Leaders address racial discrimination

“Call to Action” committees work to change campus culture, foster inclusion

By NICOLE MICHELS
News Writer

After testimonies at a March 5 town hall meeting called to address instances of racial discrimination on campus, community leaders are working to foster an environment that better embodies the ideal outlined in Notre Dame’s “Spirit of Inclusion” statement.

The statement asserts the University welcomes “all people, regardless of color, gender, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, social or economic class, and nationality, for example, precisely because of Christ’s calling to treat others as we desire to be treated.”

Senior Brittany Suggs, former chair of the Black Student Association, said everyone at Notre Dame needs to take responsibility for the well-being of the entire community.

“These problems are not just one group’s problems ... and as a member of the Notre Dame family, it is your duty to be informed and to take up this cause,” Suggs said. “We want a place that can feel like home for everyone ... If we are a family, it is important to also be attentive to the needs of all of the other members of our family.”

Suggs said “Call to Action” committees formed to address racial discrimination, and those groups synthesized the concerns voiced at the town hall meeting into a plan of action.

“We are working on a response that aligns with many of the plans ... that come from what the student body and greater Notre Dame community presented at the town hall meeting,” she said.

Suggs said the committees considered stories of struggle voiced by the students at the town hall meeting to form an overarching plan of action meant to correct a campus culture in which discrimination can persist.

“We shared the stories that were presented during the town hall meeting ... Then we also shared the more general suggestions from the town hall meeting,” Suggs said. “What we did from there was discussed more in-depth how to create responses to these two sets of information and worked with these different departments.”

Two preliminary results of the committees’ work have been heartening, Suggs said.

Immediately after the town hall meeting, there was an increase in reporting [instances of discrimination] and an increase in faculty members being available to assist students with reporting,” Suggs said. “Another...”

Campus Girl Scouts receive community service award

Campus Girl Scouts club members play a game with girls from Troop 00087 during a meeting. The club received a Community Recognition Award from the Northern Indiana-Michiana Service Unit.

By TORI CREIGHTON
News Writer

Campus Girl Scouts of Notre Dame and St. Mary’s received the 2011-2012 Community Recognition Award from the Northern Indiana-Michiana Service Unit last week for its service to the local area.

Sophomore Jamie Pfaff, former club president, said Campus Girl Scouts filled a community need by leading Troop 00087, which served girls on the west side of South Bend who could not be placed in other troops due to lack of leadership.

“They probably wouldn’t have been able to be in Girl Scouts without us,” she said.

Pfaff said club members led the troop of approximately 25 girls from 2 to 3:30 p.m. twice a month in Pasquerilla West Hall.

People often think Campus Girl Scouts is a club for college-aged Girl Scouts, Pfaff said, but members are actually volunteers with a service group that works with the local Girl Scout council.

Past involvement in Girl Scouts is not necessary to join, and men are encouraged to participate as well, Pfaff said. She said Campus Girl Scouts is a convenient way for Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s students to connect with and serve girls in the community.

“If you’re doing community service, you’re being a Girl Scout,” Pfaff said.

According to the Girl Scouts of the USA website, Campus Girl Scouts organizations are present nationwide on college campuses. The service clubs are certified by Girl Scouts of the USA but are separate entities that exist to collaborate with Girl Scout councils.

In her nomination letter for the award, Service Unit 206 Manager and Campus Girl Scouts Liaison Dawn Cole said Troop 00087 is unique because it is a multi-age group.
Offbeat

Mass, woman balks at paying old $73 debt to N.J.
AMESBURY, Mass. — A Massachusetts woman who got a bill for $73 from the state of New Jersey for a deca-

des-old debt says she has no intention of paying.

Alice Mainville, of Ames-

bury, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

bour, got a letter recently telling her she owes New Jersey’s Department of La-

jour with free food, inflatables, games, face painting, balloon animals, juggler and a juggling zoo at the Zahm Spring Carnival tomorrow from 4 to 7 p.m. on North Quad.

Dr. Roderick J.A. Little will deliver a lecture titled “Much More Than Bean Counting: Why You Should Become a Statistician” tomorrow from 4 to 5 p.m. at 127 Hayes-Healy.

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

The Power to Control People’s Emotions Around Him.

“Mired reading so he knows what everyone at Notre Dame is thinking.”

“Being invisible because I’ve never seen him.”

“The ability to seduce people with his eyes.”

As the school year comes to an end, freshmen Conor Monti, left, and Dan Kwansniak, right, moved out from their couch from Stanford Hall on Monday night. Students must have their rooms ready for inspection by the Office of Residence Life & Housing by Thursday.

Today’s Staff

Marisa Iati
Christian Myers
Adam Lieners

Graphics
Lauren Kalinoski

Photos
Ashley Daly

Corrections

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at (574) 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

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

In Brief

There will be a blood drive sponsored by Friends of the Orphans and hosted by the American Red Cross today from 12 to 6 p.m. in St. Jean Center.

Kelly McMann, an associate professor of political science at Case Western Uni-

versity, will deliver a lecture titled “Outside Capitals: Measuring and Explaining Subnational Democracy” today from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in Room 301 of the Hes-

bury Center.

Stephen E. Zitarey, the di-

rector of the AVESTER Cen-

ter, will present a seminar addressing the challenges of attaining operational excel-

lence for clean energy plants today from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. in 155 D'Alorto Hall.

There will be a freshmen finals prayer service tonight at 9 p.m. at the Grotto.

The “Operation Smile Candy-

date Fundraiser” will happen tomorrow from 3 to 6 p.m. at LaFayette Student Center.

Celebrate the spring season with free food, inflatables, games, face painting, balloon animals, juggler and a juggling zoo at the Zahm Spring Carnival tomorrow from 4 to 7 p.m. on North Quad.

Dr. Roderick J.A. Little will deliver a lecture titled “Much More Than Bean Counting: Why You Should Become a Statistician” tomorrow from 4 to 5 p.m. at 127 Hayes-Healy.

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

Josiah Scholtes

The Observer is an independent, daily newspaper in print and online published in and online by the students of the University of Notre Dame da La and Saint Mary’s College. Editorial content, including advertising, is not governed by policies of the administration of either institution. The Observer reserves the right to edit advertisements based on content.

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at (574) 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

The Observer is the independent, daily newspaper in print and online published in and online by the students of the University of Notre Dame da La and Saint Mary’s College. Editorial content, including advertising, is not governed by policies of the administration of either institution. The Observer reserves the right to edit advertisements based on content.

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at (574) 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at (574) 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at (574) 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at (574) 631-4541 so we can correct our error.
Group advocates for inclusion

By NICOLE TOCZAER
News Writer

In their final meeting of the semester, members of Campus Life Council (CLC) discussed how to best advocate for the expansion of inclusion on the basis of sexual orientation, race and ethnicity in student government’s Year End Report to the Board of Trustees.

Student body president emeritus Pat McCormick said student government regularly reports student concerns to a Board of Trustees committee responsible for the Board of Student Affairs. These reports usually happen two to three times each year.

“In the fall, we presented students’ advocacy of sustainability, informing the building of a Notre Dame for the 21st century,” McCormick said. “We thought this time it would be especially valuable to talk about how we might expand inclusion in the Notre Dame family, particularly ethnicity and race, as well as sexual orientation, based on events in the past couple of months.”

Ed Mack, rector of O’Neill Hall, said although student government has tried to expand inclusion in the past, there might be better ways to work with the University administration.

“I’m wondering if after the presentation we can ask, ‘What are we missing?’ What’s their advice to us?” he said. “The best and brightest of student government have worked on this for several years and there hasn’t been much progress.”

McCormick said Student Senate passed resolutions requesting the addition of sexual orientation to its nondiscrimination clause and the approval of a gay-straight alliance (GSA) or equivalent student group.

“The University ran a press release last week on their intent to expand inclusion. We don’t think it has been unsuccess-ful,” McCormick said. “I hope this year’s work speaks to a broad consensus on all sides on sexual orientation and race that we have made progress.”

Members of CLC also discussed concerns students have voiced in the past week.

Former Zahm Hall Senator Kevin Noonan said students thought the administration’s press release was ambiguous. (Editor’s Note: Noonan is the Scene editor for The Observer.)

“There’s been a lot of student support, specifically for a GSA and a sexual orientation clause,” he said. “I think for the very least, ask (in the Year End Report) for an explanation, a public explanation, of what’s holding it back when students have supported this for so long.”

The work of several campus stakeholders was essential to the progress made this year, McCormick said.

“We are committed to en-sureng discrimination in every form is confronted,” he said. “Students have advocated in extraordinary ways and in ways that remain in line with the mission of the University. We hope to express our grati-tude that engagement from other stakeholders has oc-curred and hope to progress in weeks to come.”

Contact Nicole Toczaer at nt02@nd.edu

---

HELPING YOU PREPARE FOR YOUR FUTURE

STUDENT RELOCATION LOANS

UP TO $7,500

A Low Rate of 7.99% Plus, get a low auto loan rate exclusive to graduating seniors!

NOTRE DAME FEDERAL CREDIT UNION 800-522-6611 • ndfcu.org

Annual Percentage Rate (APR) of 7.99% on a $7,500 loan for six months to a member who is graduating. This APR is variable and includes a 0.625% rate discount for being a member of the University. The rate discount is removed if the account is closed or transferred to an account held by a non-member. Offer expires 6/21/13 and is subject to change. For more information, call 800-522-6611 or visit ndfcu.org. Offer open to students, faculty, staff, and members of the Notre Dame community (excluding non-federal employees). Minimum rate of 5.66%. Rates are subject to change. Restrictions apply. Offer may be withdrawn at any time. Offer may be withdrawn at any time. Contract with a parent or guardian required if borrower is under 18 years of age. Default insurance premiums paid to American General for loans of $3,500 and above. Fees and conditions may apply. Equal housing lender. **A credit check is required.**

Contact Jillian Barwick at jbware1@smc.edu

---

Women’s Leadership Study

SMC student studies world female leaders

By JILLIAN BARWICK
Saint Mary’s Editor

For Saint Mary’s junior Lindsay Ellis, summer break will be an opportunity to ex-plore the cultures of young female leaders from around the world.

