MACKENZIE SAIN/The Observer

Library receives lighting upgrade

‘Waste-Free Wednesdays’ improves steadily

Challenge promotes conscious dining behavior; liquid and food waste decreases by .03 ounces per student per meal

By ANN MARIE JAKUBOWSKI
News Writer

For a second year in a row, Waste-Free Wednesdays have challenged students to eat and drink consciously in the dining hall during the month of November.

The challenge, organized and directed by senior Elizabeth Davis, reduced monthly waste by more than half last year, and similar success was found this year.

Davis said the project met its primary goals. “We had a two-fold goal: to decrease the amount of liquid and food waste, of course, but also to increase awareness of how much we were wasting,” Davis said.

The challenge was created through a partnership through the Office of Sustainability, Food Services and the GreenNo Club. Students with no leftover food or drink on their trays were given raffle tickets, which could be entered into a drawing for 100 free Flex Points.

“The partnership between the three groups allowed there to be a student arm collaborating with the administrative aspect as well,” she said.

Analysis of the typical student eating patterns showed that at the beginning of the year, the

see WASTE/page 4

Trays in South Dining Hall were filled with less waste in November than in previous months. The “Waste-Free Wednesdays” challenge encourages students to take only what they will eat.

Waste-Free Wednesdays

949 Participants

By MEL FLANAGAN
News Writer

Notre Dame MBA student Conor Evans and his wife Lauren always knew they wanted to use their engineering and construction talents to benefit others.

The Evans recently acted on their dream and partnered with Invisible Children, an international non-profit movement set about ending conflict and children soldiering in Uganda. They

For the “Invisible Children” documentary film Ugandan residents in 2003. The documentary sparked a non-profit movement, through which Conor and Lauren Evans look to build a library.

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MBA student, wife to build library

library for the Lacor Secondary School in Gulu, Uganda. They are calling the initiative the 31 Lengths Campaign.

“The main thrust of the project is to get out there using our individual talents and passions in life, our own skills, to do good in the world in a sustainable manner, as opposed to charity, which is walked away from,” Conor Evans said.

Lauren Evans said the two began researching non-profit organizations about a year ago, looking for a partner whose mission matched theirs. They settled on Invisible Children, a movement that began in 2003 when three filmmakers from Southern California created a documentary about the conflict in Uganda.

The library will attempt to move Uganda toward a business-centered economy, rather than an agrarian-centered one, by

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67,500
pounds of food saved per year in South Dining Hall

Waste-Free Wednesdays

By TORI ROECK
News Writer

Louis Kébreau, Archbishop of Cap-Haitien, once said, “When you build a school, you close a prison.”

Because of Kébreau’s commitment to promoting education in Haiti, particularly in the aftermath of the 2009 earthquake, he will be honored with the Notre Dame Prize for Distinguished Public Service in Latin America on Thursday in Haiti, according to a University press release.

“[Kébreau] is somebody who has dedicated his life to working for the Haitian people, Reifenberg said.

Kébreau chose to donate to Action et Solidarité contre la Pauvreté (Action and Solidarity against Poverty, or ASAPI), an organization that provides scholarships to Haitian university students.

Kébreau was chosen for the honor because he has been a voice for the Haitian people, Reifenberg said.

“He is somebody who has really worked hard to connect the local and the national and the international,” he said. “He’s done a great deal to raise the issues of people at the local levels ... to really bring the awareness of what’s happening at the local level to the level of the nation in Haiti, but even more to the international community.”

Archbishop wins prize for service in Latin America

By MEL FLANAGAN
News Writer

Notre Dame MBA student Conor Evans and his wife Lauren always knew they wanted to use their engineering and construction talents to benefit others.

The Evans recently acted on their dream and partnered with Invisible Children, an international non-profit movement set on ending conflict and children soldiering in Uganda, to build a

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Inside today’s paper

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QUESTION OF THE DAY: If you owned a boat, what would you name it?

Brittany Haas
sophomore
Lyons
“Princess Bee.”

Matt O’Brien
sophomore
Carroll
“The Lucky Boy.”

Cynthia Qian-Zhang
sophomore
Ryan
“Miss Pickles.”

Grace Meilke
sophomore
Breen-Phillips
“The Maeljujuan.”

Madison McMenemy
sophomore
Pasquierilla West
“Smothered in Smith.”

Luke Smith
sophomore
Zahn
“The Moaning Maddy.”

Students play with dogs from the St. Joseph Humane Society on Friday in the Knights of Columbus building. Student Government and Circle K sponsored the event known as Puppy Days to provide stress relief for students as finals approach.

OFFBEAT

Thieves target toilet paper in Albuquerque robbery

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.—A New Mexico restaurant employee says he’s now seen it all, after three men left his dinner with rolls of toilet paper and were nabbed in the parking lot by police.

Burgers, Dogs and Wings employer Josh Flannery-Smith tells KOAT-TV in Albuquerque that he was immediately suspicious of the men when they came in Saturday because they weren’t talking and appeared “messed up.”

The three went into the bathroom and emerged carrying about a dozen rolls of toilet paper. They got in a car in the parking lot, but didn’t get far. Albuquerque police apparently already had the trio under surveillance and quickly surrounded the car and arrested them.

The toilet paper was returned to its rightful owner.

Stolen Santa returned to owner with apology note UNIVORE, Ind. — A southern Indiana man has gotten an early Christmas gift. A 16-foot-tall inflatable Santa Claus stolen from his yard has been returned with $100 and a note of apology.

Jason McClaren tells The Herald-Times that someone returned the deflated Santa to his Unionville yard early Saturday in a trash bag that also contained the money and note. He says the anonymous note makes it clear that the person who returned the Santa wasn’t the thief who took it and two 6-foot tall penguins this past week.

The penguin decorations are still missing.

The typed note states: “Returning your property is the right thing to do, and apologies for the thief who took it in the first place.”

McClaren says he plans to use the $100 to buy more decorations.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

The Department of Art will host a holiday pottery sale today from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Mendoza College of Business. The sale will continue Wednesday and Thursday in the Riley Hall of Design from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Class of 2015 will gather for a freshman class Mass today at 5:45 p.m. in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. All freshmen are welcome to attend. A reception will follow the mass.

Saint Mary’s College will host its annual Lessons and Carols today at 7 p.m. in the Church of Our Lady of Loretto on campus. The event features interdenominational music, dance and scripture. All are welcome to attend.

There will be a Catholic Charismatic prayer meeting today in the Alumni Hall Chapel. The meeting will take place from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Meetings occur every Tuesday in Alumni.

