Mendoza promotes diversity

By CHRISTIAN MYERS
News Writer

The 6th annual Notre Dame Diversity Conference will address building stronger businesses by fostering diversity. Second-year MBA student and conference co-chair Andrew Bedward said, Bedward said the goal of the conference is to affirm the importance of diversity in both business and academia.

“The primary focus is promoting diversity in the corporate world and academia,” Bedward said. “We also want to remind people that diversity is broad. It’s not just ethnic diversity, it’s gender diversity, it’s diversity of ideas, it’s diversity of backgrounds.”

The conference will primarily take place in the Mendoza College of Business, but events will also occur in the Notre Dame Stadium press box and in Legends, Bedward said. Friday will feature a case competition for MBA students, but also a networking session and a dinner that will be open to the public.

Saturday the conference will be open to anyone, Bedward said. He said the conference will feature four speakers, including Mendoza College of Business Dean Roger Huang and keynote speaker LaQuita Hall, vice president of business operations at AT&T. The conference will also include panel discussions with guest panelists, break-out sessions with faculty and two networking sessions, he said.

Bedward said he expects the highlight of the event will be the speakers and panelists sharing their stories. “We have a great group of speakers and panelists, so I’m most excited about hearing them discuss their experiences.”

Professors earn NEH fellowships

By CATHERINE OWERS
News Writer

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) has awarded fellowships to three Notre Dame professors. Professor Stephen Dumont, Deborah Tor, and Sandra Gustafson received grants from NEH to work on personal research projects.

Professor Stephen Dumont said the grant will provide for a year’s sabbatical from teaching, so honorees can dedicate time to their projects. “In the everyday life of teaching and administration it’s difficult to find a block of time to dedicate to research,” he said. “The opportunity to carry out extensive research and writing is, of course, vital to the intellectual life of faculty and students alike.”

Dumont said fellows are expected to advance their initial proposals, ideally by publishing work completed on the topic. “The goal of the project is to either complete or substantially make progress on a book or perhaps publish several papers on a topic,” Dumont said.

The NEH website said the organization supports the humanities in order to “convey the lessons of history to all Americans” and to “strengthen our republic.” The Endowment bestows its grants upon the researchers with the proposals rated highest by external reviewers. History professor Deborah Tor said receiving the fellowship allows for research time, but receiving the grant is itself an honor. “It is gratifying as a scholarly validation, it is nice to know that one’s peers on the review panel think highly of one’s work,” Tor
The Irish run drills during spring practice. Wednesday morning marked the first day of spring practice in preparation for the Blue-Gold Game coming up April 20 from Notre Dame Stadium.

**Question of the Day:** Who is your dream celebrity date, and where would you go?

- **Cecilia Loughlin**
  - Freshman
  - Pangborn Hall
  - “J-Beils. South Dining Hall.”

- **Mike Ginocchio**
  - Freshman
  - Morrissey Hall
  - “Emma Stone. Venice Canal.”

- **Kamala Iodice**
  - Sophomore
  - Breen-Phillips Hall
  - “Chad Michael Murray. Our home country, China.”

- **Katrina Kovalik**
  - Sophomore
  - Pasquerella East Hall
  - “Matt Damon. Any foreign country.”

- **Luke Smith**
  - Junior
  - Zahm Hall
  - “Emma Stone. Small boat sailing.”

- **Sam Reiff**
  - Sophomore
  - Morrissey Hall
  - “Mila Kunis. BASE jumping in Shanghai, naked...”

**The Next Five Days:**

**Friday**
- **Women's Lacrosse**
  - Arlotta Stadium
  - 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
  - Game vs. Rutgers
- **Concert:**
  - Altan
  - DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
  - 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
  - A traditional Irish ensemble.
- **Baseball**
  - Frank Eck Stadium
  - 2:05 p.m. - 5 p.m.
  - Game vs. Seton Hall
- **Film:**
  - Monty Python's "The Meaning of Life"
  - DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
  - 11:55 p.m. - 1:38 a.m.
  - A classic comedy.

**Saturday**
- **Notre Dame Holy Half Marathon**
  - Campus wide
  - All day
- **Women's Lacrosse**
  - Arlotta Stadium
  - 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
  - Game vs. Villanova
- **Baseball**
  - Frank Eck Stadium
  - 9:55 p.m. - 7:36 p.m.
  - Game vs. Kent State

**Sunday**
- **Lecture:**
  - Sustainable Business
  - Mendoza College of Business Room 186
  - 12:00 p.m. - 12:50 p.m.
  - Speaker Michael Skelly
- **Baseball**
  - Frank Eck Stadium
  - 5:30 p.m. - 7:36 p.m.
  - Game vs. Kent State

**Monday**
- **Film:**
  - “The Weight of the Oath”
  - Snite Museum of Art
  - 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
  - Film in French with English subtitles.

**Tuesday**
- **Notre Dame Stations of the Cross**
  - Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes
  - 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
The March 7 phishing scam eluded detection by appearing to be from the Notre Dame email administrators, Williams said. “The scammer used stolen Notre Dame credentials to send a mass email, which is why it was delivered to campus and not caught by the mail filters,” he said.

Williams said an increasing number of students, faculty and staff have been victims of recent phishing scams due to the scams’ sophistication and effectiveness. “Phishing is a very effective scam,” Williams said. “We’ve seen a rise in the number of incidents because the scam is working. We have seen a significant number of compromised NetIDs in the last twelve months.”

Williams said the fraudulent emails are hard to trace because they are often from public IP addresses or addresses from outside the United States. He said the emails also appear to be legitimate since they are usually branded with Notre Dame logos. The emails direct the recipient to a fake website where they are asked to provide a log-in name and password or other personal information, Williams said. Williams said there are a few ways to avoid falling victim to phishing scams. “The easiest way to avoid getting phishing or directed to a malicious page is to not click on links in emails. Even if the email appears to be from a legitimate source, it’s best to open a new browser and type in the URL rather than click on the link,” Williams said. “If you do visit a website, confirm that the URL corresponds to the website that you think you are visiting.”

Emails from legitimate sources within Notre Dame will never ask for sensitive personal information and any email that asks for such information should send up a red flag, Williams said. “Notre Dame administrators or any other legitimate organization will never ask you for your password or other account information because these organizations already have that information,” Williams said. Williams said the best policy to avoid compromising personal information is to use caution online. “Any time someone asks for your credentials or personal information, it’s a good time to pause and consider if the request is legitimate,” Williams said. “This rule applies not only to your online interactions but to offline interactions, too. Your personal information is a valuable asset. Treat it as such.”

Contact Nicole McAlee at nmcalee@nd.edu
The Saint Mary's College Women's Choir will conclude its spring tour where it began, on the College's campus tonight at 7:30 p.m., in the Church of Loretto.

Dr. Nancy Menk, director of the Women's Choir, said the group is made up of 41 students.

Sophomore Claire Stewart said the group enjoys performing for an audience, which pushes them through the physical demands of singing and touring.

“We love to perform,” Stewart said. “We live for that intimate interaction with the audience. It brings us tremendous joy and keeps us going through sickness, exhaustion and sore vocal cords.”

Stewart said the songs in tonight’s concert will span a variety of genres and even languages. “We sing in four languages—English, Latin, Spanish and Korean, and the songs are about everything from war to spiritual Gospel messages to heartbreak,” she said. “So, no matter what style of music you like, we are bound to sing something that you’ll enjoy.”

The group’s performance tonight will feature choral music by both American and international composers, including Spain’s Eva Ugalde, Korea’s Taeyun Ham and Americans Guy Forbes and Gwyneth Walker, Menk said.

Menk said the choir recently returned from a tour of the southeastern United States, traveling to Indianapolis, Louisville, Nashville and Atlanta, and finishing the trip in Fort Lauderdale. The group visited various female high school and church choirs and also performed its tour songs for these choirs, she said.

Sophomore Nina Parillo said after traveling around the Southeast, she is glad the choir will be singing for the Saint Mary’s campus and the South Bend community.

“Since we were able to show people across the country all of our hard work and how dedicated we are to our talents, we would love to show the students, the staff, and the families of our community what the choir is all about,” Parillo said. “Music means a lot to all of us, and it would be awesome if we could share that with others right here in South Bend.”

Parillo said she could tell they became role models in the eyes of the girls they visited.

