By SAM STRYKER
Assistant Managing Editor

‘They were trailblazers back then’

Women’s athletics offer the University a visible example of coeducation’s progress on campus

By MARISA IATI
News Writer

Her loyal daughters

Men recall ‘gradual’ shift

Observer Staff Report

Notre Dame’s vice president and associate provost Don Pope-Davis to leave the University in July to serve as provost at DePaul University, according to a Wednesday press release. Pope-Davis was elected to his current position in 2007 and worked closely with undergraduate scholar-ship and research throughout his tenure, the release stated. He is the second Notre Dame vice president and associate provost to leave the University in the past two years to accept a position as chief academic officer at another Catholic university.

“From his research accomplishments to faculty support, diversity initiatives, leadership in graduate education and athletics, and resolute commitment to Notre Dame’s Catholic mission, Don has made significant contributions to the life of our University over the past 13 years,” Notre Dame provost Thomas G. Burish said in the press release. “I am immensely grateful to him and know that he will serve DePaul well as its chief academic officer.”

Pope-Davis also serves as a professor of psychology and oversees the Office of

Production sparks dialogue

By AUBREY BUTTS
News Writer

Loyal Daughters and Sons, a completely student-run production concerned with issues of sexual violence, sexuality, religion and gender at Notre Dame, seeks to enable dialogue, prevent future violence, and create a safe space for healing and hope, senior director Lauren Palomino said.

The show, which runs three nights this weekend, devotes most of its performance time to portraying true stories about sexual violence, but Palomino an
QUESTION OF THE DAY:
What is your favorite style of French fry at the dining hall?

Amei Wei
sophomore
Pangborn Hall
“Thick cut.”

Ben Laws
sophomore
Fisher Hall
“Seasoned.”

Ej Hinsa
freshman
Sonin College
“Seasoned with ketchup.”

Maya Pillai
senior
Ryan Hall
“Krinkle fries.”

Tara Spirou
sophomore
Holy Cross Hall
“Any French fry.”

Tom Hillstrom
junior
Keough Hall
“Seasoned.”

The First Year of Studies and the Center for Undergraduate Scholarly Engagement organized a Business Panel Discussion on Feb. 26. Professors and upper class business students provided information about opportunities for undergraduate research.

THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

Thursday
Purple Week
Campus-wide
All day
In anticipation of the ND Relay for Life.

Friday
83rd Annual Bengal Bouts Finals
Joyce Center
8 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Boxing.

Saturday
Race for the Heroes
Fieldhouse Mall
8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
$20 for 5k or 10k run on the day of race.

Sunday
Women’s tennis
Eck Tennis Pavilion
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Notre Dame vs. Duke.

Monday
Graduate Student Dialogue
D’Angelo Student Center
6 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
On women and media.

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

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

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

TODAY

What is your favorite style of French fry at the dining hall?
Students bid to dine with campus celebrities

By ANN MARIE JAKUBOWSKI
News Writer

More than 25 Notre Dame celebrities are on the menu to-night at Breen-Phillips Hall’s 29th annual Meal Auction, where students can place bids for a chance to dine with illustrious campus figures such as Irish football coach Brian Kelly or basketball coach Mike Brey, among others.

One of the hall’s signature events, the live and silent auctions will benefit Meals on Wheels, a charity with which Breen-Phillips has had a long relationship, hall president Allison Behrndt and auction coordinator Jaclyn Winkel said. “In [Breen-Phillips], we’re always talking about community and fostering that sense in our dorm,” Winkel said. “Meals on Wheels reaches out to community members who might otherwise be forgotten, so that same sense is there.”

Winkel said a wide array of prominent campus figures will participate as auction prizes, including student body president-elect and vice president-elect Alex Coccia and Nancy Joyce, finance professor Carl Ackermann and psychology professor Anre Venter, as well as members of the Notre Dame men’s basketball and track and field teams.

“Basically, we’ve contacted a bunch of campus celebrities and cool professors, and they agreed to have a meal with the highest bidder,” Winkel said. “People can come and bid per plate, and if you win you get to go out to dinner or have a home-cooked meal with the person.”

Breen-Phillips president Allison Behrndt said bidders can expect great experiences with all the “menu items” but recommended that Irish athletic fans consider the offers from Kelly and Brey.

“Coach Kelly always does a meal with the football staff, and he usually gives the people who win a bunch of issue gear and autographed items,” Behrndt said. “Brey also sets up a meal, and that’s always popular.”

Winkel said the dinner with Kelly typically raises the most money of all the individual auction items. “Coach Kelly always does a meal with the football staff, and he usually gives the people who win a bunch of issue gear and autographed items,” Behrndt said. “Brey also sets up a meal, and that’s always popular.”

Winkel said the dinner with Kelly typically raises the most money of all the individual auction items. “Coach Kelly always does a meal with the football staff, and he usually gives the people who win a lunch at LaFortune tonight from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. The live auction will occupy the Burger King lounge in LaFortune and feature gift cards and restaurant gift cards that pique their interest.

Life after campus deserves a new wardrobe

At the LaFortune Student Center on Thursday, February 28, 2013, from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m., Notre Dame Federal Credit Union, Macy’s, and Sorin Room at LaFortune are hosting a silent auction that was sponsored by the Notre Dame Federal Credit Union.

The silent auction will feature gift cards and restaurant gift cards that pique their interest.

Contact Ann Marie Jakubowski at ajakubo@nd.edu
University of Notre Dame

BOOKSTORE

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Loyal
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

said it also aims to offer stu-
dents a comprehensive perspec-
tive on sexuality at Notre Dame.

“The show creates a space to present a lot of different view-
points. I think everyone’s voice needs to be heard,” Palomino said.

“It’s always been impor-
tant for us to tell the stories about sexual violence because those are the most difficult to
share. We want people to leave the show though having seen a positive side to sexuality at Notre Dame as well.”

This year’s theme, “I Am Not,” arose from Palomino’s desire both to infuse freshness in the show and address the common belief that only others fall vic-
tim to sexual violence, she said.

“No one ever thinks that they will experience sexual vio-
ence or that it could happen to someone they love, and it does,” Palomino said. “It’s a terrible
reality of being here that we all feel so safe but these events do happen. How do we look at both of these together?”

In preparation for the show, Palomino said she and the writ-
ers and actors focus on captur-
ing the authentic voice behind a particular story. They try to avoid insincerity and to respect the courage of students who contributed their experiences to the production.

“When going through the script, we constantly consider how we would feel and how we would present the information,” Palomino said. “We may read these stories a hundred times, but we want it to feel really real when we present it to the audience.”

Palomino said her actors un-
derstand the possibility that the person behind their story may be in the audience at any per-
formance, and this awareness helps them prepare for their roles.

“We want to treat every story with respect, and you can’t do an imitation because imitation can turn into caricature,” she said. “We treat the script as we would every other script, so that each actor can bring their own personality to the character.”

Junior Marissa Vos, a three-
time LDS actress, said the production holds a special sig-
nificance on campus due to its continual relevance to student life.

“The show has a really spe-
cial way of touching the audi-
ence because everyone on this campus can personally relate to at least one of the scenes.”

Vos said. “The cast is given the unique opportunity to give a voice to members of our com-
munity who are struggling in silence. This show is a perfect example of how the arts really can change the world.”

Ultimately, Palomino said she hopes the hours of prepa-
ration and introspection will demonstrate the serious reality

of students’ stories and evoke powerful responses from the audience.

“No one is just a victim. Everyone has a whole life and history,” she said. “Everyone will have a story they will
connect with. Everyone will have a story that makes them angry. We want people to leave and talk about these stories with their friends.”

Loyal Daughters and Sons will take place this Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in the Carey Auditorium of the Hesburgh Library. Tickets are available at the LaFortune Student Center Box Office.

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SENATE

Group improves Hall of the Year selection process

By MADDIE DALY
News Writer

Student Senate debated resolutions to improve the transparency of Hall of the Year selection process at Wednesday’s meeting.

Department of internal af-
fairs director Ben Noe dominat-
ed Wednesday night’s Student Senate meeting by presenting a resolution to improve the Hall of the Year process.

Both internal affairs and Hall Presidents’ Council (HPC) de-
bated a resolution regarding the selection process and scoring system for the Hall of the Year, Noe said.

“The process for Hall of the Year has been changed a few times in the past few years, but hopefully this time we have it just the way we want it,” Noe said. “Currently, Rockne [Awards] are given to one win-
ing dorm per month and count as bonus points added onto the dorm president’s pre-
sentation score. Our new sys-
tem scores the Rocknes on a non-competitive rubric, count-
ing as 30 percent of final score while presentations will consti-
tute the remaining 70 percent.”

