**Graduates teach in underprivileged schools**

**ACE participants promote Catholic education**

**By ANN MARIE JAKUBOWSKI**  
*News Writer*

The Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) Service through Teaching program at Notre Dame promotes learning from both sides of the classroom, providing education to students at Catholic schools nationwide while enabling their teachers to pursue master’s degrees through the University. Established in 1994, ACE sends Notre Dame graduates, among others, to Catholic

**TFA teachers foster students’ development**

**By MEL FLANAGAN**  
*News Writer*

One week ago, senior Chris Jacques received an email that read, “Congratulations.” Teach for America (TFA), a nonprofit education program that aims to eliminate educational inequality, recruits heavily from college seniors such as Jacques. The organization employs recent graduates and professionals to teach for two years in urban and rural public schools across the

---

**‘Signed, sealed, delivered’**

Center: Same-sex couple Shayna Kramer, left, and Larissa Sims, right, embrace amidst the confetti to celebrate President Barack Obama’s reelection at McCormick Place in Chicago in the early hours of Wednesday morning as the Stevie Wonder song “Signed, Sealed, Delivered” played over the speakers. Obama is the first president to openly endorse same-sex marriage, and voters legalized gay marriage in three more states Tuesday. Look to The Observer in coming days for more coverage of the 2012 election’s implications, and visit www.ndsmcobserver.com for a full photo gallery of pictures from election night festivities at McCormick Place in Chicago and the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center in Boston.

---

**Theologian speaks on link between sexuality, religion**

**By CAROLYN HUTYRA**  
*News Writer*

In a talk on sexuality and Catholicism, sponsored by the Gender Relations Center, theologian Terry Nelson Johnson actively engaged with audience members Wednesday night in the Joyce Center in hopes of going beyond “just another sex talk.” Johnson said his words were not aimed at providing information but rather at encouraging healing and transformation. “Sexuality is a gift, a threat, a force to be reckoned with,” Johnson said. “Sexuality is a mystery and that’s my contention.” Mysteries, such as sexuality, are bigger than people are, he said. Human beings are called to enjoy and enter into these mysteries but should not underestimate them. The point of mysteries is to acquaint people with them and

---

**‘Breaking Bad’**

**By KEVIN SONG**  
*The Observer*
QUESTION OF THE DAY:
Which Power Ranger would you be?

Kim Kirk  
junior  
Been Phillips Hall  
“The pink one because her name is Kimberly.”

Joey Brooks  
senior  
off campus  
“The green one.”

Mikelle Masciantonio  
junior  
Welsh Family Hall  
“The yellow one.”

DJ Boyd  
junior  
Fisher Hall  
“The black one.”

Terek Shir  
junior  
Carroll Hall  
“The black one.”

This Day in History: Jason Miller, a senior in Dillon Hall runs for the end zone during an interhall game against Morrissey. Although the crowd looks sparse, Notre Dame has one of the most competitive intramural sports programs in the nation.

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

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

THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

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

Thursday
“What’s Next for NASA?”  
Geddes Hall  
3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.  
AME Seminar with Col. Michael T. Good.

“Reflections on the Early Years of Coeducation at ND”  
Eck Visitors Center  
7:30 p.m.-9:15 p.m.  
Panel discussion.

Friday
“We Are Made Of Star Stuff”  
Jordan Hall  
7 p.m.-8 p.m.  
Digital Visualization Theater show.

Lecture: “Ethics in Contemporary Irish Journalism”  
424 Flanner Hall  
3 p.m.  
Part of Irish studies.

Saturday
Asian Allure  
Washington Hall  
5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.  
Celebrate Asian heritage and culture.  
$10 at the door.

Film: “Chicken with Plums”  
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center  
3 p.m.  
Directed by Jean Renoir.

Sunday
“The Servant of Two Masters”  
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center  
2:30 p.m.-5 p.m.  
Play by Carlo Goldini.

Film: “Grand Illusion”  
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center  
3 p.m.  
Directed by Jean Renoir.

Monday
Lecture: “The Maya Mysteries”  
DeBartolo Hall  
4:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.  
Study on archaeology, prophecy and fantasy.

Veteran’s Day Ceremony  
Fieldhouse Mall  
5 p.m.-6:30 p.m.  
Follows a 24-hour Vigil.  
Open to the public.
By MADDIE DALY

Student Senate heard about opportunities with Notre Dame's Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) program and passed resolutions about excused absences at Wednesday night’s meeting.

Notre Dame graduate Sarah Greene, from the ACE program, spoke about her experience teaching high school English. “I was an English major here at Notre Dame and went on to teach high school English in Mobile, Ala., for the ACE program,” Greene said. “ACE is a great option for teaching since it’s just two years and includes a Master of Education degree. Plus it prepares students well for teaching in Catholic schools.”

Greene saw this as an excellent opportunity for members of Senate because of their interest in leadership. “Teaching really cultivates my own leadership skills and I know that’s something you’ve been working to develop,” Greene said. “I encourage you to share those gifts, give them back to students in need. I just wanted to come and thank you for the service you do and let you know that we are located in Carole Sandner Hall. We have ample study space and plenty of smiling faces to welcome you.”

After thanking Greene for her information, the group invited sophomore Max Brown from the department of academic affairs to introduce two resolutions dealing with excused absence policies.

“The first issue we wanted to tackle is that regarding professional development,” Brown said. “A lot of times you have to interview for post-graduate opportunities or internships and the Career Center can help students get those excused absences. There are a lot of ways to get one for an interview, but essentially all of those excused absences are only for seniors. Specifically in today’s environment it is really important for undergrads to get those opportunities too.”

The group unanimously voted in favor of this resolution, and Brown expressed his approval. “I’m really glad you passed that last resolution. I think that it is really important for a lot of us in this room,” Brown said.

Secondly, Brown introduced a resolution concerning the class absence policy regarding death.

“Currently, when a loved one passes away it is very difficult to get an excused absence unless they are part of an immediate family,” Brown said. “That doesn’t seem to fit the bill for instances that demonstrate extenuating circumstances where the University should allow students to get excused absences. So we decided to add the ambiguous term ‘loved one’ to this section.”

Class of 2015 president Tim Scanlon asked how they came up with the specific addition of the term “loved one” in this resolution.

“We really thought a lot about how to define this. There are a lot of circumstances and it’s hard to define and name them all. We are using ‘loved one’ so that the definition is at the discretion of the administration” Brown said. “What it allows the administrators to do is to give students an excused absence even when the death is not an immediate family member but still some one very close. Also, they feel that they can have the power to ensure that this policy is not being abused.”

Every Senate member also voted in favor of the resolution. Student body vice president Katie Rose updated the group on last week’s discussion regarding the Career Center.

“After our discussion last week I had two very good meetings with some people at the Career Center,” Rose said. “Both were ridiculously productive, and a lot of the issues you brought up are going to be addressed. Thank you for your feedback; they were very appreciative.”

Chief of staff Katie Baker expressed her gratitude for the senators who worked for the Department of Gender Studies.

“Thank you for all your hard work last week during sexual assault awareness week,” Baker said. “The Time to Heal dinner was really amazing. I hope you guys were touched by it as much as we were.”

Contact Maddie Daly at mdaly6@nd.edu
Belles connect with area restaurants, businesses

By BRIDGET FEENEY
Associate Saint Mary’s Editor

Saint Mary’s students will get to taste and familiarize themselves with the services and products of food establishments throughout South Bend on Thursday night at the Taste of Saint Mary’s event from 8 to 10 p.m. in the Student Center Lounge. Student body president and senior Maureen Parsons said the Taste of Saint Mary’s, which is free to all students and sponsored by the Student Government Association (SGA), is designed to help attendees establish connections with local restaurants and businesses.

“The Taste of SMC is an event that allows local businesses to market their product or service to students,” she said. “(SGA) wanted to have the Taste of SMC to build a relationship between the students and the community of South Bend. It is an opportunity for students to learn about what is available in the community.”

Parsons said she believes the Taste of Saint Mary’s is a great way for students to enjoy some free food while also getting acquainted with local businesses and different ways to enjoy their services.

“The business can offer free samples, sell merchandise, provide their services or simply talk about their business,” she said. “(Some of the businesses) will be giving away free samples of their products.”

Several local businesses and restaurants are participating in the event, including Flourish Boutique, Papa John’s, Salon Nouveau, Urban Swirl, Salon Rouge and Biggby Coffee, Parsons said. While the event is free, as are most of the services, Flourish is selling some merchandise.

Parsons said the SGA organized the event by reaching out to businesses to gather an interest of which ones would want to participate in the event, then sent out informational packets to move the process along.

Parsons said she is hopeful this event will become an annual event and that more businesses will participate in the next one.

“We hope that students will learn more about what South Bend has to offer,” she said. “Many businesses in the community have a great student discount that our students are not aware of. We really want to start working with the community and building a relationship with businesses for the future.”
Dr. Terry Nelson-Johnson explored the connection between sexuality and Catholicism on Wednesday in the Joyce Center.

Kenzie Sain | The Observer

See more coverage online: ndsmcobserver.com
Forum illuminates sports marketing careers

TFA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

nation.

Jacques, who currently serves as an on-campus representative for the organization, said he was attracted to TFA because of its commitment to closing the achievement gap between students.

“Through my studies at Notre Dame and the [elementary and secondary schooling] minor, I came to realize the inequalities in our educational system, and I really wanted to do something about it,” he said.

Molly Sammon, class of 2012 and a member of the 2012 TFA Corps, said her time at Notre Dame influenced her decision to join TFA.

“I did a [Summer Service Learning Program at Notre Dame] that was aligned with education and education policy in Lawrence, Mass.,” Sammon said. “I saw what the kids in Lawrence had, what their schools looked like and the resources they were given … I knew education equality was a social change I really wanted to get behind.”

Sammon teaches college algebra and algebra II to high school special education students on the south side of Chicago, her home city. As an anthropology major with a minor in the John G. Gallivan Program in Journalism, Ethics and Democracy, Sammon said she was surprised, as well as doubtful, when she received her placement.

“I thought they would see my resume and think, ‘Okay, this girl needs to be an English teacher,’” she said. “If I had told myself senior year at Notre Dame that I was going to be a secondary math teacher I would have thought I was crazy.”

Despite her initial shock, Sammon committed to the program and said she has thoroughly enjoyed her past few months of teaching.

“It’s everything I wanted after graduation,” she said. “I love my job. It’s very tough, tougher than I ever thought and I work 12-hour days, but it’s incredibly worth it.”

The difficulties involved with teaching youth are endless, Sammon said. These difficulties are amplified when teaching youth from a rough, poverty-stricken neighborhood.

While she expected her high school students to be challenging, Sammon said she did not expect controlling their behavior to be as exhausting as it is. “I knew these were tough kids, but I thought at the beginning, ‘Oh this is going to be a cool fun job where I just go hang out with kids and teach them math,’” she said.

Just last week, Sammon broke up a physical fight between a male and female student in her classroom. She later held a conference with the two students, their parents and the dean during which she described to the students why their actions were unacceptable, she said.

Learning to be strict with young adults demands even more of an effort, Sammon said. “I like being nice and friendly and smiling,” she said. “I wanted to be that way with my students but I had to learn pretty quickly that I can’t be friends with all of them. They need a teacher who will get them in trouble when they need to be in trouble.”

Like Jacques, Sammon will also tentatively be teaching special education in Chicago. “I think [special education] adds an additional challenge, from learning the theories and pedagogies on how to teach special education,” he said. “It’s exciting to me though, something new is always exciting.”

Jacques expects to experience a number of difficulties during his time as a teacher. “For every fight, or every parent that yells at me, for every kid that swears at me, there is an equal and greater chance that a student looks at me and says, ‘Wow, no one’s ever taught me that before,’ and you see the realization of a child learning something,” she said.

“And I swear to you, it’s the greatest feeling on the planet.”

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Contact Methanangan at mflanagan3@nd.edu

By ADAM LLORENS

News Writer

Over 75 percent of the Notre Dame student body participated in a high school varsity sport. The University boasted one of the greatest college athletic programs in the country, its football team is ranked No. 4 in the nation and the interhall football program is one-of-a-kind.

Yet, the University offers no major related to the business side of sports for a student population generally interested in athletic competition.

Sponsored by the Marketing Club, the annual Sports Marketing Forum offers students a chance to discover opportunities in the industry and network with established professionals.

“We have a lot of kids interested in sports, but we don’t have the resources here for students interested in sports,” Marketing Club president Ally Schneider said. “The purpose of the forum is to give interested students an idea of the opportunities available in the industry and for them to hear from people successful in the sports marketing.”

Schneider, a senior, said the event is growing bigger and bigger each year. “This is the fourth year we’ve done it,” she said. “It has become one of the signature events of the Marketing Club.”

The forum will be held Thursday at 7 p.m. at Giovanni Commons inside the Mendoza College of Business. The event is open to students of all majors. “It’s a really great opportunity to network with some high figures within the sports industry,” Schneider said. “All of our speakers are very high up in their companies and all interested in meeting Notre Dame students.”

Schneider said four speakers will share their experiences with students at the event. The speakers include: Mary O’Connor, vice president of the Olympic Marketing and Global Platforms of Omnicom’s The Marketing Arm; Julie Souza, vice president of business development for Sports Illustrated; Frank Murtha, president of Professional Sports Consultants Inc. and Theodore Loehrke, vice president of team business development for the National Basketball Association.

