Professor receives awards

By CATHERINE OWERS
News Writer

In June, theology professor Sr. Mary Catherine Hilkert did something nearly unprecedented: receiving both the Ann O’Hara Graff Memorial Award and the Veritas Award, which focus on theological anthropology, fundamental theology and feminist theology and spirituality.

The Women’s Consultation in Constructive Theology of the Catholic Theological Society of America annually grants the Ann O’Hara Graff Memorial Award, which is named for a notable scholar who demonstrated the intersection of faith, scholarship and experience, Hilkert said.

“They are especially interested in some kind of woman-defined scholarship — scholarship and liberating action on behalf of women in the Church and in the broader community,” Hilkert said.

Hilkert said receiving the award was especially significant because she was nominated by her colleagues. Additionally, Ann O’Hara Graff was a friend and colleague of Hilkert’s — Graff also worked in the field of theological anthropology — which added even more significance to the award, Hilkert said.

Hilkert said Graff was very accomplished despite her untimely death. She said she was honored to receive an award named for Graff.

“She died in her mid-40s, and even by that time she had made marvelous contributions to integrating academic theology of the highest scholarship with people’s concrete lives and pastoral experience,” Hilkert said.

“It meant a lot to be honored in her name.”

See AWARDS PAGE 7

Researchers detect invasive species efficiently

By CHRISTIAN MYERS
News Writer

A team of Notre Dame researchers has developed a transportable, two-part system for detecting the presence of invasive species in aquatic environments.

The paper, published in the journal “Conservation Letters” and titled “Rapid invasive species detection by combining environmental DNA and Light Transmission Spectroscopy,” details the team’s recent efforts to test its new invasive species detection process. Scott Egan, a biology research assistant professor, said the team’s recent efforts have been bringing the processes of testing for environmental DNA (eDNA) and Light Transmission Spectroscopy (LTS) together as a way to detect the presence of invasive species in an aquatic environment.

“eDNA and LTS are separate processes that each work on their own,” Egan said. “The paper is about bringing the two processes together in the field. There are many problems of species detection where we can apply this environmental field diagnostic system.”

According to the paper, this new, rapid, inexpensive and accurate on-site method of detecting harmful aquatic species will help ongoing efforts to prevent their introduction and spread.

See RESEARCH PAGE 5

‘A call to action’
Campus to unite in Relay for Life, raise funds for cancer research

By MARISA IATI
Assistant Managing Editor

For junior Jenny Fucillo, losing her grandmother to multiple myeloma in January was “a call to action.”

“I had never been touched by someone who was part of my everyday life who had passed from cancer,” Fucillo said. “And going to the hospital and seeing the hard work that nurses do and doctors do, I just wanted to be a part of something I felt like I could do.”

Inspired by her experience, Fucillo is now one of the biggest fundraisers of more than 1,000 participants in tonight’s Relay for Life at the Compton Family Ice Arena. From 6 p.m. until 9 a.m. tomorrow, members of the Notre Dame community will walk to commemorate people affected by cancer and raise money for the American Cancer Society.

This is Fucillo’s first time participating in Relay for Life, she said, and she was overwhelmed by the amount of support she received from her family when fundraising.

“I think it’s because we all went through [my grandmother’s death],” she said. “I think it was a wake-up call for all of us.”

See RELAY PAGE 6

Town meets gown at symposium

By GRACE McCORMACK
News Writer

On one of the few occasions when a mayor outranks a president, South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg and student body president Alex Coccia discussed the evolving Notre Dame-South Bend relationship last night.

“The conversation, which was part of the Siegfried Symposium, brought Buttigieg and Coccia together with students and South Bend residents at the ‘Town and Gown’ event in the Carey Auditorium of Inshegh Library.

American Studies professor Robert Schmuhl moderated the discussion, which addressed topics ranging from resident-student conflict to the town’s best restaurants.

Buttigieg, who grew up in South Bend before attending Harvard, said although South Bend is not necessarily a strict college town, it presents many unique advantages for students.

“[Notre Dame students] are at one of the most important moments in the life of the city,” Buttigieg said. “With that comes an opportunity to help everyone in the community.”

See SYMPOSIUM PAGE 5

Participants in the 2012 Relay for Life walk around Notre Dame Stadium. This year’s event will take place in the Compton Family Ice Arena for the first time.
QUESTION OF THE DAY:
If you could choose another major, what would it be?

Margarita Arcenas, sophomore, McClurg Hall
“If Notre Dame offered it, dance.”

Andrea Carlson, junior, Ryan Hall
“Wine-making. I am, in fact, 21.”

Rob McKenna, junior, Alumni Hall
“Africana studies.”

Rachel Tonnis, junior, Ryan Hall
“Toss up between agricultural studies and Canadian studies.”

Emily Voorde, sophomore, Ryan Hall
“Biology or wood whittling.”

Elizabeth Peterson, junior, Ryan Hall
“Chemistry.”

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

THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

Friday
Relay for Life
Compton Family Ice Arena
6 p.m.-9 a.m.
Fund cancer research.

Women’s Lacrosse
Arlotta Stadium
7 p.m.
Game vs. Loyola.

Saturday
Women’s Softball
Melissa Cook Stadium
12 p.m.-4 p.m.
Doubleheader vs. Rutgers.

Sunday
Men’s Lacrosse
Arlotta Stadium
11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Game vs. Georgetown.

Monday
ACMS Colloquium
Hayes-Healy Center
4 p.m.-5 p.m.
Speaker James Collins.

Tuesday
Lecture: Young Latinidad and the Future of America
McKenna Hall
7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
Speaker David Hayes-Bautista.

Have a question you want included here?
Email obsnews.nd@gmail.com

One year ago today, the Center for Social Concerns hosted the 2012 Ganey Community Engagement Awards for Research and Teaching, which rewards faculty research on social challenges in the South Bend or surrounding area.
Students, faculty to display robotic creations

By HENRY GENs
News Writer

This Sunday, 82 students and faculty from Notre Dame’s Colleges of Engineering and Arts and Letters, as well as the Robinson Community Learning Center, will celebrate the fourth annual National Robotics Week by displaying their robots in an open exhibition at the Stepan Center.

Laurel Riek, assistant professor of computer science and engineering, is organizing the second annual Notre Dame event. Riek also organized Notre Dame’s first National Robotics Week exhibition last year.

Riek said the expectation last year was to have a very simple event, but the attendance was much higher than anticipated.

“Last year, the plan was to have the event be a one-day, robot-themed science museum to get the public excited about it,” Riek said. “We ended up having over 600 people come to see the robots, and we got an overwhelmingly positive response from the community.”