After receiving an email from the Center for Women’s Intercultural Leadership (CWIL), regarding new employment opportunities on campus, Ellis said she was in-terigued by the chance to inter-act with international female leaders.

“I am really excited to share my culture with other women leaders,” Ellis said. “With this opportunity, I will be able to find out how different I am from these other young wom-en and how our cultures com-pare and contrast.”

Ellis will participate in a study at Saint Mary’s that ex-amines undergraduate women leaders from Burma, Egypt, Libya, Mongolia and Tuni-sia/United States State Depart-ment’s Ellis. Ellis said the U.S. Department’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Af-fairs selected Saint Mary’s for a grant to conduct the study.

Titled “Educating Tomor-row’s Global Women Leaders,” the institute will consist of four weeks of intensive studies of American history, leadership and intercultural skills. This will be followed by a week of educational travel, culminating in a conference in Washington, D.C., Ellis said.

“I am participating in the four weeks as a student men-tor on campus, beginning on June 16 and ending on July 14.” she said. “I will be shar-ing a room with two interna-tional participants where we will participate in all of the activities. I will basically be an American host to the par-ticipants.”

Hosted through CWIL, the institute helps participants to learn about the United States and to get to know their peers, Ellis said.

“The program is designed through CWIL to include stu-dent mentors like myself so that the participants will have us as their American tour guides and mentors during their stay here,” Ellis said.

Strong leadership skills and excellent intercultural compe-tence were prerequisites for becoming student mentors, Ellis said.

“I am a resident advisor in McCandless Hall, and women’s studies is one of my majors,” Ellis said. “This opportunity seemed to fit right in with what I like to do.”

Ellis said she thought her experience as a Resident Advi-sor strengthened her applica-tion for the CWIL program.

“We do diversity training and are involved with a lot of con-ict resolution,” she said. “We also plan many events throughout the year, so all of that sort of molds us into peo-ple who fit the job description perfectly. I can’t wait to meet the other girls in my section, because I know we all bring something different to the ta-ble.”

In addition to learning about other female leaders and their cultures, Ellis said she and other mentors will help their participants select an office room and board as well as a stipend for their participation in the study.

“I found the incentive in ap-plying was that I’d be able to be back on campus for a few weeks and get to travel around while meeting new friends,” Ellis said. “The opportunity to travel to places like New York, Boston and Washington, D.C. all in one summer will be amazing.”

The participants and their mentors will also make week-end trips from South Bend to Chicago, Ellis said.

“This opportunity to travel and get to know women from other countries is going to be an experience I will never forget,” she said. “I am really looking forward to meeting all of the participants and learning more than I ever imagined.”

I think because I love Saint Mary’s so much, I always want to share that love with new people, so this is the perfect opportunity for me.”

Contact Jillian Barwick at jbware1@smc.edu

---

Campus Life Council

Contact Nicole Toczaer at nt02@nd.edu
Soccer
continued from page 1
Notre Dame’s regular Comcast cable offer. “I know there are a lot of people on campus who like it and I’ll watch with them in LaFortune, but not all my friends like soccer,” Gonzalez said.
Gonzalez said he prefers soccer because he grew up playing back home in Mexico.
“You can easily play on the streets... People have soccer balls or just a ball, as long as you have something to kick around,” he said.
Gonzalez said he prefers soccer over American football and basketball because soccer is a continuous game. “It’s not like American football where you get to take a breather, or stop and put it back for a while,” he said. “Anybody can play it. You can play to the fast or skillful... You can play and don’t have to be an athlete.”
Sophomore Michael Gibbs said he follows the Notre Dame team. “I barely watched in person. He said it also provided an opportunity to explore the surrounding European Library.
The trip wasn’t just about our own study of how these texts were received and the questions we could ask of them, but also on a larger scale, seeing what kinds of texts are preserved in European Library and the necessity of going over there and researching them ourselves,” McFadden said.
McFadden’s research concerns the relationship between classical literature and the Catholic Church fathers.
“I’m interested in the reception of classical literature, particularly Ambrose and Augustine,” he said. “This particular class provided a great opportunity to focus on texts from the Middle Ages and Renaissance periods in a Christian context.”
Bloomer said decades ago, a relationship between Fr. Theodore Hesburgh, University president emeritus, and Ambrosia’s Giovanni Battistamonti, who later became Pope John VI, resulted in the University’s acquisition of digital copies of many ancient texts. As a result, Bloomer said his students were familiar with the texts before examining them in person.
“A microfilm photograph preserves certain aspects, but for historians, we want to examine the actual article and read signs of use into it, the kind of thing you can know only by holding it in your hands,” Bloomer said.


Action
continued from page 1
reaction has been the [increased] vigor that people have for the issue... keeping the discussion very much alive,” said McCormick.
Student government leaders have participated in the committees attempting to resolve the dilemma at Notre Dame and have talked about the process and the conclusions drawn in those committees, student body president Brett Boucheau said.
“Student government has been involved with each of the committees, and Student Senate just passed a resolution the other day saying that they are looking for a University task force to go through and review the systems of how training is done … keeping the discussion very much alive,” said McCormick.
“Exploring the collections of the library, and particularly the tour of Milan that the Ambrosian libraries housed guests, was especially beneficial for me because of my research with saints Augustine and Ambrose,” he said. “Seeing that happened later became Pope John VI. I wanted to provide students with the know-how and practical experience, and then give them context by meeting many of the fine scholars and curators at the Ambrosiana.”
McFadden agreed the research opportunities at the Ambrosian Library were unparalleled.


Scouts
continued from page 1
troop. It allows for siblings to attend the same meeting, but they are split into groups, called patrols, based on their grades.
“The idea of this troop is that it’s an extension of the shop for the parents,” he said. “It makes them more involved in their girls in Girl Scouts because they only have to bring them to one meeting.”
Paul said the eight volunteers led each meeting. The girls worked to earn badges and promote the Girl Scout Law, which focuses on values like honesty, responsibility, courage and respect, she said. They also participated in cultural and academic activities like taking a trip to the Smith Museum of Art and participating in Thinking Day.
Sophomore Celine Fausto, who co-led the Juniors, said she enjoyed helping her group earn patches in subjects ranging from nature to first aid and citizenship.
“It was fun to see they do because I was a Daisy and Brownie but now doing this is so different,” she said. “It was a good leadership experience, which is new to me, and we never got to do them.”


A goal of Girl Scouts is to get girls thinking in a more futuristic way.” Pfaff said. “These girls are coming to Notre Dame and meeting girls that did that. It’s huge for them to start thinking about what they want.”
Campus Girl Scouts works to give the girls in its troop a community in which they can be themselves, Pfaff said.
“A lot of girls knew me to see these girls who were perfect strangers and had probably never been to Notre Dame before become comfortable with each other and become like a little family,” she said.


By ANN MARIE JAKUBOWSKI
News Writer

Over Spring Break, 10 Notre Dame graduate students enrolled in the course taught by Professor Martin Bloomer gained hands-on experience with ancient texts and manuscripts at the Ambrosian Library in Milan, Italy.
The class, composed of students from the classics, literature and arts and architecture departments as well as the Medieval Institute, joined students from Loyola University Chicago and the University of Wisconsin to tour the world-renowned library and examine the texts.
Bloomer said the seminar examined the methods ancient texts were transmitted.


When we study classical texts in introductory classes, we study them as if they had been printed once by someone in, say, the 4th century,” Bloomer said. “The fact is, however, that we are actually reprocessing ancient manuscripts of copies of the original texts.
By focusing on the editorial process, students can gain insight into interpreting the texts.
“Any editor of these texts is making decisions as to what to include or exclude,” said Bloomer. “The editor is always looking at the physical properties, like commentary notes in the margins and highlighting words which housed fantastic works in art, books, as well as the old Chris-


Soccer's pretty easy to watch here in LaFortune, but you can’t let your mind wander much because it usually accompanies important games. "It’s not just about the girls, you see huge groups of people watching it," he said. "All the parents want to talk about it, and I like to watch it because they care a lot."
Gillis said he has been watching the games at LaFortune due to his proximity to the building and that usually accompanies important games. "It’s not just about the girls, you see huge groups of people watching it," he said. "All the parents want to talk about it, and I like to watch it because they care a lot."
Gillis said he has been watching the games at LaFortune due to his proximity to the building and the fact that there is a culture of inclusivity at Notre Dame that makes it easy to set up viewing parties.


Our hope is to offer a forward-looking view as to how we might build a more inclusive community on campus with a wide variety of campus stakeholders that is truly conservative in its promotion of the University of Notre Dame," McCormick said.
Boucheau said while acknowledging the long-term vision necessarily defines these efforts, student government leaders are working to implement programs that will change the atmosphere before the next school year.
“We are going to hit the ground running and we are going to get everyone on campus, whether it is new faculty diversity training or new everything,” said McCormick.
Boucheau said we are more informed on diversity issues on campus and trying to expand the resources we are offering at Notre Dame ... making sure when we get to campus this issue remains relevant and we are there as a culture of inclusion.”


Contact Nicole Michels at amichels@nd.edu

Contact Meghan Thomassen at mthomassen@nd.edu

Contact Lori Creighton at tcreight@nd.edu

PAGE 4 | ndsmcobserver.com TUESDAY, MAY 1, 2012
**China**

Blind Lawyer narrowly escapes house arrest

BEIJING — Chen Guangcheng's blindness was a help and a hindrance as he made his way past the security cordon guarding his farmhouse.

