ND, SMC collaborate to ‘Take Back the Night’

Community members unite in solidarity against sexual violence, promote healing during national event

By CAITLIN HOUSLEY and NICOLE TOCZAUER
News Writers

Members of the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s community came together for the first time Thursday as a “point of light” in the Take Back the Night (TBTN) campaign against sexual violence.

Elizabeth Moriarty, assistant director of the Notre Dame Lavender Relations Center (GRC), and Connie Adams, assistant director of the Belles Against Violence Office (BAVO), said the event is an opportunity for students and faculty to take a stand against all forms of sexual violence.

“The primary aim of the event is to offer a space for survivors of sexual assault to have a voice, to shine their light into the darkness of violence,” Adams said. “It is critical for all members of our community to support those impacted by violence and to have a presence showing our commitment to prevent violence from happening in our community.”

Take Back the Night (TBTN) began in Philadelphia in 1975 to unite people against abuse, sexual assault and rape. The event spread to thousands of universities and crisis centers around the country.

Moriarty said Notre Dame held the event in years past, but this year the University will co-host TBTN with Saint Mary’s. The Take Back the Night Foundation requested Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s joint event as one of its “10 Points of Light” last fall.

“This is our first year as a ‘point of light,’ but we’ve observed Take Back the Night the past few years. We are going to take a ‘point of light’ in the Take Back the Night Thursday evening.”

NDSP investigating reported sexual battery

By MEGAN DOYLE
News Editor

Freshman Kate Fox will sport a ‘Team Kate’ t-shirt Friday morning as Kate Middleton and Prince William tie the knot at Westminster Abbey in London.

Fox said she and her friends will watch the wedding as it is broadcasted from London at 5 a.m. eastern time Friday morning.

“We are going to get up and get tea and cookies for crumbs and pets and watch [the wedding] here in my room,” Fox said.

Fox said her mother sent her the “Team Kate” t-shirt for Kate Middleton and a book about the royal couple before the wedding.

“My mom really likes Princess Diana,” she said. “And I have always really liked her too. She especially did so much with AIDS and helped a lot of people. I think she was amazing, and obviously her boys are very cute too.”

Fox said her enthusiasm for the royal wedding motivated her friends to make plans to wake up early as well.

“I’ve gotten my friends into it,” she said. “I overheard my roommate telling her mom we were going to watch it. They were all making fun of me, but now they are into it.”

Senior Anne Roser said she would also sip tea and enjoy breakfast while watching the wedding ceremony with friends.

A royal wedding is a historic moment, Roser said.

“My mom watched [Princess Diana] get married,” she said.

Roser, however, said her interest is more on the ceremony itself rather than the royal family.

“I am just really interested.”

Students celebrate London wedding in royal fashion

By MARISA IATI
News Writer

Students pray for victims of sexual assault during a candlelight vigil at the Grotto as part of Take Back the Night Thursday evening.

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Campus to relay for cure

By MARISSA IATI
News Writer

About 75 teams of students, faculty and staff will last from sunset to sunrise in Notre Dame Stadium during Notre Dame’s seventh annual Relay for Life, which supports the American Cancer Society (ACS) and will offer free food and a variety of events from 6 p.m. until 9 a.m. Saturday.

“Support of the 2011 event plays an important role in furthering the American Cancer Society’s mission of eliminating cancer through research, education, advocacy and patient services,” said Lori Chaney, Notre Dame’s Relay for Life fundraising coordinator.

“Our current goals are to help improve the quality of life for cancer patients and their families, as well as to reduce cancer mortality by 50 percent and incidence by 25 percent by 2015.”
The 3-year-old from Johnston, with a squat stance and slubber to spare, bested 49 dogs Monday to be named this year’s “Beautiful Bulldog” for the Drake Relays in Iowa.

“She just thinks that the world goes around her. You know, Queen Lucy,” said Nancy Brown, Lucy’s owner, adding that the royal crown befits her beloved dog. “This is over the top.”

Amidst the frenetic anticipation of a spring concert today, the Notre Dame Symphony Orchestra will present its annual spring concert today at 7:30 p.m. in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

Tickets are $3 and serve as the mascot for the 102nd Drake Relays, the prestigious track and field meet that starts Thursday at Drake Stadium. Official use the term "beautiful" loosely for the tongue-in-cheek pageant, now in its 32nd year. Judges really are looking for the most admirably hideous bulldogs they can find, and perennially 50 of them show up to strut their stuff.

“They are looking for that bulldog that is patient, that folks can come by and they can pet him and not get dismissed,” said master of ceremonies Dolph Pulliam.

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

There will be a Bike Fest today from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. in front of the Rockne Memorial Gymnasium on South Quad. The purpose is to raise awareness of biking at Notre Dame and to prepare bikes for the summer.

The seventh annual Notre Dame Relay for Life: Fightin’ Irish, Fightin’ Cancer to benefit the American Cancer Society will take place at Notre Dame Stadium today at 6:30 p.m. until tomorrow at 9 a.m. Activities will include a silent auction, Zumba, chair massages, fireworks and games.

PEMCO will present its revue, “Bring Me a Dream” today at 7:30 p.m. in the Washington Hall Lab Theatre. Tickets are $3. There will also be a performance tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. in the Washington Hall Lab Theatre.

Students from the FTT 31006 Directing: Process class will present original plays and published dramatic literature today at 7:30 p.m. in the Philbin Studio Theatre of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. The event is free but ticketed. Call 574-631-2800 for tickets.

The Notre Dame Symphony Orchestra will present its spring concert today from 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. The concert will feature Mahler’s “Symphony no. 1” and Debussy’s “Prelude to Afternoon of a Faun.” Ticket prices range from $3 to $6 and can be purchased at performingarts.nd.edu.

Have an idea for Question of the Day? Email obsphoto@gmail.com.
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holycrossvocations.org
Professor reflects on freedom conflict in Syria

Syrian protestors storm the Syrian embassy in Cairo, Egypt, during a protest against the ongoing violence in Syria Tuesday.

By TORI ROECK
News Writer

Conflict in Syria continues to intensify as peaceful protestors campaigning for freedom face excessive violence from president Bashar al-Assad's dictatoral regime, said Emad Shahin, professor of religion, conflict and peacebuilding at the Kroc Institute.

“These peaceful demonstrators were met by a crackdown on the part of Assad’s regime,” Shahin said. “The police applied very oppressive and brutal measures against them ranging from detentions, arrests, torture and of course firing live ammunition and bullets against them in order to quell them.”

Shahin said Syrian dissidents have similar goals as those of revolutionaries from neighboring countries, especially achieving freedom of expression through the media and freedom of assembly through political party formation.

“They are demanding real democracy in the true sense of the word,” he said. “They're demanding freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, freedom of movement, and will finally decline from power.”

Despite continued acts of violence on the part of Assad’s regime, Shahin said dissenters should remain peaceful.

“Of course my hope is that this conflict remains nonviolent, at least on the part of the protestors and demonstrators,” Shahin said.

Despite the efforts of these organizations, Zubizarreta said pediatric research is largely underfunded, contrary to popular belief.

“This funding efforts really are very needed,” he said. “There’s so much more that needs to be done to help the patients and their families.”

Shahin said nonviolent demonstrators will win the day.

“It’s a way to come together and support a cause,” he said. “This is a way how he would enjoy, one last time before we all go our separate ways.”

Javi Zubizarreta
senior

Sorin hosts kickball tourney

By MEL FLANAGAN
News Writer

Just weeks before graduation, seniors have the opportunity to remember former classmate Kevin Healey this weekend. Healey lost his battle with osteosarcoma, a rare form of bone cancer, two years ago.

The move of Sorin College will honor Healey Sunday with the first memorial Kick-It for Kevin kickball tournament.

Senior Javi Zubizarreta, a close friend of Healey's, said the idea for the tournament began when Healey's father contacted him a few months ago.

He asked us to organize a tournament here at Notre Dame and to make it an ongoing event in honor of Kevin and in support of pediatric cancer research,” he said.

The tournament is also an event for Kick-It, an organization based in Healey’s hometown of Cleveland, Ohio, that organizes kickball tournaments to raise money for children’s cancer research.

Kevin’s family has worked with Kick-It in the past to organize tournaments in the community and to help raise money,” Zubizarreta said. “His family has raised about $6,000 through kickball tournaments so far.