Morrissey Manor senator Billy McMahon said his constitu-
tents were unhappy with the results of last year’s Hall of the Year race as a result what they alleged were flaws in the scor-
ing system.

“We won almost all the Rocknes last year and then nothing happened for us after-
wards,” McMahon said. “When you’re giving 70 percent of the weight for Hall of the Year on a one-time presentation, it gets to be which dorm can put together the best Prezi or which dorm has the most charismatic speakers, not the day-to-day work the entire dorm puts in.”

Noe said this resolution in-
tends to assuage concerns about the scoring system by giv-
ing more weight to the Rocknes which prevail-
ously constituted only about 10 percent of a hall’s final score.

HPC co-president Matt Lynch said the changes to the scor-
ing system will likely promote greater participation by all resi-
dents of dorms, Noe said.

“For this year’s 30 per-
cent more is more than last year,” Lynch said. “It’s not competitive because instead of there being only one Rockne winner per month, it’s more if you turn it in, you get credit, like attending class.”

Sophomore class president Tim Scanlan suggested an amendment to the Hall of the Year resolution to add the pub-
lication of the rubric used to judge the hall president pre-
sentations, The Senate ap-
proved this resolution.

Noe presented another resolution regarding special interest stu-
dent organizations, including the gay-straight alliance (GSA), Bookstore Basketball, Junior Parents Weekend, Knights of Columbus, student campus ori-
entation committee and the de-
bate team.

“It was brought to our atten-
tion in December that there are organizations that are not offi-
cially student organizations but are not clubs either, they are in a sort of gray area,” Noe said.

The proposed resolution would allow these special inter-
est groups to access to the large pool of money available to the Student Union, Noe said.

“The Student Union constitu-
tion contains rules for the allo-
cation of the $850,000 Student Union fund,” Noe said. “We are suggesting a total distribution of .25 percent of these funds, about $2,000, to the six special interest groups. It will be allo-
cated based on a presentation

as well as need.”

The groups will receive these funds in addition to funding from various outside sources, Noe said.

“These organizations need to have access to a sort of contin-
gency money in case they need something not included in the outside funding budget,” Noe said. “The best example I can think of is Bookstore Basketball. It operates pretty much break-even because of the charity donations, so if they need new basketballs or other equipment they should be able to do so in a sort of emergency situation.”

Noe said this plan is one of several formulated since the Senate began to discuss how to include interest groups in bud-
getary considerations began in November.

“In conclusion, many plans have been considered, count-
less phone conversations have been had and ultimately this plan has the greatest benefit with the least amount of com-
plication,” Noe said.

The resolution passed with just two opposing votes.

Current Student Union Board (SUB) manager Ashley Markowski presented her nom-
ine for next year’s position, Kaitlyn Keelin, a junior Science-
Business major from McGlinn Hall who has been involved with SUB since her freshman year. The group voted in favor of Keelin taking over this position.

Contact Maddie Daly at
mdaly@nd.edu

NEWS

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5
Author delves into history behind novel

By CAILIN CROWE


Skloot began the lecture by addressing the significance of Henrietta Lacks’ cells to major medical advances, including the development of the polio vaccine, cloning and gene mapping.

“Sort of the brilliance of what [University President Emeritus Fr. Ted] Hesburgh did was gently change the culture ... You probably won’t hear this from any of the women who felt a little awkward or alienated ... but in fact, we were ready for coeducation by the time it came.”

Frank Devine
class of 1975

Despite the national attention, admitting women to the University did not change the campus environment as much as expected, 1975 alumnus Frank Devine said. The male students already knew many of the women who transferred from Saint Mary’s College because the schools’ co-exchange program enabled students to take classes at either institution.

“Sort of the brilliance of what [University President Emeritus Fr. Ted] Hesburgh did was gently change the culture,” Devine said. “You probably won’t hear this from any of the women who felt a little awkward or alienated ... but in fact, we were ready for coeducation by the time it came.”

The high male-to-female ratio also made the change less jarring than it otherwise would have been, Devine said. Only Badin and Walsh Halls housed women during the first year of coeducation.

“It seemed to be very gradual and steady and inevitable, and I don’t recall anybody uncomfortable with the idea,” Devine said. Reagan agreed the change was not overwhelming. “Even though coeducation was just beginning, it was very much a male-oriented school at the time,” he said.

“Letting go of a goal doesn’t mean you failed as long as you have a new one in its place,” she said. “That’s not giving up, it’s just changing directions, which can be one of the most important things to do in life.”

Saint Mary’s science students in attendance said they appreciated the connections between science and daily life Skloot incorporated into her book.

“I like how she integrates science into people’s lives and how she made what’s done in the lab practical for the real world,” first year student and biology major Kaitlyn Takach said. “Skloot’s research and stories are so important because she’s bridging the gap between science and the general public,” Takach said.

Contact Cailin Crowe at ccrowe@smcmail.saintmarys.edu
The Observer

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Athletics

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to them,” she said. “That’s part of the great success.”

“We were playing in relative obscurity”

But it wasn’t always so easy. Sr. Sally Duffy served as the coach of the women’s basketball team when it was a club program from 1975 to 1977. She said her players had to have a certain strength about them in order to successfully navigate the waters of playing for a young program.

“I wouldn’t say they were used to it, being treated as not equal, but certainly you learned that you had to adjust,” she said. “You could hit your head against the wall or you could go with the flow.”

Duffy said because Notre Dame was in the early years of coeducation when its women’s programs were formed, it was enduring two growing pains at the same time.

“Change was incremental,” she said. “Notre Dame had different dynamics, because the whole coeducational shift was happening. Other teams were playing at the time, for example Northwestern, … they had been coeducational for decades. They didn’t have two phenomena happening at the same time.”

Duffy said she believes the early female athletes helped bring about an environment that was welcoming to coeducation at Notre Dame because “they reflect the values of the University.”

“These women did it because they loved coming together. And they loved Notre Dame. They loved what Notre Dame stood for, and they were active in other ways. They stood for what Notre Dame stood for.”

“They were trailblazers back then. They had to be.”

Making strides on and off the court

Conboy said while she and the other female athletes did not feel as if they were pushing for monumental progress at the University in earning varsity status, she felt the visibility of athletics at Notre Dame showed women were excelling in areas of passion.

“We were excited to be pioneers and to know that women were being accepted into places at Notre Dame that they never had traveled before,” she said. “I do think that some of the inroads we were making as female athletes were assigned to other women on campus. It’s okay to tread into male endeavors and take your place among the other students at Notre Dame.”

When she first rejoined the athletic department, Conboy worked under former Irish athletic director Dick Rosenthal. She said Rosenthal, a father of six daughters, shared many of the hopes she had for the program — but progress was slow for a “traditional” athletic department that treated even its men’s sports in an “old school” manner.

“Obviously he was moving the needle,” she said. “But when you were in the midst of it, it didn’t feel as if it were moving as quickly as you wanted it to.”

Conboy said progress was further when men and women began to become involved working with sports of the opposite sex.

“The big change was once we started giving men responsibility of women’s sports and women responsibility of men’s sports, people started caring more about the athletes they were working with than the gender,” she said.

Now in her 25th year at the helm, Irish women’s basketball coach Muffet McGraw said the team was treated as “second class” even when she started coaching in 1987.

“We were playing in relative obscurity,” McGraw said. “Nobody came to the games. We bussed to the games. We bussed everywhere. We didn’t have the budget support. We didn’t really have the same of anything that the men had.”

In looking back at what the women’s basketball program was like nearly 26 years ago when she first joined the Irish, McGraw characterized the difference as “night and day,” to the point the teams are viewed as equals.

“I think that’s the same as being a male athlete,” McGraw said. “I think that people look at us, we’re successful. … I think that we’re looked at as more the sport puzzle” when they choose to attend the University.

When I’m sitting here selling Notre Dame to a young female athlete and her parents, everything from the educational experience to the alumni network to use Notre Dame personally or professionally their whole life … all those things really are appealing to our female athletes,” she said.

Contact Sam Stryker sstryker@nd.edu

The impact on the University

Former Irish player Ruth Riley was the star of the 2001 squad that won Notre Dame’s first and only women’s basketball national championship. Riley said in her time at Notre Dame, she appreciated female athletes “came a long way” in how they were treated.

“I don’t differentiate between men’s and women’s sports. … They’re pretty much the same at Notre Dame,” she said. “They’re equal.”

More than winning the national title, Riley said she could feel “the entire University’s support behind us.”

The reception she had from the student body and the professors, from the University as a whole, the Notre Dame family … for me, I was grateful for the team, the program, the whole program, the entire tarp at that level,” she said.