“We were seen as role models for the girls we visited, and it was a great feeling to know that you may have changed a girl’s life by furthering her interest in women’s choirs and music in general. All of the choir welcomed us with open arms, and it was an amazing experience,” Parillo said.

The choir stayed with host families during the tour, many of which had Saint Mary’s College alumnae or Notre Dame alumni among them, Menk said. She said the choir members enjoyed sharing stories of their college experiences, especially their experiences with the choir.

Freshman Nina Martinez said the trip was full of music and brought the group closer together.

“The trip was a non-stop adventure,” Martinez said. “Whether we were on the bus belting out the latest hits from ‘Pitch Perfect’ or serenading the audiences with our sentimental a cappella arrangement of the Irish Blessing, our mutual love of music brought us closer together with each other, our audiences and with the host families.”

Menk said the group visited the headquarters of CNN, the Florida Everglades, the Country Music Hall of Fame and the Kentucky Derby Museum.

The choir began rehearsing their tour songs in the beginning of the fall semester, Menk said. Stewart said after the tour they reached a point where they knew their songs backward and forward.

Parillo said because of the year-long rehearsals, she and other choir members who were abroad in the fall had to work hard to catch up with the rest of the group when they returned in January.

“Some of the women, like myself, were abroad last semester, so we had to put in extra hours of work to make sure the songs were ready for performances,” she said.

Parillo said the group as a whole was pleased with its tour performances.

“We are very proud of the results of all of our hard-work and especially thankful for Dr. Menk’s dedication to making sure our songs are spotless,” she said.

The Saint Mary’s College Bellacappella group will also perform at the concert, Menk said. Bellacappella is a smaller group than the Women’s Choir and the only a cappella group at Saint Mary’s.

Menk said tickets for Saint Mary’s and Notre Dame students are free with a College or University ID, and tickets for both faculty and staff are discounted.

Contact Kelly Konya at kkonya01@saintmarys.edu

The Saint Mary’s Women’s Choir sings in Florida during its spring tour. Its final performance will be tonight in the Church of Loretto.

By KELLY KONYA

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions is NOW HIRING TOUR GUIDES FOR THE SUMMER AND NEXT SCHOOL YEAR

Applications are available at http://admissions.nd.edu/tourguide through Monday, March 25th

No late applications will be accepted

Questions? Contact Shannon Kelly (skelly7@nd.edu) or Monica Hernandez (m hernan7@nd.edu).
underway before Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI announced his resignation in February. News of the conclave made the pilgrimage “a special thing this time around,” he said.

The group visited Assisi before returning to Rome in time for the beginning of the conclave on March 12. Together, they fit daily trips to the Square into their schedule in order to watch the smoke signals.

“On Tuesday, when the conclave was starting, they had the Mass at St. Peter’s and we were able to go to Mass with the cardinals,” Gallagher said. “It was incredible to be there and to recognize that once only every papacy do all the cardinals in the world come together like that.”

Gallagher said he got a sense of the universality of the Church during the Mass, as well as the profound connections that link Catholics across the ages.

“One of the things that ocurred to me during Mass was that for the Eucharistic Prayer, they used prayer number one, which has a litany of the saints. Some of those saints have been popes themselves,” he said. “Being there at the Mass, it occurred to me that it’s not just a group of cardinals doing an election, but the whole Church is involved through their prayers and cut to the chase, distribute communion and run out of the Basilica,” Hermann said.

Senior Pablo Quan said the stretch of time spent waiting in St. Peter’s Square produced a “mix of anxiety and excitement.”

“It was very exciting, and I felt a great connection to the universal Church,” Quan said. “I saw people from many different countries speaking all kinds of languages, but with one same faith. Everyone was waiting for the same thing.”

Gallagher said the group ended up standing so close to the balcony window where the new pope would later appear, they were unable to see the actual smoke.

“We were thinking to ourselves, ‘Wouldn’t it be nice, we’re up close, we’re seeing something that happened right now,’” he said. “So the smoke comes out and everybody starts cheering, but the moment of confirmation is when the bells started ringing, so that was when we were thinking, ‘This is it.’”

Gallagher said the sound of the bells ringing is especially vivid in his memory.

“The large bell tolled once, twice, and the rest joined in,” Hermann said. “In the distance, the bells of all the churches in Rome all started ringing their notes. I knew that all around the world, the bells of every Catholic church were ringing too.”

Gallagher said the group prayed a rosary while waiting for the announcement, joined by several surrounding people. He also said once the announcement came he was unable to hear it over the noise of the crowd.

“It was funny because when the announcement was first made that we had a pope and they said his name, it was hard to hear both with the cheering and the sound system,” Gallagher said. “In the end, one of my brother priests had texted me to ask ‘are you there’ and I said ‘yes, who is the pope?’ because we had heard Francis but didn’t know which cardinal it was.”

The pilgrimage is intended to facilitate the discernment process for the students by allowing them to visit holy sites and taking time to pray while experiencing the Church’s center, Gallagher said.

“It’s not a tour of Rome, it’s a pilgrimage,” Gallagher said. “We try to go and see most of the major religious sites and also to take time for prayer. In the busyness of the school year, it’s tough for guys to kind of slow down and think about things, pray about things, so going away and taking time in some of these holy places gives them the time to do so.”

Quan said he already feels a great connection to Francis because he witnessed the first moments of Francis’ papacy.

“If you look at the conclusion of the papal conclave, during this entire Mass, he talks a lot about hope, about being people with hope to bring,” Gallagher said. “Hope is a big part of the Holy Cross message, so it was wonderful to see him talking about people of hope in the homily.”

Another connection is evident in the symbols Francis selected for his papal crest, Gallagher said, which include marks that represent Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

“He has to teach, but it seems like he’s got a terrain for us as priests, and he can give us a great example.”

Contact Ann Marie Jakubowski at ajakub@nd.edu

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Holy Cross

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Fellowship

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Tor’s project will focus on the Great Seljuk dynasty, which she says is “one of the most pivotal but under-research ed [dynastic] lines in medi eval Islamic history.”

“The Seljuqs were the first of several successive waves of Central Asian nomadic con federations to invade and con quer the central Islamic lands, inaugurating a thousand years of foreign Turco-Mongol rule. They were also the first potentates since the political disintegration of the orig inal unitary Caliphate to rule over the entire Middle East, and they instituted or pre sided over many funda mental transformations in Islamic civilization.”

Dumont said his project is on the concept of free will, and the finished product will be a book.

“It will be a historical and philosophical investigation on the origins and meaning of free will,” Dumont said.

However, Dumont also believes a good applica tion is enhanced by earlier accomplishments. The panel obviously takes into account one’s previous achievements, reputation, and prior publications. So, I guess the panel members ap preciated my first monograph and my articles,” Tor said.

Contact Catherine Owens at cowers@nd.edu

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Bedward said, “They're not going to stand up there and tell you something out of a book, they're going to tell you their stories and the lessons they’ve learned.”

Bedward said the biggest change compared to last year’s conference was that all the panels were held online. Attendees will split into smaller groups and discuss various topics related to diversity in the corporate world with Notre Dame faculty.

The event is hosted and organized by the Radhika Tewmey Alumni Association and sponsored by the Mendoza College of Business, Bedward said.

He said the conference distinguishes Notre Dame program from the equivalent programs at other universities.

“This conference is one of the hallmark events of the Notre Dame program and I think it's something that separates us from the other top ten programs. It shows our commitment to diversity, which is more than words.” He said, “It's grown every year and I expect it will continue to grow in the future as the world tries to become a campus-wide event.”

With the help of faculty advisor Megan Stepphany, co-chairs Bedward and Tewmey also serve as second-year MBA student, led the conference’s organizing team.

Bedward said each member of the organizing team had different responsibilities, including contacting sponsors and organizing the conference agenda.

The group began planning the conference at the end of the last academic year, Bedward said. Their first task was to choose the theme “building a stronger business through diversity,” he said.

Bedward said the organizing team then planned the various aspects of the conference and began fundraising.

“Once we had a theme, we had to think about the kind of companies that embody the theme and have a commitment to promoting diversity, map out the two days and reach out to our sponsors to fundraise,” he said.

The conference has eight corporate sponsors and each could send a speaker to the conference, send a panelist or give money — at various sponsorship levels, he said. NetApp and AT&T both gave money and provided a speaker and Shanks both gave money and provided a panelist.

Bedward said he is impressed by the value the conference’s corporate sponsors place on diversity.

