Student voters consider faith

Catholicism influences politics for many as they cast their ballots

By MEGAN DOYLE
Managing Editor

Before senior Chris Damien turned to news organizations like CNN, Fox News or MSNBC to inform his decisions for the election, he turned to another source — the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ document “Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship.”

For Damien, life issues and policies about marriage are important political considerations this Election Day. But more importantly for the senior philosophy major is being an informed Catholic voter on all the issues at stake in this election, not just one or two.

“It’s very clear what the Church teaches,” Damien said. “It’s not a secret. It’s not a secret. The Church teaches,” Damien student who is casting his ballot in this election. He is also one Catholic who is casting his ballot in this election. The overlap between political belief and faith comes to a poignant crossroads on a campus of a Catholic university like Notre Dame, but students and professors considered that intersection to be a more personal and dynamic one today than it has been historically in the United States.

A traditional vote

Political science professor David Campbell said Catholic voters tended to be Democrats historically because they occupied a lower social class that did not find much support from Republican candidates. “Over the last 50 years or so, American Catholics have lived the American dream in most cases,” Campbell said. “A group that was once isolated to neighborhoods and was a blue collar population, we’ve seen Catholics move to the suburbs and have white collar jobs.”

Senior Kara Mathis said she looks at politics from the perspective of a public servant and keeps her faith separate.

Scholar lectures on law

By CAROLYN HUTYRA
News Writer

Days before Americans head to vote for the next president of the United States, legal scholar Akhil Reed Amar lectured Friday on the country’s Constitution and its place as a national symbol.

Amar, who is also a Sterling Professor of Law and Political Science at Yale University, delivered the inaugural Potenziani Constitutional Law Lecture on “Constitutionalism and the Pursuit of Happiness” to law students last Friday.

Amar’s lecture discussed his recently published book, “America’s Unwritten Constitutionalism: The Precedents and Principles We Live By.” The lecture aimed at understanding the Constitution in its paper form as well as its unwritten form.

Amar’s lecture first focused on the phrase “the pursuit of happiness,” then on the pursuit itself as

see CONSTITUTION PAGE 4

ELECTION 2012

Professors analyze election process

By HANNAH ECKSTEIN
News Writer

With Election Day on Tuesday, it’s nearly impossible to leave the house without being exposed to some kind of campaign advertisement. The Rooney Center for American Democracy hosted a panel discussion on Friday in Carole Sandner Hall and invited political science professors Darren Davis, David Campbell and Geoffrey Layman to speak about the upcoming election. The discussion aimed to clarify any questions regarding the election process and prepare students and faculty alike to make informed decisions at the ballots.

Layman gave the audience a brief background of how the electoral system works. “The elections are not simply national elections, but rather are 50 statewide elections in combination with one election in Washington D.C. for the electoral vote,” Layman said.

He noted the significance of this structure, reminding the audience of the 2000 presidential election, when

see PANEL PAGE 5

Fire at SMC contained

By JILLIAN BARWICK
Saint Mary’s Editor

Saint Mary’s students, faculty and staff were alerted early Saturday morning of a fire in the basement of the Moreau Center for the Arts in a theater set storage area.

Saint Mary’s security, as well as Notre Dame’s Fire Department, received the campus fire alarms simultaneously. Gwen O’Brien, director of media relations for the College, was quick to alert the media that the fire had been contained.

“The Notre Dame Fire Department arrived to Moreau within just a couple of minutes, with the South Bend Fire Department and Clay Fire Territory responding to the alert as well,” O’Brien said. “Firefighters are investigating the cause of the fire.”

As part of the campus wide alert system, students, faculty and staff all received a community outreach notice via text, phone and email. The alert notified everyone that the building was closed until further notice due to the fire.

Senior Danielle Pascal, a resident of Opus Apartments on the campus, said she felt comfortable security was so quick to

see FIRE PAGE 4
Students celebrated the Irish football victory against Pittsburgh on Saturday after a 29-26 win in a triple-overtime game. Notre Dame continues its undefeated 9-0 season and will play against Boston College on the road this weekend.

QUESTION OF THE DAY:
What is or would be the name of your pet?

Anna Kiely  
freshman  
McKenna Hall  
“Chi Chi.”

Njeri Williams  
freshman  
Badin Hall  
“Brewster.”

Michael Gregory  
freshman  
Keenan Hall  
“Mr. T.”

Olivia Mitchell  
freshman  
Badin Hall  
“Nina.”

Caroline Heilmann  
junior  
Pangborn Hall  
“Butch.”

Kaitlyn Davis  
junior  
Cavanaugh Hall  
“Pumpkin.”

Have a question you want answered?  
Email obsphoto@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 made a mistake, please contact us at (574) 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

Tuesday

“Seed of the Church: Today’s Christian Martyrs”  
McKenna Hall  
All day.  
Keynote speakers.

10th Annual Baraka Bouts Tournament: Semis  
Joyce Center  
6 p.m.-11 p.m.  
Proceeds go to charity.

Wednesday

“Sexuality & Catholicism”  
Joyce Center  
7p.m.-8:30 p.m.  
Speaker Dr. Terry Nelson-Johnson.

“The Servant of Two Masters”  
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center  
2 p.m.-3:59 p.m.  
Free for ND students with ID.

Thursday

Summer Service Learning Program  
Information Session  
Fieldhouse Hall  
5 p.m.-6 p.m.  
Speak with volunteers.

Friday

“We Are Made of Star Stuff”  
Jordan Hall  
7 p.m.-9 p.m.  
Digital Visualization Theater show.

Sean Curran and The King’s Singers  
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center  
7 p.m.-8:45 p.m.  
Singing and dance.
**Fan pens book at age 10**

By JOANNA LAGEDROST

News Writer

Writing a book is nothing short of impressive. Penning 100 pages and publishing that work at age 10 is extraordinary. Jake Keyes, an 11-year-old native of Spokane, Wash., visited the Notre Dame campus this past weekend not only to see the Pittsburgh game, but also to sign copies of his recent publication, "The Little Gipper's Welcome to Notre Dame Football."

The book was published on Oct. 15 and became available at the Hammes Bookstore on Oct. 29.

"I think this is a great book for younger readers who want to get more information about Notre Dame football," Jake said. "I'll look back at it [writing a book] and probably still won't believe that I did it."

The book is organized into chapters about Notre Dame football coaches, Heisman trophy winners and other great players, historic games and some campus landmarks.

Not previously associated with Notre Dame in any way, Jake, who celebrated his 11th on Oct. 29, said his love of Notre Dame football stemmed from a three-day Basic Skills football camp he attended in South Bend in the summer of 2010.

Jake's father Mike Keyes said he cannot remember exactly how he heard about the camp but decided to enroll his son. The pair, along with Mike Keyes' father-in-law, flew to the camp but decided to enroll after he played a key role in bringing the accelerator to Notre Dame and has worked in the department for 27 years.

There are two other accelerators within the facility, Jake said he just really wanted to finish it.

"It took me about a year [to write]," Jake said. "It took up a lot of time and it was a lot of work, but I had fun doing it."

Jake also included many Notre Dame pictures in his book. He used some pictures from the Internet, he said, and his dad retrieved some others from the Notre Dame Archives.

Then Jake learned that in order to sell his work at the Hammes Bookstore, he needed written consent from every photographer involved.

"I wrote a lot of letters and e-mails asking for permission," Jake said. "I don't think anyone told me I couldn't use their picture, but some people just didn't respond, and time was running out, so they didn't make it into the book."

Elton Eide, a 2012 Notre Dame graduate, assisted Jake with the aesthetics of the book. Jake said he emailed him a Microsoft Word document with inserted pictures and she designed the layout of the book.

Jake said the title, "The Little Gipper," was his own idea, and his dad, who is a lawyer, helped to make it a registered trademark.

Jake traveled to South Bend with his parents, two young sister and 13 other family members for the signing, where he displayed a pair of senior running back Cierre Wood's football gloves.

"I was at practice Thursday night and he just handed them to me," Jake said.

**Jenkins blesses new accelerator**

By KATIE MCCARTY

News Writer

University President Fr. John Jenkins dedicated and blessed the new SU Pelletron nuclear particle accelerator Thursday, calling the occasion "a great step for Notre Dame." The dedication ceremony was held on the first level of the new four-level space within Nieuwland Science Hall that houses the accelerator. In attendance was physics professor Michael Wiescher, who played a key role in bringing the accelerator to Notre Dame and has worked in the department for 27 years.

"This accelerator is widely used for research on cancer treatments, smoke detectors, fire alarms, climate monitoring and is used extensively in archaeology and history," he said.

In addition, the machine can also be used to research nuclear waste.

"The particles from the accelerator can help scientists tell how slowly nuclear waste will degrade in a shorter amount of time than traditional methods," faculty member Daniel Robertson said.

This accelerator is one of five of its kind in the world, and the project is sustainable. When describing the accelerator, Robertson said it is "lower energy but more versatile" than the other accelerators in the laboratory.

Furthermore, 20 to 30 universities around the world are involved in the project, sending user groups to campuses from countries such as Brazil, Mexico and China.

"International groups do experiments here, and we try to encourage international participation," he said.

The accelerator cost about $8 million, $4 million from a National Science Foundation grant. The university paid the remainder for the necessary modifications for Nieuwland to house the new accelerator. The first beam from the accelerator was produced in April 2012, and since then, research has been under way.