Archbishop Timothy Dolan of New York will deliver an address on human dignity entitled “Modern Questions, Ancient Answers? Defining and Defending Human Dignity in Our Time” today in the Notre Dame Conference Center of McKenna Hall. The address will begin at 7:30 p.m. Notre Dame theology professors Ann Astell and Gerald McKenny will deliver Catholic and Protestant responses following the address.

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

Job growth remains stagnant

By ANNA BOARINI
News Writer

The recession has affected all portions of the economy, but the job sector has been hit the hardest, said Saint Mary’s Economics professor Jerry McElroy. McElroy was featured in a story on joblessness on MSNBC’s “The Bottom Line” last Thursday.

"Where we are today is just a little bit above where we were in terms of overall economic activity in 2007," he told The Observer Monday. "So in other words we haven’t come very far.”

McElroy said one of the reasons the recession has been difficult to recover from is the lack of job growth. Essentially, the current economy is a jobless one.

"The economy lost 8.7 mil‌-lion jobs. That was during the downturn," he said. "During the upshot, we only gained about 2.5 million, and so that is why it has been called a jobless recovery." McElroy said this is the first time the U.S. has seen a jobless recovery since the Great Depression. Because the economy has seen a re-cession, consumers are not spending as much money, which is not good for American business, he said.

The consumer is just not buying like they used to," he said. "The engine of the U.S. economy is the consumer.

The household consumer accounts for 70 percent of total expenditures of the economy," McElroy said there are four reasons the household con-sumers is not spending money: the financial meltdown, the crash of the housing bubble, debt costs and lower wages than past averages.

"The real wage of the aver-age American has been fall-ing, and if your wages are re-ally falling, you are not going to be spending a lot," he said. Even though the economy has still not completely re-covered from the recession, retailers saw successful Black Friday and Cyber Mon-day sales, McElroy said.

"Most retailers say that they do 40 percent of their business between Thanksgiving and New Year’s," he said. "So if they don’t make it now, they are going to go under.

McElroy said there are signs that the consumer is waking up and spending more money.

"No. 1: For the last three months, the economy has added over 100,000 jobs, so that’s good news," he said.

"No. 2: The unemployment rate just fell in November from 9 percent to 8.6 percent, so that means we are making progress."

McElroy said the final rea-son the economy saw a boost was that retail sales for Black Friday and Cyber Monday were above what economists had forecasted.

"Now this makes the retail-ers feel good, and another good indicator is that con-sumers sentiment, when con-sumers feel better, seems to be rising," he said.

Even though the economy has seen some growth and the biggest shopping week-end of the year was a suc-cess, McElroy said people are still dealing with the fallout from the recession.

McElroy said that food pan-tries around the country are serving demographics they have not encountered before.

"All these managers of food stamps across the country are seeing people they have never seen before," he said. "They identified a couple of groups: unattached young people and families with both parents and children."

The recession has effected all portions of the economy, which has added pressure on the organizations.

"They have seen a decline in donations. Some donors are giving less and some do-nors are becoming receiv-ers," he said. "Secondly, they have experienced a cut in federal funding, and third-ly the price of food is going up and as a result, the food bank dollar goes less far."

LED lights shine on “Word of Life” mural

By JESSICA STOLLER-CONRAD
News Writer

Last Spring, the popular “Word of Life” mural on the south side of Hesburgh Library was updated with new energy-efficient LED lights, said Paul Kempf, director of Utilities at Notre Dame.

“The new lighting is part of the $10 million Energy Conser-vation Measures (ECM) proj-ect, begun in 2008 to support conservation initiatives, Kempf said.

“The ECM project has had two phases. The second phase has been very focused on lighting,” Kempf said. “We’ve basically gone through all of campus with an eye towards replacing incandescent light bulbs... and large-diameter fluorescent light bulbs. We’ve upgraded almost 80 buildings on campus with new lighting technology.”

The mural, originally illumi-nated with outdated mercury vapor lighting, also visually benefits from the new lighting provided by LED technology, Kempf said.

“The LEDs give better uni-formity than [the mural] had before, as far as how it illumi-nates the whole mural, and you get a better color rendering,” Kempf said. “The LED lighting is more akin to natural lighting and you see truer colors.”

Kempf said another ongoing sustainability project involves updating the “light lights” that illuminate the sidewalks and roads on campus, which also benefit from LED technology.

“The LED also has a great ad-\vantage — that it’s a light that you can shape and direct more than you can the older sources. We’re lighting the ground instead of lighting the sky and there’s less glare... less light pollution,” Kempf said. Energy savings from the use of LED lights also benefits the University financially, Kempf said.

“It has a cost benefit to the University,” he said. “It has al-lowed the University to take the savings we’ve generated and ac-tually roll it right back into the program and let us keep doing more and more by reinvesting in [the ECM project]. And that’s a logical approach to conserva-tion or sustainability, to do the things that have an economic payback first.”

Reather Christophersen, di-rector of Sustainability at Notre Dame, said she also supports these new energy-efficient transitions.

“The new lights save energy, which causes us to produce less carbon, which is one of our major goals — to reduce the carbon footprint of the campus,” Christophersen said.

Christophersen said she would like to see other campus icons receive sustainable light-ing updates in the near future.

“It would be really cool to change the lighting on the Dome. LED lights to make it, at night, have less of a green color and more true,” Christophersen said.

The LED lights for the mural were a donation from Musco Lighting, with whom the Uni-versity has had a long-time partnership in lighting campus locations, Christophersen said.

Christophersen said she also hopes the new mural lighting will have an impact that reach-es farther than the boundaries of campus.

“I think changing to these more efficient types of lights on such a visible campus landmark that so many people know about and look at, it will help hopefully remind people how they can save energy in their own lives,” Christophersen said.

Contact Jessica Stoller-Conrad at js2661@nd.edu

The “Word of Life” mural on the Hesburgh Library is now lit with LED lights as a result of the Energy and Conservation Measures project.
Residents of Gulu, Uganda, gather in the 2003 documentary, “Invisible Children.” Conor and Lauren Evans plan to build a library there.

Invisible continued from page 1

“Gaining the trust of children, Conor Evans said, “is key. Everything we do, we are building the relationship with the community.”

Rainfall in Uganda is predicted to decrease 28 percent over the next 80 years, Conor Evans said, a fact that greatly increases the probability of civil war in the country.

“If we can educate them and create commerce to where they are not as reliant on agriculture for their livelihoods, that is the end goal of the mission,” he said.

While local contractors and workers designed and will build the library, the 31 Lengths Campaign will assist in other ways.

