Day honors community
Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s celebrate event for fourth year in a row

By ADAM LLORENS
News Writer

The student governments of Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s will celebrate the fourth annual CommUniversity Day tomorrow to honor the partnerships the schools have with the South Bend community. Senior Erika Hansen, co-director of Community Relations for Notre Dame student government, said there are 40 projects with 700 student volunteers. This year’s theme, “Deepening Our Roots,” directs many of the projects to work towards improving the environment, she said.

“The individuals we work with appreciate the student enthusiasm,” Hansen said. “I’m most excited about events with student and community member interaction.”

Hansen said the day demonstrates the enthusiasm students have for working with the community.

“What I think is really cool about it is the work and collaboration that goes on between those of us who work on the event from the student government side, and those in the community who are helping us plan the whole day,” Hansen said.

One of two events new to CommUniversity Day will feature Psychology Club members playing games with residents.

Manager of network design launches third app

By DAN BROMBACH
News Writer

Fans of college basketball who compete with friends to pick winners during March Madness each year need only look to their iPhones for an easier bracket-sharing system.

Tom Klimek, manager of network design for the Office of Information Technology, launched the application “Men’s Bracket 2012 College Basketball Tournament” earlier this month. The app is a third men’s basketball March Madness bracket system for the iPad and iPhone.

Klimek said the application eliminates the hassle of manually filling out, and tracking a March Madness bracket.

“Instead of everybody having to fill out paper copies of a bracket and then give it to somebody to keep track of, you can just download the app, create your own pool, invite your friends and all the scoring is done automatically,” Klimek said.

Klimek said both the men’s and women’s bracket applications he developed with his business partner Peter Massey have been extremely successful, breaking the top 10 paid sports applications within 24 hours of their releases.

Professor emeritus dies at 89

Jaime Juan José Bellalta, professor emeritus of architecture at the University of Notre Dame, died March 20 at his home in Brookline, Mass. He was 89 years old.

A native of Santiago, Chile, Bellalta joined the architecture faculty at Notre Dame in 1976 after teaching architecture and urban design at his alma mater, the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, from 1968 to 1975. His wife, the late Esmée Bellalta, was also a member of the Notre Dame faculty.

Throughout his career as an architect, researcher and professor, Bellalta was especially focused on the design and development of affordable and low-income housing. His interest in this area of work stemmed from his commitments to Catholic faith and social justice, according to a University press release.

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**QUESTION OF THE DAY:** **WHAT DO THE WHITE FLOWERING TREES AT STONEHENGE SMELL LIKE?**

Alex Shoeman
sophomore
Keough

Chinelo Onyeadar
sophomore
Lewis

Drew Williams
junior
Stanford

Jack Amato
senior
off campus

Kara McSweeney
sophomore
Lyons

Katelyn Campbell
Sophomore
Pasquervilla West

"A fish market."

"I was gonna say a bad word but never mind..."

"Savvy sailors."

"Man choulder."

"My bag of candy."

"The fish trees?"

**Have an idea for Question of the Day? Email obstyle@gmail.com**

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**OFFBEAT**

**Man saws off foot for benefits**

MITTELBILL, Austria — It sounds like the plot of a boring “Saw” film, but it’s apparently all too real.

An unemployed Austrian man cut off his own foot with a mitre saw so he could continue receiving jobless benefits.

Hans Url, a 56-year-old, was airlifted to a hospital in Graz, where he was put in an artificial coma.

"The foot was too badly burned to reattach it," a hospital spokesman said.

Bear saves man from mountain lion

PARADISE, Calif. — A California man says he was saved from a mountain lion by a bear.

Robert Biggs, 69, of Paradise, Calif., told the Paradise Post he was hiking Monday when he was attacked by a mountain lion.

"They usually grab hold of your head with all four paws," Biggs said. "But my backpack was up above my head and (the mountain lion) grabbed it instead."

Shortly before the encounter, Biggs said he had seen mother with a pair of cubs—which he thinks is what the mountain lion was after. "It must have been stalking the little bear," Biggs said, "but it was on me in seconds."

But just as quickly, the mother bear came to his defense and then dragged "Her suburbs." Biggs said. "I was gonna say a bad word but never mind..."

**LOCAL WEATHER**

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**In Brief**

Professor Mark Roche, Chair in German Language and Literature, will be promoting his new book, “Why Choose the Liberal Arts?” today from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Oak Room of South Dining Hall. The talk includes a complimentary lunch and is open to all faculty, staff and students.

Alan Code, professor of philosophy at Stanford University, will present a lecture titled, “Causal Definitions in Aristotle’s Metaphysics,” today from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in 220 Malloy Hall.

At 6:30 p.m. today campus clubs Jedidiah, the Graduate Student Union, ND-S, and Weellcause will co-sponsor a screening of “Surfing in Bangladesh,” a documentary on the use of surfing to do good in Bangladesh and India. The screening will be held in Room 105 of Jordan Hall of Science.

The Asian Indian Classical Music Society will host the Concert of Indian Classical Music tonight from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the Harvey Auditorium of the Hesburgh Library. Tickets are $10 for general public and $5 for ND/SMC faculty and AICMS members, and free for students.

The ND Chorale will perform its spring concert tonight at the Leighton Concert Hall in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center from 8:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Tickets will cost $3.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to obnews.nd@gmail.com
Student finds success on and off campus with DJ company

By ABI HOVERMAN
News Writer

Within blasting beats and mashed-up mixes, senior Walker Anderson's High Velocity Professional DJ Services has become a major performer in South Bend at events ranging from dorm dances to weddings.

Anderson said he began the service three years ago based on experience jockeying in high school. The student-owned business now averages two shows each weekend, he said.

"Once I got to college, I went to a few dances and I was like hey, I could do this," he said.

Anderson said he made detailed business plans the summer after his freshman year, and started the company in the fall of 2009.

"I had to do the research on things like taxes, business law, client interaction, how to sell things, marketing strategy, everything associated with running a business," he said. "It's largely been self-taught."

The company became profitable just months after its opening and earned back Anderson's investments in legal fees and other start-up costs, he said.

"It was probably halfway through the first semester that ... it's paid for itself over and over again," Anderson said. "The numbers speak for themselves in terms of growth and our potential."

Anderson hired a manager and three DJs after High Velocity gained more momentum, he said. The company is composed of all Notre Dame students and now does multiple shows every week.

"At first it was me, and then once I got going I was able to acquire more equipment, which meant I could send out more than one crew at one time," he said.

The role of student employees servicing their peers' needs is key, Anderson said.

"My business model is for students, by students," he said. "My three goals are to be more affordable, more professional and more personal."

Anderson said he offers clients shows with top-quality equipment at a low cost. He also offers special rates for charity events.

"I've gone out and done price comparisons with what's available in the area and then cut it," he said. "It's our way of giving back to the community that's let us grow."

Notre Dame's tight-knit community offers Anderson's company an advantage in its business, he said.

"We have a client focus because at the end of the day, the best advertising is word of mouth," Anderson said. "It's easy to grow fast at Notre Dame."

The aerospace engineering major is able to balance his business and academic responsibilities, since the nature of his business does not conflict with his class schedule.

"It's tightened my schedule at some points because I do like to meet with my clients beforehand, especially with wedding clients," he said. "Other than that ... the work is limited largely to the weekends, so it impacts more of my social life than academic life."

Anderson said for those considering a start-up of their own, careful planning helps turn ideas into successful businesses.

"Reach out to people who know about this stuff and don’t be afraid to ask questions," he said. "You just have to break it down into steps."

Anderson said his experience with High Velocity helped him secure a job in technical consulting in Atlanta after graduation.

"This experience has helped me get my job and it's going to help my manager and DJ's build their portfolio," he said. "Not only do they get to showcase their talent, but they get to learn about client interaction."

Anderson said he offers professional and more personal "services servicing their peers’ needs is key, Anderson said. "My business model is for students, by students," he said. "My three goals are to be more affordable, more professional and more personal."

Anderson said he plans to continue running the company from Atlanta, with the help of members of his staff remaining on campus.

The reason he didn’t sell it is because he knew a student couldn’t afford buying the company up front, and he didn’t want to sell it to a non-student who didn’t have that connection with Notre Dame," he said.

Anderson said he is thankful for the chance to run his business at Notre Dame.

"It's been an awesome ride. It started off as an idea and it's been a very rewarding experience," he said. "We have the Notre Dame, Saint Mary's, and Holy Cross to thank for continued support."

Contact ABI Hoverman at abigail.h Hoverman@nd.edu

NDMCS honors Earth Hour

By SARAH SWIDERSKI
News Writer

For one hour, the entire earth will be dark.

Tomorrow, the Sisters of the Holy Cross will participate in Earth Hour with millions of people worldwide by turning off their lights.

From 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., the Sisters encourage members of the Saint Mary’s and Notre Dame communities to turn off their lights and other electrical devices in an effort to promote ecological sustainability.

Sr. Veronica Wiedower, vice president of the Division for Mission, said Earth Hour has an important humanitarian element tied into its focus on sustainability.

"The idea is that we are a global village, and the same is going to be true about water as with oil in that there are not endless amounts," she said. "We need to know what it means to be responsible for those resources, or responsible in our use of those resources."

The Sisters’ participation in Earth Hour stems from their mission of standing in solidarity with the less fortunate of the world, Wiedower said. "Each community can have a significant impact when united with other communities across the globe."

"It is important to be in solidarity with poor who do not have access to these resources everyday," Wiedower said. "By shutting off lights this Saturday, the Sisters hope the conservation of resources will spark further efforts to share with those who need them desperately, she said."

"During this time of Lent, when we give up, we give an opportunity to give someone access to resources," she said. "What each person can do is important."

Sr. Wiedower encourages her community to participate in any form.

"If you can’t shut off everything, do a little bit. Each person makes a difference," she said. "You never know what the tipping point might be, and you might be that last person needed."

Contact Sarah Swiderski at swidew@slaintimarys.edu
Kroc Institute hosts Peace Conference

By ANNA BOARINI
News Writer

Yesterday, the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies kicked off its annual Student Peace Conference and will continue the event this afternoon.

Seniors Erik Helgesen and Nhu Phan, the Peace Conference co-chairs, said this year’s conference theme is “Strategies of Peace Transforming the Modern World.”

“We decided on the theme because this is a field that is always transforming and during the events of the past year, especially with the events of the Arab Spring, we’ve seen new and interesting forms of peace building,” Helgesen said.

Helgesen said the theme showcases the breadth of peace studies and its impact in transforming the modern world.

“We want to showcase more traditional methods of peace building with more modern ones like social media,” Phan said.

Phan said they hope the conference can help showcase development and in what ways it can make a difference in the world.

The conference features 270 representatives from approximately 50 schools from across the country, as well as students from Nepal, India, Poland and Turkey, she said.

The conference includes a variety of panels, a documentary, and several work-shops.

Molly Kinder, a 2001 graduate and current director of special programs for Development Innovation Ventures in Washington, D.C., will be this year’s featured speaker.

“She has experience in the field and used the methods and strategies,” Phan said. “She’s a practitioner of both.”

The peace conference partnered with the University of Maryland International Security School for a workshop and discussion about global security, Helgesen said.