More than two decades and a national championship later, Riley said she could feel the impact the success of women’s programs have had on Notre Dame.

“It’s been great to see how the students and faculty and everybody has been really behind our success, to make us feel what we are doing is important to the University. … The reception we had from the student body and the professors, from the University as a whole, the Notre Dame family … for me, I was grateful for the team, the program, the entire tarp at that level,” she said.

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INSIDE COLUMN

DeBartolo’s many faces

Laura Coletti
Sports Writer

Over the course of a Notre Dame career, every student usually has a class in DeBartolo Hall. As a result, we’ve each experienced social life between classes. DeBartolo holds a mix of students unlike any other building on campus since it houses such a variety of class meetings. This is the perfect storm for all sorts of encounters. We’ve all been there, which is why I give you: the five people you see in DeBartolo.

That friend you always make plans with that never stick:
You probably met her through a mutual friend at a start party freshman year and became instant besties. As you got older, your friendship flourished and you actually started doing real things together. Suddenly, it seems like you hardly have time for each other anymore. “Oh my goodness, I haven’t seen you in forever,” you’ll say each time you see her. “We’ve got to get dinner or something that we never get around to.” You exchange three texts, make ten tentative plans to meet for lunch and at the last minute something always comes up. Most of the time you never see each other anymore.

The days when we break our Lenten promises are the most important of the 40 days of Lent. Reminders of our seemingly unshakeable inability to keep even simple commitments to God bring with them a whole battery of interior reactions, rich with the possibility of deeper self-knowledge and a deeper encounter with the God of our lives.

That person you think you know:
You probably met her through a mutual friend at a start party freshman year and became instant besties. As you got older, your friendship flourished and you actually started doing real things together. Suddenly, it seems like you hardly have time for each other anymore. “Oh my goodness, I haven’t seen you in forever,” you’ll say each time you see her. “We’ve got to get dinner or something that we never get around to.” You exchange three texts, make ten tentative plans to meet for lunch and at the last minute something always comes up. Most of the time you never see each other anymore.

That person who you used to know:
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You probably met her through a mutual friend at a start party freshman year and became instant besties. As you got older, your friendship flourished and you actually started doing real things together. Suddenly, it seems like you hardly have time for each other anymore. “Oh my goodness, I haven’t seen you in forever,” you’ll say each time you see her. “We’ve got to get dinner or something that we never get around to.” You exchange three texts, make ten tentative plans to meet for lunch and at the last minute something always comes up. Most of the time you never see each other anymore.

That person who you think you know:
You probably met her through a mutual friend at a start party freshman year and became instant besties. As you got older, your friendship flourished and you actually started doing real things together. Suddenly, it seems like you hardly have time for each other anymore. “Oh my goodness, I haven’t seen you in forever,” you’ll say each time you see her. “We’ve got to get dinner or something that we never get around to.” You exchange three texts, make ten tentative plans to meet for lunch and at the last minute something always comes up. Most of the time you never see each other anymore.

The days when we break our Lenten promises are the most important of the 40 days of Lent. Reminders of our seemingly unshakeable inability to keep even simple commitments to God bring with them a whole battery of interior reactions, rich with the possibility of deeper self-knowledge and a deeper encounter with the God of our lives.

Fr. Lou DelFra
Faithpoint

Honestly now — how many times have you broken your Lenten promise so far? As I do most Lents, I promised to spend 30 minutes in quiet prayer each morning of these 40 days, but I already know of three days when that has not happened, two days when I didn’t reach the finish line and at least two more days when my prayer was so distracted it could hardly count as prayer. Today is the 16th day of Lent, and that’s seven whiffs. If Lent were a baseball game, my .438 average would have someone checking me for steroids. God, however, has not yet knocked on my door with a random drug test, so the numbers don’t seem to impress Him much. Has God ever tried to hit a baseball? It’s not that easy.

The days when we break our Lenten promises can be the most important of the 40 days of Lent. Reminders of our seemingly unshakeable inability to keep even simple commitments to God bring with them a whole battery of interior reactions, rich with the possibility of deeper self-knowledge and a deeper encounter with the God of our lives.

Most importantly, I have discovered that if I put my mind to it, I am capable of endlessly frustrating myself. I have never made it through a flawless 40 days of Lent and the prospects for next year don’t look great either. I am pretty sure I am incapable of pulling off a perfect Lent. And once I start thinking outside of Lent to the challenges that confront me the other 325 days, it’s a wonder I get up in the morning. It would be easier and safer if I just stayed in Keenan Hall with the door locked.

Of course, this spiritual depression — born of a spiritual perfectionism — is a helpful conclusion to reach precisely for its absurdity. Lent reminds me precisely of the certainty that moral and spiritual perfection is an impossibility for me. Yet an overwhelming sense of discouragement at our failings hardly helps us build up the Kingdom of God, which I definitely can’t do locked in my room in Keenan — no offense, of course, to the guys at Keenan.

My search for a more helpful response sends my mind through the Lenten scriptures and the almost daily reminder they provide of the collection of sinners with whom Jesus spent his days. Times of spiritual discouragement are extremely rich times to read about Jesus’ encounter with the town thief Zacchaeus or Jesus’ calling of Matthew the tax collector. I nearly cry every third Sunday of Lent when I hear Jesus speak in utter compassion to the adulterous Samaritan woman sitting at the well: “You are thirsting after water that will make you thirsty again. But I can give you water so that you will thirst no more.” These are people of significant moral imperfection, and what strikes me to the heart is not so much that Jesus forgives them — though of course he does — but that he actually seems to seek out and then remains in their company. My readings of these passages, and seeing myself in them, are some of the most intimate moments with God I experience all year. While they don’t justify my sins and shortcomings, they do speak to them — and the words are ones of mercy, love and a renewed call to conversion, true freedom and a relationship with God.

My Lenten failings are invitations not into discouragement, but into a deeper understanding of the depth of God’s mercy and love.

Perhaps I shouldn’t be so content with imperfection, but — truth be told — I kind of like hitting .438 during Lent. Recognition of our limitations and recognition of our thirst to transcend them — even if that recognition sometimes manifests itself only as frustration with ourselves — is a time-tested gateway to a more vibrant and real relationship with Christ. Our limitations make us one with most of the Gospel characters Jesus goes out of his way to encounter. Jesus seeks us out with such persistent compassion despite, or indeed because of, our sins, failures and imperfections. So, .438 is this Lent. But hey, it’s hard to hit a baseball with perfect regularity. Besides, you don’t want to be at the peak of your game in spring training.

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The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Solidarity to create a great university and world

Matthew Caponigro
Raising Voices

"Faith. It’s not something you can see or touch … or is it? It’s been said, there’s blood in these bricks: the blood of thousands of men and women whose faith in something bigger than themselves built a great Catholic university. And it’s that same faith that’s building a better world today. So yes, faith is something you can see and touch. And at Notre Dame, faith is also something that touches you. That’s faith. This is Notre Dame.”

I just listened to these words in a video on our University website. Indeed, throughout the past three and a half years I have witnessed the faith of countless students, professors and faculty members as they participated in service-learning projects, traveled overseas to learn about the lives of others and shared their time and resources with our local community. It is the “disciplined sensibility to the poverty, injustice and oppression that burden the lives of so many” and the “sense of human solidarity and concern for the common good that will bear fruit as learning becomes service to justice” that distinguish Notre Dame as a great Catholic university.

About a week ago, I was touched when a middle-aged man and woman from Indonesia came to Notre Dame to tell the story of how their families and community suffered when the factory they worked for closed unexpectedly. The woman shared how desperate her family became in a country where there is no insurance option for workers like her and her husband when they suddenly lost their job. Without receiving the necessary severance pay, this woman’s situation became grave very quickly. Before long, they were forced to move into a smaller apartment with only one room to live in — even to use the bathroom in. Without the money to pay for rice, beans or any other nutritional staples, this woman and her family survived on Cassava leaves, which they were allowed to pick off the tree owned by their landlord. Hungry and desperate, this mother of three felt ashamed and worried for her children. She was further devastated when a friend of hers — who had already become desperate after losing her job and receiving no severance — killed her daughter and then threw herself in front of a moving vehicle because she wanted “to be free” from her suffering.

At the end of this summer, I traveled abroad and met with some union leaders who work for clothing factories in Haiti. After hearing about the hardships the workers face in order to survive, I asked one man what the most difficult aspect of the situation was. He answered me, “I continue to send my children to school and barely scrap up the money to cover the cost of their uniform, materials etc. But when my kids see that they are hungry, I have nothing to give them.”