All proceeds from Kick-It tournaments benefit CureSearch for Children’s Cancer, an organization that funds the world’s largest pediatric cancer research collaborative, the Children’s Oncology Group.

Despite the efforts of these organizations, Zubizarreta said pediatric research is largely underfunded, contrary to popular belief.

“These fundraising efforts really are very needed,” he said. “There’s so much more that needs to be done to help the patients and their families.”

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Javi Zubizarreta
senior

Sorin doesn’t have any goals for the tournament this year besides publicizing the event to students.

“We want people to know about it and remember it for next year when it comes up again,” he said. “We really hope to make it an annual event.

Kick It for Kevin will take place Sunday from 12 to 6 p.m. at Stepan Fields.

Contact Mel Flanagan at mflanagan@nd.edu

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Kingston highlights annual SMC Tostal

By KRISTEN RICE

New Wine

The Saint Mary’s student body had a lively, fun and games during SMC Tostal in celebration of the end of the academic year, which culminated with a concert by singer Sean Kingston Thursday.

“The concert was actually a lot of fun,” senior Laura Arnold said. “It’s a great way to have the end of the year kind of come to a close.”

Kingston entertained students with hit songs, including “ Eenie Meenie” and “Fire Burning.” He tweeted about his arrival in South Bend Thursday morning, and sophomore Alex Sassano retweeted Kingston’s message on her Twitter profile.

“I started my day off listening to Sean Kingston’s songs,” she said.

Some students were so enthusiastic about Kingston’s performance that they that staked out seats in the O’Laughlin Auditorium at 5:30 p.m. even though the concert did not begin until 7:30 p.m.

I just wanted to make sure that I could see everything, specifically Sean Kingston,” sophomore Julie Novak said.

Junior Katie Greenspont expressed her excitement prior to the concert.

I’ve gone to SMC Tostal every single year to see the special guest they bring,” she said. “I got my self a new pair of sunglasses and a shirt to go with them, and I’m really excited. It’s going to be the best night.”

A comedy show entertained the crowd until Kingston’s performance began at 9 p.m. Students cheered and sang along to his performance, but the biggest crowd-pleaser was “Letting Go (Dutty Love),” which features Nicki Minaj in the recorded version.

Overall, students were pleased with Kingston’s performance.

“It’s a great way to end the night, and now I can get some sleep and watch the royal wedding first thing tomorrow morning,” senior Kelly Daly said.

Although SMC Tostal week was accompanied by several days of inclement weather, this did not prevent students from enjoying the planned festivities indoors, including a carnival that offered free food, sunshine and games.

“They had a waffle thing that you could get whatever you want. It’s delicious,” sophomore Paige Edmonds said.

“This was a great study break after a week full of homework, exams and papers.

Contact Kristen Rice at krice1@stmarys.edu

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The country absolutely closed down,” she said. “They don’t go anywhere. We were all at street parties.”

Mary Smyth English professor

People in England really, really do love the royal family.

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“People in England really, really do love the royal family,” Smyth said. “In England I think that’s probably a little bit more pronounced because they have a little bit more of an idea what’s going on there.”

“I’m not necessarily interested in the royal family... I am really excited to see the dress and then the kiss on the balcony,” she said.

Anne Rezer senior

The Royal continued from page 1

in really big displays of wedding pageantry,” she said. “I’m not necessarily interested in the royal family... I am really excited to see the dress then the kiss on the balcony.”

In order to see all the morning’s events, Saint Mary’s senior Sarah Mayer said she plans to wake up at 4 a.m. Friday to watch the wedding despite her early classes.

“It’s questionable if I will be in class,” she said. “I will say that the royal wedding takes precedence over my 9 a.m. class.”

Mayer’s love for the monarchy began when she was a little girl. She said her mother’s love for the British monarchy has stretched through generations.

I have always wanted to marry Prince Harry,” she said. “I have just grown up around news about the royal family.”

Mayer said she follows news about the wedding and the royal couple through People magazine and Twitter updates.

“If I was there right now I would probably need a restraining order because I would be so excited,” she said.

The royal family represents more than just a fairy wedding, Mayer said.

“I think the royal family stands for a certain level of classiness,” she said. “The wedding is a bribe so much bigger than themselves, so much bigger than William getting married. America’s great, but we have to take a sundays of years of history, and a certain degree of that history is in their blood in England.”

The Irish Professor Mary Smyth grew up in London and said she remembered Princess Diana’s wedding to Prince Charles when she was a teenager.

“People in England really, really do love the royal family,” Smyth said. “In England I think that’s probably a little bit more pronounced because they have a little bit more of an idea what’s going on there.”

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Anne Rezer senior

by KATIE CARLISLE

News Writer

Students were presented research and engaged in dialogue about female body image during the third annual Fôls Beauty Conference at Saint Mary’s College, but one of the most interesting exhibits at the conference involved popular apparel and beauty brands.

“Barbies on Parade” display at the Storke Barbie booth addressed as stereotypes of women today, such as Jersey Shore and Home wrecker Barbie. Saint Mary conference coordinator Hannah Fischer said the exhibit is a major draw for the conference.

“Barbies on Parade” has gotten really popular, so that’s our pull,” Fischer said.

But the primary event of the conference involved a lecture by senior Christina Cahagan. She discussed the misconceptions surrounding eating disorders and her personal struggle with the issue.

“The course is only open to certain students because you need to be mature to take the class and he able to talk about sensitive subjects and argue your opinions,” Cahagan said.

Fischer said her participation in the Fôls Beauty Conference allowed her to take a proactive role in planning the conference, which allows students to present their own research while running the conference.

“Molly [Carlisle] and I are alumni of the Female Beauty Class, so we were asked to help run the conference,” Fischer said. “It gives us a chance to work on the other side of event planning.”

Fischer then told the greatest achievement of the conference was giving students the opportunity to share their projects.

“Students were given a chance to work on a project all semester so it’s interesting to see what students can really do,” Fischer said. “It’s cool to have a chance to see what students can really do.”

In addition to providing an arena for sharing research and facilitating discussion, Cahagan said one of the primary goals of the conference is simply becoming more aware of the issues surrounding female body image.

“The issues in the conference are really important because they bring a lot to your attention,” she said. “I think the most important thing is just becoming more aware.”

Fischer agreed that awareness of female body image is an important factor.

“It’s really important to be aware of how we’re being pulled in different directions and how the social media has on us,” she said. “We’re all being bombarded now, why you’re making the decisions you make.”

Contact Katie Carlisle at kcarl102@stmarys.edu
Night continued from page 1

Moriarty said. “This was simply a great opportunity to be associated with other campuses across the nation.”

Saint Mary’s BAVO, established in April 2010, will co-host TBTN with Notre Dame for the first time this year. Adams said making the event a collaborative effort between Saint Mary’s and Notre Dame was a logical action.

“A strong component of Take Back the Night is solidarity,” she said. “Because the community of Saint Mary’s College and the University of Notre Dame are deeply intertwined, it is logical and beneficial for us to stand together to support survivors of sexual assault and demonstrate that violence is not one of our community values.”

Moriarty said the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s community is often impacted by sexual assault and abuse.

“Institutionally, we have wounds. There are sides of Notre Dame that aren’t so flattering, but to heal they must be opened,” she said.

The TBTN events began at 7 p.m. with a walk from Lake Marian on Saint Mary’s campus to the Grotto at Notre Dame for a candlelight vigil. Following the vigil, TBTN committee presidents led a march around Notre Dame’s campus.

“This is definitely not a silent march,” Said Masters junior and BAVO student worker Cat Cleary said. “We’re going to be loud and visible in order to raise awareness of this issue.”

After the march, the group shared personal stories in a “Speak Out” session to break the silence surrounding violence suffered by members in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s communities.

“A lot of the people are survivors or friends of those affected by sexual violence. For some people it’s the first time they tell their stories,” Notre Dame senior Mariah McGlynn said. “It’s an intimate and sacred time.”

Student musical groups Harmonia, Halftime and Bellacapella performed at the closing reception as participants celebrated the event, Moriarty said.