Riek said the event grew out of an interdisciplinary, collaborative effort she implemented in her computer science and engineering course, Autonomous Mobile Robots.

“Last year I worked with Krista Hoefle, an associate professor of art over at Saint Mary’s. Her art students and my computer science students created robots for the event together,” Riek said. “I realized from that collaboration how art is a great way of engaging the public with robotics. We can design all these fantastic algorithms for our robots, but by enhancing them a little bit with art and making them interactive, people can start to appreciate all the great engineering going on under the hood.”

Jay Brockman, the Associate Dean of Engineering for Educational Programs, said the robotics event is a key initiative in fostering community engagement.

“It fits into a grand vision of where we would like to see the college of engineering and the University be in five or so years, and that is to see a much better partnership between the University and the South Bend community,” Brockman said.

Brockman also said the upcoming exhibition is important for engendering interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines.

“A high school student often says, ‘I do okay at math and science but I want to do something that interests people, so I’m not going to major in engineering or science,’” Brockman said. “But by seeing things like Dr. Riek’s work with robots applied to medicine, as well as all the entertaining robots that will be at the event, it shows how interesting engineering is in a way that the community can really relate to.”

A variety of robots will be on display and interacting with visitors at the event. For example, graduate students Mike Gonzales and Tariq Iqbal have designed a disk jockey robot.

“One of the robots that we are building is a DJ that will not only be playing music but will also sense and then judge how expressive and engaged participants are,” Gonzales said.

In addition to the robots themselves, students will discuss some of the underlying mathematics. Graduate student Maryam Moosaei will be demonstrating the facial tracking and pain detection algorithms she and other students in Riek’s lab are using to create more realistic patient mannequins for training doctors and nurses.

There will also be robotics-themed prizes raffled off at the event and T-shirts will be sold with all proceeds going to the Donors Choose fund to benefit local Saint Joseph County school teachers, Riek said.

Two of the graduate students in Riek’s lab, Maria O’Connor and Cory Hayes, plan to make even the raffle robotics-related.

Hayes said the raffle tickets will be accepted by a small robot designed to look like R2-D2 from the Star Wars movies.

“We’re going to have a little R2-D2 robot that will wheel around beeping and accepting passports for the raffle, stopping to tell jokes every time someone submits one,” Hayes said.

The exhibition will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. It is free and open to the public.

“We can design all these fantastic algorithms for our robots, but by enhancing them a little bit with art and making them interactive, people can start to appreciate all the great engineering going on under the hood.”

Laurel Riek
Assistant professor
Computer science and engineering
Female architect association hosts conference

By CRISTINA SANCHEZ
News Writer

Notre Dame alumnae gathered in Bond Hall to celebrate 40 years of coeducation at the School of Architecture on April 5 and 6. The alumnae participated in the Student Association for Women in Architecture (SAWA), which host- ed their second annual Wheelchair Basketball Tournament.

Sophomore Emily Voorde, who founded the event last year, said the five-on-five tournament is open to all undergraduate students and registration costs $25 per team. The tournament promotes disability awareness on campus and raises funds for the Wheelchair Foundation, she said.

Junior Ali Quinn, co-planner of the event, said the Wheelchair Foundation is an international organization that provides wheelchairs to people with disabilities who cannot afford them. She said for every $150 raised, the foundation will be able to provide one chair to a person in need. Through the Wheelchair Foundation, Ryan Hall can provide one wheelchair for every six teams that participate in the tournament, Voorde said. The chairs provided by the Wheelchair Foundation of ten enable people to participate in school or professional occupations when they otherwise would not be able to do so, she said.

“Some countries, children are unable to attend school and adults are unable to work, simply because they are physically unable without access to a chair,” Voorde said. “Providing chairs to over 152 countries, including the [United States], the Wheelchair Foundation truly does fantastic work.”

Voorde said the most important aspect of the tournament for her is helping at least one person access a needed wheelchair.

“Even if we only help one person, that is enough for me,” Voorde said. “Everything becomes worthwhile.”

Voorde said it was a personal cause for Voorde, who has relied on a manual wheelchair for eight years. She has the condition, or brittle bone disease, and said “I immediately loved the game because it allowed me to remain athletic.”

Accordingly, Ryan Hall has two elevators, wide hallways and accessible rooms.

“Emily [Voorde] came up with the [wheelchair basketball] event idea last year,” Quinn said. “It fits right into the spirit of the dorm and why it was built to be accessible for everyone. It is a unique event but holds immense importance to the history of the dorm as well.”

Aiding people with disabilities is a personal cause for Voorde, who was born with Osteogenesis imperfecta, or brittle bone disease, and has relied on a manual wheelchair since birth. She said she is a wheelchair basketball player and enjoys the game for the competitive aspect and the friendships it fosters.

“Began casually playing wheelchair basketball with a local team about eight years ago,” Voorde said. “I immediately loved the game because it allowed me to remain athletically competitive while bonding with other individuals in chairs. Wheelchair basketball is not all that different from able-bodied basketball: same rules, same game, just on wheels.”

Voorde said Ryan Hall’s tournament is especially exciting because anyone can participate, disabled or not.

“The beauty about able-bodied, wheelchair basketball is that everyone is suddenly on the same playing-field,” she said. “It doesn’t matter if you’re athletic or not, everyone has to learn to adapt.”

Voorde and Quinn said they hope to register 32 teams for the tournament, which is 14 more teams than participated last year. Quinn said registration for the tournament ends today.

Contact Meg Handelman at mhandelm@nd.edu
Research

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

spread.

Egan said although the paper only focuses on the tests the team performed to ensure the process works, the end goal is for the system to address the growing problem of invasive species.

“in the end, this is intended to solve real problems,” Egan said. “Invasive species threaten biodiversity and the functioning of ecosystems and economies worldwide.”

A specific example of where the new system could be used is testing ballast water of ships used for buoyancy in the Great Lakes region. Egan said.

“We hope to get this (equipment) on ships coming into our country, into the Great Lakes, and stop the invasions before they start or while the invasive species are in small enough numbers to eliminate,” Egan said. “This approach lowers the cost to society of protecting our great lakes ecosystems. It’s much harder to remove species after they’ve begun to spread, and some species are so prevalent now that we can’t get rid of them.”

Egan said the system could be applied to any situation that requires identifying particular organisms in an environment. Egan said the team has talked about using the system to detect disease-causing organisms and other pests, and the process could even be used for terrestrial environments by testing streams or other bodies of water that contain the runoff from the target area.