"The accelerator is designed to test conditions at the center of sun, stars and supernova explosions."

"The accelerator is designed to test conditions at the center of sun, stars and supernova explosions," he said.

Jake Keyes, now 11 years old, poses with copy of his book in front of a display shelf in the Hammes Bookstore on Saturday.

"We just had a really nice dance was physics professor Michael Wiescher, who played a key role in bringing the accelerator to Notre Dame and has worked in the department for 27 years. There are two other accelerators within the facility, but the new one has a "much more intense beam," Wiescher said.

"The accelerator is designed to test conditions at the center of sun, stars and supernova explosions," he said.

The tank that houses the accelerator was installed in October 2011, and the actual accelerator was installed in March. The four-story tall instrument had to be lowered into its new home on the top of Nieuwland Science Hall by helicopter. In total, the accelerator's top made up a "number of applications."

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Contact Katie McCarty at kmcarri@nd.edu.
The members of Campus Life Council discussed on-campus safety at its meeting Friday afternoon. While crime numbers are not high across campus, student body president Bret Rocheleau said students are still often afraid to walk around campus alone at night.

“We should try to minimize that fear,” Rocheleau said.

Multiple campus resources are aimed at keeping the grounds safe and comfortable, he said, but the student body does not have a widespread awareness of their presence.

“Whatever we do or whatever we have, it’s publicizing that (that is the issue),” Howard rector Margaret Morgan said.

She said students need to know Notre Dame Security Police (NDSP), the Quad Squad and CampusWalk protect the campus.

Rector Maria Hinton of Cavanaugh said the Quad Squad consists of several officers who are assigned to monitor the various quads.

“They walk constantly, all night,” she said. Their shifts run from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. and they stop in the halls and check their basements.

Night monitors were also recently reinstated in all women’s halls this year. Morgan said these officers sit in the lobbies of these residence buildings in order to instill a sense of security.

An additional safety device is the blue light telephone. These emergency phones are located in various areas of campus, such as near the lakes and along the edge of campus by Stepan Fields.

But chief of staff Katie Baker said NDSP does not advocate the phones as a strong form of crime prevention.

“They don’t get used really and don’t deter crime,” Baker said.

Rocheleau said one way to perhaps deter crime would be to expand the number of video cameras on campus, although Notre Dame already has several located on buildings overlooking the parking lots.

Another important campus safety was to increase lights around campus.

Junior James Slaven, Student Veterans Board senator of public policy, said the construction area around the Morris Inn is a safe walking area. He said the consturcted bright lights allow students to feel safe at night, but the downside is the annoyance they cause to nearby dorms.

“We need to find a balance between no lights and floodlights,” he said.

Areas specified for increased lighting included God Quad, the crosswalks leading to Saint Mary’s and the paths around the Pasqualellia East and West areas.

Baker said there are locations dear with a large amount of student traffic even at night.

“We mentioned putting reflectors on those crosswalks so they stand out more,” she said.

Walsh Hall senator Veronica Guerrero said the issue of safety also requires common sense. For instance, students should not go on midnight runs around the lakes.

“You have to be aware of your surroundings,” she said.

In order to be fully aware, Rocheleau said it is also important to notice large sidewalks cracks and flooding around campus. Although the climate makes it difficult to maintain sidewalk quality, Rocheleau said the university acknowledge the problem and is trying to address it.

“They’ve asked us to talk to people and get a list of specific areas,” Baker said.

Contact Carolyn Huttya at chuttya@nd.edu

“Fire

alert the students.

“It’s always concerning when you see that you have a call, a text and an email from security,” Fiscal said. “But it’s always good to know that they are looking out for us and letting us know that no one was injured during the fire.”

Senior Bri Tepe, a resident of Le Moyne Hall, said a “suspicious” fire at a distance from Moreau, said she appreciates the extent of Saint Mary’s emergency alert system.

“After the fire at Le Moyne and Moreau Hall, we received all three different forms of communication from security,” Tepe said. “The chances of being notified are more likely with all three rather than just a phone call. So many people have email on their phones these days so it makes it almost impossible not to know what is going on. I definitely felt well informed.”

In the email alert, the College specified the time the fire began and reassured receivers it had been contained quickly and no one was injured. The text went to students, faculty and staff showed the same message.

“Serious fire in the building was the biggest issue,” O’Brien said.

“First Response, restoration specialists, spent Saturday and Sunday at Moreau Hall using highly specialized air purification equipment to clear the entire building of the smell of smoke.”

The smell dissipated from the classrooms and the building is open for classes today, O’Brien said. The office space is also fine and ready to be opened.

“The building is open for classes today,” O’Brien said.

“The smell dissipated from the classrooms and the building is open for classes today, O’Brien said. The office space is also fine and ready to be opened.
Catholic

“Catholics’ voting patterns have largely reflected their working class backgrounds, but one could argue that their Democratic Party affiliation began to crystallize with the election of John F. Kennedy,” he said.

Now, Campbell said, wealthier voters are more likely to be Republican, and Catholics are more likely to be wealthier members of society.

Over the last 20 to 30 years or so, we’ve seen a divide emerge within the Catholic population that actually perfectly mirrors the divide you find in the national population,” Campbell said. “Catholics that are more religiously devout … they are more likely to lean more Republican than Democrat.”

Campbell then discussed “Religion and Public Politics,” and he said history class creates a “learning season” on the way religion affects hot-button issues and election discourse.

“I’m impressed with their seriousness. … They seem to be presenting these positions after the kind of clear thought and careful agenda setting that a democracy requires,” Noll said. “So in the extent that they are representing the Notre Dame campus, I’m quite optimistic about intelligent, morally-based, voting, morally-aware voting by the Notre Dame students.”

“A public servant…”

Senior Kara Mathis said she was “pleasantly surprised” with the balanced debate she has experienced as a voter on campus this semester. When her sociology professors have considered the election and campaign politics this semester, she said, faith has not been a dominant part of discourse in the classroom.

“For the most part, people are respectful to keep [faith] out of it out of the debate, especially in the classroom,” she said. “Personally, if I’m at my house or if I’m with my friends, that may be brought up more.”

Even in looking at the larger scale of policy in the country, Mathis said moral values will overlap with the way an individual voter views debate over important issues.

“The issue of health care, my personal belief, my Christian belief, says that you can’t help themselves,” she said. “In that case, I wholeheartedly believe in universal health care policies that would help those to get themselves back on their feet.”

But for Mathis, her religion needs to be separate than her political views.

“For me, I try and look at my political views through the lens of a public servant,” Mathis said. “These officials are elected to serve citizens whether or not they pray to the same god or they read the same religious script. I try and look at the bigger picture and realize that my beliefs … are not part of the way people are represented by the American people, so when I look at issues, especially social issues, I try to understand it through the country as a whole.”

Faith, she said, is personal. Politics is not.

“I try and live my life in a Christian way, but my faith is based on a personal relationship with Jesus Christ,” she said. “It’s not based on a decision made by someone next to me. So I guess that’s how I look at political issues as well.”

The day after the election

During this election, the economy has been a dagger for both parties and a grenade in the hands of voters watching their candidates debate.

“Abortion, gay marriage and other issues that resonate with Catholics have been overshadowed by economic issues,” Davis said. “Moral and social issues have not been prominent in the presidential debates and campaign ads tended to minimize these issues.”

The issue of Catholicism has moderately resurfaced in this election among the two major candidates for vice president — Democratic incumbent Vice President Joe Biden and Republican candidate Paul Ryan are both Catholics.

During the vice presidential debate Oct. 11, moderator Martha Raddatz of ABC News threw a curveball at the two men.

“This debate is, indeed, historic,” she said. “We have two Catholic candidates, first time, on a stage such as this. And I would like to ask you both to tell me what role your religious faith has played in your own personal views on abortion.”

The question, Campbell said, exposed voters to two different perspectives on an issue from Catholic candidates and two different perspectives on applying personal belief to political policy.

“The question was actually quite an odd one,” Campbell said. “Martha Raddatz did not ask, ‘What is your policy on abortion?’ … [She asked,] ‘Talk about your personal feelings on abortion and your Catholic faith.’ Really what she should matter is their policies.”

Davis said students, like candidates, must evaluate their own beliefs to dictate their own individual votes.

“My advice to Notre Dame students is this: Faith and religious beliefs are extremely important, and they should be at the heart of all political decisions,” Davis said.

The ballots will be cast, by Catholics and non-Catholics alike, on Tuesday. And then comes the day after Election Day.

“A lot of people think that they vote and their responsibility as a citizen is done once they vote, but it’s not,” Damian said. “We’re constantly members of society, so we have a responsibility to live out those values and ideals in every aspect of our lives. It’s important that what we care about in politics also comes out in our daily lives.”

Contact Megan Doyle at mdoyele11@nd.edu

Panel

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Democratic candidate Al Gore won the popular vote, but lost the election by losing the electoral vote.

Layman said while race for the popular vote seems to be even in polls, specifically gender views between the two candidates, could play a large role in the way in which women will vote,” Davis said. He said he believes many women who publically say they are going to vote for Romney will eventually cheat off Obama’s name on the ballot.

Campbell then discussed religions’ role in the election, describing Romney’s Mormon faith as a “stained glass ceiling” hindering his campaign efforts. Campbell noted his religion has not been a matter of discussion in recent months.