“I think [the event] is important because these crimes are often shrouded in silence,” Moriarty said. “[Victims’] voices are taken away and they don’t know how to speak to anyone, even themselves. It’s an opportunity to give a voice to the silent and know they are not alone.”

The TBTN events allow for different points of entry in the healing process because experiences with sexual assault and rape are varied and personal, Cleary said.

“(Survivors and allies) face different questions, struggles, and pains. They might deal with religious questions and might not feel safe coming to the Grotto, so they’ll march with us. Others want that religious healing, making Grotto the ideal place.”

Adams said raising awareness and preventing acts of violence is essential, and the community is responsible for initiating change and supporting survivors.

“While dialogue has increased surrounding the issues of sexual assault, relationship violence, and stalking this academic year, these issues have impacted and continue to impact college campuses across the country,” Adams said.

“People live in a society where violence is an epidemic,” Cleary said. She believes TBTN will have a lasting impact on both campuses because it unites men and women — allies and survivors — in breaking the silence and creating a community of healing.

“I want people to know they aren’t alone in their suffering,” Moriarty said. “There are people who have experienced what you have experienced, and even if you have lived through this, there are people who want to help you. There are opportunities for healing, and you don’t have to go it alone.”

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Relay continued from page 1

The Fire Fighting Irish, comprised of members of the Notre Dame Fire Department (NDFD), was the top fundraising team. They sold 2,500 T-shirts, sweatshirts, baseball caps and knit caps with the NDFD logo, team captain Mary Weigle said. The apparel sales earned more than $15,000 for ACS.

“We’ve been doing [the apparel sales] now for about five years, and over the years it has grown,” Weigle said. “We started out just selling T-shirts to people who would walk into the firehouse. Before you knew it, we were mailing them all over the place.”

The top student fundraising team, the Pasquerilla East Pyros, sold 130 themed T-shirts to raise money, team captain Katie Marshall said. Team members submitted the names of people for whom they wanted to relay and the names were written in a spiral on the backs of the shirts. Each shirt also bore the image of an eternal flame as a symbol for the team.

“Since we’re the Pyros, we thought [the image of the eternal flame] was fitting,” Marshall said. About 50 members of the Pasquerilla East Pyros emailed their friends and families to ask for donations, Marshall said. The email solicitations and the T-shirt sales earned more than $9,000 for ACS.

Megan Hrdlicka, captain of the second-highest student fundraising team, Ryan Hall Relay, said her team raised money by wrapping gifts at the Harris’ Notre Dame Bookstore at the end of the fall semester, collecting money at Ryan Hall mass meals and organizing several bake sales. The team earned approximately $1,200 through these fundraisers, she said.

“I think this year our goals were to e x p a n d Relay’s visibility at Notre Dame, have a strong showing and kind of establish our place in the event as a dorm,” Hrdlicka said.

Book Team ‘Em is holding its first annual Jul’ n Ball fundraiser today from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Notre Dame Security Police Lt. George Heeter said. The team is comprised of members from the Notre Dame Security Police, McNenna Hall, the Hesburgh Library, the Morris Inn and the Bookstore.

Ideas students, faculty and staff can arrange for uniformed police and security officers to “arrest” someone and take him or her to a fake jail in Notre Dame Stadium, Heeter said. All proceeds from the $25 arrest fees support Relay for Life.

“We actually pick the person up, put the cuffs on them and take them to the stadium jail,” Heeter said. “They have to stay there for a maximum of half an hour. If they don’t want to go to jail, they can purchase a ‘get out of jail free’ card for a minimum of $5.”

Heeter said he is excited about the generosity of the Jul’ n Ball participants.

“To get 20 people at $25 dollars per person, that’s over $500,” he said. “I’m thankful people are willing to participate and spend their hard-earned money for such a good cause.”

Marsahl said the part of Relay for Life she is most looking forward to is the Luminary Ceremony.

“It’s this really great part of the event where we honor all the people that we know who have had cancer,” she said. “Generally, they have the buggies [play], and it’s a very beautiful moment.”

Hrdlicka said she is excited about the support she received from the members of her dorm.

“Relay for Life is a very personal cause for me,” she said. “It’s going to be neat to have everyone at the event to represent our dorm.”

Contact Marisa Ilati at miati@nd.edu

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Arts & Sciences

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Many African-Americans responded to Wednesday’s scene with a large sigh. The rumors and the controversy had a particular, troubling resonance for them. They’ve seen, heard, lived, the legitimacy of black people being called into question so many times before that, they said, they weren’t shocked to see it happen to Obama over something as simple as a birth certificate.

But they were sad about it, too, seeing what they felt was a high-level manifestation of the idea that when a black person accomplishes something great there must be something wrong.

“The stress of feeling constantly called into question, constantly under surveil-
INSIDE COLUMN

Major decisions

Congratulations. You’ve just declared your major! Other than DARTing that was the highlight of this past week for me. Wednesday afternoon: I finally walked into Flanner and nervously asked where I was supposed to go. I turned the button to the elevator, stepping in and getting ready to walk out and see if the wrong floor Whoops. Let’s try again. Back into the elevator. I look at the buttons and can’t help but imagine how annoyed the people in the box with me would be if I slid my hands down to the bottom and pressed all the buttons. “It’s a Christmas tree!” like Buddy the Elf... Maybe. I resist the temptation to act on it, whether it leads you to something you love. Even as an itty-bitty freshman (but not for long now!), you’re headed somewhere. Looking at the classes you realize this is what you’ll specialize in. But what if you change your mind? What if you change it again after that? This may happen, but regardless of how many paths you start down and never see to the end, you end up getting somewhere. It seems to just all work out.

Though I’ve finally declared my major — and I’m extremely excited about it — I realize that this is just the beginning. I’m surrounded by people who have goals to work toward, whether it be a senior thesis, a new major, or even just pursuing something you love. Even as an itty-bitty freshman (but not for long now!), you’re headed somewhere. Looking at the classes you realize this is what you’ll specialize in. But what if you change your mind? What if you change it again after that? This may happen, but regardless of how many paths you start down and never see to the end, you end up getting somewhere. It seems to just all work out.

So I’m walking down the street in downtown South Bend to the bus stop following an interview for a part-time job this summer. Now you’re probably thinking that I’m a sophomore looking to find some way to supplement my income so I can “get down on Friday” during the school year as the immense- ly talented Rachel Black sings since a. I’m using the bus and don’t have a car and b. I’m getting a summer job. However, I am neither of those things. I’m just looking for a way to make some money to help pay off the debt I got sen- tor last year. In a lot of ways, I truly do not understand how I got here. I choose a good liberal arts college, studied hard, and scored a good GPA. I have extracurricular activities, fabulous references, and have held various jobs. Why don’t I have people begging for me to work for their company? Is it possible I’m meant for other opportunities rather than having a job this summer? Maybe just maybe I’ll win the lottery, decide to take a trip to London meet Prince Harry then we fall madly in love. I pull a Kate Middleton, become a princess and I can live off of his millions, get a title and get these loans out of my hair. Highly unlikely — but I can dream. If that doesn’t work then maybe I’ll join the Air Force and there will be a Royal Air Force Ball with the United States Air Force. At this ball, Harry spots me among the ballroom, brings me to the dance floor, and asks me to dance to “Walking on Broken Glass” by Annie Lennox, a Backer favorite.

This scenario is also highly unlikely, a. because I wouldn’t pass the fitness test to enter the Air Force since I cannot even run to the Grotto from Holy Cross Hall and b. growing up in rural Indiana, my dad tried to have me shoot a deer and I promptly dropped the gun, cried “What if the deer has children?” and sunk in the car, so I feel like fighting humans would be even harder on my hands. Or am I destined to wait for my life to be fabulous until I’m in my thirty-likes the ladies of Sex and the City? Do I just have to live with the Payless shoes until I reach the age of thirty-five? I get to buy Manolo Blahnik stilettos and have a real career people? This question leads me to another: do your twenties just stink and feel restless until you reach your thirties when you’re in a more comfortable place in life? Also, is there any way we can spread up this process, much like Adam Sandler did in the highly underrated film Click, and fast-forward or possibly rewind to a time when we’re a lot happier and uncertainty isn’t the name of the game? On the opposite end of this dilemma, despite being preoccupied with this con- cept of wanting to get rid of loans, I also feel compelled, like I’m sure many of us do, to find a career that makes me happy and helps me feel like I’m serving the larger community and God as well. So in closing here, I am at this cross-roads of getting a job or applying to graduate or law school. However, I have to hope that, as Robert Frost declared, taking the road less traveled makes a differ- ence. Let’s try again. Back into the elevator. I look at the buttons and can’t help but imagine how annoyed the people in the box with me would be if I slid my hands down to the bottom and pressed all the buttons. “It’s a Christmas tree!” like Buddy the Elf... Maybe. I resist the temptation to act on it, whether it leads you to something you love. Even as an itty-bitty freshman (but not for long now!), you’re headed somewhere. Looking at the classes you realize this is what you’ll specialize in. But what if you change your mind? What if you change it again after that? This may happen, but regardless of how many paths you start down and never see to the end, you end up getting somewhere. It seems to just all work out.