The testing involved two steps, Egan said. First, the team took water samples from the lakes on campus and seeded them with tissue samples from five high-risk invasive species, and then successfully used their system to detect the invasive species. Second, they took samples from Eagle Lake, which is just across the border in Michigan, and successfully tested for an invasive species of zebra mussels, known to be in Eagle Lake.

Egan said the process involves filtering all biomaterial from the water sample, extracting any DNA, exposing the DNA to nanoparticles that only attach to particular sequences unique to a certain species, and then using LTS to observe whether or not the nanoparticles have attached to any DNA from the sample.

Egan said the team had to design the nanoparticles, called oligonucleotides, so they would only attach to particular sequences unique to several common invasive species.

“Our procedure was to look for diagnostic species-specific DNA variation, which is basically just finding a unique sequence of the A’s, C’s, G’s and T’s of DNA for each species we wanted to detect and then functionalize the nanoparticles that only bond to that particular sequence,” he said.

Egan said so far the team has only performed the DNA extraction and LTS in the lab, but they hope to perform the whole process in the field this spring.

“Each one of the components works and can carry out its function in the field, but we haven’t yet done everything in the field. We hope to do that at Eagle Lake this spring,” he said.

The research system was comprised of Egan, Matthew Barnes, Ching-Ting Hwang, Andrew Mahon, Jeffery Feder, Steven Ruggiero, Carol Tanner and David Lodge. Egan said she is from the biology department and works with the Advanced Diagnostics and Therapeutics Initiative (ADTI), but there were other team members affiliated with the physics department faculty and the Environmental Change Initiative (ECI).

Egan said the interdisciplinary nature of the project and the collaboration of researchers from different disciplines were the best aspects of working on the detection system.

“One of the coolest parts of this project is that it exemplifies the purpose of these initiatives to promote interdisciplinary work,” Egan said.

“We have a great mix of scientists coming together to have a real impact on a significant real world problem.”

Contact Christian Myers at cmyers8@nd.edu

Symposium

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

By HALEIGH EHMSEN

Children are truly our future, which is why a Saint Mary’s club held an event last night to discuss the education of migrant children.

The College club La Fuerza concluded its annual “Week of Action” Thursday with a discussion titled “Migrant Children and Their Education.” Elizabeth Dennie, who recently completed her Master’s degree in Education Leadership at Saint Mary’s, led the discussion.

First-year student Fallon Brandsaid she appreciated the chance to learn about migration from a new perspective.

“I just think this is a really pertinent topic, especially in politics, and it’s so interesting to learn about a side of migration that is not discussed,” Brandsaid.

Dennie told the group about her thesis for the Master’s program and her current research titled “The Migrant Experience: Not Leaving Migrant Students Behind.” She said she struggled to find information on this topic since there is relatively little available.

Dennie shared several stories great opportunity.”

Buttigieg said these opportunities include not only service through events like Comer University Day, but careers as well.

“More and more students are starting businesses while still in college,” Buttigieg said. “South Bend is a good environment to do that.”

Buttigieg said as South Bend has grown from its strictly industrial roots, its connection with Notre Dame has evolved.

“The [Notre Dame, South Bend] relationship is at an all-time high. It’s a set of overlapping relationships... economic, social, and cultural,” he said.

Buttigieg said there are as many challenging problems and engaging environments in South Bend as anywhere else students might seek.

“If you can commit a summer to South Bend, ... I can probably help you find environments and areas and communities that you would find no less challenging and interesting and eye-opening than one that is 1000 miles away,” he said.

Coccia, who has volunteered in the community since his freshman year, said he recognizes the advantages of Notre Dame’s close relationship with its surrounding city.

“There’s a lot of opportunities in South Bend, and where I see student government fitting in is really providing and facilitating that relationship for students to have access to those opportunities,” Coccia said.

Coccia said students need not wait until they move off campus to become engaged in the community. He said he hopes more freshmen will take advantage of the city and in that way be ready if and when they make the move off campus.

“My specific goal would be to get freshmen out there (in the South Bend community) early,” Cocciia said. “I think that [community engagement] helps later relationships once you move off campus if you develop those relationships early on.”

Buttigieg said despite some tension in the relationship, sentiments between South Bend and Notre Dame are much more amiable than feelings between some other colleges and cities.

He said South Bend residents consider Notre Dame a piece of the larger community.

“There are always areas where there can be friction, ... but I also think it’s important to be conscious of how much less tension there is here than in more college towns,” he said. “I also sense sometimes a self-consciousness about how people at the University think they’re perceived (by residents), which overstates any tension which may be there.”

Buttigieg and Coccia said they look forward to continuing to improve the relationship between South Bend and Notre Dame.

Coccia said communication will be especially important to this goal going forward.

“There definitely seems to be an open line of communication with the mayor’s office (from student government),” Coccia said. “Buttigieg and I have and Coccia have already met a few times since Coccia’s election.”

Contact Grace McCormack at gmccorma@nd.edu

Educators discuss migrant students

By HALEIGH EHMSEN

Children are truly our future, which is why a Saint Mary’s club held an event last night to discuss the education of migrant children.

The College club La Fuerza concluded its annual “Week of Action” Thursday with a discussion titled “Migrant Children and Their Education.” Elizabeth Dennie, who recently completed her Master’s degree in Education Leadership at Saint Mary’s, led the discussion.

First-year student Fallon Brandsaid she appreciated the chance to learn about migration from a new perspective.

“I just think this is a really pertinent topic, especially in politics, and it’s so interesting to learn about a side of migration that is not discussed,” Brandsaid.

Dennie told the group about her thesis for the Master’s program and her current research titled “The Migrant Experience: Not Leaving Migrant Students Behind.” She said she struggled to find information on this topic since there is relatively little available.

Dennie shared several stories about her work with children and stressed the importance of dialogue between teachers, administrators and ultimately the education of migrant children. She said the most important thing she learned in the process of obtaining her Master’s degree was to allow children to enjoy their youth.

“It sounds so stupid, but it’s so important,” she said. “Let them be kids. If you look around society, everything is pushing kids to be older. They don’t know they’re kids.”

Several education majors asked Dennie how to approach educating migrant students in their future careers. Dennie said it was important to develop relationships with the students in order to foster a love of learning that will bring with it a love of learning.

Dennie also said it is important to see past possible ethnic differences when educating migrant children.

“A lot of times we let so much divide us when we are so similar,” Dennie said.

Contact Haleight Ehmsen at hehmsen01@saintmarys.edu

APPLY FOR THE

★ ARTS & LETTERS BUSINESS BOOT CAMP IN CHICAGO

OCTOBER 21-24, 2013

★ Great opportunity.

Buttigieg said these opportunities include not only service through events like Comer University Day, but careers as well.