The relative lack of religion to live out those values and ideals from the fact that both candidates’ campaigns have in some way been marred by their religious affiliations, he said, and both candidates wish to avoid “mutually-assured destruction.”

Drawing parallels to when President John F. Kennedy was elected as the first Catholic president, Campbell questioned what role religion plays in elections and how religious tolerance is affected by the presidency.

“If ROMNEY was to win, would this mean more religious tolerance for Mormonism across America?” Campbell said.

Davis, Campbell and Layman agreed the biggest factor in the election would be utilizing voters to get the polls.

Contact Hannah Eckstein at heckste1@nd.edu

SEED OF THE CHURCH:
Telling the Story of Today’s Christian Martyrs

Mass, Monday, November 5
5:15 p.m. | Basilica of the Sacred Heart
H.E. Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, Apostolic Nuncio to the U.S., President and Homilist

Keynote Session, Monday, November 5
7:45 p.m. | McKenna Hall Auditorium
The Global War on Christians

John L. Allen, Jr., Sr. Correspondent, National Catholic Reporter, Sr. Analyst, CNN

Please recycle
The Observer.
The observer | Monday, November 5, 2012 | NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

INSIDE COLUMN

One more month

Jillian Barwick
Saint Mary's Editor

Friends, Smicks, communication studies majors, lend me your ears and eyes. Finally, I have seven words that guarantee a smile will spread across your faces.

One month until senior comprehensives are done!

Yes, that is correct; only about one more month until we all gather into Vander Vennet Theatre in the basement of the Student Center for three whole nights of presentations by our peers. As we enter this final month of preparations, I encourage you to remember that soon we will sigh a breath of relief as our comprehensive nerves come together with the finishing touches before our very eyes. All the hard work, sweat and tears that we have poured into (and maybe onto) our projects will be worth it once that eight minute presentation is over.

Just think back to last semester, when we were second-semester juniors, dreaming of the day our senior comps would commence, picking topics and writing literature reviews. Those were the days.

As we look back from where we began to where we are now, one month stands in our way of that buzz our professors call “senioritis.” This next month will be intense. Many of us will find our walls of mental strength begin to crack. But fear not, friends, we will prevail in the end.

Forget about the next few weekends being the busiest you’ve ever had. Forget about the upcoming weeks being cramped with finals preparation. Forget that you may not end up at Brothers or O’Rourke’s until spring semester. You are almost there. You must keep going; you must not quit.

My fellow communication majors, we are almost there. So close to the end that you can smell the sweet scent of freedom knocking on our doors. All will be right in the world once again, just keep on going my friends.

CJ’s and Finny’s will have to wait. The bouncer with the bar handle mustache will understand. We must keep going; we must not quit.

Smicks, I know you can do this. I have faith in you. I am rooting for you all like you are all rooting for me. We have to stick together and finish what we came to Saint Mary’s to do. That clock is ticking. Once it hits the end, graduation day is here.

Only one more month to go, ladies. One more month and we will be on our way to the “real world.” Friends, let’s get this done. Let’s finish these comps. Let’s celebrate because we deserve to.

Only one more month! We can do it.

Contact Jillian Barwick at jbarwi01@saintmarys.edu

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

Re-elect Barack Obama

Adam Newman
Science Feminism Est

“This is our moment. This is our time — to put our people back to work and open doors of opportunity for our kids; to restore prosperity and promote the cause of peace; to reclaim the American Dream and reaffirm that fundamental truth — that out of many, we are one; that while we breathe, we hope, and where we are met with cynicism and doubt and those who tell us that we can’t, we will respond with that timeless creed that sums up the spirit of a people: Yes, we can.”

This is an excerpt from the victory speech delivered by President-elect Barack Obama at Grant Park in Chicago, Ill. It was seen as a historic night not only because America had elected their first African-American president, but also because they elected a man who had the ability to be a “transformative president.” Four years later, many people do not believe, or are unsure if Barack Obama should be re-elected. To those, I present the case to re-elect President Barack Obama.

Obama came into office in the middle of the worst economic crisis in our lifetime. The stock market had declined from its high of over 14,000 points in October 2007 to 7,949 the day he took office. In the fourth quarter of 2008, the economy contracted at a rate of nine percent, and when he took office it was contracting at a rate of seven percent. In the first three months of his presidency, the economy lost an average of 750,000 jobs. While politically unpopular, the Recovery Act (better known as the stimulus) helped stop the decline through tax breaks, infrastructure projects and assistance to states. Within months, the economy had come back from the brink and was growing. Jobs growth would come later — albeit not as strongly as hoped. The CBO estimated that as a result of the stimulus, between 1.5 and 3.3 million more people were employed. Unemployment was between 8.7 and 1.7 percent lower than it would have been without it and the level of GDP was higher by up to 4.5 percent.

Against political advice and lessons from history, Obama took on health care reform. Many people believe that this was a mistake during an economic downturn. But these people are misinformed. America’s health care system is a ticking time bomb that needs reform, and the only time a president can do it is in his first two years in office.

Health care reform has been attempted by seven other presidents, including FDR. All have failed, but Obama succeeded in pushing for universal coverage while helping contain costs in the long term.

Obama has many other successes. He restructured the auto industry, which helped provide liquidity during the worst of the recession when private firms — like Bain Capital — would not loan money. Obama passed the repeal of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” and was withstood the president of the United States.

Adam Newman is a senior political science major. He can be reached at anewman3@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“I think of a hero as someone who understands the degree of responsibility that comes with his freedom.”

Bob Dylan
U.S. singer & songwriter

WEIGHTLY POLL

How did you spend your extra hour from daylight savings?

Tweet your response with #ViewpointPoll by 5 p.m. Thursday

Submit a Letter to the Editor | Email obsviewpoint@gmail.com
Ava Lee
Student International Business Council

Every time I tell people that I was in China over fall break, I get the same surprised response: “Why in the world did you go all the way to China?” I’m not sure if it’s the fact that a group of us went abroad for a school trip, or simply the fact that we went to China leads to such a response, but it truly was one of the most rewarding experiences I’ve ever had. While there, we have had a chance to see how China has progressed and to understand the cultural differences between our two countries. I believe that we all have been taught that China is a large country, with many people, and that it is a part of Asia. But after spending two weeks there, I think we all have a better understanding of the country.

Lessons from Peking University

For our case projects with Chinese students at internet cafes off campus, visited well-known Chinese companies and bargained for Chinese souvenirs (and street food). It was also challenging because it was many of the students’ first time in China and, beyond the language barriers, there were the various degrees of cultural differences. While this was a big part of the challenge, it was also the single factor that made this trip so rewarding. Most of us agreed that the best part of the trip was the opportunity to meet and make new friends with students at Peking University. Junior Bobby Weltner said, “It was extremely interesting to learn about the similarities and differences between our two cultures and to discuss the different ways that the American and Chinese students viewed the issues that were presented to us in the case competition.” Sophomore Alishia Anderson said, “I’ve begun to realize that the pursuit of excellence, happiness and efficacy is not necessarily those of The Observer.

Futon thoughts

As I lay sprawled on my futon for the third time in a day, making no attempt to do work, I can’t help but feel a little bit like a loser. Self-diagnosed with a sprinkle of “senioritis,” a smidge of laziness and a more concerning, stronger dose of overall apathy to my own life and its direction, I picture my mind as a small, eerie shack atop a steep hill. The lights are off, it’s freezing, my own Frankenstorm has commenced.

Maybe it’s typical of this time in life, with graduation so imminent, to feel so vehemently exhale, and so overwhelmingly apprehensive. Instead of allowing myself to process any of that, though, for the past few months I’ve watched the lights in that room flicker weakly, finally burning out. What is this apathy I’ve been feeling? The disconnect not only to the world, but to people in it? Not returning calls, not finishing homework on time, not starting applications for things I truly do want. A dreary, self-pitying perma-cloud over my own melting brain. What’s changed?

I’ve begun to realize that the pursuit of excellence, happiness and efficacy is not

In 1987, science fiction became reality. In this reality, what exactly constituted “food” changed, and consumers have since been left in the dark about what they eat. As the world watches and waits for the results of the 2012 presidential election, Proposition 37 in California, which would mandate the labeling of genetically modified organisms (GMOs), has been largely ignored.

A quick rundown of statistics is startling: 88 percent of U.S. corn, 90 percent of canola, 90 percent of cotton and 94 percent of soy are genetically modified. This results in a supermarket where over 70 percent of the products contain GMOs.

That statistic is worth repeating: More than 70 percent of foods in the United States are genetically modified. The future has arrived, and it is all around us.

The science fiction began at Calgene, a biotech firm now owned by Monsanto, whose scientists opened the door to a new food and agricultural revolution. The Green Revolution of the 1950s and 1960s increased crop yields and expanded the industrialized food system, fundamentally changing food at the molecular level.

Calgene created the Flavr Savr tomato, the first commercial GMO. This tomato unleashed a wave of genetic modification that has resulted in a food system dominated by GMOs.

GMOs have been designed to resist pesticides sprayed on fields, ironically allowing more to be sprayed, have longer shelf lives, be more tolerant to stress and even contain pesticides within the plant itself.

The benefits have been unparalleled...
Kevin Noonan
Scene Editor

Conflicted, I am. Disney’s $4 billion takeover of Lucasfilm this week leaves “Star Wars” fans in a state of confusion reaching intergalactic levels.