“Conor and I are our team are there to raise the funds,” Lauren Evans said. “Also, the Invisible Children engineering staff asked if we would train them in Western building practices, I’m creating a curriculum for classes such as concrete cracking issues and safety.”

The campaign is currently focusing on fundraising. In order to raise the $900,000 needed for the project, the team is taking a pyramid approach, which involves goals of a certain number of people giving a certain amount of money each.

“It’s a mix of speaking to both enough people and a few really big [donations],” Conor Evans said.

Sophomore Emily Mediate, leader of the undergraduate in-volvement branch of the project, said there are numerous ways for students to participate in the project.

“We want people to start dialogue about it, start thinking about it and start having it on their radar,” she said.

The library, the 31 Lengths Campaign, and the Invisible Children engineering staff asked if we would train them in Western building practices. I’m creating a curriculum for classes such as concrete cracking issues and safety.

Waste continued from page 1

average patron of South Dining Hall wasted 6.01 ounces of food per meal. The November data revealed that this number has fallen to 5.11 ounces — a 15 percent decrease.

North Dining Hall increased its waste slightly during the challenge, going from 3.27 ounces to 3.34 ounces wasted.

Combined, the campus decreased from 4.26 to 4.23 ounces wasted per person per meal.

“We did pretty well, since the recorded total number of people who didn’t waste in both dining halls was 949,” Davis said. “The exciting thing is, if we maintain this level of reduction, we’ll be saving 67,500 pounds of food per year in South Dining Hall.”

Davis said some of the reductio could be attributed to the smaller trays now used in South Dining Hall, but that the project’s work to increase awareness was also a definite success.

“It’s so easy to just make more food than you need when you’re going through the dining hall,” Davis said. “If people kept the project’s idea in the back of their minds, we could save an unbelievable amount of food.”

Sophomore Tim Bontrager was named winner of the raffle Wednesday and was awarded the 100 Flex Points.

Davis said one common mis-conception about dining hall waste blames Food Services for the waste problems, claiming the organization makes too much food and disposes of it after each meal. However, Davis said, left-over cooked food is donated to two local homeless shelters and not added to the wasted food to tal.

While the University is very conscious of food disposal, little can be done with the leftovers that students leave on their trays, and by addressing this issue, the Waste-Free project solves a dif-frent aspect of the dining hall sustainability problem, she said.

“We really wanted to create a positive image for the whole thing, instead of making people feel reprimanded for wasting,” Davis said. “If we can continue this trend, we can make a big difference.”

Award continued from page 1

Reifenberg said Kébreau has most recently advocated globally for measures to combat a cholera epidemic in Haiti.

In the realm of education, Kébreau has been integral in building and rebuilding schools for impoverished Haitian children, especially in the aftermath of the 2010 earthquake, Reifenberg said.

Reifenberg said choosing Kébreau to receive the prize honors not only his leadership, but also the Haitian people.

“There is an interest in recogniz-ing the incredible solidarity of the Haitian people,” Reifenberg said, “and what they’ve endured since the earthquake and in the midst of incredible hardship, the real leadership that many people have shown, and to a certain degree be- ing able to honor one person is ac-tually honoring Haitians, as well.”

Reifenberg said this year’s award is especially relevant to Notre Dame’s longstanding en-gagement with Haiti.

“This is the University’s early special recognition for Notre Dame, given Notre Dame’s long tradition of commitment to Haiti,” Reifenberg said. “And I think it is a commitment that is only growing as the programs the University has in health, education, infrastructure and disaster relief and management and cultures continue to grow. I think that while a specific individual is being recognized, it is part of a broader commitment.”

According to the Kellogg Insti-tute’s website, former recipients of the prize include President Lui Laz undergraduate studies and the 1990s, Brazil, hu-man rights activist Helen Mack Chang and Cardinal Rodriguez Maradiaga.

Contact Mei Flanagan at mflanagan@nd.edu

Gingrich defends campaign

NEW YORK — Surging in opinion polls, a confident Newt Gingrich declared Mon-day that Mitt Romney was about to lose the Republican nomination to take on the president. But, il-lustrating how far he has to go, Gingrich also found himself defending the state of his campaign and his own com-ments about poor children.

“I do not suggest children until about 14 or 15 years of age do heavy, dangerous janitorial work,” Gingrich told re-porters. “On the other hand, there are a number of things done to clean buildings that are not heavy or dangerous.”

He’s drawn fire over the past week for suggesting that poor children as young as 9 should work at least part time cleaning their schools in or-der to learn about work.

This is a particularly special moment for Gingrich and his own cam-paign, Reifenberg said.

“You are not going to find anyone in the state who didn’t waste in both dining halls,” Davis said. “If people kept the project’s idea in the back of their minds, we could save an unbelievable amount of food.”

With only one month until the first presidential votes are cast, the GOP race has seemed to narrow to a contest be-tween Gingrich and Romney.

“This burst of momentum and he’s steering clear of criticizing his GOP rivals. He is the lat-est GOP candidate to enjoy a burst of momentum and he’s working to prove that, unlike the others who have risen and fallen, he’s a serious contend-er with staying power.”
Postal problems delay mail

NEW YORK — Utility bills are paid, legal briefs are filed, and the Christmas shopping gets done online. But for magazines, clothing catalogues and others that long ago stopped relying on the post office, “it’s less of a disaster than it would have been 10 years ago, but it’ll be a cash flow crunch for some companies,” said Todd McCracken, president and chief executive of the National Small Business Association. “It’ll be longer to get your invoice, and longer to get a check back.”

First-class mail is supposed to arrive at U.S. homes and businesses in one to three days, about 42 percent of it arrives in one day. The cutbacks will back up deliveries to two to three days, periodicals could take up to nine days.

Cookie Driscoll of Fairfield, Conn., who sells decorative animal stickers to gift shops, said she uses the Postal Service for almost all deliveries because prices are low and predictable, and delivery is fast. She also receives most of her income by paper checks through the mail.

“We are increasingly concerned about any proposal that would degrade the level of service such as greater variability in delivery deadlines,” said Carolyn Beem, an L.L. Bean spokeswoman.

Politicians clash over Israeli foreign policy

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama and his Republican opponents are clashing over U.S. policy toward Israel as each side lays claim to a supposed endorsement from Jewish voters, who could be critical in the 2012 election.

Aiming to cast Obama as unfairly harsh toward Israel and soft on the Palestinians, his Republican presidential hopefulee Mitt Romney and Newt Gingrich have called on the president to fire his ambassador to Israel and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, saying Obama’s remarks unfairly blamed Israel.

The White House says Obama has a long record of support for Israel, and quickly fired back with a statement condemning Romney’s comments in all its forms. “The State Department and our government will remain in his job.