“More and more students are starting businesses while still in college,” Buttigieg said. “South Bend is a good environment to do that.”

Buttigieg said as South Bend has grown from its strictly industrial roots, its connection with Notre Dame has evolved.

“The [Notre Dame, South Bend] relationship is at an all-time high. ... It’s a set of overlapping relationships ... economic, social, and cultural,” he said.

Buttigieg said there are as many challenging problems and engaging environments in South Bend as anywhere else students might seek.

“If you can commit a summer to South Bend, ... I can probably help you find environments and areas and communities that you would find no less challenging and interesting and eye-opening than one that is 1000 miles away,” he said.

Coccia, who has volunteered in the community since his freshman year, said he recognizes the advantages of Notre Dame’s close relationship with its surrounding city.

“There’s a lot of opportunities in South Bend, and where I see student government fitting in is really providing and facilitating that relationship for students to have access to those opportunities,” Coccia said.

Coccia said students need not wait until they move off campus to become engaged in the
Relay for Life provides an opportunity to rally around people currently fighting cancer, survivors and those who have lost their battles with the disease, Burdell said. “It means something to those of us who have cancer and have dealt with cancer,” he said. “It’s a very engaging event, and it means a lot to me … that people who don’t necessarily have the disease are so touched by people who do. … This is a way that they can take action, steps to actually do something to help the cause.”

Freshman Teresa Kennedy works alongside Burdell as the student honorary chair of Relay for Life. She is a survivor of dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans, a rare form of soft tissue cancer.

Kennedy was diagnosed when she was in the eighth grade. She had surgery to remove the cancer a few months later and received a clean bill of health when she was a junior in high school.

Kennedy, whose mother also has had cancer, said she has been on the planning committee and a team captain for Relay for Life every year since her diagnosis. She said she realized the importance of good patient services when her mother underwent her own cancer treatment. “What a lot of the money (from Relay for Life) goes towards is patient services,” Kennedy said. “Making the patients more comfortable, helping them with transportation and other medical things like that, which I think is great because you don’t realize how much more stressful everything becomes when you have this one big thing on your mind.”

Relay for Life shows people cancer affects everyone and enables them to understand why supporting cancer research is important, Kennedy said. “I think every person has a cancer story,” she said. “So, to some extent, people have had some kind of experience with it, close or distant, but I think that this is something tangible that people can grab onto in order to deal with that burden of cancer.”

Although sophomore Mary Wickert participated in Relay for Life in high school, she said the cause became personal when her father was diagnosed with stage-four pancreatic cancer in October. Her dad’s cancer is terminal, but also the less invasive of two types of pancreatic cancer, Wickert said. “There’s not as much of a time frame now, kind of thinking ‘tick…tick…time bomb, how long is he going to be around,’ but it’s still a harsh reality,” she said. “He has cancer that’s not going to be cured. … That’s why Relay for Life is pretty important to me.”

Wickert was the highest fundraiser for the Relay event at Notre Dame, according to the Relay for Life website. She said Relay’s commitment to increasing lifespans for people fighting cancer is admirable.

“My dad, there’s not going to be a cure for him, unfortunately, and that’s the reality of it, but Relay for Life really gives hope for other people,” she said. “It’s not, ‘Right now we don’t have a cure, that’s the end of it.’ … What they stand for is really important to me because it helps potentially avoid the situation for people in the future. You never know how close we are to finding a cure.”

Wickert said she hopes participating in Relay for Life helps people better relate to others’ encounters with cancer. “I hope people see that it’s not just another way to raise money,” Wickert said. “There’s an emotional effect that it has on people. … There’s a lot of advertisement like, ‘Join our team. Come on, we have a goal, we need to raise more money.’

“That’s not really the point. The point is that there is potential for more Relay for Life. The end goal is to not have to have this. That might be 100 years in the future, but it’s got to start somewhere.”

Contact Marisa Iati at miat@nd.edu
Associated Press

SHUQUALAK, Miss. — A strong spring storm that soaked the Midwest with ice and heavy, wet snow made its way east, raking the South with tornadoes Thursday, with three deaths blamed on the rough weather and thousands of people without power.

Mississippi Emergency Management Agency spokesman Greg Flynn said Thursday one person died and several people were injured after a reported tornado struck Kemper County in the far-eastern part of the state.

At Contract Fabricators Inc. in Kemper County, where authorities said one person died and another was injured, bent pieces of tin hung from the heavily damaged building. A tractor trailer was twisted and overturned. Debris from the business was strewn through the woods across the street.

Tabatha Lott, a dispatcher in Nance County, said there were “numerous reports of injuries” in the town of Shuqualak, though it wasn’t immediately clear how many. Flynn also said there are reports of damaged buildings and many power outages.

The T-shaped system first swept across the nation’s midsection Wednesday night and pounded portions of Missouri, where the National Weather Service said Thursday that an EF-2 tornado appears to have damaged dozens of homes in the St. Louis suburb of Hazelwood. That category of tornado generally packs winds of 113 to 157 mph.

Derek Cody, an amateur storm chaser who works at East Mississippi Community College in Scooba, just south of Shuqualak (pronounced SHU-ga-loc), told The Associated Press that he drove north to the small town to try to catch a glimpse of the tornado.

He said he got out of his car on U.S. 45 just as the twister was approaching the highway, only to be hit by a strong gust of wind moving into the storm that almost knocked him over. “I kind of sat there and hoped it would cross right in front of me,” Cody said. “It was just a black mass that moved across the road.”

As the system was moving through the Southeast, high winds knocked over trees and power lines in rural west Alabama and eastern Mississippi.

Contact Catherine Owens at cowers@nd.edu

Pentagon motions to cut furlough days again

WASHINGTON — Senior Pentagon leaders are taking another look at sharply reducing the number of unpaid furlough days that department civilians will have to take in the coming months, suggesting they may be able to cut the number from 14 to as few as seven, defense officials said Thursday.

If the number is reduced, it would be the second time the Pentagon has cut the number of furlough days. It had initially been set at 22 days.

The officials say no decision has been made and that they are not ruling out efforts to drop the furloughs entirely. The renewed interest in reducing the number comes as the Pentagon has cut the number of furloughs.

The officials acknowledged there is an effort to allow them to work. The fairness debate has also cut across federal agencies, with some defense workers complaining that employees who do similar jobs for other government departments are not subject to furloughs.

Also there has been debate about how many intelligence workers would be furloughed. Intelligence officials are arguing that a certain number of workers are needed in order to adequately monitor and protect the U.S. from national security threats. The U.S. intelligence community is made up of 16 different organizations, including the CIA, the Defense Intelligence Agency and the highly secretive National Security Agency and the National Reconnaissance Office. Altogether the agencies have about 100,000 workers.

