Once a Belle, always a Belle

College students, faculty and staff gather Tuesday to remember life of international student

By MEGAN DOYLE
Managing Editor

The crowd that filed quietly into Regina Chapel on Tuesday filled the room with green — they wore bright green shirts and pinned small green ribbon to their tops.

They came to remember Saint Mary’s sophomore Ziqi Zhang. Zhang, 19, who died last week from injuries sustained in an accident between her bike and an SUV outside the entrance to the College on State Route 933.

Green was her favorite color. But even as they filled the chapel with green, they also filled the room with stories. During the service, faculty, staff and students from Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s stood one after another and shared their memories of an international student who had been their friend.

A resident of Regina Hall, Zhang was a dual-degree student majoring in mathematics at Saint Mary’s and taking

Students, faculty and staff signed journals on Tuesday to offer thoughts and prayers to Zhang’s family.

By JOHN CAMERON
News Editor

Editor’s Note: This story is the first in a series featuring the race for the Indiana seat in the United States Senate.

U.S. Rep. Joe Donnelly sees his potential new role as U.S. Senator as an opportunity to help bring the American dream to a greater number of Hoosiers.

“[This campaign] is about people, it’s about the challenges families face and trying to make everyone’s American dream come true — to help be a small part of that,” Donnelly said.

On Nov. 6, Donnelly will face off with Republican Indiana Treasurer Richard Mourdock to become Indiana’s next member of the U.S. Senate and the first Notre Dame graduate to ever sit in the upper house of Congress.

Donnelly said Indiana voters’ choice on Election Day will come down to a few fundamental issues. “The choice in this election here in Indiana is crystal clear: it’s a question of who will fight for you and who will fight for middle class families,” he said. “My opponent, Richard Mourdock, has said that Medicare is unconstitutional, that Social Security is unconstitutional and that he doesn’t believe in bipartisanship.”

Donnelly said if Mourdock were to win the race, it would be a departure from a tradition of moderate leaders representing Indiana.

“He’s an extreme Tea Party candidate, and I’ve been — from the first day I started in Congress, an independent moderate,” he said. “Indiana has a long tradition of moderate, common sense U.S.

By NICOLE MICHELS
News Writer

In the final debate of the 2012 campaign on Monday, little contrast emerged between the foreign policies of President Barack Obama and former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, leading to what political science professor Sebastian Rosato called a “thoroughly boring” debate. Rosato said the debate, moderated by CBS News’ Bob Schieffer at Lynn University in Boca Raton, Fla., was far from contentious.

Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, debate moderator Bob Schieffer and President Barack Obama wave to members of the audience after Monday evening’s debate at Lynn University.

Two students to engage in mock debate tonight

By MEL FLANAGAN
News Writer

Only two days after the presidential candidates squared off against each other for the last time before Election Day, two students with opposing political views will face each other in a similar fashion.

At 8 p.m. tonight in McKenna Hall Auditorium, one representative from College Republicans and one from College Democrats will argue their views in a mock

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see DEBATE PAGE 6

see DONELLY PAGE 6
QUESTION OF THE DAY:

What is the best way to spend $100?

Ann Anosike
freshman
Lyons
“On shoes.”

Demetrius Murphy
sophomore
Keenan
“Buy a pair of shoes.”

Liz Troyer
freshman
Ryan
“On a shopping spree at Target.”

Meryl Pax
junior
Badin
“Shoes.”

Nicholas Trooetti
sophomore
Knot
“If you need to spend it on rent, spend it on rent. If you need to spend it on food, spend it on food.”

Tomas Ramirez
graduate student
O’Hara Grace
“Donating it.”

Members of PEMCo rehearse Tuesday night in preparation for the rock musical “next to normal.” PEMCo’s fall production will make its debut Saturday at Washington Hall.

Have a question you want answered? Email obsphoto@gmail.com

THE OBSERVER | WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2012 | ndsmcobserver.com
THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

Wednesday
Carole Masso
reading
Eck Visitors Center
7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Contemporary American novelist.

Student Debate
McKenna Hall
8 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Arguments for both parties from student representatives.

Thursday
Zen Meditation
102 Coleman-Morse Center
6:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.
Open to Notre Dame students of all faiths.

Thiller
Roffs
8 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Learn how to dance like Michael Jackson with RecSports.

Friday
Writing Successful Grants
McKenna Hall
8 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Introductory workshop for grant writing.

NBA Exhibition Game
Purcell Pavilion
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Joakim Noah and the Chicago Bulls face the Indiana Pacers.

Saturday
Rock Musical: “next to normal”
Washington Hall
7:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.
PEMCo’s fall production.

Film: “Take this Waltz”
Eck Visitors Center
8:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.
$4 for students.

Sunday
Women’s Soccer
Alumni Stadium
1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
ND vs. Syracuse in the Big East quarterfinals.

Vision Walk Fundraiser
Irish Green
130 p.m. - 5 p.m.
$15 registration fee.

Want your event included here? Email obsnews.nd@gmail.com

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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 a mistake, please contact us at (574) 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

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With the presidential election swiftly approaching, the Saint Mary's Young Democrats Club is gearing up for the final preparations President Obama and Republican nominee Mitt Romney make as the country heads into November.

Senior London Lamar, president of Young Democrats at the College, said she realizes that a great aspect of this election has been social media and how it has taken the election process to another level.

“I did my senior comprehensive on how President Obama won the 2008 election with social media. You have to look at how, generally, Republican supporters are older, middle-aged to older white Americans,” Lamar said. “Those who support Obama tend to be more diverse, young Americans. You have to realize that when it comes to social media and technology, the younger generation is adapting more than the older generation.”

By looking at social media as a way of determining who will win the election, Lamar believes that most voters will see that Obama wins because that is how younger voters encourage their friends to vote.

“Obama, he’s trying to get the younger electorate with the social media; however, fewer supporters of his are actually using social media,” Lamar said. “He is definitely adapting to social media more than political campaigns.”

For Romney, he’s trying to get the younger candidate with the social media. Lamar noted that Romney supporters tend to continue to read the newspapers and read magazine articles. For them, she said, their generation is not adapting to social media because they do not use it as much.

“It definitely does help to determine how a candidate will reach out to the younger generation though. Our generation is moving to use more social media now and more newspapers and magazines are becoming heavily web-based,” said Lamar. “As our technology is getting older and we are becoming of voting age, we have to adapt to what we like and what we use the most. The Young Democrats will also be holding some upcoming events for students before the election is underway. The club will be hosting another phone bank Oct. 28 at 7 p.m. in Regina Hall.

“At the phone bank we call Ohio voters to encourage them to make sure they get out an early vote and to encourage them to vote on Nov. 6,” Lamar said. “Ohio is a big crucial swing state, so we want to make sure that we are helping the Obama campaign in South Bend contribute to calling Ohio voters.”

A representative from the Obama campaign in South Bend brings the club members call logs and scripts for the phone bank. The participants then call the numbers and ask voters questions to help the campaign narrow down and see where Obama stands, Lamar said.

“We are also partnering with Feminists United for an election panel we will be holding next Monday from 6 to 7 p.m. located in Conference Room A of the Student Center,” Lamar said. “We have professor Patrick Pierce coming to talk about the election. Students can come and ask him questions about what he thinks about the election.”

Students can also ask Pierce to help clarify items on the election that they are unsure of. Pierce is the advisor for Young Democrats at the College.

“It is a bipartisan event, so any one can come and ask questions; kind of get a deeper perspective of what the election is about and what the stances are of the two candidates,” Lamar said. “This is a great event especially for those who are still undecided because the election is only two weeks away.”

Contact Jillian Barwick at jbarwi01@saintmarys.edu
By ADAM LLORENS
News Writer

Fall Break is usually a time for students to return to normal: mom’s specialty dishes, catching up with neighborhood friends and copious amounts of sleeping. For English professor Stuart Greene’s freshman university seminar class, the week was filled with visits to the Southern Poverty Law Center, the 16th Street Baptist Church and other historical sites in Alabama to engage in experiential learning for their course: “Memory, Memorials and Memorialization of the American Civil Rights Movement.”

“I have never done this before, even though I have been teaching classes on the civil rights movement for nearly 10 years,” Greene said. “A colleague at Indiana University-South Bend inspired me who taught a class on the civil rights movement and spent two weeks traveling to Montgomery, Selma, Birmingham, Memphis, Nashville and other sites. He called the experience ‘Freedom Summer.’”

Greene conducted a tremendous amount of research by looking at various guides and discussing with historians about which places to visit and which people the class should meet.

“Everyone was incredibly generous with their time and willingness to spend time with my students and I,” Greene said.

The class received funding from the College of Arts and Letters’ “Teaching Beyond the Classroom” program and from the First Year of Studies. Greene and the students covered approximately 20 percent of the cost for travel, lodging, food and admission fees to museums, institutes and churches.

“It would have been great going home, but this is a once-in-a-lifetime experience going with your peers and a professor who is an expert on the subject,” said Bryce Parker, a student in the class. “I’m in college once and can go home another time.

“If we missed out on this experience, we would have asked why did I give this up just to go home? I don’t think any of us regret it.”

Alisha Berry signed up for the course because of the mandatory Alabama trip.

“It gave me a firsthand account to experience the Civil Rights Movement,” Berry said. “The trip made me learn about my ancestors, what they went through and why I’m here today. It was a humbling experience.”

Austin Bosemer, whose favorite experience of the trip was walking through the streets of Selma, said the course has taken a social activism spin on its historical foundations.