In the case of the Indonesian workers, their factory owner fled with very small profit because he was losing money under the pressure of a subcontractor who has a deal with Adidas, as well as other prominent collegiate apparel corporations. Adidas is the only one that has refused to compensate these workers at this point. Moreover, the workers argue Adidas is largely responsible for the push to maximize profit at low cost that in many cases leads subcontracting companies to pressure factory owners to the point where they flee with the little money they have left. The situation at factories in Haiti as well as in Central American countries, Bangladesh and a few in Europe is similar. Many factories make apparel that is sold by Adidas for large profit while the workers’ salaries and benefits are scant. The Indonesian workers came all the way to Notre Dame to ask us to join them in a cry of solidarity: to ask Notre Dame to put Adidas on notice until they pay the Indonesian workers severance. These workers as well as the ones I met in Haiti present us with a common message: Their suffering is deeply connected to ours. If we can put time, money and resources into service initiatives, surely we can raise our voices to help achieve justice in a deal we have such a significant part in. The majority of clothing worn at our sporting events and parties is often made by the unfair sweat of another person’s labor, as the Indonesian workers reminded me. Their stories are directly connected to our stories. If our story is one of faith, we cannot ignore the unjust agreement we participate in as consumers of clothing produced by people who are regarded as no better than “machines to create more profit at lower costs.”

Whether in the name of God, human solidarity or Notre Dame herself, we can join together to respond to this situation, demonstrating faith in something greater than ourselves: that we can help restore and protect the human dignity of workers who suffer from a contract we participate in. Such is the faith that will build a better world today. Faith is something we must see and touch, and inevitably it will touch others. Right now, we are being touched by faith and called to respond. Our fellow human beings are suffering for our sake. As a Notre Dame student body, we have the power to demonstrate the authentic faith of Notre Dame by responding to their plea in solidarity. If we hold Adidas accountable for paying these workers severance, others will recognize that our faith can be seen and touched. “That’s faith. That’s Notre Dame.”

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UWIRE

Obama’s manufacturing solution

Paul Sherman
Michigan Daily

For the past four years, Americans have been waiting for the solution to the economy they thought would come sooner. Four years ago, in his first State of the Union address, President Barack Obama said that Americans had to “answer history’s call” in the light of a potential “second depression.”

Time, as he entered the House chamber and looked in the television cameras for a fifth time, he focused on the idea that creating middle class jobs must be the “North Star that guides our (economic) efforts.”

While there are many important issues that face this country, I was pleased that the president brought up manufacturing. He said that Washington must “guarantee that the next revolution in manufacturing is made in America.” With the Republicans reeling and looking to find support, Obama must strike a bipartisan agreement on the fiscal issues facing this country. Now is the time for Congress to finally make America a “magnet for jobs and manufacturing.”

Though there have been signs of erosion, the American manufacturing industry is still one of the largest in the world. A January 2012 Congressional Research Service report found that America’s share of global manufacturing activity has decreased in recent years. China’s manufacturing sector is almost as large as in the United States, valued at $1.814 trillion and $1.756 trillion respectively. In December 2012, the manufacturing sector made modest gains in manufacturing activity and factory hiring.

One of the common arguments related to manufacturing thrown around recently is that American companies are outsourcing jobs to other countries because their labor laws allow manufacturing operations to be more profitable. However, this is not as big of an issue as most Americans think it is. As the Bureau of Labor Statistics has found, the effect of outsourcing has been minimal. In the third quarter of 2012, when more than 100,000 workers were laid off, firms told BLS that less than 1 percent of these workers had their jobs moved to another country.

An article from The Atlantic reported that American companies are seeing the economic benefits of keeping jobs in America and have, in fact, started to “insource” jobs. China’s Foxconn, the Chinese manufacturing giant, is actually planning on increasing their operations in the United States. American companies are realizing the benefits of keeping jobs in the United States, which will limit the effect that outsourcing will have on the economy.

On the other hand, what’s preventing companies from producing in the United States is the attractiveness of production in other countries. Part of the issue is that the value of the dollar made producing goods in the United States less attractive than other countries with cheaper labor and production costs and lower marginal tax rates. If America wants to become more competitive in this regard, the federal government must be willing to create a plan that provides subsidies and “lower tax rates for busi- nesses and manufactures that (will) create jobs right here in America.” This would help reduce the costs of production in the U.S., which would make companies more willing to attract new jobs without having to reduce workers’ salaries.

One point that President Obama has been stressing is that increasing our focus on alternative energy will make America a stronger manufacturing country. According to the Department of Energy, in August 2012 the wind sector was employing 75,000 American workers, including workers at manufacturing facilities and in down the supply chain, as well as engineers and construction workers who build and operate the wind farms. People are now feeling the benefits of alternative energy manufacturing. On top of providing jobs, it will help Americans save money on energy consumption. This is the direction the manufacturing sector is going. If we fail to recognize the importance of alternative energy, America will fall behind.

Manufacturing is what has driven America over the past century. If we plan to give up on manufacturing, we are throwing the future of this country away. But words can only go so far. This plan will not completely revive the American car industry or the steel industry. While it is not complete, President Obama’s plan will make American manufacturing industry more competitive that it is today so that we can be authors of the next great chapter in our American story.

This column originally ran in the Feb. 13 edition of Michigan Daily, serving the University of Michigan. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
By JUAN RAMON CANCIO
Scene Writer

In Leos Carax’s “Holy Motors,” we meet Mr. Oscar (Denis Lavant), an actor whose job is to be driven around Paris in a limousine and perform short scenes throughout the city for an unseen audience. Oscar is not a television or movie actor — instead he uses the real world as his stage. He appears to perform in front of hidden cameras, but really Paris and its residents serve as his audience, and it’s simply hard to believe that Cole, the rapper that was supposed to eclipse Jay-Z and strike the balance between the old- and new-school styles and innovate in the rap sphere — from the fans all the way up to his fellow rap colleagues.

In some scenes, Mr. Oscar has help from other actors who admit to being part of his company, but for the most part, we are left to wonder whether others in the scene are fellow actors or real-life people reacting naturally to his character. At first it seems that the scenes are mostly unrelated, but as the movie continues Oscar referenced and even interacted with characters he portrayed earlier unrelated episodes allows the movie insight into the human condition.

In order to play so many characters, Mr. Oscar uses prosthetics, costume accessories and even different languages. The unique disguises that Mr. Oscar dons are so different it’s hard to believe there could be one actor portraying so many characters, and this helps to communicate the various emotions and themes expressed in the film. Not only does Mr. Oscar perform as ten different characters throughout the movie, but he also performs in a breathtaking array of cinematic genres ranging from fairy tale and horror to dramatic musical and thriller.

Earlier this month, Roc Nation artist J. Cole broke his silence and ended his brief hiatus from hip-hop with his newest effort, “Truly Yours.” The mixtape seeks to bring a “back to basics” approach, showcasing his rap style and lyricism while simultaneously highlighting his growth as not just a rapper, but also as a musician.

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Mr. Oscar and some of his characters seem to express dread at the idea of dying, but in other instances show a contradictory sense of welcoming death and its mysteries. The movie also expresses how tired we grow of our daily routines, and how disappointing it can be to realize that life has slipped through our fingertips.

This film is great for those who like a movie that makes you think. It provides the audience with many more questions than it does answers and forces you to reflect about your life, the direction it has taken and the decisions it will take in the future. Too often, movies lack and greatness from within him.

Perhaps we’ll see more from a hungrier Cole, one who seems more ambitious and bent on returning to form. After all, this is the self-proclaimed “rap-form LeBron,” so perhaps we’ve yet to witness some maturity and greatness from within him.

Holla At Ya,” is the epitome of this point. The song is not necessarily bad, as it features lone, honest strings of a guitar in the background, serving as the perfect complement to Cole’s style and sound. And Cole’s lyricism is still spot on, as he describes, “Bigger now but when she sends me a letter always write her back/ And time revealed, she feels that she settled too soon/ While she sees me go for mines and she admire that/ We speak about time as if we could just buy it back.”

Cole still plays his role well, but he takes all of this too far, as it feels like Cole is just vibing to the song in all the wrong ways, constantly interjecting “Can I holla at ya?” almost non-stop, to the point of coming off as flashy and unnecessary. And unfortunately, this trend of “too much flash, not enough substance” persists throughout “Truly Yours.”

Perhaps we’ll see more from a hungrier Cole, one who seems more ambitious and bent on returning to form. After all, this is the self-proclaimed “rap-form LeBron,” so perhaps we’ve yet to witness some maturity and greatness from within him.