On Thursday, when asked during a congressional hearing about Army depot furloughs, Pentagon budget chief Robert Hale said he could not yet rule out furloughs for the workers. He acknowledged there is an effort to minimize them.

“Maybe we can get better, maybe we can’t,” he told the House Armed Services Committee. “We would like to see consistency and fairness, because if we’re going to have to jump into this pool, we’d like to jump together. But no final decisions have been made on furloughs.”

Defense officials conceded, however, that there has been talk of cutting the number to about 10 days.

Congressional mandated automatic budget cuts initially prompted the Defense Department to warn that the bulk of its 800,000 civilians would be forced to take 22 unpaid days off — one in each of the 22 workdays of the fiscal year ending Sept. 30. When lawmakers approved a new spending bill at the end of March they gave the Pentagon greater latitude in where to find the savings.

In an attempt to take some of the sting out of the more than $46 billion in automatic budget cuts, Congress shifted additional money to operations and maintenance accounts. Over time, defense officials have continued to study the legislation and figure out where they can cut and where they can add money back to fill shortfalls and fund priorities.

Naval officials have argued that the furloughs — particularly for civilian workers at Navy shipyards and depots — will end up costing the service more than the salary cuts would save.

Naval officials have said they believe they can find the $300 million needed to eliminate the furloughs for roughly 200,000 civilians in the Navy and Marine Corps, and that discussions with Pentagon leaders on that proposal continue.

The officials said that according to a Navy analysis, forcing shipyard and depot workers to take 14 days off would extend the amount of time it will take for ship maintenance. They said that would create a ripple effect that will keep vessels at the shipyards longer and create a backlog.

Ultimately, the backlog would delay deployments, forcing other ships to remain at sea longer, increasing their costs.
NOW IN A CLOSER PLACE, MISHAWAKA

FROM ORGANIC FARMING TO COMMUNITY BUILDING, WE TRY TO MAKE THE WORLD A HAPPIER PLACE. IT’S FUNNY HOW A LITTLE BIT OF HAPPY CAN GO A LONG WAY.

FACEBOOK.COM/WHOLEFOODSMISHAWAKA
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg and other Silicon Valley leaders have formally launched a political group aimed at revamping immigration policy, boosting education and encouraging investment in scientific research. Zuckerberg announced the formation of Fwd.us (“pronounced forward us”) in an op-ed article in The Washington Post late Wednesday night. In it, he said the U.S. needs a new approach to these issues if it is to get ahead economically. This includes offering a path to citizenship for the 11 million or so immigrants who now live in the U.S. illegally.

“We have a strange immigration policy for a nation of immigrants,” Zuckerberg wrote. “And it’s a policy unfit for today’s world.”

Zuckerberg, whose great-grandparents were immigrants, said he条件下 comprehensive immigration reform that begins with effective border security, allows a path to citizenship and lets us attract the most talented and hardest-working people, no matter where they were born.

The move comes at an opportune time. Zuckerberg’s goals echo a sweeping immigration bill that a bipartisan Senate group is expected to roll out in the coming days.

Companies such as Microsoft and Google, along with New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, have been pushing to make it easier for highly skilled workers and entrepreneurs to work in the U.S. Although Fwd.us supports

increasing the number of visas available to these workers, its goals are broader.

Zuckerberg also called for higher standards and accountability in schools and increased focus on learning about science, technology, engineering and math. Today’s knowledge and ideas-based economy, the announcement of a Harvard dropout, wrote, is very different from the economy of the 20th century that was based on natural resources, industrial machines and labor.

Fwd.us, he said, is created to “build the knowledge economy the United States needs to ensure more jobs, innovation and investment.”

Also backing the group are tech leaders such as LinkedIn Corp. CEO Reid Hoffman and venture capitalists John Doerr and Jim Breyer, as well as Rustchi Sanghvi of Dropbox, who was Facebook Inc.’s first female engineer. Joe Green, founder of Causes.com, a social network for community organizing, serves as the group’s president and founder.

Major financial contributors include Google Inc. Chairman Eric Schmidt, Netflix Inc. CEO Reed Hastings, Yahoo Inc. CEO Marissa Mayer, SpaceX and Tesla Motors CEO Elon Musk, Zynga Inc. CEO Mark Pincus and former Groupon Inc. CEO Andrew Mason.

Fwd.us declined to disclose how much money Zuckerberg and other supporters have contributed to the group.

Last year, Zuckerberg donated 18 million Facebook shares, worth close to $500 million at the time, to a Silicon Valley charity with the aim of funding health and education issues.

Associated Press

ROME, Maine — He would meditate on an overturned bucket while staring up at the sky and knew all the eagles that nested nearby.

But despite his 27 years of seclusion in the woods, Christopher Knight also had a taste for the finer things in life, authorities said Thursday after dismantling the so-called North Pond hermit’s lair.

In the 47-year-old’s camp, they recovered goods that included Nintendo Game Boys and a wristwatch, along with shovels, rakes, coolers, cooking gear, a coffee pot and even toilet paper.

Authorities said Knight used logs on the ground as a makeshift commode, and at one point, attached an antenna to a treetop so he could get reception on his battery-powered TV in his tarp-covered camp.

Many locals said they were relieved by Knight’s arrest after enduring years of break-ins. Before the camp’s dismantling, some curious folks hiked about a mile into the woods with police to try to get a look at the hermit’s camp.

Among them was Frank Ten Broeck, a retired New Jersey police official who has a cottage nearby.

“To me, this is mind-boggling. I just can’t believe this guy was here 27 years,” Ten Broeck said. “This is some of the most severe weather you can go through.”

But the land’s owner disputes this, deciding to let only authorities into the camp on Thursday.

A corrections officer at Kennebec County Jail in Augusta said Knight was refusing requests for interviews. He has applied for a court-appointed lawyer and hasn’t entered a plea to the burglary and theft charges stemming from the break-in at Pine Tree Camp, a facility for special needs people.

Authorities said they caught Knight with $283 in goods in his backpack after he fell into a trap set by Hughes, who’s been trying to capture the elusive woodsman for years.

In his photo mug shot, Knight is clean-shaven, has short-cropped hair and is sporting a style of eyeglasses from the 1980s.