Schneider said students’ attendance at past events helped them land a job after graduation.

Regardless of whether students are seeking career opportunities right away, Schneider said the event has a lot to offer. “It will be really interesting to hear from some careers in the sports marketing industry,” she said.

Contact Adam Llorens at allorens@nd.edu

“TFA” Sponsored by the marketing alliance for Catholic education (ace), a faith-based organization whose mission is similar to TFA’s. “I think TFA aligned more with what I want to do in an urban setting, and it gave me a little more freedom as a professional to pursue my own growth,” Jacques said.

Sammon, who did not apply to ACE either, chose TFA for multiple reasons. On a personal level, Sammon said she loved the economic and racial diversity at the public school she attended as a young student, and she wished to experience that atmosphere as a teacher.

On a political level, Sammon said she strongly believes in quality, free public education for all students.

“It’s something that influences how I vote, how I think about the world and what I think each student deserves,” she said. “All students deserve a good public education and I work 12-hour days, but it’s incredibly worth it.”

Molly Sammon ACE teacher

Residents Assistant

APPLY BEFORE
MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 2013

APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT:

HOUSING ND EDU

OFFICE OF HOUSING
305 Main Building
Notre Dame, Indiana 46556
Phone: 574.631.5878
E-mail: housing@nd.edu

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Now Hiring

Resident Assistants

2013-2014

APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT:

HOUSING ND EDU

Available soon at

305 Main Building
Notre Dame, Indiana 46556
Phone: 574.631.5878
E-mail: housing@nd.edu

2013-2014

Applications are available online at:

HOUSING ND EDU

Apply Before
Monday, January 21, 2013

Office of Housing
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — With the bitter election campaign that put President Barack Obama back into the White House now history, the U.S. faces the challenge of whether Republicans and Democrats can set aside deep partisan divisions and legislative gridlock.

The challenge is to overcome the self-imposed “fiscal cliff,” dramatic and automatic tax increases and spending cuts that could well slam the nation back into recession.

In day-after-election remarks, Republicans on Wednesday signaled no readiness to give up on their ideological opposition to raising taxes on high-income Americans — as Obama has insisted — but instead were continuing to push for lower rates across the board. That theory, known as trickle-down economics and dating to the era of President Ronald Reagan, holds that cutting taxes will vastly increase the size of the income and profit pie, thereby producing more revenue even at lower tax rates.

Republican Speaker of the House of Representatives John Boehner laid down that position yet again as the condition for working for any increase in government revenue in return for Obama’s stated — but undefined — willingness to cut spending on crucial social programs. Republicans maintained control of the House.

The opening gambits did not argue for a quick solution to the country’s skyrocketing debt and stubbornly high deficit that has the government now spending more than $1 trillion a year more than it collects in taxes.

In the face of those challenges, Obama had told Americans on Election Day that he had never been more optimistic. “The best is yet to come,” he said at his early Wednesday morning victory rally in Chicago, ticking off his legislative goals of reforming the tax system, working to ease climate change and overhauling the nation’s immigration laws.

Now the immediate test is whether the country’s deep partisan divide can be narrowed, as Democrats under Obama’s leadership try to work out a compromise with Republicans to avoid the “fiscal cliff,” that could force spending cuts totaling $800 billion next year alone.

Obama’s victory and exit polling of voters showed a majority of Americans supported or were resigned to higher taxes to begin cutting national red ink. That was shown in Obama’s victory even though he had led the country through a period in which the economy suffered its biggest downturn since the 1930s Great Depression and stubbornly high unemployment that dipped only slightly below 8 percent in the final two months of the campaign.

He campaigned on a pledge to raise taxes on American households earning more than $250,000 a year.

Romney said those tactics were a sign of American weakness. And China, facing its own leadership transition, should be relieved.

Romney had pledged to declare it a currency manipulator, potentially leading to sanctions and escalating trade tensions.

Despite partisan forces, President Barack Obama promised Americans he is confident he can lead the country forward.
Battered East Coast braces for next superstorm

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Coastal residents of New York and New Jersey faced new warnings to evacuate their homes and airlines canceled hundreds of flights as a new storm arrived Wednesday, only a week after Superstorm Sandy left dozens dead and millions without power.

Forecasters said the latest storm appeared weaker than first thought, but it still carried the threat of high winds, storm surges and even snow that could cause further damage to the already weakened infrastructure of the country’s most densely populated region. Rain and wet snow started falling in New York City around midday, with the worst expected in the afternoon.

“I am waiting for the locusts and pestilence next,” New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie said. Public works crews with heavy machinery worked to build up dunes to protect the battered shoreline.

Exactly as authorities feared, the nor’easter brought down tree limbs and electrical wires, and utilities in New York and New Jersey reported that nearly 60,000 customers who lost power because of Sandy lost it all over again as a result of the nor’easter.

More than half a million homes and businesses remained without power as temperatures hit freezing at night, and finding tens of thousands of people emergency housing — in some cases, for the long term — was the greatest challenge.

The utility Con Ed, which serves New York City, said that by early evening, the nor’easter knocked out power to at least 11,000 customers, some of whom had just gotten it back. Tens of thousands more were expected to lose power overnight.

The Long Island Power Authority said by evening that the number of customers in the dark had risen from 150,000 to more than 198,000.

New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg ordered police to use loudspeakers to warn vulnerable residents, many of them in low-income public housing, about evacuating.

“Even though it’s not anywhere near as strong as Sandy — nor strong enough, in normal times, for us to evacuate anybody — out of precaution and because of the changing physical circumstances, we are going to go to some small areas and ask those people to go to higher ground,” Bloomberg said Tuesday.

But many were deciding to stay, worried about their empty homes being looted. Others decided the situation couldn’t get much worse. “We’re petrified,” said James Alexander, a resident of the hard-hit Rockaways section of New York City where many homes burned to the ground during Sandy. “It’s like a sequel to a horror movie.” Nevertheless, he said he was staying to watch over his house and his neighbors.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency put a number to the storm’s homeless in New York and New Jersey, saying 95,000 people were eligible for emergency housing assistance. Just under a million people were still without power in the region.

Storm surges along the coasts of New Jersey and New York were expected to reach perhaps 3 feet (0.9 meters), only half to a third of what the hurricane-driven Sandy caused last week. But Sandy destroyed some protective dunes, especially in New Jersey, making even a weaker surge dangerous.

High winds, which could reach 65 mph (104 kph), could stall power restoration efforts or cause further outages.

Major airlines cancelled flights in and out of the New York City area ahead of the storm. Sandy last week led to more than 20,000 flight cancellations.

New York City was closing all parks, playgrounds and beaches and ordering all construction sites to be secured. Tuesday evening, Bloomberg ordered three nursing homes and an adult care facility evacuated from Queens’ vulnerable Rockaway Peninsula. New York Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly said it wasn’t wise to stay put. “I think your life is more important than property,” he said.
Latin American left supports Obama’s reelection

Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela — From Caracas to Havana to La Paz, President Barack Obama’s re-election victory was welcomed with a sigh of relief by many on Latin America’s left, though others cautioned that the U.S. leader had not made the region a priority during his crisis-buffeted first term and was unlikely to do so in a second.

In Cuba, state-run news website Cubasi called the outcome a victory for the lesser of two evils, saying: “U.S. elections: the worst one did not win.”

“The news of Barack Obama’s triumph in yesterday’s general elections in the United States was received with some relief and without great optimism,” Cubasi wrote.

On the streets of Caracas, some said they worried that a win by Republican Mitt Romney would have brought a much harder line against leftist leaders such as their own President Hugo Chavez, and that they hoped another four-year term for Obama would bring relatively peaceful U.S.-Latin American ties.

“The other guy would have cut off relations with Venezuela,” said Cesar Echeurria, a street vendor selling newspapers emblazoned with front-page photos of Obama celebrating. “It would have been a disaster for Venezuela if Obama had lost.”

Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez has not commented since Tuesday’s vote, but during the campaign he said that if he were an American, he’d cast his ballot for Obama. Despite years of strained relations between Chavez and Washington, the United States remains the top buyer of Venezuelan oil.

President Raul Castro’s government is also often critical of the American president, but under a Romney administration it might have faced unwelcome rollbacks of Obama policies that relaxed restrictions on Cuban-American travel and remittances and increased cultural exchanges.

Oscar Espinosa Chepe, a Cuban government economist turned dissident who favors engagement between Washington and Havana, expressed hope that Obama may do more to improve relations between the two countries — even though U.S. law stipulates that Congress has the final say on the 50-year economic embargo against Havana, Cuba’s chief complaint against America.

“We think Obama in this second term could take some more steps, for example letting more Americans travel to Cuba,” Espinosa Chepe said. “Although we know these policies cannot be changed overnight, we also think commercial relations could be liberalized.”

On the streets of Havana, some Cubans said they had been pulling for Obama but also expressed doubts that his re-election would have any real impact on relations. Javier Menes, a bartender, called it a “tsunami” Cuba has dodged in a span of weeks, the first being Chavez’s re-election in Venezuela last month, given that his government provides key economic support and fuel shipments to the island.

If Romney had won, it “would have doubt produced a more bellicose rhetoric, and perhaps more aggressive actions towards Cuba and other left governments,” said Miguel Tinker Salas, a Latin American studies professor at Pomona College in Claremont, California.

Tinker Salas and other analysts say Obama’s administration hasn’t deviated much in the approach toward Latin America that was taken by former President George W. Bush.

Beyond counter-drug efforts in the region, “the U.S. faces real challenges to its role in Latin America. It faces opposition to its efforts to increase economic ties with sympathetic governments and to out maneuver Chinese efforts to gain a stronger foothold in the region,” Tinker Salas said.

The U.S. remains the top trading partner of many countries in the region, with exceptions including Brazil and Chile, where China has recently taken its place.

During the presidential debates, Romney had called Latin America a “huge opportunity” for the U.S. economically. The region, however, was far from a hot topic in the election and seldom garnered mentions by the candidates — although one pro-Romney television ad in Florida had praised Chavez’s pro-Obama comments.

Ahead of the vote, some commentators in Latin America had groused that Obama and Romney were so similar in foreign policy stances that the result didn’t matter much. A recent front-page cartoon in Argentina’s Pagina12 newspaper summed up such complaints, showing a conversation between two bearded men. One remarked: “What difference is there between Republicans and Democrats?”

The other answered: “Both bomb you, but the Democrats afterward feel just a little bit bad about it.”

President Evo Morales of Bolivia, whose relations with the United States have been testy since he expelled the U.S. ambassador and U.S. diplomats in 2009, said that Latin American left political actors agreed with Americans’ decision in Tuesday’s presidential elections.

Latin American leftist political actors agreed with Americans’ decision in Tuesday’s presidential elections.

“The Republican party is exactly right on the issues,” said Terry Holt, a veteran Republican strategist with close ties to House Speaker John Boehner. The party mainly needs to nominate candidates who can relate to average Americans better than multimillionaire Mitt Romney did, Holt said.

Some other Republicans, however, see bigger problems. The party must shed its “absolutism on issues like tax increases,” which Congressmen-in-waiting pose at virtually every level, said John Ulloy, a former Republican Senate aide.

“The only party is going to move more to the middle is when we get sick of losing,” he said.

That’s essentially what Democrats did in the 1990s. Demoralized after big losses by presidential nominees Walter Mondale and Michael Dukakis — and still mindful of George McGovern’s 1972 disaster — Democrats turned to a centrist Arkansas governor, Bill Clinton. He won two elections, repositioned the party and served as Obama’s top surrogate this fall.

Some activists in both parties say Republicans eventually must follow suit to survive. But their priorities are dominated by staunch opponents of tax hikes, abortion, immigration reform and government regulations. Until and unless that changes, a shift toward the center may be impossible.

“It’s harder for the Republicans, because they are more ideological than Democrats,” said Democratic strategist Doug Hattaway. “The religious fervor of the Republican base makes it hard to change or compromise, even though that’s what’s needed to remain viable as a party.”

Republicans consider party identity, voter preference

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Having lost the popular vote in five of the last six presidential elections, Republicans plunged Wednesday into an intense period of self-examination, blame-setting and testy debate over whether their party needs serious change or just some minor tweaks.

The fallout will help determine whether the Republican party might return to heights approximating the Ronald Reagan years or, as some fear, suffer deeper losses as the nation’s Democratic-leaning Hispanics increase in number.

“The party is clearly in some sort of identity crisis,” said Rick Tyler, a past aide to former House Speaker Newt Gingrich.

Hard-core conservatives, furious at President Barack Obama’s re-election in the face of a weak economy, called for a wholesale shift to resolutely right positions on social and fiscal matters. Some demanded that party leaders resign.

Establishment Republicans largely shrugged off the tirades. But they split into two main camps themselves, portending potentially lengthy soul-searching, especially in Congress.

One group calls for calm and a steady course. It emphasizes that the party still controls the House, and notes that Obama’s popular-vote margin was smaller than in 2008.

“The Republican Party is exactly right on the issues,” said Terry Holt, a veteran Republican strategist with close ties to House Speaker John Boehner. The party mainly needs to nominate candidates who can relate to average Americans better than multimillionaire Mitt Romney did, Holt said.