“We will focus on the two issues of global climate change and nuclear technology,” he said. “20 to 30 people will really delve into the issues and I’m really excited for the workshop because I’m going to participate.”

Another unique aspect of this year’s conference is a panel on the role of the military in peace building. “The panel will discuss if there is a place for the military in peace building and if so, in what capacity,” Phan said.

Helgesen said this conference is a way to showcase the diversity of peace studies as a discipline.

“It is so cool to see … everything from the environmental challenges to how sports and arts are used in peace building,” he said.

Contact Anna Boarini at about010@SaintMarys.edu

Volunteer continued from page 1

at Portage Manor, a center for adults with developmental dis-abilities. For the other, mem-bers in Circle K will make Eas-ter baskets with residents at Saint Mary’s Convent.

“Something that’s really ex-iting is when we will have senior citizens take a bus tour leaving from the Robinson (Community Learning) Center around campus,” Hansen said. “We also have a children’s fes-tival on the Irish Green, so I think a lot of community mem-bers are excited to come to our campus to check it out.”

Hansen said residence hall groups will also play a major role in the events planned for the day. “The women of Ba-din Hall will play bingo with residents at Healthwin Nurs-ing Home,” she said. The men of Knott Hall will bring children to campus to spend a day as a Notre Dame student during their “Angel for a Day” signature event.

“We hope to achieve some tan-gible goals … and all those dif-ferent tasks that different orga-nizations have asked us to do,” Hansen said. “We hope this day can deepen some of the partner-ships we have created through-out this year and hopefully in-spire some more students to get more into the community.”

Though registration for proj-ects ended Wednesday, students can still join in celebrating Comm-university Day at a picnic open to the public at the Robinson Community Learning Center at 3 p.m.

Contact Adam Llorens at alllorens@nd.edu

App continued from page 1

Klimek said he attributes the success of the applications to a process of constant dia-logue with customers. “I think the success is due to listening to our customers,” Klimek said. “Also, we’re bas-ketball enthusiasts ourselves, so we try to put everything in the apps that we know we would want ourselves.”

Klimek said he and Massey decided not to advertise this year’s application since past promotions have shown little increase in sales.

“It seems that most of our apps are found by people who are just searching for an app on their phone, instead of by people looking for a specific app after viewing an adver-tisement,” Klimek said.

Klimek said numerous jour-nals and consumer reports have reviewed their appli-cations, and Microsoft even approached them to do busi-ness. “They wanted to do a men’s bracket app for the Windows 7 phone, which we felt we didn’t have the time to do,” Klimek said. “But it was still nice to be recognized by such a big company.”

Klimek said this year’s tournament has been a rough one though, with his champi-onship pick of Syracuse fail-ing to pan out.

“My 14-year-old daughter picked a much better bracket than mine,” Klimek said. “She picked Kentucky to win it all.”

Contact Dan Brombach at dbrombac@nd.edu

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Please recycle The Observer.
The Observer • NEWS
ndsmcoobserver.com | page 5
Friday, March 30, 2012

Police arrest 911 caller

Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif. — Oscar Carrillo’s 911 call was clear: Two young men just robbed him of his computer and backpack. At least one of them had a gun and it was pointed in Carrillo’s face.

Moments later, police caught up with two teens they believed were the thieves in a Pasadena alleyway. When one of them, Kendrick McVade, made a move at his waistband, an officer opened fire, killing the 19-year-old college student, authorities said.

No weapons or the stolen items have been found.

Now, police are laying part of the blame for the shooting on Carrillo, who they say admitted that he lied about the men being armed so officers would respond faster. “The actions of the 911 caller set the minds of the officers,” police chief Phillip Sanchez said.

As the nation focuses on the fatal shooting of Florida teen Trayvon Martin, who was killed by a neighborhood watchman, the police shooting in Pasadena raises more questions about the role and responsibility of those who report or witness crimes.

While experts say it’s not uncommon for people to exaggerate the circumstances of a crime — especially if they are the victim — most are unaware about the importance of their role in an emergency response and the potential consequences.

“Lots of people’s lives are in jeopardy,” said Joseph Pollini, a professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York. “If you make a bogus call, you may be taking away from something where someone else’s life is in danger.”

Pollini said the Pasadena case is a good example of how people accountable.

“To a certain degree he (Car- rillo) is liable for what he caused the police to do when they did,” Pollini said. “There should be a thorough investigation.”

Carae Harper, an attorney representing McVade’s family, said it’s possible carrillo may be an attempt by police to shift blame away from the officer. Harper added that Carrillo should be prosecuted for filing a false police report.

“However, he didn’t pull the trigger and the officers can use discretion,” Harper said. “They can’t blame the caller because they shot an unarmed black man.”

Calls seeking comment from police on Thursday were not immediately returned.

Carrillo has been arrested for investigation of involuntary manslaughter. Prosecutors are weighing whether to file charg- es. The juvenile with McVade was charged with two counts of commercial burglary, one count of grand theft and one count of failure to register as a gang member as a condition of his probation.

The Los Angeles County of- fice of the district attorney incorrectly reported that Barnes fired his gun at officers before being shot down the street. Barnes was killed in the backseat of his car during a struggle over a gun, police said.

Warrior

continued from page 1

run started three years ago. I think they were looking to do something that the entire campus could take part in,” Kelly said. “In the fall [Navy ROTC] does a 24-hour run to raise money … but we’re looking for something that everyone could take part in.”

Lizzy Schroff, President of Trident Naval Society [Navy ROTC's service organi- zation], said the Warrior Run really hit home with the cadets.

“It is a dangerous job in the military… many of us will probably be deployed to and in situations of combat,” Schroff said.

“I think it really hits home for us because these people that have already sacrificed for our country,” Schroff said.

“What we do here is close to everyone’s hearts. This is the job we’re going to be doing and there are people who have already sacrificed for their country. I want to make this event bigger to reach more people and to get more participation.”

Chris Patterson treasurer
Trident Naval Society

“I think they were looking to make this event bigger to get more participation.”

Michael Falvey, sergeant at arms, said the service members wants to expand this event in coming years.

“We do what we do here is to give back to our community,” Falvey said.

“This is something that intimately involves everyone in the community. I think that it is imperative that the community supports these heroic indi- viduals because these individuals give everything they have for the community,” Falvey said.

Chris Patterson, treasurer of Trident Naval Society, said he wants to expand this event in coming years.

“We do what we do here is close to everyone’s hearts. This is the job we’re going to be doing and these people are who have already sacrificed for their country.” Patterson said.

“I want to make this event bigger to reach more people and to get more participation.”

Patterson said this run is special because it’s for a cause greater than yourself.

“I think we try to make it seem as though the run is really a run for something greater than yourself, a run for people who have done very important things for the country,” Patterson said.

“We hope people can spread that feeling throughout the community.”

Contact Nicole Michels
at nmichels@nd.edu
ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — The nearly two-mile-long runway at Spaceport America in southern New Mexico will be extended to accommodate Virgin Galactic’s sleek rocket-powered spacecraft, spaceport officials confirmed Thursday.

New Mexico Spaceport Author-ty board members voted during a regular meet- ing Wednesday to extend the runway by another 2,000 feet. Spaceport America is the world’s first terminal, hangar and runway facility specifically for commercial space travel. Virgin Galactic, which will be the spaceport’s anchor tenant, ‘has determined through a battery of test flights and simulations that more room would be needed for landings under certain circum-
stances.

“It’s really being done for safety,” spaceport spokesman David Wilson said. “It was a guess un-till they started dropping it and simulta-
ning and doing different scenarios, how this thing was going to behave on the runway. This is all a product of the test-
ing and the characteristics of the vehicle.”

Behind by British billionaire Richard Branson, the commer-
cial space line has been develop-
ing its craft and rocket engines in California’s Mojave Desert. The company plans to begin moving into the hangar and terminal facility later this year, and the runway extension is not expected to cause delays.

The runway was dedicated by Branson and other officials in October 2010 with much fan-
fare.

Stretching across a flat dusty plain 43 miles north of Las Cru-
es, the runway is designed to support almost every aircraft in the world, day-to-day space tourism flights and payload launch operations. It is 42 in-
ches thick and includes a 14-inch layer of concrete.

The extension will cost $7 million. Wilson said Money will be reassigned within the space-
port’s $209 million taxpayer-
financed budget to absorb the cost of the change.

Designing the extension will take six to eight months. Virgin Galactic has said rocket testing is continuing and commercial flights are at least a year away.

Wilson said the extension did not come as a surprise to space-
port board members. As part of the agreement Virgin Ga-
lactic had with New Mexico to build the spaceport, any techni-
cal changes that resulted from development of the spacecraft technology would have to be ac-
commodated by the state.

One scenario considered was if the rocket ship’s engines did not fire. That would require the craft to glide back to the space-
port, loaded with unburned fuel. That would mean the craft would be heavier and would re-
quire more room to land.

Other factors involve New Mexico’s altitude and high tem-
peratures, which make the air thinner.

“We’ll have to do a lot of longer run-
ways,” Wilson said.

Branson and Virgin Galactic officials have said repeatedly that everything possible will be done to ensure once com-
mercial flights begin.

Unlike experimental pro-
grams run by NASA, Wilson said Spaceport America and Virgin Galactic are based on business models and investments.

“Obviously safety has to be at the highest level, especially when you’re talking about com-
mercial passenger service,” he said.

Branson announced last week that Virgin Galactic had net-
ted its 500th customer, actor Ashton Kutcher. Others include Hollywood types, international entrepreneurs, scientists and space buffs.

At $250,000 a ticket, the space tourists get a 2 1/2-hour flight with about five minutes of weightlessness and views of Earth that until now only astro-
nants have been able to experi-
ence.
SPAIN

Labor reforms cause strikes

Associated Press

MADRID — Spanish workers enraged by austerity-driven labor reforms to prevent the nation from becoming Europe’s next bailout victim have stormed the country’s economy in a general strike of factories and stores and clashing with police as the new-center-right government insisted drastic cuts must be made to ease increasing debt.

Workers also shut down transportation systems and caused more unrest starting Friday, one of them decapitated, as the new-center-right government announced the country’s last general strike was held in 2010 when the Socialists were in charge.

Union leaders demanded a “gesture” from the government to scale back, reforms, warning they could cause more unrest starting Friday, and that the government’s administration said they were willing to talk with union leaders, but won’t issue concessions.

“Why wouldn’t I protest? I’ve spent 45 years working for the same company and now they can get rid of me almost for free,” said Jose Jimenez, a textile worker in Rajo, in February after his conservative Popular Party ousted the governing Socialists in place by Rajoy in May.

“Workers are losing all their rights, and the benefits will go only to the banks and the businesses,” 57-year-old Jimenez said.

Labor unions said millions of Spaniards in the nation of 47 million stayed away from work to protest and the strike caused transportation delays and promised Spain’s government-run national health care system to significantly reduce services in emergency cases.

Workers at car factories that assemble vehicles for Renault SA, SEAT SA, Volkswagen AG and Ford Motor Co. largely stayed home, and services at mining and port facilities were also severely limited, union leaders said.

But many other businesses remained open, and Rajoy’s government claimed the strike didn’t have its intended impact because Spanish electrical consumption dropped only 16.3 percent, not as much as the 16.9 percent reduction when the country’s last general strike was held in 2010 when the Socialists were in charge.