As the youngest of four, including two older brothers who grew up in the 80s and showed me PG-13 movies long before I turned 13 years old when our mom wasn’t looking (I was quite the rebel), “Star Wars” was a cornerstone of my childhood pop culture experience. And, like most fans, it was more than just the films that made it special. I had Luke Skywalker and Han Solo action figures, a Lego model of the Millennium Falcon, film posters and all kinds of other merchandise. As a now cynical “adult,” I sometimes look down my nose at the merchandizement (I made that word up), but in the spirit of what we’re talking about, I’m going to charge royalty ties out the wazoo if anyone tries to use it of that vague, crotchety old man idea of “kids these days.” But I’m a hypocrite, because the “Star Wars” merchandization was a central part of my playtime when I was growing up.

And so I’m not sure how I feel about Disney taking over Lucasfilm. George Lucas may have revolutionized the entertainment industry when he got 20th Century Fox to let him hold onto the merchandise and sequel rights in his deal for the first “Star Wars” film, but Disney is without a doubt the main offender when it comes to turning every possible creative idea or brand into a line of gummi bears and backpacks. I can only imagine what the next three films in the “Star Wars” series will look like once Disney gets its filthy, dumbing down, mass appeal marketing hands on it.

Script idea: A cast of fresh-faced recruits is schooled in the ways of rebellion by the rough, gruff and tough Han Solo. Solo seems like an unlovable soul at first, but after time, the students begin to appreciate his tough love, and in the end, he learns as much from them as they do from him. Oh, and you know what? Turns out they can all sing, too. And dance. Acting though, they’re still working on it.

Back in the good old days of Disney, when Walt himself did pretty much whatever he wanted and nobody could stop him because he was Walt Disney and who the heck are you, the film studio might have been able to have a little fun with the implicated and overlooked make-out between Luke Skywalker and Princess Leia (brother and sister aka incest). Now though? They’ll probably write Luke out of the script to avoid having to deal with an issue like that. Bunch of wusses.

So they’ve announced three more movies. The rumors persisted for decades that Lucas had long planned for nine films total, so it’s not like this is completely out of the third moon of Endor (Before some punk writes a Letter to the Editor about how this is a bad reference because there isn’t a third moon of Endor since Endor is a moon itself, don’t!). But if there’s one thing above all at which Disney excels, it’s beating a dead horse into a powdery pulp, then turning it into glue and selling it to you. Tired of it?

You thought the “Spiderman” reboot came a little fast? Sony’s only making those movies because if they don’t do it every so often, the film rights transfer to Disney, and then Disney will be rebooting it every three years. This is the same studio that made “Cinderella 2.” You think they’re not above making “Star Wars 13: Luke Skywalker and the Cuddly Kittens of Coruscant?” Well, you’re wrong. Wow. That little hatefest escalated quickly.

Here’s the flipside. By selling Lucasfilm to Disney, George Lucas ensures the whole world that never, ever again will George Lucas be able to take something I love and douse it in gasoline and put a match to it (see: “Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull,” “Star Wars” Episodes I, II and III and the “South Park” episode entitled “The China Problem”). There is no question about Lucas’s genius, or at least former genius. He created two of the greatest film franchises in history, “Star Wars” and “Indiana Jones.” But following the release of what should have been the final installment in the Indiana Jones, “Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade,” in 1989, for which Lucas was an executive producer, he’s channeled out notably below-average work.

The 90s saw him create the “young indiana Jones” chronicles television series, which beloved by some, was nowhere near the quality of the films. He has rereleased the original three “Star Wars” films a number of times, making small adjustments and updates, drawing aggressive ire from hardcore fans.

He directed the second installment of “Star Wars” trilogies, which perhaps were hated more than they deserved but still failed to live up to the legendary quality of the originals. And then there was the terribly ridiculous and ridiculously terrible “Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull.” It gives me shivers just thinking about it. And as if that wasn’t bad enough, they’re making a fifth one. And Shia LaBeouf might be in it again.

Lucas once had the Midas touch when it came to creating films of epic nature and lasting greatness. He now has whatever the opposite of the Midas touch is — everything he touches turns to crap.

From that perspective, maybe it’s a good thing that Lucas can’t mess with these films any more. So the question then becomes, which is the lesser of two evils: Disney getting to turn “Star Wars” into the watered-down, riskless mush that is a Disney franchise, or George Lucas no longer being able to blindly ruin that which I love?

To be honest, I don’t know. It’s pretty cool of Lucas to donate the majority of the money from the sale to charity; I can’t fault him for that. And let’s be honest, I’m still going to see the movies. I’m going to line somebody’s pockets, no matter whose name opens the credits. So at the end of the day, maybe there isn’t a right answer.

It’s a trap.

Contact Kevin Noonan at knoonan2@nd.edu

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Observer.
One-yard Golson touchdown run wins wild contest as Irish overcome 14-point deficit

Sophomore quarterback Everett Golson throws a pass during Notre Dame's 29-26 win over Pittsburgh on Saturday. Golson throws two passing touchdowns and rushed for one of his own in the triple-overtime game.

TRIPLE-OVERTIME TRIUMPH

During most of the second half and overtime of Saturday’s game against Pittsburgh, No. 3 Notre Dame had small odds of ending the day undefeated.

Yet at the game’s conclusion, the scoreboard showed the Irish were still perfect: Notre Dame 29, Pittsburgh 26.

After the Irish (9-0) held the Panthers (4-5, 1-3 Big East) to a field goal in the opening portion of the third overtime, sophomore quarterback Everett Golson plunged into the end zone on a one-yard quarterback sneak to give Notre Dame its first 9-0 start since 1993 in a game that often seemed likely to hand the Irish their first loss of the season.

“We all believe in each other,” Irish senior running back Theo Riddick said. “I think we showed a lot of courage and a lot of belief out there today, because there were a lot of times we could have gave up.”

Pittsburgh and Notre Dame traded field goals in the first overtime and the Irish started with possession in the second overtime, driving to the Pittsburgh two-yard line. On second-and-goal, senior running back Cierre Wood dove into the end zone but fumbled before the goal line and the Panthers recovered.

Pittsburgh gained nine yards on its first three plays of the second overtime and lined up for a game-winning 33-yard attempt, but Panther kicker Kevin Harper pushed the ball wide right, setting up the Irish triumph in the next overtime session.

“We had an opportunity there, a golden opportunity,” Pittsburgh coach Paul Chryst said. “We didn’t get it done.”

The missed Panther field goal was not the only close call the Irish escaped. Down 20-6 early in the fourth quarter with the ball at Pittsburgh’s 23-yard line, Golson threw an incomplete pass toward senior tight end Tyler Eifert on 4th-and-4, but Pittsburgh junior defensive back K’Waun Williams committed pass interference.

The next play, Golson rolled to his right and slung the ball across the field to junior receiver TJ Jones, who raced to the end zone for an 11-yard touchdown. The extra point was good.

After the Irish defense stopped the Panthers, the Notre Dame offense took over on its two-yard line down eight with 9:57 left in regulation. Golson orchestrated a drive into the Pittsburgh red zone, but Williams intercepted the sophomore in the end zone with 3:59 remaining.

“It was just a bad pass,” Golson said. “It was a horrible read, but I think even with the read I made, if I get that ball up a little bit to [sophomore tight end] Troy Niklas, it’s a touchdown in back of the end zone.”

The Irish defense notched a three-and-out after the interception and Golson took over once again from the 59-yard line with 3:03 to play. On the first play of the drive, Golson bought time in the pocket before he heaved a 45-yard pass to sophomore receiver DaVaris Daniels.

“I think the whole week I’ve kind of been on DaVaris about when a play breaks down, improvising and just getting open, and he did it one time before,” Golson said. “But I was so fortunate that he did that. You know, that’s what I was just trying to do, was just improvise.”

The next play, Golson was flushed out of the pocket but found Riddick in the end zone to pull the Irish within two with 2:11 left in the fourth quarter. On the two-point conversion, Golson rolled to his right looking for a receiver before tucking the ball and diving for the end zone.

“It’s a three-pronged play,” Irish coach Brian Kelly said. “The first part of it is a sprint out, roll out, man-to-man, roller to [sophomore receiver] Robby Toma. The second element is a clear out and delay for Eifert to come back and then the third is the quarterback to keep it.”

The Irish drove 60 yards on the game’s opening drive, but were forced to settle for a 37-yard field goal from sophomore kicker Kyle Brindza. Pittsburgh senior running back Ray Graham broke a 55-yard run on the Panthers’ first play from scrimmage, which led to a Harper field goal to tie.

The Irish sustained another long drive that reached the one-yard line but again mustered three points. The Panthers responded with a 16-yard touchdown run by Graham to take a 10-6 lead with 3:55 left in the half. Despite a 43-22 advantage in the number of plays and possession of the ball for 19:26 in the first half, the Irish went into halftime down 10-6.

Notre Dame began the second half with junior Tommy Rees at quarterback. But after a Rees interception on the second drive of the half, Kelly chose Golson the rest of the way.

“Everett missed a number of things that we thought he needed to have down by this time,” Kelly said. “[I] brought Tommy in, had an untimely turnover and went back to Everett.”

Pittsburgh extended its lead to 17-6 when redshirt senior quarterback Tino Sunseri found freshman tight end J.P. Holtz on a nine-yard touchdown pass.