Campus safety

In light of recent efforts to ensure the safety of students and faculty on local campuses, I feel as though Wednesday night’s events were not handled well at all. I did not know specific details about what transpired that evening. However, when I heard from Twitter and Facebook that there was some sort of attack on campus and to “be safe,” I realized that decision was made as though that raised quite a cause for concern. After calling NISP to inquire about students and my per- sonal safety, I was met with answers like “not able to discuss at this time” and “call the Administration Office tomorrow morning.” I mean, I live a stone’s throw from Fisher Grad Apartments, maybe I should have knocked on Father Jenkins’ door and have been given a better clue about what was going on. With advanced systems like ND Alert that are put in place for student safety, why, in this scenario, were they not being utilized?

A resident of Virginia, my high school and neighborhood felt the direct impact of that event. What could be done going forward to find out what happened and I pray that everyone is alright.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Administration,

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Happy job hunting

So far this semester, I’ve been able to see that even if you take a complete 180 in terms of where you’re headed, it might be right for you. An engineer might reevaluate his life and decide to become a photographer. True. Or he may continue as an engineer and love his job. Also true. As important as majors are in molding the path that you take through life, the experiences you gain in studying the subject and working with mentors who inspire you. Sometimes it’s unclear as to what major suits your skills, so I’d encourage everyone reading this to consider where you are currently positioned and how you feel about the major you might be going. Honestly, I know this is just my opinion, but be bold. This is another opportunity to figure out what you want to do.

The views expressed in this Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Column: Nicole Toczauer at ntoczauer@nd.edu

Just say no to...

Dating. And S.B. 292. What do they have in common? They both loosen the guns. There are currently four gun bills

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Inside Column

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Senior, be fierce

Gary Caruso
Capitol Comments

It was with surprise, and then sadness, that I read Michael Martin’s letter to the Observer on April 20, followed by Eddie Guilbeau’s commentary on Mr. Martin’s letter. As a Notre Dame alumnus which does not involve in inaccurate information that could be hurtful to, and reflect poorly on, those directly involved with the tragedies mentioned.

The women’s swim team bus accident in January 2001 that claimed the lives of two of my teammates and left me temporarily paralyzed was devastating, and something none of us will ever forget. Prior to our leaving Northwestern to return to Notre Dame, I can state beyond a doubt, and contrary to the two letters to the Observer, that no phone call was made to the University inquiring about the weather conditions in regard to our travel home. No one who was directly involved sensed obvious danger, as it was only rain- ing when we left Chicago. To insinuate that our coaches did not feel they could make the trip to the University inquiring about the weather is ridiculous.

Correcting inaccurate information

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My friend Olivia’s birthday is today. She’s beautiful, energetic, talented and extremely smart. Throughout our friendship she has pushed me to be the best person I can academically, athletically, socially and spiritually. She was the one who introduced me to my relationship with Jesus Christ, and I can never thank her enough for that. Livi is an extremely important part of my life. Unfortunately, Olivia died almost five years ago. She was crossing the street on a rainy day and someone hit her. It was the end of my freshman year. She was 16.

This year at Notre Dame, we have been faced with many challenges. We have lost peers and friends. I do not personally know Lizzy, Declan or Sean, or do I know who they were close to. I do, however, know all too well the pain that comes with the death of a loved one. I remember the summer after Livi’s accident begging God to take the hurt away. All I wanted to know was if the pain would ever subside. To those who knew the three who passed on this year. It gets bet- ter. I am still sad, still angry and still don’t understand why God took my best friend when she was so young.

But now, on what would have been her 21st birthday, I can smile and not cry when I talk about her. I can celebrate her life instead of mourning her death. To you on campus who feel a loss, a love, a love that you are not alone. Today, I am remembering a friend, feeling her loss, but also rejoicing in the fact that she came into my life at all. She has made me a better person, she changed who I am for the better, and I look forward to the day when she meets me at the gates of Heaven. Until then, I continue to look to her for guidance and support. I celebrate her birthday today because that’s what she would want me to do: celebrate life and live every day to the fullest.

Kara Mathis
Capitol Columns

Celebrating a life

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It’s back. If you haven’t heard by now, or seen the tank tops to match, this Sunday is the day "YOU GOTTA REGATTA!" Celebrating its 25th year of competition, Sunday’s Fisher Regatta will have teams rowing, racing, splashing and facing off as they speed across the cold waters of Saint Mary’s Lake.

Born in 1986, the Fisher Regatta has proudly hosted the crazy, ingenious, bizarre and humorous watercraft creations of Notre Dame students. This year, with 41 boats entered, the first commemorative $10 "YOU GOTTA REGATTA" tank top, music and a feast of bratwurst and hotdogs fit to serve more than 1,000 people, Sunday’s regatta is expected to draw a huge crowd. Still, it’s the sportsmanship and competitive spirit that will have fans cheering on the banks of Saint Mary’s Lake.

Granted, how many boats will actually float is questionable, but this is Notre Dame. Buoyancy — optional. Winning — necessary.

Rules: Boats must be homemade or assembled from scavenged objects and materials. With a history of crewmembers abandoning ship and leaping onto other boats mid-race, crews must remain on their boats and cannot intentionally sink another team’s craft. Each race sets two teams head-to-head, narrowing the competition to an elite handful of crews that race against one another at the end of the day.

Race commissioner and Fisher sophomore Kevin Bell said Fisher has come out in full force to take on the dominant defending champion O’Neill Hall.

“O’Neill has a boat that a mechanical engineer made as a design project and it’s ridiculously fast,” he said. “But we’ve gone up from our usual dorm total of two boats to six or seven for this year.”

The Fisher fleet boasts two canoes, a barge, a gondola and other ship-like contraptions, including a raft of inflatable turtles. In assembling their armada, Fisher teams dismantled old lofts, gathered donations and bought supplies at local home improvement stores.

Fisher freshman Brett Ubl said his modified canoe is built from insulation foam donated to the team by a roofing contractor. Though he and his crew are improvising, their method seems to be working.

“We might make this into a gondola and have the one and only Joe Padgr serenade all of the people on beautiful Saint Mary’s Lake,” he said. “Hopefully it’ll float us.”

Beyond the nails, screwdrivers, saws, blood, sweat and tears that go into making a boat worthy of the Fisher Regatta, tactics play an important role come race day. Solidity, craftsmanship and flags go a long way in intimidating other teams. Beyond appearance, a lightweight crew is key to a team’s success. Then you just row until you can’t row any more.

Armed with candy, representatives of Fisher Hall have stationed themselves in front of the dining halls and DeBartolo Hall all week to pelt passersby with sweets in promotion of the event. So don’t be surprised if your daily rush to class is interrupted by a Snickers bar to the head.

Contact Nicole Toczauer at ntoczauer@nd.edu
By CLAIRE STEPHENS

“Skilled or Learned, Join our Army.” This first motto of Project Fresh was coined less than a decade ago, when a group of friends got together to learn and teach each other how to break-dance. In just the past three years, the club has grown from 10 members to over 50 active participants, and now refers to themselves as the “PFresh Nation.”

Today marks the 3rd Annual Project Fresh Show, entitled “Resonance.” Project Fresh, as well as dance groups all over campus, will be performing in Stepan Center starting at 7 p.m.

The performance will begin with freestyle in the crowd with a live DJ. Kyle Higdon, choreographer for three of the dances in the PFRESH set, is hoping for a participatory crowd.