“The unrest came six weeks after a fire at another prison in Honduras killed 36 inmates,” said Vieri Mesa, police commissioner of the rough northern city of San Pedro Sula, said Thursday’s fire had been brought under control.

“The uprisings have been put down with the need to fire shots,” Mesa said by telephone from inside the prison.

San Pedro Sula Bishop Rolando Emiliani arrived outside the prison Thursday and had been asked to serve as a negotiator with the inmates.

Emiliani described the prevailing view that such tragedies could lead to the breakup of the Eurozone. Spain’s economy is twice the size of Greece, Ireland and Portugal.

And the country’s benchmark bond yields climbed 35 points Tuesday following a round of radiation therapy in Caracas, where he has been undergoing cancer treatment.

“Thanks to God, I’ve wasted almost for free,” — Chavez said “Let’s hope that’s the new time.”

He said that the military treatment had been administrated to him so far and that he would be in Venezuela until Saturday, when he plans to return to the new Center Round.

Chavez has said the radiation treatment is intended to prevent any new cancer threat after his last round of chemotherapy removed a second tumor from his pelvic region.

He had another tumor removed in the same location in an earlier operation in June.
Anthony Davis is the 99 percent

There is a striking resemblance between what sociologist Dr. Harry Edwards calls “the Civil Rights Movement” for our times” and the Occupy Wall Street movement that has been taking place since October of last year.

The 99 percent

Graphic Designer are college athletes. The exploitation of their services without pay is ludicrous, seeing that college athletics has turned into a huge money machine. Some big-name college athletes need to muster up the courage to do something about these injustices. And what better stage than March Madness?

This is a call to the players of Louisville, Kentucky, Ohio State, and Kansas for this coming weekend: don’t play your Final Four game. Protest them by choosing to stay home. Hang up the net and just play the game and right before it starts, grab a microphone. Demand that unless you make some of the billions in revenues created by March Madness, you won’t play. Simple as that. You have the power here.

Just imagine Jared Sullinger or Thomas Robinson performing such an act. It may upset us fans for a day or two, but it would send a message that should have been sent out years ago. It would call out the NCAA for the fraud they are pulling on us with the one year out of high school rule that was adopted by the NBA, Davis is the first to make over $4.5 million. If it weren’t for all the hard work Davis has put in? A measly $4.5 million. If it weren’t for the one year out of high school rule that was adopted by the NBA, Davis would be making millions right now in the NBA. Instead, he’s not making a penny.

That spirit highlights yet another positive aspect of DeMaria’s selection that the senior class may overlook: she will deliver a strong Notre Dame-specific message in her address. Robert Gates, Brian Williams or any other national figure may offer an inspiring and positive message, but their words would ring just as true at Stanford, Boston College or Harvard. Having lived through a Notre Dame undergraduate experience and all it entails, DeMaria possesses a unique connection with the current undergraduates that national figures almost certainly lack. She understands what the graduating Domer can bring to the world that graduates of other universities cannot, simply because she has lived as a Notre Dame graduate for 17 years. For an institution with as unique a mission as Notre Dame, DeMaria’s experiences and character make her an ideal choice.

There is a striking resemblance between what sociologist Dr. Harry Edwards calls “the Civil Rights Movement” for our times” and the Occupy Wall Street movement that has been taking place since October of last year.

The 99 percent

EDITORIAL

Commencement speaker an appropriate choice

After a long wait, the Notre Dame class of 2012 has its commencement speaker: Haley Scott DeMaria, a Notre Dame 1995 graduate and a survivor of the 1992 bus crash that killed two members of the Irish women’s swimming team.

It would be easy for seniors to reflect on the choice and focus on what DeMaria is not. She is not the President of the United States. She has not hosted “NBC Nightly News” or “Meet the Press.” She has not run the U.S. Department of Defense, General Electric or The Carnegie Corporation. She is not another flashy, nationally-visible commencement speaker — that is undeniable. It would be easy for the seniors to focus on these things.

Rather, the soon-to-be-graduates could — and should — focus on what the choice of DeMaria as commencement speaker offers them. The commencement speaker is chosen to inspire a group of young adults on the verge of full adulthood, to evoke a sense of promise in the years ahead and offer advice on dealing with the challenges that lie before the graduates.

Who better to do this than DeMaria?

In the days following the tragic bus accident that killed freshmen Colleen Hipp and Meghan Beeler, a paralyzed DeMaria was told she would likely spend the rest of her life confined to a wheelchair. Faced with extreme hardship, she persevered. Within a week, she had feeling in her legs. Within a month, she was walking. 20 months later, she swam once again in an Irish uniform — and won.

When DeMaria speaks to the assembled Class of 2012 on May 20, she will be speaking to a class that has seen its share of hardship in its time at Notre Dame. They have weathered the storm together, but there will be many more obstacles in the future. DeMaria offers a golden example of the grace and fortitude with which Notre Dame graduates face hardship. To put it another way, she embodies the intangible quality that is often referred to as the Notre Dame spirit.

That spirit highlights yet another positive aspect of DeMaria’s selection that the senior class may overlook: she will deliver a strong Notre Dame-specific message in her address. Robert Gates, Brian Williams or any other national figure may offer an inspiring and positive message, but their words would ring just as true at Stanford, Boston College or Harvard. Having lived through a Notre Dame undergraduate experience and all it entails, DeMaria possesses a unique connection with the current undergraduates that national figures almost certainly lack. She understands what the graduating Domer can bring to the world that graduates of other universities cannot, simply because she has lived as a Notre Dame graduate for 17 years. For an institution with as unique a mission as Notre Dame, DeMaria’s experiences and character make her an ideal choice.

Yes, Class of 2012, you will not read much of your commencement speaker in national publications. Her selection will not inspire discussion on cable news, nor will it bring protesters to campus. After years of political figures that divided the student body along ideological lines, the graduating seniors have a unifying speaker behind whom they can rally. No, this is not the edgy pick, nor the popular one. But it is the right one.
Each generation witnesses at least one iconic event that twists our national fate — often for the betterment of society, other times setting back our way of life. Throughout the last 75 years, American history has been dotted with both tragedy and achievement through external or internal forces. We have endured dramatic attacks upon our nation and assassinations of our government leaders. We have persisted through political intrigue and legislative accomplishments while occasionally adjusting to judicial disappointment. The Supreme Court's consideration this week of the constitutionality of President Obama's signature landmark legislation, the Affordable Care Act (ACA), will provide another historical twist when we learn in June whether the high court upholds or strikes down portions or all of the law.

On the opening day, the justices clearly signaled why they are supreme — they would not abide by what the layman saw as common sense, namely, a Reconstruction-era law called the Anti-Injunction Act which forbids lawsuits filed “for the purpose of restraining the enforcement of any law of the United States.” The ACA offers too much of a unique and complicated health care remedy for Americans. I believe the chief justice knows that he needs to uphold the law by a 6-3 or better vote. 

Chief Justice John Roberts began the day shrewdly defending the self-policing way his court enforces its ethical standards. He demonstrated just how he has foreseen and foretold any legacy by overtly worrying about his tenure's institutional integrity. Thus, his best interest in the ACA case lies in not gutting the 2,700-page law by a one-vote margin reminiscent of the Bush v. Gore debacle, even though post-Bush v. Gore appointees to the court are generally seen as rank-and-file partisans. Roberts must avoid appearing like that third chamber of Congress. In modern times, the high court polled at a favorable 60 to 80 percent, with its highest ratings earned in the late 1990s. However, since determining the presidential election in 2000, the court's rating has fallen steadily, with an even steeper plunge after its 2005 eminent domain ruling (Kelo). 46 percent of Americans approve of the court's performance as the guardians of the U.S. Constitution.

Roberts will make efforts to accommodate Justice Anthony Kennedy so that they can join the other four liberals — Justices Sonia Sotomayor, Elena Kagan, Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Stephen Breyer. Roberts and Kennedy left clues on how they will vote during each of the three days of hearings, just like the unfolding of a three-act play. While most observers point to the second day's brutal questioning against the government mandate to require everyone to purchase insurance, both swing justices left the tiniest of hints that they may join the liberals.

For example, on the second day, after saying that the government changed its relationship with citizens, Kennedy raised the possibility that the mandate was a unique effort to force people into commerce to subsidize health insurance and that the insurance market may be unique enough to justify that unusual treatment. On the third day, both Kennedy and Roberts seemed to magnify the magnitude of the nation's health care problems. Kennedy suggested a health care fix would require a comprehensive solution. Roberts also spoke about uniqueness, citing that almost everyone uses it at some point.

“Everybody is in this market, so that makes it very different than the market for cars or the other hypotheticals that you came up with, and all they're regulating is the people who buy it,” Roberts noted, paraphrasing the government's argument.

Just as in a Broadway play when the third act ties up loose ends and solves any conflicts, the third day of arguments accentuated just how seriously the nation would be if the mandate fails. Most justices agreed if the mandate fails, the two subsequent aspects of the law must also be voided: the requirement that insurers cover people regardless of existing medical conditions and the requirement that limits how much companies can charge for premiums based on a person's age or health. The long-range ramifications became clear for all when Justice Antonin Scalia said removing the heart of the law will kill the body. At this point, both Roberts and Kennedy knew our national interest was at stake.

Gary Caruso, Notre Dame '73, serves in the Department of Homeland Security and was a legislative and public affairs director in President Clinton's administration. His column appears every other Friday. He can be contacted at GaryCaruso columnist.com.

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

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**2012 commencement speaker is disappointing**

DeMaria's accomplishments, however impressive, aren't the same as a Nobel Laureate's. To my knowledge, she will also have very little to offer us in the way of constructive career advice. Some may point out that we needed to have a female commencement speaker. After five male speakers, I agree. But with all the influential, successful women who have contributed so much to the world, and with Notre Dame's prestige, it smacks of nepotism and questionable judgment to choose someone so strongly affiliated with Notre Dame.

Our commencement speaker should not be about one woman's admittedly remarkable story nor her persistence in the face of obstacles. It should be about us, the graduates. The speaker should be someone who can tell us from experience how to accomplish great things and improve the lives of those around us. I have no doubt that we will, but I do not believe Ms. DeMaria is the right person for this job.

**Question of the day: better dining hall?**

I would like to state some concerns I had with yesterday's "Question of the Day," which was "Which dining hall is better, North or South?" The fact that the most intelligent response was "I like turtles" is saddening. I would like to go through each response and address the issues with each one.

First, let's look at DeLaMar's response of "South is too confusing." Drew, I'm sorry to hear that you are confused by the layout of South Dining Hall. I could somewhat understand this response if you were a freshman. Seeing that this is not the case, I'm a bit worried. I hope your classes do not cause such confusion.

Tina, your response does have some truth to it. South can get quite crowded. But North can also become a free-for-all during the lunch rush. I'm sure we've all waited in those seemingly endless salad, pizza and pasta stir-fry lines at North.

Miss Cleveland, I think your response bothered me the most. To state that North Dining Hall is more aesthetically pleasing than South Dining Hall is absolutely mind-blowing to me. Maybe you are just a fan of Cold War-era Communist bloc housing. Personally, I prefer more detail and creativity in my architecture. Next time you are in South, take a few minutes to look around. The magnificent windows, ornate lighting, artistic additions and Gothic feel is unmatched. The outside is also spectacular. The relief-stone carvings on the side exits alone are enough to put South ahead of North.