“Companies sending C level executives out to South Bend, and those executives missing work, shows the importance they place on diversity,” he said.

Attendance is free and open to anyone. The organizers have made an effort to reach out to the South Bend community and undergraduates, Bedward said. Online registration is recom­mended via the conference’s web page on the Mendoza College of Business website, Bedward said.

Contact Christopher Myers at cmyers@nd.edu
Anti-semitism causes clash in public schools

SPRING VALLEY, New York — School board meetings descend into shouting matches. Accusations of racism and anti-Semitism fly. Angry parents turn their backs on board members in a symbolic stand of disrespect.

Tension in a suburban New York school district is rooted in an unusual dynamic: The families who send their children to public schools are mostly Hispanic and African-American. The school board, a locally elected panel that oversees education in the district, is almost entirely made up of ultra-Orthodox Jews who send their children to private schools and are bent on keeping their traditional strongholds of power.

East Ramapo School Board President, left, and a board member attend a meeting March 19. Though comprised of mostly African-American and Hispanic students, the school's board is run primarily by Jews.

In 2001, the school district hired a local synagogue as the public school building to educate with children of color. That meeting illustrated the apparent disdain each side has for the other. There seemed little in common between the board members, most in yarmulkes and black coats, and the onlookers, mostly from racial minorities.

About 20 residents shouted in protest, then stood and turned their backs on the board when it decided that in the future, students could address the board only at the end of meetings.

"You're not doing right by these children!" shouted Mae Davis. "What about freedom of speech?"

Daniel Schwartz, president of the board, had complained that public comment has become insulting, and he said there's no requirement to offer it at all.

"I think there are people who want to be abusive to the board and when it starts we're not going to tolerate it," he said Monday.

Some parents have petitioned the state Education Department to remove the school board, a rare step. Department spokesman Tom Dunn would not comment specifically about East Ramapo, but said the commissioner has the authority to remove local officials "for willful violation of law or neglect of duty or willfully disobeying a decision, order, rule or regulation."

The board denies any wrongdoing. It announced at Tuesday's meeting that it is suing the state in federal court, seeking a judge's declaration that its methods for special education placement are legal.

"Nobody has done anything to deprive anyone of anything," Schwartz said. "The monies that are spent on public schools are state mandated just like the monies that are spent on public schools."

He says the district's problems stem from its being "a square peg" — a district that has about 9,000 public school children and an estimated 20,000 in private schools, almost all of them Jewish.

"You show me another district where at least two thirds, if not possibly more than that, of the total student population is private school as opposed to public school," Schwartz said in an interview. "You show me a district like that anywhere."

Laura Barchietti, a lawyer with Advocates for Justice, which is suing the district on behalf of public-school parents and other taxpayers, said the board is catering to Orthodox parents who "do not want their children educated with children of color."

"Do I think racial discrimination is at the core of this? Yes I do," she said.

Schwartz dismisses claims that an Orthodox-dominated school board can't represent the public school interests.

"Men can legislate for women, women can legislate for men, white people can legislate for black people and black people can legislate for white people," he said. "I don't see where it makes any difference."

Asked if he felt anti-Semitism played a part in criticism of the board, he said only, "I can make my assumptions."

Last year he said some critics were engaging in "an age-old anti-Semitic trope" that Jews were interested only in money.

He said money — "more money from the state" — is the solution to East Ramapo's problems. But state Assemblyman Ken Zebrowski said the division in the community is too deep for that to work.

"Public school parents have said, 'We don't want any more money,'" Zebrowski said. "They don't trust their own school board with additional money."

The Democratic assemblyman has proposed instead that East Ramapo be divided into two school districts, one for public schools and one for private schools.

"This is an unconventional situation and we need an unconventional solution," Zebrowski said.
INSIDE COLUMN

Lost and found

Rebecca O’Neil
News Writer

My perpetually scattered personality establishes me as one of the most forgetful human beings to walk the earth. Seriously, Saint Mary’s security staff began rolling their eyes at my excuses for misplacing my ID four weeks into last semester. I pay them weekly visits to pick up my hot-pink construction paper ID. Sometimes, the ID card was canceled and they kept telling me it was found. My wallet, calculator, sometimes entire binders worth of my schoolwork are also regular victims of my habitual neglect.

And before college, when I lost things, they were lost. Which is why, when my ID went missing the second week into my freshmen year, I immediately purchased another. Two days later, I was disgruntled — borderline dismayed — to see my name on the white board next to my dorm’s front desk. My original ID was found.

As the semester progressed and I familiarized myself on campus, I lost my belongings less frequently. If I lost my ID, I would wait it out and inevitably it was returned.

The supposed progress came to a standstill. I was shocked and elated at the same time thinking, “Who does that?” It’s one thing to pick up a dropped wallet, it’s another (obviously) entirely to not take its contents before returning it to security — if one decides to return it at all. If I was on any other school’s campus, there is no way someone would have gone out of their way to return a random wallet. As a Los Angeles native, my friends at home still ask, “Why would you choose a Catholic school in the Midwest?” I tell them that in no other place do I feel like the recipient of some holy miracle just because someone returned my lost item.

Conor McCarter is my most recent hero, having returned my wallet to me two weeks ago and wishing me good luck on my midterms. Now if only that positive spirit could enter the cold heart of the individual who swiped the bike I forgot to lock outside South Dining Hall last December...

Contact Rebecca O’Neil at ronell01@stmarys.edu

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

RENEWING OUR HOPE IN THE POPE

Gary Caruso
Capitol Comments

The entire Catholic Church has pulsed an electric excitement about Jorge Mario Bergoglio since he was elected Pope Francis. Not since the 1978 installation of the first John Paul who only served for a month have Catholics worldwide — both from the progressive as well as the fundamentally orthodox wings of the Church — looked to the pontiff with such expectation and universal hope. Certainly Francis’ predecessors were respected and admired, but his humility and genuinely simple lifestyle somehow are uniting competing factions within the church more so than ever in the post World War II era.

In Washington, D.C. at my parish last Sunday, those preparing for mass in the Cathedral of St. Matthew’s sacristy buzzed about reports of how our Archbishop, Donald Cardinal Wuerl, was identified as the principal “Pope Maker” of this conclave by sources within the Vatican. According to journalist Paolo Rodari of La Repubblica newspaper, Wuerl convinced the North American cardinals to unite behind Bergoglio instead of two early favorites: the Italian Archbishop of Milan, Angelo Scola and Brazilian Archbishop of Sao Paulo, Odilo Scherer.

That unified new world voting block pushed Bergoglio’s vote majority to a higher margin than the 2005 odds-on favorite margin of Pope Benedict XVI.

This year, Church observers should have placed more stock in Argentina, more seriously considering Bergoglio’s runner-up status from 2005, rather than focusing on the perceived public affairs strengths of Scola and Scherer. Church leaders recognized that a Vatican outsider needed to send the Church into a new direction. One needs to merely watch the manner in which Pope Francis entered and left his inaugural mass to witness how he exudes charisma like the Holy Spirit on steroids. Observers welled with tears as the pontiff briefly stopped to greet a group of disabled persons along the barrier fence. Anyone watching knows that we are headed in a new direction under Francis as evidenced by the pure exuberant joy beaming from the grotesquely disfigured face of a disabled man whom the pope gently kissed on his forehead.

Ironically, progressives who want the Vatican to be more inclusive using modern-day thinking are as eager to support this pope as conservatives who prefer standing firm on status quo dogma which currently forces nonconformists to leave. Each camp pins their hopes on Bergoglio’s vote. For example, as cardinal, Bergoglio worked tirelessly to bridge what he called the “estrangement with the Orthodox churches.” As a result and for the first time in nearly a century, there was a Patriarch Bartholomew I of Constantinople, the Eastern Orthodox Church’s Ecumenical Patriarch, attended the new pope’s installation. Signs of such mutual respect and friendship warms hopes that the pope will eventually institute one policy regarding the marriage of priests which only the Orthodox permit.

Hard line conservative Catholics mistakenly overlook the nuisances of the new pope’s stand on various conflicting issues. Initially, Bergoglio approaches conflicting issues with an eye on serving mankind, not unnecessarily restricting others. Conservatives need to study the pope’s initial stand regarding same-sex marriage before they mistakenly believe that all of their core stances align with the pope’s history. Bergoglio opposed same-sex marriage in Argentina only after the government banned civil unions as an alternative. Bergoglio chastised priests who refused to baptize the children of unwed mothers. His Jesuit philosophy remains the antithesis to the thoughts of so many so-called “traditional” Catholics. He holds that to be pro-life is to also oppose capital punishment, an inconvenience for many American Catholic politicians who support babies, but execute convicts. He does not withhold communion as a punishment of elected Catholic officials who represent their constituents’ needs rather than their Church’s proclamations.