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FINCHER’S OVERRACING ‘FIGHT CLUB’

Mac Hendrickson
Scene Writer

Let’s talk about Tyler Durden.
And why “Fight Club” couldn’t really make up its mind. It wanted to say something. It was dying to communicate something to everyone about how backwards our modern society is. It was dying to voice the cure. It was dying to sell us some soap. (One of the film’s best image devices—Tyler Durden, the character who cleans everyone’s perception of modern reality, sells soap.)

But by the film’s end, there are too many concerns on the table. It’s an experience similar to hearing three separate people say something at the same time. You have a vague idea what the issue is, but are more or less confused about everything else.

On October 15th, 1999, 77 days before the start of the 21st century, David Fincher released his fourth feature film “Fight Club,” a filmic adaptation of Chuck Palahniuk’s novel of the same name. It received mediocre critic responses, but since has become one of the most celebrated films of the 1990s. The film is a fantastic realization of Fincher’s potential, and both Brad Pitt and Edward Norton give unforgettable performances. The content is raw, philosophical and challenging. Like all of Fincher’s pieces, it runs at high speed and features both the beautiful and the morally repulsive. It was the perfect film to usher in our technological era.

However, as was previously mentioned, the film’s ethos is a little scattered. The film opens with a wonderful critique of modern society. Edward Norton’s character, an unnamed narrator, lives a drab and materialistic existence. He suffers from a horrible case of insomnia, but does not know what’s wrong. This is the film’s most successful thematic thread—the critique of modern materialism. This powerful theme can be summed up in one poignant delivery, supplied by Durden later on in the film: “You are not your job. You are not the car you drive. You are not the contents of your wallet.”

Durden (Brad Pitt) functions as the film’s engine for this philosophical insight. After a random explosion incinerates the narrator’s apartment, Durden reassures the narrator that his identity was in no way exclusively tied up in the apartment. In other words, the narrator is not what he owns, so he has no reason to fret that it all is gone.

So the narrator goes to live with Durden for a bit, and soon gets roped into Durden’s off-color lifestyle, staying in a deserted house within a dilapidated part of town. Though their living situation is almost completely devoid of modern convenience, the narrator begins to realize that he is living the most fulfilling life he has ever lived.

But this is where it gets weird. For whatever reason, Durden, the narrator, and a bunch of other white and blue-collar American males who work out during the week and drink to excess on the weekend discover an alternative to the American materialistic lifestyle. They meet in the basement of bar and beat each other to a pulp. And the audience is somehow convinced that this is a good idea.

Furthermore, the film attempts to weave a third theme concerning the acceptance of mortality. It is somewhat related to the reason these guys beat each other up — they are trying to reach a point where no one can hurt them. Where they don’t fear death. Where they don’t fear pain … Okay, I’ll buy that. This is, after all, the philosophical space where the narrator overcomes his insomnia. But then there is the whole anti-materialistic bent, which the audience is forced to tie together.

When one watches “Fight Club,” it really doesn’t seem that messy. Fincher does a good job of weaving these themes together to form a clever ride. So, although the wise wouldn’t necessarily try to juggle all those themes in one film, a little overreaching has never ruined a film’s death warrant. It all, more or less, works.

But I have a final problem with the film — it’s a bigger deal than the previous issues. And yes, this is a spoiler. So if you have never seen “Fight Club” and it sounds like its worth your time (I assure you it is), stop reading. I take issue with the final twist. The revelation that Durden is the narrator, and vice versa. Why does Tyler Durden have to be a part of the narrator’s consciousness? Why further stretch the audience’s suspension of disbelief by convincing them that the narrator was somehow both of the film’s protagonists through the entirety of their interaction and the film? Where does that even get us? How is that related to materialism? To pain and death? To soap? Don’t think too hard about this. I assure you, it’s not related, in any way.

Wouldn’t the film be that much more powerful if Durden was a real person, capable of real change? Durden’s power becomes instantly limited as soon as we realize that his agency is restricted to the narrator. The psychological twist adds some pizzazz to a film that has already been pizzazz-ed as far as it can go. And the dramatic tension it creates, i.e. the narrator battling himself in an empty garage, isn’t that interesting or worth the confusion.

I would use the metaphor of the straw that broke the camels back, but this final psychological twist is far more than a straw. Its magnitude overcomes almost everything else the film has tried to do up until the end. It overpowers the themes and instead of wondering how we should respond to Tyler’s theory on life, we are forced into trying to figure out how the narrator managed to be two places at once. “Fight Club” simply has too much going on; it wants to say too much. Four separate films could have been made with all the themes and ideas presented, and Fincher gives us but one. Perhaps this is part of the film’s appeal. It can be approached from multiple angles; many interpretations of its tone can be made. But I suspect most fans are like me. They are always intrigued, and enjoy the ride, but are tongue tied when friends ask what the film is really “about.” We can’t make up our minds as to what to say first. And its then we realize that “Fight Club” couldn’t make up its mind either.

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

Brandon Keelaway | The Observer
Kobe's dominance says it all

Matthew Robison
Sports Writer

Editor's note: This is the fourth in a 12-part series discussing the defining sportsman (or woman) of this century. In this installment, Matthew Robison argues for Kobe Bryant. Join the discussion on Twitter by using #DefiningSportsman.

In my book, in order to define an era athletes must display greatness throughout said era. To display greatness, athletes must win championships. No other player has displayed greatness and thus defined the 21st century better than Kobe Bryant.

Since 2000, no player in a team sport has won more championships than Kobe. He won three straight from 2000-02 with the Lakers. Those who liked to knock Kobe say he couldn’t win a championship without Shaquille O’Neal. Shaq won on to win another championship in 2000 with Dwyane Wade and the Heat.

But three years later Kobe did it again, repeating with the Lakers in 2009 and 2010. His five championship sets him far apart from his contemporaries.

Tim Duncan has four championships. Shaq also has four. Wade has two. LeBron has one. In other sports, none of them has defined greatness, as defined by the number of physical dominance and clutch play set him apart. As a 6-foot-6 shooting guard, Kobe physically dominates no one. He doesn’t have the explosive- ness of LeBron James. He doesn’t have the high-flying capabilities of Michael Jordan had. Nor does he tower over defenders like Shaq or Duncan. But Kobe does everything it takes to win — and win he has.

All in all, Kobe’s done just about everything to prove his greatness on the basketball court. A worldwide phenomenon, the NBA is one of the most universally respected sports leagues and as the league’s best, he defines greatness in the NBA and therefore sports worldwide.

Is Kobe the greatest basketball player of all time? Certainly not. Will he be considered the defining athlete of the 21st century when people look back in 100 years? Probably not.

But as this century’s most prolific champion in major team sports he has defined greatness, and therefore sports, in the 21st century.

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

NFL

49ers trade Smith to Chiefs

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Alex Smith quietly stayed behind the scenes after losing his job and watched from the sideline as San Francisco returned to the Super Bowl for the first time in 18 years. Yet the No. 1 overall draft pick from 2005 did make one thing clear: The veteran quarterback still considers himself a starter.

And he hoped to get that chance again. Now, he appears to have it.

The Kansas City Chiefs have agreed to acquire Smith from the 49ers in the first major acquisition since Andy Reid took over as the team’s new coach in early January, a person with knowledge of the trade told The Associated Press on Wednesday.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the deal cannot become official until March 12, when the NFL’s new business year begins.

Another person familiar with the swap said the 49ers will get a second-round pick in April’s draft, No. 34 overall, and a conditional pick in the 2014 draft.

After spending his first eight up-and-down years with the 49ers, Smith will get a welcome new start. The Chiefs will get the proven play-caller they hope can help turn things around under a new coach much the way Smith did under Jim Harbaugh in San Francisco. “You never know when your opportunity’s going to come,” Smith said late in the season. “The good ones are ready when they do come.”

The Chiefs have gone this route before, acquiring Joe Montana from the 49ers nearly 20 years ago, in April 1993, after he won four Super Bowls but gave way to Steve Young — San Francisco’s quarterback of the future.

Not so different from Smith’s situation last season behind second-year QB Colin Kaepernick.

Moving Smith was hardly unexpected. He realized it once Kaepernick emerged as a capable starter over the season’s final two months, and Smith all but said goodbye with his first pro team when he played briefly in the regular-season finale against Arizona to cheers of “Let’s Go, Alex!” and “Alex! Alex!” from the Candlestick Park crowd.

With Smith now headed for Kansas City, Matt Cassel is likely headed out of town. And Reid will enter his first draft as Chiefs coach in April no longer needing to search for a quarterback.

The Chiefs’ problems at quarterback are the single biggest reason they went 2-14 last season and secured the No. 1 pick in the draft for the first time in franchise history.