He knew the terrain — he had explored his village in rural China as a blind child and moved as easily in darkness as in daylight. He was alert for the sounds of people, cars and the river he would have to cross.

But he stumbled scores of times, arriving bloody at a meeting point with a fellow dissident — the first of an under-ground railroad of supporters who eventually escorted him to safety with U.S. diplomats.

A self-taught lawyer who angered authorities by exposing forced abortions, Chen is now presumed to be under U.S. protection, most likely in the fortified American Embassy in Beijing. Details of his improbable escape — making his way last week through fields and forest, then being chased by security guards on the streets of the village, running through a cornfield to evade guards. He made it only by securing support from diplomats and journalists, but his wife was captured.

Days later, Chen was picked up by police and taken to a fortress-like American Embassy in Beijing. But he wasn’t the first time he had run away from Dongshigu village and his bitter, nearly decade-long feud with local officials.

In 2005, Chen, his wife and a friend made a dash out of the village, running through a fieldoid to evade guards. And his friend got all the way to Beijing, where they met with diplomats and journalists, but his wife was captured. Days later, Chen was picked up by police and taken to a fortress-like American Embassy in Beijing.

On that brief escape he was able to call his lawyer who had come to visit him, and freed his wife, Chen was alone.

He followed a path to a field and from there a road he knew led him to a narrow row. After crossing it, he entered a wooded area that he knew would lead him to the railway, ground that continually tripped him up. He fell at least 20 times, he would tell his supporters.

He walked for hours, trying to put as much distance between himself and his heavily guarded home as possible before daring to slip a battery into his mobile phone and call his lawyer. The American English teacher-turn-activist who had promised to help. She was waiting with a car.

When she finally found him, Chen was wet with sweat, rain and blood, and had numerous cuts and bruises.

"It was an unbelievable shape when he was picked up," said Fu, citing a conversation with He. Chen was "trembling, physically weak. ... But he was determined to escape from that miserable condition."
Nine rules to live by in college

One of the absolutely worst quotes of all time is “college is the best years of your life.” Every college student.My senior thesis on Star Wars

The undergraduate thesis may be the ultimate form of self-inflicted punishment. Whether you’re in the Honors Program, a PLS major or just plain ambitious, interested and a little bit crazy, the undergraduate thesis is all on you, in both times hard and good.

It seems like such a good idea at the beginning — 50 pages is nothing! That’s, like, five 10 page papers, which I write all the time, thank you very much. I wanted a whole year to do it, and that’s one less class I have to take each semester. And I wanted to do something bigger, your research more in-depth, your nights more sleepless. You start to wonder, “Was this really all worth it?”

You will face many hardships on your way to writing that senior undergraduate thesis, and you will come to the point of just giving up many times, but on that day you first turn it in — well, you might never feel better.

I know this from personal experience. In the past Friday, I turned in 70 pages of blood, sweat and tears. It was cathartic, it was a relief, it was a celebration — and it was all worth it.

It was worth it, not because I have 70 pages of academic insight to my name, but because I wrote my thesis on just about the coolest thing I could — Star Wars. Yeah, all that writing was hard. But even at its worst, my thesis was about Star Wars!

I spent countless hours reading about the most prolific movies of my childhood, the stories that inspired my young imagination and propelled to be a film major today. It was the closest to reading for fun that I’ve ever gotten in school.

Thanks to my thesis, I also received funding to visit Skywalker Ranch in Marin County, Calif., to do research and conduct interviews. It may have been a working trip, but I’ve never had more fun doing work in my life.

Writing 70 pages about “Star Wars” (and the many complexities behind the (Star Wars franchise), it turns out, was pretty easy. I was a fan girl writing something I would have enjoyed reading myself and, unsurprisingly, that made the whole thing an ultimately enjoyable experience.

So, don’t let 20 or 50 or 70 pages scare you away from taking on something truly challenging but really rewarding. But when you set your mind to it, choose a topic you’re interested in, all spend an entire year on it, no matter what you might think now, so settle in for that year with something you love. Be small, be original, and most importantly, be you. Find your personal “Star Wars” and the pain and suffering will, as it turns out, be one of the most rewarding experiences of your academic career.

Contact Majia Gustin at mgustin@nd.edu

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Quote of the day

“The very essence of leadership is that you have to vision. You can’t blow an uncertain trumpet.”

Fr. Theodore Hesburgh President Emeritus

Submit a Letter to the Editor

Editor’s Note: The Observer is refraining from naming the author of this letter because of a concern for his personal safety. Dear Holy Cross Priests of Notre Dame, Each week at Mass, the same petition resurfaces. “For an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life, especially to the Congregation of the Holy Cross.” I have been discerning the priesthood for some time now and would like to say “thanks” for including me in your weekly prayers. In addition, thanks for the incredible examples you have been for me and all students here at Notre Dame. Whether in the residence halls, on campus ministry retreats, or in the classroom, your day-to-day work shapes this University.

I am also gay. And in all likelihood, some of you are too. You know the deep loneliness, the awkward conversations that make you cringe inside, and the joy that comes with making yourself known to the people closest to you. Even with your vow to remain celibate (and thus, never to engage in sexual acts of any kind), that sexuality is still very much a part of who you are and who you are called to be for this university and its students.

As it stands, with the exclusion of sexual orientation from the non-discrimination clause (or, to avoid double negatives, the inclusion of sexual orientation in the discrimination clause) and our other none-sexual category, this is a call for your vocations — that you might more fully live up to the people God is calling you to be. In doing so, you’d be helping us to do the same.

In Notre Dame,

Anonymous senior

Letter to the Editor

A call for vocations

Dear Holy Cross Priests of Notre Dame,

One of the absolutely worst quotes of all time is “college is the best years of your life.” Every college student.

Marc Anthony Rosa
Bro Meets World

quote of the day

“Forever is composed of nows.”

Emily Dickinson
American poet

W V O I E R T H E Observer | ndsmcobserver.com

Tuesday, May 1, 2012

page 6

Inside Column

My senior thesis on Star Wars

The undergraduate thesis might just be the ultimate form of self-inflicted punishment. Whether you’re in the Honors Program, a PLS major or just plain ambitious, interested and a little bit crazy, the undergraduate thesis is all on you, in both times hard and good.

It seems like such a good idea at the beginning — 50 pages is nothing! That’s, like, five 10 page papers, which I write all the time, thank you very much. I wanted a whole year to do it, and that’s one less class I have to take each semester. And I wanted to do something bigger, your research more in-depth, your nights more sleepless. You start to wonder, “Was this really all worth it?”

You will face many hardships on your way to writing that senior undergraduate thesis, and you will come to the point of just giving up many times, but on that day you first turn it in — well, you might never feel better.

I know this from personal experience. In the past Friday, I turned in 70 pages of blood, sweat and tears. It was cathartic, it was a relief, it was a celebration — and it was all worth it.

It was worth it, not because I have 70 pages of academic insight to my name, but because I wrote my thesis on just about the coolest thing I could — Star Wars. Yeah, all that writing was hard. But even at its worst, my thesis was about Star Wars!

I spent countless hours reading about the most prolific movies of my childhood, the stories that inspired my young imagination and propelled to be a film major today. It was the closest to reading for fun that I’ve ever gotten in school.

Thanks to my thesis, I also received funding to visit Skywalker Ranch in Marin County, Calif., to do research and conduct interviews. It may have been a working trip, but I’ve never had more fun doing work in my life.

Writing 70 pages about “Star Wars” (and the many complexities behind the (Star Wars franchise), it turns out, was pretty easy. I was a fan girl writing something I would have enjoyed reading myself and, unsurprisingly, that made the whole thing an ultimately enjoyable experience.

So, don’t let 20 or 50 or 70 pages scare you away from taking on something truly challenging but really rewarding. But when you set your mind to it, choose a topic you’re interested in, all spend an entire year on it, no matter what you might think now, so settle in for that year with something you love. Be small, be original, and most importantly, be you. Find your personal “Star Wars” and the pain and suffering will, as it turns out, be one of the most rewarding experiences of your academic career.

Contact Majia Gustin at mgustin@nd.edu

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Quote of the day

“The very essence of leadership is that you have to vision. You can’t blow an uncertain trumpet.”

Fr. Theodore Hesburgh President Emeritus

Submit a Letter to the Editor

Editor’s Note: The Observer is refraining from naming the author of this letter because of a concern for his personal safety. Dear Holy Cross Priests of Notre Dame, Each week at Mass, the same petition resurfaces. “For an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life, especially to the Congregation of the Holy Cross.” I have been discerning the priesthood for some time now and would like to say “thanks” for including me in your weekly prayers. In addition, thanks for the incredible examples you have been for me and all students here at Notre Dame. Whether in the residence halls, on campus ministry retreats, or in the classroom, your day-to-day work shapes this University.

I am also gay. And in all likelihood, some of you are too. You know the deep loneliness, the awkward conversations that make you cringe inside, and the joy that comes with making yourself known to the people closest to you. Even with your vow to remain celibate (and thus, never to engage in sexual acts of any kind), that sexuality is still very much a part of who you are and who you are called to be for this university and its students.

As it stands, with the exclusion of sexual orientation from the non-discrimination clause (or, to avoid double negatives, the inclusion of sexual orientation in the discrimination clause) and our other none-sexual category, this is a call for your vocations — that you might more fully live up to the people God is calling you to be. In doing so, you’d be helping us to do the same.