Some other Republicans, however, see bigger problems. The party must shed its “absolutism on issues like tax increases,” which Congressmen-in-waiting pose at virtually every level, said John Ulloy, a former Republican Senate aide.

“The only party is going to move more to the middle is when we get sick of losing,” he said.

That’s essentially what Democrats did in the 1990s. Demoralized after big losses by presidential nominees Walter Mondale and Michael Dukakis — and still mindful of George McGovern’s 1972 disaster — Democrats turned to a centrist Arkansas governor, Bill Clinton. He won two elections, repositioned the party and served as Obama’s top surrogate this fall.

Some activists in both parties say Republicans eventually must follow suit to survive. But their priorities are dominated by staunch opponents of tax hikes, abortion, immigration reform and government regulations. Until and unless that changes, a shift toward the center may be impossible.

“It’s harder for the Republicans, because they are more ideological than Democrats,” said Democratic strategist Doug Hattaway. “The religious fervor of the Republican base makes it hard to change or compromise, even though that’s what’s needed to remain viable as a party.”

Latin American leftist political actors agreed with Americans’ decision in Tuesday’s presidential elections.
An instagambit

Blake J. Graham
Erradite Techno-Lust

If your Instagram feed is filled with pictures of your face, you’re doing it wrong.

Or rather, perhaps more deliberately, you’re treating Instagram wrong. You’re taking the practices of online social behavior you learned from first MySpace, then Facebook and applying them to a completely different world. Instagram is a social network of sorts, but unlike its massive compadres, it’s not about you. It’s about what you see.

On Instagram, everybody plays by the same simple rules. You all have the same square to take or place a photo in; you have the same set of filters and adjustments to apply, you can offer the same minimal comments underneath it and you have the same way of viewing the images and responding to them. Maybe this seems trivial to note, but the underlying importance and consequence is not: The only way to differentiate your images from someone else’s is found in the art of photography. As soon as you open Instagram, you are participating in the largest citizen artist endeavor in existence. The filters will help you, but ultimately it’s up to you to add to that art. But a pre-history of image saturation has turned most of us into image-junkies.

Image-junkies thrive in the narcissistic slep of Facebook’s unrelenting waves of pseudo-social-emancipation, i.e. the more you attempt to be an individual on Facebook, the only way to confirm it is through the affirmation of “friends” via likes and whatnot. It’s really more about you than it is your friends. Facebook pushes images to the front of every screen, and each image is more or less the same: They contain people, and the people are posing. The images aren’t artificial. They’re just folks with stage directions (“stand here,” “smile,” “move to the left so it looks like you’re holding the Eiffel Tower,” “sorority squat!”). Image-junkies love their own faces, their friends and participating in the drama of life. But you can’t really see anything when you’re attempting to alter reality for a frame.

Instagram works in reverse. Reality exists around you, you try to capture it, but when the photo looks twisted and the mood seems wrong, you can apply a filter to make your piece of recorded history match the event as it was. It’s a chance to see cleverness in the world around you and share it. Most importantly, it forces you to see. One can’t properly record the world and convey its moods if he or she is constantly intervening, adjusting and commanding. Instagram, at its roots, possesses that kind of integrity.

Not but several months ago, Instagram was a scrappy application for only the iPhone. It had a couple of filters and a feed. You could follow other people and like their photos. That’s about all there was to it. Your own profile was buried underneath layers of menus. It was easier to find the images you had liked than it was to find the photos you had taken. It was impossible (and still is) to magnify your profile image or anyone else’s. These things seem small, but they point to an Instagram mentality that is slowly slipping away.

It’s not about you. It’s not about you. It’s about what you see. Photography is the closest means we have of trapping reality. And while you can’t collect samples of reality or even of the present, you can collect images and samples of the past. The image-junkies are caught up in a transactional aesthetic where the image validates reality, i.e. “if there’s a photo of me at a party looking really happy then I must have been really happy despite what I may or may not acutely remember from the evening.”

It’s hard that we can’t see ourselves, To physically understand where we fit, we have to turn to mirrors, reflections, shiny surfaces or cameras. There is nothing wrong with a desire to orient oneself that way. Facebook was built with that principle in mind. But sometimes it’s okay to see the world without seeing yourself.

When Hurricane Sandy swelled into the east coast, users on Instagram responded with over 1.3 million photos. Each image added to the narrative and understanding of what was happening to the people, the buildings and the geography effected by the storm. It was Instagram’s biggest moment, but also the biggest moment of collective photography. The images showed us the scale of the storm, they provided perspective between the damaged areas and they also surfaced key information that was integral to saving human lives and protecting the damaged cities.

The people on Instagram didn’t show us what they were; they showed us what they saw.

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

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

VIEWPOINT

Christmas in October

Mackenzie Sain
Photographer

Let me preface the following by explaining that I love Christmas. I love the music, lights and time I get to spend with my family.

However, what I do not love is how early the Christmas season is apparently beginning this year. I visited the mall last Tuesday in search of last minute costume accessories, and lo and behold, a pile of large evergreen wreaths, some giant red bows and a red Santa chair sat near the entrance waiting to be organized into a holiday display. Keep in mind, last Tuesday was October 30 . . . the day before Halloween.

Granted, the Christmas display was still in pieces. The wreaths were stacked in a neat pile on the floor, and there was no Sante Claus on the mall floor before Halloween.

The mall was already setting up Christmas decorations at least two weeks ago. They aren’t yet as pervasive as last year, but Thanksgiving, an important national holiday, is still waiting in the wings.

Radio stations, thank goodness, of the trees, and it’s still pumpkin pie and candy and worrying about what Disney-themed commercials at least two weeks ago. They aren’t yet as pervasive as last year, but Thanksgiving, an important national holiday, is still waiting in the wings.

It’s not about you. It’s not about you. It’s about what you see.

A social network of sorts, but unlike its massive compadres, it’s not about you. It’s about what you see.

On Instagram, everybody plays by the same simple rules. You all have the same square to take or place a photo in; you have the same set of filters and adjustments to apply, you can offer the same minimal comments underneath it and you have the same way of viewing the images and responding to them. Maybe this seems trivial to note, but the underlying importance and consequence is not: The only way to differentiate your images from someone else’s is found in the art of photography. As soon as you open Instagram, you are participating in the largest citizen artist endeavor in existence. The filters will help you, but ultimately it’s up to you to add to that art. But a pre-history of image saturation has turned most of us into image-junkies.

Image-junkies thrive in the narcissistic slep of Facebook’s unrelenting waves of pseudo-social-emancipation, i.e. the more you attempt to be an individual on Facebook, the only way to confirm it is through the affirmation of “friends” via likes and whatnot. It’s really more about you than it is your friends. Facebook pushes images to the front of every screen, and each image is more or less the same: They contain people, and the people are posing. The images aren’t artificial. They’re just folks with stage directions (“stand here,” “smile,” “move to the left so it looks like you’re holding the Eiffel Tower,” “sorority squat!”). Image-junkies love their own faces, their friends and participating in the drama of life. But you can’t really see anything when you’re attempting to alter reality for a frame.

Instagram works in reverse. Reality exists around you, you try to capture it, but when the photo looks twisted and the mood seems wrong, you can apply a filter to make your piece of recorded history match the event as it was. It’s a chance to see cleverness in the world around you and share it. Most importantly, it forces you to see. One can’t properly record the world and convey its moods if he or she is constantly intervening, adjusting and commanding. Instagram, at its roots, possesses that kind of integrity.

Not but several months ago, Instagram was a scrappy application for only the iPhone. It had a couple of filters and a feed. You could follow other people and like their photos. That’s about all there was to it. Your own profile was buried underneath layers of menus. It was easier to find the images you had liked than it was to find the photos you had taken. It was impossible (and still is) to magnify your profile image or anyone else’s. These things seem small, but they point to an Instagram mentality that is slowly slipping away.

It’s not about you. It’s not about you. It’s about what you see. Photography is the closest means we have of trapping reality. And while you can’t collect samples of reality or even of the present, you can collect images and samples of the past. The image-junkies are caught up in a transactional aesthetic where the image validates reality, i.e. “if there’s a photo of me at a party looking really happy then I must have been really happy despite what I may or may not acutely remember from the evening.”

It’s hard that we can’t see ourselves, To physically understand where we fit, we have to turn to mirrors, reflections, shiny surfaces or cameras. There is nothing wrong with a desire to orient oneself that way. Facebook was built with that principle in mind. But sometimes it’s okay to see the world without seeing yourself.

When Hurricane Sandy swelled into the east coast, users on Instagram responded with over 1.3 million photos. Each image added to the narrative and understanding of what was happening to the people, the buildings and the geography effected by the storm. It was Instagram’s biggest moment, but also the biggest moment of collective photography. The images showed us the scale of the storm, they provided perspective between the damaged areas and they also surfaced key information that was integral to saving human lives and protecting the damaged cities.

The people on Instagram didn’t show us what they were; they showed us what they saw.

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

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Our weaknesses and limitations are generally realities we seek to minimize, if not completely ignore. Perhaps that is what makes November such a spiritually uncomfortable month.

In November, the Catholic Church spends a significant amount of energy inviting us to recognize and meditate upon the one bedrock human limitation that underlies all others and threatens us at every turn, and yet which we spend most our lives trying not to think about. Death. At some point, our lives just . . . end.

In the Catholic Church, November is the Month of the Dead. Beginning with the celebration of All Saints Day on November 1 and followed by All Souls Day on November 2, the Church hardly enables our proclivity to turn a blind eye to this most discomforting reality of the finitude of our earthly life.

Have you ever noticed that the Church has always loved bones? Saints’ relics — finger bones, shoulder blades and skulls — are some of the most conspicuous and sacred markers in Catholic churches. You likely celebrate Mass under the finger bones, shoulder blades and skulls of the blessed. And when you meditate upon the name of your patron saint, what mystery lies beside it. It is the space where the rest of us in Holy Cross, including I, will one day lie. I move across it quickly. Though perhaps one of these years, I ought to find the courage to pause there for a moment.

Instead, I hasten to the rest of our faith, huddled around the Pietà, a statue of Mary holding her dead son recently crucified. I listen as we proclaim into the graying autumn sky the words of St. John Damascene:

“Where is the ephemeral dream? All is dust, all ashes, all shadow. What glory does not fade? In a moment all is struck down. Now I know wisdom: I am dust and ashes. I search among the graves, see the bones laid bare. What mystery befell us? We wail and grieve at our beauty marred in the tomb. We stand over the graves of our lost, our bodies entwined by a mysterious wind — Christ murmuring: “trust, trust.”

November, for many reasons, is a month to hurry through. But, slowly, our faith beckons, for it is also a month to pause and trust.

Fr. Lou DelFra, CSC, is a campus minister and the Director of Vocation Life for the ACE Programs. He can be reached at loua.a.Delfra.2@nd.edu.

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

Something better than contraception

Lindsey Marugg
Guest Columnist

As a female member of the Notre Dame family, I want to first say that I support whatever treatment is chosen for my medical conditions. It is a horrid disease that often goes undiagnosed for a long time. I know this from studying endometriosis this summer. I would also like to offer an alternative.

I had my own reproductive problems freshman year here at Notre Dame. Within the first month of school, I ruptured two ovarian cysts. The doctors in the ER didn’t catch them early enough to do surgery, and I had to try to get by with narcotics that barely helped. After, I went through my own judgmental issues: Even though I had chosen to wait until marriage to have sex, my birth control prescription earned me judgment from friends and nurses on campus.

I did my own research into the Catholic teaching on using contraception for medical purposes. There is actually church teaching on the legitimacy of lawful therapeutic means in Pope Paul VI’s famous contraception-condemning encyclical “Humanae Vitae.” From this, I felt empowered to shout from the top of the Dome that sometimes there are legitimate reasons for birth control and no one should be chastised for them. It is no one’s place to cast judgment on why someone takes a prescription.

But sometimes I have been intrigued by something that kept me searching. Perhaps it was unhappiness with the judgment I felt, or part of my career discernment between medicine and religious life. I have seen patients having some pain every other month on my left side. No matter what it was, it caused me to take more than a cursory glance at a flyer about NaProTechnology. It boasted: “What every woman has a right to know!” Although I was one of the only students at the seminar, I was fascinated by what Dr. Parker was saying. Things started to make better sense to me. Even though my pain was lessened, there was an underlying problem. Birth control halts the natural menstrual cycle and suppressed ovulation. What was going to happen when I wanted to start a family in the future? I was magically expecting the problem to not reappear? Of course I would need to figure out what the cause of the problem was and work to fix it. Why wouldn’t I do that? When you read about endometriosis online, it says that birth control pills are the medicinal treatment for it. It also seems to fall back on: “The catholic church is against women.” False. The Catholic Church has led to a better way.

Another part of Pope Paul VI’s same encyclical gives a call to scientists: “Medical science should be the faithful servant of prudence, and not a master, of natural rhythms succeed in determining a sufficiently secure basis for the chastity limitation of offspring” (section 24).