Muca, I'd just like to say that South also has mints. Granted, sometimes North does vary their mint variety. But North also runs out of mints much faster than South, in my experience.

Mr. Brandt, you're spot on. Keep doing what you're doing.

In conclusion, I'm very disappointed in all of you (except for Mr. Brandt). The reasons stated for North's superiority were subpar at best. No mention of the lunchtime salad specials, the make-your-own pizza station, the larger trays or lunchtime salad specials, the make-your-own pizza station, the larger trays or lunchtime salad specials, the make-your-own pizza station, the larger trays or lunchtime salad specials, the make-your-own pizza station, the larger trays or lunchtime salad specials, the make-your-own pizza station, the larger trays or lunchtime salad specials, the make-your-own pizza station, the larger trays or lunchtime salad specials, the make-your-own pizza station, the larger trays or lunchtime salad specials.
By SEAN FITZGERALD
Scene Writer

Kentucky vs. Louisville

In a battle for the Bluegrass State, Kentucky and Louisville face off in the Final Four. Since the tournament this year has been so erratic I figured I would make my choice on who would win based on completely arbitrary and meaningless factors like what they wear.

Kentucky

Before we start this, I would like to thank Kentucky’s John Calipari for eliminating the highlighter-wearing Baylor Bears. Kentucky’s maestro doesn’t like to experiment too much. But why should he? He has a winning philosophy, and if it ain’t broke, why fix it? You might occasionally see different shades of blue on his ties, but night in and night out, it won’t be too hard to predict what he’ll be wearing on game day. Late-ly, he’s been sporting the pin-stripe look. Look for that with a plain blue tie this Saturday.

Louisville

Rick Pitino’s full-court press is not just a style of play, but it is also how he picks what to wear on game day. Have you seen him in that white suit? He looks a little bit like Colonel Sanders, if the Colonel didn’t have a mustache and a beard. Needless to say, Coach Pitino goes all-out for these games. Let’s hope he brings his ‘A’ game on Saturday. Advantage: Louisville. Rick Pitino believes in the power of his clothes. I mean, the man changed his clothes at halftime in a 2008 game, and Louisville came back to win. How can you not believe in someone like that? I’m feeling a big night from the master of the full-court press.

Prediction: Louisville 70, Kentucky 68

Ohio State

Despite Thad Matta’s receding hairline, he’s managed to bring his team to the illustrious Final Four. I don’t know what his secret is, but this man knows what he’s doing. Jared Sullinger is not flying under the radar, though. Honestly, I have no idea if those sleeves serve a functional purpose. I really don’t care, because they are amazing.

Kansas

Bill Self’s Kansas Jayhawks didn’t screw it up this year by losing way too early. That’s a good start. But can they finish? As a classic powerhouse in the NCAA, they have a consistent look that is professional. But let’s be honest, it is really boring. The only thing I think Kansas has going for them is they have already beaten a team wearing red in NC State. I know, it’s completely arbitrary, but maybe they trained with the bulls in Pamplona and have a seething hatred of red.

Advantage: Ohio State. Between Thad Matta’s hairline and Jared Sullinger’s arm sleeves, they have got to win.

Prediction: Ohio State 61, Kansas 55

Contact Sean Fitzgerald at sfitzge3@nd.edu

THE IRISH GUARDS

Notre Dame’s four-guard phenomenon paves way to Final Four
Irish enter semifinal rematch

By JOSEPH MONARDO

For the second consecutive year, the Irish and the Huskies will face off in the Final Four with a berth in the national championship game on the line. In last year’s semifinal, the two-seed Irish entered the game as the heavy underdogs, trying to prove they belonged among the game’s elite.

What a difference a year makes.

The Irish used a dominant defensive effort to get past five-seed St. Bonaventure, 79-35 in the Sweet 16, and crushed two-seed Maryland in the Elite Eight, 80-49.

“Our last game against Maryland seemed one of the best we have played this whole tournament, maybe all year, and we just have to really use that as momentum going into this game,” Irish graduate student guard Brittany Mallory said.

The Irish must face a familiar foe in their Final Four matchup with the Huskies, who fell to the Irish twice in the regular season before denying Notre Dame its first-ever Big East tournament championship.

“We know them pretty well, they know us pretty well, so I don’t think there is going to be a lot of mystery in the game,” McGraw said. “I think it’s a matter of who is going to play well, who is going to make shots, who is going to be able to defend a little bit better. The adrenaline will be flowing. It’s going to be really exciting to see what happens.”

The Irish have plenty of past experience and game tape to help guide them as they attempt to replicate the successes from their two wins.

“In our wins over Connecticut, we were just clicking, especially on defense we were getting what we wanted to do … and we let them decide what we were running [off offense] and we weren’t as aggressive as we normally are, so that definitely has to change.”

As they attempt to move past Connecticut and into the championship game, the Irish gain confidence from last year’s tournament, Mallory said.

“Since we have been there before, we aren’t as star-struck from the whole Final Four atmosphere,” she said. “We have a little more relaxed feel to it, and just knowing what to expect.”

The Irish will tip off with Connecticut at 6:30 p.m. Sunday at the Pepsi Center, as they try to advance to the second straight national championship game.

Contact Joseph Monardo at jmonardo@nd.edu
The fantastic four

Unique offensive system relies on guards’ speed and versatility, produces strong results for Irish

By CHRIS MASOUD
Senior Sports Writer

Notre Dame isn’t running up the score for promotional McDonald’s vouchers anymore, but its 29-point average margin of victory in the 2012 NCAA tournament is reminiscent of its dominant performance during the regular season. The Irish start only one player over six feet tall, and yet outscore opponents inside the paint on a regular basis, including a Maryland team that started three in the regional finals.

There are no secrets, no “Hooisers” halftime speeches — just Irish coach Muffet McGraw’s patented four-guard offense that has foiled height-advantaged opponents all season long.

“The four-guard lineup, it’s just so versatile,” senior guard Natalie Novosel said. “Everybody can score — it’s so balanced. You can just do whatever you want, but at the same time it’s a system, so there’s different options. One person goes back-door, one person cuts back out. There’s just so many different options and it’s so balanced.”

Averaging 15.3 points per game as Notre Dame’s second-leading scorer, Novosel has developed into the nation’s most efficient players and junior guard Skylar Diggins’ number-one option under McGraw’s signature offense. While winning basketball games has been the most obvious effect of McGraw’s implementation of the four-guard offense, her underlying motivation is much simpler.

“Because I love a high-scoring game as probably the other three coaches in this [Final Four would agree],” she said. “It’s so much more fun to watch. I think it makes the game so much more exciting for the fans when you see up-tempo scoring also with great defense.”

Notre Dame’s path to the 2012 NCAA tournament national title may be the team’s most successful championship run in

In her first NCAA tournament game, she paced the Irish with a team-high 15 points in Notre Dame’s victory over Liberty in the first round.

Afterwards, Liberty coach Carey Green called her the “wild card” of Notre Dame’s offense.

“I think the four-guard look really makes it tough for that fourth defender for the other team. Kayla McBrade’s a tough matchup because she can go on the perimeter and hit threes, she can drive the ball and she can do so many things,” McGraw said. “So if you try to put a post on her, she can take advantage of that.”

Two seasons ago, 2010 graduate Lindsay Schrader served a similar role as a guard who could score in the frontcourt while remaining a shooting threat on the perimeter. However, McBrade’s defensive skill and 3-point shooting ability makes her even more versatile.

“K-Mac shoots a lot of threes and Lindsay really didn’t, but she can stay inside the perimeter like Lindsay did,” Diggins said. “It’s different components.”

The specialist

Ranked sixth all-time in program history with 130 career 3-point field goals, graduate student Brittany Mallory serves as Notre Dame’s most potent threat behind the arc. Despite her re- cruiment by McGraw for her exceptional 3-point shooting, Mallory’s experience in the four-guard system and off-ball movement has made her invaluable on the court.

“Brittany’s the stabilizing force. She’s the smart one,” McGraw said. “She’s going to go back-door, she’s going to make a great cut. She’s going to tell everybody to be in the right spot and make sure everybody’s doing what they’re supposed to be doing.”

Mallory said the offense can’t function properly if Notre Dame relies too heavily on the three- point shot. Rather, McGraw’s system flourishes when the guards spread the floor and allow Diggins to find the open shooter or cutting player.

“We spread the floor, that creates opportunities for driving, and when Sky drives everyone’s going to look at her,” she said. “We just have to look to get open and allow her to get the ball.”

The forward

Graduate student forward Devereaux Peters serves an important role as Notre Dame’s lone conventional post player, attracting defenders to free up perimeter shooters while finding the backdoor cutters. An athletic forward like Peters who can run the floor and rebound makes McGraw’s offense that much more effective.

“The guards really play well through me,” Peters said. “We can start to get in the paint before we know each other and we play well together. I move a bit quicker than a lot of the posts, so it works to our advantage in our case.”

Regardless of position, Mc- Craw said her players’ laser-like focus and motivation to return to the national championship game, coupled with their ability to coach themselves on the floor, set this year’s team apart.

“This is a team that has taken ownership. They’re accountable for each other, they help each other,” she said. “They feel like they’re coaches on the floor. When they see things they’ll talk about, ‘Hey, why don’t we try this? This looks great. I see this. This is going to work.’ I think it’s a real team effort.”

Contact Chris Masoud at cmasoud@nd.edu
One of the best teams in the country this year, the Irish have played some of their best basketball the last two times out. Also promising, the Irish seem to have the upper hand in the matchup with Connecticut, having won two of three meetings this season and currently on a mission to avenge their Big East championship game loss to the Huskies. Diggins and Peters will lead the Irish on both ends as they overcome UConn and move on to the finals against Baylor. The Irish will have their hands full with the Bears, but their penetrating style will put Griner on the bench with foul trouble early while McBride jumps out to a hot start. Ultimately, Griner and the rest of Baylor will be too much for Notre Dame to contain as the Irish finish as runner-ups for the second straight year.

BOTTOM LINE: Baylor 76, Notre Dame 68

Matthew Robison
Sports Writer

The Irish have had Connecticut’s number this season, beating the Huskies in two of three matchups. The only Connecticut victory came in a virtual second home game in the Big East championship. Diggins, Peters and the Irish will send Auriemma, Hayes and the Huskies packing after the national semifinal. But, as much as I would like to see Muffet McGraw and Notre Dame win another national title, I really don’t see anyone getting past Baylor this year. Brittney Griner and the Bears dominated the Irish in the first matchup this year. While I don’t see it being another dominant performance, I think Baylor is just too big and strong for Notre Dame’s post players. I hope the Irish prove me wrong, but Baylor will edge Notre Dame in a close one.
The Irish have come up against the Huskies eight times in the post-season, six in the Big East tournament, and twice in the Final Four. And the Irish have lost every one of those contests -- aside from the two Final Four matchups. Notre Dame will make that count 3-0 on Sunday led by continued strong postseason play from Diggins. But in the championship, the Irish will not be able to derail Baylor from the first 40-0 season in NCAA basketball history. The last time Notre Dame matched up with the Bears, Griner dropped 32 points, 14 rebounds and six blocked shots. While the Irish have certainly improved defensively since then and will not allow Griner that kind of statline again, Baylor will simply prove too tough and too big for ND and its four-guard system.