In Notre Dame,

Anonymous senior

Letter to the Editor

A call for vocations

Dear Holy Cross Priests of Notre Dame,

Each week at Mass, the same petition resurfaces. “For an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life, especially to the Congregation of the Holy Cross.” I have been discerning the priesthood for some time now and would like to say “thanks” for including me in your weekly prayers. In addition, thanks for the incredible examples you have been for me and all students here at Notre Dame. Whether in the residence halls, on campus ministry retreats, or in the classroom, your day-to-day work shapes this University.

I am also gay. And in all likelihood, some of you are too. You know the deep loneliness, the awkward conversations that make you cringe inside, and the joy that comes with making yourself known to the people closest to you. Even with your vow to remain celibate (and thus, never to engage in sexual acts of any kind), that sexuality is still very much a part of who you are and who you are called to be for this university and its students.

As it stands, with the exclusion of sexual orientation from the non-discrimination clause (or, to avoid double negatives, the inclusion of sexual orientation in the discrimination clause) and our other none-sexual category, this is a call for your vocations — that you might more fully live up to the people God is calling you to be. In doing so, you’d be helping us to do the same.

In Notre Dame,

Anonymous senior

Quote of the day

“Forever is composed of nows.”

Emily Dickinson
American poet
Consider the rock star, politician, superhero, genius, prodigy and celebrity. These are people born with clairvoy, flight, squel and fame, hoping for a chance to be the object of celebration. The multitude continuously validates the celebrity — hook signings, trans-continental tours, award ceremonies, collaborations, presidential dinners, photo-op handshakes. (One student has asked if the Facebook friend request in an old fling, someone who understood her before the fame, pomp and glory. For weeks she checks her account wait, wait, waiting for a response — electronic affirmation from someone who really matters — nothing ever comes. It's a strange condition, to be so surrounded, yet so distant from those who matter, and yet it's an ever-popular one. The social Internet promised us a flat society, and yet it's an ever-popular one. The multitude continues to contribute to the web-centric culture. This generation doesn't know any different from what we have experienced and continue to experience. During the age of much needed social experimentation and expansion, technological products have been released almost directly in sync. The social pressures of high school or college were alleviated with MySpace, Facebook or Twitter. Paradigms of mental development have been altered to include the social web. The thing is, people don't change much. That isn't to say individuals don't change, but the human race exists and reacts in ways very similar to our gen- erational ancestors. Technology develops at an insane velocity. Only five years ago the first truly "smart" phone was released. It's been within this period that technology has forcibly inserted itself as an essential component of life. At first the benefits were simple: tech- nology would allow people to connect with one another across vast physical distances in a short amount of time. But to establish connections, we were given the tools to create a web presence — a means of identifying ourselves online. Somewhere in the evolution of technolo- gy, the importance of those two flipped: our profiles began to say more than we actually did. Better than just saying who we were in real life, we were given the ability to alter our profiles to reflect whatever we wanted them to. We could also be selective or encompassing in who we interacted with. Profiles, posts, text and whatnot let us present the image of who we want to be. We can edit out our inadequacies and short- comings, we can delete the myriads of face-to-face conversations, we can all become awesome beings totally in control of our lives. Dangerously, we begin to forget how fallible we are. Technology is fascinating and power- ful. So is human interaction, and that's something a generation is increasingly realizing. A connection — a single yes or no ver- sation. Being friends with someone on Facebook is not equitable to human interaction. Yet we thrive on these superficial connections. People take to Twitter or Facebook in the middle of the night in hopes of a chance to express and be recognized. People log into Facebook before they brush their teeth in the morning, before they have coffee, before they get dressed. There's a fas- cination in the voyeurism of exploring others lives. After all, if you're inspect- ing their projected life, wouldn't they be inspecting yours? Seldom do people have the opportuni- ty to truly know the person their profile ac- tually compare what's on the page with what's on their mind. A photo album of 300 pictures can reflect the essence of a party, but reality proves you spent a few minutes on Facebook and a few minutes at a party with a camera lens in hope of preserving it. In solidarity,
Sam Costanzo
Guest Columnist
Earlier this semester, I gave an inter- view to The Observer in which I shared intimate details of an attempted suicide during my freshman year. Rather than to the condition of GLBTQ students at Notre Dame. And honestly, I also gave the interview in part to make good on my promise to speak up in your office hours last semester. I'd applied multiple times for the chance to attend your office hours (which we all know are a limited, highly-select- ive affair), so you can imagine my hap- piness when this past fall when I was notified of my successful application. I had fifteen minutes to sit with you and one other stu- dent in your office, so there was clearly not much time for meaningful dialogue between us. I, a cowardly fifth-year senior, shrank from the opportunity to speak freely, though, as we ran through the usual exchanges and you eventu- ally asked, "How has your time at Notre Dame been?" I don't question your genuine inter- est in student life, but instead of saying, "Good," I simply said, "Good." I guess she shook hands a short while later and my guilt grew as you wished me good luck in my future endeavors. What was left of my childhood I thought. In failing to be honest in describing my time here, I failed to ac- curately pay witness to the reality some students face. I failed to give a voice to my peers. My response was a lie. I should have looked you in the eye and said, "It has been difficult, and here is why." Or "Father John, you need to understand what is at stake here. You and the administration cannot afford to make vacuous public statements of support and intent that are actually of no real substance. The University cannot continue to prioritize a desired public im- pression over the concrete needs of its students. Some of my fellow students are suffering the same feelings of isolation and depres- sion that led me to make a dangerous decision four years ago. These students can barely support themselves, staff, much less a clerg person or someone on one of your administrative committees. Some of these women and men remain in the closet, and we may never know their identity. But I know how they feel because I was once one of them, and out of silent desperation I eventually tried to kill myself. I failed to do the right thing when I met with you, but I am graduating soon and cannot afford to waste any time with empty words. What I and the student body need from you is the oppor- tunity to make a significant change in the lives of Notre Dame's students, most especially those students who feel they are living without technology, at least not of their own choosing. Rather, those born after 1987 haven't lived without technology, at least not at a long while. Quitting Facebook won't ever start a trend. There needs to be a start. Henry David Thoreau would be proud. We expect more out of technology than we do out of each other, and that is a fundamental flaw. By leaving internet behind, you will be forced to examine your interactions. And I sus- spect you will find more trust in those you care for, and those who care for you. Self-reflection requires intimacy and empathy, two things which can- not be found on a broadcast system to 1,000 of your best "friends." Managing- your identity is exhausting; specif- ically when it's something you have to do twenty-four hours a day. Forget about fans, likes, views, comments, reblogs, @replies and everything. Forget about yourself for a bit, disconnect and live for a bit. Blake J. Graham is a freshman. He can be reached on Twitter @Bjgraham27ndu.edu.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
By TESSA DEMERS
Scene Writer

This past weekend, the Music Department and the Notre Dame Opera made a gutsy choice in the production of "Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street." Although not an opera, this show is a challenging and thought-provoking piece of musical theater that pushes the boundaries of what is considered "entertainment" — will be received. How — far removed from what's normally considered "artistic comfort zones.

Audiences watch in horror as Mrs. Lovett's meat pies become the best and most popular around town, thanks to the abundance of extremely fresh meat. Sweeney Todd accumulates in his barber shop. The story is full of suspense and plot twists, and the Music Department and Opera brought them one ditzy London widow named Mrs. Lovett, who makes and sells “the worst meat pies in the British capital.

The real power of this show comes from the music. No other production has been able to justice to the role. The orchestra for this show did a fantastic job handling Sondheim's challenging and breathtakingly beautiful music; the composer is famous for writing rather difficult pieces for musicians to play. The real power of this show comes from the music: the swift changes in mood, the suspenseful dissonant chords, the rising crescendos and the eerie combinations of notes. In this sense, thanks to the orchestra, the intent of "Sweeney Todd" as off-kilter musical drama was heard loud and clear.

Overall, I hope Notre Dame continues to make gutsy choices such as this: shows that are thought-provoking and deep are great for students to broaden their minds and consider possibilities previously not considered. Open minds and greater cultural literacy should be goals for every Notre Dame student, and this weekend, the Music Department and Opera brought them one step closer.

Contact Brenna Williams at bwilliams0@nd.edu
Jack White goes solo on “Blunderbuss”

By CHRIS COLLUM

Yes, this is the Jack White (born John Anthony Gillis) — Jack White of the White Stripes, the Raconteurs, the Dead Weather and about two dozen other collaborations. While technically his debut solo album, White’s music has been a part of the public consciousness for over a decade, at least since that animated video for “Fell in Love with a Girl” starring Lego figures in 2001.

This is also, perhaps more importantly, the first piece of music we’ve heard from White since he and sister/wife/ex-wife (depending on whose story you believe) Meg White, whose surname he now bears, dissolved the White Stripes a little over a year ago.

The thirteen songs that comprise “Blunderbuss” came out of recording sessions with various guest and session musicians in late 2011 in his Nashville studio. According to Rolling Stone, White said in a statement that the record is “an album I couldn’t have released until now. I’ve put off making records under my own name for a long time but these songs feel like they could only be presented under my name. These songs were written from scratch, had nothing to do with anyone or anything else but my own expression, my own colors on my own canvas.”

White has also said that Meg White “completely controlled the White Stripes,” he wrote and composed all of their songs, so naturally, the obvious starting point when talking about “Blunderbuss” is the White Stripes’ music. As far as the sound of this record goes, it probably sounds the most like “Get Behind Me Satan,” the band’s second-to-last album which featured rock radio hit “My Doorbell.” The keys, the guitar sound on most songs, the tinkling bells in the background — all of these things recall “Get Behind Me Satan.” The new album’s first single, “Love Interruption,” is especially reminiscent of that record.