Dr. Hilgers, founder of NaProTechnology, took this as a personal call to find something more effective than the rhythm method. In 1980, he invented the Creighton Model FertilityCare system, which has now been shown to have a 96.8% typical percentage use pregnancy prevention rate, compared to hormonal birth control’s 92% typical use rate. Since developing the Creighton Model, Dr. Hilgers now uses the charting to diagnose and treat the underlying painful gynecological issues and also infertility. His recent study on the rates helping infertile couples achieve a natural, full-term pregnancy are 50 percent and in vitro’s rate is 22.4 percent. I helped work on this study this summer as a research intern in Omaha, Neb. I can tell you that the science behind NaProTechnology is valid. What’s more, I found that, I am a success story myself. I have polycystic ovarian disease, am on medication to treat the underlying problem and am now 8 natural cycles in a row, pain free. NaProTechnology has been successfully treating endometriosis without birth control for years.

Why does no one at Our Lady’s University know about NaPro? If we claim to be a preeminent Catholic research institution, why isn’t NaPro on our radar? Why don’t we ever talk about how the World Health Organization labels hormonal birth control a class I carcinogen? The conversation always seems to fall back on: “The Catholic Church is against women.” False. The Catholic Church has been right all along. Catholic teaching has led to a better way. One that I confidently stand behind not based on the Catholic teaching alone, but on the proof offered in scientific statistics and in my own life. There is something better than contraception. But we need to open our hearts and minds to it.

Fr. Lou DelFra, CSC, is a campus minister and the Director of Vocation Life for the ACE Programs. He can be reached at loua.a.Delfra.2@nd.edu.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
“Breaking Bad” is about a lot of things — it’s a story about the meth epidemic in the American Southwest, a critique of the American healthcare system or a trying tale of a boy with cerebral palsy that really loves breakfast. At its core, however, “Breaking Bad” is about the complete moral corruption of its lead character, Walter White (Bryan Cranston). Just about every other television series features a protagonist who possesses a constant set of character traits and qualities. For example, Dexter of “Dexter” has always been the serial-killer anti-hero with a close attention to detail. What makes Walter White so compelling and original is his total character shift over the course of four and a half seasons — from lovable loser to egomaniac, from high-school chemistry teacher to meth kingpin and loser to egomaniac, from high-school chemistry teacher to meth kingpin and murderer. “Breaking Bad” is in its final season. The show’s biggest and most dramatic cliffhanger. Yes, the American people have his entertaining moments. For example, as his parents separate and his scowl—known for his interpretation of Ross Geller on “Friends.” — he never fails to get an easy laugh when Walter Jr. is ever given for this identity change, there's Walt and Skyler’s son Walter Jr., a lovable, albeit angsty, high-schooler with cerebral palsy, is arguably the only main character on the show who is wholly innocent. While this trait is unique among characters on the show, that doesn’t mean Walt Jr. doesn’t have his entertaining moments. As his parents separate and his scowl—known for his interpretation of Ross Geller on “Friends.” — he never fails to get an easy laugh when Walter Jr. is ever given for this identity change, there's an excruciatingly long break, in the midst of its fifth and final season, and has taken a break — a very long break. An excruciatingly long break, in fact, was directly preceded by one of the show’s biggest and most dramatic cliffhangers. Yes, the American people will have to wait until the summer of 2013 for “Breaking Bad” to return, which makes now an ideal time to reflect on the greatest moments Walter White and company have provided us with over the past four and a half seasons.

Pizza on the Roof

Despite dealing with an obviously heavy and dark storyline, “Breaking Bad” never fails to inject some sort of humor into its shows, whether it’s a witty one-liner or bizarre recurring theme. One of the best is the pizza on the roof. Walt, trying to win back his wife’s favor and reenter the family, shows up at the house with an enormous pizza. When Skyler denies him entry, Walt responds incredulously: “But I have dipping sticks, Skyler. DIPPING STICKS!” and flings the giant pizza onto the roof of the garage. It’s one of Walt’s funniest (and least violent) displays of frustration, and is continually referenced throughout the season, much to the delight of diligent viewers.

The Box-Cutter

This scene is perhaps the show’s most graphic, and without question is ingrained into the minds of every viewer who has experienced it. “Breaking Bad” loves to open shows with a bang, and the Season Four premiere did just that — in bloody, stomach-turning fashion. Season Four introduces Gus Fring (Giancarlo Esposito), a mysterious man who owns both a fried-chicken franchise and an international meth empire. Gus seems genteel and unthreatening, that is, until he grabs an unsuspecting man and cuts his throat open with a box-cutter, much to the horror of Walt and his business partner, Jesse (Aaron Paul). This disgusting scene provided a valuable lesson for “Breaking Bad” fans — you really don’t know what’s coming next.

“Flynn”

Walt and Skyler’s son Walter Jr., a lovable, albeit angsty, high-schooler with cerebral palsy, is arguably the only main character on the show who is wholly innocent. While this trait is unique among characters on the show, that doesn’t mean Walt Jr. doesn’t have his entertaining moments. As his parents separate and his scowl—known for his interpretation of Ross Geller on “Friends.” — he never fails to get an easy laugh when Walter Jr. is ever given for this identity change, there's an excruciatingly long break, in the midst of its fifth and final season, and has taken a break — a very long break. An excruciatingly long break, in fact, was directly preceded by one of the show’s biggest and most dramatic cliffhangers. Yes, the American people will have to wait until the summer of 2013 for “Breaking Bad” to return, which makes now an ideal time to reflect on the greatest moments Walter White and company have provided us with over the past four and a half seasons.

Pizza on the Roof

Despite dealing with an obviously heavy and dark storyline, “Breaking Bad” never fails to inject some sort of humor into its shows, whether it’s a witty one-liner or bizarre recurring theme. One of the best is the pizza on the roof. Walt, trying to win back his wife’s favor and reenter the family, shows up at the house with an enormous pizza. When Skyler denies him entry, Walt responds incredulously: “But I have dipping sticks, Skyler. DIPPING STICKS!” and flings the giant pizza onto the roof of the garage. It’s one of Walt’s funniest (and least violent) displays of frustration, and is continually referenced throughout the season, much to the delight of diligent viewers.

The Box-Cutter

This scene is perhaps the show’s most graphic, and without question is ingrained into the minds of every viewer who has experienced it. “Breaking
With the election this week, it would be remiss to neglect one of the greatest American popular historical authors of our time: David McCullough. Biographers like McCullough not only know how to write, but also meet the challenge of portraying America's history in a way that is engaging, enlightening and truthful.

Perhaps the best modern biography today, McCullough’s “Truman” [1992] won the Pulitzer Prize for Biography or Autobiography. McCullough took every step to understand Truman better — he literally remapped the president’s daily morning walk around Independence, Mo. The book won a Pulitzer and HBO turned it into a movie.

“What I demand is accuracy for the sake of imagination,” he said in an interview with the New York Times in 1992. The Yale graduate stands out for his thorough research and uncanny ability to bring historical figures to life. Charming and eye-opening anecdotes from letters and diaries give subjects like Truman and John Adams a modern voice and modern relevance. McCullough, who won the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest honor for a civilian, in 2006, said he wrote “Truman” in response to what he viewed as shallow political debate.

“I felt that something needed to be said before people made a choice,” he said. “This book is about the country, not just about Harry Truman. It’s about who we are and what we can be.”

Even though his books can be found at Barnes and Noble, don’t mistake McCullough for just another trade fiction historian. McCullough writes American history. HBO made it into a mini-series starring Paul Giamatti, which is worth it. McCullough reportedly read every page of “Truman” aloud to his wife to make sure it sounded like he was talking to his readers.

McCullough also won the Pulitzer Prize for his non-fiction book, “John Adams” (2001), which was one of the fastest-selling non-fiction books in history. HBO made it into a mini-series starring Paul Giamatti, which is worth any history buff’s free time. McCullough’s writing is definitely well-informed, but he manages to stay away from pedestrian plodding through history. He instead populates what would be dull records with the most important part of historical study: the people. Sometimes it’s easy to forget that movements, events, rallies, bills, wars and treaties aren’t just documents. They’re spurred by intensely dynamic and painfully human individuals.

Not only does this make politics enormously complicated, it also makes history heart-stopping and dramatic. Even though the confetti probably still lies on the ground in Chicago, it’s strange to think: What will historians write about President Barack Obama? What parts of the election last night would McCullough include if he were to write “Obama”? Would this be the doom-and-gloom chapter? Or the tipping point for a new golden age in American history?

“History is the story of people,” McCullough said. Now more than ever, Americans are cognizant of how just one person can change the historical landscape.

Contact Meghan Thomassen at mthomas@nd.edu

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Observer.
In the midst of all the discussions about the top-two teams in the BCS and laments about a college football playoff system that is not yet in place, it is easy to forget that the college basketball season tips off Friday.

Perhaps this is because, in direct contrast to the dazzling spectacle of March Madness that ends the season, the beginning of the hoops season is marked with little fanfare. Top programs load up their schedules with cupcakes, tournaments pit a geographically random jumble of teams in locales as diverse as the Virgin Islands, Alaska and Disney World and most squads have not yet developed the team chemistry that makes them so exciting to watch.

Despite these factors, there is still much for college basketball fans to enjoy about this part of the season.

Much heralded freshmen get their first chance to make an impact, the crazy nature of tournaments paves the way for upset shocks and oddsmakers’ powerhouse programs slide off in non-conference matchups. In the next few weeks, fans will have the chance to see such intriguing matchups as Florida-Georgetown, Michigan State-Connecticut, Syracuse-Georgetown, Michigan State-Kansas and Duke-Kentucky.

There is also the opportunity to see the season’s first six storieslines and, believe me, this season has about as many potential plots and subplots as the number of teams present in your bracket come March.

Just three years removed from a 6-25 season, No. 1 Indiana enters this year as the national favorites. I don’t know why, but it just feels right to see the premier program from the Hoosier State’s most basketball crazed state at the top of the polls. Fresh off its first Sweet 16 appearance in 10 years, the Hoosiers produced solid core in homelgrown sophomore center Cody Zeller and senior forward Christian Watford, as well as a top-five recruiting class. It will be interesting to see how Tom Crean’s squad handles sky-high expectations and fares in a loaded Big Ten Conference.

John Calipari has replenished the depth chart with his latest group of mercenaries, a top-ranked recruiting class that features star center Nerlens Noel and his high-top fade. The Wildcats may struggle out of the gate, but, given Calipari’s ability to develop team chemistry and manage egos, it wouldn’t be surprising to see another banner hanging from the rafters of Rupp Arena at the start of next season.

Conference realignment hasn’t hit the college basketball world too deeply yet, but the landscape is expected to change in the next few seasons. This season marks the final one in the Big East for Syracuse and Pittsburgh, two of the conference’s most prominent programs, and both teams have the chance to leave their mark. With a strong front court and senior point guard Brandon Triche running the show, the Orange should challenge Louisville for conference supremacy, while a talented freshman class that includes seven-foot New Zealander Steven Adams should help the Panthers return to the Top 25.

The Big East plans to replace Syracuse and Pittsburgh with several mid-major programs, which looks like a good strategy given the strength of the mid-majors this season. To realize this, one only needs to look at the season-long All-American team, which includes seven-star freshman forward Doug McDermott, Murray State senior guard Isaiah Canaan and Lehigh senior guard C.J. McCollum. McDermott, Canaan and McCollum all lead teams that can make some noise deep into March. They’re hardly the only ones, though, as programs like UNLV, San Diego State, Virginia Commonwealth and Saint Louis all have the ability to bust the brackets of unsuspecting fans.

I guess the main storyline left is to discuss the national champion, but I won’t provide you with that. Why? Well, the beauty of college basketball is its unpredictability and my prognosticating ability is no more accurate than that of your brother or grandmother.

Rather, I’ll leave you with a simple suggestion: This weekend, feel free to tune into all the football you want, but take some time to watch the sport that truly does its playoffs right.

Contact Brian Hartnett at bhartnet@nd.edu

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 304 East Dinner Hall. Deadline for each day’s classifieds is 9 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is $3.50 per line, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

If you or someone you love needs confidential support or assistance, please call Ann Whittall at 1-0084 or Karen Kennedy at 1-0550. For more information, visit ND’s website at: http://pregnancynd.com

Associated Press

ALAMEDA, Calif. — Carson Palmer could be in for another busy day for the Oakland Raiders.

With top two running backs Darren McFadden and Mike Goodson slowed this week by sprained right ankles, the Raiders may need to rely on their passing game when they visit the Baltimore Ravens.

Palmer threw the ball 61 times last week against Tampa Bay as the Raiders (3-5) were forced to play catch-up in the second half after losing McFadden and Goodson to the injuries. Neither back practiced Wednesday and their status remains in doubt for Sunday’s game against the Ravens (6-2).

“We’ve got a plan in place if either or both of those guys are not able to play,” coach Dennis Allen said.

That likely will involve lots of passing with no other proven halfback on the roster. Palmer set a career high in attempts in last week’s 42-32 loss to Tampa Bay, completing 39 passes for 413 yards, four touchdowns and three interceptions.

With McFadden out for the entire second half, Goodson getting hurt in the fourth quarter and Oakland falling behind by 18 points, the Raiders ran the ball just three times in the second half — their fewest in eight years.

“You go to adjust to what your health is of your team, but you know it’s a team that had some yards rushing on them, especially the last couple of weeks,” Palmer said. “It’s very odd. I have never seen that before in my career. So, there are some things we want to take advantage of in the run game.

“But you can’t be one-dimensional at the same time, too, and throw it and throw it. We’ve got to figure out a way to get Darren back as quickly as possible and maybe have a selected or limited game plan for him or Marcel (Reece) or whoever is going to be back there.”