“The Project Fresh Show is a very interactive event with a club atmosphere,” Higdon said. “We want the crowd to feel involved and we encourage a rowdy audience yelling for their favorite group. It energizes us on stage.”

A competitive format shapes the show this year. The competition is open to all student clubs, with half of the proceeds will go to the Boys and Girls Club of South Bend and the other half going to the winning group’s charity of choice.

While the show is first and foremost a show for charity, it also raises awareness of the diverse dance groups on campus and gives them the opportunity to showcase all of their hard work. Natasha Bergstedt, co-president of the club, explained that the show has changed from simply exhibition pieces by performing clubs to a competition to make the charity aspect a more defining and inclusive theme.

“This decision was made based on the knowledge that there are many talented dancers in the ND community who do not have the time to be in a performing arts club. We hope that having more clubs involved will help to introduce the audience to other dance styles they may not be aware of around campus.”

Some of the groups performing tonight are FASD, TransPhase, TrotinND, Notre Dame Pom Squad, Ballet Folklorico, KPop, Hawaii Club, Dance Co. and First Class Steppers.

Project Fresh also represents great diversity in both its members and its styles of dance. The club hopes to educate the Notre Dame, Holy Cross, Saint Mary’s, and South Bend Community of the various dance styles of hip hop including breakdancing, krumping, popping, locking, waving and more.

Throughout the year, members of the group have come to love Project Fresh. Carrie Ko, the 2011-2012 treasurer, has found lasting friendships among the diversity of the group.

“PFresh is my life and I am proud to belong to the family.”

Project Fresh is open to all Notre Dame and St. Mary’s students, as well as some alumni, guest performers and choreographers. Danielle Gies, next year’s PFun Committee chair, is choreographing an exhibition piece with Hunter Spence, next year’s Project Fresh Show Committee Chair. Gies encourages dance lovers to join.

“Project Fresh is one of the best clubs on campus. Anyone can join, no matter what their skill level. The only requirement is that you want to dance!”

The club has performed in cultural and fine arts events across campus this year including Asian Allure, Black Images, Fiestang and Latin Expressions, as well as Seoul’d Out, Digitize and The Shirt Lovell.

Kaitlin “Fiasco” Teichman, a student at St. Mary’s in the club, has enjoyed her time with Project Fresh, saying “PFresh is a great way to relax, dance and forget what’s troubling you. Hip-hop saved my life.”

Those attending have high expectations of the PFresh Nation, and can expect it to be a great show by all performers. Phil Diamond, a Notre Dame junior, had only positive things to say about the group.

“PFresh is the greatest invention since the Cinnamon.”

Contact Claire Stephens at cstephens@nd.edu

On campus

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Where: Stepan Center
When: Friday, April 29th 7 p.m., doors open at 6:30 p.m.
How much: Advance: $5 students, $7 non-students. At the door: $7 students, $10 non-students
Learn more: pfresh@nd.edu

By CLAIRE STEPHENS

The fifth installment of the “Fast and the Furious” franchise is set to release in theaters this Friday, and will undoubtedly have all of the action and thrill that made the series famous. Vin Diesel and Paul Walker reunite to lead returning cast members from each of the previous installments, including Chris “Ludacris” Bridges.

As usual, “Fast Five” is about high stakes races featuring former cop Brian O’Conner (Walker) and ex-con Dom Toretto (Diesel). After Brian and Mia Toretto ( Jordana Brewster) broke Dom out of custody, they dodged the authorities and wound up in Rio de Janeiro. In order to gain their freedom, they must pull one last job and assemble their elite team of top racers to confront the corrupt businessman who wants them dead.

Aside from the businessman, hard-nosed federal agent Luke Hobbs (Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson) has been assigned to track down Dom and Brian, and launches an all-out assault with his strike team to capture the duo. Though Hobbs never misses his target, he quickly learns that he’s not the only one after them and must be fast in order to gun them down first.

As usual, “Fast Five” will be an explosive movie with an abundance of action and furiously fast cars. Those who enjoyed the first four installments will not be disappointed. Following the recipe of any good movie (The Rock + Ludacris = epic) there is little chance for “Fast Five” to be anything short of amazing.

Contact Ankur Chawla at achawla@nd.edu

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The beginning and end of the show this year will have freestyles in the crowd with a live DJ. Kyle Higdon, choreographer for three of the dances in the PFRESH set, is hoping for a participatory crowd.

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Contact Ankur Chawla at achawla@nd.edu
Associated Press

Cam Newton provided one of the few predictable moments, so far, in a bizarre NFL offseason. While the league’s labor dispute played out in the courts, the Heisman Trophy winner was selected No. 1, as expected, in Thursday night’s NFL draft, taken by the Carolina Panthers.

Moments before the Auburn quarterback’s name was called by Roger Goodell, Panthers general manager Thomas Dimitroff showed the NFL commissioner with chants of “We want football.”

Goodell responded with a smile, saying, “We want football, too.”

Newton led Auburn to an unbeaten season and its first national championship since 1987, when the school was in Mississippi. The Tigers were 2-14 last year, using four quarterbacks, two of them redshirts.

“I’d just have a clue about what would happen,” Miller said, referring to winds up with the Panthers instead of the Broncos.

It was a strange opening for what normally is a festive occasion. In this offseason of labor strife, the league’s first work stoppage in 24 years began on Thursday. The 32 teams will resume business in compliance with U.S. District Judge Susan Richard Nelson’s order to lift the lockout.

Nelson’s order to lift the lockout. The players were tired of waiting to negotiate. They weren’t open right away for football activities.

“Granting itself a temporary stay,” lawyers James Quinn, in a tersely worded letter to NFL attorney Gregg Levy, said the players said attorneys for the players said told players under contract not to report to their teams, meet coaches and get playbooks.

Contract negotiations are uncertain until the league announces its rules for the 2011 season — rules that might be in force for only a short time if an appeal is granted.

The draft was never in danger of being held because it was protected under the old collective bargaining agreement that expired in March.

Cincinnati, perhaps calling the bluff of quarterback Carson Palmer, who is demanding a trade, instead took the top receiver in the draft.

The labor strife caused speculation not many trades would be made Thursday. But just six picks from the second through fourth rounds, plus their first pick and fourth-rounder in 2012.

The Browns received the Falcons first-rounder, second- and fourth-rounders, plus their first pick and fourth-round in 2012.

In Atlanta last night, they were allowed to meet in team facilities. But they have health insurance in place.

The league also will arrange for substance abuse and steroid programs to resume, and players can participate in community and charity functions.

Agent Angelo Wright said he has told players under contract not to worry about visiting headquarters this weekend out of fairness to the teams so they can focus on the draft. He said they should plan to show up on Monday, and he’d start calling team executives about unsigned players as soon as Sunday night.

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Irish return to Big East championships, seek eighth title

By SAM GANS

The Irish head to the Big East championship this weekend, a tournament the squad has won the past seven consecutive years, in the hopes that history is on their side.

Yet to Irish coach Martin Stone the past is anything but a guarantee of success.

“It doesn’t really matter how many we’ve won [because] each year is different,” Stone said. “So you just try to win the one in that given year. I’m not a big believer that we defend anything that we’ve already won. We’re just trying to win this year — the 2011 Big East championship — and that’s pretty much all that matters right now.”

Despite the reign of dominance, the Irish are not the favorite heading into this year’s championship, according to Stone. Though that distinction belongs to Louisville, the Irish coach says he will not change his expectations.

“A successful weekend would be to win the championship,” Stone said. “Whether it’s by one point or it’s by 15 points, to win, that would be successful in our eyes.”

Stone acknowledges that the task will not be an easy one, with a number of fierce competitors in addition to the Cardinals.

“I think Georgetown is pretty good — they’re covering every event,” he said. “I think Syracuse is showing some speed, Rutgers is doing well — I think everybody’s doing well. Everybody has a chance to go faster and do well.”

Notre Dame enters the event coming off a strong performance at the Lake Natoma Invitational in Sacramento, Calif. Apr. 16 and 17, at which the Irish placed second in Group B. The success at Lake Natoma catapulted Notre Dame into the CRCA/USRowing Coaches Poll for the first time all season, coming in at No. 20. In addition, the varsity four boat, consisting of freshmen Christina Dines, Courtney Gaberino, Teresa Rubinger and Kiersten DeHaven and junior Ching-Ting Hwang, earned Big East Crew of the Week honors.