My personal hope is that our pope continues to invite rather than limit, remains clear-eyed about the difficulties facing our church while never losing sight of the vision St. Francis of Assisi held for his neighbors. May he use his authority to undo errors of the past. Undoubtedly, the pope’s love of service will allow him to reform the Vatican’s problems. May he also remain open-minded to change matters of discipline and tradition that are not matters of faith. Many who stray from the church will “come home” once the Vatican seems more in touch with the flock like the pope’s namesake was in the Twelfth Century.

Nature and symbolism can be the great predictors of the future. With St. Francis as his guide, Pope Francis should affect Catholics as profoundly as John XXIII did more than a half-century ago. It seems that such anomic foretelling lies within the Assisi monastery walls. Far from open doors and windows, stands a statue of St. Francis holding his hands cupped at his chest. Birds built a nest within his palms as though to validate their unity with him during his days on earth. Since our modern-day Francis lives by the same attributes as the saint, we can rejoice that the servant of God is truly amongst us.

Gary J. Caruso, Notre Dame ’73 serves in the Department of Homeland Security and was a legislative and public affairs director at the U.S. House of Representatives and in President Clinton’s administration. His columns appears every other Friday. Contact him at GaryCaruso@alumni.nd.edu.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Laughing last Friday, Ohio Senator Rob Portman wrote an op-ed, which ran in The Columbus Dispatch, and it has been making news ever since. This particular op-ed, though no longer than this column, marks a profound shift in the debate on same-sex marriage rights in this country. Portman co-sponsored the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) and voted for a 1999 measure banning adoption for same-sex couples in Washington, D.C. And with his announcement last Friday, he became the first sitting Republican senator to openly support gay marriage.

It is worth noting that Portman arrived at this reversal of his opinion after his son Will, a junior at Yale University, revealed his gay identity two years ago. Consequently, Portman has been widely criticized by left-wing commentators for his lack of empathy for the LGBT community until the issue directly affected him. While I understand the rationale behind these criticisms, I believe it is better to focus on the progress Portman’s decision signals. Furthermore, I believe the senator ought to be praised for his decision because he did something that is all too undervalued in politics when he changed his mind. We rightly expect our leaders to maintain the courage of their convictions, but we must also recognize that our leaders should continue to ponder their own beliefs in order to best serve the voters, an act that will inevitably lead to some changes of heart and mind.

Senator Portman should also receive praise for standing in the face of overwhelming opposition within his own party. The 2012 Republican Party platform calls for “a Constitutional amendment defining marriage as the union of one man and one woman.” Nevertheless, Portman courageously declared, “I have come to believe that I, and we, are prepared to make a lifetime commitment to love and care for each other in good times and in bad, the government should not deny them the opportunity to get married.” Thus, it does not matter how Portman reaches his decision, it only matters that he has taken the courageous step and placed personal conviction above party. Portman joins only a handful of Republicans currently in office who support same-sex marriage, and although his recent shift in position may not lead an immediate charge, I still feel same-sex marriage is an inevitability within my lifetime. In his piece in The Columbus Dispatch, Portman noted that “in some respects the issue has become more generational than partisan.” This observation reflects what almost anyone in my generation already recognizes. By the time my fellow Millennials take power in this country, the issue of same-sex marriage will be an afterthought. I say this because, in my experience, it is exceedingly rare to find someone my age who vehemently opposes same-sex marriage, or at the very least civil unions.

Furthermore, the denial of same-sex marriage has correctly been characterized as the last socially acceptable form of discrimination. Marriage is a civil right, and the government cannot deny that right to anyone, regardless of sexual orientation or any other attribute. I understand many religions believe marriage to be a sacred bond between one man and one woman, but since when do we allow religion to dictate policy? I too believe marriage is a sacred bond that shows deep love, respect and commitment, but I do not believe the government can restrict who can enter into such a bond.

Now, the opinions I have articulated thus far may seem like idealized leftist rhetoric, but as a rising liberal Senator Portman, recognize that supporting same-sex marriage is in itself a conservative idea. Portman wrote, “conservatives believe in personal liberty and minimal government interference in people’s lives” and therefore, the government has no place to define the love necessary to enter into the sacred bond of marriage. More often than not, however, conservatives place their own “values” (often deriving from the Christian right) above this conservative principle. Such imposition of values applies not only to same-sex marriage, but also to abortion, capital punishment and the role of religion in government as a whole, but I digress.

My point is our generation has been brought up to accept and respect everyone, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status or any other possible factors that distinguish others from ourselves. Thus, same-sex marriage will become a social reality sooner or later, most likely sooner.

Until then, we must remember and accept that social change comes in painfully small and slow increments, we must continue to fight for equality and all forms of civil rights and, above all else, we must love one another in a way that transcends any tangible definition.

Jack Rooney is a freshman studying political science.

The Miami Hurricane Editorial Board

The Miami Hurricane

Obesity in America is rising at a higher rate than in any other country in the world. Some adults, and children alike, don’t take care of their physical health as they should.

Not exercising regularly and eating poorly are the two main reasons for being overweight, or obese. It doesn’t help that fast food restaur-

ants are conveniently located in every one of the 50 states. In South Florida, these fast food chains are found on every major avenue. Occasionally there is a McDonald’s, Burger King, Checkers and Taco Bell in the same shopping center. If not, they are within a one-mile radius.

Recently, Michael Bloomberg, governor of New York, mandated a soda ban. Although his ban was overturned earlier last week by a New York state judge, it aimed to restrict the sale of large sugary drinks at local movie theaters, restau-
rants and street stands.

As a society, being obese is not something we should work to become. However, no level of government should have the authority to dictate what we choose to eat or drink.

In many cases, people may still choose to eat the meal with more calories, but at least they will know what they’re putting into their bodies.

Knowing exactly what you are eating or drinking is a benefit, even if it is over-

looked. But don’t take away our freedom to choose. Some people want to go for the big gulp.

MurphyKate Montee
Badin Hall
March 7

Don’t tread on our sugary sodas

The Miami Hurricane Editorial Board

The Miami Hurricane

Choosing what to eat freely, without limitations. At the end of the day, a regulation will not stop people from finding a way to consume soda or any other unhealthy food. As long as fast food is around, soda will be, too.

Although the government cannot limit our right to choose what we eat or drink, there are other ways they can help. For example, some cities require calorie counts to be included in menus at restaurants. In Miami, food chains such as Subway, McDonald’s and Panera Bread already have this measure in place.

Adding calorie counts to menus educates people who are choosing what they want to eat. Although it doesn’t limit their options, it allows them to make educated decisions. In many cases, people may still choose to eat the meal with more calories, but at least they will know what they’re putting into their bodies.

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

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**Who Has the Best Underground Travel?**

By CLAIRE STEPHENS Scence Writer

Between spring break travels, study abroad programs and summer vacations, many Notre Dame students find themselves running loose in foreign countries. While seeing the sights and soaking up the culture, feet inevitably get tired and even the virtually-bottomless pit of collegiate energy can’t get us everywhere on our own two feet. Luckily, most big international cities have an underground system to get travelers where they need to go.

But if there were an Olympics of underground transportation, who would come away with the gold, silver and bronze? Here is my list based on the undergrounds I’ve ridden on:

- **Gold:** London, UK
- **Silver:** Barcelona/Madrid, Spain
- **Bronze:** Washington D.C., USA
- 4th: Rome, Italy
- 5th: New York City, USA
- 6th: Chicago, USA
- 7th: Paris, France
- 8th: Brussels, Belgium

And now the judging criteria:

**Cleanliness**

How often do you see comparatively gross, dirty or underground-looking garbage dispersed throughout? While some on the lower end of this Underworld Transportation Olympiad might seem old and decrepit, our winners seemed to be more shiny, art- y and new. Where you might find rats and bugs running around the tracks of the lesser competitors, our champion underground systems boasted clean, updated and well-maintained trains.