“I have gotten involved with Take 10, a volunteer program to mentor students in South Bend area schools,” Bosemer said. “Through this, I’m affecting social change in our community.”

The students said their most memorable experience was meeting JoAnne Bland, a tour guide who guided the group through two churches in Selma. As a nine-year-old, Bland was a peaceful protestor scheduled to march from Selma to the state capital in Montgomery. However, armed officers carrying tear gas attacked the demonstrators at the Edmund Pettus Bridge, forbidding them from reaching Montgomery. The infamous day is commonly known as “Bloody Sunday.”

“The march turned the national spotlight on Selma and the plight of minorities,” David Katter, another student in the class, said. “She has a lot of built-up rage over that event, which turned into a really moving trip as we walked through Selma with her.

“She asked us, ‘I got you this far, what are you going to do?’ It was a really cool call to action.”

The semester-long project of the class is to write a 15-page essay concerning the trip, how it affected the students, the importance of a chosen memorial and the importance of it.

Some students, like Jas Smith, have created individual projects to complement their experiences.

“I decided to make a website to educate children in the Selma area about the Pettus Bridge because a lot of them don’t know about it,” Smith said. “My project is to reform the teaching of history and show why these aspects of civil rights are important.”

Beyond engaging in an experience hard to fully understand from reading history books, Greene said the students enjoyed themselves and came together as a class.

“The effect on us was great and it was a bonding experience for us all,” he said.

Contact Adam Llorens at alllorens@nd.edu
In terms of performance, I think Obama by all accounts won the debate—that's what the polls are showing," Rosato said. "But I think this was just because he seemed more assured, it certainly wasn't because he won any particular points."

Political science professor Michael Desch said Romney's performance paled in compari-
son because he did not look the part of commander in chief as much as Obama did.

"The one thing Governor Romney needed to do was to look presidential on the foreign policy stage," Desch said. "Especially after his missteps on his great European adventure this sum-
mer, it was even more imperative for him to establish his bona fi-
des, and I don't think he achieved that last night."

This lack of fire can be attrib-
uted to the recent laser-focus on domestic issues, Rosato said.

"I think [voters] are very inat-
tentive to foreign affairs and the debate was reflective of that," Rosato said. "I think the debate will have no effect and I think the measure of that is that the can-
didates kept trying to talk about domestic policy. There was an awareness in the debate that foreign policy was not going to swing American voters."

Though the motivation for guarding the United States’ po-

tion as the world's economic leader is obvious, the candidates used this reasoning as an ex-
cuse to revisit domestic politics, Rosato said.

"This debate was about foreign policy, and about a quarter of the time was taken up with do-

mestic policies and saying points again like Romney's $5 million tax cut and Obama's inability to create jobs," Rosato said. "The question is why did this happen?

"If you think about it cyni-
cally, they didn't find anything to disagree with on foreign policy, so they started talking about the domestic economy because at least there they can separate themselves."

Few people are voting based on foreign policy, but if that were to be made the deciding factor the choice would be unclear, Rosato said.

"Because [Barack Obama's] hawkishness, it's very difficult for Mitt Romney to differentiate himself from Obama – I mean, what's he going to say? 'I would have already attacked Iran?' [or] 'I would have stayed in Iraq longer?'

Rosato said. 'There's nothing he could say — you can't be more hawkish than Obama without sounding as if you are going to wander all over the world getting into wars, and no candidate wants to say that.'

The discussion of the most recent conflicts in Syria and the tumult in Egyptian government made it seem more belligerent toward Iran and ready to threaten war against Iran," Johannsen said. "Romney clearly was moderating his stance to appear more peace-
ful than indicated in previous statements."

Desch said Romney's overall performance did not overcome the strength of Obama's foreign policy record in the debate.

"I think Romney faced two problems: one is that the incum-

bent tends to have decided ad-
vantages: the President's been Commander-in-Chief for four years, he has a [foreign policy] record and experience that he can point to," Desch said. "The truth of the matter is that there's not much a challenger can really do that's different from an incumbent, a lot of foreign poli-

cy is determined by factors that would push presidents from any policy in the same direction."
Debate

Continued from Page 1

debate, each in an attempt to convince the audience why their respective candidates would be the best choice for college students.

Scholastic Editor-in-Chief Clara Ritger, who will moderate the debate, said the event hopes to generate excitement for the election and increase awareness of current important issues.

“I think students do really at heart want to be able to participate in this election,” she said. “This is, for everyone, the first presidential election they can vote in, and this will just help them become more informed.”

The 90-minute debate will spend 15 minutes on each of six key topics that include jobs, debt, healthcare, religion, foreign policy and why a college student should vote for a certain candidate.

“What we’re trying to do with the last question is for the two students ... to really persuade the audience about why they feel strongly about each of their respective candidates,” Ritger said. “We’re really trying to focus on the issues as they relate to college students and why one candidate or the other better represents college students’ interests.”

Each participant will be given two minutes at the beginning of each segment for an opening statement, and the remaining 11 minutes will allow for debate.

Senior Adam Newman, a member of the College Democrats, will argue on behalf of President Obama at tonight’s event.

“I’m a huge politics guy, and I’m really engaged in this election,” he said. “I know President Obama’s vision is the vision I support in this election. Anything I can do to help make sure the Notre Dame student body is involved is something important to me.”

Although Newman did not expect to be the sole Democratic debater when he volunteered to participate, he said he is looking forward to taking the stage. In preparation, he has memorized both opening and closing statements, as well as several talking points for “everything they could throw at him.”

“It is important to stay on the message,” Newman said. “One of the hardest things about these debates is being able to disseminate so much information and put it in a clear form students can understand.”

Senior Mickey Gardella, president of the College Republicans, said he has spent copious amounts of time researching in preparation for the debate.

“My primary goal is to articulate Mitt Romney’s previous experience and vision for America’s future, and how these make him the best choice to be our president on January 20,” he said.

Gardella, who has been involved in political debates before, said he is eagerly anticipating this evening’s event as well.

Leading up to the debate, students can vote in a mock presidential election, which is sponsored every four years by “Scholastic” and NDTV. Voting will take place between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. in the LaFortune Student Center, and from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. in McKenna Hall.

The ballot will include a candidate from College Libertarians, which chose not to present a debater.

“The vote aims to teach students about the process of voting in an election, Ritger said. For example, although voting is anonymous, students are required to show a student ID, much like how several states are now requiring voter identification.”

“The mock election is really well-received,” Ritger said. “It’s really easy, it’s low-cost, it’s very fast to go and do. Students are pretty enthusiastic about it because they want to see how their fellow students vote.”

Ritger hopes the debate and vote will encourage students to participate in the actual presidential election on Nov. 6.

“This president is going to be the president that we go into the workforce with,” she said. “We all graduate in the next four years and it’s their policies that will really determine what percentage of their class is going to get jobs.”

After college students greatly influenced the 2008 election, Ritger said she would love to see next month’s election mimic that.

“I would love to see us have a real hand in the 2012 election,” she said. “We have the potential to be a voting body that they didn’t expect to come out on voting day. It’s going to be a close race, it’s all about who comes out.”

Contact Mel Flanagan at mflanagan@nd.edu
Body of missing girl found in recycling bin

Associated Press

CLAYTON, N.J. — A teenage boy lured a 12-year-old girl into his house under the guise of getting parts for her treasured bicycle and then, with his older brother, killed her, police said Tuesday. The girl’s disappearance had sparked a frantic search by residents of her small town until a tip from the boys’ mother led police to her body, stuffed into a home recycling bin.

The boys, ages 15 and 17, were charged with murdering Autumn Pasquale, who disappeared while riding her BMX bike Saturday, a little more than a week before what would have been her 13th birthday. She appeared to have been strangled, Gloucester County Prosecutor Sean Dalton said at a late-day news conference.

The boys’ mother had come forward with information about a posting on a son’s Facebook account, Dalton said. He wouldn’t say what was on the website or discuss a possible motive for the killing, but said there was no sign of sexual assault.

Autumn was lured to the house, where they apparently lived with their mother and stepfather, for the purpose of getting parts for her treasured BMX bike, which she rode frequently and talked about on her Facebook pages.

Both brothers were charged with counts including first-degree murder, body disposal and tampering with evidence. The 15-year-old was also charged with luring.

The boys’ names were not released because they are juveniles, but Dalton said his office is considering trying to have the case transferred to adult court. The boys turned themselves in with their attorneys, public defenders, but it could not be immediately determined who they are.

The girl’s body was found around 10 p.m. Monday in a recycling bin on a vacant property next to the home where the boys live, police said. The suspects had attended a community vigil for her shortly before the discovery, several residents said.

Autumn’s BMX bike and other belongings were recovered from the boys’ home, the prosecutor said. He did not detail all the items, but a backpack matching a description of the girl’s was also seen being taken out.

One of the three teenage brothers who friends said live at the house traded BMX bike parts, according to a according to a young man, Corey Hewes, 19, who said he was among those who traded with him.

Neighbors also said the house was a place where teens frequently hung out and had parties.

The home is just blocks from Autumn’s house and from the first one or two times people gathered for the tearful candlelight vigil to pray for her safe return in this town of 8,000 about 25 miles south of Philadelphia.

“There's evil everywhere, even in the small town of Clayton,” Spadofora said.

Tuesday was trash collection day, and many residents had dragged their trash cans and recycling bins to the curb the night before. The covered recycling bins are collected by an automated truck that picks them up and dumps the contents into the back.