Palmer is quite familiar with the Ravens, having spent the first eight seasons of his career in the AFC North with Cincinnati. Palmer’s nine regular season wins as a starter against Baltimore are the most of any quarterback.

He has completed 61 percent of his passes for 3,202 yards, 15 touchdowns, 11 interceptions and an 84.5 passer rating in those games. Ravens linebacker Terrell Suggs said Palmer looks as good as he did with the Bengals and when the two faced off in college when Suggs was at Arizona State and Palmer started at Southern California.

“I don’t fear anyquarterbacks, but I’m always worried when I play Carson Palmer,” Suggs said.

“Me and him come from the same draft class, 2003. This guy has kind of tortured me through all my college and professional career. I’m very aware of the talent. I know he can make every throw. If you ask me, he’s very highly under-rated. He’s definitely one of the premier quarterbacks in the league.”

He will likely need to be that way Sunday with Oakland’s running game in the situation it is.

The Raiders chose not to sign another running back this week and will likely go with little-used third-stringer Taiwan Jones or fullback Marcel Reece if McFadden and Goodson can’t play. They also could activate Jeremy Stewart from the practice squad.

“It’s really a next-man-up philosophy and we’re going to have to count on some guys to step up potentially and fill a bigger role,” Allen said. “We’ll know more at the end of the week exactly what we’ve got to do.

Jones, a speedster drafted in the fourth round in 2011, has been slowed by hamstring, knee and rib injuries during his brief career. He has just 17 carries for 75 yards and three receptions for 29 yards. He has played just seven snaps on offense all season with one run for 2 yards and he also caught a 4-yard pass on a fake punt.
Manchester United, Chelsea score late winners

Associated Press

ROME — Barcelona lost for the first time since August, and Manchester United and Chelsea needed late goals to win in a wild night of Champions League action Wednesday.

Barcelona had been unbeaten in 12 matches since the Spanish Super Cup against Real Madrid before falling 2-1 at Celtic, which is two points behind the Spanish power with two matches remaining.

"It is not the first time we have lost a game like this and it won't be the last," Barcelona coach Tito Vilanova said.

United came back from a goal down to beat Braga 3-1 and qualify for the second round in a match that was stopped briefly because of a light outage.

Defending champion Chelsea needed a header from Victor Moses four minutes into injury time to beat Shakhtar Donetsk 3-2.

Last season’s runner-up, Bayern Munich, routed Lille 6-1, and the defending champion Juventus had a 4-0 win over Danish side Nordsjaelland.

In other games, Galatasaray won its first away match in the competition in 10 years by beating CFR Cluj 3-1 with a hat trick from Burat Yilmaz; midfielder Sofiane Feghouli scored twice to help Valencia beat BATE Borisov 4-2 and take the lead in Group F; and Substitute Oscar Cardozo scored two second-half goals to give Benfica a 2-0 win over Spartak Moscow.

In Scotland, Victor Wanyama headed Celtic in front in the 21st minute and teenage substitute Tony Watt rounded off another swift counterattack in the 83rd. All four-time champion Barcelona could muster was a stoppage time goal from three-time FIFA player of the year Lionel Messi.

Barcelona has nine points in Group G, Celtic is next with seven, Benfica has four and Spartak three.

In Portugal, Braga went ahead with a 49th-minute penalty from Alain and the score remained 1-0 when the game was suspended for about 10 minutes in the second half because of a floodlight failure.

When the lights came back on, it was all United. Robin van Persie equalized in the 80th, Wayne Rooney converted a penalty in the 84th and Javier Hernandez tapped in from short range in injury time.

United has an insurmountable 12 points in Group H. Cluj and Galatasaray are next with four each and Braga is last with three.

In London, Chelsea was outplayed for large periods and surrendered the lead twice, with Willian scoring both of Shakhtar’s goals in the ninth and 47th minutes to enhance its burgeoning reputation.

Fernando Torres had scored Chelsea’s opener in the sixth and Oscar had reclaimed the lead for the hosts in the 45th with a stunning 45-yard shot, with goalkeeper Andriy Pyatov to blame for both goals after botching attempted clearances.

Moses had the last laugh as Chelsea finished strongly, the substitute heading in Mata’s cross with almost the last touch of the game.

Shakhtar and Chelsea each have seven points atop Group E, with the Ukrainian side ahead on goal difference. Juventus is a point behind and Nordsjaelland is last with one point.

Manchester United forward Wayne Rooney celebrates after converting a penalty against Braga on Wednesday. United won 3-1.

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

LET’S TALK ITALIAN I
ROIT 20300-01 (3.0 credit) R 3:00-4:00 G. Lenzi-Sandusky
This mini-course is needed for students returning to Italy or who have completed 2-3 semesters of Italian, offers conversation practice on topics related to Italian politics, society, and culture.

PRE-STUDY ABROAD
ROIT 21205 (1.0 credit) W 4:30-5:45 A. Blas
Designed for students planning to spend a semester or year abroad in Notre Dame’s study abroad programs in Rome or Bologna, this course provides an advanced introduction to Italian history, topography, lifestyle, pop music, youth cultures, service learning, sport and internship opportunities, and cultural events, including opera theatre and music concerts.

INTERMEDIATE ITALIAN II
ROIT 27505-01/02 WM 9:35-10:25/11:45-12:35 A. Blas/P. Vivinti
An advanced, fourth-semester language course designed to further the student’s conversational skills as well as grasp of a variety of styles and registers.

ITALIAN RENAISSANCE
ROIT 30205 WM 10:40-11:30, F 9:35-10:25 M. Meserve
This course, taught in English, explores economic foundations, social and political structures, artistic monuments, and key personalities of Florence, and examines how the culture of the Florentine Renaissance spread to the rest of Italy, and to northern Europe.

LET’S TALK ITALIAN I
ROIT 30301 (3.0 credit) R 3:30-4:45 C. Moews
This mini-course, conducted in Italian, meets 1 hour per week for group discussions on varied contemporary issues in Italian culture, society, and politics.

PASSAGE TO ITALY
ROIT 30310 WM 1:30-2:45 T. Cacchero
In this fifth-semester course, taught in Italian, you learn to analyze great works from the major literary and artistic genres (lyric poetry, prose, theatre, epic, novel, films, opera, contemporary song), while sampling masterpieces from across the whole Italian tradition (including music, art, and architecture), and consolidating your grasp of the Italian language at an advanced level.

MODERN ITALIAN LITERATURE & CULTURE
ROIT 30721 WM 11:45-1:00 J. Weller
Conducted in Italian, this course provides a survey of major authors, literary genres, as well as examples of contributions to theatre and film, from the late 18th c. to the early 20th c., including works of Goldoni, Foceo, Leopardi, Verga, Sarrai, D’Annunzio, Pirandello, Cohen, Verdi, Deledda, Marinnetti, and Ungaretti.

DANTE II
ROIT 40116 TR 2:00-3:15 C. Moews
This course, conducted in English, focuses on Purgatorio and Paradiso of Dante’s Comedy, in which the author purifies his illegitimate understanding of what a human being is, and of the human relation to the world and to the transcendent foundation of reality.

ITALIAN CINEMA:
THE REALITIES OF HISTORY
ROIT 40548-01 TR 12:30-1:45 Z. Baratski
This course, taught in English, explores the construction and development of the Italian cinematic realist tradition with a focus on formal and ideological continuities and differences between Neo-realist films and their silent and fascist precursors. We also analyse Neo-realist’s impact on later film-makers, such as Fellini, Ermeni, Pasolini, Pirone, and others who attempted to develop new models of cinematic realism.

ITALIAN SEMINAR: THIS IS ITALY
FOUR MASTERPIECES IN CONTEXT
ROIT 53000 TR 11:00-12:15 C. Moews
A summation and capstone of the undergraduate course, this course, taught in Italian, situates four masterpieces within their cultural contexts from different epochs and in different genres: novel from Boccaccio’s Decameron (medieval); Machiavelli’s comedy La Mandragola (Renaissance); Verdi’s opera Rigoletto, which we will see at the Lyric Opera in Chicago (19th c.); and Fellini’s La dolce vita, one of the landmarks of world cinema (modern).

GRADUATE COURSES

DANTE’S WORLD OF BOOKS
ROIT 63113 T 2:00-5:00 Z. Baratski
This course examines the context of arguably the most original and influential writer in Western culture, explaining Dante’s intellectual formation through investigation of the books that were probably in his “library,” and assessing the manner in which Dante synthesized his different ideological and poetic interests in order to develop an incisive critique of humanity’s position in the order of divine creation.

HISTORY OF THE BOOK
ROIT 63212 3:30-6:15 L. Marcozzi
This course analyzes the forms and means of transmission of literary texts in the late Middle Ages, the practice and the metaphors of reading, the diffusion of the masterpieces of Dante, Petrarch and Boccaccio, the changing shape of books in the Renaissance, and the innovation of printing and its consequences on 16th c. culture and literature. We also approach the book history of modern Italy, making use of the holdings of the Department of Special Collections.
Bears look to improve, find offensive identity

Associated Press

LAKE FOREST, Ill. — The idea that the Chicago Bears’ offense will match its jaw-dropping offensive season this year might be a little far-fetched.

That’s the word from quarterback Jay Cutler.

“We're not going to catch the defense this year,” Cutler said. “It’s not going to happen. We’re eight, nine years behind those guys. They’ve been in the same system a long time. We just go to focus on ourselves. Every guy has just got to get a little bit better each week, every day at practice. If we get a little bit better by the end of the season, we’ll be better.”

For all the hype coming into the season, the offense remains a work in progress. That hasn’t stopped the Bears (7-1, No. 3 in AP Pro32) from grabbing the reins in a work in progress. That hasn’t happened quite the way they envisioned. Now, they’re going against a dominant defense in a matchup between two of the league’s best teams.

It’s a big test for an offense that many thought had the potential to be explosive isn’t quite living up to the billing.

“I think you guys have to understand we’re not going to look like the New England Patriots,” star receiver Brandon Marshall said. “We’re not going to look like the New Orleans Saints’ offense. We’re the Chicago Bears’ offense.”

And it might not be as shiny and flashy, at least not this season.

That didn’t stop Marshall from pointing out that the offense scored 37 points in last week’s 51-20 win over Tennessee, even though three of that group’s touchdowns came on drives of 16 yards or less. The offense really didn’t do much in that game until the second half.

He mentioned that the Bears have an elite quarterback in Cutler, and running back in Matt Forte. Yet, he also said those expecting the Bears’ offense to resemble New England’s or New Orleans’, Green Bay’s or even Denver’s when he and Cutler were there should probably forget about that, at least for now.

“We’re going to do it our own way,” Marshall said.

So when will it really click?

“I’m thinking 2013,” he said in jest, before turning serious.

“We have goals. We want to win now. We want to win now. We’re doing a good job of it and we will be a No. 1 offense this year? I don’t know. It doesn’t look like it but what we’re doing is effective. We just have to be a little bit more productive and start a bit faster.”

The Bears rank 25th overall on offense and 29th in the passing game, a surprise considering how dominant Marshall has been.

Now, they’re about to meet a defense that might be overshadowed a bit this week even though it ranks among the league’s best. For all the publicity the Bears’ defenders are getting, consider what the Texans are doing.

They’re third overall on defense, second against the run and fourth against the pass.

They’re tied with Chicago for third with 25 sacks along with the New York Giants and Seattle Seahawks, including a league-leading 101/2 by J.J. Watt, and they’re going up against a team with well-documented issues when it comes to protection. Cutler has been sacked 28 times and is second only to Aaron Rodgers in that category.

“He has been sacked a lot,” Texans outside linebacker Whitney Mercilus said. “They’re having a lot of difficulty in pass protection. Any defensive players likes that, so the thing is, we’re going to work our best moves and try to get to him as best we can.”

And yet, the Texans also realize they could be in for a tough time.

No one needs to remind them about Cutler’s mobility and arm strength. Forte’s versatility in the backfield or Marshall’s sheer dominance so far. The Bears’ prized offseason acquisition, he’s second in the league with 797 yards receiving on 59 receptions.

“Everybody knows the type of player he is,” said Houston safety Danieal Manning, who played in Chicago from 2006-10. “He’s been targeted much more than last year. He’s back with his guy (Cutler). Those guys are hooking up a lot. Brandon has been catching it well, he’s a big-body guy who can run routes and stretch the field. Wherever he is, you’d be crazy not to pay attention to where that guy is. Not only him, they do have other playmakers on that team.”

Yet, the Bears are still a bit behind. How much will the offense really improve against a defense that might be over-shadowed a bit this week even though it ranks among the league’s best. For all the public- ity the Bears’ defenders are getting, consider what the Texans are doing.

They’re third overall on defense, second against the run and fourth against the pass.

Bears receiver Brandon Marshall catches the ball in the end zone for one of his three scores during Sunday’s 51-20 win over Tennessee.

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — The fate of the Eagles offensive line this season might be summed up the way the whole team has been so far.

From bad to worse.

Right tackle Todd Herremans was placed on the season-ending injured reserve list on Wednesday as Philadelphia’s season to forget continues. Herremans suffered a dislocated bone and ligament damage in his right foot in Monday’s loss to New Orleans.

He should be ready for training camp, but the injury is the latest blow to a depleted offensive line. Herremans will wear a boot for at least eight weeks.