However, some tracks, such as second single “Sixteen Salutations” — also the album’s high point — or “I’m Shakin’,” sound more like the thrashing garage rock of the Stripes’ second album “De Stijl,” or the Raconteurs’ debut. This kind of back-and-forth between tracks with lush, sometimes acoustic instrumentation and straightforward riff-driven blues or garage rock is typical of White’s style in recent years. His signature guitar sound is unmistakable, but at times he gives the listener a break from it. This makes it all the more thunderous when he returns to it, such as on the aforementioned “I’m Shakin’” halfway through the record. “Blunderbuss,” for the most part, sounds great. White’s voice has never sounded better, the arrangements are peerless, and when he does cut loose on “Sixteen Salutations,” it’s very difficult to sit still when listening.

White’s lyrics on this record focus primarily on love lost, and the utter confusion that follows from it. Opener “Missing Pieces” sums it up perfectly: “Sometimes someone controls everything about you / And when they tell you that you just can’t live without you / They’re not lyin’, they’ll take pieces of you.”

On first single “Love Interruption,” he sings, “I want love to / change my friends to enemies, / change my friends to enemies, / and show me how it’s all my fault.”

This kind of morose introspection is everywhere on the album, more often than not in juxtaposition with the album’s buoyancy, often sunny arrangements. Usually it works, and on the few occasions when it doesn’t, such as on closer “Take Me with You When You Go” — which feels more like a cut-and-paste collage of three different songs than one coherent one — it’s still a lot of fun.

Elsewhere, on “Freedom at 21,” he explores “freedom in the 21st century,” describing a character who has “Two black gadgets in her hands / All she thinks about / No responsibility no guilt or morals / Cloud her judgment,” before erupting into one of his now-famous squelching, cry-out-to-the-heavens guitar solos.

“Blunderbuss,” if nothing else, serves as a closing statement on the White Stripes era of White’s musical career, as well as a closing statement on the confusing relationship (whether romantic, familial or otherwise) with his ex-white Stripes band mate. To that end, it accomplishes its purpose masterfully.

With “Blunderbuss,” Jack White has created a record that first of all sounds really, really good; secondly, is a ton of fun to listen to and third, has the ability to make the listener stop and think on repeated listen. It is not a high water mark of his career — in other words, he has created better pieces of music in the past, and probably will again in the future.

Any fan of White’s previous work is sure to enjoy this record, even if they don’t count it among their favorites in his expansive catalog.

White will be doing a lot of touring in the coming year, including two shows at Lollapalooza in Chicago this fall. Check out his complete 2012 schedule at http://jackwhiteiiii.com/tour-dates/

Contact Chris Collum at ccollum@nd.edu

NEW TO Your Queue

The Best of Watch Instantly

Summer is almost upon us, so what are you going to do with all that free time? Jobs and internships may take up some of it, but history proves that the best use of your time in those warm summer months is binge-watching entire TV series in one pop. Catch up with a show on its summer hiatus or digest a completed series — the possibilities are endless. Since the funds are not, Netflix has you covered with a vast collection of some of TV’s best.

1. “Arrested Development”

With a new series via Netflix just around the corner, whether new to “Arrested Development” or an old fan, now is the time to ready your chicken dance and make some horrible mistakes with an all-star cast sure to go straight to your funny bone.

2. “Lost”

Still don’t know why there was a polar bear on a tropical island? Answer that and many more questions with the complete series of “Lost,” right at your fingertips — no painful months-long waits included.

3. “Breaking Bad”

If you like science fiction, you’ll likely love “Battlestar.” But even if you don’t the difference between a lightsaber and a tribble, “Battlestar” will enthrall you with its intense drama and profound exploration of humanity. With starships and robots.

4. “Battlestar Galactica”

5. “Buffy the Vampire Slayer”

Before Joss Whedon created a musically-inclined "super villain" and directed a bunch of superhero cohorts, he created the best series of vampire stories around. And they are all at your fingertips — no painful months-long waits included.

6. “Psych”

5. “Buffy the Vampire Slayer”

Before Joss Whedon created a musically-inclined “super villain” and directed a bunch of superhero cohorts, he created the best series of vampire stories around. And they are all at your fingertips — no painful months-long waits included.

7. “Archer”

Before Joss Whedon created a musically-inclined “super villain” and directed a bunch of superhero cohorts, he created the best series of vampire stories around. And they are all at your fingertips — no painful months-long waits included.

8. “Friday Night Lights”

For sports and drama fans alike, this story of a Texas community and the high school football team at its heart is both enchanting and down to earth, sure to ensure you right from

9. “Sports Night”

Cancelled long before its time, this Aaron Sorkin drama featured the writer’s famous quirky characters and quick banter, this time centered in the world of a sports news show.

Best Tracks:

“Blunderbuss”
Jack White

Label: Capitol Records
Best Tracks: “Sixteen Salutations,” “Hip (Eponymous) Poor Boy,” “Love Interruption”

LAUREN KALINOSKI | Observer Graphic
For more information, visit ND’s website or please call Sr. Sue Dunn at 1-781-9...

If you or someone you love needs help because of the illness or injury of a family member, friend, or significant other, resources are available. Notre Dame has many programs and services that are designed to assist people in these situations. For more information, please visit the Office of Student Life's website or call Sr. Sue Dunn at 1-781-9...

There are many options available to you if you or someone you love is experiencing stress or emotional difficulties. The Office of Student Life offers a variety of programs and services to assist you. For more information, please visit the website or call Sr. Sue Dunn at 1-781-9...

If you or someone you love is experiencing stress or emotional difficulties, there are many options available to you. The Office of Student Life offers a variety of programs and services to assist you. For more information, please visit the website or call Sr. Sue Dunn at 1-781-9...

The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds. For next-day classifieds, the deadline is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. Classifeds Listed: Matthew DeFranks Associate Sports Editor

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 5 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds. For next-day classifieds, the deadline is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. Classifeds Listed: Matthew DeFranks Associate Sports Editor

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 5 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

7:43 a.m. | ndsmcobserver.com
The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.
The Observer • SPORTS
dndsobserver.com | page 11

NBA

Thibodeau says Rose’s injury will not derail Bulls’ playoff run

Associated Press

DEREFIELD, III. — One bad land- ing finished Derrick Rose’s season. The Chicago Bulls insist it hasn’t dashed their NBA title hopes. With their superstar point guard out for the rest of the season with a left knee injury, the Bulls will have to take a 2-0 lead over the Philadelphia 76ers when their first-round playoff series resumes Tuesday night after realizing their worst nightmare in the opener.

There was Rose writhing in pain just with a minute left after tearing the anterior cruciate ligament. Now, the Bulls will have to pick themselves up.

“I’ve watched them respond to ev- ery challenge all year long,” coach Tom Thibodeau said. “This is the next one.”

And it’s a big one.

The Bulls came into the season looking for more after posting the league’s best record and advanc- ing to Eastern Conference finals a year ago. They earned homecourt advantage throughout the playoffs again even though Rose and Rich- ard Hamilton missed significant time because of injuries, which ex- plains why they believe they can get through this.

Even so, the sight of Rose go- ing down late in Saturday’s 103-91 victory over the Sixers is a shock to the system. Thibodeau said Rose’s injury will not derail Bulls’ playoff run

“Everything you do is tilted to- wards him. It frees up a lot of oppor- tunities for a lot of other guys.”

The Sixers might not have to trap Rose as much or worry about the point guard creating havoc in the paint like they did in the games Rose missed, they were 20 on them twice in the regular season.

In the games Rose missed, they were 10-9.

“We’re not going to let the media or anybody paint the picture for us,” center Joakim Noah said. “We’ve played good basketball without Der- rick as well. It’s a tough blow Unfor- tunately in sports, there’s no feeling sorry for yourself.”

Bulls guard Richard Hamilton drives past Philadelphia forward Andre Iguodala during the third quarter of Chicago’s 103-91 playoff victory over Detroit on April 28.

With Rose sidelined, they figure to start Joakim Noah, Loul Deng (torn ligament in his left wrist), yet they still tied San An- tonio for the league’s best record at 50-16.

In the games Rose missed, they were 9-6.

“I was surprised how many peo- ple read it and commented,” Korver said. “When things are tough, that’s when a lot of good can happen.”

Bulls guard Richard Hamilton drives past Philadelphia forward Andre Iguodala during the third quarter of Chicago’s 103-91 playoff victory over Detroit on April 28.

NCAA BASKETBALL

Butler debating move from Horizon League

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Small-school Butler could soon be making a big move. The NCAA tournament darling is reportedly debating whether to leave the Horizon League for the stronger, higher-profile and po- tentially more profitable Atlantic 10.

Bulldogs athletic director Bar- ry Collier met Monday with his coaches, part of a regular meeting process he has with athletic de- partment employees. Spokesman Jim McGrath said Collier declined to comment on what was discussed at the meeting or where the decision-making process stands.

“We’ve been longtime members in good standing of the Horizon League and we continue to exam- ine the ever-changing landscape of conference affiliation,” McGrath said.

The Indianapolis Star first re- ported that university President James Danko notified trustees in a letter that the school had been conducting a cost-benefit analysis of changing conference affilia- tions. Coaches have been fielding questions, too, and trustees have been told not to discuss the possi- bility of a move that has caught the ear of Horizon League officials.

“Our commissioner, Mr. (Jon) LeCrone, has been in contact with the president and athletic director and they’ve not said anything to him,” Horizon League senior as- sociate commissioner Bill Benner said Monday. “As far as we know, the status is quo.”

Butler’s board of trustees is scheduled to meet May 9-10 and this month’s staff assembly gen- eral meeting is slated for May 16.

Danko did not immediately re- spond to an interview request from The Associated Press. Neither did Butler board of trustees Chairman Craig Fenneman or A-10 Commiss- sioner Bernadette McGlade.

“The Atlantic 10 is looking to re- place Temple, which will join the Big East in all sports other than football in 2013-14. The football team will begin playing football in the Big East this fall.