Police barricaded the block Tuesday morning, and friends and neighbors came by. Some mothers said they were keeping their kids out of school for the day. Even before the body was found, students reported that Spirit Week had been canceled because of the sorrow.

One young man rode a bike up, sat on a porch of a home and cried, then biked away.

Clayton Mayor Thomas Bianco walked to the scene, cried, hugged a police officer and gave a brief statement to the gathered reporters.

“You hear about it in other places but never think it would happen in our little town,” he said.

Autumn was last seen around 12:30 p.m. Saturday pedaling her bike away from the home where she lives with her father, her two siblings, her father’s girlfriend and the girlfriend’s children, authorities said.

Relatives said they believed she was heading to see a friend, and they became worried only after she did not return by her 8 p.m. curfew.

Police remove a bicycle from a house near where 12-year-old Autumn Pasquale’s body was found on Tuesday.

Police said. He did not detail all the items, but a backpack matching a description of the girl’s was also seen being taken out.

She was heading to see a friend, and they became worried only after she did not return. She was considered missing.

Tuesday morning, officials were thanking the volunteers for their help but asking them to call it a night.

Hundreds of people returned anyway for the vigil. Spadofora, the great-uncle, said he hoped the town could gather again a week later, with Autumn back, with candles to mark her birthday.

“Time will tell,” he said. “But there’s some measure of closure, and we can all mourn in the loss of this beautiful child.”

Associated Press

NEW YORK — U.S. oil output is surging so fast that the United States could soon overtake Saudi Arabia as the world’s biggest producer.

Driven by high prices and new drilling methods, U.S. production of crude and other liquid hydrocarbons is on track to rise 7 percent this year to an average of 10.9 million barrels per day. This will be the fourth straight year of crude increases and the biggest single-year gain since 1951.

The boom has surprised even the experts.

Five years ago, if I or anyone had predicted today’s production growth, people would have thought we were crazy,” says Jim Burkhard, head of oil markets research at IHS CERA, an energy consulting firm.

The Energy Department forecasts that U.S. production of crude and other liquid hydrocarbons, which includes biofuels, will average 11.4 million barrels per day next year. That would be a record for the U.S. and just below Saudi Arabia’s output of 11.6 million barrels.

Citibank forecasts U.S. production could reach 13 million to 15 million barrels per day by 2020, helping to make North America “the new Middle East.”

The last year the U.S. was the world’s largest producer was 1979, says the Saudis drastically cut production because of low oil prices in the aftermath of 9/11. Since then, the Saudis and the Russian have been the world leaders.

The United States will still need to import lots of oil in the years ahead, Americans use 18.7 million barrels per day. But thanks to the growth in domestic production and the improving fuel efficiency of the nation’s cars and trucks, imports could fall by half by the end of the decade.

The increase in production hasn’t translated to cheaper gasoline at the pump, and prices are expected to stay relatively high for the next few years because of growing demand for oil in developing nations and political instability in the Middle East and North Africa.

Still, producing more oil domestically, and importing less, gives the economy a significant boost.

The companies profiting range from independent drillers to large international companies such as Royal Dutch Shell, which increases the U.S. as one of the most promising places to drill. Emirati state-owned company agreed last month to spend $1.6 billion to increase its U.S. oil holdings.

Increased drilling is driving economic growth in states such as North Dakota, Oklahoma, Wyoming, Montana and Texas, all of which have unemployment rates far below the national average of 7.8 percent. North Dakota is at 3 percent; Oklahoma, 5.2.

Businesses that serve the oil industry, such as steel companies that supply drilling pipe and railroad that transport oil, aren’t the only ones benefiting. Homebuilders, auto dealers and retailers in energy-producing states are also getting a lift.

IHS says the oil and gas drilling boom, which already supports 1.7 million jobs, will lead to the creation of 1.3 million new jobs across the U.S. economy by the end of the decade.

“It’s the most important change to the economy since the advent of personal computers pushed up productivity in the 1990s,” says economist Philip Verleger, a visiting fellow at the Peterson Institute of International Economics.

The major factor driving domestic production higher is a newfound ability to squeeze oil out of rock once thought so too difficult and expensive to tap. Drillers have learned to drill horizontally into long, thin seams of shale and other rock that holds oil, instead of searching for rare underground pools of hydrocarbons that have accumulated over millions of years.

To free the oil, water and gas from the rock, drillers crack it open by pumping water, sand and chemicals into the ground at high pressure, a process is known as hydraulic fracturing, or “fracking.”

While expanded use of the method has unlocked enormous reserves of oil and gas, it has also raised concerns that contaminated water produced in the process could leak into drinking water.
Hating Halloween

Sara Shoemake
Graphic Designer

I hate to be negative, but it’s the worst time of the year. Sure, our football team is ranked No. 5 in the nation and there’s an important election coming up, but it’s also time for Halloween.

I’ll just go ahead and say it: Halloween is the worst holiday. I dislike it more than a single girl hates Valentine’s Day, and, trust me, I’ve been there too. It’s not for the “It’s the one night a year when a girl can dress like a total slut, and no other girls can say anything about it” reason like you might think.

Picture a chubbier, four-year-old version of yourself dressed for this column. It’s Halloween night. I had no neighborhood friends (I don’t want to talk about it), and my brother, seven years younger, cried on my shoulder for my free time to pretending I didn’t exist. So my dad agreed to watch me from the end of each driveway while I begged neighbors for candy at their doors. Admittedly, I was a shy little kid and the thought of approaching adults without a parent by my side paralyzed me with fear. It also went against everything I had ever been taught: Never talk to strangers, especially those with candy.

And so, as I approached the first house, I threw up on a tree. Ever since, Halloween has left me with a bad taste in my mouth.

It seems like everyone else I know thinks Halloween is the best holiday, citing free candy, costumes and haunted houses. Trick-or-treating obviously hasn’t gone so well for me in the past, I generally associate wigs and masks with a musty and unpleasant smell, and I am the biggest wimp when it comes to scary things. “The Ring” haunts me to this day, and I watched “Paranormal Activity” while reading the Wikipedia plot summary on my phone so I knew what bad things were coming before they happened on screen. Halloween just seems to embody everything I dislike. If the greeting card industry or whoever is in charge of holidays could somehow incorporate McDonald’s chicken nuggets, One Direction or other things I enjoy, I would probably appreciate the holiday a little bit more. I acknowledge that is a rather selfish notion and I don’t see any of that happening anytime soon, so I’ll go along on that trip to Goodwill for a costume, and I won’t protest when my roommates hang up Halloween decorations in our room.

I would just like everyone to know, while most people count down the days until October 31, I’ve got a countdown going for October 29. That would be the day One Direction’s new single is released because, yes, I’m that girl.

Contact Sara Shoemake at sshoemak@nd.edu

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

You have the right to remain silent

Blake J. Graham
Eruinith Techno-Lust

There’s nothing like a good election season to bring out the best in pseudo-intellectual political commentary published in the form of tweets and Facebook status updates — I mean this in the least condescending way. It really is a good thing. People with access to tools like Facebook and Twitter have assumed the role of micro-reporters, mini-commentators and nano-journalists (in that order.)

Everyone has a vehicle of distribution and some form of audience, whether it’s 50 friends or 50,000 followers. The trajectory is common: Someone sees or reads or listens to something that strikes them with high impact, be it positive or negative, and then they interpret it and post it to their audiences via social media. It doesn’t really need to be factual or relevant or well thought-out to have their audiences respond to or engage with it. It just has to be out there. And most people, i.e. Americans who do this, consider it their right to express whatever they like online. They’re simply evoking their free-speech and expression.

Online, it seems, people are more inclined to extend their understanding of freedom of expression beyond what it actually protects, a practice which has hurt many, ruined careers and even lost lives.

In the last couple weeks, a major controversy has erupted around social link site Reddit.com. For the uninitiated, Reddit is a website were users can submit links to different categories called sub-redits. Users can up- or down-vote links pushing them to wider audiences on the site. There are currently 10,000 active sub-redits with their own audiences, and the site drove 3.4 billion pageviews in August alone. Further adding to the site’s legitimacy, President Barack Obama held a Q&A-type discussion on the site to reach voters in August. While most of the site is dedicated to amicable pursuits with sub-redits in topics of inquiry in academic fields, random cat pictures, local politics or the mildly off-color pooping sub-redit, there also exists a seedy and dark underground to the site driving a huge portion of traffic in and out of the site.

As Reddit gains popularity, its dark side — which includes the recently shuttered “creepshots” sub-rededit where covered pictures of women are uploaded to the site for its users to ogle — is expected to be eradicated from the site. But creepshots isn’t the first unseemly sub-rededit to gain notoriety and it certainly won’t be the last. Many of the site’s users hide behind its anonymity and cry out about the obstruction of free speech whenever particular sub-redits are threatened.

The concept of being able to speak freely online is very important to its denizens. And, unfortunately, companies like Reddit are only as useful as their active users are present, which is why it is their policy that the creator of any sub reddit acts as its moderator and, by definition, more-or-less its dictator. The creator of a sub-rededit called creepshots isn’t likely to ban much of the unseemly content that gets put there.

In most realms things like libel, slander, obscenity and sedition limit the freedom of expression. But online people operate under a veil of anonymity and the boundaries constantly are pushed. Currently there hasn’t been a cause to transplant moral standards onto online communities which has created toxic environments within larger systems, like Reddit as a whole. Reddit has constantly refused to issue blanket bans on types of content that include compromising photos of women and hate speech. They base this decision on fundamental premise of supporting free speech, but the nature of that claim is nebulous at best.