In the wake of a memorable week, the Irish are now focused solely on the upcoming Big East championship and winning another conference title at all costs.

“We’re just going to try to score as many points as we can in each event and see how it plays out,” Stone said. “We want to win every event that we can, but [we’ll take] as many points as we can get in each event.”

The Big East championship will take place Sunday in West Windsor, N.J.

Contact Sam Gans at sgans@nd.edu

MLB

Yankees easily handle Sox

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Brett Gardner led off the Yankees’ six-run fifth inning with a homer for their first hit of the game, and Nick Swisher homered and had four RBIs in New York’s 12-3 rout of the Chicago White Sox on Thursday night.

CC Sabathia pitched seven sharp innings to beat a familiar foe and help New York gain a split of the four-game series. Swisher hit his first homer in 76 at-bats this season and he, Nunez and Gardner scored three runs apiece.

Every Yankees starter except Nunez had at least one RBI.

Curtis Granderson tripled, Alex Rodriguez and Nunez each hit a double, and Swisher broke an 0- for-19 slump with a single in the fifth. New York sent nine batters to the plate before making an out in the inning.

The White Sox never awoke from their hitting slumber in this series but won the first two games thanks to solid starting pitching.

With Derek Jeter getting a planned day off and Mark Teixeira out with a sore shoulder, the Yankees struggled against Edwin Jackson (2-3) through the first four innings. But they did score twice in the third when Jackson walked four and threw a wild pitch as a light drizzle fell at Yankee Stadium. Robinson Cano, moved to third from fifth in the lineup, hit a sacrifice fly for a 2-0 lead.

Sabathia (2-1) improved to 17-4 from their hitting slumber in this series but won the first two games thanks to solid starting pitching. Chicago heads home after a 3-8 road trip in which it scored more than three runs in only one game.

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Sabathia (2-1) improved to 17-4 against the White Sox in 30 career starts, a team he faced often with Cleveland in the AL Central. He is just one of two pitchers in big league history that has at least 25 starts and four or fewer losses against Chicago, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.
Aoki said the series, as well as tournament in Clearwater, Fla. qualify for the conference eight teams at season’s end 12-team league. Only the top Seton Hall is currently eighth the conference standings. who sit just above the Irish in over the Pirates (19-19, 6-9), tournament with a few wins make the field for the Big East face a crucial test as it aims to player.”

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Pizzeria Siegfried managed to maintain their lead though, largely due to the play of senior Kevin Kelly, who had a game-high eight points. Senior Dave Busby was fouled on his way to the basket and went to the line with the score at 20-17 in favor of Pizzeria Siegfried. The foul shot was a little bit to the left, but the rain-soaked rim gave Pizzeria Siegfried a friendly bounce and the victory.

“I just wanted to make it. I thought I missed it when it left my hand, but we got a lucky bounce,” Rudy said. “We’ve been playing together for a while now, and it’s an honor to be in the Final Four.”

Tribute

continued from page 20

program legend.

With regard to the tribute to Chuck Lennon, I think the honor is an absolute no-brain-
er,” Aoki said. “The guy, to me, is Mr. Notre Dame. He has been loyal to this baseball pro-
gram in every way, shape or form in terms of just giving everything of himself. He who’s given 50 years of service to this university is something important for us today given that he was a baseball player.

On the field, Notre Dame (14-20-1, 5-9 Big East) will face a crucial test as it aims to make the field for the Big East tournament with a few wins over the Pirates (19-19, 6-9), who sit just above the Irish in the conference standings. Seton Hall is currently eighth and Notre Dame 10th in the 12-team league. Only the top eight teams at season’s end qualify for the conference tournament in Clearwater, Fla. Aoki said the series, as well as upcoming series against bub-

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“Clearly, our outcomes to this point in the season makes this a really important series,” he said. “This one. Rutgers, South Florida, Louisville, all big series for us. We still con-
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Notre Dame’s str u g g l i n g
defense will have to rebound from a poor series against St. Johns, and it will have
to do so against Seton Hall Friday starter Joe DiRocco. The right-hander is 5-0 with a 1.64 ERA in 10 starts this season. Aoki said Seton Hall is constructed similarly to his squad, with strong pitch-
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“It’s going to come down to a matter of who pitches a little better, who defends a little bet-
ter, and who gets those timely hits a little bit better. Certainly with the way that DiRocco has pitched — and not only DiRocco, really their whole staff, they pitch really well.”

The series will start Friday at 6:35 p.m. and conclude at 11 a.m. Sunday.

Contact Chris Allen at
callen10@nd.edu

Delivery

continued from page 20

4 seed Pizzeria Siegfried-The Delivery Boys used cohesive team play to grind out a 21-17 victory over No. 5 seed Pizzeria Siegfried.

Pizzeria Siegfried started with the ball and immediately went to work on the Texas Roadhouse defense with an offense based on picks and con-

stant movement. Behind that gameplay, they jumped out to an 11-9 lead at halftime.

“We made the shots we had to make in the first half, and we just wanted to keep grind-

ing it out all game,” Pizzeria Siegfried junior forward Andrew Nelligan said.

In the second half the game stayed tight, with both teams trading baskets and fouls.

Texas Roadhouse, a group of players from Holy Cross' varsity basketball team, used the supe-

ior size of 6’ 8” junior for-

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Contact Chris Allen at
callen10@nd.edu

No. 5 seed Texas Roadhouse takes on No. 4 seed Pizzeria Siegfried-The Delivery Boys Thursday at the Bookstore courts. Pizzeria Siegfried took down Texas Roadhouse 21-17.
**WOMEN’S LACROSSE**

**Notre Dame to fight for tournament berth**

By CORY BERNARD  Sporrs Writer

Despite the disappointments of the 2011 season, the Irish still find themselves poised to return to the Big East tournament. With two regular season games remaining, Notre Dame (7-9, 4-2 Big East) hopes to string together multiple victories for the first time this year.

The Irish will face Louisville (10-6, 3-4) Friday and Cincinnati (2-13, 0-7) Sunday, and need to claim at least one victory in order to secure a spot in the tournament. Meanwhile the Cardinals will need a victory over the Irish in their final game of the season and a Notre Dame loss Sunday in order to earn a tournament bid.

Irish senior midfielder and co-captain Jackie Doherty said she is determined not to finish her collegiate career this weekend.

“I’m not ready to play my last game at Cincinnati,” she said.

Thanks to an upset win over No. 16 Georgetown (8-6, 4-1) on senior day last weekend, Doherty said the Irish will enter Friday’s contest still riding high.

“We’re definitely still feeling good about it,” Doherty said of the win over the Hoyas. “It’s nice to know that we fought hard and had a good team and came out on top. Being at home, we couldn’t have asked for a better scenario.”

After topping Louisville in a close 11-9 contest last season, the Irish know to expect a tough game from the Cardinals. However, Doherty said Notre Dame can win by a larger margin if it executes.

“They are definitely a good team,” she said of Louisville.

“Their are very athletic and they are one of the top scoring teams in the league. If we play like we can play and execute our game plan I expect a more significant win than last year.”

Sunday’s matchup pits a Notre Dame program that is accustomed to winning against the Bearcats, who have struggled in Big East play. According to Doherty, the Irish want to enter the Big East Tournament on a roll, which will require focusing on underdog Cincinnati.

“Obviously we want to respect every team, especially now knowing that we have to win at least one game this weekend to play in the tournament,” Doherty said. “We also want to finish with a winning streak. We played [Cincinnati] in the fall and came away with a pretty significant win. It is too tough to play a team that’s not the same caliber just because of that fear of not taking them seriously.

Though the Irish have not performed as expected this year, Doherty said lower expectations from opponents might aid the team during the postsea-son.

“I think this season has been disappointing with all the talent we have — even more than last year — and having a losing season,” she said.

“We feel like that set the tone for the whole season,” Doherty said. “We have a great team, and they might think they can come out with strong intensity by senior Mary Therese Lee earned the decisive point for the team. In the upcoming first-round match of the tournament, Belles coach Dale Campbell believes early momentum in doubles play may again decide the victor.