A-10 officials are reportedly in- terested in adding three schools — Butler, George Mason and Vir- ginia Commonwealth — to the Horizon League next year. All three have played in the men’s Final Four since 2006, but Butler is the only one of those three to reach the champi- onship game. Butler lost to Duke in the 2010 title game when Gor- don Hayward’s half-court heave bounced off the rim in Indy. The Bulldogs then lost to Connecticut in the 2011 championship game when they shot just 18.8 percent from the field.

In the games Rose missed, the Bulls’ approach didn’t change much. They still rebounded and de- fended, and they might have moved the ball even more when he was out.

“i think you stay with what you are as a team,” thibodeau said. “it’s the defense, it’s the rebounding, keep our turnovers low. inside- outside. Whether its off the dribble or through the post-up, the ball has to get to the paint. the final thing is sharing the ball. we have to keep the ball moving, but we have to do that when Derrick plays. From that standpoint, i don’t think we have to change. it’s impossible to make up for Derrick’s individual greatness, but our collective greatness would cover that up.”

“Without Derrick Rose, it is a dif- ferent team,” the 76ers’ Jrue Holi- day said. “They don’t really have that scoring and passing that Der- rick Rose brings. At the same time, they’ve had an awesome record without him.”

Rose was playing more like an MVP with 25 points, nine rebounds and nine assists after being limited to just seven shots in Game 1 — for 19 points on 20 on them twice in the regular season.

Bulls guard Richard Hamilton drives past Philadelphia forward Andre Iguodala during the third quarter of Chicago’s 103-91 playoff victory over Detroit on April 28.

Butler debate.

The Indianapolis Star first re- ported that university President James Danko notified trustees in a letter that the school had been conducting a cost-benefit analysis of changing conference affilia- tions. Coaches have been fielding questions, too, and trustees have been told not to discuss the possi- bility of a move that has caught the ear of Horizon League officials.

“Our commissioner, Mr. (Jon) LeCrone, has been in contact with the president and athletic director and they’ve not said anything to him,” Horizon League senior as- sociate commissioner Bill Benner said Monday. “As far as we know, the status is quo.”

Butler’s board of trustees is scheduled to meet May 9-10 and this month’s staff assembly gen- eral meeting is slated for May 16.

Danko did not immediately re- spond to an interview request from The Associated Press. Neither did Butler board of trustees Chairman Craig Fenneman or A-10 Commiss- sioner Bernadette McGlade.

“The Atlantic 10 is looking to re- place Temple, which will join the Big East in all sports other than football in 2013-14. The football team will begin playing football in the Big East this fall.

A-10 officials are reportedly in- terested in adding three schools — Butler, George Mason and Vir- ginia Commonwealth — to the Horizon League next year. All three have played in the men’s Final Four since 2006, but Butler is the only one of those three to reach the champi- onship game. Butler lost to Duke in the 2010 title game when Gor- don Hayward’s half-court heave bounced off the rim in Indy. The Bulldogs then lost to Connecticut in the 2011 championship game when they shot just 18.8 percent from the field.

In the games Rose missed, the Bulls’ approach didn’t change much. They still rebounded and de- fended, and they might have moved the ball even more when he was out.

“i think you stay with what you are as a team,” thibodeau said. “it’s the defense, it’s the rebounding, keep our turnovers low. inside- outside. Whether its off the dribble or through the post-up, the ball has to get to the paint. the final thing is sharing the ball. we have to keep the ball moving, but we have to do that when Derrick plays. From that standpoint, i don’t think we have to change. it’s impossible to make up for Derrick’s individual greatness, but our collective greatness would cover that up.”

“Without Derrick Rose, it is a dif- ferent team,” the 76ers’ Jrue Holi- day said. “They don’t really have that scoring and passing that Der- rick Rose brings. At the same time, they’ve had an awesome record without him.”

Rose was playing more like an MVP with 25 points, nine rebounds and nine assists after being limited to just seven shots in Game 1 — for 19 points on 20 on them twice in the regular season.
**Men's Rowing**

This weekend the Irish traveled to Wisconsin, Georgia Tech, and Grand Valley. In the first meet, the Irish competed against four other schools, finishing third. In the second meet, the Irish were able to compete against seven other schools, finishing first.

**Sailing**

Notre Dame faced Illinois State, Michigan, and Wisconsin in the Great Lakes Regional Championship. The Irish finished second, taking home the championship trophy.

**Gymnastics**

The Irish, coached by Steve Zimbo and associate coach Andrew Murphy, competed in the Mid-American Collegiate Championships. The team finished fifth overall, with individual performers achieving impressive scores.

**Soccer**

The Irish defeated Saint Mary's 1-0 in the second round of the NCAA Tournament, advancing to the third round.

**Ultimate**

The Irish men's ultimate team continued their successful season, capturing the Mid-American Collegiate Championships. The team played against teams from Ohio State, Michigan, and Georgia Tech, finishing second overall.

**Women's Rugby**

Notre Dame faced George Washington University in the fall season. The Irish won a very tough game, taking home the championship trophy.

**Women's Ultimate**

The Irish women's ultimate team faced off against four other teams, finishing in the top four. The team played against teams from Ohio State, Michigan, and Georgia Tech, finishing second overall.
Belles wrap up season with a win despite sophomore's absence

By AARON SANT-MILLER
Sports Writer

Despite missing the conference tournament, the Belles still managed to end the season on a high note. On Monday the team traveled to Naperville, Ill., to take on North Central in the last game of their season. When all was said and done, the Belles left with another win as they beat the Cardinals 6-3.

“I thought we did pretty well,” Belles coach Dale Campbell said.

If nothing else, the game will be important to the Irish winning streak. With the Big East championship and post-season coming up, the Irish need to keep the positive momentum going.

“Right now this is the best we have ever played all year,” Maldonado said. “Our pitching is top notch. Our defense is playing great. Everything is clicking right now — and now our team chemistry is really high. We just have a lot of confidence in each other.”

With team chemistry high, the team has learned to rely on each other and the game has become fun.

“Honestly, there’s a lot less pressure out there and we are having fun out there,” Maldonado said. “If someone misses a hit, we know the person behind us can get the hit. We pick each other up and we have each other’s backs.”

The Irish hope to ride the wave of recent success against Northern Illinois at home today. The game starts at 4 p.m. in Melissa Cook Stadium.

Contact Ernst Cleofe at ecleofe@nd.edu

ASHLEY DACY/The Observer
Junior catcher Amy Buntin steps up to the plate during Notre Dame’s 7-3 victory over Michigan State on April 24.

Irish seek 12th straight win, take on Northern Illinois

By ERNST CLEOFE
Sports Writer

Rain or shine, the Irish are looking to continue their recent 11-game winning streak against Northern Illinois on Tuesday.

The contest against Northern Illinois (19-31) and a game against Eastern Michigan on Thursday give Notre Dame (22-13, 13-3) a break between its Big East conference games.

While Northern Illinois does not seem to pose a strong threat to the Irish, senior captain and outfielder Alexa Maldonado said the contest will be a test of Notre Dame’s ability to stay focused.

“To be honest, I don’t know too much about them,” Maldonado said. “The game is going to be a nice break from our Big East schedule, but we still need to play well so we can keep our momentum.”

One other problem the Irish could face is something completely out of their control: rain. The game, previously scheduled for 3 p.m., has been moved forward to 4 p.m. to compensate for the sporadic weather.

In any case, Notre Dame will be ready for the weather conditions. In their last series in the rain, the Irish swept Seton Hall, 8-0 and 5-1.

“I don’t think the rain is going to affect us. Last time we played in the rain against Seton Hall and we played really well,” Maldonado said. “We have played in the rain before and we practice in the rain all the time. So, we’re used to it already.”

If someone misses a hit, we know the person behind us can get the hit. We pick each other up and we have each other’s backs.”

Alexa Maldonado, senior outfielder

Dame’s 7-1 victory over Michigan State on April 24.

“The game is going to be a nice break from our Big East schedule, but we still need to play well so we can keep our momentum.”

“I think everyone has basically been able to take an inventory on what we have to work on for next year ... I think we learned that we have to play even more aggressive and have realized that we have to work harder on our footwork”

Dave Campbell
Belles coach

Belles wrap up season with a win despite sophomore's absence

“If someone misses a hit, we know the person behind us can get the hit. We pick each other up and we have each other’s backs.”

Alexa Maldonado, senior outfielder

The contest against Northern Illinois on Tuesday, the Belles still managed to end the season on a high note. On Monday the team traveled to Naperville, Ill., to take on North Central in the last game of their season. When all was said and done, the Belles left with another win as they beat the Cardinals 6-3.

“I thought we did pretty well,” Belles coach Dale Campbell said.

If nothing else, the game will be important to the Irish winning streak. With the Big East championship and post-season coming up, the Irish need to keep the positive momentum going.

“Right now this is the best we have ever played all year,” Maldonado said. “Our pitching is top notch. Our defense is playing great. Everything is clicking right now — and now our team chemistry is really high. We just have a lot of confidence in each other.”

With team chemistry high, the team has learned to rely on each other and the game has become fun.

“Honestly, there’s a lot less pressure out there and we are having fun out there,” Maldonado said. “If someone misses a hit, we know the person behind us can get the hit. We pick each other up and we have each other’s backs.”

The Irish hope to ride the wave of recent success against Northern Illinois at home today. The game starts at 4 p.m. in Melissa Cook Stadium.

Contact Ernst Cleofe at ecleofe@nd.edu

ASHLEY DACY/The Observer
Junior catcher Amy Buntin steps up to the plate during Notre Dame’s 7-3 victory over Michigan State on April 24.