**Technology**

It’s not enough to simply look new, but our champions just had to feel new. Electronic boards on the platforms of the superior stations told us when to catch our next train, while video advertisements lit up the walls, marketing products instead of their sadder paper cousins re- siding on the walls of the lesser stations.

**Range/Speed of service**

More often than not, our winning systems were extensive, able to get us just about anywhere, without the inconvenience of getting out to take the bus or — worse yet — walking between stops. They can take us to popular, favorite destinations in reasonable time, in a reliable fashion. Our winners helped us to feel safe, with many underground transpor- tation officials or police officers near the stops. Little crime or theft occurred near our winning stations thanks to the watchful eyes of our authorities. The stops were in safe parts of towns, and precautionary measures were taken to minimize risk in the stations.

**Price**

When it came down to it, money was as important of a criterion as any in judging our transportation systems. We took a look at how expensive a ride would be with and without a fare card. Examining how the pricing system worked (i.e. do they charge you just to enter, or according to how far you travel!) helped make it clear if the system was worth its fare.

**Map**

How helpful is the map of the un- derground? If you’re at one of our top three stations, then more than likely you can easily figure out the lines and how to get where you need to go. Even if you’re not a cartogra- pher or some kind of famous explor- er, in a good underground system you’ll find yourself easily mapping out your adventure.

**Safety**

Sometimes underground sys- tems can feel overwhelming, where one can easily get lost within all the stairs, escalators and elevators (oh my!). But the markings of any good underground system are their smil- ing passengers, comfortable and se- cure in their underground stations.

**Advertisements**

Are there a lot of ads inside of the train and along the platforms? Are they bright, big, visual and interest- ing, or ratty, cheap and littered with scribbled drawings? Ads and their appearances on the trains and plat- forms are giveaways of the status of the station. Bright, clean, welcom- ing ads are telltale signs of a good underground system.

**Personality**

The bottom line is what’s really important to the status of any un- derground system is the system itself. It’s all about what makes the systems tick, gives them life and sets them apart from the rest. Our winners had character, defining traits that are theirs and theirs alone.

Contact Claire Stephens at cstephe1@nd.edu
Music, it’s new to somebody. My favorite album ever (Kid Cudi’s “Man on the Moon: The End of Day”) may be a classic to me, but it could be entirely new to you. My favorite guilty pleasure (Solange’s “Losing You”) may be a secret to me, but it could be your favorite song. The album that turned me into a fan audiophile in the first place (Coldplay’s “Viva La Vida or Death and All His Friends”) may be legendary to me, but to you it’s total crap.

Hey, that’s the best part about music. I wouldn’t have it any other way.

But the one feeling we all share about this blissful part of our lives is we can’t have enough new music and I wouldn’t have that any other way either.

New is the future. It’s upcoming. I can’t tell you how stoked I am for the upcoming Kid Cudi album on April 23. Eighteen tracks, Cudi’s producing it all and he hasn’t had a solo release in three years. Call me Mr. Rager, because that’s all I’ll be doing then.


The soothing melodies of these songs transport you to a dreamy state where the eyes close and imagination abounds. It may be weird, but sometimes weird is good because it keeps things interesting. And “Wondrous Bughouse” does just that.

Contact Andrew Gastelum at agastell@nd.edu

By ANDREW GASTELUM
Editor-in-Chief

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Contact Andrew Gastelum at agastell@nd.edu
While the commencement of a certain national basketball tournament promises upssets, lopsided wins and chaos galore, it appears that March Madness has no room just confined to the hardwood.

The insanity of the third month of the year has found its way into — and not always, it must be said, a now-infamous set of fax machines belonging to the Denver Broncos and Marty Magid, Elvis Dumervil’s ex-agent. As a result of the stipulations of Dumervil’s new contract, the team was forced to cut him because they received his completed paperwork seven minutes after its deadline.

Years from now, will we all look back on this blunder and laugh? Or will we wonder, in the event that the definitive end of career re- alloys with another team, what would have happened if he stayed in New England?

This got me thinking: what are some of the best cases of “what if” in sports deals? I have come up with a list of the ultimate cul-de-sac turners, the ones that make you wonder what would have happened if the situation had turned out another way.

If the Red Sox hadn’t sold Babe Ruth’s contract

Of course this is No. 1. This deal is essentially the sports equivalent of ‘What if Moses hadn’t parted the Red Sea and the Hebrews didn’t drown the Egyptians?’ It was dramatic! Revisiting this deal opens up a Pandora’s box of hypotheticals regarding how the baseball landscape would look had the Red Sox not had never pined the pinstripes.

Would Boston have a slew of World Series rings today? Two years after the Ruth acquisition, the Yankees earned their first title in 1923, beginning nearly a centu- ry of dominance on the diamond that has netted the club 27 World Series titles and 40 American League pennants.

Would George Steinbrenner have purchased the Bronx Bombers in 1973 if they didn’t have their storied history, started with Ruth? The Boss may not have succeeded in building the team without the appeal of continu- ing the legacies of Ruth, Mickey Mantle and Joe DiMaggio, and it’s difficult to imagine baseball without him.

Without “The House that Ruth Built,” would Derek Jeter be “The Captain”? Or another good infidel? Would we care which celebrities he dates or how much captain” or just another good built,” would Derek Jeter be “The SPorts Authority

Mary Green
Sports Writer

LeBron James joins the Heat

The phrase “I’m gonna take my talents to South Beach,” or any derivative of it, is undoubtedly one of my favorite sports quotes of all time. But what if Lebron didn’t take his talents to the Sunshine State and elected to stay with the Cavs instead?

For one, Miami’s current 24-game win streak would not have drawn as much attention as it does now. Most people following the team’s run watch because they want to see them lose, not because they are cheering for King James and his court to emerge victorious after yet another game.

Additionally, Lebron wouldn’t be the polarizing athlete that he is today. If he remained with his hometown team, he still would have been entertaining, with his pregame chalk cloud and loyal fan base. But moving down south brought a lot of hatred and disgust towards James, adding a new facet to his captivating story on and off the court.

Michael Jordan signs with Nike

This deal is a little different from the first two, but it is still just as important to sports because it ushered in the era of ‘athlete branding.’ What if MJ had chosen adidas or Converse as his sponsor when he left Chapel Hill? Would those companies have given him his own shoe and allowed him to later begin his career?

Try to imagine sports without a Jumpman logo, without the inspiring Air Jordan commercials.

Just putting on Jordan products gives athletes and non-athletes alike, a swagger and untouchabil- ity that originated with the man himself.

This is because Mike has become so much more than a basketball player. He embodies the Jay-Z line, “I’m not a business- man, I’m a business, man.” He has built his own empire with the start that Nike gave him.

And what would that empire be like without this first deal? Nothing. No “Sports Illustrated” 50th birthday covers. No Space Jam. No /Euroshocks. Nike gave MJ a foundation to continue his popularity well past his retire- ments — all three of them.

So well, while a LeBron-Jersey deal end up altering the face of sports as we know it? Probably not. But if we’ve learned anything pre the last 90 years, it’s that one stroke of the pen can have quite the impact.

Contact Mary Green at mgreen@nd.edu

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

NCAA MEN’S BASKETBALL

Wichita State upset Pittsburgh

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — This was supposed to be a come-back season for Pittsburgh after failing to make the NCAA tournament last year. But a quarterfinal loss to Syracuse in the Big East tour- nament and a 73-55 thumping at the hands of Wichita State on Thursday in the second round of the NCAA tourna- ment had coach Jamie Dixon feeling bad for his players.

“I’m sorry for our seniors to go out this way. They had great careers, and won a lot of games for us,” Dixon said of Dante Taylor and Tray Woodall, who went during postgame interviews.

Dixon, the subject of spec- ulation surrounding the head coaching job at Southern California, said “Well, yes,” when asked whether he ex- pected to be back at Pitt (24-9).

“I just had my point guard break down here,” he added quickly. “That’s the farthest thing from my mind.”

Woodall was leading No. 8 seed Pitt in scoring enter- ing Thursday’s second-round game, averaging 13.5 points with two points in 1-on-1 shooting, including 0 of 5 from 3-point range, with five liveups.

“They played great and seemed to be far more ag- gressive,” Dixon said of the ninth-seeded Shockers.

It was also a lost cause in the loss. I know we’re a bet- ter team that what we played today.

The Panthers will go for- ward with 7-footer Adams, forward Lamar Patterson and freshman Durand Johnson.