“Opening up strong in doubles play is very important for us,” Campbell said. “We lost two close doubles matches last week against [No. 3] Kalamazoo, and we feel like that set the tone for that loss.”

In the end though, the Belles coach said this pairing will likely build a lead going into the more significant singles portion of the match. However, Mathews said that the team is prepared to generate momentum regardless of the structure of the match.

“We know they will be geared up to play us after their first round win,” Mathews said. “We want to come out with strong intensity from the beginning.”

Georgetown finished the season 7-2 in the Big East and 11-8 overall, earning the No. 8 seed in the tournament. They took down the Bearcats with four victories in singles play.

Competition will get underway tomorrow at 9 a.m. at the Eck Tennis Center. After the Irish square off against the Hoyas, they will face Marquette, DePaul will take on Rutgers, and Saint Florida will face Syracuse, to determine who will advance to the semifinals Saturday.

Contact Matt Robinson at mmrobins@nd.edu

**SMC TENNIS**

**Belles prep for tournament**

By JACK HEFFERON  Sports Writer

The cards are on the table for No. 4 Saint Mary’s after a successful regular season, its best since 2008. Now, the senior-laden squad will head to Kalamazoo, Mich., for the MIAA tournament in search of three more wins.

First up for the Belles (12-7, 5-3 MIAA) will be No. 5 Calvin. In a hard-fought regular season showdown, Saint Mary’s beat the Knights (8-9, 5-3) 5-4. The Belles took an early lead in that match by winning two of three doubles matches, and a late 6-2, 7-5 victory by senior Mary Therese Lee earned the decisive point for the team.

In the upcoming first-round match of the tournament, Belles coach Dale Campbell believes early momentum in doubles play may again decide the victor.

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In the end though, the Belles coach said this pairing will likely be the most even-matched contest of the tournament and may once again come down to the last set.

“Expect us to play Calvin tight again,” Campbell said. “There was lots of close matches last time, and I think it will come down to the last match again.”

If Saint Mary’s beats the Knights, it could be headed for a matchup against MIAA Regular Season Champion No. 1 Albion. In their conference opener earlier this season, the Belles lost 7-2 to the Britons (11-2, 8-0), winning only one singles and one doubles match. Albion ran the table in conference competition, establishing itself as a national power with several non-conference victories.

While Saint Mary’s has struggled against top competition this year, finishing 6-3 against the top three MIAA teams, Campbell believes his squad has the ability to beat anyone.

“I expect us to come out and play hard, and be very hungry against those top teams,” Campbell said. “We will take a lot of believing in ourselves and just executing what we know we have to do.”

As the last chance at a tournament championship and an NCAA berth for Saint Mary’s core of five seniors, Campbell expects his players to approach their match- es with a sense of urgency and to leave everything on the court.

“We’re really looking forward to the competition at the tournament,” he said. “We have a great group of seniors that know what’s at stake. We had a much better regular season this year, and we feel confident heading into the tournament. We’re hoping to reach some new territory this time around.”

The Belles’ tournament weekend will begin Friday in Kalamazoo, Mich., at 9 a.m.

Contact Jack Hefferon at wheffero@nd.edu
The Observer
SPORTS
page 16 Friday, April 29, 2011

Irish host three games on senior weekend

Sophomore Ashley Okonta, senior Theresa Yerkes, senior Kayla Bishop, sophomore Megan Scheitlin and DeBot all scored for the Irish in the win. “We know we are capable of playing at a high level,” Bishop said. “All the practicing paid off and we played with a lot of heart.”

Two days later, Notre Dame took down Shippensburg, the top seed from the Mid-Atlantic region, 23-15 to earn a berth in the Final Four. In the win over the Raiders, junior Christina Konkey scored twice while Okonta added a tally of her own. “We started down in both of those games, so we had to work a little bit harder to win,” sophomore Veronica Ryan said.

Notre Dame’s next opponent, Stonehill, topped Winona State 35-7 before dispatching UNC-Charlotte 37-7 to reach the Final Four. “They’re a strong team and they play quickly,” DeBot said. “We need to be strong on defense and attack really hard.”

What makes Notre Dame’s Final Four run all the more impressive is that it comes in the team’s first season in existence, a season that began with a struggle to even have enough players. “I was worried we wouldn’t have enough people to field a team,” Bishop said. “Coach [Kate Daley] has done a great job. As the season went on, my expectations slowly rose. Other members of the team echoed Bishop’s sentiment. “We have an amazing coach. We would not be anywhere without her,” Ryan said. “We have a great group of girls.”

The Irish take on Stonehill Saturday in Pittsburgh at 11:45 a.m.

Contact Matthew DeFranks at mdefrank@nd.edu

ND SOFTBALL

DeBot continued from page 20

Dame defeated Mesa State, the No. 1 seed from the West region, 27-20. The Irish started sluggishly, falling behind 20-7 at halftime, but rebounded to hold the Mavericks scoreless in the second half. Sophomore Ashley Okonta, senior Theresa Yerkes, senior Kayla Bishop, sophomore Megan Scheitlin and DeBot all scored for the Irish in the win. “We know we are capable of playing at a high level,” Bishop said. “All the practicing paid off and we played with a lot of heart.”

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Contact Matthew DeFranks at mdefrank@nd.edu

Sophomore pitcher Brittany O’Donnell pitches in a game against Louisville April 17. The Irish split the day with one win and one loss.
BELLES LOOK TO CLAIM TOURNAMENT LEAD

By JACK HEFFERON
Sports Writer

After beginning their title defense in the first round of the MIAA NCAA qualifier, the Belles look to rally behind their team and improve their play as they head into the second round.

The Belles look to rally behind their home course, Blackthorn Country Club, looking to regain control of the tournament. "Playing at home is great," Belles senior captain Mary Kate Boyce said. "Everyone wants to go out there and win, she said. "We want it very badly, but we also need to enjoy our time on the course as well. That will ultimately help us win.

The Belles have benefited from the second week of preparation and practice. The squad has also been able to practice shots from the tee to the green, despite the heavy weather.

Belles coach Mark Hamilton, who has also helped the team prepare mentally as well. "He has been working to help us sharpen our skills and keep us positive," Boyce said. "It’s easy to get frustrated with the weather or poor performance, but he has kept us focused on improvement and enjoying our time out there.

The Belles look to rally behind their own game-changers to eat into the point lead. Boyce looks to lead the charge, the reigning MIAA MVP. Other sparks for the team could come from junior Natalie Matuszak and senior captain Rosie O’Connor. Saint Mary’s lowest scorers in the first round.

Boyce said in the end, concentration and composure will be the difference between disappointment and a third-straight NCAA appearance. "A win will come to the team who can focus on each shot," Boyce said. "While it’s difficult to do, we need to take it one shot at a time. If we’ve done our best and that’s all we can do. We don’t want to leave anything unattended.

The second round of the MIAA NCAA qualifier will begin Saturday, and the tournament will continue until the final round Sunday. The Belles tee-off at 1 p.m.

Contact Jack Hefferon at wheffer@nd.edu

Belles look to claim tournament lead

SMC SOFTBALL

Belles split doubleheader

By JOSEPH MONARDO
Sports Writer

The Belles took the first game of the Thursday doubleheader 5-4 in walk-off fashion before dropping the second game 6-0 to conference opponent Hope.

Saint Mary’s 15-12, 4-6 MIAA trailing Hope (22-12, 11-3) for most of game one before making a comeback in the final two innings, capturing the decision with a walk off hit off the bat of freshman infielder Kelli Smith. The victory marked the fourth straight for the Belles in a streak dating back to April 12. After having five of their last six doubleheaders post-poned during that stretch, the Belles made the most of their chance to return to action.

"It was kind of a relief [playing]. It was awesome to get back out there even though it was kind of off and on raining a little bit," Belles senior captain and outfielder Hayley Bojorquez said. "We were grateful to be on the field playing, and so I think that’s why we came out for the first game and just didn’t give up, because we were so excited to be there.

After their exciting win in the day’s first game, the Belles experienced a letdown in game two. Bojorquez said her team’s main problem in the second game was its inability to drive runners. "We struggled in] stringing hits together, which we still were able to do in the second game [a little bit]," she said. "However, we left eight runners on base in total. So we were hitting the ball, but we were leaving runners on base, and so clearly that is a problem.