Belles wrap up season with a win despite sophomore's absence

By AARON SANT-MILLER
Sports Writer

Despite missing the conference tournament, the Belles still managed to end the season on a high note. On Monday the team traveled to Naperville, Ill., to take on North Central in the last game of their season. When all was said and done, the Belles left with another win as they beat the Cardinals 6-3.

“I thought we did pretty well,” Belles coach Dale Campbell said.

If nothing else, the game will be important to the Irish winning streak. With the Big East championship and post-season coming up, the Irish need to keep the positive momentum going.

“Right now this is the best we have ever played all year,” Maldonado said. “Our pitching is top notch. Our defense is playing great. Everything is clicking right now — and now our team chemistry is really high. We just have a lot of confidence in each other.”

With team chemistry high, the team has learned to rely on each other and the game has become fun.

“Honestly, there’s a lot less pressure out there and we are having fun out there,” Maldonado said. “If someone misses a hit, we know the person behind us can get the hit. We pick each other up and we have each other’s backs.”

The Irish hope to ride the wave of recent success against Northern Illinois at home today. The game starts at 4 p.m. in Melissa Cook Stadium.

Contact Ernst Cleofe at ecleofe@nd.edu

ASHLEY DACY/The Observer
Junior catcher Amy Buntin steps up to the plate during Notre Dame’s 7-3 victory over Michigan State on April 24.

Belles wrap up season with a win despite sophomore's absence

By AARON SANT-MILLER
Sports Writer

Despite missing the conference tournament, the Belles still managed to end the season on a high note. On Monday the team traveled to Naperville, Ill., to take on North Central in the last game of their season. When all was said and done, the Belles left with another win as they beat the Cardinals 6-3.

“I thought we did pretty well,” Belles coach Dale Campbell said.

If nothing else, the game will be important to the Irish winning streak. With the Big East championship and post-season coming up, the Irish need to keep the positive momentum going.

“Right now this is the best we have ever played all year,” Maldonado said. “Our pitching is top notch. Our defense is playing great. Everything is clicking right now — and now our team chemistry is really high. We just have a lot of confidence in each other.”

With team chemistry high, the team has learned to rely on each other and the game has become fun.

“Honestly, there’s a lot less pressure out there and we are having fun out there,” Maldonado said. “If someone misses a hit, we know the person behind us can get the hit. We pick each other up and we have each other’s backs.”

The Irish hope to ride the wave of recent success against Northern Illinois at home today. The game starts at 4 p.m. in Melissa Cook Stadium.

Contact Ernst Cleofe at ecleofe@nd.edu

ASHLEY DACY/The Observer
Junior catcher Amy Buntin steps up to the plate during Notre Dame’s 7-3 victory over Michigan State on April 24.

Belles wrap up season with a win despite sophomore's absence

By AARON SANT-MILLER
Sports Writer

Despite missing the conference tournament, the Belles still managed to end the season on a high note. On Monday the team traveled to Naperville, Ill., to take on North Central in the last game of their season. When all was said and done, the Belles left with another win as they beat the Cardinals 6-3.

“I thought we did pretty well,” Belles coach Dale Campbell said.

If nothing else, the game will be important to the Irish winning streak. With the Big East championship and post-season coming up, the Irish need to keep the positive momentum going.

“Right now this is the best we have ever played all year,” Maldonado said. “Our pitching is top notch. Our defense is playing great. Everything is clicking right now — and now our team chemistry is really high. We just have a lot of confidence in each other.”

With team chemistry high, the team has learned to rely on each other and the game has become fun.

“Honestly, there’s a lot less pressure out there and we are having fun out there,” Maldonado said. “If someone misses a hit, we know the person behind us can get the hit. We pick each other up and we have each other’s backs.”

The Irish hope to ride the wave of recent success against Northern Illinois at home today. The game starts at 4 p.m. in Melissa Cook Stadium.

Contact Ernst Cleofe at ecleofe@nd.edu

ASHLEY DACY/The Observer
Junior catcher Amy Buntin steps up to the plate during Notre Dame’s 7-3 victory over Michigan State on April 24.
Big East continued from page 16

the Red Storm (7-6, 3-3) 13-6 on April 1. Kemp said he believes the Irish have the advantage as they face St. John’s for the second time this season.

“Familiarity with what they’re doing and the confidence knowing that you’ve beaten them and you can do it again is really important,” he said. “The obvious (dis) advantage is going and thinking you’re not going to have to play your best game. The way we treat every game is that anyone can beat us, so I don’t think that will be a problem for us.”

The tournament will be played at Villanova Stadium, where the Irish have already defeated the No. 5-ranked Wildcats (8-6, 4-2) this season. Unlike most lacrosse sites, Villanova’s field runs east to west, making the sun an issue during the day.

The Irish have made an appearance in the NCAA tournament every year since 2006. With the potential postseason play in mind, Kemp said he believes the Irish are a really good team, put forth a very good performance, and still remains in contention.

“We’re in good shape,” Kemp said, “but we have to beat Villanova, and I think it’s important that we come out and put forth a really good performance with a really good approach.”

Kemp said he believes the Irish have an advantage as they face St. John’s.

“Of all people today, I was impressed with Paul [McNamara],” Kemp said. “He played some great golf and is giving us the consistency we need.”

In high school, I did a cross country and a track season, went on another trip with [my dad]," Aragon said. "And Scodro took first. With 18 holes to go, Kubinski hopes to achieve a similar result.

"We just have to take care of business tomorrow," Kubinski said.

The Irish tee off today at 8:50 a.m. at the Reunion Resort Watson Course in Orlando, Fla.

Contact Connor Kelly at ckelly17@nd.edu

Aragon continued from page 16

Aragon and her relay team face this weekend.

in her middle distance role has helped her earn accolades in her sophomore campaign on the track. After starting her season with a third-place finish in the National Catholic Cross Country Invitational, Aragon found success in indoor track, her self-proclaimed favorite season to compete in. Competing in her favorite event, the mile, Aragon ran a personal-record mark of 4:43.85 in a fifth-place finish at the Boys Invitational and followed it with a fourth-place showing in the event at the Big East Indoor championships.

She has continued her success in the outdoor portion, placing personal records in the 3,000-meter steeplechase and 1,500-meter run en route to multiple top-three finishes.

Despite her individual successes, Aragon said she is most proud of her role as a member of the Irish 4x800-meter relay team. In her time on the relay, she has helped the team to a second-place finish at the Big East Indoor championships and a victory at the prestigious Drake Relays this past weekend.

“I think a lot of [our success is] that we train together, we work hard together everyday, and we’re going through those workouts together,” Aragon said. “We take that into the race and say, ‘I’m doing this not just for myself, but also for myself,’ so having that motivation contributes to our success.”

Aragon said she plans to simply go on another trip with [my dad],” Aragon said. “I loved serving the people and giving to them. I wanted to go on another trip with [my dad], and it happened that it was on our spring break, so I was able to go.”

With a packed schedule of athletics, academics, and service, Aragon admitted she completes her tasks with the help of a lesson learned through running.

“I think running just teaches you to work hard and not give up when things get tough,” she said. “When you’re running you have to continue that endurance.”

Aragon and the Irish will travel to Tampa, Fla., on Friday to compete in the Big East Outdoor championships.

Contact Brian Hartnett at bhartnett@nd.edu

Aoki continued from page 16

formance together with a hitting performance with defensive performance,” Aoki said. "I think it’s just one of those things where there’s a whole lot of things that play into it for us this weekend.

With the calendar turning to May and the postsea- son right around the corner, the Irish must continue to improve against the Bulldogs (20-24, 8-13 Horizon). Butler is also entering on the wrong side of a losing spell, as the team has lost nine of its last 11, but also boasts likes of junior first baseman Jimmy Kemp, who leads the Horizon League with 10 home runs.

Aoki said. “I think it’s important that we come out and put forth a really good effort, put forth a really good approach.

"We’re in the midst of a four-game losing streak, and you certainly don’t want to extend it to five. You’re going against a team that’s seemingly getting hot at the right time at the end of the week with Villanova, and I think we’re fighting for our (NCAA) tournament lives at this point right now. So I think it’s important that we do start playing better and think a little better about ourselves.

“Not one Irish will square off with Butler tonight at Frank Eck Stadium First pitch is scheduled for 35 p.m.

Contact Jack Jeffers at weffero@nd.edu

Summer Job: No Nights! No Weekends!

Ave Maria Press located on Douglas Rd., across from campus offering a summer employment opportunity ideal for college students.

This position is:
- Temporary, beginning May ending August
- $10/hr
- Hours 8am to 1pm
- Monday through Friday
- Must be able to lift up to 50lbs

For more information email: Dee Johnson at djohnson16@nd.edu
The Observer

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

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

 advertised

Ad...

The Observer apologizes for the absence of ExpND

Crossword

Across
1 Insignif... one
6 One in a... suit
11 Tie-breaking... nones
14... not as mad
15 Gave support
16 Talent against... Emam
17 Investigative... specialty
20 Smoke column
21 Einstein’s... birthplace
22 Used a... boom
23 Group within a... group
25 Fenway Park... team, familiar
26 Half,... (coffee... order)
29... Lanka
30 Lead-in... preservation
32 City where “Peer Gynt” premiered
34... Previously

Clue
Disc-shaped... cleaner from Robot
40 Bit of... booty
43 “Naughty”
44 Have dinner
45 Deprived
46 Jell... yop
48 Figure... Legend
50 Poke... candy... brand
51 New person on the... job
53 Badly... bothering
57 La Salle of “EL...”
58... Separators of... syllables in many... dictionaries
59 It takes a... in an orchestra
62 Gather wealth by... exploitation as hinted at by the... puzzle’s... shaded... squares.
66 It may be used... with a... plunger.