Adams led Pitt (24-9) with 13 points and 11 rebounds in his first NCAA action, hardly dominating the big stage, something that could be a springboard for next year.

“Well, it has to be,” Dixon said. “That’s what I told our returning guys ... it’s some- thing we’ve got to learn from and for Steve, he kept bat- ting and kept going and was active around the glass.”

Malcolm Armstead led Wichita State with 22 points and Cleanthony Early added 21. Carl Hall added 11 points for the Shockers (27-8), who face the winner of the No. 1-ranked Gonzaga-Southern game.

The Shockers forced Pitt into 15 turnovers and held the Panthers to 35 percent shooting, including 1 of 17 from 3-point range.

Woodall missed his first four shots and it didn’t get much better from there.

Plenty of credit went to Tekele Cotton, who had the task of guarding Woodall.

“Tray missed three layups there in a row on our point,” Dixon said. “It’s just one of those days for us. We talked about him being their best defender ... Our balance has been our key, but when you don’t have anybody shoot it well and you go 1 of 17 from the 3, there are not a lot of things you can point to.”

The Shockers scored 21 points off turnovers and took advantage at the free throw line, making 33 of 41 attempts.

Wichita State led 26-21 at the break but nearly doubled its offensive output in the second half.

Early’s layup and two free throws by Armstead pushed Wichita State’s lead to 30- 21 early in the second half. Johnson’s 3-pointer cut it to 30-26, and the Panthers were within 35-31 following a three-point play by James Robinson. Cotton answered with a 3-pointer to bump the Shockers’ lead to 38-31 with 12:44 remaining.

Hall’s three-point play with under 12 minutes left gave the Shockers a 10-point lead, 41-31. Pitt pulled within six after four free throws but the Shockers went on a 6-0 run, fueled by a pair of steals, a dunk by Cotton and two more free throws by Early for a 47-35 advantage with 10:13 left.

The Shockers wouldn’t get any closer than eight the rest of the way.

The game was expected to be a defensive struggle, with Pitt allowing just 55.4 points and the Shockers known for dominating the glass with 38 rebounds a game.

As expected, it was physical.

When Adams went in strong for a dunk in the first half, he was fouled hard by Early.

“We weren’t surprised at all,” Woodall said. “Coming into this game, coach em- phasized to us that they were real physical. These guys were real tough.”

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at The Notre Dame office, 281 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charges is $5 per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without refunding.
Belles return from week-long break

By D.H. KIM
Sports Writer

The rejuvenated belles will face St. Francis on Friday, a week after returning from their spring break training trip to Orlando. Belles coach Dale Campbell said the team is healthy and charged to start its regular season against the cougars (0-1) after going 2-4 during their fall campaign.

“It’s a non-conference opponent but they are pretty local, in the Fort Wayne area, so this match will be interesting,” Campbell said.

St. Francis opened their spring season with a 2-6 loss to the Indiana Institute of Technology on March 1. St. Francis went 7-8 during the fall season.

Friday’s match will be held indoors at the Eck Pavilion, where weather won’t trouble either team.

After the beautiful Florida weather, which allowed the Belles to fit in conditioning work, their opening match at Indiana Wesleyan was abruptly canceled due to foul weather conditions.

“They said the game had to be rescheduled because the weather was bad and they have no indoor facilities,” coach Dale Campbell said. “Normally it has to be at least 50 degrees or else it’s just too cool and windy to play outdoors for athletes.”

The coaches from the Belles and Indiana Wesleyan have talked about the possibility of moving the game to early April, but no date has been confirmed yet. They are likely to release a date next week. Ironically, the Belles were scheduled to face St. Francis last year during spring training in Orlando, but that match was canceled due to weather conditions. That became a trend for the Belles, who missed more than three games due to rain and wind.

The Belles will host the Cougars at 5:30 p.m.

Contact D.H. Kim at dkim16@nd.edu

ND WOMEN’S SWIMMING

Reaney wins B final

Observer Staff Report

Notre Dame got off to a good start on the first day of the NCAA national championships, as four swimmers earned Honorable Mention All-America honors.

Sophomore Emma Reaney led the way for the Irish, winning the “B” final in both the 200 IM and placing 9th overall. Her time of 1:55.06 was just 0.01 seconds shy of the school record she set earlier in the season at the Ohio State Invitational. Reaney was also part of the 400 medley relay team that took 13th place overall and fifth in the “B” final. With those performances, Reaney earned two All-American citations, the fifth of her career and the sixth in program history.

Other Irish swimmers earning All-America accolades as part of the 400 medley relay team included senior Kim Holden, junior Kelly Ryan and freshmen Catherine Galletti. The relay finished with a time of 3:34.66, breaking the school record by 0.2 seconds. It was the third time this year that mark has been broken.

Belles Contined from page 14

that,” Sherwood said. “They were clutch in situations when we needed them to be. I am excited to see them keep improving and performing at this level.” Sullivan said the freshmen’s performance will only improve with time.

“They’re definitely more excited now, they were nervous before,” Sullivan said. “With so many unknown things, the first college game and some unnecessary pressures might have gotten to them. Now they’re ready to get back on the field and do better than they did. They just want to keep going now and build off what we have.”

The Belles will travel to face Franklin on Saturday at 1 p.m. in Franklin, Ind.

Contact Casey Karnes at wkarnes@nd.edu
Irish begin outdoor season

By COLE SCHIETINGER
Sports Writer

As South Bend welcomes the first weekend of spring with a fresh snowfall, the track and field athletes will head down to Houston, Texas to kick off their outdoor season at the 31st annual Victor Lopez Invitational.

The Irish will attempt to match the success of their indoor season this weekend, however, may be Mother Nature. With temperatures in the 30s and freezing winds, the weather can play a role in early-season games. The snow and cold has canceled the Belles’ past two doubleheaders, against Carthage on Tuesday and Wheaton on Friday.

But senior captain and shortstop Emily Sherwood said she is confident her team will be able to adjust.

“(The cold weather) is a factor that we cannot do anything about, so we don’t want to expect anything other than the way we performed down south.” Sherwood added.

While the cold is less than one month ago.

Saint Mary’s will have to contend with the prolonged Indiana winter this weekend as it battles Franklin in a road doubleheader.

Irish sophomore Ann Polcari prepares to pole vault during the Meyo Invitational at Notre Dame on Feb. 1.

Saint Mary’s will have to contend with the prolonged Indiana winter this weekend as it battles Franklin in a road doubleheader.
After splitting 10 games on their spring break trip to Florida, the Belles (5-5) will look to build some momentum with victories back in their home state.

The most difficult opponent the Belles face this weekend, however, may be Mother Nature. With temperatures in the 30s and freezing winds, the weather can play a role in early-season games. The snow and cold has canceled the Belles’ past two doubleheaders, against Carthage on Tuesday and Wheaton on Friday.

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Associated Press


The school known for producing U.S. presidents, Supreme Court justices and Nobel Prize winners earned its first NCAA tournament victory Thursday night — a 68-62 upset of No. 3 seed New Mexico — and it didn’t feel like a fluke.

Wesley Saunders scored 18 points and Laurent Rivard made five 3-pointers to help the 14th-seeded Crimson pull the biggest surprise of March Madness so far.

Reaction came quickly, and from various corners.

“America, we are sorry for messing up your brackets and also your financial system and everything else,” tweeted the jokesters at the Harvard Lampoon. And this from Harvard’s most famous hoopster alum, Jeremy Lin: “YYYYYYYYYEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE!!! HARVARD winnssss!!! hahahahah i told you,” he tweeted shortly after the victory. Everybody ready for Crimsonsanity?

Next up for Harvard (20-9), a meeting with sixth-seeded Arizona, which beat Belmont 81-64 earlier in the West Region. “This is the No. 1 moment in my career,” said Harvard senior Christian Webster, who finished with 11 points. “The thought came to mind that this could be the last game. We showed a lot of toughness, just persevering.”

Indeed. The Ivy Leaguers put the clamps down on New Mexico’s Tony Snell, holding him to nine points on 4-for-12 shooting after he dominated in the Mountain West Conference tournament. They banged inside with Lobos big men Cameron Bairstow and Alex Kirk, whose 22 points provided New Mexico’s only consistent offense.

Mostly, they showed none of the jitters that marked their trip to the tournament last year, a 79-70 loss to Vanderbilt in the Crimson’s first NCAA appearance since 1946.

