job, allowing a field goal.

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Spring renewal

Notre Dame began spring practice Wednesday, March 23 at 8 a.m. Since then, the Irish have practiced early in the morning on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and midday on Saturdays. Practices were conducted both indoors in the Loftus Sports Center and outdoors at the LaBar Practice Fields. Saturday’s Blue-Gold Game is the culmination of spring practice and serves as a prelude to the 2011 campaign.