Republican allies also challenged Obama’s move to suspend a fund-raiser last week that “this administration has done more in terms of Israel’s security than any previous administration,” said Romney’s campaign has ‘repeatedly thrown Israel under the bus’” — an accusation the Jewish-American National Committee repeated Monday.

Firing back, Democratic National Committee Chairwoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz, who called Romney’s comments “outrageous” and questioned his own policies. The White House cited military aid to Israel and support at the United Nations, and pointed to statements from Israeli officials backing up Obama’s assertion.

The fiery debate will likely continue Wednesday when the GOP presidential candidates are expected to attend a Washington forum hosted by the Jewish-American National Committee.

Obama campaign officials say they will be ready to respond. And the next day, Jewish leaders will be at the White House for briefings on Israel and a Hanukkah party, followed by an Obama speech next week to an expected audience of nearly 6,000 at a conference of the Union for Reform Judaism.

Such attention is all being paid in recognition that Jewish voters, though comprising only 2 percent of the electorate nationwide, are an important part of Obama’s base and could make the difference in battleground states like Florida, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Nevada in a close election. Moreover, the Jewish community is an important source of donations, and Obama campaign supporters want to maintain that support as much as Republicans want to chip away at it.

“This campaign takes the Jewish vote very, very seriously,” said Ira Forman, the Obama campaign’s national outreach director. “I’m confident this will be the most comprehensive effort in a presidential campaign history.”

The White House outreach has increased since May when Obama caused a furor by calling for Israel’s 1967 borders, with agreed-upon land swaps, as a basis for resuming negotiations toward a two-state solution with the Palestinians. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu rejected the 1967 borders as indefensible and called for a freeze of all settlement expansion.

Romney and Gingrich both support Israel’s right to defend itself, and their remarks are widely seen as part of a larger effort to rally support among Jewish voters. But some critics say the candidates are determined to respond rapidly to such criticism in future.

“We are trying to responsibly respond to all of these unsubstantiated or false allegations, but there are so many of them, and they are so frequently recanted despite the fact that the people who are spreading them have to know they’re false, that it’s hard to keep up with them,” said Alan Solow, an early backer of Obama’s. "We are increasingly concerned about any proposal that would degrade the level of service such as greater variability in delivery deadlines,” said Carolyn Beem, an L.L. Bean spokeswoman.

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How the Gipper stole Christmas

Every Donner in South Bend liked Christmas a lot. But the Gipper, whose ghost wandered campus, did not. The Gipper hated Christmas! He had a good reason. I’ve some idea why — the end of football season. But that wasn’t all that made old Gipp cross, nor was it merely the great perma-frost. One thing about Christmas old Gipp did detest. Why did the students have to take all those tests? Gipp knew the cause of this lack of enjoyment: Students must pass to find gainful employment. But in his good heart Gipp had a concern. “With Christmas so near, just how can they learn?” The garlands, the stockings, the lights and the holly. It’s too hard to focus when things are so soft. The well-meaning Gipp wondered what could be done, and then he recalled: “Econ 101!” To help all these students become more attentive. I’ll simply create a learning incentive. They have to be studying, all that time later. I’ll make them forget the opportunity cost. Take away all the hallmarks of holiday cheer. Make the whole campus bleak and austere.” So the Gipper emerged to sneak through the halls, take down all the mistletoe, scour the walls. The sweaters he stuffed one by one into barrels, and stole all the soundtracks of Christmas cards. He ripped wrapping paper off doors all dressed up. He even took every last red Starbucks cup. But as the Gipper slipped away with his booty, he Boated right past an RA on duty. “Where are you going with all of that stuff?” The RA demanded, trying to sound tough. “Quick, everyone come to stop this old specter!” Please someone run and go get the Rector! More students descended with lots of hostility. “You’re stealing away all our utility! Consumption at Christmastime brings us much cheer; it’s why it is still the best time of the year. Our demand for Christmas is quite inelastic.” You’ll find you will go to lengths quite fantastic. To maintain our spirits as we close a semester, your theft will not stop us, you Christmas protesters!” The Gipper looked around with a tear in his eye. It really seemed as though he might cry. “Please do not think I’ve an evil mentality. I wanted to remove an externality. A consequence you students didn’t expect. When you were ensuring your halls were all decked Was that Christmas would provide such a distraction. Not studying would be the normal reaction. I really just had your best interests in mind. When I took all the Christmas things I could find.” The students replied, “But a little digression Helps us not slide into abject depression!” The lights and the sweaters, they make us smile. Cards and bells make studying worthwhile. We know, Mr. Gipp, that you meant to do good But really we think you misunderstood. Cheerful students do better, we do insist. Yes, Christmas and finals week can coexist. The Gipp’s heart sank as he saw his mistake. He returned all the goods, every last snowflake. The students forgave him in true Christmas spirit, and they rejoiced loudly so that all could hear it. Then adjourned to the dining hall to eat a great feast, and yes, they allowed him to carve their roast beast. Grace Concealman is a senior majoring in finance and philosophy. She can be reached at gconcealman@wesu.edu. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Thoughts amidst the failure of the ‘Super Committee’

Adam Newman

Thank you, Dayne.

Over the past four years you have been a model of how Christ calls each of us to live. You have shown not just those affiliated with this University, but the entire nation what Notre Dame truly stands for. Even as you faced so much adversity on the field, you never faltered in who you are.

As an alumus of ACE, I know firsthand how much this world needs people like you — quality role models for our youth to look up to. We don’t always know how much of an impact we have on people, but I want you to know you make my eyes look up to you. The example you set by the way you live your life means a lot to me, and I hope you never forget how even the little things we do can have a lasting impact.

It will be difficult to see you on the field somewhere else next season, but I wish you the best, athletically and in life. You deserve nothing but the best, no matter what your future holds. I will be proud to call you a fellow alumnus of this great University. May God bless you wherever life takes you. And fellow alumnus of this great University. May future holds. I will be proud to call you the best, no matter what your athletically and in life. You deserve somewhere else next season, but I wish you an impact we have on people, but I want up to. We don’t always know how much of what we want while Barack Obama is President and the Democrats hold the Senate, we can get 100 percent of what we want when Mitt Romney is President and Republicans hold the Senate and House?”

Besides this strategy being extremely cynical, it is also misguided. If Republicans sweep the 2012 elections and subsequently try to unilaterally reform Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid, they will fail. And if they do fail, they will pay a major political price in the next election. This will be due to a re-energized Democratic Party eager to oppose the Tea Partiers and the general public reacting to Republican “overreach.” This explains why the Republicans should have accepted the offer of Super Committee Republicans, because the Republicans may never get a deal as good from the Democrats again.