Rivard went 6 of 7 from 3 in that one — played on New Mexico’s home court in The Pit — and was clearly pumped for an encore against the Lobos themselves. He was 5 of 9 this time, with three of them coming in the first half, while Harvard was holding a small lead and, more importantly, answering every surge the Lobos (29-6) could muster. Rivard finished with 17 points.

Golfers look for redemption

By MEREDITH KELLY
Sports Writer

Despite finishing last in a field of 15 teams at the E-Z Go Invitational last week, Irish coach Jim Kubinski said he hadn’t lost confidence in his team.

Notre Dame’s play will re-vive as they continue to play on grass and compete in tournaments, Kubinski said.

The Irish will get the chance to redeem themselves this weekend when they travel to Williamsburg, Va. to compete in the C & F Bank Intercollegiate Tournament, where they’ll face a field including teams such as Boston College, Michigan and Florida State.

“IT’s a good mix of teams, both northern and southern,” Kubinski said.

Facing fellow snow-bound schools like Michigan and Boston College will create a more level playing field for the Irish, who struggled against schools blessed with more temperate climates at the E-Z Go Invitational.

“The field last week was very strong, with a lot of ranked teams and Southern teams,” Kubinski said.

Although not as beneficial as practicing outside, Kubinski said he is proud of his teams’ work in the Rolfs Family All-Season Varsity Golf Facility this week, where the team is able to do workouts and practice hitting and putting. Nevertheless, he is aware of the challenges the team may face during the transition from indoor conditions to real grass courses.

“The decision-making, where the flagstick is, what the wind is doing, all of those variables you have to factor in. … All of those things you have to practice as an individual,” Kubinski said.

“So, I think starting this week we’re going to play a little better and get better each week.”

Kubinski looks towards his top performers, senior Paul McNamara and junior Niall Platt, who led the team, tying for 22nd in the E-Z Go Invitational. He said junior Andrew Lane and freshman Corey Scipider are also players to watch going into this week’s tournament. Scipider is getting his first chance to start this weekend after competing as an individual in the tournament last weekend.

Kubinski said Notre Dame fans shouldn’t lose confidence in the squad despite the rough start to the season.

“To everybody out there on campus, I say be patient with this young team, there is a lot of talent here,” Kubinski said.

“As we go through the spring, I think we will have a good chance to get back to NCAAs and go for our third-straight Big East championship.”

The Irish will tee-off the three-day tournament today at the Kingsmill Resort-River Course in Williamsburg, Va.

Irish excel on day one of NCAAs

By LAURA COLETTI
Sports Writer

After three rounds of men’s individual and team competition on the first day of the NCAA Fencing championships in San Antonio, Notre Dame sits tied with Harvard for third place with 50 points, just one point behind second-place Princeton and 13 points behind Penn State, who is currently in first.

Several Notre Dame fencers also placed well in their respective weapons. Junior Kevin Hassett and freshman John Halloten are currently in seventh and 16th place, respectively, in the men’s saber. Senior foil Gerek Meinhardt had a flawless day of competition and is currently in first place, while fellow foil, junior Ariel DeSmet, sits at ninth place. Freshman Garrett McGrath and junior Michael Rossi are currently in 19th and 24th place, respectively, in the men’s epee.

Hassett said he felt good about how his team performed yesterday and was happy for several of the team members who fenced particularly well.

“I feel like we had a good start (yesterday), but there were a couple of places where we could have done a little better,” he said. “Some of us were really on our game (yesterday), but others didn’t finish as well as we had hoped.”

The Irish men will continue to compete today. Hassett said he felt his squad has the potential to perform at an even higher level on the second day of competition.

“I feel like everyone on our team has the potential to fence at the highest level,” Hassett said. “It’s just a matter of having the right mindset and getting one’s job done”.

It is important for the team to keep a focused mindset moving forward, Hassett said.

“We need to increase our intensity in a controlled manner so that we do not become hot-headed when things do not go our way,” he said. “At the end of the first day, we did a good job keeping a relatively optimistic attitude.

The men will resume competition today at 9:00 a.m. at the Freeman Coliseum in San Antonio.

Contact Laura Coletti at lcoletti@nd.edu

Join The Observer for a tournament blog marathon live from Dayton on Friday starting at noon at ndsmcobserver.com.
ND SOFTBALL

Notre Dame starts Big East play

By MEGAN FINNERAN
Sports Writer

The Irish travel to New Jersey this weekend to open Big East play with a three-game set against Seton Hall.

Notre Dame (19-7) will play two games Saturday afternoon and one Sunday.

“The team goals this week-end are to leave a lasting im-print on the Big East,” senior catcher Amy Buntin said. “We want to take one game at a time and game-by-game so we can continue to build this momentum into conference play.”

The squad comes off a four-game sweep at the Highlander Classic in California last weekend, defeating both Northern Illinois and Iowa twice in two days. Over the spring break, Notre Dame went 7-2 overall.

The Irish will look to carry this momentum into their weekend series against the Pirates.

“Sweeping the Highlanders will give us great momentum rolling into our conference games and give us the confidence we need to dominate in the Big East,” Buntin said.

Notre Dame will continue to rely on the pitching duo of junior Laura Winter and senior Brittany O’Donnell to take control of the mound.

Winter was recently named to the Big East Conference Softball Weekly Honor Roll. She leads the Big East this season with 107.2 innings pitched and 126 strikeouts and has won nine of her last 10 decisions. This weekend will give her an opportunity to continue her streak.

Joining Winter on the Weekly Honor Roll was sophomore third-baseman Kayte Haus, whose batting has guided the Irish offensively. At the Highlander Classic she became the first Irish player to earn multiple RBIs in three straight games this season. Over the week in California she raised her season batting average 61 points. The whole squad has been working to perform at her level.

“I think it’s extremely important for us to maintain the mindset that we are going to continue to compete well in practice the next couple of days,” Bandy said. “When William and Mary comes Saturday, we need to start off strong in doubles with a lot of energy and get after them.”

Most recently, the Irish hosted No. 2 USC at the Eck Pavilion on Wednesday, but the Irish lost to the Trojans (16-2), 6-1. The team began the match slowly, dropping the doubles point, but competed well in the singles matches, forcing four three-set singles matches against the deep USC lineup.

“We just learned from [Wednesday’s] lesson when we came out a little dry in doubles to make sure from the first point in doubles just to be on them and have a lot of energy,” Bandy said. “[We need to] go out there and compete harder than we did [Wednesday] at the start and just kind of build on what we did in singles.”

The Irish are 4-2 in the month of March, with their most notable victory over then-No. 13 Illinois on March 5. Including their match against William and Mary, the Irish have six matches remaining before the Big East championships, which take place at Eck Pavilion.

The match against the Tribe will kick off Saturday at 10 a.m. in Williamsburg, Va.

Contact Peter Steiner at psteiner@nd.edu

MEN’S TENNIS

Irish return to Virginia

By PETER STEINER
Sports Writer

No. 27 Notre Dame will return to a familiar venue this weekend when it travels to Williamsburg, Va., to play William and Mary on Saturday.

The Irish (10-7) faced William and Mary (7-12) in November at the Tribe Invitational along with Harvard and Old Dominion. At the invitational, Notre Dame won six of eight singles matches and six of nine doubles matches against the Tribe.

“They’re always a tough team to play,” Irish junior Ryan Bandy said. “This year they are not ranked as high as they usually are, but they are always scrappy. They are always going to compete well.”

In addition to competing at the Tribe Invitational, both the Irish and the Tribe played in the Blue Gray National Tennis Classic in Montgomery, Ala., over spring break. Although they did not face each other, they did play two common opponents — Troy and No. 26 Cornell. While The Irish defeated both teams, the Tribe fell to Cornell in the opening round of the tournament. Notre Dame will be the favorites this weekend, but must maintain its focus on energy level.

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Contact Peter Steiner at psteiner@nd.edu

Irish freshman Quentin Monaghan prepares to receive a volley during Notre Dame's 5-0 win over Rutgers on May 10, 2012.

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“There are seven or eight teams that are very strong right now; which makes our conference incredibly tough from top to bottom and motivates us,” Halfpenny said. “We can’t take a day off, and we can’t look at the jersey. We have to show up and play our game for 60 minutes.”

The Irish will face a Rutgers team off to its best start in program history. The Scarlet Knights currently sit first in the nation in scoring defense, allowing only 5.57 goals per game, while senior goalie Lily Kalata ranks fifth in the country for both goals-against average and save percentage.