It’s a different look than in his photo from the 1984 yearbook at Lawrence High School in Fairfield, Maine. A 1984 yearbook, opened to a page showing an adolescent Christopher Knight, is displayed on a map of Rome, Maine. Knight was known as the North Pond Hermit for decades before his arrest on April 4, 2013.
As this week’s controversy over Carter Boyd’s column (“Somewhere Over the Rainbow,” April 9) and Mark Gianforio’s guest column (“True Matrimonial Equality,” April 9) demonstrated, Notre Dame students have strong opinions about the issues the authors raised about the gay marriage debate. Comments on social media and in Letters to the Editor have popped up quickly to address Boyds and Gianforio’s comments. The two outlets combined to create yesterday’s letter (“Spread the Love, Spread the Equality,” April 11), which Notre Dame students were asked by its creators to sign through a Facebook event.

“We cannot all write Viewpoints about why we support marriage equality,” the letter stated. “We should not have to defend and fight for equality of love.”

Hundreds of you signed this letter. But sometimes, strength in numbers isn’t enough to refute an argument. Sometimes, our signatures on a list aren’t enough to persuade someone we deserve to be heard. In such cases, writing to defend something we believe in is the only way to truly affect change.

At its core, The Observer’s Viewpoint section tries to provide Notre Dame with an open platform for that change. Viewpoint strives to lend a voice to the community and to foster a constructive discussion of events both on campus and in the wider world. The fundamen-
tal goal of the section is to allow students to articulate their diverse and sometimes conflicting views by providing a venue for their expression.

First and foremost, the Viewpoint section is a mouthpiece of the student body. The columns and letters you see in the Viewpoint sections are the work of your colleagues, classmates and friends. Members of The Observer do not contribute to the Letters to the Editor column, or allow personal opinion to dictate that which submis-
sions make it to publication. Viewpoint has and continues to be a forum for controversial or unpopular opinions, provided a certain level of respect is maintained. While this means some groups may disagree with certain columns, these conflicts still have a silver lin-
ing. Drawing potentially upsetting opinions into the open allows others to address them in a constructive forum and promotes de-
bate that potentially can help us all either reconsider our views or strengthen our current convictions. But, it’s up to you to keep that forum constructive.

Nowadays, when many students read columns they find foolish or misinformed, perhaps while enjoying a gourmet dining hall meal, they only scoff. Labels are tossed around in the columnists wake: stupid, bigot, ignorant or self-righteous, to name a few. But what is increasingly rare is a reader’s response in a puddle of spilled chocolate milk and stale-dining hall pasta?

It takes far more courage to voice an opinion and publicly defend it than to matter criticisms under our breath. If we don’t agree with an opinion, then we should take a leap and put ourselves out there as well. Write a response. We shouldn’t internalize feelings. We need to let the Notre Dame community know if we agree or disagree with an issue. We must foster a constructive dialogue by respecting that many issues are not black and white, that they are really defined in shades of gray. We should realize that all arguments have two sides, and that our Constitution protects the right for your ideological op-

pose to voice his thoughts just as much as it allows you to speak your mind.

It may be easier to remain detached from controversial issues. It may be easier to simply voice thoughts and opinions while protect-

ed by anonymous forums like ND Confessions or in The Observer itself. However, Viewpoint needs you. The Notre Dame community needs you. Get off your futon, fire up your laptop and start writing. If you take a risk and put yourself out there, Viewpoint, and the Notre Dame community, will embrace your contribution and sweep it under the rug. That’s what this section is for: putting your voice in the hands of the Notre Dame community.

So, if you want to contribute, if you want to direct the argument in a constructive and effective way, here’s what you do: Go to ndsmco-

bserver.com and click on “Write a Letter to the Editor.” Or, better yet, send a full column to obviewer@gmail.com

To paraphrase a quote often misattributed to Voltaire, The Observer’s Viewpoint section may not wholeheartedly agree with what you have to say, but it will always defend your right to say it.

This is an “apology” in two ways. The first one, is that I sincerely wish to apologize to the entire student body at Notre Dame and the LGBTQ community who have found the piece “Somewhere Over the Rainbow” to be Offensive, especially those of the LGBTQ community. While I believe Mr. Boyd wrote it with the best of intentions, his arguments display a lack of understanding for the complexity of the issue and a lack of compassion for our brother and sisters in Christ who have same-

sex attractions.

Secondly, I wish to give a more sympathetic and sincere “apology” (a formal justification) for the Catholic Understanding of Marriage in response to Mr. Boyd’s article. First of all, as Christians, we must understand that homosexuality is more complex than simply being “sinful.” Sexual orientation means more than simply who we want to have sex with, but rather is the lens through which we interact with each other. Therefore, to say someone “the way you interact with other people is wrong, and although it is some-
thing you can’t change, you are sinful because of it!” is a terribly uncompassionate thing to say to someone who is really struggling (in one way or another) to understand his or her sexuality. It is not sinful or wrong to have same-sex attractions, but it is considered sinful by the Catholic Church to act upon those attractions.

As Mr. Boyd rather bluntly added, the reason why the Church acts against homosexual intercourse is because it is not procreative (the same reason it is against birth control and masturbation, but for brevity’s sake, let’s deal with one issue at a time). As someone who has been in the profession of helping others for nearly three decades, I can safely say that no one is questioning the full expression of love, the sexual act must have the opportunity to be procreative. When God created the world, he did not so because of some rational thesis on why He needed creation or why He need-
ed that purely out of love. Through God’s love (the same love expressed on the Cross similar to the one on many people’s profile pictures) all the world came into being, and in the sexual act we are called to reflect that love to its fullest. Therefore, when two people offer themselves to each other, in love, fully and completely, it must be open to this participation in God’s creative act.

I realize this does not address the issue of “same-sex marriage” and how it fits into the United States Constitution. However, I do not have the legal background to properly defend that, and since Mr. Boyd hardly proposes any legitimate arguments for why it should remain illegal, I will leave this issue for someone more apt than I to solve.

While I cannot comprehend the struggles the LGBTQ communi-
ty has gone through, I recognize it cannot be easy having same-sex attractions, whether it be condemnation from loved ones or being socially marginalized because of how you interact with others. What is probably hardest to bear is when someone says you do not deserve the infinite love of God because of your sexuality. But let me be the first to say that it is not so. You are more than your sex-

ual identity. You are a child of God who loves you so much that, through your parents, He called you into existence. Christ loves each of us because we are all His children, just as he loved Peter even after Peter denied Him three times. But Christ also called Peter to repen-
tance and to a deeper, more perfect love than Peter could have ever anticipated. So too, the Church calls all of its people to repentance and to continue to enter more deeply in the love in which we were created and through which we are saved.