It’s been a long-running problem for a franchise that has tried Steve Bono and Elvis Grbac (two more one-time 49ers), and more recently Damon Huard, Tyler Thigpen and Tyler Palko at quarterback. And there’s Cassel.

He was acquired by recently fired general manager Scott Pioli, and has two years left on a $63 million, six-year deal. He will likely be cut once Smith is acquired.

Cassel was benched last season in favor of Brady Quinn, who also is a free agent after going 1-7 as the starter.

If Smith can bring the steady form that defined his last two years, the Chiefs might be able to establish a much-needed consistency under center. They also found themselves a team-first player who led the 49ers through workouts during the 2011 lockout.

Under the three-year contract he signed last March, Smith is guaranteed $8.5 million in base salary for the 2013 season.

Smith thrived under 49ers coach and former NFL quarterback Harbaugh in one-plus season as the starter. Then, just like that, it all changed after he sustained a concussion.

Last week at the NFL combine, Harbaugh praised Smith and reiterated just how strong San Francisco was with Colin Kaepernick as the starter and someone with Smith’s credentials at backup.

Yet everyone knew it was likely the 49ers would do their best to improve Smith’s situation considering all he did for the franchise for nearly the past decade.
Associated Press

PALM BEACH GARDENS — This is not the rivalry anyone had in mind when Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy began the year.

They made their debut in Abu Dhabi last month and both missed the cut. The next time they played in the same tournament was last week in the Match Play Championship, and both were eliminated in the first round.

The difference is that Woods returned to Torrey Pines the week after missing the cut. He left little reason for anyone to doubt his game when he built a lead that reached eight shots until the day dragged on and he won by four for his 75th career win on the PGA Tour.

McIlroy knew starting the year there would attention on his change from Titleist to Nike, and it only intensified with two bad results.

But the start of the Florida swing is no time to panic, and McIlroy sure didn’t sound worried at the Honda Classic.

“It’s fine,” he said. “I knew coming into (the year) it was going to be a bit of a process and I knew there was going to be comments if it didn’t happen for me right away,” McIlroy said. “I’m only two tournaments into the season. I’ve still 20 to go. So it’s not like I’m in any rush. It’s not like I’m pushing for answers. Everything is there. It’s just a matter of putting it all together.”

McIlroy put it together much sooner a year ago.

He was runner-up in Abu Dhabi, tied for fifth in Dubai, lost in the final of the Match Play Championship and then won the Honda Classic, making one clutch par save after another to hold off a late rally by Woods. McIlroy went to No. 1 by winning at PGA National, and he has been atop the world ranking since winning the PGA Championship.

How much longer he stays there depends on his game — and that of Woods, who is No. 2 and making up ground.

They are the featured players as the Florida swing gets under way Thursday in the Honda Classic, a tournament that has been rejuvenated in recent years with a couple of significant moves. One was the site of the tournament to PGA National, which has hosted a PGA Championship and a Ryder Cup and makes for good television with so much water in play over the closing holes.

The other was a vast improvement in the neighborhood. Woods moved to nearby Jupiter Island, while McIlroy, Lee Westwood and former Masters champion Charl Schwartzel are located at Old Palm just down the road. Keegan Bradley, Rickie Fowler, Dustin Johnson and others also have moved to south Florida.

It turned out to be the right recipe to get a good field, though Woods and McIlroy are at the top of the list, especially with the Masters getting closer.

Woods brings a little perspective to whether there is reason to doubt McIlroy.

The Match Play Championship is the most unpredictable event in golf, and Woods is a great example of that. He is the only three-time winner, yet he has yet to make it out of the second round since his last win. Woods played bogey-free on a course that still had traces of snow and was beaten by Charles Howell III, who played even better.

“Generally if you’re missing a cut, you’re probably not playing that well,” Woods said Wednesday after his pro-am round. “I actually played well, and only played one day. So I missed a few putts out there, but other than that, I really played well. And unfortunately, I ran into a guy who also played well — better than I did.”

McIlroy didn’t look sharp at all when he was eliminated by Shane Lowry. His weakness was iron play, leaving several shots out to the right. So was it his swing or his new equipment?

The 23-year-old from Northern Ireland suggested a little of both. “I guess it’s still an adjustment period,” he said. “It’s going to be a gradual thing. There’s obviously a bit of an overlap there and you have to just try and get your way into it the best you can. But as I’ve said the last few weeks, it’s more about how I’m swinging the club. That’s the real concern — not concern for me, but I would like to get back to where I was the middle of last year. That’s the real thing I’m working on.”

Even so, the switch to new equipment has been a factor.

McIlroy took a big break at the end of the 2011 season, nearly two months before starting a new year. But with an equipment change, he only took a few weeks off before getting to the practice range with his new clubs. Somewhere along the way, he says some bad habits got into his swing.

He said the golf ball was an easier adjustment than he expected. The driver was more difficult, though McIlroy is confident he has that dialed in.

Now it’s a matter of taking it to the golf course.

He is playing three times before he gets to the Masters — PGA National and Doral in back-to-back weeks, and then a two-week break before he plays the Houston Open.

Whether the Florida swing starts with the Honda Classic or Doral, as it once did, the feel of that warm, tropical breeze, palm trees, white bunkers and blue water hazards signal the first step toward the first major of the year. Only 34 players in the 144-man field are currently in the Masters.

The Honda Classic has five of the top 10 players in the world, including Westwood, Louis Oosthuizen and Justin Rose.
McCarthy bounces back from head injury

Associated Press

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Amanda McCarthy was a nervous wreck in the stands. Her husband was as calm as could be on the mound.

Brandon McCarthy methodically struck out four in two innings in his first game since a horrific head injury, an impressive return that overshadowed all else in the Diamondbacks’ 14-6 loss to the Cincinnati Reds on Wednesday.

McCarthy, signed to a two-year deal by the Diamondbacks as a free agent, gave up one run on three hits. He had not taken the mound in a game since Sept. 5 when he was struck in the head by a line drive off the bat of the Angels’ Erick Aybar while pitching for Oakland.

McCarthy sustained an epidural hemorrhage, brain contusion and skull fracture.

The only blemish came when rookie center fielder Adam Eaton got a break on Denis Phipps deep fly then Jack Hannahan was caught looking for McCarthy’s fourth strikeout.

“I felt my rhythm was good, my game pace was good,” McCarthy said, “all the things I’d like to have even later in spring I felt were good.”

The tall right-hander, working to add a changeup to his repertoire, threw 31 pitches, 22 strikes.

“He was awesome,” his wife said. “Did he strike out like a million?”

McCarthy joked that he had no mental hurdle to clear and felt no more nervous than he did approaching any other spring training opener.

Brandon Phillips bobbled a ground ball off McCarthy leading off the second and it went over his head for a triple. Neftali Soto brought Phipps home with a sacrifice fly, then Jack Hannahan was caught looking for McCarthy’s fourth strikeout.

“When that one came back straight that went way into center I thought he was going to hit the deck, because I did,” his wife said. “But he looks good. I know that he knew what he was doing, and he wouldn’t get out there if he felt uncomfortable.”

McCarthy batted 14-6 over his head by a line drive off the bat of the Angels’ Erick Aybar

Brandon McCarthy ordered by the Reds not to participate for the Dominican Republic in the World Baseball Classic that begins next week, made his first game appearance since he went down with a strained right oblique eight pitches into last season’s NL division series against San Francisco.

He brushed aside the results and said he was just glad to be back on the mound and feeling good.

“That is just what I wanted to do, get out there and pitch to hitters,” Cueto said. “I threw about 40 pitches. I didn’t feel my oblique. I felt nothing in it. I gave up some hits but I was able to throw what I wanted to, thank God.”

The first of Aaron Hill’s two doubles drove in two runs off McCarthy after three-time Gold Glove second baseman Brandon Phillips bobbled a double-play grounder in the opening inning.

A Reds lineup of mostly minor leaguers outscored its Arizona counterpart 13-2 over the last four innings.

Then she watched her husband strike out Billy Hamilton, Joey Votto and Ryan Ludwick in the first inning.

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IRISH GEAR UP FOR MAC MATCHUP

By VICKY JACOBSEN
Sports Writer

Fresh off two close weekend wins, the Irish will host Western Michigan in a midweek match-up today.

Irish coach Jay Louderback said No. 18 Notre Dame (7-3) will be ready for Western Michigan’s Mid-American Conference team that has gotten used to winning.

“They’ve gone to the NCAA’s by winning their conference quite a bit in the past 15 years, 20 years,” Louderback said. “A lot of the time they’re not real talented kids, but they play smart, they’re very well coached.”

The Irish have not had a smooth season on the doubles courts thus far, and the Broncos (6-5) could prove to be a challenge from the first point of the match.