“You have to give [Kalata] a lot of credit for the way she plays — she’s outstanding right now,” Halfpenny said. “She’s been a consistent force in all four of her years at Rutgers, and we’ve obviously been paying attention to what she’s doing.”

Halfpenny said Rutgers and Notre Dame have much in common, especially in the teams’ styles of play.

“[Rutgers] is a solid team from top to bottom, they have great depth and they’re almost a mirror image of us, a great veteran and rookie mix that gives them a fresh look this year,” Halfpenny said.

Notre Dame will wrap up its brief homestand with a matchup against Villanova (4-3) on Sunday. After a 1-3 start to the season, the Wildcats have won their last three games, with the latest triumph coming in an 11-7 victory over Davidson last weekend.

“[Villanova] has had a marked improvement from last year, and I have great respect for its coach, Julie Young, who has a great system in place,” Halfpenny said. “Villanova was very competitive with us last year, and we’re looking forward to another competitive game Sunday.”

Notre Dame will face Rutgers at 7 p.m. Friday and host Villanova at 1 p.m. Sunday. The games will either be played at Alumni Stadium or Loftus Sports Center, depending on the weather.

Contact Brian Hartnett at bhartnett@nd.edu
Hockey

continued from page 20

match his level of play and outplay him. I think with the single-game elimination, that’s going to be a big component.”

Summerhay’s play last weekend provides hope he can match Hjelte’s excellence. He stopped 22 shots Friday night to earn a shutout after junior forward Bryan Rust’s goal gave the Irish a 1-0 overtime win over Bowling Green, and then tallied 29 saves Saturday night when the Irish were victorious 4-3. While he struggled at some points during the second half of the regular season, Summerhay’s recent performance has his teammates fully confident in his ability to lead them to victory.

“Summerhay’s is seeing the puck great right now. He’s anticipating plays, he’s controlling his rebounds and he’s keeping us in games,” junior center Anders Lee said.

“He’s been one of the biggest keys to the victory over Ohio State on Saturday night,” senior attacker Liam O’Connor said.

If the Irish are able to defeat the Buckeyes, they will face the victor of No. 3 Miami (OH) against Michigan at Joe Louis Arena. Notre Dame’s players are aware of the historical significance a victory in the final CCHA championship would hold but are also motivated to win one more title for their coach in the league he has been involved with for so long.

“I think it’d be really special to put a mark on history by winning the final CCHA cup,” Summerhay said. “It was one of our team goals to get to the CCHA to play for a championship this year.”

“Knowing [Coach Jackson] more over the years and knowing what this league has meant to him over the years, I think it’s a really special moment for him. For us to be there and to have an opportunity to win a championship for the last ever CCHA ... if we get to Sunday, and especially if we win Sunday, that will be an emotional moment for him.”

The Irish hope to earn a berth in the CCHA championship, as well as solidify their NCAA hopes, with a victory over Ohio State on Friday at 1:05 p.m. in the CCHA semifinals at the Joe Louis Arena.

Contact Casey Karnes at wkarnes@nd.edu

Corrigan

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Rugers, because we know we have a lot of schedule left to play and we can’t do anything other than take care of the one right in front of us, and that’s Rutgers on Sunday.”

One of the biggest keys to a victory in Sunday’s game could be winning face-offs. The Scarlet Knights will enter the contest ranked No. 2 in the country in face-off winning percentage this season at a .681 clip — 31 spots ahead of the Irish. Rutgers sophomore midfielder Joseph Nardella won 27-of-37 face-offs in a 20-13 loss to St. John’s on Saturday.

Irish junior midfielder Liam O’Connor will match up against Nardella. O’Connor has a .520 face-off win percentage on the season after a 9-for-17 performance against the Buckeyes and has also notched three goals and one assist through six games.

“Liam’s been great this year, and he’s not just been winning face-offs but making plays with the puck in his stick and playing great defense when he does lose them,” Corrigan said. “He’s doing a lot of things right for us right now.”

The Scarlet Knights have two big offensive threats in junior attackers Nick DePaolera and Scott Klimchak, who have 26 points and 25 points this season, respectively. No one else on the roster has scored more than 13 points.

The Scarlet Knights are coming off a 13-goal outburst, but the defensive side of the field has not been as kind to Rutgers. Rutgers sits in the bottom-10 of the NCAA in scoring defense, allowing 10.75 goals per game.

The Irish take on the Scarlet Knights at 1 p.m. on Sunday in Piscataway, N.J.

Contact Sam Gans at sgans@nd.edu

Irish midfielder Nick Osello looks for the ball during Notre Dame’s 10-9 triple-overtime win over North Carolina on March 2.

S U Z A N N A P R A T T | The Observer

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Contact Sam Gans at sgans@nd.edu
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CCHA curtain call

Notre Dame heads to Detroit for conference championship, prepares to face OSU in semifinal

By CASEY KARNES
Sports Writer

No. 12 Notre Dame will travel to Detroit this weekend with visions of a dramatic final act in the CCHA. The Irish (23-12-3, 17-8-3 CCHA) have an opportunity to go to the final CCHA championship before moving to Hockey East in the fall, but they must first defeat Ohio State in the semifinal round at the Joe Louis Arena in Detroit.

Notre Dame enters the game brimming with confidence fresh off last weekend’s sweep of Bowling Green. The Buckeyes (16-16-7), however, pose a tougher challenge than their record would indicate, especially in the single-elimination format. Both of their regular season matchups with the Irish were heavily contested — a 6-3 Ohio State victory, as well as a 2-2 tie that the Irish won in a shootout.

The Buckeyes are coming off a quarterfinal series win over Ferris State in three games. The key to Ohio State’s success is senior goaltender Brady Hjelle, a veteran who continually stymied Irish scoring chances in the regular season. Irish coach Jeff Jackson acknowledged penetrating the senior’s guard is a daunting task.

“[The first Ohio State game] was one of our best games in the second half, but we didn’t win it. Hjelle had a lot to do with that,” Jackson said. “No goalie can stop what he can’t see … and we’ve been working on that. The big thing is to get pucks on net.”

Despite Hjelle’s skill, his Irish counterpart in goal is looking forward to going head-to-head. Notre Dame junior goaltender Steven Summerhays said he admires his opponent’s talent and relishes the opportunity to demonstrate his own.

“[Hjelle] is one of the best players in the CCHA this year, and one of the best goalies in the nation,” Summerhays said. “I look forward to those challenges, to be able to win it. Hjelle had a lot to do with that, especially in the second half, but we didn’t win it. Hjelle had a lot to do with that.”

Irish junior goalie Steven Summerhays makes a save during Notre Dame’s 1-0 win over Bowling Green on March 15. The Irish will play Ohio State in the CCHA championship semifinal this weekend.

Irish junior midfielder Jim Marlatt runs up the field during Notre Dame’s 9-4 win over Ohio State on March 15. The Irish will play Ohio State in the CCHA championship semifinal this weekend.

No. 3 Irish take on Rutgers

By SAM GANS
Sports Writer

After a 9-4 victory over No. 8 Ohio State on Wednesday, the No. 3 Irish will face their first unranked opponent of the season when they travel to Piscataway, N.J., to take on Rutgers in their Big East opener on Sunday.

“Though the Scarlet Knights (2-6, 0-1 Big East) have not had as much success this season as other opponents Notre Dame (5-1) has played, Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said Rutgers nevertheless demands Notre Dame’s complete focus.

“There are no walks in the park in Division I lacrosse right now,” Corrigan said after the win over the Buckeyes.

“We’re just going to focus on our, having a good preseason, feeling incredibly confident about our skills, doing a good job IQ-wise of learning our strategies and making each other better,” she said. “At the end of the day, the girls have really focused on getting better and working together to define exactly what our identity is going to be.”

With the majority of their non-conference play completed, the Irish now look toward competing for the Big East title one last time before joining the ACC next season.

“There’s an unfortunate irony because this is the last year the Big East is going to be fully intact, and it’s turning out to be its strongest year,” Halfpenny said.

In addition to the Irish and Scarlet Knights (7-1), fellow conference members No. 6 Syracuse, No. 8 Georgetown, No. 18 Loyola (Md.) and No. 20 Louisville are ranked in the current Inside Lacrosse Media Poll.

Halfpenny said the conference’s strength fuels the Irish.