I will end by asking a very simple question: Where was the president during the Super Committee ordeal? I am sure that the president’s political advisors told him that the Super Committee was the equivalent of a black hole. It was never going to succeed because of the enormous differences between Republicans and Democrats, but it would only weaken the president’s standing if he got involved and the committee subsequently failed.

I understand that Barack Obama is in a tough position because any meaningful deficit reduction plan has to be on the table for next season, but I wish you an impact we have on people, but I want up to. We don’t always know how much of what we want while Barack Obama is President and the Democrats hold the Senate, we can get 100 percent of what we want when Mitt Romney is President and Republicans hold the Senate and House?”

This article first ran in the Dec. 5 edition of The Daily Illini, the daily publication serving the University of Illinois. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
The Morris Performing Arts Center played home to the national Broadway tour of the Disney classic “Beauty and the Beast” over the weekend. Upon stepping inside the theatre, the audience was transported to a land where anything could happen. The stage was decorated with beautiful intertwined flower arrangements as well as an imposing pattern of gold, pink, and teal, getting people in the mood to experience magic.

The transformation from animated movie to live musical could have been a tough one. There are a lot of things made possible in drawings that are not possible in real life. However, the team who produced this musical came together and created a show that effectively portrayed the magic of the original film.

In a tactful and ingenious tweak, the show had servants gradually transform into household items rather than begin as them. If they did not break the spell, they would transform completely and be stuck like that. A big fuss was made of the example of Cogsworth (the clock character) grew a winding mechanism on his back. The costumes were absolutely spectacular. The costume designer, Ann Houd-Ward, won a Tony for her work in this show.

Theatre, unlike film – animated or otherwise – has to worry about moving sets. In movies, shots simply cut from scene to scene, but in theatre, stage hands have to manually move pieces. In this show, gargoyles moved the sets. Although it took a while for me to realize they were gargoyles and not strange demons, having them move the sets and then positioning themselves acted as a dynamic storyline and, of course, to make it more of a musical. In one of the new songs, “Me,” Gaston proposes to Belle and brags wildly about himself (what a character). Again, another new song was “Home,” sung while Belle was first trapped in the Beast’s castle wondering if the horrible place would become her new home.

The Beast has two new songs, “How Long Must This Go On” and “If I Can’t Love Her” that bring a greater depth to the Beast and his servants. The audience of course feels sorry for the Beast and his servants and wishes them success while watching the movie.

In this live production, however, audiences really understand the horror of the servants as their transformation progresses. They also see the utter hopelessness the Beast feels when he lets Belle go free and the Beast’s desperate longing to show Belle he cares for her.

The actors in this touring company were all fantastic. But one in particular stood out. Andrew Kruep played the lovable, dimwitted character of Lefou. Gaston’s sidekick Kruep was perfect for the role. With his cartoonish antics, comedic falling and adorable smile, he stole the show.

Overall, “Beauty and the Beast” at the Morris was amazing. The show-stoppers were exactly that and the actors were phenomenal. Confetti and glitter were everywhere. What more could someone want?

“Beauty and the Beast” is a classic that will fill our hearts with hope and happiness, whether told as a movie or musical. Tale as old as time, song as old as rhyme — the song got it right.

Contact Tessa DeMers at tdemers@nd.edu

“Beauty and the Beast”

Where: The Morris Performing Arts Center
When: Dec. 2 to Dec. 3
Teen phenom Justin Bieber entered the holiday music market much to the excitement of 13 year olds across the world. His new album “Under the Mistletoe,” as one may be able to infer from the title, is my cupcake-by-cupcake specialist. The following is a breakdown of the Battle Royale.

By ANKUR CHAWLA
Scence Writer

Last week, Saint Mary's College hosted its first annual Cupcake Battle Royale in Le Mans Hall. Students from Saint Mary’s baked the best cupcakes they could, and three were entered into the competition. Thanks to my plethora of food and cupcake related articles, I was selected as one of the three celebrity judges for the competition. The others included Janiele Tchakarian, assistant vice president of Student Affairs and director of Residence Life & Community Standards, and officially, Faculty Member With the Longest Title at Saint Mary’s) and Becky Woods, maintenance specialist. The following is my cupcake-by-cupcake breakdown of the Battle Royale.

Cupcakes were judged and awarded based on three separate criteria: taste, decoration and creativity of the name. The three cupcakes in competition were the Peppermint Popper, Reese’s Cupcake and Despicable Treats.

The first cupcake on the slate was the Peppermint Popper. Though nicely cooked and moist, the “funfetti” cake was fairly small. The frosting, however, was quite incredible. The peppermint buttercream had a perfect flavor balance of sweet with mint. Red and green crunchy sprinkle balls on top added texture and Christmas color to the cake. One qualm I had with it, though, was the unneeded Life Savers mint on top acting as a decoration. However, that is more a personal prejudice against Life Savers mints in general than the cake. One last cupcake, “Funfetti” cake, was made from the movie “Despicable Me.” The cupcake was designed to look like one of the minions from the movie “Despicable Me,” and it really did quite a good job of that. The cake was made from yellow cake mix, but was dyed to look half blue and half yellow. Surprisingly, it was perfectly moist and the best baked. There was a blue, whipped vanilla frosting, and coming out of the cake was half a Twinkie. This cupcake was decorated with chocolate and Smarties to make it resemble its big screen counterpart. Despite the Twinkie being slightly on the stale side, the cupcake came together very nicely. Each of the cupcakes was a winner in one of the three categories: the Peppermint Popper won the name contest, the Reese’s Cupcake won for taste and Despicable Treats won for decoration. That being said, they were all great in their own way, but I of course I had my personal favorite. For me, Despicable Treats literally took the cake. Pun intended.

Contact Ankur Chawla at achawla@nd.edu

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Ankur Chawla at achawla@nd.edu

By COURTNEY COX
Associate Scene Editor

Last on the slate was the Reese’s Cupcake. This was a chocolate cake with Reese’s bits baked into it, topped with a vanilla frosting. While the frosting was store bought, firm and overly sweet, the cake itself was delicious. It’s not hard to imagine the pairing of chocolate and peanut butter tasting good.