Philadelphia’s makeshift line is now without Herremans, left tackle Jason Peters, center Jason Kelce and right guard Danny Watkins. It’s one reason quarterback Michael Vick was sacked seven times by the Saints.

Left guard Evan Mathis was inactive for the game, a surprise considering how dominant Marshall has been.

“I think we’ve got to recognize what they’re playing and attack them a certain way according to what coverage and fronts we’re seeing,” Cutler said. “It’s a mixed bag of things, but at the end of the day, with our defense, as long as we make another team’s offense go 80, 90 yards, I think we’re going to be OK.”

Eagles lose another lineman

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

The Observer | Thursday, November 8, 2012 | NDSMOBSERVER.COM

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — The fate of the Eagles offensive line this season might be summed up the way the whole team has been so far.

From bad to worse.

Right tackle Todd Herremans was placed on the season-ending injured reserve list on Wednesday as Philadelphia’s season to forget continues. Herremans suffered a dislocated bone and ligament damage in his right foot in Monday’s loss to New Orleans.

He should be ready for training camp, but the injury is the latest blow to a depleted offensive line. Herremans will wear a boot for at least eight weeks.

Philadelphia’s makeshift line is now without Herremans, left tackle Jason Peters, center Jason Kelce and right guard Danny Watkins. It’s one reason quarterback Michael Vick was sacked seven times by the Saints.

“I’ve just got to believe in the guys in front of me and do whatever it takes to get the ball out whether I’ve got to slide or move, break contain,” Vick said. “I’ve got to be the leader starting leftendid. “Stay optimistic,” Vick said. “Just keep playing the game and try to block out everything else.”

The Eagles (3-5) host the Cowboys (3-5) on Sunday. Rookie guard Dennis Kelly, a fifth-round draft pick out of Purdue, has filled in the last two games for Watkins, and knows some sort of continuity is going to be needed for the Eagles to hold off Dallas. Signed after Peters went down, Demetress Bell has had a rough go of it in Philadelphia, as well.

“They brought a lot of pressure and I think he led us having a great communication,” Kelly said of the Saints. “There was confusion on who was getting who. That’s where we have to build that rhythm, get that continuity that I was saying, and just have the trust in each other to know that we’re going to know the assignment before we have to call it out.”

The Eagles have lost four in a row after a 3-1 start. When they defeated the New York Giants, 19- 17, on Sept. 30 at home, they were in first place. Now, they are 2½ games behind New York in the NFC East.

“Stay optimistic,” Vick said. “Just keep playing the game and try to block out everything else.”

The Eagles (3-5) host the Cowboys (3-5) on Sunday. Rookie guard Dennis Kelly, a fifth-round draft pick out of Purdue, has filled in the last two games for Watkins, and knows some sort of continuity is going to be needed for the Eagles to hold off Dallas. Signed after Peters went down, Demetress Bell has had a rough go of it in Philadelphia, as well.

“They brought a lot of pressure and I think he led us having a great communication,” Kelly said of the Saints. “There was confusion on who was getting who. That’s where we have to build that rhythm, get that continuity that I was saying, and just have the trust in each other to know that we’re going to know the assignment before we have to call it out.”

The Eagles have lost four in a row after a 3-1 start. When they defeated the New York Giants, 19- 17, on Sept. 30 at home, they were in first place. Now, they are 2½ games behind New York in the NFC East.

“Stay optimistic,” Vick said. “Just keep playing the game and try to block out everything else.”

The Eagles (3-5) host the Cowboys (3-5) on Sunday. Rookie guard Dennis Kelly, a fifth-round draft pick out of Purdue, has filled in the last two games for Watkins, and knows some sort of continuity is going to be needed for the Eagles to hold off Dallas. Signed after Peters went down, Demetress Bell has had a rough go of it in Philadelphia, as well.

“They brought a lot of pressure and I think he led us having a great communication,” Kelly said of the Saints. “There was confusion on who was getting who. That’s where we have to build that rhythm, get that continuity that I was saying, and just have the trust in each other to know that we’re going to know the assignment before we have to call it out.”

The Eagles have lost four in a row after a 3-1 start. When they defeated the New York Giants, 19- 17, on Sept. 30 at home, they were in first place. Now, they are 2½ games behind New York in the NFC East.

“Stay optimistic,” Vick said. “Just keep playing the game and try to block out everything else.”

The Eagles (3-5) host the Cowboys (3-5) on Sunday. Rookie guard Dennis Kelly, a fifth-round draft pick out of Purdue, has filled in the last two games for Watkins, and knows some sort of continuity is going to be needed for the Eagles to hold off Dallas. Signed after Peters went down, Demetress Bell has had a rough go of it in Philadelphia, as well.

“They brought a lot of pressure and I think he led us having a great communication,” Kelly said of the Saints. “There was confusion on who was getting who. That’s where we have to build that rhythm, get that continuity that I was saying, and just have the trust in each other to know that we’re going to know the assignment before we have to call it out.”
Falcons enter season’s second half undefeated

Associated Press

FLOWERY BRANCH, Ga. — Todd McClure can tell this is becoming a special season for the Atlanta Falcons, just from all the extra time he’s spending on the phone. He’s getting hit up for tickets. And extra tickets. And anything with a signature on it.

“I guess it comes with the territory,” the Falcons’ longtime center said Wednesday, “so I’m embracing it.”

McClure is also embracing the idea of perfection, the goal that every team strives for but few will ever reach. The Falcons have won their first eight games, the best start in franchise history and halfway to a 16-0 season.

The 1972 Miami Dolphins are the only team in the modern era to make it through an entire year without a loss. The 2007 New England Patriots are the lone squad to go undefeated in a 16-game regular season (before losing, of course, in the Super Bowl).

Now, along come the Falcons. Can they reach perfection?

“We can,” McClure said without a hint of hesitation. “There’s no reason we can’t. If we play our game, go out and do what we’re supposed to do, we can. The sky’s the limit for this team. It’s going to be hard? Yes. Will it be hard this week? Yes. “But,” he added, “if we approach it week by week, it’s definitely possible.”

An 8-0 start is not all that unusual — the Falcons are the 10th team to do it in the last two decades, according to STATS LLC. But this is where the pressure starts to mount. There’s more and more media attention, more and more questions about the streak. Opposing teams start to play with a little extra fire, eager to be the team that ends the unbeaten season.

That’s why another Falcons’ lineman, right tackle Tyson Clabo, is realistic about the chances of going 16-0.

“We’re only halfway there,” he said. “Statistically, the chances of that are really slim. I mean, we base our game plans on statistics. Statistically, this what’s going to happen, so we’re going to do this. So I don’t think we should deviate from our entire mindset based on this big, golden cow that everybody thinks we should try to get to.”

Besides, despite being the league’s only unbeaten team, the Falcons are still searching for a national respect.

“Outside of Atlanta, there’s still a great deal of skepticism about whether this team will end up holding the Lombardi Trophy at the end of the season, no matter how good it looks at the moment,” Falcons quarterback Matt Ryan delivered a thumbs up in the second half of Sunday’s 19-13 victory over the Cowboys in the Georgia Dome.

“We’ve got an opportunity to do something nobody’s been able to do this year, and that’s beat the Falcons.”

Falcons quarterback Matt Ryan delivers a thumbs up in the second half of Sunday’s 19-13 victory over the Cowboys in the Georgia Dome.

Falcons’ offense dominates in win over Cowboys

Associated Press

TWO PATHS TO THE POSTSEASON

The Atlanta Falcons are trying to win their fourth consecutive NFC South title, while the New Orleans Saints and Tampa Bay Buccaneers are desperate for their first. If any team in the NFC South can peak at the right time, it would be the Falcons. Are they actually getting better as the season progresses?

The Falcons have won eight straight after a 0-4 start, and they’ve won their last three meetings against the Saints. Atlanta’s fierce rival. Then there’s a December contest against the defending Super Bowl champion New York Giants, who thoroughly dominated the teams last season in the playoffs.

“At this point, we have so many other goals that are more important than going 16-0,” Clabo said. “Like winning the division. Like trying to get a game in the (Georgia) Dome in the playoffs. We have a whole bunch of things we have to do before we even worry about doing that other thing.”

Still, the odds of the Falcons running the table start to look much better if they get to 8-0. Other than the NFC East-leading Giants (6-3), the remaining opponents on the schedule are a cumulative 17-24 (Atlanta still has two games left with division rival Tampa Bay). Four of the last seven games are at the Georgia Dome, where the Falcons have a 30.7 record since Mike Smith took over as coach in 2008.

“I think we’ve got the pedigree to do it,” receiver Roddy White said. “Offensively and defensively and how we are as a team. The locker room is very, very united right now. We go into every week expecting to win. We’ll still be a consistent, don’t turn the ball over and get turnovers. That’s been the key to winning games all over this league. If we continue to do that, we’ll be just fine.”

Indeed, Atlanta is among the league leaders in two categories that Smith considers the key to success: turnovers and penalties.

The Falcons have lost only one fumble all season — when quarterback Matt Ryan took a hit — and are plus-10 in turnover ratio, which ranks fourth behind Chicago, the Giants and New England. They are by far the least flagged team in the league, called for just 26 penalties (17 fewer than any other team) accounting for 207 yards (118 below the next-lowest total).

“Coach Smith is always pointing out the penalties that players have and how they affect the game,” defensive back Robert McClain said. “You don’t want to be the guy who gets called out.”

The Saints (3-5) have shown signs of bouncing back from an 0-4 start, and they’ve won their last three meetings against the Falcons. New Orleans would love nothing better than to snuff out the Falcons’ perfect season.

“That doesn’t make a difference really,” linebacker Jonathan Vilma said. “It would be great for the fans. I know Saints fans would love that, but for us, we can’t get caught up in all that hype and hoopla. They’re a good team. They’re 8-0 for a reason. It’s not by luck that they’re 8-0, so we have to understand who we’re facing.”

The Falcons know that this season won’t be judged on how many games they win during the regular season. This team has been one-and-done in all three trips to the postseason under Smith, so there truly are bigger goals than going 16-0.

Winning in the playoffs is the main thing.

“That’s what everybody is waiting for us to do,” running back Michael Turner conceded. “We’ve been winning here for a while now. This is nothing new. We just happen to be 8-0.”

 Falcons quarterback Matt Ryan delivers a thumbs up in the second half of Sunday’s 19-13 victory over the Cowboys in the Georgia Dome.

Falcons enter season’s second half undefeated

Falcons enter season’s second half undefeated

Falcons enter season’s second half undefeated

Falcons enter season’s second half undefeated

Falcons enter season’s second half undefeated

Falcons enter season’s second half undefeated

Falcons enter season’s second half undefeated

Falcons enter season’s second half undefeated

Falcons enter season’s second half undefeated

Falcons enter season’s second half undefeated

Falcons enter season’s second half undefeated

Falcons enter season’s second half undefeated

Falcons enter season’s second half undefeated
McGwire returns home to coach Dodgers

Mark McGwire, former hitting coach for the St. Louis Cardinals, joined the Los Angeles Dodgers in the same capacity Wednesday.

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Mark McGwire is coming home as hitting coach for the Los Angeles Dodgers, lured by the chance to spend more time with his wife and five young children.

He was hired Wednesday to replace Dave Hansen and improve an offense that struggled last season when All-Star slugger Matt Kemp was hobbled by injuries. The Dodgers were 13th in the National League in runs scored and 88th in on-base percentage (.299) and on-base percentage (.337), ranked second in runs (2,263) and fourth in slugging percentage (.416).

He worked with All-Star sluggers Carlos Beltran, Lance Berkman, Matt Holliday and Albert Pujols, while helping develop 2011 World Series MVP David Freese.

But as much as he enjoyed the job and the team’s success, McGwire said last season “was probably one of the hardest on me family-wise.”

His two sons, ages 9 and 10, have started playing Little League, and he and his wife, Stephanie, have 2-year-old triplet daughters. McGwire also has a 25-year-old son from a previous marriage. The couple lives in Orange County.

“Being away from the girls, it took a little bit for them to realize Daddy was back a couple weeks ago,” he said, adding that he wasn’t certain he would have returned to St. Louis if the Dodgers hadn’t pursued him.

Once they did, he turned down the Cardinals’ contract extension and started phoning the team’s players and staff to say goodbye.

“It was very, very hard to call everybody,” he said.

McGwire is from the Los Angeles suburb of Pomona. He played college baseball at Anderson University.

Belles travel for regional qualifier

By LAURA COLETTI

The Belles will travel to Anderson, Ind., this weekend for the NCAA Division III Great Lakes Regionals at Anderson University.

Seven Belles will participate in the regional meet. Junior Jessica Biek has paced her team in many races.

She also echoed Bauters’ hope that the Belles set more personal records at the regional meet.

“Tally tough on the course,” she said. “We need to run together as we have all the potential to run great races.”

Belles coach Jackie Bauters said, “I expect that the team will run very well.”

The Belles will compete in a field of between 35 and 40 other teams, along with some additional individual competitors. Bauters said she expects her squad to run a good race and to hopefully peak individually.

“I am looking to see some more personal records after our championship race, as I feel like my team is even more finely tuned now than before,” she said.

Majewski said she and her teammates are prepared to perform at a high level this weekend.

“We are all very excited and ready for this big race,” she said. “Our entire season of training, especially these past two weeks, has prepared us all for the potential to run great races.”