Currently no legal action has been taken against Reddit, or other sites like Tumblr, Twitter and Facebook which all have similar content spread on them. But if Reddit can’t ultimately get its act together, there will be cause for the government to come in and intervene on behalf of the people who are threatened by the images and language posted online — much of which is incredibly damaging. The problem is any regulation is bound to also stop the growth of all the good coming out of these sites as well.

Blake J. Graham is a sophomore. He can be reached at bgraham2@nd.edu or on Twitter @BlakeGraham.

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

What am I going to do after college? Is there really life after college? Am I really supposed to know what I want to do for the rest of my life? These are just a few of the questions that many college students ask themselves throughout their college careers, and while there is not always a definitive answer to every question, we at the Career Center are here to help guide you through some of those tough questions and help you to understand your skills, personality, values, strengths and how they can translate to success upon graduation from Notre Dame. So before we try to delve into what are you going to do with the rest of your life and if life after college really exists (yes, it does), let’s just focus on the basics.

What is the Career Center and why should I go there? How can you help me?

There is a common misconception that the Career Center is geared towards a specific major or college or year. But whether you know exactly what you want to do after graduation or have no idea what direction to pursue, the Career Center has valuable resources available to help you. It really is about you and what you need when you come visit us at the Career Center. We welcome students of all kinds coming to us with any of their career concerns. In fact, there are no questions that are too silly or unimportant or irrelevant to ask. Sometimes the questions are as easy as “Will you look at my resume?” At other times the questions aren’t quite so black and white and require longer, more in-depth appointments. Sometimes the questions just need to be asked and heard. More times than not, we simply provide some basic guidelines and encouragement. It truly doesn’t matter what you major in or if you are a senior and have never been to the Career Center — if you need help, we hope to be there for you.

Where is the Career Center?

That’s an easy one — we are located on the first and second floor of Flanner Hall. Although you will find us all over campus at different times of the year. For example this week we are hosting our annual Arts and Letters Career Opportunities Week in collaboration with the College of Arts and Letters. Tonight we will be in the Monogram Room at the Joyce Center hosting over 16 employers who are interested in talking to Arts and Letters students about opportunities within their organizations.

Tomorrow night we are back in 11th Flanner Hall with combined Management Night in which six firms will discuss the roles of an analyst and trends in investment management. How can you get involved with the Career Center?

First, you can make an appointment to meet with a counselor. Just call (574) 631-5200, and student workers trained to ask all of the right questions will place you with the right counselor. Second, if you’re more of the impulsive type or need a simple resume review, just walk right into the center on the second floor of Flanner the next afternoon you are on the northeast side of campus. We hold walk-in appointments every Monday through Friday from 1 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. Third, create an account on GO IRISH. Not only does it provide access to hundreds of on-campus interviews but it also posts several job, internship, volunteer and fellowship opportunities.

Fourth, read those weekly emails! They contain information about upcoming career workshops, information sessions with employers coming to campus and approaching job and internship deadlines. Finally, find the Career Center on social media. This is another way to stay up to loop with upcoming events and even find some little-known job-seeking tips in your Facebook newsfeed or Twitter feed.

Final notes on the “tough” questions. This time in your life is about exploring. Some might know what they want between the ages of 18 and 22, but most don’t. Even that first job or service experience or walk into your first class at graduate school is just the beginning of many career decisions you will be making in your life. Rarely is this ever final, and you always learn from each and every experience — both the positive and not-so-positive experiences.

Yet, you have to take that first step, that first proverbial leap. And it will be okay! Please come in and meet with us to discuss those beginning questions.

Welcome to the @NDCareerCenter Column. Please let us know if you have any questions you would like covered in the column. Email us ndcps@nd.edu. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Meatless madness

Dear dining halls and all involved, I readily applaud your effort to go “meatless” as a protest against the abuses of factory production of the meat we eat. However, I think you’re making this more complicated than you have to. You see, there are still some of us who observe a certain day of the week as “meatless.” That day for us is Friday because this has been the traditional day to abstain from meat in the Catholic Church. This tradition continues in the annual meatless Fridays that the dining halls have during Lent. If we really want to go meatless on one day of the week, why don’t we just do the same day round and make it Friday? Not only would this give the system simplicity but it would also tie into longstanding traditions. Notre Dame is known for its traditions. Let’s not drop the ball on this one.

Nathaniel Gotcher senior Morrissey Manor Oct. 22

The myth of the death of print

Dear Dining Halls and all involved, I readily applaud your effort to go “meatless” as a protest against the abuses of factory production of the meat we eat. However, I think you’re making this more complicated than you have to. You see, there are still some of us who observe a certain day of the week as “meatless.” That day for us is Friday because this has been the traditional day to abstain from meat in the Catholic Church. This tradition continues in the annual meatless Fridays that the dining halls have during Lent. If we really want to go meatless on one day of the week, why don’t we just do the same day round and make it Friday? Not only would this give the system simplicity but it would also tie into longstanding traditions. Notre Dame is known for its traditions. Let’s not drop the ball on this one.

Jesse Rifkin Daily Campus

Newsweek magazine has published its print edition every week since 1933. Last Thursday, it announced its last print edition will publish in December. Is this a reflection of print media in the modern era? Yes and no. But mostly no.

Yes in the sense that, obviously, the Internet was not a factor 20 years ago and before. And yes in the sense that print media will never again be the biggest thing around it was in a bygone era — much as radio will never again be the biggest thing around.

But no in the sense that this predominantly reflects on Newsweek itself as opposed to the state of print media. Newsweek completely lost its way over the last few years, taking a sharp turn from respectable news to showcase of sensationalism and controversial covers. Would a trustworthy news source publish a magazine cover on “The 101 best places to eat in the world” featuring a woman opening her mouth to eat a long piece of food in an obvious insinuation of oral sex? or their cover of the Commander-in-Chief with a rainbow colored halo over his head alongside the headline “The First gay President?”

Contrast this with Time magazine, which has long played the role of Newsweek’s “older brother,” if you will. Time is also in some aspects a shadow of its former self: for example, adding a regular humor column by Joel Stein to a magazine that formerly never would have considered such an item. But consider Kurt Andersen’s article “The protestor” from last December as Time’s annual selection for person of the year. He spent two months traveling around the world nonstop working on this one story, and the result being perhaps the best journalism article of last year. For all its faults, Time’s quality never sunk as low as Newsweek. And the results showed: while virtually no print publication actually gained circulation over the past decade, Newsweek dropped 52.2 percent since 2000, while since 1997 Time only dropped 19.5 percent.

As a parallel, look at a situation from decades ago and closer to home: the Hartford Times ceased publication in 1976. The Daily Campus, serving the University of Connecticut.

This column originally ran in the Oct. 22 issue of The Daily Campus, serving the University of Connecticut.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
If you want to be on the edge of your seat from beginning to end, “Sinister” is the movie for you this Halloween.

That’s not to say it doesn’t have most of the horror movie clichés — a house haunted by dead children, a dark attic that goes bump in the night, electronics that inexplicably turn on themselves, a protagonist who walks around with the lights off at night and so forth. But that doesn’t mean you won’t be scared when bad things happen or won’t be horrified and tense by the things that make the movie different and truly disturbing.

“Sinister” follows a true crime writer and his family as they move yet again to a small town so he can write about unresolved crimes. The town, especially the police department, is tense and unwelcoming at his arrival, not welcoming at all. The Italian family running the Bed and Breakfast is a sobering undercurrent of the script. "Sinister" goes a step further. He makes the brilliant choice of being a community and of the art and it shows. The films are too realistic and domes- tic for comfort; there is some- thing truly disturbing about seeing a mother, father and child being drowned in their own swimming pool or set on fire in the family car. The horror of these videos doesn’t stop with just images either. While it is a staple of horror films for the audio to be the source of the scares, the score of “Sinister” goes a step further. The strange, unusual and undeniably creepy accompanying soundtrack burns the videos both into your mind’s eye and ear. “Sinister” may use forgetta- ble horror movie clichés, but the visuals are something you’ll nev- er be able to forget once you see them. If you don’t think you can stomach the home videos, don’t go — they’re shown frequently throughout and are a huge part of the plot of the film. Don’t come if you can’t handle constant tension either. Unlike most horror movies that begin with an ordinary introduction of characters and locations or has safe moments in the day- light, “Sinister” never gives the audience a break. The tone is set from the first second of the film with the home video of a family being hanged. Even when chat- ting at the dinner table with the kids, the shadowy lighting all throughout the film gives the audience an impeding sense of danger. Movies like “Paranormal Activity” tease you by leading you to expect something when noth- ing actually happens; “Sinister” makes you feel like something is always wrong.

In a way, something is always wrong: those videos can never be unseen by the protagonist, but you’ve seen them now too. The power of the supernatural comes from the viewing of the films, much like “The Ring,” and the audience is part of the viewing too. “Sinister” is a well-made horror film for using cinematogra- phy together with content to keep the audience constantly uneasy. Amateur murder videos, a reappearing demonic figure and a haunted house would sat- isfy horror movie demands. But “Sinister” makes every scene an ominous one by lighting only what is necessary in a scene, leaving all the rest to shadows. Even a cheerful family dinner is creepy when only the table is lit, everything else hidden in dark- ness. The daytime isn’t much better when the house only seems to be lit by dim natural lighting, still casting shadows everywhere.