BOTTOM LINE: Baylor 84, Notre Dame 78

Friday, March 30, 2012

The Observer • IRISH INSIDER

Conventional wisdom suggests the team that has not lost a game all season, Baylor, led by a national champion coach, Kim Mulkey, and powered by the sport's best player, 6-foot-8 Brittany Griner, will not lose in Denver. But Stanford's senior forward Nnemkadi Ogwumike is quietly putting together the best performance in the NCAA tournament thus far, averaging 28 points per game after leading the Cardinal to 28 regular season wins against just one loss. But Notre Dame and Connecticut are peaking at the right time. Despite a first half scare against Kentucky, the Huskies rallied against the Wildcats to reach the Final Four, while the Irish thoroughly pounded Maryland in the Elite Eight. Losing to UConn in the Big East tournament finals was the best thing that happened to Notre Dame, who will start a new winning streak against the Huskies instead of trying to extend an old one to five.

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Sports Writer

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Notre Dame-Connecticut rivalry gains added significance

By MATTHEW ROBISON
Sports Writer

Notre Dame and Connecticut renew their Big East rivalry Sunday night in what will determine the premier team in the conference.

For the last two decades, Connecticut has dominated the Big East. However, recently — and especially this season — Notre Dame has made its claim as the new face of the conference.

In the regular season, the Irish knocked off the Huskies twice, once at Purcell Pavilion and once at the XL Center in Storrs, Conn.

“We’ve played them before,” graduate student guard Brittany Mallory said. “We know what to expect. They know what to expect. So it’s just going to be a good challenge.”

Connecticut got revenge for its two defeats this season when it beat Notre Dame, the Big East regular-season champion, in the conference championship game in Hartford, Conn.

“We beat them twice this year and they have beaten us once so it is an equal match-up,” senior guard Natalie Novosel said. “Going in, it is just going to be all about heart.”

When asked how the loss to the Huskies in the Big East title game will carry over into Sunday, the Irish said they will use it as a means of motivation.

“In a way it is a blessing in disguise,” Novosel said. “We look at it as a revenge game, and we usually do well in revenge games.”

Sunday night’s matchup figures to be the most heated contest of the rivalry to date. Last season, the Huskies swept the Irish in two regular season meetings and beat them in the Big East championship game. In the Final Four, the Irish finally got a win against Connecticut, beating the Huskies to advance to the national championship game against Texas A&M.

The Huskies were the No. 1 overall seed, had four-time All-American and AP Player of the Year Maya Moore and were thirsty for a rematch with Stanford, who ended their 90-game winning streak earlier in the season. But Notre Dame came out strong and held on to a 72-63 win, ending a 12-game skid by the Irish in the series.

After the game, it seemed as though Notre Dame had already won its championship — it had beaten Connecticut.

The Irish then went on to lose to the Aggies in the title game.

“Last year with Maya Moore, they were the team to beat, we were the underdog,” McGraw said. “We were coming in off the Tennessee win off a high. Nobody expected us to be there.”

This year, Notre Dame might be even hungrier. But Connecticut has been here before. It may not have a single go-to scorer like Moore or Tina Charles, but Huskies coach Geno Auriemma knows how to prepare his players for big games.

“I think when we played UConn, we’ve had a lot of different games with them,” McGraw said. “Stefanie Dolson has really beat us. Bria Hartley’s beat us. I think different people have stepped up in different games and played really well. When you’re playing a team like Connecticut, they’ve had such an equal opportunity team that any one person can step up on a given night and play extremely well.”

Facing such a versatile lineup, the Irish cannot be complacent with their two victories over the Huskies this year. A national championship is the goal.

“Now, people expect us not just to be there, but to win,” McGraw said.

The Notre Dame-Connecticut rivalry has reached new heights. The two teams are not only competing for Big East dominance but national renown. When the ball is tipped Sunday night, it will no longer be about a conference, a rivalry or a history. It will be about two teams’ relentless pursuit of a national championship.

Contact Matthew Robison at mrobison@nd.edu
Junior guard Skylar Diggins plays defense during Notre Dame's 81-61 victory over Akron on Nov. 11 in the Purcell Pavilion. Diggins had 23 points, seven assists and four steals in the season opener.

By KELSEY MANNING
Sports Writer

In the midst of racking up nominations for every major national-player-of-the-year award, earning spots on three different All-America teams, recording her first career triple-double and claiming the title of Most Outstanding Player of the Raleigh Regional, Irish junior point guard Skylar Diggins remains focused on one thing — winning it all.

"We are not just here to participate," she said. "We are not just happy to be here. We want to win it.

This attitude has been evident in Diggins’ postseason performance, as she posted her first career triple-double in No. 4 Notre Dame’s 80-49 rout of No. 5 Maryland to advance the Irish in Notre Dame history, and the third triple-double in all four categories. Diggins finished the game with 22 points, 11 assists and 10 rebounds along with five steals — she was the game’s top performer in all four categories. The feat marked the 13th triple-double in NCAA tournament history, and only the second in a regional final. Diggins also achieved the third triple-double in Notre Dame history, and the first ever in postseason play.

In the wake of the win over Maryland to advance the Irish to the Final Four for the second straight year, Irish coach Muffet McGraw recognized the profound mark Diggins has had on the Notre Dame program.

"This puts us in more elite company," she said. "This is something that [Diggins] has brought to our program. I think we now have a place with all the elite programs in the country, and I couldn’t be prouder of that.

Diggins has been showered with national honors, most recently earning a spot on the John Wooden All-American Team and the 10-player United States Basketball Writers Association All-American Team. These selections indicate the finalists for player-of-the-year awards from both organizations.

But despite all the individual attention, Diggins said her focus is on winning a championship, where it has remained since last year’s loss in the Final Four.

"The loss against Texas A&M has been in our mind for a year now. [We were thinking] ‘When is a championship going to [come]?’ When is the tournament getting started?’” she said. “I think we tried to win a championship against Arkansas Pine-Bluff right on the tip [in the first game of the season]. It’s good for us to finally be back here, and get into the last hurrah with the team. And with this team, it is kind of bittersweet, because we are at the end of the season with this team. But that gives us more reason to play for.

With that in mind, Diggins currently has her gaze set firmly on No. 3 Connecticut, who the Irish will face in the tournament semifinals in what will be the teams’ fourth matchup of the year. Brushing off any notion of the difficulty of beating a team three times in one year, Diggins said she and the team are using the same approach they have all year — one game at a time.

"I don’t think [the difficulty of beating a team three times in one year] matters. I think it is hard beating them once, especially a team like that," she said. "It’s the game to get to the championship, so I don’t think it matters who we are playing. The fact that it is UConn, I think we both have some familiarity [with each other]."

In a Wednesday teleconference, Huskies coach Geno Auriemma was asked what concerns him the most about playing Notre Dame.

"The most everything," he responded. “This is the eighth time we’re playing them in 12 months, and it’s crazy, isn’t it? I mean, it’s just ridiculous. Everything. Everything. I think if you stripped them apart as a team and all the components, you would find they don’t have any weaknesses, and you can’t say that about a lot of teams.”

Some of that praise can definitely be attributed to Diggins, he said.

"Certainly Skylar Diggins is playing unbelievable basketball right now," Auriemma said. "Diggins will try to continue this trend, as Notre Dame looks to advance to the national championship game for its second-straight year. And as the Irish take on Connecticut to earn that right, they will look to their junior point guard, who will — as always — have her eye on the prize.

"We know what it is like to get there, but we don’t know what it is like to win it," Diggins said. "So it’ll be great for us.”

Contact Kelsey Manning at kmanning1@nd.edu

ASHLEY DACYCH/The Observer

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WAY TO GO IRISH
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Remember: Breakfast is the most important meal of the day...
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GOOD LUCK IN DENVER!

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Big Groups Welcome...call ahead available
As a young girl, I had a very great obsession (well to tell the whole fashion truth, I had many, but I’m writing a column, not a memoir so I’ll err on the side of brevity for your sake, dear reader).

She was glamorous, international, musical, and quite the femme fatale—and my dream was to one day fill her shoes. Her name was Evita. I first fell under this Argentinian diplomat and dictator’s wife’s spell when I saw the film adaptation of Andrew Lloyd Webber’s musical, but it wasn’t the rags-to-riches tale, the many lovers or the pure ambition that first caught my impressionable eye. Oh no—it was the montage of the song “Rainbow High.” Fur after necklace after hat after shoe is presented in this scene to Eva Peron with unabashed glee. If you haven’t seen it, YouTube now, please—you’ll never be the same.

The weather finally seems to be cooperating! For Gucci’s sake, what kind of Evita followers would we be to contest? This spring season, designers are urging us to create our own spotlight—in neon. The Street Style of Paris, New York and Milan Fashion Weeks turned up our fellow fashionistas in the most eye-catching colors: neon pink, blue, green and orange.

Instead of those telltale t-shirts that we colleagues are often fond of wearing to sporting events, these neon items come in your classic tailored pieces—cuffed pants, blazers and exquisitely-cut blouses.

These key pieces morph into colorful, eye-catching highlights, provoking those colorful bursts don’t just need to draw our eyes to key pieces of academic information as highlighters do in our textbooks. They can also serve as a useful reminder to our audiences of our fabulous physical attributes.

The key to the trend is to pair neon with neutrals—maybe a neon pink skirt with a beige top, a neon blue pant with a white blazer. Going head-to-toe neon would be too ‘80s—we want modern neon-minimalist, not retro-eighties, for the experience.

The most utilitarian accessory in stores is the stiletto—no one will be able to keep their eyes off your gams with your heel is bright neon yellow. Don’t cry for me, Evita—I’m neon high now.

Contact Felicia Caponigri at fcaponig@nd.edu

THE INTERGALACTIC NEUMESIS

“The show definitely has a broader appeal than just comic book fans. It really is like an homage to and embracing of the storytelling that ‘Star Wars’ and ‘The Riddlers of the Lost Ark’ had. If you’re a fan of imagination and adventures and fun, and you like to laugh, then the ‘Intergalactic Nemesis’ is probably a show for you,” Neulander said.

“Now if you’re one of the people that doesn’t like fun and if you don’t like to laugh, then you’re probably clear.”

This idea for the show came to Neulander in an epiphany, when he realized he needed to do something different in order to entertain large audiences.

This actually started as a radio play, and I got invited to bring it into this 2,400-seat theater in Austin, and I just felt that venue was perfect for the experience of watching a radio play be performed. And so it kind of hit me in a flash, the idea of projecting comic book artwork to tell the story visually,” Neulander said.

And the audience loved it.

“I have been producing and directing plays for about 20 years, and no one has responded to anything I’ve ever done the way audiences responded to this. It’s a new way of doing things, for sure,” Neulander said.

“Intergalactic Nemesis” will be performed in the Leighton Concert Hall in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center on Saturday night at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $15 for students.

Contact Kevin Noonan at knoonan2@nd.edu

Asos Neon Dress, asos.com, $69.80

Michael Kors Neon Bag, macy’s.com, $125.99

“The Intergalactic Nemesis” stage.