Answer to Previous Puzzle
ELK TED MOVING VANILLA RECITAL NEWER WICK MRS. SAVANNAH SAGES UNCLE PERI MÜLLER WASS ZAPVEC JAPAN ATLAS VITAMIN CARAVAN STIMKINS ELLE END

The London Express

LEE HAGGENJOS and ALEX GRISWOLD

LETTED TAO NOIREMO VAXWOODI APE WHAT ITALIAN LAVINIAN ATILIAN TROPICAL LEANING EXPEND

ExpND

The Observer apologizes for the absence of ExpND

Horoscope

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Donna Arne, 26; Kristen Davis, 56; Karl Stefanovic, 53; Johnny Galecki, 37.

Happy Birthday: Look around you, be observant, monitor your pace and make your move. Cut your paper or order not done now from the list. Start now! You can’t afford to let time slip past you. Venture into new territory, but stay grounded in practicality. Trust in your own positive mental attitude.

ARIES (March 21 – April 19): Expand your prospects by networking with people who share your interests. Avoid or take on a challenge that will provide you with adventure or added knowledge. Social gatherings will enhance your love life. You are more than ready to make positive lifestyle changes.

TAURUS (April 20 – May 20): Your family will be ready if you make changes without seeking approval. Avoid offending anyone in a position to influence your destiny. Success, everywhere your own opinion or understanding a situation will be your hallmark.

GEMINI (May 21 – June 20): Make home improvements or take care of your personal needs. Love can be imbalanced, but only if you strive for equality and prepare to compromise. A compromise that will help you achieve or maintain good health should be initiated.

CANCER (June 21 – July 22): Don’t misconstrue what someone is saying or asking you to do. Limitations will prevail if you take the wrong steps emotionally. Groom your relationships carefully and nd the right of connections that put net precious on you. 

LEO (July 23 – Aug. 22): Think before making a decision or statement that may impose on an important relationship. Be involved in activities that will challenge you mentally or physically. You will see a situation unfold more clearly if you try back and review.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22): Visit a friend or get involved in an event that is conducive to meeting new people. Putting money around your home or investing in your skills will help you create a better life. A colleague or peer is likely to inspire you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22): Do not spend money on luxury items. You cannot buy love but can stand to foster vanity or possessions. Consider making improvements that will help you establish a better position with family/friends. Love is in the air.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21): You can make wise choices that will benefit you personally and professionally. A creative idea can prompt you to change, make a move or marry a partner that will allow you greater freedom to achieve your dreams, hopes and wishes.

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22 – Dec. 21: Slow the pace and consider the consequences of any move you make. Problems can be expected with receiving or dealing with people who love you. You need to focus on your personal growth.

CAPRICORN Dec. 22 – Jan. 19: Dealing with personal issues. Make sure the creative arts are in order and that family and personal matters are secure and successful. Taking the initiative about how you use your time. Don’t stop by asking for help.

AQUARIUS Jan. 20 – Feb. 18: Problems involving friends, relatives or neighbors will surface. You are too focused about your kindness or too stubborn to compromise. Be reasonable and figure out how to please everyone while taking care of your affairs.

PISCES Feb. 19 – March 20: Put in extra effort to avoid criticism and complaints. Keep busy and focus on goals that will help you gain about professionally. Personal matters are likely to support you and stand in the way of your success.

Birthday Baby: You are a giver, a doer and a competitive individual. You are ambitious.

The Observer • TODAY

ndsmobserver.com | page 15

The Observer
P.O. Box 779
Notre Dame, IN 46556

□ Enclosed is $130 for one academic year
□ Enclosed is $75 for one semester

Name __________________________
Address ________________________
City __________ State __________ Zip __________

□ Yes, I’d like to receive The Observer in my home. Please complete the accompanying form and mail it today to receive The Observer in your home.

Tune into The Observer – It’s in your hands.

The Observer • TODAY

ndsmobserver.com | page 15

The Observer
P.O. Box 779
Notre Dame, IN 46556

□ Enclosed is $130 for one academic year
□ Enclosed is $75 for one semester

Name __________________________
Address ________________________
City __________ State __________ Zip __________

□ Yes, I’d like to receive The Observer in my home. Please complete the accompanying form and mail it today to receive The Observer in your home.

Tune into The Observer – It’s in your hands.
**SPORTS**

**Men's Lacrosse**

**Big stage debut**

By MEGAN GOLDEN

Top-seeded Irish look forward to inaugural Big East conference tournament and beyond.

The addition of a conference tournament in the Big East provides three of the top teams with a chance to become an automatic qualifier in the NCAA tournament.

After being crowned Big East regular season champions Saturday and Sunday, Notre Dame hopes to add to its trophy case by winning the first-ever Big East tournament this weekend.

The No. 2-ranked Irish (11-1, 9-5 Big East) outscored conference rival Syracuse 8-6 to win their 10th consecutive game and capture the program's first Big East regular season title. The victory ended Notre Dame's 0-5 spell against the Orange (7-7, 5-5). “You come here to win championships. You come to Notre Dame to get a great education and play lacrosse, but you come here to play on the main stage and in the big games. You come here to play Syracuse under the lights on senior night,” Irish senior attack Sean Rogers said. “We are excited about the opportunity, and I'm glad we were able to finish.”

**Irish battle four-game losing streak**

By JACK HEFFERON

Win five. Lose five. Win three. Lose four.

Those streaks have been the marks of a wildly inconsistent season for the Irish, but they will try again to bounce back and snap out of their latest four-game skid in an intrastate showdown against Butler tonight.

The three most recent Notre Dame (22-20, 9-9 Big East) setbacks came last weekend at the hands of conference foe St. John's. Despite the sweep, the Irish had their chances throughout the series. Notre Dame lost each game by just two runs and stranded a total of 17 runners in scoring position. Friday's opener may have been the most frustrating near-miss, as the Irish committed five errors in the field, leading to five unearned runs and a 5-2 loss.

Irish coach Mik Aoki said youth could be one factor for the team's struggle to find a way to win. “I hope [the recent inconsistency] is part of the maturation process,” he said. “I think we certainly need to learn how to win games. You look at that first game on Friday and a championship caliber team is going to win that game, and they won it.”

Another issue for Notre Dame has been its inability to turn in a complete performance in all facets of the game. Even when the team finds success both in the field and at the plate — as it did in the first half of Friday's doubleheader — it can be undone by mistakes in the field. “I think sometimes it’s that we just haven’t played well enough and some other instances it's just a combination where we weren't able to put a pitching performance together and we couldn't get the offense going and we couldn't get the pitching to help us out,” Aoki said.

**Men's Golf**

Scodro leads squad to brink of conference title

By CONOR KELLY

Senior Max Scodro carded the only score lower than 70 in the tournament's entire field, grabbed the individual lead and helped the Irish extend their first day lead as the Big East tournament heads into its final round.

“Max had a fantastic day today,” Irish coach Jim Jubinski said. “He even had a chance to do even better. He came into the par-five 17th thinking birdie but hit his only bad shot of the day on 17 and ended up with a bogey. It could have been a very special round.”

Despite windy conditions Monday, the Irish posted a 2-under-2 mark as a team, powered by Scodro's 4-under-4 round of 68. The round puts the Irish seven strokes ahead of second-place Louisville with 18 holes of golf to play Tuesday. After the Cardinals, Notre Dame's closest competition is the University of St. John's with a 2-under-2 mark. "Max was the top qualifier in the field and we're going to need a good score from him tomorrow and for the other guys to play well tomorrow to try to maintain a lead," Jubinski said.

**Track and Field**

Aragon excels as student, three-season athlete

By BRIAN HARTNETT

As competitors at a top Division I institution, Notre Dame student-athletes face the intimidating challenge of balancing rigorous academics with a steady stream of practices and nationwide competitions. For sophomore middle distance runner Alexa Aragon, this task is an even more complex one, as she must juggle her pre-med studies and her role as a three-season athlete.

"It's pretty tough," Aragon said of her daily schedule. "I just have to work hard wherever I have free time, not procrastinate and try to be efficient with my time." Aragon spends much of her time on the track, where her practice schedule reads much like a heat sheet at one of the many meets in which she has competed. A member of the cross country, indoor track and outdoor track teams, Aragon competes for the Irish from September to May and runs a variety of events, ranging from the 800-meter run to the hurdle-filled 3,000-meter steeplechase.

**Baseball**

Irish battle four-game losing streak

By JACK HEFFERON

Win five. Lose five. Win three. Lose four.

Those streaks have been the marks of a wildly inconsistent season for the Irish, but they will try again to bounce back and snap out of their latest four-game skid in an intrastate showdown against Butler tonight.

The three most recent Notre Dame (22-20, 9-9 Big East) setbacks came last weekend at the hands of conference foe St. John's. Despite the sweep, the Irish had their chances throughout the series. Notre Dame lost each game by just two runs and stranded a total of 17 runners in scoring position. Friday's opener may have been the most frustrating near-miss, as the Irish committed five errors in the field, leading to five unearned runs and a 5-2 loss.

Irish coach Mik Aoki said youth could be one factor for the team's struggle to find a way to win. “I hope [the recent inconsistency] is part of the maturation process,” he said. “I think we certainly need to learn how to win games. You look at that first game on Friday and a championship caliber team is going to win that game, and they won it.”

Another issue for Notre Dame has been its inability to turn in a complete performance in all facets of the game. Even when the team finds success both in the field and at the plate — as it did in the first half of Friday's doubleheader — it can be undone by mistakes in the field. “I think sometimes it’s that we just haven’t played well enough and some other instances it's just a combination where we weren't able to put a pitching performance together and we couldn't get the offense going and we couldn't get the pitching to help us out,” Aoki said.

Irish freshman infielder Kevin DeFilippis throws to first during Notre Dame's 8-6 win over Syracuse on Saturday. Hopkins scored a goal in the first quarter.