Later in the third quarter, the Panthers drove deep in Notre Dame territory after a 48-yard run from Graham, but the Irish defense stiffened and held Pittsburgh to a field goal.

Notre Dame carried that momentum the rest of the game, as Pittsburgh gained only 21 total yards in the fourth quarter and overtime combined.

“We went back to the basics,” senior captain and linebacker Manti Te’o said. “If [Graham is] running in your gap, stay in your gap. We understand Ray Graham is a really good running back ... and in the fourth quarter, we said, ‘Everybody, stay in your field, do your responsibility and let Ray do what he can.’”

Though Notre Dame’s performance was subpar at times, the Irish remained one of just six undefeated teams in the FBS.

“It feels great,” senior captain and tackle Zack Martin said. “That’s the biggest message in that locker room. We’re 9-0. We’re still undefeated. And although we had a lot of mistakes and we have a lot of things to clean up, we’ve still got that ‘zero’ on our record.”

The Irish look to secure a double-digit win season for the first time since 2006 when they travel to Chestnut Hill, Mass., to face Boston College on Saturday at 8 p.m.

Contact Sam Gans at sgans@nd.edu

PLAYER OF THE GAME

EVERETT GOLSON

NOTRE DAME QUARTERBACK

Despite being briefly benched by Irish coach Brian Kelly, Golson returned to the field midway through the third quarter and led the Irish back from a 20-6 deficit with a superb second half of play. The sophomore totaled 382 total yards and accounted for three touchdown-downs. His run on a crucial two-point conversion set up overtime.
Quarters

B

Despite being benched in the second quarter due to poor play, Golson returned to lead a monumental comeback. He threw a crucial late interception but atoned with a tying touchdown pass and two-point conversion run.

Running backs

B+

Riddick led the Irish backs with a workhorse performance in the backfield. He had 22 carries for 85 yards and caught the crucial game-tying touchdown in the waning minutes of the fourth quarter.

Receivers

B+

Sophomore DaVaris Daniels had a breakout performance, catching seven balls for 86 yards. His mid-air adjustment on a Golson deep ball led to a 45-yard reception and set up Riddick’s tying score on the next play. Tyler Eifert was dependable on third down.

Offensive line

A-

Golson took only one sack and had time to maneuver on key plays late. The left side of the line — Zack Martin and Chris Watt — began to dominate in the run game late, as Riddick and Cierre Wood found space to the left.

Defensive line

A-

Starting defensive ends Kapron Lewis-Moore and Stephon Tuitt were menaces to Pittsburgh quarterback Tino Sunseri all game, each recording 1.5 sacks. Louis Nix played through illness and recorded half a sack and four tackles in a nice effort.

Linebackers

B-

Pittsburgh running back Ray Graham rushed for 172 yards and much of that falls on some missed tackles at the second level. Senior Manti Te’o did not have his usual highlight reel turnover, and Danny Spond got beat on J.P. Holtz’ touchdown in the third quarter.

Defensive backs

B

KeiVarae Russell continued his breakout freshman year by playing the hero on an early Ray Graham run, posting a downhill tackle. For the most part, the group did a good job containing Pittsburgh’s receivers on the edge.

Special teams

C-

It was a rough day for Irish special teams. Brindza made a good job containing Pittsburgh’s receivers on the edge.

Coaching

B+

Brian Kelly commended his coaching staff after the game — they’re continuing to grow and get better every week, and given another offseason or two, many of the young players will be among the best talents in the country.

We haven’t even mentioned sophomore running back George Atkinson, freshman safety Nicky Baratti, sophomore running back Cam McDaniel or freshman receiver Chris Brown, all of whom have contributed in big ways in the last two weeks. Freshman receivers Davonte’ Neal and Justin Ferguson have all sorts of big-play ability waiting to be unleashed, and freshman running back Will Mahone could be a better backfield bruiser than either Robert Hughes or Jonas Gray. Freshman linebacker Romeo Okwara is as athletic as they come, and freshman tackle Ronnie Stanley will be able to step right into the starting lineup. If Irish coach Brian Kelly can keep recruiting this way — and early reports of the 2013 class suggest he can — the Irish will be able to compete for BCS berths year after year after year.

A 9-0 record is certainly worth celebrating. So too is Notre Dame’s sudden resurgence near the top of the polls. But beyond that, the play of the young Irish is worth celebrating too — and it looks like it’ll be worth celebrating for years to come.

Contact Allan Joseph at ajoseph2@nd.edu

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

Irish youth movement on display in Pittsburgh win

In that nerve-wracking, thrilling and gutty win over Pittsburgh on Saturday, No. 3 Notre Dame saw its hopes for a national title run stay alive by prevailing in triple overtime. But in a larger sense, the Irish (9-0) saw their hopes for perennial national contention come to life, too.

From sophomore quarterback Everett Golson to freshman safety Elijah Shumate, from sophomore defensive end Stephon Tuitt to freshman corner KeiVarae Russell (and don’t forget sophomore receiver DaVaris Daniels and sophomore safety Matthias Farley), young players contributed all over the field at Notre Dame Stadium, just as they have all season.

With the exception of Tuitt, every single one of the players above is in his first year of eligibility. At any other school, they’d all be either “true freshmen” or “redshirt freshmen.” Terminology aside, the young guys can play. And that bodes well for the trajectory of the Notre Dame program — for this January and beyond.

Flash back a couple months ago. Question marks abounded all over the roster. Would Golson be able to make big plays while avoiding costly mistakes? Would a young secondary missing two experienced starters to injury (senior safety Jamoris Slaughter and junior cornerback Lo Wood) be able to slow down, much less stop, opposing passing games? Would the defensive line be able to create pressure after Aaron Lynch transferred to South Florida?

In the last two games, those questions have been emphatically answered. Golson may have thrown a bad interception in the fourth quarter Saturday, but the Irish would have lost against both Oklahoma and Pittsburgh if it weren’t for the young quarterback’s athleticism and ability to make something out of nothing. Russell, Farley and freshman safety Elijah Shumate have excelled all expectations — just ask Landry Jones. And Tuitt? Well, that’s the easiest answer of them all.

There were growing pains, of course. Golson struggled early, especially against Michigan. He made a slew of freshman mistakes: fumbles, interceptions and missed reads. But with a steady work ethic despite the controversy swirling around his competition with junior Tommy Rees, Golson found his stride in spectacular fashion midseason.

The secondary didn’t face much competition until the opening series against Miami, when the young guns let Phillip Dorsett behind them twice in three snaps. Only Dorsett’s acute case of the drops saved the Irish from real embarrassment, but Russell, Farley and Shumate adjusted quickly, never allowing Miami quarterback Stephen Morris to find open receivers again.

Three-quarters of the way through the season, the young players are no longer green.
ND thriving in close games

By JACK HEFFERON
Sports Writer

Notre Dame has played 16 games decided by a touchdown or less since the arrival of third-year coach Brian Kelly. The Irish went 2-5 in the first seven such games under Kelly, but are 8-1 since then. Saturday’s 14-point comeback in the fourth quarter is the largest the Irish have overcome under Kelly and their biggest fourth-quarter comeback since Notre Dame trailed Michigan State 37-21 and came back to win 40-37 in 2006.

Over the century mark

Over the course of Saturday’s game, Notre Dame tied the school record of 104 offensive plays. The Irish also ran that many against Iowa in 1968. The Irish also recorded their longest scoring drive of the season, but managed just a field goal to grab a 6-3 lead in the second quarter.

The drive took a time of possession of 9:26, which it the program’s longest scoring drive in at least 15 seasons. In total, the Irish ran 44 more offensive plays than Pittsburgh, who ran just 62. The imbalance led to the Irish holding an advantage in time of possession, holding the ball for 35:23 in regulation.

Contact Jack Hefferon at whefferon@nd.edu

SCORING SUMMARY

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PITT/ND STATISTICS

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Time of Possession

| 24:37 | 35:23 |
INSIDER

Senior linebacker Prince Shembo celebrates a sack of Pittsburgh quarterback Tino Sunseri as his teammates look on. Shembo had a busy day during Notre Dame’s 29-26 victory over Pittsburgh, with eight tackles — two for a loss — and one sack on the day. The Irish defense gave up the most points it has all season, but held Sunseri to 19 yards passing in the fourth quarter.

JOHN NING | The Observer

Senior linebacker Manti Te’o combines with a teammate to corral a Pittsburgh receiver downfield.

MACKENZIE SAIN | The Observer

Sophomore linebacker Everett Golson winds up to throw a pass with a Pittsburgh defender approaching.

AVOIDING THE UPSET

The Irish improved to 9-0 Saturday for the first time since 1993 in a wild 29-26 triple-overtime victory over Pittsburgh. Notre Dame overcame a 14-point deficit in the fourth quarter and survived a 33-yard field goal attempt by Pittsburgh kicker Kevin Harper in the game’s second overtime that could have ended its undefeated run.

JOHN NING | The Observer

Sophomore running back George Atkinson catches the ball and prepares to return a kick.

MACKENZIE SAIN | The Observer

Senior running back Theo Riddick attempts to score a touchdown with multiple Pittsburgh defenders dragging him to the ground. Riddick had 85 yards rushing.