Last on the slate was the Despicable Treats. This cupcake was designed to look like one of the minions from the movie “Despicable Me,” and it really did quite a good job of that. The cake was made from yellow cake mix, but was dyed to look half blue and half yellow. Surprisingly, it was perfectly moist and the best baked. There was a blue, whipped vanilla frosting, and coming out of the cake was half a Twinkie. This cupcake was decorated with chocolate and Smarties to make it resemble its big screen counterpart. Despite the Twinkie being slightly on the stale side, the cupcake came together very nicely. Each of the cupcakes was a winner in one of the three categories: the Peppermint Popper won the name contest, the Reese’s Cupcake won for taste and Despicable Treats won for decoration. That being said, they were all great in their own way, but I of course I had my personal favorite. For me, Despicable Treats literally took the cake. Pun intended.

Contact Courtney Cox at cc63@nd.edu

“Under the Mistletoe”
Justin Bieber

Label: Island Records
Standout Tracks: “Mistletoe,” “Home This Christmas” and “Someday at Christmas”
**SPORTS AUTHORITY**

Bowl schedule out, the debate begins

The college football bowl schedule is officially out, and people are angry, as always. The computer overlords have once again messed up all that is holy in college football, providing the talking heads at ESPN and others online with two weeks of screaming material over who should play in what bowl, and those rankings.

This year, most of the drama centered on the top three teams in the poll, as the voters/cyborgs opted for an LSU-Kansas State rematch instead of the much clamored for showdown between offensive machines Oklahoma State and stingy Louisiana State. If only there was some superagency everyone could agree about.

Top Three Heisman Hopefuls:
1. Trent Richardson, RB, Alabama — He’s carried the No. 1 team in the country and he’s got the numbers to bring it home. In the SEC, that’s saying something.
2. Robert Griffin III, QB, Baylor — If A&M fans had played his way out of contention toward the end of the season, Griffin might have moved up in voters’ minds with incredible performances. Baylor has one too many losses for him to win, though.
3. Tyraん Mathieu, CB, LSU — He’s just one piece of an unreal LSU defense, but those two punt returns in the SEC Championship game will give him a boost up to bronze. Andrew Luck doesn’t care about Andrew Luck.

We build precision weapons for him to blow up teams with.

Top Three Teams in the Country:
1. LSU — You beat everyone in the country, and you’re doing it. Generally good at playing.
2. Alabama — In a perfect ranking system, No. 2 only loses to No. 1, and it’s a pretty close game. That’s just what the Crimson Tide fans would prequel in November. They’ve blown out every other team they’ve played, including Arkansas, Florida and Penn State.
3. Oklahoma State — A solid résumé and very fun to watch, but an overtime loss to Iowa State is not the same as an overtime loss to LSU. Sorry.

Contact Jack Hefferson at wheffer@nd.edu

**GOLF**

Tiger's victory signal returns from LV

Tiger Woods celebrates on the final hole of the Chevron World Challenge after defeating Zach Johnson by one stroke Sunday.

**CLASSIFIEDS**

**PERSONAL**

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY? Don’t know who’s the father? We have many resources in place to assist you. If you need confidential support or assistance, please call Sr. Sue Dunn at 1-781-9 or Fr. Tom Fricke at 1-202-3. For more information, visit ND’s website at http://pregnancy.nd.edu.

**JOBS**

Christmas Vacation quotes

Clark: Can I refill my eggnog for you? I got you a half empty bottle.
Dolly: Drive you on to the middle of the nowhere and leave you for dead?

Eddie: Naw, I’m doing just fine, Clark.

Eddie: She falls down a well, her eyes go cross. She gets kicked by a mule. They go back. I don’t know.

Audrey: We’re not coming all the way out here just to get one of those stupid sweaters with Santa Clauses on it are we?

Eddie: You surprised to see me, Yippee.

Eddie: Oh, I’ll wake up tomorrow and write the words to the carpet, I wouldn’t be more surprised than I am. OK.

[Clark is a squirrel in the house] Where is Eddie? He usually eats these things.

Council: [to Eddie] I don’t really think that squirls were high in cholesterol.

Art: [to Rocky] You got a kick for these, you son of a bitch.

Eddie: Better take a rain check on that, Art - he’s got a lip fungus they ain’t identified yet.

Rusty Griswold: Dad, this tree won’t fit in our back yard.

Clark: It’s not going in the yard, Rusty. It’s going in the living room.

**SPORTS**

The Observer classifies every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for classifieds is 3 p.m. Classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is $1 per character per day, including spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without incurring fees.
NCAA promises new guidelines for handling abuse

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Mark Emmert is willing to help colleges and universities do a better job protecting minors on campus.

In the wake of two disturbing child sex-abuse allegations in the past month, the NCAA president said Monday he has contacted U.S. Education Secretary Arnie Duncan so he can advise school leaders about the best practices in dealing with half boys, half girls and students who attend summer camps.

“We’re looking into that right now,” Emmert told The Associated Press. “Because we’ve never been involved with this kind of thing before, we’re trying to determine what is the best thing to do.”

Emmert did not provide specific details on what those guidelines may include, how extensive they could be or when they might be completed.

No, Emmert does not intend to add the guidelines to the massive 400-plus page rulebook, but he wants to prevent future improprieties from occurring and wants to find out if there is an extensive culture within athletic departments that could lead to cover-ups of criminal conduct.

“When you have a veil of secrecy, you have the potential for abusive behavior whether it’s in the Catholic church, a school or whatever, and that applies to all of us, not just the NCAA,” Emmert told reporters in Indianapolis.

Penn State has already said it is considering a change to its school policy, too.

“We are looking at issues such as you mentioned,” school president Rod Erickson said. “For example, the sports camps, and who was allowed to participate in the supervisory or oversight kind of role. But we’re also relying on the special investigations task force, which is looking at every aspect of policy and practice. I’ve already said as part of my five promises that will implement the recommendations that come out of that investigation.”

Emmert’s comments came in the final month of a scandal-tinged year that has damaged the images of athletic programs from Boise State and Tennessee to Miami and Ohio State.

But the recent allegations at Penn State and Syracuse are the most shocking.

After a grand jury report accused former Nittany Lions defensive coordinator Jerry Sandusky of abusing eight boys over a 15-year period, university trustees fired coach Joe Paterno and school President Graham Spanier. Two other former Penn State officials are charged with failing to report complaints of abuse and with lying to a grand jury. They have pleaded not guilty.

Critics contended that Paterno, Spanier and other Penn officials should have done more to stop Sandusky, who is awaiting a preliminary hearing on 46 criminal counts.

Last week, after three men accused Bernie Fine of molesting them, Syracuse fired the long-time assistant basketball coach. Federal authorities are investigating, but no charges have been filed.

The Education Department announced a month ago that it would conduct an investigation at Penn State. Rep. Patrick McHenry, R-N.C., a former U.S. attorney, has encouraged Duncan to investigate possible Clery Act violations. The law requires schools to report the number of crimes on campus and provide warnings in a timely manner if safety is threatened.