She also echoed Bauters’ hope that the Belles set more personal records at the regional meet.

“We are hoping to break many personal records as well,” Majewski said. “We need to run together as we have been all season and be mentally tough on the course.”

Bauters said she is also hoping for overall team improvement from last year’s regional, in which the team placed 22nd.

“There is a lot of great competition in our regional,” Bauters “I would like to see us improve upon our place from last year in the region,” she said.

The Belles are set to race for the NCAA Great Lakes Regionals at 11 a.m. at Anderson on Saturday.

Contact Laura Coletti at lcoletti@nd.edu
Rae leads Irish into Great Lakes Regionals

By JOE WIRTH
Sports Writer

Both the men’s and women’s teams will be competing in this week’s NCAA Great Lakes Regionals beginning Friday in Madison, Wis.

After their strong performances at the recent Big East championships, the Irish hope to continue their good form this week against strong competition.

Senior Jeremy Rae leads Notre Dame’s men’s team. Rae is coming off a third-place finish last week and the all-Big East honoree is hoping to close out his Notre Dame career with strong performances this week and next at the NCAA Championships.

The other representatives from the men’s team competing at the Great Lakes Regional include freshman Michael Clevenger, juniors Martin Grady, Patrick Lesiewicz, Walter Schafer, D.J. Thornton and seniors Jeff Macmillan, J.P. Malette and Jonathan Shawel.

Senior Rebecca Tracy will lead the women’s team in Wisconsin. Like Rae, Tracy also earned a spot on the All-Big East team after the conference tournament Oct. 26. Tracy comes into this regional in good form, having finished 15th in the Big East race. She finished 34th out of 227 runners at Great Lakes Regionals last year.

While the representatives from the men’s team are mostly upperclassmen, the women’s team is much younger. The Irish women’s field includes three freshman, four sophomores, three juniors and three seniors.

Throughout the year, coach Joe Piane has said he wanted his team to improve on their starts. He said the runners were too hesitant early and that cost them down the stretch, especially in races with large fields.

“We needed to be more aggressive and competitive early,” Piane said Oct. 12 after the Wisconsin Invitational. “I believe the experience we got from this race will benefit us in future big races.”

The Irish did just that in the conference event as the men finished third and the women took fifth. For the Irish to have success in the next two meets, Piane said they are going to have to stick with the quick-start philosophy.

“We were much more aggressive than we have been in other meets this year,” Piane told UND.com following the Big East Championships. “We will need to run similarly in two weeks to have a good shot at advancing to the NCAA Championships.”

The men’s field will include 30 teams with a total of 304 individual runners, while the women’s side will have a field of 32 teams with a total of 241 individual runners.

The women’s race will be a 6-kilometer race and will begin at 1 p.m. The men’s race will be a 10-kilometer competition and will begin approximately at 2:15 p.m. Both races will take place at the Thomas Zimmer Championship Cross Country Course on the campus of the University of Wisconsin in Madison, Wis.

Contact Joe Wirth at jwirth@nd.edu

The Crowning Glory of the Virtues:
Exploring the Many Facets of Justice

Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture Annual Fall Conference
November 8-10, 2012

Events for TODAY Thursday, November 8

Mass for Justice and Peace
Bishop Kevin Rhoades
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend
5:15pm, Basilica of the Sacred Heart

Joseph Pieper Keynote Lecture
Justice and the Rule of Law
Mark Filip
Former Acting Attorney General of the United States
7:30 pm, McKenna Hall Auditorium
Reception to follow

All conference sessions will be held at McKenna Conference Center. More information, including the full schedule, can be found at ethiccenter.nd.edu.

In the event that the auditorium is full, nonregistered attendees will be able to view sessions in the adjacent live-streaming room.
Elite fencers prepare for national tournament

By JOE WIRTH
Sports Writer

The Irish continue their fall schedule this week as they participate in the North American Cup in Virginia Beach, Va.

The event is organized by USA Fencing and does not have any affiliation with the NCAA. Despite this fact and although the cup is not a team event, several of Notre Dame’s fencers are participating in order to gain experience and advance their national rankings. Among the Irish fencers participating in the event are freshman Lee Kiefer and Sarah Followill.

ND WOMEN’S TENNIS

Irish split for weekend meets

By VICKY JACOBSEN
Sports Writer

The Irish will be splitting up the squad this weekend, sending two athletes to Lakewood Ranch, Fla., for the Lakewood Ranch Invitational while the rest of the team travels north for the Western Michigan Invitational.

The team will compete at both the Lakewood Ranch Invitational in Lakewood Ranch, Fla., and the Western Michigan Invitational in Kalamazoo, Mich. However, as of now, the team’s lineup and strategy is up in the air.

Mike McGough, head coach, said he will be using the upcoming tournaments to see his team’s development and start finalizing positions for future matches.

“Right now we’re using the fall to determine our lineup for the spring,” McGough said. “I feel like our depth’s very good, so the big thing’s getting the chance to see the kids with different doubles partners and seeing how they’re going to do against similar opponents.”

The Irish will be competing all day Friday, Saturday and Sunday at both the Lakewood Ranch Invitational in Lakewood Ranch, Fla., and the Western Michigan Invitational in Kalamazoo, Mich.

Winter matchups are quickly approaching, and Louderback said he will be using the upcoming tournaments to see his team’s development and start finalizing positions for future matches.

“My goal is always to keep the team together — this is our time to play together,” Louderback said.

This weekend’s North American Cup is one of the biggest fencing competitions in the country. There are a total of 1,924 fencers competing across 18 divisions during the four-day tournament.

The competition will begin at 8 a.m. Friday and will continue through Monday at the Virginia Beach Convention Center in Virginia Beach, Va.

Contact Joe Wirth at jwirth@nd.edu

Contact Vicky Jacobson at vjacobse@nd.edu

---

ND WOMEN’S TENNIS

Irish split for weekend meets

By VICKY JACOBSEN
Sports Writer

The Irish will be splitting up the squad this weekend, sending two athletes to Lakewood Ranch, Fla., for the Lakewood Ranch Invitational while the rest of the team travels north for the Western Michigan Invitational.

The event is organized by USA Fencing and does not have any affiliation with the NCAA. Despite this fact and although the cup is not a team event, several of Notre Dame’s fencers are participating in order to gain experience and advance their national rankings. Among the Irish fencers participating in the event are freshman Lee Kiefer and Sarah Followill.

The team will compete at both the Lakewood Ranch Invitational in Lakewood Ranch, Fla., and the Western Michigan Invitational in Kalamazoo, Mich. However, as of now, the team’s lineup and strategy is up in the air.

Mike McGough, head coach, said he will be using the upcoming tournaments to see his team’s development and start finalizing positions for future matches.

“Right now we’re using the fall to determine our lineup for the spring,” McGough said. “I feel like our depth’s very good, so the big thing’s getting the chance to see the kids with different doubles partners and seeing how they’re going to do against similar opponents.”

The Irish will be competing all day Friday, Saturday and Sunday at both the Lakewood Ranch Invitational in Lakewood Ranch, Fla., and the Western Michigan Invitational in Kalamazoo, Mich.

Winter matchups are quickly approaching, and Louderback said he will be using the upcoming tournaments to see his team’s development and start finalizing positions for future matches.

“My goal is always to keep the team together — this is our time to play together,” Louderback said.

This weekend’s North American Cup is one of the biggest fencing competitions in the country. There are a total of 1,924 fencers competing across 18 divisions during the four-day tournament.

The competition will begin at 8 a.m. Friday and will continue through Monday at the Virginia Beach Convention Center in Virginia Beach, Va.

Contact Joe Wirth at jwirth@nd.edu

Contact Vicky Jacobson at vjacobse@nd.edu

---

ND WOMEN’S TENNIS

Irish split for weekend meets

By VICKY JACOBSEN
Sports Writer

The Irish will be splitting up the squad this weekend, sending two athletes to Lakewood Ranch, Fla., for the Lakewood Ranch Invitational while the rest of the team travels north for the Western Michigan Invitational.

The event is organized by USA Fencing and does not have any affiliation with the NCAA. Despite this fact and although the cup is not a team event, several of Notre Dame’s fencers are participating in order to gain experience and advance their national rankings. Among the Irish fencers participating in the event are freshman Lee Kiefer and Sarah Followill.

The team will compete at both the Lakewood Ranch Invitational in Lakewood Ranch, Fla., and the Western Michigan Invitational in Kalamazoo, Mich. However, as of now, the team’s lineup and strategy is up in the air.

Mike McGough, head coach, said he will be using the upcoming tournaments to see his team’s development and start finalizing positions for future matches.

“Right now we’re using the fall to determine our lineup for the spring,” McGough said. “I feel like our depth’s very good, so the big thing’s getting the chance to see the kids with different doubles partners and seeing how they’re going to do against similar opponents.”

The Irish will be competing all day Friday, Saturday and Sunday at both the Lakewood Ranch Invitational in Lakewood Ranch, Fla., and the Western Michigan Invitational in Kalamazoo, Mich.

Winter matchups are quickly approaching, and Louderback said he will be using the upcoming tournaments to see his team’s development and start finalizing positions for future matches.

“My goal is always to keep the team together — this is our time to play together,” Louderback said.

This weekend’s North American Cup is one of the biggest fencing competitions in the country. There are a total of 1,924 fencers competing across 18 divisions during the four-day tournament.

The competition will begin at 8 a.m. Friday and will continue through Monday at the Virginia Beach Convention Center in Virginia Beach, Va.

Contact Joe Wirth at jwirth@nd.edu

Contact Vicky Jacobson at vjacobse@nd.edu

---

ND WOMEN’S TENNIS

Irish split for weekend meets

By VICKY JACOBSEN
Sports Writer

The Irish will be splitting up the squad this weekend, sending two athletes to Lakewood Ranch, Fla., for the Lakewood Ranch Invitational while the rest of the team travels north for the Western Michigan Invitational.

The event is organized by USA Fencing and does not have any affiliation with the NCAA. Despite this fact and although the cup is not a team event, several of Notre Dame’s fencers are participating in order to gain experience and advance their national rankings. Among the Irish fencers participating in the event are freshman Lee Kiefer and Sarah Followill.

The team will compete at both the Lakewood Ranch Invitational in Lakewood Ranch, Fla., and the Western Michigan Invitational in Kalamazoo, Mich. However, as of now, the team’s lineup and strategy is up in the air.

Mike McGough, head coach, said he will be using the upcoming tournaments to see his team’s development and start finalizing positions for future matches.

“Right now we’re using the fall to determine our lineup for the spring,” McGough said. “I feel like our depth’s very good, so the big thing’s getting the chance to see the kids with different doubles partners and seeing how they’re going to do against similar opponents.”

The Irish will be competing all day Friday, Saturday and Sunday at both the Lakewood Ranch Invitational in Lakewood Ranch, Fla., and the Western Michigan Invitational in Kalamazoo, Mich.

Winter matchups are quickly approaching, and Louderback said he will be using the upcoming tournaments to see his team’s development and start finalizing positions for future matches.

“My goal is always to keep the team together — this is our time to play together,” Louderback said.

This weekend’s North American Cup is one of the biggest fencing competitions in the country. There are a total of 1,924 fencers competing across 18 divisions during the four-day tournament.

The competition will begin at 8 a.m. Friday and will continue through Monday at the Virginia Beach Convention Center in Virginia Beach, Va.

Contact Joe Wirth at jwirth@nd.edu

Contact Vicky Jacobson at vjacobse@nd.edu

---
**Louisville (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24)**

an advantage to having both Big East teams head in to compete in Notre Dame’s home pool.

“We know the blocks, flags and overall set up, which is something every team must adjust to when they are competing at a new pool,” Holden said. “Being at home also gives us the advantage of having support in the stands. The energy definitely makes a difference.”

Holden said there was a lot of disappointment after the loss against Purdue but head coach Brian Barnes refocused the team during practice throughout the week.

“We met as a team after our meet against Purdue on Friday,” Holden said. “Brian encouraged us to leave our frustration at the pool. We recognized that there were a lot of positive things going on and that it wouldn’t help us to linger on a loss for too long.”

Holden said the training throughout the week served to give the Irish a new confidence heading into both duel meets this weekend.

“[Last weekend] was a total team effort but there are things we can work on like walls and breathing patterns,” Dyer said. “It is a great meet to come off of going into Pitt and Louisville.”

Purdue, relying also on the extra push from second- and third-place finishes. The squad swept the top three places in the 200-yard freestyle and 100-yard breaststroke. All-American junior Frank Dyer continued to lead the Irish against Purdue, taking wins in three events.

“[Last weekend] was a total team effort but there are things we can work on like walls and breathing patterns. ... It is a great meet to come off of going into Pitt and Louisville.”

Frank Dyer
Junior

**Finishes (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24)**

Purdue, relying also on the extra push from second- and third-place finishes. The squad swept the top three places in the 200-yard freestyle and 100-yard breaststroke. All-American junior Frank Dyer continued to lead the Irish against Purdue, taking wins in three events.

“[Last weekend] was a total team effort but there are things we can work on like walls and breathing patterns,” Dyer said. “It is a great meet to come off of going into Pitt and Louisville.”

Pittsburgh (2-1) comes off a 237-63 win at Cincinnati, led by senior Adam Maczewski and his undefeated career record in the 100-yard backstroke.