“They always play good doubles,” Louderback said. “We’ve been up-and-down in our doubles. If we would not win the double point it makes things pretty interesting.”

Not that Notre Dame can’t close a deficit. The Irish came from behind to steal wins from No. 24 Baylor and Indiana last weekend, and have now clinched five matches by winning four of the possible seven points.

“I’ve never seen this many [comebacks] in a year,” Louderback said. “You could go five years without having as many matches as we have to come back from.”

The path Irish junior Britney Sanders took to victory against Hoosiers senior and former All-American Leslie Hureau summarizes mimicked the trajectory of Notre Dame’s season. Sanders, who was named the Big East women’s player of the week Tuesday, dropped the first set and trailed 3-0 in the third set before rallying to win 6-7 (3), 7-5, 6-4.

“You could see her confidence even though she was down 3-0 in the third,” Louderback said. “She still felt like she could win the match.”

As the Irish enter today’s match with confidence after clawing back from 3-0 deficits, the Broncos come to the Eck Tennis Pavilion on the heels of two close losses. Western Michigan lost to Michigan State and Illinois-Chicago over the weekend by identical 4-3 deficits.

Although the Broncos doubles pairings and coaching staff may challenge the Irish, Louderback said the unusual, mid-week timing of the match will not.

“We would be practicing that day anyway,” Louderback said.

The Irish return to the courts to face Western Michigan at the Eck Tennis Pavilion at 5 p.m. today.

Contact Vicky Jacobsen at vjacobse@nd.edu

Irish junior Britney Sanders returns the ball during Notre Dame’s 4-2 win over Baylor on Feb. 23. Sanders was named Big East Player of the Week.

North Dining Hall will be closed all day on Saturday, March 2nd for Academic Recognition Weekend events.

We apologize for any inconvenience.
Yi fights for the sake of competition

By ALEX WILCOX
Sports Writer

Boxers love to fight. They love to trade blows with an opponent and salivate at the thought of a knockout. Well, maybe not all of them.

“I’m actually not that big a fan of fighting,” junior captain Daniel Yi said.

This is not what you might expect to hear from a boxer and especially not from a two-time Bengal Bouts champion. But such is the case for Yi.

Yi, a junior accounting major living in Sorin College, is a native of Bakersfield, Calif., where he grew up with his parents and two sisters. Yi attended the small Garces Memorial High School and played football, soccer and tennis. Despite playing a wide range of sports, Yi said he always loved football. “Our high school had maybe 750 kids total and we would go up against the big schools in our area so we would get blown out by our rivals,” Yi said. “We were always the underdogs, but I had a great time. We never won anything significant, but we were always a competitive force.”

When he arrived on campus as a freshman in 2010, Yi continued his athletic career at the interhall level.

“I heard about the whole interhall football thing and I was psyched about that, so I came here with full intention to play interhall,” he said. “It was great because my freshmen year … we had a pretty awesome team. We went to [Notre Dame Stadium] and beat Dillin, so my first year here we won the whole thing.”

During Yi’s sophomore and junior years, Sorin continued its success on the gridiron and made it back to Notre Dame Stadium both years. While Yi enjoyed being a part of interhall sports, he said he the level of intensity didn’t match his competitive drive. “In the beginning, I was really looking for something to fill the void of [high school] varsity sports,” Yi said. “Interhall sports are super fun, but the level of competitiveness just wasn’t there.

“With boxing, the promise of joining the boxing club is that you learn how to box, and you get in really good shape, so it didn’t seem like there was much of a downside.”

For Yi, there hasn’t been anything close to a downside as he has won the tournament in both years he’s participated.

“My freshmen year I won the [198-pound] weight class,” Yi said. “That year, I feel like I put in the most time, so it was great to win. My sophomore year, I was feeling a little heavy, didn’t want to cut weight, so I moved up to the heavyweight division. I viewed it as a really good challenge for me and I was able to win again.”

This year, though, has brought a whole new set of challenges for Yi.

“The potential [to win] is definitely there,” Yi said. “It’s a little different this year. Everyone says junior year is the hardest in terms of course load and they really weren’t kidding.

“I feel like I was in better shape and had better endurance than the past two years, but I think my boxing IQ has gone up and I’m a little calmer in the ring this year.”

While all boxers know the purpose of the tournament is to raise money for charity, Yi said a trip to Bangladesh this past summer with three fellow boxers really opened his eyes to the effects of the Bengal Bouts mission.

“All the money goes to the Holy Cross mission in Bangladesh and it just goes so far,” Yi said. “You raise $100 and it translates into $1,000 over there, so you’re doing so much. It’s such a great investment. It’s such a great opportunity.

 Yi and fellow boxer and senior captain Pat Bishop spent six weeks teaching English to grade school children and Yi said the trip had a large impact on him.

“The thing I’ll never forget is the people that I met, whether it be my students — I call them my students even though I probably learned more from them than they learned from me — the teachers, the Holy Cross priests. It’s just the relationships,” Yi said. “It’s just crazy to experience a world so completely different, but you come to realize that the kids are basically the same. I think that was the greatest thing that I brought back.

With the trip to Bangladesh and the experience of two championships in the back of his mind, Yi said he knows he has what it takes to secure his third straight boxing crown in the heavyweight finals.

“I know what I need to do to win, and so it’s just about the execution at this point,” Yi said. “Hopefully my lungs will take me there. Hopefully I don’t get too tired and hopefully I play it smart.”

Contact Alex Wilcox at awilcox@nd.edu
Welsh

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

had never before won the 200-yard medley at the Big East championships.

Welsh said that the two advancing relays contributed to a “very excited” atmosphere in the natatorium.

“We had thought that both relays did have a chance to qualify and that it would take strong swimming from everyone on each relay [to qualify],” he said. “Accomplishing that was exciting and motivating for all of us.”

The Irish will look to continue their streak of success today in the second day of competition. In the 500-yard freestyle, Dyer holds the No. 1 seed and is followed by seven teammates in spots four through 10. Notre Dame also hopes to swim well in the 200-yard individual medley with a team comprised of four swimmers seeded in the top seven.

Dyer’s qualifying time in the 50-yard freestyle places him third in a close field and Notre Dame will also try to jump No. 1 seed Louisville in the 200-yard freestyle relay. Diving takes a day off and resumes Friday with the three-meter event.

Welsh said he thinks the strong results in all three events of the opening day was exciting and motivating he said. “Accomplishing that one on each relay [to qualify],” he said. “[We’re] excited and eager to move on to tomorrow’s events.”

Notre Dame moves to day two of the Big East championships with prelims commencing at 10 a.m. today at the IUPUI Natatorium in Indianapolis.

Contact Mary Green at mgreen8@nd.edu

Smith

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

midfielder Cara Facchinia cut the Irish lead to 6-5 with 1:32 in the first half, Notre Dame senior attack Betsy Mastropieri scored on a free position shot to give the Irish a 7-5 lead at halftime.

Smith said Halfpenny’s halftime message heavily stressed persistence on defense.

“[Halfpenny] just told us to keep working,” Smith said. “A lot of their goals were just the same thing and them finding the middle, so we needed to stick to our gameplan and do what we do.”

At the start of the second half, Notre Dame’s lead tightened again appeared to be. Ohio State cut the Irish lead to 7-6 and later 8-7 after Buckeyes freshman midfielder Cian Dabrowski scored her third goal of the night.

But the Irish stifled the Ohio State attack, holding the Buckeyes to one goal over the final 25 minutes of the game.

Halfpenny said the team’s defense succeeded by sticking to its original plan in the second half.

“We didn’t make any adjustments because we felt like what we were doing was working,” she said. “We knew it was going to be a slugfest, and we were prepared for that. We just had to really eliminate more of their second-chance opportunities in the second half than we did in the first.”

Notre Dame sealed the victory by tallying five of the game’s final six goals to the five-goal victory.

Smith, who also scored the team’s second goal, finished with four goals on the night. Senior attack Jaimie Morrison finished with six points, scoring two goals and assisting on four others, while Mastropieri added two goals.

Halfpenny said she was proud of the team’s mental toughness and ability to come back for the second time in as many games.

“At the end of the day, it’s a long game,” she said. “All the girls know that, and we talk about it all the time. 60 minutes is a long time, so mistakes will happen and turnovers will happen, but we always look to get the ball back and stay resilient because I think the team has shown a lot of resilience at this young point of the season.”

Halfpenny said the victory over the ranked Buckeyes is a key win for an Irish team still looking to discover its identity.