For those of you who have same-sex attractions, for more reasons than not, you are stranger than I am. For those of you who have decided that, while having same-sex attractions, to live out your sexuality according to God’s will in purity and chastity — you are truly the saints of the modern day. I cannot comprehend the weight of the cross you carry and I thank you with my entire heart to those of you who struggle in keeping our sexuality (homo or hetero) pure and chaste. I am praying with you for you and I, and I would consider myself very fortunate if I could do the same for you.

God Bless.

Samuel Carlson
Senior
Siegfried Hall
April 11

An apology for the understanding of traditional marriage

I realize this does not address the issue of “same-sex marriage” and how it fits into the United States Constitution. However, I do not have the legal background to properly defend that, and since Mr. Boyd hardly proposes any legitimate arguments for why it should remain illegal, I will leave this issue for someone more apt than I to solve.

While I cannot comprehend the struggles the LGBTQ communi-
ty has gone through, I recognize it cannot be easy having same-sex attractions, whether it be condemnation from loved ones or being socially marginalized because of how you interact with others. What is probably hardest to bear is when someone says you do not deserve the infinite love of God because of your sexuality. But let me be the first to say that it is not so. You are more than your sex-

ual identity. You are a child of God who loves you so much that, through your parents, He called you into existence. Christ loves each of us because we are all His children, just as he loved Peter even after Peter denied Him three times. But Christ also called Peter to repen-
tance and to a deeper, more perfect love than Peter could have ever anticipated. So too, the Church calls all of its people to repentance and to continue to enter more deeply in the love in which we were created and through which we are saved.

For those of you who have same-sex attractions, for more reasons than not, you are stranger than I am. For those of you who have decided that, while having same-sex attractions, to live out your sexuality according to God’s will in purity and chastity — you are truly the saints of the modern day. I cannot comprehend the weight of the cross you carry and I thank you with my entire heart to those of you who struggle in keeping our sexuality (homo or hetero) pure and chaste. I am praying with you for you and I, and I would consider myself very fortunate if I could do the same for you.

God Bless.

Samuel Carlson
Senior
Siegfried Hall
April 11

An apology for the understanding of traditional marriage

I realize this does not address the issue of “same-sex marriage” and how it fits into the United States Constitution. However, I do not have the legal background to properly defend that, and since Mr. Boyd hardly proposes any legitimate arguments for why it should remain illegal, I will leave this issue for someone more apt than I to solve.

While I cannot comprehend the struggles the LGBTQ communi-
ty has gone through, I recognize it cannot be easy having same-sex attractions, whether it be condemnation from loved ones or being socially marginalized because of how you interact with others. What is probably hardest to bear is when someone says you do not deserve the infinite love of God because of your sexuality. But let me be the first to say that it is not so. You are more than your sex-

ual identity. You are a child of God who loves you so much that, through your parents, He called you into existence. Christ loves each of us because we are all His children, just as he loved Peter even after Peter denied Him three times. But Christ also called Peter to repen-
tance and to a deeper, more perfect love than Peter could have ever anticipated. So too, the Church calls all of its people to repentance and to continue to enter more deeply in the love in which we were created and through which we are saved.

For those of you who have same-sex attractions, for more reasons than not, you are stranger than I am. For those of you who have decided that, while having same-sex attractions, to live out your sexuality according to God’s will in purity and chastity — you are truly the saints of the modern day. I cannot comprehend the weight of the cross you carry and I thank you with my entire heart to those of you who struggle in keeping our sexuality (homo or hetero) pure and chaste. I am praying with you for you and I, and I would consider myself very fortunate if I could do the same for you.

God Bless.

Samuel Carlson
Senior
Siegfried Hall
April 11
Thoughts on the minimum wage

Connor Roth

Think It’s Not Illegal Yet

On Feb. 12th, in his State of the Union address, President Obama discussed a wide variety of issues — arguing for gun control measures, elaborating on corpo- rate rules and mentioning the Affordable Healthcare Act among other things. But, one other specific issue I’d like to consider further is the President’s call to raise the minimum wage up to $9 at the federal level. In his address, Obama stated rais- ing the minimum wage “would raise the incomes of millions of working families” and continued to offer other arguments in support of his proposition. While society would agree with the President that no person should be marginalized or left in poverty without help, we should step back from the emotional charge of his speech and consider whether a federally mandat- ed minimum wage would be an effective way to help those who need it the most.

Minimum wage is a misnomer. The true “minimum wage” is zero dollars; you don’t get paid if you don’t have a job. Instead of saying the federal minimum wage is $7.25, we should be saying we aren’t allowed to earn a wage between $0.01 and $7.24 dollars. As someone who believes in the freedom to spend your time as you see fit (and receive compensation in accordance with a contract), the constitutionality of a minimum wage law appear to be more controversial than one may initially believe. Sadly, if I value my labor at $6 an hour and a business values my time at that same amount then I’m just out of luck.

Now, since it doesn’t look like the mini- mum wage is going to be declared uncon- stitutional any time soon, we can start discussing the pros and cons of whether or not raising it to $9/hour would actually achieve the goal it was designed to accomplish: helping the poor. Numerous studies have been conducted by economists on both sides of the argument, but in one article produced in the Wall Street Journal on Jan. 10, 2013, author Jason Riley provided data which found that less than 20 percent of people being paid minimum wage live below the poverty line — the majority of people affected by the minimum wage are young people who are entering the workforce for the first time. It appears that raising the minimum wage would create the most displacement in employment for individuals with the lowest experience and make it harder for those who are trying to gain entry-level experience to find and keep a job, instead of accomplishing the intended goal of helping low-income families.

It appears many of those in favor of in- creasing the minimum wage would argue that the positive effects the increase would have on the poor would outweigh the deadweight loss to the rest of society. But just seems to me there could be programs or charities that could be better organized and more effective at targeting the poor and allocating resources to them, rather than just increasing the federal minimum wage across the spectrum.

Consider this: if someone has a heart attack, a physician would not simply focus on unclogging the blocked artery — the doctor would also attempt to remedy the long-term problem at hand (e.g. high blood pressure). To compare this anecdote to the economy, we should also focus on why we have inflation, which leads people to demand higher wages. One might look to “QE Infinity,” the devaluation of our fiat currency, and the special treatment top corporations receive from government. Issues with prices will arise too, especially with those companies who do not face “sticky prices” and provide goods with inelastic demand (like medical supplies or other stuff people need to purchase). These companies can simply charge more for their goods in response to the mini- mum wage hike. Those who may defend the sentiment shared by President Obama and Elizabeth Warren (among others) may point to Costco and Starbucks, whom who have already called for an increase in the minimum wage. These two Fortune 500 companies reason that more money in the hands of their workers will increase spending, allowing families to be better off. But if the data Jason Riley offered is accurate, very few people affected by the wage increase will have families to take care of, based on the argument that young people are most impacted by this type of legislation.