Emmert sent a letter to Penn State officials last month, notifying the school that the NCAA had opened an inquiry into whether NCAA rules may have been violated. Emmert has asked the school to answer questions by Dec. 16, though he acknowledged Monday that the ongoing investigations make it unlikely he would hear back that soon.

“We have been in touch with Penn State and their board of trustees, and I would describe that relationship as extremely collaborative and we appreciate that,” Emmert said. “But I think it’s clear that it will be impossible for them to provide us with a lot of that information in that timeframe. We certainly want to get all of our questions answered, so we’ll see what they’re saying.”

Emmert said previously the information could lead to a formal investigation at Penn State.

“Syracuse, however, is not facing an NCAA inquiry — yet.”

“We’ve not done that based on the information we have right now,” Emmert said.

But it’s clear Emmert is weary of all these allegations.

“We have had a heck of a year of scandals and disruptions,” he said. “To have really good success on the one hand and all these grenades blowing up has been frustrating.”

Emmert reiterated his desire to reform the rulebook, saying NCAA leaders had held two meetings in the past week to discuss how to simplify the rulebook. He wants more emphasis on allegations that threaten the integrity of the game, a more streamlined hearing process and a multi-tiered penalty structure, rather than the two-tiered system that currently exists.

Those measures could be passed by April.

“I am adamant, and the membership is adamant, that we make changes quickly and that we base them around the core values of college athletics.”

Mark Emmert
NCAA president

I am adamant, and the membership is adamant, that we make changes quickly and that we base them around the core values of college athletics.

Mark Emmert
NCAA president

NCAA president Mark Emmert speaks at a press conference on Oct. 24 about new sexual abuse advisory guidelines. Emmert contacted U.S. Education Secretary Arnie Duncan on Monday to discuss options.

Paris and ROME
Summer Study Abroad Programs

Information Meeting
Thursday, December 8
5:00pm
118 DeBartolo Hall

For more information, visit the Office of International Studies website at: www.nd.edu/~ois

The Observer • SPORTS

ndmscobserver.com | page 11
has already played No. 1 Minnesota-Duluth, No. 3 Boston College and No. 4 Ohio State. The Irish will play No. 2 Minnesota on Jan. 7.

The CCHA, Notre Dame’s hockey conference for 12 years, will disband follow-
ing the 2012-13 season. After Penn State and, subsequently, the Big Ten added hockey, the teams of the CCHA and Western Col-
giate Hockey Association (WCHA) were forced to re-align.

“I kind of find [the depth of the CCHA] coincidental in the fact that the league is going to disband in two years,” Jackson said.

Notre Dame (10-5-3, 7-2-3 CCHA) decided to join Hockey East for the 2013-14 season.

The No. 7 Irish are 1-2 against Hockey East teams this year, beating Boston College but dropping two games against Northeastern.

“There’s a lot of Hockey East flavor in our schedule this year,” Jackson said. He said Hockey East teams play a much more up-tempo, entertaining, fan-friendly game than the ones found in the CCHA.

In the meantime, however, fans will just have to settle for a loaded CCHA.

Contact Matthew DeFranks at mdefrank@nd.edu

CCHA

Modern Questions, Ancient Answers?
Defining and Defending Human Dignity in Our Time

Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan
( New York; President, USCCB)
will deliver the inaugural lecture of the Notre Dame Project on Human Dignity.

With responses from

Ann Arzell, Ph.D.
Notre Dame Theology Dept.

Gerald McKenny, Ph.D.
Notre Dame Theology Dept.

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Contact Megan Golden at mgolde01@saintmarys.edu

Whitcomb continued from page 16

his great-grandfather Bengt von Rosen. Whitcomb recently traveled to Germany to dis-
cover more about his lineage.

“They were a very noble family — barons and baron-
esses, I believe. That’s kind of my lineage, and I’m just kind of a royal man,” he said. “The Germans we spoke with had all sorts of songs and stories about the von Rosens, and they were pretty excited to have us there. It was a small town, so it was kind of a big event to have us there. [My teammates] say they call me the King, and I was treated like a king when I went back to my home land.”

Whitcomb said he enjoys traveling in his free time. “I asked to provide his wisest piece of life advice, he emphasized the impor-
tance of understanding different ways of life.

“Explore the world, and don’t be afraid of it. I think a lot of people limit their goals to what they think they can do and what their future options can be, especially outside of college,” he said. “Personal-
ly, I think it’s very important to maintain more of a global perspective and not necessarily get caught up in what the American culture might tell you is the key to success. Explore your options, and don’t give up on your true passion in life.”

Whitcomb began his swimming career at the age of five. The youngest of five boys, he had little choice but to follow the path of his older brothers, two of which swam at Nebras-
ka.

Whitcomb’s extensive reign as the youngest family member led to a sort of role revers-
al this season.

“I think myself and the senior class [have] done a good following for a kingly man,” Whitcomb said. He believes the freshman class is a spe-
cial group of swimmers, and he is confident they have a bright future in the program.

“I think myself and the sen-
or class [have] done a good job of kind of showing them the path of his older brothers, two of which swam at Nebras-
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Senior Jonathan Whitcomb races Jan. 28 at the Shamrock Invitational at the Rolfs Aquatic Center.

Senior Jonathan Whitcomb races Jan. 28 at the Shamrock Invitational at the Rolfs Aquatic Center.

Lecture is open to the public.

7:30 PM
Tuesday, December 6th, 2011
McKenna Auditorium at the University of Notre Dame Conference Center

JULIE HERDER/The Observer

Contact Matthew DeFranks at mdefrank@nd.edu

Weekly Newsletter
The Observer ● SPORTS
Tuesday, December 6, 2011

FEBRUARY 2012
The Observer ● SPORTS
Tuesday, December 6, 2011

Malcolm C. Hart, Ph.D.
Notre Dame Theology Dept.

Contact Megan Golden at mgolde01@saintmarys.edu
Santo elected to Hall of Fame one year after death

Associated Press

DALLAS – Ron Santo always kept rooting for the causes closest to him — for his Chicago Cubs to win the World Series, for doctors to find a cure for diabetes and for him to reach the Hall of Fame.

On Monday, Cooperstown finally came calling.

The barrel-chested third baseman who clicked his heels in victory was elected to the Hall, overwhelmingly chosen by the Veterans Committee nearly a year to the day after he died hoping for this very honor.

Santo’s flag — white or “All right!” after good plays on the air, hollering “Yes! Yes!” cheered for his favorite team at Wrigley Field, frontman for the Smashing Pumpkins — is flying.