MACKENZIE SAIN | The Observer

Junior linebeaker Prince Shembo celebrates a sack of Pittsburgh quarterback Tino Sunseri as his teammates look on. Shembo had a busy day during Notre Dame's 29-26 victory over Pittsburgh, with eight tackles — two for a loss — and one sack on the day. The Irish defense gave up the most points it has all season, but held Sunseri to 19 yards passing in the fourth quarter.

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Freshman wide receiver Chris Brown goes up for a contested ball on a Golson pass down the field. Brown did not record a catch in the Irish win.

KIRBY MCKENNA | The Observer

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Freshman wide receiver Chris Brown goes up for a contested ball on a Golson pass down the field. Brown did not record a catch in the Irish win.
Pop pop! Fellow Greendale Human Beings can finally rejoice! NBC’s beloved (but not quite a hit) sitcom “Community” has finally planned a return date for its Season 4 premiere.

The series was originally planned to air Oct. 19, but according to an online video released by the cast, the powers that be “couldn’t decide WHERE to put Oct. 19” (putting Oct. on Oct. 19 would be logical … and wrong). Cast members Donald Glover (Troy) and Danny Pudi ( Abed) soothed angered fans by explaining Oct. 19 isn’t just a date — it’s a state of mind and a feeling within us all (“That feeling you get when you see a kitten climb out of a cardboard box on YouTube? That’s Oct. 19.”)

Thankfully, NBC announced this past week that Oct. 19 has found its place: Feb. 7.

Many fans of the series were disappointed to hear NBC would delay the “Community” premiere date after already giving them an extended midseason hiatus last season. It’s a wise move for the network to push back the show, because if “Community” (and its fellow delayed sitcom, “Whitney”) did air on their originally planned date, the series would fall into NBC’s Friday lineup.

“Community,” despite being a hysterical sitcom, has struggled with ratings since its beginning and placing the series in a Friday time slot would only continue to hurt the show.

Sure, it’s a few more months of waiting, but if it means giving “Community” the chance to be relocated into higher-profile night like Thursday, then I feel it’s worth the delay.

“Community” doesn’t have the seniority or ratings of some of the network’s other shows, including “The Office” and “Parks and Recreation,” and until their ratings start to improve, they’ll continue to fall victim to marketing pushes (making room to test out new shows). Between delays and low ratings, long-time “Community” fans also have to deal with the frustration of series creator Dan Harmon being replaced as show-runner (you really Britta’d that one, NBC), leaving fans to question the future quality of the series.

Despite these worries, Greendale lovers should stay faithful that the series will continue to be the same pop-culture packed, quick-witted and hilarious series that we fans have come to adore these past few years.

As great of a show as “Community” is, it’s still teetering on the edge of cancellation. The show certainly has plenty of competition, but in my opinion, it triumphs over most of the sitcoms currently on television.

That being said, I implore you all to watch “Community” on its return date this upcoming February. Regardless of whether you’re already devoted fan or you’ve never given the show a chance, this is a show that deserves to be watched. From its fast-paced and clever humor to the standout performances of its ensemble cast, there’s little about this show to be criticized.

“Community” is a show that makes a mockery of traditional television storytelling (“That’s it! We’re doing a bottle episode!”) and is never afraid to step outside of the box (and into the Imaginarium). They’ve ripped off anime, video games, PBS documentaries and countless movies, and the results always deliver on the laughs.

Every episode is an adventure and it’s always a treat to spend those 22 minutes with one of these most hilarious and talented casts currently on TV. At its heart, it’s a show about finding a place and being loved for exactly who you are.

I have loved the show since it’s beginning and can say that very few shows are as creatively ambitious, warm and consistently hilarious as “Community” is.

Contact William Neal at wneal@nd.edu

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

By MEGAN FINNERAN
Sports Writer

For the first time in six years, Notre Dame beat No. 18 Purdue on Friday, pushing its record to 1-0084 and sophomore Nick Nemetz's first in the one-meter dive were the remaining top places for the Irish.

“We had been saying all week we could win if we went out and raced well,” Johnson said. “We came out strong and didn’t let off.”

The Irish have the week to enjoy the win before returning to competition. They continue next weekend in the Rolfs Aquatic Center, starting with Pittsburgh on Friday and concluding with Louisville on Saturday.

Contact Megan Finneran at mfinnera@nd.edu

SPORtS AuthORitY

We all have one — that one athlete (or coach or even celebrity or politician) whose very name makes you want to cry like a small child.

“John Terry is a defender and captain of Chelsea F.C. He was a member of the English national team from 2003 until this September and had two different stints as captain. After that story came to light in 2010, Wayne Bridge, the new-former teammate, refused to play for England. (This is how Terry lost his team captaincy the first time.)

For a “smart” player, Terry has a history of overly aggressive play and was suspended for the Champions League final and semi-final earlier this year because he drove a van at a fellow player. Right now, Terry is serving a four-game ban for racially abusing Queens Park Rangers defender Anton Ferdinand (This incident and the ensuing legal case is what cost Terry the English captaincy for the second time.)

A New York Times feature published two weeks ago mentioned a flag flown by Chelsea supporters: “FT Captain, Leader, Legend.”

But where exactly is he leading his teammates? What example is he setting for them? He is certainly a legend — but are the stories that follow him the kind of stories Chelsea fans want to be associated with? What exactly does Terry have to do before Chelsea realizes that he is not the sort of person that they want to represent them? It’s time to name a new captain at Chelsea. In the past with someone who won’t get himself suspended on such a regular basis. And in the meantime we’ll have to bide our time until Terry retires. And then, finally, we won’t have to talk about him any more.

Contact Vicky Jacobson at vjacobse@nd.edu

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

If you or someone you love needs confidential support or assistance, please call Ann Whital at 1-0084 or Karen Kennedy at 1-0550. For more information, visit ND’s website at: health.support@nd.edu

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Young team falls in semis

By MATTHEW ROBISON
Sports Writer

The “baby Irish” found out their youth and raw talent could only take them so far. Friday, as No. 24 Notre Dame fell 1-0 to No. 10 Marquette in the Big East tournament semifinals in East Hartford, Conn.

The Golden Eagles (16-2-2, 9-0-1 Big East) scored on a header off a free kick with 18 minutes to play to solidify their spot in the Big East championship. They won the title Sunday.

“I think our problem was that we didn’t put two good halves together,” Irish freshman forward Crystal Thomas said. “We kind of came out a little bit slow in the first half.”

Playing complete games has been an issue for the Irish (13-5-2, 8-1-1), this season, and it will be something they have to address in preparation for the NCAA tournament.

“We need to have two good halves,” Thomas said. “We didn’t come out ready and they took advantage of that in the first half.”

The Golden Eagles didn’t have a shot on goal in the second half other than the header. Freshman goalkeeper Elise Hight had six saves in net for Notre Dame. Marquette narrowly edged Notre Dame 13-11 in the shoot out. But the Irish only managed two shots on goal.

“They got a lucky free kick in the second half and put it away so that kind of falls on us,” Thomas. “It wasn’t anything that they did. I think more of the responsibility is on the way we played.”

It was a physical game as well. The two teams combined for 30 fouls and freshman forward Cari Roccaro received a yellow card.

Thomas and three other Irish players were honored by the conference. The Big East named Roccaro the conference Rookie of the Year. She also was named to the first-team all-Big East team and the Big East All-Rookie team. Freshman defender Katie Naughton and Thomas each made the all-Rookie team — Thomas made the second team all-conference squad and Naughton made the third-team roster. Junior captain midfielder Mandy Laddish made second team all-Big East squad.

Today the NCAA announces the NCAA tournament bracket. As a ranked team, Notre Dame is expected to be in the bracket but their loss in the Big East tournament will hurt their seeding.

“We are very excited the NCAA tournament,” Thomas said.

The selection show starts at 4:30 p.m. today.

Feeling ready and confident in what our team can do. “Looking ahead, we are practicing really, really intensely,” Thomas said. “We are just going to go into this ready and confident in what our team can do.”

Contact Matthew Robison at mrobison@nd.edu

Individuals compete for Irish

By PETER STEINER
Sports Writer

The Irish continued their preseason schedule over the weekend with competition in the Garret Penn State Open on Saturday and Sunday.

Fencing against some of the nation’s top competition, Notre Dame left University Park, Penn., with 10 top-eight finishes between the men’s and women’s teams.

“I think we did very well,” senior James Kaull said. “I think it was a really encouraging tournament. It’s still very early on in the season so just want to see strong performances and a strong effort so I think everyone really gave that.”

With the men’s team competing Sunday, senior Jason Choy led the way in the saber event, bringing home a second-place finish. Junior Kevin Hassett followed Choy, ending in fifth. In men’s epee, junior Michael Rossi and Kaull placed sixth and seventh, respectively.

Though Choy was the sole medalist on the men’s team, two medalists emerged from the women’s team on Saturday as sophomores Nicole Ameli and Ashley Severson placed second and third in the women’s epee, respectively. The women’s team also received solid efforts from seniors Abigail Nichols and Lian Oster in the saber event. The pair earned fourth and fifth place, respectively.

“Nicole Ameli got second in epee and Ashley Severson got third in the epee and that was probably the most encouraging of all the results at the tournament,” Kaull said.

The 41st annual Garret Open included nine top fencing schools from around the United States. As a result, the Irish fencers could not take any opponent for granted, Kaull said.