**Scene**

**Scene Editor**

Kevin Noonan

In 1938, Orson Welles incited a countrywide panic with his radio-play adaptation of H.G. Wells’ science fiction classic, “War of the Worlds.” Around the same time was the boom of the graphic novel. Those forms of media have somewhat died out through the years, as technology has advanced, but for artists like Jason Neulander, they remain a continuing source of inspiration for unique storytelling techniques.

Neulander’s show, “Intergalactic Nemesis,” which he created and stars in, combines the two into a one-of-a-kind live-action graphic novel. His performance consists of a full graphic novel of over 1,000 frames projected onto a screen behind the stage, three voice actors who provide the speech for all characters in the show, three voice artists who make the sounds effects on stage for the audience to see and a pianist who performs the score live.

“We’ve created a comic books series to tell the story, and we project the art work from those books, panel by panel, with the word balloons. It’s a total one-of-a- kind show. There’s really not anything like it out there at all. Neulander said.

The story not only combines the presentation techniques of a radio play and comic novel, but the plot structure as well. Like many of the pulp fiction stories of the early 1900s, “Nemesis” is a science fiction adventure following a hero who must save a damsel in distress. But the story is far more than it seems.

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SPORTS AUTHORITY

Don’t forget to tune in to the Frozen Four

One of the most exciting annual events on the sports calendar takes place next weekend.
And chances are, almost none of you will watch it.

The Frozen Four of the men’s NCAA hockey tournament, the game’s grand finale, comes in not-so-frozen Tampa, Fla., Thursday night.

With two semifinal games, followed by the national championship two days later, the Frozen Four is typi-
cally a spectacle of hockey at its best. That’s not
than exhilarating, and college hockey is no exception. After Boston College and Minnesota
 won their respective conference championships, the best of the best will compete for the
world’s top prize.

Boston College is the tournament’s top overall seed and Union also earned a No. 1 seed, while
Minnesota and Ferris State were awarded No. 2 seeds. All four squads won their respective
conference championships.

The two have been surprising the league all season long. As many might remember,
the Bulldogs defeated the Wolverines to win their first-ever national championship.

In fact, two of the past three national championship games have gone to overtime: last year’s and the one in 2009.

That’s when a remarkable finish when the Redblacks were up 3-1 on the Saints with less than
one minute left in regulation and just over.

It’s possible that the Frozen Four will mirror the same theme.

There have been some

dramatic finishes to the past, such as 2010 when the
closest of the three games was described by five goals.

That’s not the rule. And the storylines
this season just add to the intrigue.

In semifinal, there is Boston College and Minne-
nesota, two powerhouse programs that have combined for nine national champi-
onships. On the other side of the bracket, you have
newcomers Ferris State and Union, each making its first-ever appearance in the Frozen Four, with a combined total of five
NCAA tournament wins in their histories.

In a way, it is similar to last year’s Frozen Four, a
basketball Final Four, with juggernauts Kentucky and Connecticut matching in one semifinal and Cinder-
ellas VCU and Butler in the other. Except unlike the basketball

tournament, this one is special. This guy
is like family to me. And if I could help him, I would.

Peyton began working with Payton in 2003, when he was hired as an offensive as-
sistant with the Dallas Cowboys.

He has continued consulting his
former employer’s interests.

As New Orleans’ head coach,

"I really don’t know much
about the situation. There’s a lot of things going
on here, and I would suspect it’s going to take a while
to sort out."

There are also three strong

in the league.

But Notre Dame has

contracted for his services.

While Notre Dame has
good student support for

the football team, it does not extend to national inter-
est, especially after the

system.

Peyton’s suspension in

2012.

Payton is considering appealing his year-long suspension.

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High Hopes

By Frank Sinatra

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 104 South Dining Hall. Deadline for same-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is $1.00 per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without in

The NFL’s 2012 investigation in New Orleans found that Pay-

A Baby is a Blessing. Adoption. They’ve been separated on the grounds of learning, family, and our happy marriage. They’ll give your child a happy home, a stay-at-home mom, and a large, diverse, tropical family (5 cousins and grown). We very much look forward to talking to you. Call Kim & Robert (855) 788-2013.

High Hopes

By Frank Sinatra

Next time your found with your confidant, the one you can trust, there’s a lot to be learned so look past the words. Just makes that little old song.

Three’ll move moat little rubber tree plant

Anyone knows an ant can’t move that little tree plant.

But he's got high hopes.

But he's got high hopes.

He's got high hopes.

He's got high hopes.

He's got high hopes.

He's got high hopes.
The Observer

lineup to meet the Bonnies, Irish may send out an atypical second match of the day, the entering the match with only St. Bonaventure (1-9), a team head indoors to the Eck Tennis of anybody, so we expect to do are playing well and we are pretty seriously. We feel we that match, so we take them Andrews

continued from page 20 that match, so we take them pretty seriously. We feel we are playing well and we are really not particularly afraid of anybody, so we expect to do well.

In the evening, Irish will head indoors to the Eck Tennis Pavilion to face off against a St. Bonaventure (1-9), a team entering the match with only one victory in their spring season thus far. As it is the second match of the day, the Irish may send out an atypical lineup to meet the Bonnies, Bayliss said. “I think we will be careful not to push anybody too hard or cause an injury,” Bayliss said. “We think we’ve got eight or nine guys that are all pretty capable of winning in singles and I wouldn’t be surprised if two or three of those guys get in to play in the second match.” The Irish have not played since a 4-2 loss to South Flor- ida on March 17 in Tampa Bay, Fla., but thanks to an extended stay in Florida and unseasonably warm weather in South Bend the past two weeks, the Irish had the opportuni- ty to consistently play outdoors.

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Sponsored by the Saint Mary’s College Student Government Association And Notre Dame Pre-Professional Society

By MATT UNGER

SMC SOFTBALL

No. 24 Lady Red sweep Belles in doubleheader By MATT UNGER Sports Writer

SMC TENNIS

Saint Mary’s prepares to recover against Alma By ISAAC LORTON Sports Writer

Coming off a tough conference loss against Alton, Saint Mary’s will look to bounce back against another conference frontrunner when they take on Alma College (Mich.) this afternoon. Tuesday’s score may have been 9-1 in favor of Alton (6-2, 2-0 MIAA), but Belles coach Dale Campbell feels the team is not far from the top.

“Even though the score was 8-1, I did not feel we were blown out,” Campbell said. “We did really well at the number-two spot in doubles and won that match. Both the one and three teams had close matches, but didn’t come through. In individuals, we are getting there.”

The Belles (7-5, 1-1) hope to use their home-court advantage against the Scots (8-2, 0-0) on Friday.

“We really do need to win the next two matches for, sure,” Campbell said.

“Fortunately, the weather has really cooperated with us,” Bayliss said. “We got to practice and play for nine straight days in 85 to 90-de- gree temperatures in Tampa. When we got back here, we still had the 80-degree mark, and it was a big surprise.”

Two months remain in the spring season for the Irish, including the Big East championships and NCAA tourna- ment. With the warm weather, the Irish have been able to practice outdoors, something Bayliss said is crucial, as the majority of these matches will be played in these competi- tions.

“When you are indoors, it’s easier to go through your shots more and be aggressive and you get rewarded for tak- ing some chances,” Bayliss said. “When you are outdoors, you have to focus on the depth of your shots and your place- ment, and be more patient and work the ball a little bit more before you opportunity comes.

“So we’ve tried to increase our threshold of how many balls we want to see us win, and make sure that feeds into the rest of the year for us.

“At the Irish look to their matches Saturday and what remains on their spring sched- ule, they have one thought on their mind, Bayliss said. “The goal is to win every- thing else we play.”

Bayliss said. “We’d like to think that if we play well, we can win any of the remaining matches and the goal is to win them all.”

The Irish face off against Ball State at 11 a.m. at the Courtney Tennis Center, fol- lowed by a 6 p.m. match with St. Bonaventure in the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

Contact Peter Seiner at psieber@nd.edu

Contact Isaac Lorton at ilorton@nd.edu

No. 24 Lady Red sweep Belles in doubleheader

Matched against No. 24 Carthage (Wis.) on Thursday, Saint Mary’s had little room for error. But the Belles (15-7, 0-2 MIAA) faced early de- ficits in both games of a home doubleheader and could not muster enough offense to avoid back-to-back 9-0 and 12-5 losses to the Scots.

In the first game, Carthage quickly grabbed a 2-0 lead in the second when freshman right fielder ovalia Scott led off with a two-run home run to center off of sophomore pitcher Carlie Sebist. Seibert did not receive support from her defense in the third and fifth innings as the Lady Reds tacked on four unearned runs in those frames to extend their lead to 6-0. The Belles made five errors in the first game.

“Our defense was all over the place today,” Saint Mary’s coach Erin Sul- livan said. “Our errors piled on as we lost physical errors turn into mental ones and made the same mistakes repeatedly.”

Meanwhile, Lady Reds junior pitcher Krystyna Leazer held Saint Mary’s to just one hit. She pitched a complete game shutout, allowing only two base runners on a hit and a walk. While not overpowering — only striking out four — her speed had contact from Belles hitters, resulting in a number of ground ball outs.

“Our hitters were very anxious today,” said Sullivan. “They all felt the weight of the world on their shoul- ders [Leazer] and really needed some help and support.”

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“We really do need to win the next two matches for, sure,” Campbell said.

“Playing at home is always good for us,” Campbell said. “I think trav- eling definitely can affect our play, and will affect our opponents.”

Although still early on in confer- ence play, in order to keep hope alive for a conference championship, the Belles need to capture the next two victories against Alma and Trine.

“We really do need to win the next two matches for, sure,” Campbell said.
By BRIAN HARTNETT  
Sports Writer

Irish pentathletes and heptathletes spent Thursday competing in venues across the country, with three members of the team wrapping up competition at the Eastern Illinois Multi-Events Invitational in Charleston, Ill.

In Texas, sophomore Maddie Buttinger and freshman Carly Leeoff competed in the first three events of the women's heptathlon, with Buttinger finishing sixth in the final overall standings and Leeoff finishing in 19th place. Buttinger put up strong showings in the long jump, finishing fifth, and in the 500-meter run, where she crossed the finish line in sixth. On the men's side, junior Ted Glasnow competed in the final five events of the pentathlon, taking 14th place in the final overall standings. Glasnow started the day with a victory in the discus throw, taking first with a throw of 42.22 meters, but struggled later on, failing to register a top-ten finish in the other four events. Irish coach Joe Piane said he was satisfied with the results from Texas, particularly those of Buttinger.

"I would say that Maddie did well, not great," Piane said. "Her performance might be good enough to qualify her for the NCAAs, but she has done significantly better in the past."

Meanwhile, in Illinois, sophomore Meghan Moore competed in the first four events of the women's heptathlon, finishing just outside the top five with a score of 2,710 points. Moore's top showing came in the 200-meter dash, where she finished fifth, with a time of 26.16 seconds. Junior Alex Ba-
vis, junior Dain Odegard and freshman Carson Barnes represented the Irish in the first five events of the men's decathlon, with Odegard racking up 3,154 points, Barins earning 3,059 points and Bavis compiling 2,329 points. Top finishes included fifth place finishes in the 100-meter dash and long jump, as well as Ode-
gard's fifth-place finish in the high jump.