The creepy score plays on even when the videos end. Rarely does the music allow you to feel safe, like you’ve escaped the possibil- ity of something terrible happen- ing or that something isn’t about to startle you out of your wits at any second. The plot may be predictable enough for the genre, but to- gether with the dilemmas of the characters, it will keep you entertained as you try to solve the mystery alongside the pro- tagonist. You might guess how it ends, but it won’t stop you from being shocked when you see it.

With many of its producers from “Paranormal Activity,” it blends the home video element together with the creepy, mystery-solving element of “The Ring,” to give the film a relevant plot that in- stills an uncomfortable sense of terror.

If you’re a brave soul, see it at night. You might be able to sleep, but that doesn’t mean you’ll be able to control what you see when you close your eyes.

Contact Claire Stephens at cstephe4@nd.edu

By KEVIN NOONAN
Scene Editor

It’s violent, messy, vulgar, gruesome and side-splittingly hilarious. “Seven Psychopaths,” a dark, dark, dark (seriously, it’s dark) British comedy from the mind of Irish playwright Martin McDonagh released October 12, is without a doubt the funniest, if strangest, film of 2012 so far.

Colin Farrell stars as Marty Rylance and James Ransone star as an infamously terrible American gangster. He plays against type in one of the best films of the year. Contact Kevin Noonan at knooman2@nd.edu

Colin Farrell stars as Marty

“Seven Psychopaths”

SEVEN PSYCHOPATHS Sickly Hilarious

By KEVIN NOONAN
Scene Editor

The three run into trouble when Billy accidentally kid- naps the Shih Tzu belonging to Charlie Costello, played by Woody Harrelson, who kills just about anyone and everyone who gets in the way of getting his dog back. The movie devolves into a sort of metaphorical tongue-in-cheek critique of the action movie genre, and then reverses to a shoot-'em-up for the climax, the results of which are in line with the dark undercurrents of the script. This is McDonagh’s second outing as screenwriter and di- rector of a feature film, following 2008’s “In Bruges,” also starring Colin Farrell. He’s no amateur, though, as he’s spent most of his career as a fulltime playwright, and is considered one of Ireland’s most important living writers.

His trademark sharp, witty, introspective and, of course, dark style shines through in “Psychopaths,” especially in his characters, which are wonder- fully and colorfully developed.

It may be just a little slacker than “In Bruges,” and the ending may leave just a little to be de- sired, but McDonagh has master of the art and it shows. The film succeeds mainly on the strength of the performances of Farrell, Walken and above all Rockwell. Thankfully Rockwell plays a violent and dangerous past.

The other characters are also well-portrayed, especially Tom Waits as an aging serial killer who just wants to find his former serial killer girlfriend, but all are peanuts compared to Rockwell’s Billy Bickle.

The dog kidnapper is Patrick Bateman minus the preten- tionousness and suits, plus a wickedly on-point yet entirely unintentional sense of humor.

The first three-quarters of the film set an extremely high bar that the climax fails to hit, but closes out well enough to make it
Indie Music Map: Philadelphia

Welcome to Philadelphia, the City of Brotherly Love and the next stop on our Indie Music Map. As a Phllelphian, I have a special place in my heart for Philadelphia. The city is full of rich history, having once been our nation’s temporary capital and the site of many an important meeting on the road to independence and events soon after. It is also home to other wonderful things like the Liberty Bell, cheesesteaks and “Rocky.” But let’s hone in on the thriving indie music scene in this bustling city.

I have a soft spot for the ethereal and dreamy: I love getting wrapped up in lingering, echo-y vocals and synth beats and just forgetting about the 5 billion things that are going on around me. That’s where Sun Airway comes in. Comprised of vocalist/guitarist/pianist Sam Murphy (guitar), Zach Miller (keyboard) and Eric Slick (drums) compose the band, with Leaman and McMicken alternating on lead vocals. Dr. Dog’s style is highly influenced by 1960s pop, weaving in elements such as lo-fi and sounds reminiscent of 1990s indie-pop. The band has two EPs and seven full-length albums under its belt, having released its most recent album, “Be the Void,” in February of this year. Their sound combines elements of shoegaze, alt rock, and touches of Americana, particularly in their earlier EPs. Dylan influences are evident in Granduciel’s vocals and contemplative lyrics.

And for those who like candid, uncomplicated alternative rock, there’s Blood Feathers. Formed in 2005, the group is comprised of founders Ben Dickey (vocals/guitar/piano) and Drew Mills (vocals/guitar), as well as Clay Simmons (bass), Patrick Marsciell (drums and also of above band Sun Airway), Sam Murphy (guitar) and Tracy Stanton (saxophone/percussion/keyboard). They have released two albums thus far, showcasing their rock- and-roll sound featuring bluesy guitar and touches of twangy folk.

On the playlist I have also included a few “bonus tracks”: Dead Milkmen’s “Punk Rock Girl” and “Gonna Fly Now” from “Rocky.” “Punk Rock Girl” is a MTV hit that is just a great, upbeat, satiric post-punk song to jam out to and sing off key. As far as “Gonna Fly Now” goes, if this song doesn’t make you want to find a staircase to run up and make you feel like you could take on Apollo Creed, Mr. T and Ivan Drago at the same time, there is something seriously wrong (”Rocky” fans, you catch my drift).

And so we reach the end of our music tour of the City of Brotherly Love. If you ever happen to find yourself in Philadelphia, delve into the city’s rich history, cheer on a Philly sports team and grab a soft pretzel while you explore a fantastic city. On to the next stop on our Music Map ...

Contact Lizzy Schroff at eschro01@saintmarys.edu
The views in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

The OBSERVER | WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2012 | NDSMOBSERVER.COM
The NFL is often praised for its parity. On any given Sunday every team is in jeopardy of losing, no matter who it lines up against.

But in this season, one disparity is undeniably present: the NFC stands head and shoulders above the AFC.

After seven weeks of football this fact is all but universally recognized, but the extent to which the National Football Conference’s production thus far exceeds that of its American counterpart is stunning. In head-to-head matchups, the NFC is 19-9. Even more relevant, the division leaders in the NFC are undefeated out-of-conference at 9-0. The leaders in the AFC are 1-3 in such games. Expanding the sample size a bit, the records of the top two teams in each conference show the disparity just as powerfully: Those in the NFC are 16-4 against the opposite conference while those in the AFC are 5-9. If the head-to-head records are not convincing enough, the popularized “eye test” can offer further proof. The NFC’s legitimate Super Bowl contenders are teams in the NFC! Among the consensus favorites from the AFC — New England, Baltimore, Pittsburgh, Houston and Denver — only Houston likes a convincing threat to take home the hardware. Of the five teams, it looks like a convincing threat to make it through the playoffs. But could it put it together and make these teams (and a few others) doubt that New York is a super Bowl contender? The Patriots went to London in 2009, beating the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, 35-7, but most players on that New England team weren’t with this one when it travels across the Atlantic Ocean on a red-eye Thursday night.

For Vereen, in his second NFL season, it will be his first trip to Europe.

“I’m excited to go, see what it’s all about and be able to play somewhere else, but at the same time we do have to go get a ‘W,’” Vereen said, adding, “I think it’s fun” more than the inconvenience of making a long trip in the middle of the season.

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performance. In the third and fourth set we had a hard time adjusting to what we saw happening. We also did not hit well as a team.”

Belles coach Toni Kuschel said. “It was great to see our freshmen go into the match on Saturday against Finlandia,” Kuschel said. “It was great to see what they could do against a team that has been doing what we have been doing. We are extremely proud of our team accomplishments so far.”

Toni Kuschel
Belles coach

“We are extremely proud of our team accomplishments so far.”

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**Catcher Posey leads Giants**

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — On a team known for stellar pitching, basher Barry Bonds and quirky personalities, the unquestioned leader of the San Francisco Giants is their understated catcher, Buster Posey.

From his prowess behind the plate, shepherding the staff on its ups and downs, to the bat that won the National League batting title, Posey is the biggest reason the Giants are back in the World Series for the second time in his three big league seasons.

“I’d hate to think where we would be without him,” manager Bruce Bochy said. “The numbers, they speak for themselves. But also his leadership on this club. We saw what life was without him last year. ... I don’t know a player that’s made a bigger impact on a club than what he has on our club. He’s just a tremendous talent. We’re lucky to have him.”

Posey has returned from a horrific, season-ending injury in 2011 to the top of the sport this year: starting All-Star catcher, batting champion, likely NL Most Valuable Player and World Series trip.

It’s a remarkable story that Posey even made it back on the field. He was hit in the arm on May 13, 2011, by a pitch from the Miami Marlins’ Anibal Sanchez.

“Anybody could sit there and get a little bit greener under those circumstances,” Bochy said. “At the same time, you know it’s game day. You come up and you’re ready to go. You never expect it, but it happens.”

Posey’s best season was 2012, when he was named NL Rookie of the Year and also captured the World Series MVP award.

“Posey has been far from his best this postseason as teams
turned him into a target and the staff had to adjust for his
different set-up,” Bochy said. “But I think he’s learning how
to work with these guys and he’s been great.”

Posey is the face of the franchise and far different from the last position player to hold that title in San Francisco. He is quintessential anti-Barry Bonds, quickly turning any praise toward him to downplay his achievements.