“The competition was strong,” Kaull said. “There are no easy bouts in that tournament. Everyone has some level of skill. Every bout requires you utmost effort and requires you to pay attention. You just can’t walk over anybody.”

Similar to the Notre Dame Invitational last weekend against Ohio State in the Castellan Family Fencing Center, the event at Penn State served as a tune-up for the approaching regular season.

“A preseason tournament like this serves as a check,” Kaull said. “It’s just really an assessment of where you are in the year. You learn what you got beat on in this tournament and you try to cover up those holes moving forward.”

Contact Peter Steiner at psteiner@nd.edu
Cooley keys Irish exhibition victory

By MATTHEW DeFRANKS
Associate Sports Editor

After an easy 59-point win in their exhibition opener, the No. 22 Irish grinded out a 70-56 win in their preseason finale against Cardinal Stritch at Purcell Pavilion.

Senior forward Jack Cooley led Notre Dame with 15 points and 10 rebounds while freshman forward Cameron Biedscheid added 11 points off the bench.

Senior forward Jeremy D’Amico paced Cardinal Stritch with 26 points on 9-of-9 shooting, including a perfect 8-for-8 from behind the arc. D’Amico averaged 3.5 points last year and shot 17 percent from 3-point range.

“The last time somebody shot like was [former Irish guard Kyle] McAlarney against Syracuse in here,” Irish coach Mike Brey said. “The guy was rolling. Whatever they did with him, he’s a shooter, baby. He was great. He made tough ones and he got loose on some stuff too.”

In the first half, the Wolves shot 59 percent from the field and 54 percent from the 3-point line on their way to a 34-34 game at halftime.

“I think we were a little sleepy at halftime,” Cooley said. “Nothing was really clicking right. We knew we needed to go in at halftime and reset. Games like that are going to happen during the season so we have to learn to play through that and recover and have a good second half.”

In the second half, the Irish rebounded to hold Cardinal Stritch to 22 points and 35 percent shooting.

“At halftime, we just talked about cranking it up on defense,” Cooley said. “Just really tightening it up and not letting them have as many open shots.”

Notre Dame opened the second half on an 8-0 run highlighted by 3-pointers from junior guards Eric Atkins and Jerian Grant.

“I think that was good for us,” Atkins said. “We had to deal with a little bit of controversy because we didn’t have to deal with that at all in the first game, being up by 20 or 30 points.”

The Irish pushed their lead to 16 points with an 11-0 run over four minutes. Biedscheid capped the run with a flying alley-oop from Atkins.

“Cam really gave us a great lift and I was so glad to see him be part of that in the second half,” Brey said.

Biedscheid was part of an Irish bench that contributed 20 points, nearly a third of Notre Dame’s points.

“That’s a pretty good thing when your bench comes in and scores almost a third of your points,” Cooley said. “That’s pretty big.

“We’re a deep team. We’re deeper than we’ve ever been since I’ve been here,” Cooley said. “That’s pretty huge.”

Biedscheid came in a highly-touted recruit and the Missouri Gatorade Player of the Year last year. Brey said Biedscheid was further along than he expected him to be.

“What I’ve learned is that [junior center Garrick Sherman] and Cameron have joined [the rotation] fairly smoothly,” Brey said. “Cameron has joined it smoother than I thought he would by this time. I thought it would be more of a work in progress.”

Freshman guard Austin Burgett bruised his ankle during practice and Brey said he expects him back soon.

The Irish will open their season against Evansville on Saturday at the Purcell Pavilion.

Contact Matthew DeFranks at mdefrank@nd.edu
people take input from their fellow fighters. We are not going out for golden gloves, but we are there to have a really good time. [Nicknames] have a long history in the program. If a fighter doesn’t choose a name by a certain time, the captains have a little fun and get to choose a name so the fighters usually get the [their nicknames] in on time.”

Spaulding said the fans have a huge impact on the excitement of the bouts.

“Cheering us on and supporting us really makes the event energetic and brings awareness to the cause,” Spaulding said. “We enjoy fighting in front of our friends and family and we are breaking records of how much money we are raising— the fans are a large part of it.”

Overall, Leach said the bouts are a Notre Dame tradition.

“Baraka Bouts has such a storied history,” Leach said.

The Irish extended their winning streak to 10 as they completed the Garden State sweep with victories at Seton Hall and Rutgers this weekend.

The winning streak marks the longest for the program since their 15-game winning streak in 2009 and keeps them in a three-way tie for the Big East lead with Louisville and Marquette.

Despite being out-hit and out-blocked, the Irish (19-6, 12-1 Big East) defeated the Pirates 3-1 in a gritty performance on Friday.

Sophomore outside hitter Toni Alugbue led the team with 17 kills and 13 digs in the game. She also got help from junior setter Maggie Brindock, who recorded her 10th double-double with 51 assists and 11 digs.

The team also received solid contributions from sophomore right side hitter Jeni Houser who recorded 16 kills and freshman libero Taylor Morey who had 21 digs, seven assists and two service aces.

The Irish then travelled down to New Brunswick, N.J., to take on the Scarlet Knights on Sunday afternoon.

The team got off to a slow start, but, despite the shaky beginning, coach Debbie Brown said the team never lost confidence and believed they could get back in the match.

The team extended their conference winning streak to 10 as they defeated Rutgers 3-1 on Sunday afternoon.

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**Irish skate to series split**

By ISAAC LORTON
Sports Writer

After falling 3-2 to No. 11 Western Michigan on Friday night and then No. 7 Irish fought back Sunday to shut out the Broncos 4-0.

On Friday, the Irish were unable to capitalize on power plays, the Broncos scored twice with the man advantage, including the game-winner by junior center Chase Balisy early in the third period. The second period was the key in the game, as Notre Dame out shot two goals and was unable to pull itself out of the hole in the third.

“The second period was definitely the difference to the game,” Jackson said. “We played a decent first and we played with some urgency in the third, but the power play goal hurt. That’s a problem. That’s been our problem a little bit this year at times. We have momentum going and take a penalty and the whole game changes and that that happened again in the third period tonight.”

In the first minute of the third period, junior defense man Stephen Johns passed the puck through the middle third, where it was tipped by junior left-winger Jeff Costello to se nior captain Anders Lee, who backhanded a one-time shot into the left corner. Shortly after gaining momentum, the Irish lost it when senior left-winger Nick Larson was called for a penalty for incidental contact to the head.

Forty seconds into the pen alty, Balisy cut through the Notre Dame defense in front of the net uncontested and re ceived a pass from freshman defense man Kenney Morrison and placed the puck in the right corner past Irish junior goal tender Steven Summerhays.

Sophomore go altender Frank Slubowski had 35 saves, while Summerhays amassed 22.

“[Slubowski] was very good,” Jackson said. “[Western Michigan] killed penalties and blocked a lot of shots. We made some changes going into the third that helped. ... In the third period we shot the puck and we had a better net presence.”

The Irish were a complete ly different team Sunday night, as they routed Western Michigan 4-0.

“It’s the way we need to play at home,” Jackson said. “I am very pleased with the way we played. I would love to be able to say we did the same thing Friday night. We played with a lot of intensity and did a good job with the puck.”

The Irish maintained pos session most of the game and were able to get out to an early lead in the first period. On a power play, senior defense man Sam Calabrese passed the puck to sophomore right -winger Austin Wuthrich in the offensive zone. Wuthrich passed it from the left side of the ice to freshman cen ter Steven Fogarty, who then placed the puck top left shelf past Slubowski. The Irish are 6-0 when they score first, but 0-2 when they fall behind.

“It seemed like tonight we had a lot more energy than [Western Michigan],” Lee said. “When you start a game off with a power play goal and you get a lot of shots in the first, you definitely are able to control from the get go.”

Unlike Friday, the Irish owned the second period. In the second minute of play, ju nior right-winger Bryan Rust was able to make a steal in the offensive zone, wrapped around the net and passed it across the face of the goal to Lee, who was able to easily tap it in the open right side of the net.

Costello was the next to get a goal, as he received a pass from Johns threaded between two defenders and put it between Slubowski’s legs. Slubowski was replaced by freshman goalie Lukas Hafner. Lee got his second goal of the night when he lobbed the puck into an empty net to ice the game.

Summerhays only faced 14 shots the whole game and was able to come up with the clean sheet, but Slubowski and Hafner saw 35 shots. “[The lack of shots] was due to puck possession,” Jackson said. “People get confused when you have a great defensive team like I have had in the past everybody wants to say you play a defensive style, but that’s not true when you possess the puck. And that’s the best way to limit the opp onent’s opportunities. ... Our game was more about puck possession than defense.”

The Irish are happy to get the win, Lee said, as they continue a tough November stretch at No. 1 Boston College and at No. 8 Michigan.

“It’s a huge win because that brutal stretch started [last] Friday,” Lee said. “Western is a great team and they will be there at the end of the year.”

The Irish began their grueling road trip in Boston, as they look to upset the Golden Eagles this Friday.

Contact Isaac Lorton at ilorton@nd.edu

**Hoden lifts ND into semifinals**

By JOSEPH MONARDO
Sports Writer

After falling behind 2-0, the No. 5 Irish nailed four straight goals to overpower Syracuse in the Big East quarterfinals Saturday. The Irish advanced to the conference semifinals to face No. 6 Connecticut on Friday.