The majority of Notre Dame's athletes will return to competition on Friday, when the Irish travel to West Lafayette, Ind., for the Purdue Poehlein Invitational. The Irish will send over 60 athletes to meet, which will feature over 500 athletes from 13 schools.

The Irish will look to con-
tinue their success from last weekend's season-opening Vic-
tor Lopez Invitational, where the Irish claimed five victories and several top finishes. The Irish took victories in the men's hammer throw, won by sophomore thrower Andy Hills, the wom-
men's hammer throw, won by sophomore thrower Vivien Dev-
aney, the women's 1,500-meter event, won by sophomore Kelly Carran, the men's 3,000-meter steeplechase, won by senior Jordan Carlson and the men's pole vault, won by senior Kevin Schipper.

"This meet gives a lot of guys an opportunity to get qualified and more guys are looking forward to it," Piane said. "Some people already qualified last week, so we'll hopefully get some more guys and we'll continue on until the Big East."

Piane said he was look-

ing forward to the steeplechase and several field events like discus, hammer and javelin — only of-
fered in the outdoor season. "I'm happy that I gave myself another chance to go out there and try to change that," Sharapova said. "This is the way to celebrate my birthday, playing like this," Monaco said. "I feel proud and happy."

With the departure of de-
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ranked Azarenka her first loss of the year Wednesday.

The No. 2-seeded Sharapova improved to 4-0 in Key Biscayne semifinals. She's 0-3 in finals at the event, losing every set.

"I'm happy I had the call the last set and it had not been overruled. It's obviously a tough situa-
tion to be in," Sharapova said. "because it's so close to the end of the match, and both of us had fought so hard for over two hours."

The Irish look to be strong in these outdoor events.

Despite the team's strong start, Piane noted the Irish are still far from reaching their full potential.

"Every area needs to im-
prove," Piane said. "Even if you're the best team in the league, you still have a lot to im-
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Contact Brian Hartnett at bhartnet@nd.edu  
KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. — Maa-
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tutive games and take the set. Djokovic said he played a nearly flawless tie-

To win the third set, Sharapova had to challenge the call herself. "I would have challenged the call myself," Sharapova said. "I'm happy that I gave myself another chance to go out there and try to change that," Sharapova said. "This is the way to celebrate my birthday, playing like this," Monaco said. "I feel proud and happy."

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ner-up at the Australian Open in January and at Indian Wells two weeks ago.
Pitchers continued from page 20
ration has been good this weak. So I’m looking forward to getting out of Fitz what we would have anticipated getting out of him at the very beginning of the year.”
Aoki also said he would like to see tighter fielding from his players after Wednesday’s 8-5 loss to UIC — which saw three more errors from the Irish — but overall, the coach was confident in Notre Dame’s chances going into the Irish.

Still, Holt says her team will have to be at the top of the country on a regular basis, providing a big team effort to compete against top teams in the field in the 40th Annual Liz Murphey Collegiate Classic. The tournament features six teams ranked in the top-25 nationally, and will prove to be a good test for the Irish, who are excited to compete against some of the best squads in the nation.

“We got here early (Thursday morning) and had a really good practice round.” Irish coach Susan Holt said. “The team is really upbeat and ready to compete.” To hang with some of the best in the nation, the Irish will have to be at the top of their game. “We need to get consistent play for all three days,” Holt said. “We need lower scores across the board and to avoid any score over 80. (Scores over 80 have) been our biggest problem this season. Against the level of competition we play, we can’t have scores that high. We just need to be more consistent across the board.”

“The Irish are no strangers to playing against the nation’s top competition, with every tournament they’ve played in thus far sporting multiple top-25 teams. Still, Holt says her team welcomes the regular challenge.

Alex Boyle/The Observer

Junior right hand pitcher Adam Norton winds up during an Irish game March 23 against Pittsburgh in Frank Eck Stadium. The Irish won 6-5.

ND WOMEN’S GOLF

Irish prepare to face ranked opponents

By NICK BOYLE

Notre Dame will travel to the University of Georgia Golf Club in Athens, Ga., this weekend to take on the field in the 40th Annual Liz Murphey Collegiate Classic. The tournament features six teams ranked in the top-25 nationally, and will prove to be a good test for the Irish, who are excited to compete against some of the best squads in the nation.

“We need a big team effort from our players. We have five talented golfers. It would be nice to have four out of five step up each day. We haven’t been able to get that done yet this season, but with a little focus and consistency we can get there.”

Susan Holt
Irish coach

“Our tournament schedule has been very challenging this season, providing us an opportunity to compete against top teams in the country on a regular basis,” Holt said. “There are three or four teams in the top-10 here this weekend. It’s a really good opportunity to see where we stand. Our players are very excited to compete against the best.”

While Holt will look to senior captain Becca Huffer for leadership, she knows that it will take a great team effort to compete this weekend.

“We need a big team effort from our players,” Holt said. “We have five talented golfers. It would be nice to have four out of five to step up each day. We haven’t been able to get that done yet this season, but with a little focus and consistency, we can get there.”

The Irish tee off the 40th Annual Liz Murphey Collegiate Classic today in Athens, Ga.

Contact Nick Boyle at nb Boyle@nd.edu

ND WOMEN’S TENNIS

No. 17 Notre Dame to host No. 49 DePaul

By KATIE HEIT

No. 17 Notre Dame (13-5) has a challenging opponent for the team swept all three doubles matches against DePaul, Mathews and Frilling will reunite and attempt to turn their luck around.

“I think we were just playing tentatively and thinking ‘We have to win, we should win,’ ” Frilling said. “It’s a mental thing that we have to get over. We have to play loose and play how we know we can. We can’t hold back anything.”

DePaul has lost four of their last six matches, but they are still a force to be reckoned with in the Big East. They have had four shutout wins this season, and have won the doubles point in nearly all of their victories.

Frilling said she and Mathews are focusing on enjoying their last few weeks as college athletes more than on where they are ranked.

“We’re just really trying to enjoy our last month and a half,” Frilling said. “I’m really just trying to make sure I’m having fun. I want to look back on these four years and be really happy with everything I did.”

The Irish hit the courts on Saturday at 2 p.m. at the Courtney Tennis Center.

Contact Katie Heit at kheit@nd.edu

Follow us on Twitter @ObserverSports

Alex Boyle/The Observer

Senior Kristy Frilling returns a serve in 6-1 loss against Duke on March 3 in the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

By KATIE HEIT

After a dominating shutout of Big East opponent Marquette on Sunday, the Irish will look to keep the success going when they take on DePaul at home on Saturday.

The No. 17 Irish (13-5) have had a series of strong showings in recent weeks, winning eight of their last ten matches. With three ranked players in singles, a top-five senior doubles pair, and an 8-2 record at home, Notre Dame is looking to continue that momentum in the last six matches leading up to the Big East championships.

Senior Kristy Frilling, ranked 84th in the country, said DePaul (10-5) has always proven to be a challenging opponent for the Irish. “They’re probably one of the strongest in the Big East,” Frilling said. “We always really look forward to playing them.”

Frilling and fellow senior and doubles partner Shannon Mathews were ranked No. 1 in the country after spring break, but have struggled since receiving the top ranking. In the match against Marquette (10-6), the senior pair split up and played with younger players to balance out the doubles competition. The
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LAICHLAICHLAICH

Associated Press
BOSTON — Brooks Laich scored in the fourth round of a shootout to give Washington a 3-2 victory over the Boston Bruins on Thursday night and help the Capitals keep pace in the Eastern Conference playoffs.

Washington is tied with Buffalo with 86 points in pursuit of the eighth and final playoff spot in the East. The Sabres remain ahead because they have five games remaining and the Caps have four.

The Bruins could have clinched a playoff berth with a win. The defending Stanley Cup champions will try again when they play the New York Islanders on Saturday.

Marcus Johansson had a goal and an assist in a 1:55 span midway through the final period to give Washington a 2-0 lead. But the Bruins tied it with two goals in the final 3:10, by David Krejci and Andrew Ference.

Tim Thomas made 21 saves for the Bruins. Michal Neuvirth stopped 19 shots after allowing two goals in the second period when Tomas Vokoun headed to the locker room. Still, Neuvirth managed to keep them in it until the third period.

Wideman, a former Bruin, beat Thomas over his left shoulder with 12:01 remaining in regulation. Less than 2 minutes later, Alexander Ovechkin picked up his second assist when he worked a 2-on-1 and drew Zdeno Chara out to the left circle before feeding to Johansson in the middle for another goal.

It stayed 2-2 until Chara flipped a wrist shot from the blue line toward the net and Krejci tipped it into the back of the net with 0:33 left, giving theCaps a 3-1 lead.

“First round, good job,” said Wideman, who club plays split-squad games Friday and the Diamondbacks in Scottsdale on Saturday before departing after Sunday’s finale for a three-game exhibition series against the Angles.

This time of year, you just need to stay healthy,” Mattingly said. “That put him back a little bit.”

Mattingly said. “That fifth inning cost us a lot of innings. We want him healthy so we can give him back a little bit.”

He kind of missed a turn,” Mattingly said. “This time of year, you just need to stay healthy,” Mattingly said. “First round, good job,” said Wideman, who club plays split-squad games Friday and the Diamondbacks in Scottsdale on Saturday before departing after Sunday’s finale for a three-game exhibition series against the Angles.

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Big East
continued from page 20

three wins will help us get off to a good start to win the Big East,” senior outfielder Alexa Maldonado said. “If we can keep up the momentum, it will definitely help us make through the Big East the way to hopefully winning a championship game.”

The road to the Big East tournament starts with the team making a big run through its conference schedule. Notre Dame will look to get that path started with a first against a weaker opponent in Connecticut.

“I think they’re a lot like Georgetown, the games we had postponed earlier in the week,” Maldonado said. “They’re scrappy and have a few good power hitters.”

One of the bigger challenges will be the adjustments between games throughout the weekend, but the Irish will be the adjustments in the first four games, the Irish have allowed 25 total goals in the past three contests, which took place over an eight-day span from March 18 through March 25.

Corrigan believes a way to go back to early-season form is for the Irish to concentrate more on themselves instead of the opposition.

“We had three games in eight days, and the good news is we played well enough to win all three of them. The bad news is we lost a little bit of ourselves in the course of that week preparing for three games.” Corrigan said. “I think we got a little bit away from who we are, and there’s nothing more important in our minds than us having a great understanding of ourselves.

“Maybe it’s on me for spending too much time talking about the teams we’re playing, and not enough talking about ourselves. When we’re at our best is when we play with a real good sense of ourselves and real smart, sound fundamental lacrosse.”

Notre Dame takes on St. John’s in the Big City Clash at 1 p.m. Saturday at Loyola University’s Mantle Field.

Corrigan
continued from page 20

St. John’s comes into Sunday’s matchup already possessing more wins than last season’s 4-10 team. Sophomore attack Kieran McArthur leads the team with 29 points, while senior midfield and Terence Leach ¾ the reigning Big East Offensive Player of the Week ¾ paces the Red Storm at 16 goals on the season. On the other side of the field, junior goaltender Jeff Lowman ranks in the top-15 in the country in save percentage.