“I really treated him with kid gloves there early, and as we got deeper into the spring training I got more and more comfortable with how much he could catch,” Bochy said. “This game is not that easy, especially when you miss as much time as he did last year and yet it didn’t take him long to get into the flow of the game, get his timing at the plate and get back to handling the pitching staff.”

Posey has been from his best this postseason as teams have often tried to pitch around him in key spots to face his less dangerous teammates. He batted .278 in the first two rounds with two homers and six RBIs, but it was his grand slam that broke open the clinching Game 6 of the division series.

And now he’s back in the World Series.

With his boyish looks and su- preme talent, Posey is almost a Bay Area version of New York Yankees great Derek Jeter, both heralded first-round picks who helped restore tradition-rich franchises to greatness.

They both won Rookie of the Year and World Series titles in their first seasons, quickly earning the respect of their veteran teammates. Both made it back to the Fall Classic in year three.

Each manage to avoid controversy while being his team spokesman. Buster is so professional about how he goes about his business,” Bochy said. “There is a calmness about him, about the way he plays, how well prepared. He has the ability to slow down the game, and I think he leads by example on how he prepares and how he plays, and how he han- dles himself. So he’s definitely a leader in this clubhouse and guys feed off him.”

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Each manage to avoid controversy while being his team spokesman. Buster is so professional about how he goes about his business,” Bochy said. “There is a calmness about him, about the way he plays, how well prepared. He has the ability to slow down the game, and I think he leads by example on how he prepares and how he plays, and how he han- dles himself. So he’s definitely a leader in this clubhouse and guys feed off him.”

Posey is the face of the franchise and far different from the last position player to hold that title in San Francisco. He is quintessential anti-Barry Bonds, quickly turning any praise toward him to downplay his achievements.

“I really treated him with kid gloves there early, and as we got deeper into the spring training I got more and more comfortable with how much he could catch,” Bochy said. “This game is not that easy, especially when you miss as much time as he did last year and yet it didn’t take him long to get into the flow of the game, get his timing at the plate and get back to handling the pitching staff.”

Posey has been from his best this postseason as teams have often tried to pitch around him in key spots to face his less dangerous teammates. He batted .278 in the first two rounds with two homers and six RBIs, but it was his grand slam that broke open the clinching Game 6 of the division series.

And now he’s back in the World Series.

With his boyish looks and su- preme talent, Posey is almost a Bay Area version of New York Yankees great Derek Jeter, both heralded first-round picks who helped restore tradition-rich franchises to greatness.

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Belles fall to Scots in MIAA matchup

By MIKE MONACO
Sports Writer

The Belles gave up two quick goals in the first four minutes of action Tuesday against Alma and ended up losing to the Scots (11-5-2, 8-4-2 MIAA) 2-0 in a pivotal conference clash.

“This definitely was a tough loss,” Saint Mary’s sophomore goalkeeper Chanler Rosenbaum said. “We are all upset and bitter because we know we could have won that game. This game might have pushed us up a bit in the standings, but it won’t change our mindset for the rest of the games. We are going to carry these feelings into these next games to help us get the wins we need.”

Alma sophomore forward Mackenzie Smith found the back of the net just 54 seconds into the game with an unassisted goal. Smith, who leads the Scots with 11 goals this season, doubled her score at the 3:21 mark when she headed home a cross from junior midfielder/forward Taryn Handyside. Rosenbaum said the Belles (11-4-2, 8-4-1) were shell-shocked by the early strikes from Smith, but they put them in the rearview mirror and moved forward.

“They were stung after the first goals, but we put them in the past and just tried to play our game,” Rosenbaum said. “Once we settled, connecting our passes and settled down a bit, we were able to put more pressure on their defense and take more shots.”

Saint Mary’s responded by outshooting the Scots 15-13, including 6-5 on goal. But Alma withstood the Belles’ second-half surge, as sophomore goalkeeper Morgan Waierer recorded six saves en route to her third clean sheet of the season.

“The first half was a tough half, but by the time the second half rolled around we were connecting more passes and working the ball down the field,” Rosenbaum said. “After the goals, our offense knew that the only way to score was to shoot the ball and that’s just what they did. We outshot Alma in the second half, but unfortunately none fell in the net.”

Despite the loss, the Belles still find themselves positioned in the thick of the conference postseason race. The top four teams in the MIAA advance to the conference tournament to determine which team advances to the NCAA tournament. Saint Mary’s sits in fourth place with 25 points after the loss. Hope and Alma sit one point higher in a tie for second place.

“Saint Mary’s is still confident in their ability to qualify for the MIAA Tournament,” Rosenbaum said. “This was definitely a tough loss, but we still have three more games to prove that we belong in the conference tournament.”

Rosenbaum said, “I have high hopes for us and know that we can [win] those (games).”

Saint Mary’s gets another chance to shake things up at the top of the MIAA standings when it battles Hope (11-4-2, 8-3-2) on Thursday.

Belles head coach Jackie Bauters said that was the Belles’ first loss after the start of the men’s season.

“It was great to honor and recognize our seniors for everything they have done for Saint Mary’s and us,” Rosenbaum said. “They are good enough to beat them. Standings, records, statistics, and everything else go out the window when that whistle blows.”

Before the game, Saint Mary’s celebrated Senior Day and honored midfielder Maddie Meckes, defender Meghan Daly and midfielder Ashley Morfin.

“It was great to honor and recognize our seniors for everything they have done for Saint Mary’s,” Bauters said. “I’m excited about what I see out of [Palmer, Watson and Handy].”

Benishek said, “They are strong across the board. We are on track and ahead of schedule compared to last year.”

Senior Liz Palmer, Ellie Watson and freshman Paige Handy put forth strong performances of the season. The trio placed fourth in the 1500 freestyle relay with a time of 17:20.17.

“Overall, I was pretty pleased with the team’s performance,” Bauters said. “With about half of our team being freshmen, it was good to see them swimming well in their first meet,” Benishek said.

Benishek said the Belles will continue to work on the basics.

“It’s early in the season, so we will continue to add some more work on cardiovascular conditioning,” he said. “These are things every team works on and it’s what we build upon.”

Mark Benishek, Belles coach

Saint Mary’s places 28th

By LAURA COLETTI
Sports Writer

The Belles scored 751 points against 28th at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh Brooks Invitational on Oct. 13. No. 6 Calvin won the event with a team score of 91.

Junior Jessica Biek paced the Belles with a time of 23:31.50, good for a 74th-place individual finish in a field of 300 runners.

“The team faced adversity at the beginning of the meet in the form of bad weather,” Rosenbaum said. “Race officials were initially unsure if the runners could safely compete.”

“The Brooks Invite was a very interesting race this year,” Belles coach Jackie Bauters said. “The start was pushed back due to bad storms. Crazy enough, the women ended up starting their race two minutes after the start of the men’s race, as the race directors felt it seemed like the times have not improved,” Bauters said.

While I was hoping for some faster times, they are very similar to the other team’s performances,” Bauters said when comparing results from the MIAA Jamboree on Sept. 21 to the Brooks Invitational.

Saint Mary’s is still confident in their ability to qualify for the MIAA Tournament.

Saint Mary’s was able to improve. She attributed the lack of improvement to the adverse weather conditions at the Brooks Invitational.

“The course was so wet and full of puddles that I think it did impact some of the overall time performance,” Bauters said.

Sophomore Samee Chittenden finished behind Biek with a time of 24:52:30 and set a new college record to along with her 22nd-place individual finish.

The squad will now turn their attention toward the MIAA championships this weekend.

“In preparation for championships, I’m feeling very confident in our team’s ability to put out their best performances of the season,” Bauters said. “We had some more work on cardiovascular conditioning, but it’s what we build upon. The Belles will compete in their first scoring meet against Albion in Michigan, on Friday.”

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Young team opens season

By ISAAC LORTON
Sports Writer

The Belles launched their 2012-13 season Friday night at the non-scoring MIAA Relays at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Belles coach Mark Benishek said he was pleased with how well the team competed.

“We had some great swims at the conference relay meet,” Benishek said. “There were strong swims across the board. We are on track and ahead of schedule compared to last year.”

Senior Liz Palmer, Ellie Watson and freshman Paige Handy put forth strong performances of the season. The trio placed fourth in the 1500 freestyle relay with a time of 17:20:17.

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Irish finish two shots behind champion Toledo

Irish junior Andrew Carron watches his shot during the Fighting Irish Gridiron Golf Classic at the Warren Golf Course on Oct. 9. Notre Dame finished tied for eighth and Carron tied for 15th in the individual standings.

By KATIE HEIT
Sports Writer

The Irish came up just short in their final tournament of the fall season in Beallsville, Md., on Tuesday. Notre Dame finished in second place at the Georgetown Intercollegiate, two shots behind tournament champion Toledo. The Irish began the final round trailing the Rockets by one stroke. Notre Dame fired a five-over-par team score of 289 in the third round, but Toledo edged the Irish with a four-over-par 288. Overall, Notre Dame finished with a 13-over-par team score of 865. Penn State fired a 19-over-par 871 to finish in third place.

“Tied for 15th in the individual standings. By KATIE HEIT
Sports Writer

Women’s Tennis | Midwest Championship

Sanders loses in singles final

By KATIE HEIT
Sports Writer

After entering the USTA/ITA Midwest Regional Championships as an underdog, junior Britney Sanders fell in the singles final to No. 15 Nebraska’s Emilia Broten on Nov. 8. Sanders, who entered the tournament as the No. 98-ranked singles player, was not expected to be as successful as she was. Nevertheless, Sanders battled her way into the finals. She managed to stay in the match with Turvy, claiming every game in the second set and falling by only two games in the other sets.