“I think it’s a big confidence booster for our girls to know that everything you’re working on works,” Halfpenny said. “They haven’t been able to see themselves against an outside opponent, so when you show up at game two against a highly-ranked opponent that’s very physical and athletic — it’s a huge confidence boost to know that our gameplan works and that we can build off it.”

Notre Dame will return to action Saturday when it travels to Pittsburgh to face Duquesne.

Contact Brian Hartnett at bhartnett@nd.edu
Jackson

coaches at Buena Vista High School in Saginaw, Mich., where he starred as a coveted recruit prior to suit- ing up for the Irish.

But as Jackson has quickly discovered, sometimes the growing process is depen- dent on the head coach. He made the decision to forfeit four games this season due to disciplinary issues with his team, which is 11-7 including four of the four forfeits.

“It wasn’t hard because they wouldn’t become suc- cessful off the court and they could just cheat through life,” Jackson said. “I don’t want to just be a coach who wins, but to see kids grow and maybe use it as a stepping stool to get a free scholarship like I did at a great university — one of the best in the country. “Maybe they could take that same route and earn success and give back.”

Jackson hopes he can in- spire individuals to improve life in Saginaw, which was named the most violent city per capita in the United States in Jan. 2010 and has suffered an immense popu- lation loss for more than a decade.

“If I’m giving back, they can give back and the next person can to give our city a chance. It’s going to start with a group of us,” he said. “Maybe my kids can talk to their friends and do the right thing and I wouldn’t al- low them to cheat their way through and do some things that weren’t right.”

The transition from Saginaw to Notre Dame was at times a difficult one, Jackson said, but he depend- ed on members of the bas- ketball program to help him embrace the life of a Notre Dame athlete. He said sports information director Bernie Cafarielli was “a second mother” during his time at the University and credited the coaches with creating an ideal atmosphere for players.

They made the whole transi- tion of going from an urban city where you get nothing but trouble to going some- where like Notre Dame [eas- ier],” he said. “The coaches helped me experience some- thing different. It was a lot of schoolwork trying to be suc- cessful off the court when I first got there and then [Irish coach Mike] Brey made it easy on the court.”

Jackson, who played in all 136 games during his four seasons with the Irish, was catapaulted into the starting lineup early in his freshman season when former guard Kyle McNairney was suspend- ed after his arrest for mari- juana possession. Jackson helped lead the program’s first charge into the NCAA tournament in four years and guided Notre Dame to two more before graduating.

“Coach Brey took the pres- sure off me and he just took it upon himself to let us play basketball and enjoy life, and it was by far one of the greatest experiences I’ve ever had,” Jackson said.

After he was undrafted by the NBA, he played in the NBA Development League for two seasons before returning to Saginaw to make a differ- ence in the city and with the players at his alma mater.

“Sometimes it’s tough,” said Jackson on transition- ing from player to coach. “I’m trying to figure out how to get them pumped up and not too pumped up. It’s a lit- tle tough but it’s the fun part of it: trying to adjust, seeing how coaches would deal with me.”

“I used to stress about me at times and figure out differ- ent things, but it’s been fun. The best part about it is when we win and see those guys smile.”

Sometimes figuring it out involves an unselfish deci- sion, not the easy one. Jackson knows all about that.

Contact Andrew Owens at aowens2@nd.edu
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Happy Birthday
Unusual opportunities will develop. Taking care of pending financial, legal or medical problems will make it easier for you to focus on your goals. Love and romance along with self-improvement will be attainable. Listen to your heart and follow a creative path that makes you happy. A partnership will be beneficial. Your numbers are 9, 11, 26, 28, 37, 46.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Get on with your life. You may be feeling emotional, but don’t give in or give up. Take a look at your options before moving forward with contracts or commitments. Be true to yourself. Make things happen.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): The time spent working out details will pay off and bring you closer to your life goal. Favors will be granted if you are willing to offer what you can in return.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): Avoid any risky involvements. Too much trust will cost you emotionally, financially and physically if you aren’t careful. Discipline will keep you out of trouble and help you establish your place in the market in which you work.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Overconfidence is your enemy. Work quietly behind the scenes and you will accomplish something that will eventually bring you the recognition you desire. Love is highlighted, and personal improvements should be considered and made.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Money and health matters must not be ignored. Follow through with paperwork in order to get the best results. Additional responsibilities can also bring you financial gain. Cut your costs and secure your position.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): A personal change will verify that you were in need of a pick-me-up in order to move in a positive direction. Partnerships can enhance your life and lead to an unusual path that will allow you to put your attributes to good use.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Keep a close eye on what everyone around you is doing. You will come up with some good ideas and workable solutions. Emotional extravagance will not help you get what you want in your personal life.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You don’t have to spend big money in order to make your point or prompt someone to show affection. It’s important to offer good conversation, affection and equality in all aspects of life in order to achieve a sustainable relationship.

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Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Attend a reunion or make a point of reconnecting with someone who you feel has something to offer. Taking an unusual direction is not your normal procedure, but this time it will pay off.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Turn your space into a place that will enhance your ability to follow a dream or create a project that can help you make a little extra cash. You will learn a lot if you observe past mistakes and other people’s failures.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Keep a close eye on what everyone around you is doing. You will come up with some good ideas and workable solutions. Emotional extravagance will not help you get what you want in your personal life.
Midfield movement

After a slow start in the first half, Irish come from behind to beat the Buckeyes

By BRIAN HARTNETT
Sports Writer

For the second consecutive game, No. 7/9 Notre Dame struggled to score in the first half. Then junior midfielder Margaret Smith took over.

The Irish co-captain scored three consecutive goals in under three minutes late in the first half to put Notre Dame (2-0) ahead and the Irish remained in control from there, defeating No. 13/18 Ohio State 13-8 at Loftus Sports Center on Wednesday.

“I think (Smith) was a force to reckon with today, and she was absolutely the spark,” Irish coach Christine Halfpenny said. “If you could have heard her in the huddle, it was exactly what a coach wants to hear her leader doing, taking the team out there and saying, ‘Let’s finish this.’ She was just awesome today for all 60 minutes.”

Irish junior attack Lindsey Powell weaves through Buckeye defenders during Notre Dame's 13-8 victory over Ohio State on Thursday.

Irish lead after Day One

By MATT UNGER
Sports Writer

On the first day of the 2013 Big East championships at the IUPUI Natatorium in Indianapolis, the Irish set the pace. Their 141 points leads the pack of 10 schools at the conference championships so far.

Led by senior Jenny Chiang’s victory in the 3-meter dive — the fourth consecutive 3-meter title in her Big East career — and two first-place relay finishes, the Irish raced to a 34-point lead over second place Louisville.

Chiang became the first diver in Big East history to win championships in the same event four years in a row. But her fourth title did not lack drama as she earned 329.85 points, beating out her Louisville competitor Hannah Good by just 0.85 points.

“It came down to the very last dive, which was good and bad,” Chiang said. “It was good to know that your competition is doing equally as well, but to be able to pull out ahead was just the cherry on top.”

Sophomore Allison Casareto took third in the 3-meter dive.

Notre Dame records historic day

By MARY GREEN
Sports Writer

Notre Dame got off to a quick start at the Big East championships at the IUPUI Natatorium in Indianapolis.

The Irish scored 133 points in the opening day of the meet to put themselves in first place with a 95-point advantage over second-place Pittsburgh.

Though the first finals session included only three men’s events, Notre Dame saw no shortage of action. To begin the night, the 800-yard freestyle relay team of junior Frank Dyer, sophomore Kevin Hughes and seniors John McGinley and Bill Bass claimed second place with a time of 6:23.40. They finished behind first-place Louisville by 1.07 seconds. With that time, the Irish relay team broke the school record and also earned an NCAA A-cut to automatically qualify for next month’s NCAA championships.

Coach Tim Welsh said the strong start sparked the Irish and set the tone for the rest of the evening.

“(I’m) fired up, excited and proud,” he said. “These were very strong performances to open the meet for us in both swimming and diving. We went from ‘Go Irish’ to ‘Way to go, Irish!’”

The winning momentum continued for Notre Dame as the meet moved from the racing lanes to the spring board. In the 1-meter dive finals, sophomore Nick Nemetz captured second place with a score of 310.05 and fellow sophomore Michael Kreft took fourth place with 300.35 points. With those scores, the pair joins the 800-free relay in qualifying for NCAAs.

But arguably the biggest moment of the night for the Irish came in the session’s final event, the 200-yard medley relay. The quartet of freshman Bogaz Ayan, sophomore Cameron Miller, Dyer and sophomore Zach Stephens sprinted to first place in 1:26.33. The relay set a new school record, earned an NCAA A-cut and claimed Notre Dame’s first title of the meet. The Irish