Despite the disappointing loss in the second leg of the doubleheader, Saint Mary’s manager decided to keep its hopes of qualifying for the conference tournament alive. The Belles currently occupy the sixth spot in MIAA rankings, with only the top four teams playing in the postseason.

"Basically, our game plan right now is to just win the next six games that we have ahead of us," Bojorquez said. "We want to go out with the same attitudes and mentality that we did the first game today and bring that into our next six games because we don’t want our season to end.

The Belles face another conference opponent this afternoon when they travel to Saint Mary’s. The games will be important for Saint Mary’s to record a pair conference wins against a team near the bottom of the conference rankings. In order to take both games, the Belles will have to perform well behind the plate, especially with runners in scoring position, Bojorquez said.

"We need to keep up our hitting because that is always going to be our game," she said. "Pitching is important but we need to make sure we have a solid defense to back up our pitching if we need it. We need to keep up our hitting as well. We are hitting along those hits but also to capitalize on those situations that we didn’t specifically capitalize on in the second game today.

but it is crucial that we get those runners in, any way we need to.

Contact Joseph Monardo at jmonardo@nd.edu
Kemp
continued from page 20
that they can feed it to anyone they want at any time. Communication is obviously key with that, knowing who's able to go and who's able to slide, especially because they have so many talented guys. Defense is definite-ly the key to this game for us. In order to prepare the Irish for Syracuse's talented offense, Notre Dame's second team has been scrimmaging against the Irish defense, mimicking Syracuse's offensive style.

"Our backups have tried to emulate what they're going to do," Kemp said. "They have set offenses but they kind of have a freelance offense. Their offensive guys kind of have a few ways with what they want to do."

On the offensive side of the ball, the Irish are looking to play aggressively and score early. Syracuse senior goalie John Galloway has been recognized as one of the top goalies in the country, and Kemp says that the Irish must take advantage of his tendency to move around the field.

"He's very active, willing to take chances, and he passes to outlet men. He's willing to take chances to pick off passes and come out for ground balls. He's not much of a sit-back and save-the-ball goalie. He likes to stay active and play a bigger role than a goalie normally tries to play," Kemp said. "He's a goalie that's a lot different than your prototypi-cal goalie. He's obviously had success this year, and I look for-ward to playing against him."

Despite such widespread talent on both sides of the ball, Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said he thinks the outcome of the game will depend on team play.

"There are going to be a lot of great individual players in the game, but I think it will come down to which team plays better," he said. "There will be good matchups all over the field, but it will come down to which team plays together."

Corrigan said for the Irish this will ultimately come down to playing smart.

"The thing we have to do is keep them out of their transition-al game. They're very, very dan-gerous when things are not set up," Corrigan said. "They have set matchups all over the field, but it will come down to which team plays together."

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Earlier in the season, Syracuse was ranked ahead of Notre Dame, and the Irish were antici-pating a road game against the top team in the country. Corrigan said the team has gotten itself in a great position a few weeks before postseason play begins.

"We're playing not only two of the best teams in the country but two of the more renown pro-grams in the country," the Irish coach said. "I don't think I'm going to have to keep the guys motivated. They've been doing great, working hard every day. We're in a great spot and it's because of how hard they've worked."

Kemp said there is a high ener-gy level in the locker room head-ing into the matchup at Syracuse.

"There's a lot of excitement. Going over to the Dome is going to be really exciting, and the atmosphere will be awesome. They are expecting about 15,000 people," he said. "I am happy and excited for the opportunity to play them."

"The Irish will take on the Orangemen Saturday in Syracuse, New York, at 7 p.m.

Contact Megan Golden at mgolden01@ saintmarys.edu
THE OBSERVER

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

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**The Observer apologizes for the absence of Tuesday Variety Show**

**TUESDAY VARIETY SHOW**

LAURA McGINN

**PLEASANDVILLE**

JAMES SOLLITTO, CODY ECKERT and JOHN FLATLEY

**CROSSWORD**

**WILL SHORTZ**

**JUMBLE**

HENRI ARNOLD

**EUGENIA LAST**

**Horoscope**

CO-EDITORS BORN ON THIS DAY: Robert Grant, 22; Chad Michael Murray, 28; Mark Wahlberg, 38; Craig Kielaso, 48.

Happy Birthday! Don't be fooled by wise, wacky advice you may hear, especially when it comes to work, money and getting along. This week, relationships will be key to making the personal changes in the way you live and the responsibilities you must take care of can be more challenging than they must seem-

A tentative relationship could present a problem. **PLEASE AND VILLE**

JAMES SOLLITTO, CODY ECKERT and JOHN FLATLEY

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**BOOKSTORE BASKETBALL**

No. 1 Saturdays in America battle elements en route to victory

By MEGAN GOLDEN
Sports Writer

Marchup to feature Big East’s best

Nine Tewaaraton Trophy nominees will take the field Saturday for the matchup the top-ranked Irish have been awaiting all season, as they travel to the Carrier Dome to take on No. 4 Syracuse. Six of those Tewaaraton Trophy nominees, fighting for player of the year honors, belong to Syracuse (12-1-4; 4-6 Big East), which features a high-energy offense that averages upwards of 10 goals per game. Irish sophomore goalie John Kemp said he believes containing the Orangemen’s midfielders and limiting their transition game will be critical for the Irish (10-0, 5-0) in the game.

“They pretty much have six guys that can go to the goal whenever they want — they’re confident,” Kemp said. “We need to have good ball pressure at all times, and we need to be aware from the level of play too, as both teams put on a show with two unique offensive styles.

The older Saturdays in America played with poise and scored by hitting mid-range jumpers and finding open cutters for easy layups. The Firm, on the other hand, preferred to attack from long range, shooting from well beyond the arc. Their shots were off in the first half though, and they found themselves trailing 11-6 at halftime.

“We thought we were going to be able to use our speed to our advantage,” Firm sophomore captain Steve Conway said. “But with the rain, we weren’t able to do that, and we decided to lean on the outside shot.”

In the second half the rain fell even harder, forming puddles on the court and soaking the Orangemen’s midfielders and ball. The game got a little sloppy from the break, and hard fouls, rain-soaked collisions and a dislocated shoulder were all evidence of the high stakes of the quarterfinals.

Saturdays in America continued to pull away behind the offensive leadership of graduate student Alex Klupchak and law student Brendan Bush, who finished with eight and six points, respectively. However, the Firm remained in contention thanks to the unbelievable shooting of Conway, who in one memorable sequence made two wild fade-aways from five feet behind the three-point line.

In symbolic fashion, Saturdays in America scored the final point on a perfectly executed alley-oop to claim the victory and advance.

“It was tough playing out here, but we kept fighting until the end,” Saturdays in America senior Aaron Nichols said. “We're looking forward to the Final Four.”

**BASEBALL**

Program legend to be honored

By CHRIS ALLEN
Sports Writer

The Irish will honor a Notre Dame baseball legend while trying to keep pace in the Big East standings as they host Seton Hall for a three-game weekend series at Frank Eck Stadium.

During Friday night’s opener, Notre Dame will honor the career of Alumni Association executive director Chuck Lennon, a former monogram winner in baseball. Lennon will retire in June from his post in the Alumni Association after 30 years. Irish coach Mik Aoki said the event, which will include post-game fireworks, represents a special opportunity for his team to honor a

**ND WOMEN’S TENNIS**

Top-seeded Irish to take on Hoyas

By MATT ROBISON
Sports Writer

After Georgetown took down Cincinnati 4-1 in the first round of the Big East Tournament, No. 24 Notre Dame, the tournament’s top seed, will face the Hoyas in the quarterfinals in pursuit of its fourth straight conference title.

The Irish enter this year’s tournament as the top seed for the 15th time in the past 16 seasons, but this year they also have the good fortune of home-court advantage. The 2011 Big East championships are taking place at Notre Dame’s own Courtney Tennis Center, and Irish junior Shannon Mathews said that the team cherishes the opportunity to capture its 11th overall conference title on its home courts.

“We are all really excited to be hosting the Big East tournament and to have the opportunity to play on our courts in front of our families and friends,” Mathews said.

In Thursday’s first round matchup between the Hoyas and the Bearcats, the singles portion was played first, a different situation than regular season matches. Traditionally, the doubles