“I think [St. John’s] is a very talented team,” Corrigan said. “They’re young and they’ve been playing mostly the same guys for the last two years and probably will have most of those same guys in the same spots again next year. I think this is a team that is still finding itself, but that has a lot of talent and I think they’re going to win a lot of games in the next couple of years.”

The Irish, who enter on a five-game winning streak, have picked up offensive production over the past three games, including scoring 17 total goals in both of the first four games, the Irish have allowed 25 total goals in the first four games of the season. The Irish have allowed 25 total goals in the past three contests, which took place over an eight-day span from March 18 through March 25.

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Notre Dame will face off with Loyola at 1 p.m. March 25.

Contact Joseph Monardo at jmonardo@nd.edu
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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Friday, March 30, 2012
The Observer  ∗ TODAY
ndsmcobserver.com | page 19

CROSSWORD

Across
1. Cuisine featuring nam prik
2. Hearty
3. Counterpart
4. Mexican soprano Marilyn
5. 1950 Best Actor nominee for "The Fleet"
6. A drizzle may hay over one
7. Incline
8. Squinting, perhaps
9. Cold that's easy to take off
10. French loanword that literally means "stung by a laddie"
11. Color
12. Perfect
13. It was MSNBC’s highest-rated program when canceled in 2003
14. Antique shop purchase
15. Wizard's garnishment
16. Paper assets

Down
17. Device with a hard disk
18. Has a demonstration of $1,000
19. Heuristic character who commits matricide
20. Weapons used to finish off the Greek army at Thermopylai
21. What a robot might resemble
22. To the left
23. Psychodrama 1966 song featuring a lengthy drum solo
24. What a whatnot has
25. Like moleworts
26. Danger for a climber
27. President's daughter on "The West Wing"
28. Alternative to "you"
29. Pizza sauce
30. Not going with the flow?
31. Round-bottomed container
32. Letter on Kelvin's costume
33. Kings of ancient Egypt
34. A temple
35. It's all in your head
36. Christmas tree
37. Gets the gist
38. 217 it hate when that happens
39. Business often located near an interstate
40. Company whose Nasdaq symbol is "cm" hanging at
41. Keep alive, as a fire
42. Showed a bit of friendliness
43. Poet who gave us "carpe diem"
44. Singer at Barak's inauguration
45. Poor
46. Hymn sung to Apollo
47. Trees in Gray's country churchyard
48. Kaplan who co-hosted six "high stakes poker"
49. Acknowledges a commander's entrance, maybe
50. Pizza sauce
51. Not going with the flow?
52. Round-bottomed container
53. Letter on Kelvin's costume
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The Clammy Handshake

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EUGENIA LAST

Happy Birthday! The greatest effect into relationships. Communication will lead to greater stability and closer bonds with the people we care most about. This year's stars bring great opportunities for all to help solve financial woes. A partnership will help to stabilize your life. Your numbers are 9, 12, 16, 20, 24, 35, 41, 45.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Show more patience and initiative when dealing with personal relationships. It's important to your overall happiness that you are in a situation to develop. Communication is highlighted. Ask questions and you will solve any problems that currently worry you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Use your imagination and stay outside your comfort zone. This change, if executed with care, means you probably will have a lot of fun. You probably will find balance, make new people and learn new things. Love is a worthy pursuit, and romance will play a big role.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Keep trying simple and avoid any sort of misunderstanding that can drive between you and someone you associate with for business or pleasure. Avoid impulsive purchases that prove to be expensive and prevent you from becoming closer to your true self.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Use your imagination and show you care. You need to express something new in a light or free manner if you want to change your mind. Your actions are likely to bring on a sense of success as well as new opportunities. Be sure to use your voice and advice to give others positive and challenging feedback.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Be open to opportunities coming your way. A good idea can help you improve your home life and relationships. Getting involved in an organization or group that appreciates your vision will also help to improve friendships and positive and challenging feedback.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Put love into your life. Focus on doing something special for the people you care about. Will increase your energy by opening new ways to work. A change will bring opportunities of love and improved personal health.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A change will help you put your life into perspective. Take a short trip or change your surroundings to better suit your needs. If complaints hold you back, find balance between work and personal pursuits. Let the people you relate to be kind.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Try to take the high road in your daily life. Expect your self-confidence to be higher, but you will also need to be alert for new opportunities. Find time for the things you care about. "I,效果图" is the bright, shining star that makes a difference.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): This year you will want to keep the pace. It's what you do and you will not only win the race. Focus on making your home a better place. Change will bring you closer to your goals and enable you to make the right choices.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Take a walk down memory lane and recall some of the things that were important to you. Remember your friends and the people who have loved you most and try to keep those memories with you. Love is the tool that will enable you to succeed.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Good fortune can be your ally if you do the right thing. Depending on your life, you may want to follow your heart and pursue it. "I,效果图" may be the answer to the right decision. It may be the tool that can help you work through the hard times.

PICTURE (Feb. 19-March 20): Practical solution ideas will emerge sooner. Don't let someone else make decisions for you and you will find that it's easier to make the right choices. "I,效果图" will build a solid foundation that will bring you years of satisfaction.

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Jumble

HENRY ARNOLD

Unscramble these four Jumbles, form four ordinary words.

WERRA

HILWE

TEYUBA

TRAGHE

HELEN HUNT WAS ANGRY TO STAR IN "TESSER" AFTER THE SCRIPT ——

Now arrange the crossed letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above carbon.

Answers tomorrow:

Yesterday's Jumbles: SKIMP UNWED VORTEX IDGO

Answer:

SUBJECTIVE: "These drinks had the best alcohol-to-water ratio possible."

ANSWERS TODAY:

May your birthday wishes come true. If you need help, I will lend a hand.

Photo: Emma and Henry Arnold

THE OBSERVER
**MEN’S LACROSSE**

**Meadow bound**

Irish, team to play at MetLife Stadium in Big City Classic

By SAM GANS
Sports Writer

The Super Bowl-winning New York Giants, U2 and Notre Dame don’t appear to have much in common. But after Sunday, all will have played at least once at state-of-the-art MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J.

The No. 6 Irish will head to the Meadowlands to take on St. John’s in the Big City Classic this weekend. The game will be the first of a triple-header with Johns Hopkins, North Carolina, Syracuse and Duke also participating. This is the fourth year of the Big City Classic, but the game against the Red Storm (5-3, 1-1 Big East) marks the first time the Irish (6-1, 1-0) have played in the event. Though the game will be played in an NFL stadium and in front of a large crowd, the first three years each drew more than 22,000 spectators. ¾ Irish coach Kevin Corrigan is trying to keep his team’s focus on the task at hand: “I think it’s a great place to play and it’s fun to be part of an event like this, but our focus is just on playing St. John’s,” Corrigan said. “The field is the same dimensions as every other one we play on. We can’t get caught up in thinking about anything other than what St. John’s does and what we need to do against them.”

**BASEBALL**

Fitzgerald leads squad to exciting environment

By VICKY JACOBSEN
Sports Writer

The Irish are heading back to the Sun Belt for a weekend series against conference foe South Florida. But although the games will be played in Tampa, the atmosphere will be miles away from spring training.

“There are very few venues in college baseball that are quite as electric – (maybe) LSU,” Irish coach Mik Aoki said of USF-Baseball Stadium. “We were able to go down [to LSU] and really play our most complete game of the year and got that win against them, so hopefully we can build on that and have a little confidence from it, and play well all weekend.”

The Irish will be following their regular weekend pitch-rotation of senior Will Hudgins, followed by junior Adam Norton and sophomore Sean Fitzgerald, who will close out the series on Sunday afternoon. Aoki said he doesn’t expect the usually rocking house at South Florida (18-8, 3-0 Big East) to faze any of his pitchers: “They’re good pitchers, they’re good competitors, they’re really good kids,” Aoki said. “They’re kids who have been in hostile environments and done a good job, and they’re not going to get carried away with the moment.”

Although Hudgins and Norton can boast matching 3-1 records, Hudgins holds a sparkling 1.08 ERA, while Fitzgerald has had rougher results in his first six starts, earning a 5.72 ERA in 28.1 innings.

“Fitz [Fitzgerald] has had a bit of a struggle to this point, and I hope that he’s able to be more like the pitcher he was when we played LSU,” Aoki said. “I don’t really have any reason to believe that he won’t be, because I think his separation with Johns Hopkins, North Carolina, Syracuse and Duke also participating. This is the fourth year of the Big City Classic, but the game against the Red Storm (5-3, 1-1 Big East) marks the first time the Irish (6-1, 1-0) have played in the event. Though the game will be played in an NFL stadium and in front of a large crowd, the first three years each drew more than 22,000 spectators. ¾ Irish coach Kevin Corrigan is trying to keep his team’s focus on the task at hand: “I think it’s a great place to play and it’s fun to be part of an event like this, but our focus is just on playing St. John’s,” Corrigan said. “The field is the same dimensions as every other one we play on. We can’t get caught up in thinking about anything other than what St. John’s does and what we need to do against them.”

**SOFTBALL**

Irish enter weekend with winning streak

By ERNST CLEOFE
Sports Writer

Notre Dame is looking to continue its three-game win streak in its three-game home stand against Connecticut this weekend.

The Irish (14-10) are coming off a packed schedule, with three games over the course of the week before this important weekend for early-season positioning in the conference standings. On Tuesday, junior catcher Amy Bunin hit a walk-off homerun to give the Irish a 5-3 win against Western Michigan. The next day, the team swept Toledo in a double-header at home. The win streak should give the team momentum heading into their Big East schedule.

The Irish (13-6) are not typically considered to be a top-tier tennis program, the Irish recognize they cannot underestimate the Cardinals, Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. “Ball State is a team that traditionally has won the Mid-American Conference under Bill Richards, their coach,” Bayliss said. “We played them last year at Ball State, and they were a good enough team that their No. 6 singles actually beat [sophomore] Greg Andrews in a close-out.”

**WOMEN’S LACROSSE**

ND looks to remain undefeated

By JOSEPH MONARDO
Sports Writer

After surviving a scare in their Big East opener, the No. 6 Irish are one of only two teams in Division I with an undefeated record. Notre Dame will have to defend its perfect start twice this weekend, as it continues its Big East campaign by travelling to Rutgers today and No. 18 Loyola (Md.) on Sunday.

Their last time out, the Irish (7-0, 1-0 Big East) fell behind 5-1 early to Louisvile, before battling back to capture the 13-11 home win. As they prepare to take to the road for a weekend swing, the Irish have shifted their focus to Rutgers (5-3).

“They have really been developing and growing in their game,” Irish coach Christine Halfpenney said of the Scarlet Knights. “They definitely come into this year’s game with a pretty solid, veteran lineup and they are very athletic ¾ they have great speed. I feel like they have a very aggressive and tough mentality, and have a system that is working for them.”

The Irish began the season with consecutive losses, but have since won five of their last six, most recently in an 11-10 double-overtime defeat of Fairfield. The Irish expect a stiff challenge from Rutgers as their opponent opens the Big East portion of their schedule this afternoon.

“Rutgers is their first match up for a weekend sweep, and they are top in the nation,” Halfpenney said. “They have a lot of one-on-one scoring threats, and we know that this is their Big East opener on their home field.” Halfpenney added, “We’ll be looking for a weekend sweep.”

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