It’s really exciting because so many years that we had parties over to his house in spring training saying this is the year, I’d tell him this is the year you’re going in,” said Hall of Fame teammate Billy Williams, a member of the voting panel.

“The one thing, of course, is he’s not here to enjoy it, but his family and his friends and everyтом кто посвятил ему уважение, он был одним из самых любимых игроков в истории бейсбола.

Santo joined former Cubs teammates Ernie Banks, Ferguson Jenkins and Williams in the Hall. That famed quartet did most everything at the Friendly Confines through the 1960s and early 1970s except bring a World Series to the ivy-covered ballpark.

“With Ernie, myself and Ferguson, those players he played with, to hear this kind of news today that he’s inducted in the baseball Hall of Fame is really gratifying because so many times that we talked about it, it’s a place he wanted to be,” Williams said.

Santo will be inducted into the Hall of Fame on July 22, along with any players elected by members of the Baseball Writers’ Association of America on Jan. 9. Bernie Williams joins Jack Morris, Barry Larkin and others on that ballot.

“This is a great day for baseball and for Cubs fans everywhere. Ron was a staple of the Cubs’ experience every single day for decades.”

— Bud Selig, commissioner

It’s really gratifying because any player who gets an honor as special as this one,” Williams said. “He’s been through a lot of hard times, he’s done a lot for the game physically and he was always his dream, to even have this come to him after his passing. It just shows you can’t give up,” she said during a conference call from Arizona.

“All he said (was) I hope I get in in my lifetime, that’s certainly a reward for anybody who gets an honor as special as this one. Unfortunately, it wasn’t meant to be,” she said. “With his lifetime experience and disappointment that came along, he was very disappoint- ed.”

Santo’s family on Ron’s election said, “With any players elected by the Veterans Committee. The panel has been revamped several times in the last decade, aimed at giving a better look at de- serving candidates. Since his final swing in 1974, Santo’s numbers on the field never changed. The perception of what he meant to the game had, though.

“From the discussion yesterday, we kind of go in depth,” Williams said. “We really talked about each individual and some things were brought out, I imagine that wasn’t brought out last time, in so far as what he’d done for the game of baseball, the $60 million he raised for (juvenile dia- betes research), all the other stuff we knew.”

Santo never came close to election during his 15 times on the BBWAA ballot, peaking at 43 percent — far short of the needed 75 percent in his last year of eligibility in 1998.

Santo had gotten closer in previous elections by the Vet- erans Committee. The panel has been revamped several times in the last decade, aimed at giving a better look at de- serving candidates.

Since his final swing in 1974, Santo’s numbers on the field never changed. The perception of what he meant to the game had, though.

“I think the happy ending was already there, though. He got his statue and this was a little icing on the cake,” son Jeff Santo said. “It definite- ly puts an end to the chapter, that’s for sure, with the Hall of Fame. Now our family will. He long awaited this, and we’re all happy. I know I’m happy, his family is happy, the fans of Chicago are happy,” he said.

“I’ve got tears in my eyes happy,” he said.

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Twins continued from page 16

in their collegiate careers, Kaila
said. "It’s really cool," she said. "To be at college and do really well, it’s really nice, and hard work really paid off."

The sisters also combined to capture two more win Fri-
day. Jade ran the first leg in Notre Dame's 400-
me-tre relay team and Kaila ran in the final por-
tion of the race.

"I love running the relay with Kaila," because
I know if I open it, she is going to close it, so I know that she is going to do a good job every single time," Jade said. "It’s amazing.

"We weren't actually planning on coming to the same school. It just happened to work out that we both wanted to come here," Kaila said.

While Kaila attributes her and her sister both ending up at Notre Dame to a happy co-incidence, Jade tells the story slightly differently.

"This isn’t, I didn’t want to go to school with [Kaila] and I was looking at a different school. Then I changed (to Notre Dame) last second. And she wait-ed two days after I signed and then she said she didn’t want to come with me. She totally followed me," Jade said with a smile.

Kaila Barber freshman

However it worked out, the Irish are happy to have both Barbarers on their roster, as Kaila and Jade each bring im-
tense talent to the track.

"Both [Kaila and Jade] were priz ed recruits coming out of the class of 2011, especially Kaila," Irish assistant coach Alan Turner said. "We knew that both of them were ex-
tremely talented. As a coach, I was looking at a different school. Then I changed (to Notre Dame) last second. And she waited two days after I signed and then she said she didn’t want to come with me. She totally followed me," Jade said with a smile.

This is part of the reason why the Barber sisters never once raced against each other. In Friday's meet, that streak came to an end when Kaila and Jade each lined up for the 400-meter hurdles and 400-meter dash. Despite their occasional opposition within the lines of the track, the sib-
lings remain very close off the track.

"We are best friends, so (we are) as close as it comes," Kaila said.

Throughout their high school careers, the Barber sisters never once raced against each other. In Friday's meet, that streak came to an end when Kaila and Jade each lined up for the 400-meter hurdles and 400-meter dash. Despite their occasional opposition within the lines of the track, the sib-
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FENCING

Kaull balances dual role as coach, competitor

By CONOR KELLY
Sporst Writer

As one of the top junior fencers in the country, James Kaull has a lot on his plate. Between school and fencing, the hours can be

"Practicing against each other is a huge part of how we get bet-
ter," Rossi said. "especially when you're going up against someone like James who’s one of the best in the country. He beats you most of the time."

The Irish epeeists' impressive showing at the Penn State Open in November convinced Kaull that his teammates and charg-es are on the right track. With the Uni-
versity set to hire an epee coach for the second semester, the fu-
ture looks bright.

"Even with all the challenges that we've faced this year — an in-
flux of new freshmen, being with-
ot a new coach and a number of players leaving to train for the Olympics — I feel that we've al-
ready accomplished great things with the limited resources we have," Kaull said. "We're really excited for the rest of the season."
Twins dominate in first races

By JOSEPH MONARDO
Sports Writer

Any college track and field program in the country would be thrilled to welcome a highly touted recruit with blazing speed and a long list of high school accomplishments. The Irish were lucky enough to get two from the same household.

Freshmen Kaila and Jade Barber are only one meet into their college careers, but the twins are impressing coaches with their raw talent and are already turning in winning performances.

In Friday’s season-opening meet, the Blue and Gold Invitational, Kaila took the top spot in the 60-meter hurdles, long jump and 400-meter hurdles, while Jade captured third in the 60-meter hurdles with a Big East qualifying time. The twin sisters are excited to experience success immediately.