Notre Dame (14-3-1, 5-2-1 East) captured the victory behind an outstanding performance from freshman mid fielder Patrick Hodan, who had two goals and an assist against the Orange (12-6-0, 5-3-0). The four goals scored by Notre Dame represented the largest offensive output by any Irish team in Big East tournament play.

The Irish fell behind in the 15th minute when Orange senior midfielder Ted Crably deposited the home team’s first goal. The Orange trailed 1-0 at halftime and allowed a second goal in the 49th minute, this one to senior midfielder Louis Clark. Orange senior forward Lars Muller as sisted on both Syracuse scores.

“We actually didn’t play too badly,” Irish coach Bobby Clark said of his team’s first-half play. “[When they scored the first goal] we were actually attack ing and when we topped the ball over the half and they just trans itioned very quickly and very well. And then we actually got ourselves in the game and were playing reasonably well — couldn’t get any goals but we were playing pretty well. And then I think we kind of fell into our own about our situation, even a goal down.”

The Irish defended conditions played a part in Syracuse’s sec ond goal early in the second half, Clark said. “[At the start of the second half, Louis Clark] hits a shot, a decent shot, but it was one I think normally Patrick Wall would save, but he slipped. ... He moved to the save and his foot came out from under him. Suddenly we were 2-0 down.”

Clark said he was impressed with his team’s ability to fight back from the deficit in the second half. “I thought the team showed excellent character, I mean nobody missed a beat,” he said. “They rolled up their sleeves and got back to business and we re ally played superbly well in that second period.”

Notre Dame managed to put one past Syracuse freshman goalkeeper Alex Bono in the 63rd minute when Hodan netted a shot from 15 yards out. Nineteen seconds later Hodan delivered an assist on Irish senior mid fielder Kyle Richard’s goal to even the score.

In the 77th minute, the fresh man scored his second goal of the night — and sixth of the sea son — to put the Irish in the lead off an assist from senior forward Ryan Finley. Finley finished the night’s scoring with an insurance goal in the 84th minute to push the Irish advantage to 4-2. Junior forward Harrison Shipp assisted on the goal, Finley’s team-high sixth of the season.

“It was great to get the insur ance goal,” Clark said. “Harrison Shipp really did the work work for that goal and he slipped it to Ryan. Ryan tucked it away. Obviously once it was 4-2 with less than 10 minutes to go it was going to be over.”

After outsourcing Syracuse 4-1 in the closing period Notre Dame holds a 3-2 advantage over its opponents in second-half goals this season.

“Our big goals mainly come in the second half,” Clark said. “We think games sort of open up, games get split open in the second period of the game ... We’ve got a lot of really creative players and a lot of people come out from under their own at that time. And then of course you’ve got Ryan who is a lethal finisher.”

With a berth in the champi onship game on the line, Blue Division No. 3 seed Notre Dame will take on Blue Division No. 1 seed Connecticut on Friday in the Red Bull Arena in Harrison, N.J.

Contact Joseph Monardo at jmonardo@nd.edu

**PAID ADVERTISEMENT**

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**Irish senior defenceman Sam Calabrese skates during Notre Dame’s 4-1 win over Western Michigan.** 19.
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Happy Birthday: Put your heart on the line and own up to what you want and what you need. It’s no use crying in the rain in order to get your way. You can resolve unfelt business and disputes if you are sensitive to what everyone involved needs in order to move forward. Your ability to charm and please others will help you excel.

Your numbers are 6, 14, 21, 27, 33, 35, 41.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Travel, take on new projects, update your image and interact with others. The more you do, the more you will gain. There are opportunities waiting for you to discover and with a little enthusiasm and positive motivation, you will find happiness and satisfaction.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You’ve got plenty going for you, but you have to get past negativity that you harbor due to partnerships or the company you are keeping. Step outside the circle you are in and look at the possibilities that are around you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): If you feel inspired, perfect your ideas until you feel you can introduce what you’ve got to someone who may be interested in what you have to offer. A partnership will form suddenly. A past connection will play a role in your future.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Do what you can to help someone you care about. Your assistance will be appreciated and rewarded. Don’t let an unpredictable individual ruin your plans. Force is not the way to get what you want, nor is it something you should give in to.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Emotional spending will be your downfall. Put your money into learning or developing greater interest in your plans and your future. Life change and talk about what you want to do will get you nowhere. Take action.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Discipline will pay off. Keep your emotions intact, and strive to reach the goals you set regarding your personal life and the way you live. An idea you have can run into a lucrative endeavor. Trust your instincts and follow your heart.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You will get constructive feedback if you ask questions and share your findings. It’s what you share with others that will give you the expertise and confidence required to finish what you start. Don’t let an unexpected change ruin your plans.

Birthday Baby: You are entertaining and productive. You are unpredictable, adaptable and live in the moment.

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Baraka Bouts celebrates 10th anniversary

Program has provided much-needed aid to Holy Cross Missions in East Africa through fights

By PETER STEINER
Sports Writer

Baraka Bouts has exemplified all three aspects of this term for the last decade. The annual charity bouts have been a blessing to many deprived children in Uganda, exceedingly prosperous in charity and participation and an opportunity for young women to grow in mind, body and service.

This year’s 10th annual charity bouts mark the success of a program and tournament that started with humble beginnings, but has become a thriving athletic and charity organization.

While the women’s boxing program was founded in 1997, Baraka Bouts first began in 2002 with charity at the core of its mission. From its onset, the proceeds of the annual bouts have assisted the education of needy children by supporting the Holy Cross Missions in East Africa.

“Baraka Bouts has been a blessing to both the Notre Dame community, but most importantly to St. Joseph’s community in Uganda and all the other children in Uganda that have benefited from the donations we raise,” senior co-president Courtney Currier said.

Over its 10-year history, the prosperity of Baraka Bouts has grown immensely. From fundraising to the actual bouts, the event has recently advanced in many concrete ways.

“We are now a two-night tournament and we have over a hundred girls participating this year,” senior co-president Kat Leach said. “We changed from a Power Hour to our Power 24-Hour and raised close to $2,000 this year, which was incredible. I think the boxing gets better every year. The girls learn more and more and the bouts seem to be more competitive, cleaner and more technical each and every year.”

These improvements have clearly benefited the charitable aspect of Baraka Bouts. Last year the club widened the scope of its mission by supporting another secondary school in Uganda.

“We actually just expanded last year to start sending money to the Holy Cross Missions to support two different schools,” senior captain Brianna Kunicky said. “We used to just support the Lakeview Secondary School in Uganda, but now we also support the St. Joseph’s Hill Secondary School because we expanded our program to include two bout nights.”

Though Baraka Bouts helps many children abroad, the women’s boxing program also has a significant impact on the women stepping into the ring, Leach said.

“I think [Baraka Bouts] is a really unique Notre Dame experience,” Leach said.

Boxers learn sport, raise money for charity

By ISAAC LORTON
Sports Writer

The large mob of women often seen running around campus will finally step in the ring tonight, as the 10th annual Baraka Bouts around campus will often be seen running in the will begin.

The large mob of women often seen running around campus will finally step in the ring tonight, as the 10th annual Baraka Bouts around campus will often be seen running in the will begin.

The 109 fighters, ranging from an amateur to veteran skill level, who have gone through months of intense training. Senior co-president Kat Leach said the fight night is a culmination of numerous hours of practice and sparring in order to raise money for the Holy Cross Mission in Uganda to help improve education in secondary schools.

“Most often people come in with no experience and you learn from the bottom up and from your peers,” Leach said. “The combination of learning and teaching makes for a close knit group. Then there is the service aspect. You are not training and then fighting for yourself but to help others.”

Senior captain Grace Spaulding said Baraka Bouts is much more than the training and fight nights.

“The Baraka Bouts stands for the empowerment of people who can’t,” Spaulding said. “It helps educate people in Uganda, who do not have the means to do so. I also appreciate what it has done for women on campus. [Baraka Bouts] empowers women here at Notre Dame.”

Leach said this month-long experience of sacrifice produces an incredible experience for the fighters and the fans.

“All of the girls who participate are phenomenal,” Leach said. “The girls make the boxing so much fun and everyone has a blast. It’s the most challenging thing I’ve ever been a part of. The fans need to realize that many of the fighters come in having little or no experience and know nothing about boxing. At the fights we see real skill in boxing and technique and showcase what they learn.”

Spaulding said the captains have aimed to teach the girls in all aspects of boxing.

“We want to make sure they understand the fundamentals because it is a pretty technical sport,” Spaulding said. “We also want to build up [the fighters] confidence and believe in their ability when they go out there [Monday].”

The captains, under the leadership of Leach and other co-president senior Courtney Currier, have gone to great lengths to pair fighters in bouts that will make the fights competitive and entertaining, Spaulding said. The fighters are paired by ability and size.

“We spend a lot of time partnering the girls in pairs,” Spaulding said. “We want to make sure the fights are well matched. It makes for a unique night.”

Leach said the production of Baraka Bouts is a large group effort.

“Training and putting on Baraka Bouts comes from having great co-captains and a legacy of the fights,” Leach said. “We have amazing coaches and [captains] sacrifice their training time for others since it is a cause we are really passionate about.”

The fighters of the boxing club also come up with interesting and humorous names, which entertains the fans and gives fight night a good atmosphere, Leach said.

“Each and every year I’m delighted and surprised at how clever our fighters can be,” Leach said. “It’s usually an individual thing, but...