“I am happy with my performance this week,” Sanders said. “Every match I feel like I got better and better. I still have a lot to improve on, but I think this was a good tournament for me.”

This match marked Sanders’ first singles loss of the fall season. Sanders said she still has a few things to work on going into the remainder of the fall season.

“We have an aggressive game style,” Sanders said. “I like to hit a lot of winners but sometimes I go for too much and end up missing. I need to learn to stay patient and attack when the time is right.” Sanders said she believes her success this week will allow her to be a better leader to the less experienced girls throughout the season.

“I hope my success this tournament gives my teammates more confidence,” Sanders said. “I was an underdog and I made it to the finals. I hope it shows them that it doesn’t matter who their opponent is, as long as they work hard and fight for every match they can win.”

Due to her success in this tournament, Sanders will be eligible for a bid in the USTA/ITA Indoor Championships on Nov. 8th.

The Irish will be in action as once more Nov. 9th as the team divides, sending some to the Lakewood Ranch Invitational and the Western Michigan Invitational.

Contact Karlie Heit at kheit@nd.edu

SMC Golf | MIAA End of Season Jamboree

Belles finish on high note

By PETER STEINER
Sports Writer

Following a disappointing first tournament of the fall season, the Belles finished their conference schedule on a high note. Saint Mary’s placed second at the MIAA End of Season Weekend Jamboree on Oct. 11 and 12 at the Bedford Valley Country Club in Battle Creek, Mich.

The second-place finish in the End of the Season Jamboree combined with its first-place finish at the Adrian Jamboree on Oct. 6 moved Saint Mary’s past Calvin into second place in the final MIAA standings.

“I think we’ve started to scratch our potential,” Belles coach Mark Hamilton said. “Everyone is getting used to playing college golf and we were actually in a little bit of a slump and so we’ve just started to scratch the surface … It was a good note to end on."

After the first day of play, the Belles were tied for second with Calvin as both teams shot a score of 348. But Saint Mary’s pulled away on the second day, carding another 340 while Hope turned in a team score of 356. The Belles’ second round was especially impressive because they admirably dealt with terrible conditions, Hamilton said.

“The main test was the second day where the conditions were about as bad as you can imagine,” Hamilton said. “I honestly don’t have or coached in worse conditions than what we had. It was about 39 degrees, windy and rainy. I was very proud of the way our team hung in there.

“We were the only team to do the same or improve on the first day. So I was very proud of how they performed and hung in there because there were a lot of players and teams that were going in the other direction, having a hard time competing.”

Junior Paige Pollak led the way for the Belles, placing third overall in the tournament with a two-day score of 163. Sophomore Janice Heffernan also cracked the top ten, finishing seventh with a score of 169.

Claire Boyle and junior Justine Bresnahan rounded out the top five for Saint Mary’s.

Paige struggled a little bit earlier in the season and she started to find some form the last couple of rounds of the year, which I know she would do,” Hamilton said. “She was one of the players that was slumping a little bit … Shooting 80 on the last day was quite a special round.”

After finishing among the top 12 MIAA golfers, Bresnahan, Heffernan, Graham and Boyle were all named to the All-MIAA Second Team.

Saint Mary’s now looks ahead to their spring schedule, during which they will compete in three 18-hole rounds to decide which teams will compete in the 2013 Division III championships. Hamilton knows all the hard work his team put in this fall season will pay off come May.

“ Inch by inch we work on getting better throughout the fall.”

Mark Hamilton
Belles coach
Clark
Continued from page 20

is starting particularly, but I think he really cares about every single person on the team and he kept me motivated to get back even though I wasn’t having a chance of playing that year.”

Dike rebounded in a big way during his first season back with the team in 2008 by registering a team-leading 29 points off 12 goals and five assists and starting all of Notre Dame’s 21 contests. He raised his game once again for his senior campaign in 2009, earning recognition as the Big East Offensive Player of the Year after scoring 11 goals and adding four assists in 13 starts.

Dike said the support Clark provided him during and after his redshirt season represented the program as a whole.

“I think beyond [being] soccer players they are just good people on and off of the field,” he said. “There are so many guys that I think will be friends [of mine] for the rest of my life. I really felt that the chemistry of the group — I think that speaks of the coaching staff and Bobby Clark and the people he recruited. You know, he recruited good people just like himself and I think we all were playing for each other. And I think in a professional environment and a competitive environment, it’s really hard to find that chemistry we had.”

During his career in an Irish uniform Dike took the pitch 86 times and made 38 starts, but his performance in Alumni Stadium’s first-ever soccer game on Sept. 1, 2009 started out most prominently to the Oklahoma native.

“It was probably the first game we played at Notre Dame,” Dike said. “I was walking by and have a hat-trick in that game all in the second half.” Dike said. “So that was a really memorable game for us, for me.”

After going 12th in the 2010 MLS SuperDraft to the Columbus Crew, Dike has played with the Timbers in the MLS since 2011. He returned from his torn Achilles just four months after suffering the injury, which normally carries a recovery period of six to nine months. This year Dike has four goals in 11 appearances and has made eight starts, all coming in the last 10 games. In a span of eight games stretching from Aug. 19 to Sept. 29 Dike registered all four of his season’s goals and barely missed adding three more.

“I think I have hit the post three times so I am just inches away from having seven [goals],” Dike said. “You talk about the difference between four [goals] in eight games and seven in eight. You see how close you are, and it is just inches of focus to make you a better player and that is definitely driving me forward to make me a better player.”

Dike is one of the catalysts on a Timbers team that captured the 2012 Cascadia Cup, which is awarded to the team among the Timbers, the Vancouver Whitecaps and the Seattle Sounders with the best record in head-to-head matchups. Although Portland (8-16-9) failed to qualify for the playoffs, the team went 3-1-2 against its regional rivals. The Timbers concluded their competition for the Cup on Sunday with a 1-0 win over Vancouver — a game in which Dike started and played 85 minutes.

Dike said he enjoys playing in front of the Timbers’ home crowd in Portland, especially the supporters group “Timbers Army,” which executes the “cutting of the log” after every Timbers goal.

“From what I hear, they are a really big team among the Timbers, the Portland Timbers of the MLS.”

Seven of the squad’s eight wins have come at home this season, with the only away victory being the most recent one against the Whitecaps.

“I think we definitely have one of the most exciting, if not the most exciting atmospheres, in the MLS,” the forward said. “I think there is a good history here. I mean, soccer has been around this city for a long time. The fans are wonderful, I think they really appreciate soccer in this state. And we have a good tradition with the cutting of the log so it is just a great atmosphere. We sell out pretty much every game that we have. It’s just really a great fan base to play for.”

Now performing admirably in the MLS, Dike said he still carries with him much of the advice received from Clark as a student-athlete at Notre Dame.

“i think he is the responsible for a lot of how I play now and a lot of the ideas I have in my you know? And that belief in yourself only gets stronger learning from him. So I think a lot of credit for my success is due to him, too.”

This year’s Irish squad has impressed Dike, who has enjoyed following Notre Dame since his departure. Notre Dame (12-3, 4-2 Big East) is currently tied for third in the conference’s Blue Division.

“If you hear them are just playing as a team,” Dike said. “It’s just what I said — that’s the one thing that is really hard to find in a competitive environment: to find a team that the chemistry is as good as it can be. I think they have out there a true team playing for each other and playing together, and I don’t think that’s really as easy as people think. I think that’s probably the biggest reason for their success.”

His continued interest in the team is indicative of Dike’s fond memories from his time at Notre Dame. From a five-year span filled with notable events and achievements, one of the most notable memories came at the very end of Dike’s time as a student when he briefly met President Barack Obama.

“That was when we graduat ed, my year of graduation, 2009,” Dike said. “I was in the front row so I got to meet the president, shake his hand as he was walking by and have a small quick chat with him. But that’s just an amazing experience and I think Notre Dame is just a really good school. I am thankful for Notre Dame for a lot of things. For me it created so many wonderful memories and moments in my life. [Meeting the president], freshman year we got to go to Brazil with the soccer team and play over there — there are so many great experiences from Notre Dame that I will cherish for my whole life.”

Dike and the Portland Timbers will conclude their season Saturday when they host the San Jose Earthquakes.
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Soccer

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performance and then we’ll catapult it on to the next game,” he said.

Marquette will be the sixth ranked opponent the Irish have played this sea-

son. Clark said the tough schedule Notre Dame has faced up to this point should

help his squad against the Golden Eagles.

“It is a huge game for the team, but it’s also a huge game for Marquette,” Clark

said. “But the nice thing is, for us, we’ve played in a lot of big games this year.

The schedule that we’ve played ... we’ve played a lot of big games, it’s a big game, but I think this team has

played a lot of big games this year, and that’s one of the reasons that we play a very
difficult schedule.”

Senior forward Andy Huftalin leads Marquette in goals with nine, five more

than the next highest play-

ers on the roster. Huftalin — much like Irish senior forward Ryan Finley, who

leads Notre Dame with 14 goals — usually comes off the bench in Golden Eagle

matches.

However, Clark said he

doesn’t see many simi-

larities between Huftalin and Finley. He also said

Marquette’s results up to this point of the season can-

not be attributed to just one player.