Louisville (1-1), the only ranked Big East team, finds leadership in junior Joao De Lucca, who ranks third nationally in the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 44.84 and ninth in the 200-yard freestyle at 1:38.76. The Cardinal also bring a comfortable newcomer, freshman Bryan Draganosky, who holds the No. 8-place ranking in the 1000-yard freestyle at 9:21.14.

Despite this, Louisville comes off a loss in its most recent match against Tennessee. The Cardinals fell 168.6-131.5 on Oct. 25 and have been out of competition for two weeks. The Irish hope to combine Louisville’s long layoff with their own momentum from the victory over Purdue to defeat the Cardinals.

“We are capable of competing with the ranked teams in the country and we have the talent to take them down.”

Frank Dyer
Junior

**NOW LEASING FOR 2013-2014**

**FLAT OUT THE BEST (AND CLOSEST) PLACE TO LIVE NEAR N.D.**

WALK TO CAMPUS, RESTAURANTS, ATHLETIC FIELDS, THE GROCERY, PUBS, ROLL’S REC CENTER... anywhere you need to be... from your brand new Irish Flats apartment at the corner of Burtimate Street and Dunn Road.

Besides your brand new apartment in the center of campus activity, at Irish Flats you’ll find:
- 2 or 3 bedroom units
- Private, full bath with each bedroom
- FREE WiFi & TV
- Full-sized, stacked washer & dryer in each unit
- FREE Exercise Room, Tanning & Lounge
- Bedrooms furnished with full-sized bed, dresser, desk & chair
- Living area furnished with sofa, coffee table & 50” flat screen TV
- One key building, apartment & bedroom access
- Entry closet and two closets per bedroom
- Upscale kitchen with stainless steel appliances & bar stools
- A parking spot for each bedroom
- Community park area

FIRST UNITS AVAILABLE IN JUNE 2013, WITH THE REMAINDER READY FOR AUGUST 2013. Reserve your 2013 apartment today. Be part of the newest, closest apartment community to N.D. For more information or reservations, contact Katie at katie@irishflatsnd.com or 574.246.0999.

574.246.0999 | KATIE@IRISHFLATSNOD.COM | IRISHFLATSNOD.COM

© HIGHLINE 2013

**FIND US ON FACEBOOK @IRISHFLATS**

**“We are capable of competing with ranked teams in the country and we have the talent to take them down.”**

Frank Dyer
Junior

**IRISH FLATS**

**“We are capable of competing with ranked teams in the country and we have the talent to take them down.”**

Frank Dyer
Junior

**Contact Megan Finneran at mfinnera@nd.edu**
Lee

continued from page 24

to come in and get his game legs back and he’s a very smart player with the puck and physical, and I think both those two guys helped Anders together last game.”

Lee’s size also affected his offseason approach during the position change. At 6-foot-3 and 220 pounds, Lee worked to improve his mobility on the ice to take on the challenges of playing center.

“I’ve been trying to work on skating and working on getting up and down the ice faster and my footwork,” Lee said. “Being ready to go end-to-end with backchecking and skating. That’s been real important. At center, you’re all over the ice, so you’ve got to be ready to skate around and that’s why T.J. does so well because he can fly around the ice.”

After Lee was an alternate captain a year ago, Jackson named the junior the sole Notre Dame captain this season. Jackson said he has been impressed this season with the leadership ability of Lee, just one member of Notre Dame’s leadership group.

“I decided to name only one captain this year, but we do have a leadership group of eight guys, and he’s one of them, of course,” Jackson said. “The four seniors and three other juniors, we are meeting every couple of weeks. We talk as a group. I expect everybody, especially the upperclassmen, to take a leadership role.”

“ Anders is a mature young guy and he understands what I’m all about. I think I understand what he’s all about. Good communication skills. He’s got the character and I think he’s doing a great job right now.”

Lee said having a squad full of upperclassmen leaders has made his job as captain easier.

“I just try to be a vocal leader and lead by example on the ice,” he said. “We have so much leadership on this team, it’s not just me within the locker room talking. Everyone’s talking, everyone has that positive attitude. We work together as a unit and we’ve got great senior leadership. (The) upperclassmen (and) junior class, they’ve made the job really easy on me. It hasn’t been tough at all yet and I’m enjoying it, and as long as the team’s winning, that’s all that matters.”

Lee and the rest of the Irish are next in action Friday night when they travel to Chestnut Hill, Mass., for a matchup against No. 1 Boston College at 7 p.m.

Contact Sam Gans at sgans@nd.edu

Irish junior center Anders Lee corrals the puck behind the net during last year’s Feb. 4 contest against Bowling Green in the Compton Family Ice Arena. The Irish lost the game 3-2, but this year Lee and the Irish head into Friday’s matchup with No. 1 Boston College having won four of their last five outings.
Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community.

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

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**

**BAD PUZZLE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Across</th>
<th>Down</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Thirsty alternative</td>
<td>1. Confuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Signs of spring</td>
<td>2. Like some marketing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Feline face cleaners</td>
<td>3. Web or convenience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Shoten, maybe</td>
<td>5. Rollin Tomatoe contributor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Ceremonial military outfit</td>
<td>7. “You’ll better watch out!”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. —</td>
<td>8. Dios minus dio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Long</td>
<td>9. Like vampires</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Like the worst excuse</td>
<td>10. Movie with a 9-year-old Beatle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Click</td>
<td>Supporting Artist winner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. The girl from (paranoid?)</td>
<td>Character with the tagline “Best behind you”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. You will be *</td>
<td>Majordowner?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past line of “Wahin’ and Hopin’”</td>
<td>Foot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27. Classic play whose title is an abbreviation</td>
<td>12. Foot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29. Make a pun trick out of</td>
<td>14. Took to court</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30. Sneaky I see a</td>
<td>13. Melancholy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31. Slight, I see a</td>
<td>Online distributions: Today’s puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords/365.html or a free app.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32. Pass</td>
<td>Chinese dynasty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58. Pass</td>
<td>Share tips: nytimes.com/workplay/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63. —</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64. Wolfe or Woolf, e.g.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65. W.W. 8: general nickname “Bombs Away”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66. It begins at conception</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67. Gusto</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68. Raye vector</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69. Crayola color since 1968</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SUDOKU**

SUDOKU

**THE MEMPHIS GROUP**

**Level: 1**

1 3 4

2 6 5

3 8 7

Answer: ZAAME

**JUMBLE**

**HOROSCOPE**

**EUGENIA LAST**

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jason and Jeremy London, 40; Todd McRae, 49; Jesse Jackson, 79.

Happy Birthday: Focus on learning, traveling and expanding your interests. Don’t be too oppositional or too critical of what others do. Make changes based on your needs. Recognize the big picture, and set your sights on the highest position you can achieve. In the end, it’s about the journey, not the destination. Stability, change and buck the spotlight. Your numbers are 6, 11, 21, 24, 35, 48.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Focus on what and where you know and how you can market your skills. Consider a geographical move that will benefit you professionally. Please deal with the consequence of being honest. Your numbers are 6, 15, 21, 24, 35, 48.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Use emotional tactics to get your way will end up costing you. Honesty and integrity will count in the end; don’t compromise your position due to egotism or a minor detail. Turn your attention to fulfilling an obligation. Your numbers are 6, 15, 21, 24, 35, 48.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21) Show off what you have to offer. Being consistent will determine whether you will be able to parlay what you have to offer into something substantial. Love and romance look promising. Time to eat out or socialize. Your numbers are 6, 15, 21, 24, 35, 48.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Give more thought to your personal life and future. The information you pick up now will alter the way you do things as well as the direction you follow. Let your creative imagination lead the way and you will not be disappointed. Your numbers are 6, 15, 21, 24, 35, 48.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Do deal with the consequence of being honest. Face your demons and the people who drag you down. Start fresh and store for the day you’ve always wanted to be. Set priorities, take charge of your life and you will find happiness. Your numbers are 6, 15, 21, 24, 35, 48.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You will learn a valuable lesson from someone in a position of authority. Travel plans and getting together with old friends will open a window of opportunity that will transform your current situation. Your numbers are 6, 15, 21, 24, 35, 48.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Focus on what you can contribute, not what you can get in return. A unique solution will help keep the peace. Explore different lifestyles. Your numbers are 6, 15, 21, 24, 35, 48.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Take care of personal, financial and medical issues as well as alterations that need to be made at home. Opportunities will develop if you are generous with your time and your talents. There is a gift or cash heading in your direction. Your numbers are 6, 15, 21, 24, 35, 48.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Take care of personal, financial and medical issues as well as alterations that need to be made at home. Opportunities will develop if you are generous with your time and your talents. There is a gift or cash heading in your direction. Your numbers are 6, 15, 21, 24, 35, 48.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Take care of personal, financial and medical issues as well as alterations that need to be made at home. Opportunities will develop if you are generous with your time and your talents. There is a gift or cash heading in your direction. Your numbers are 6, 15, 21, 24, 35, 48.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Watch and observe, but avoid aggressive moves that might lead to a negative response. Show interest in what everyone around you is doing without criticizing or letting anyone know where you stand. Your numbers are 6, 15, 21, 24, 35, 48.

Birthday Baby: You are progressive, adaptable and spontaneous. You are worthy and perspicacious.
HOCKEY

Lee embraces captaincy, move to center

The former winger finds success as leader of the No. 7 Irish after putting NHL plans on hold

By SAM GANS
Sports Writer

During the offseason, Irish junior captain and center Anders Lee had a decision to make. He could either sign a contract with the New York Islanders and move one step closer to the National Hockey League or return to school to work toward a degree in management and try to make another Frozen Four after the Irish missed out on the NCAA Tournament his sophomore season.

He chose the latter.

“I’m committed to this hockey team and this school and I value my degree really highly. We had unfinished business here as a hockey team and I hadn’t earned my degree yet either, so I think it’s just a combination of those two,” Lee said. “And having such a good group of friends on the team and in my dorm and around school, I just wasn’t ready to leave that behind, especially knowing how special the team we had coming back this year [in] and the opportunity for me to graduate.”

So far this season, the No. 7 Irish (6-2-0, 3-1-0-0 CHA) have been the beneficiaries of that choice.

Lee, a 2009 sixth-round pick of the Islanders, leads Notre Dame with nine points through eight games. This past weekend, he notched three goals and an assist in a two-game home split against Western Michigan to earn CHA Postgame Offensive Player of the Week honors.

Lee’s strong start is in the midst of an adjustment from left wing to center. During his first two years at Notre Dame, Lee played primarily alongside junior center T.J. Tynan, with Tynan leading the Irish in points each of the last two years while Lee led the team in goals.

Irish coach Jeff Jackson, however, decided to move Lee to center this offseason, effectively splitting up the pair during five-on-five play. Jackson said Lee’s playing style has made it difficult to find wingers to serve as Lee’s linemates, but believes junior forwards Bryan Rust and Jeff Costello could be the answer.

“In most cases, centers are more like T.J. Tynan or [freshman] Steven Fogarty,” Jackson said. “They’re a little bit more of a playmaker type of players. Anders is probably more of a goal-scorer. And to have a center that’s more of a goal-scorer, you need to have wingers for him that are going to help get him the puck in the right areas of the ice. I thought Bryan Rust did a nice job, Costello’s starting

MEN’S SWIMMING

Irish host conference foes

By MEGAN FINNERAN
Sports Writer

This weekend Notre Dame continues its stretch of home meets and looks to remain undefeated.

The Irish (3-0) most recently took down No. 18 Purdue in a dual meet with 156 points to the Boilermakers’ 144. Now they welcome back-to-back competition from fellow Big East squads and seek two more victories.

Pittsburgh will head into Notre Dame on Friday afternoon, with No. 16 Louisville presenting Saturday.

“We have rival Louisville on Saturday,” senior Chris Johnson said. “We’re going to need to swim just as competitively [as we did against Purdue] and even faster if we want to take them down.”

The Irish took seven of 16 first-place finishes against Purdue and even faster if we want to take them down. Purdue and even faster if we want to take them down.

ND WOMEN’S SWIMMING

Squad looks to rebound at home

By KATIE HEIT
Sports Writer

After a strong showing in a close meet against Purdue last week, senior captain Kim Holden will be one of the swimmers looking to lead the Irish to a victory against Pittsburgh on Friday and Louisville on Saturday.

Holden won Big East Athlete of the Week for swimming and diving after earning the top spot in three individual events in a 152-148 loss to Purdue on Nov. 2. In her events, Holden ranks in the top 20 in the nation and is ranked first in the 100-yard and 200-yard back in the Big East. The Irish will be looking to Holden to earn big points against conference opponents this weekend.

Holden said the Irish are fired up after the close loss to Purdue and are ready to take on Pittsburgh.

“Ice is here. Let’s swim,” senior Caitlin Plummer said.

“We are definitely going into Pittsburgh with the mentality that every swim and every place counts,” Holden said. “We’re feeling confident, but know that anything can happen in a meet. That just means racing tough and smart.”

The last time the Irish faced off against Pittsburgh and Louisville was during the Big East Championship on Feb. 10, where the Irish placed second behind champion Louisville.

A year ago, Louisville defeated the Irish 100-112 in Louisville. A high point of the meet was then-freshman Emma Resney, who won three individual events and was part of the winning 400-yard free relay team. Beaney went on to win the 100-yard breast and the 400-yard IM against Purdue. Holden said there is definitely