“I think [Huftalin is] a
different type of player,
but having said that, he’s
got a lot of goals,” he said. “They’ve got quite a few

threats on set pieces.
They’re a good team. You
don’t create the record like

they have on one player.

They’ve got multiple scor-
ing options. I think we’ve
got a lot of goals in the league, but they’re right be-

hind us, and they haven’t
given up goals. They’re a well-

balanced team, I don’t think there’s any question

about that.”

Bobby Clark

Irish coach

Kelly

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Jones, who will be making his

44th career start, has passed for

1,644 yards and 12 touchdowns

with three interceptions. He

has not been held to fewer than

222 passing yards in a game this

season.

“He’s gotten into a good

rhythm,” Kelly said. “He hasn’t

been disrupted very much. And

I think, like most good quarter-

backs, if you can get into a good

rhythm and you’re not disrupt-

ed, you’re going to be pretty ef-
fec tive. You can see that’s been

the case.”

Miami was the only team to

pass for more than 200 yards

against the Irish when they

tossed for 201 yards Oct. 6.

The Sooners have been able to

stretch the field against their op-

ponents, racking up eight pass

plays of 30 or more yards.

“We’re quite aware of their

ability to get vertical,” Kelly said.

“and we take great pride in our

ability to minimize those big

plays. We’re going to have to do

that again on Saturday if we ex-
pect to win. If they can throw

the ball over our head, it puts

us in a very difficult situation
defensively.”

Saturday’s game marks the

first time since the Irish played

USC in 2006 that top-10 Notre

Dame will face a fellow top-10

opponent.

“This is why you coach at

Notre Dame,” Kelly said. “This

is why you coach at those pro-

grams that get the opportu-
nity to play in marquee games.

There’s an excitement but

there’s also a realization that

that excitement only gets you so

far. You’ve got to prepare well.

And so in times like these, we get that. That’s why we

want to be here at Notre Dame.

Oklahoma has been domi-
nant at home since Sooners

coach Bob Stoops took over in

1999. The Sooners are 79-4 at

home during that span, includ-
ing 14-1 in Norman against

ranked opponents.

“That’s where we want to be,”

Kelly said. “I mean, we want that

consistency. Year in and year out

you know Oklahoma is going to

be part of the conversation. And

that’s where we want to get our

football program. We’re no-

where near that yet. We think

we’re moving in the right direc-
tion. We’re trending the right

way.”

Contact Matthew DeFranks at
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Happy Birthday: Emotions will be difficult to control, especially where money matters are concerned. You will need to use your contacts coupled with a little charm to help maintain your current status quo. A change in the way you do things or the people you work with is apparent. Your numbers are 2, 16, 23, 28, 31, 36, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Get serious about your financial relationships with personal or business partners. Collect what’s owed to you and pay off any debts you’ve incurred. Once you establish your position free and clear of others, you will be able to embrace greater opportunity.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Nothing will be clear if you refuse to ask questions. Emotional matters will escalate and a reluctance to give you the help you require will cause setbacks. Take note of anyone using pressure to manipulate a situation you face.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Tread carefully in social settings. Refrain from making physical changes with the potential to turn out badly. Focus on what you can do to help the underdog or how you can improve your most important relationships. Underspend and overwork and you’ll excel.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Network until you get what you want. Your insight and ability to touch others with your plans and knowledge will in turn lead to interesting options that will help you improve your personal lifestyle and surroundings. Love is in the stars.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Pick your words carefully. Not everyone will be eager to follow your lead. The less pressure you put on others, the better. Focus more on making self-improvements. Push negative people away and embrace those heading in a similar direction.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Explore new avenues. Follow your basic instincts, and try your hand at something you’ve always wanted to do. A financial gain can be made if you can separate your funds from someone who tends to overspend.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Expand your knowledge, add to your skills and most of all, take care of matters that pertain to children, close friends or a partner who has been jerking you around. Straight communication will lead to answers and solutions.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Bickering will be a waste of time. Emotional issues will continue to escalate if you don’t put your foot down and make a decision regarding whoever is disrupting your life. Follow your heart and your intuition. Love is highlighted.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Keep what you are doing low-key. The less you discuss your personal life, the better. Someone you least expect will try to force you into an argument that is based on false information. Make changes at home if you wish to improve your situation.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Look over personal deals, contracts and investments. You can make changes that are better suited to the economic climate if you think matters through and make your moves based on your future needs. Back away from impulsive individuals.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Avoid travel or dealing with people from foreign backgrounds. You aren’t likely to get the satisfaction you want or get promises fulfilled. Financial limitations are apparent if you take on additional responsibilities. Make improvements at home that will ease your stress.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): There is money to be made if you invest in something you feel comfortable pursuing. Contracts, settlements and pending legal matters can be dealt with efficiently. Love is in the stars. Making a promise will help clear up a misconception.

Birthday Baby: You are inventive, unique and attract attention. You are unpredictable.
FOOTBALL

Golson geared to go

Irish coach Brian Kelly names sophomore Everett Golson starting quarterback

By MATTHEW DeFRANKS
Associate Sports Editor

For the fourth consecutive week, the No. 5 Irish will have a different starting quarterback than the week before when sophomore Everett Golson takes the field for Notre Dame’s showdown at No. 8 Oklahoma.

Golson passed a cardio test Monday and Irish coach Brian Kelly named him the starter for the game against the Sooners (5-1).

“We wanted to do that more because he hadn’t had really the opportunity to get out there and run, and we didn’t want to wait until Saturday where he’s out there and we have some setbacks,” Kelly said. “He’s good and 100 percent, and he’ll start for us against Oklahoma on Saturday.”

The sophomore signal caller missed Notre Dame’s 17-14 win over BYU with a concussion sustained during the Stanford game a week earlier. He was cleared to practice last Wednesday but Kelly elected to start junior Tommy Rees against BYU instead. Golson did not play.

Golson has thrown for 968 passing yards and four touchdowns and rushed for 81 yards and two scores.

The Sooners also employ a two-quarterback system, but in a much different way than the Irish (7-0) do.

Senior Landry Jones is Oklahoma’s clear-cut starter while sophomore Blake Bell adds a running dimension to the position. The Sooners have installed special “Belldozer” goal-line packages for Bell, who has eight rushing touchdowns on the season.

“If it’s first and goal from the five, we’re going to have a hard time keeping them out of the end zone,” Kelly said. “If he’s on the field, we’re going to have to do something really extraordinary, because he’s a tough guy to stop.”

Oklahoma’s offense has started to click following a 24-19 loss to then-No. 15 Kansas State, averaging 32 points in its last three games, including a 63-point outburst in a win over Texas.

“I think there’s a confidence level,” Kelly said. “You can see it in the receivers, the quarterback, and Landry has been very effective and efficient with the football. [They] made big plays. They’re balancing their running game in there. Certainly their offense has evolved since the first week against UTEP to where they are today.”

Irish finish with tough test

Men’s soccer

By SAM GANS
Sports Writer

With only two games remaining until the start of the Big East championship, the No. 7 Irish close out the regular season with a crucial pair of games against No. 3 Marquette this week.

Notre Dame (12-3-0, 4-2-0 Big East) faces the Golden Eagles (14-1-0, 5-1-0) at Alumni Stadium tonight and in Milwaukee, Wis., on Saturday.

The Irish currently sit tied for third in the Big East Blue Division, three points behind first-place Marquette. Only the top three teams in each division get byes in the Big East tournament, and the results from tonight and Saturday night will likely determine Notre Dame’s conference tournament positioning.

“It’s quite incredible just how strong the Blue Division has been this year,” Irish coach Bobby Clark said. “I was just looking at the RPIs yesterday and there are actually five Big East teams in the top 11 in the country ... and actually four of those teams are in the Blue Division, which shows the tremendous strength of Big East soccer at the moment.”

The games against Marquette will mark the only time in the regular season the Irish will play an opponent twice. Despite two games in such a short time frame against the same opponent, Clark said the Irish are only concerned with Wednesday’s match.

“I think you’ve just got to focus early on Wednesday’s game and then we’ll hopefully put in a really good effort,” Clark said.

Irish sophomore quarterback Everett Golson winds up to throw the ball during Notre Dame's 20-13 win over Stanford on Oct. 13. Golson will start against Oklahoma this Saturday.

WAKING THE ECHoes | BRIGHT DIKE

MLS star thankful for his time at ND

By JOSEPH MONARDO
Sports Writer

On a Friday night in Ventura, Calif., former Irish forward Bright Dike heard something snap in his right leg. The Portland Timbers signee went down in the preseason game between on that night in February 2011 — one of the preparation games for the Timbers’ first season in the MLS. After scoring 10 goals in Division II in 2010, Dike would head to the bench due to a torn Achilles tendon as his team headed onto the biggest stage.

“It was really tough because here you are finally playing in the MLS where you wanted to, pretty much that’s been one of my main goals the whole time I was at Notre Dame, you know, to get to the MLS level and be playing at that level,” Dike said in a phone interview with The Observer on Oct. 5. “To finally get there and to and then get an Achilles injury, that was really kind of devastating.”

Dike suffered a notable setback in his Notre Dame career, as well. After moderate production in limited minutes during his first two years with the team, Dike redshirted his junior year due to personal reasons. Although Dike did not take the field during the 2007 season, he said he credits his Irish coach Bobby Clark with making the experience a positive one.

“I just know that it was an unfortunate circumstance,” he said. “But, at the same time [Clark] still made me feel like part of the team ... some coaches would have just only cared about who