Also, nobody bothered to mention that employees of these companies are already paid above minimum wage and the in- crease would knockout smaller businesses. Costco and Starbucks currently compete with in the market. While these sentiments appear noble at first glance, there may also be deeper lying motives that some try to sweep under the rug. With all of these calls for an increase in the federal minimum wage, we as a society need to step back and look at the costs and benefits this motion would force. Perhaps raising the minimum wage to $9 would make those below the poverty line better off, but maybe there are better options out there to specifically target that socioeconomic group and do so even more effi- ciently than a minimum wage increase. I am not saying our charity and volun- tary action among individuals, but for now, it looks like we’ll just have to wait and see what happens in Washington in the future.

Connor Roth is a sophomore Economics major and Constitutional Studies minor and can be contacted at croth1@nd.edu The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Not for ND Confessions

Joel Kolb
The Provocateur

“Secrets, secrets are fun, secrets, secrets hurt someone.” For those of you who recognize this quote, congratulations. For those don’t, it’s spoken by a stripper in the Benji franklin episode of The Office, back when Jim was actually a California girl. As Michael Scott reflects on the happenings of the day, he notes the irony which comes from the female dancer teaching the most profound life lesson of the day. It is only human to want to hear others’ secrets, but continuing to keep secrets is good for no one.

No doubt within the past month you or someone you know has looked at or possibly even liked the Facebook page and continued to offer other arguments in support of his proposition. While society would agree with the President that no person should be marginalized or left in poverty without help, we should step back from the emotional charge of his speech and consider whether a federally mandat- ed minimum wage would be an effective way to help those who need it the most.

Old news doesn’t get better with age. This idiom lies with the past month you or someone you know has looked at or possibly even liked the Facebook page and continued to offer other arguments in support of his proposition. While society would agree with the President that no person should be marginalized or left in poverty without help, we should step back from the emotional charge of his speech and consider whether a federally mandat- ed minimum wage would be an effective way to help those who need it the most.

New news, however, can provide hope. This is why I am writing this column about the Facebook page and continued to offer other arguments in support of his proposition. While society would agree with the President that no person should be marginalized or left in poverty without help, we should step back from the emotional charge of his speech and consider whether a federally mandat- ed minimum wage would be an effective way to help those who need it the most.

When something goes wrong, it is as if the hands of their workers will induce more and consider whether a federally mandat- ed minimum wage would be an effective way to help those who need it the most. It appears many of those in favor of in- creasing the minimum wage would argue that the positive effects the increase would have on the poor would outweigh the deadweight loss to the rest of society. But just seems to me there could be programs or charities that could be better organized and more effective at targeting the poor and allocating resources to them, rather than just increasing the federal minimum wage across the spectrum.

Consider this: if someone has a heart attack, a physician would not simply focus on unclogging the blocked artery — the doctor would also attempt to remedy the long-term problem at hand (e.g. high blood pressure). To compare this anecdote to the economy, we should also focus on why we have inflation, which leads people to demand higher wages. One might look to “QE Infinity,” the devaluation of our fiat currency, and the special treatment top corporations receive from government. Issues with prices will arise too, especially with those companies who do not face “sticky prices” and provide goods with inelastic demand (like medical supplies or other stuff people need to purchase). These companies can simply charge more for their goods in response to the mini- mum wage hike. Those who may defend the sentiment shared by President Obama and Elizabeth Warren (among others) may point to Costco and Starbucks, whom who have already called for an increase in the minimum wage. These two Fortune 500 companies reason that more money in the hands of their workers will increase spending, allowing families to be better off. But if the data Jason Riley offered is accurate, very few people affected by the wage increase will have families to take care of, based on the argument that young people are most impacted by this type of legislation.

Also, nobody bothered to mention that employees of these companies are already paid above minimum wage and the in- crease would knockout smaller businesses. Costco and Starbucks currently compete with in the market. While these sentiments appear noble at first glance, there may also be deeper lying motives that some try to sweep under the rug. With all of these calls for an increase in the federal minimum wage, we as a society need to step back and look at the costs and benefits this motion would force. Perhaps raising the minimum wage to $9 would make those below the poverty line better off, but maybe there are better options out there to specifically target that socioeconomic group and do so even more effi- ciently than a minimum wage increase. I am not saying our charity and volun- tary action among individuals, but for now, it looks like we’ll just have to wait and see what happens in Washington in the future.

Connor Roth is a sophomore Economics major and Constitutional Studies minor and can be contacted at croth1@nd.edu The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Let’s talk about love

I’ve heard arguments that the logical leaps made in Mr. Boyd’s column (“Somewhere Over the Rainbow,” Apr. 10) render it unworthy of the attention that underlying attitudes are real and corrosive, and should be addressed.

There’s a limit on how much you can deride, demean and insult someone and still claim to love them. When you compare someone’s sexual attraction to and love for the same sex to acts of evil that deliberately harm, destroy, or end life (rape, murder, terrorism), you perpetuate hate. When you deny someone’s ability to love fully and deeply because biology prevents them from creating children with the person they love, you deny an intrinsic part of their humanity. When you belittle their love by calling the symbol of their movement proof of their inferiority, you insult them. When you call their desire for truly equal treatment under the law a “fad,” you spit on the memory of our gay and lesbian friends and forebears who have been excluded, maimed, and murdered simply for wanting to be with the wrong per- son. Is that really love?

Mr. Boyd, I’d like to offer a challenge. Just talk to a gay or lesbian person about it. I guarantee you’ll know at least one person from your classes, in your dorm, heck, in your pew. Approach him or her with an open heart and an open mind, and just listen. Watch a young man’s face light up when he talks about his boyfriend of two years. Hear the longing when a woman talks about her girlfriend who’s study- ing abroad. Talk to an older couple about the dedication it took to get through the tough times and the joy of the good ones. Listen for the pain engendered by years of being told that they’re incomplete, wrong and abnormal.

Of course, I’m not sure how many of our homosexual comrades will really want to talk to you after you’ve degraded and denigrated them, so I’m not volunteering anyone. But my hope is someone would be will- ing to take the time to show you what real love means.

Athena Hughes
Senior
Ryan Hall
April 10

The Observer | FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2013 | NDSMOBSERVER.COM

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

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

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Never heard of dream pop? Well, it’s about time you did! Dream pop is about the experience—the area created by the range of sounds and textures. Be prepared for prominent synths, ethereal effects, looping beats and echoes. Lots of echoes.

1. “Reunion” by M83: Its “reunion” as the sequel to “Midnight City.”

2. “Cherry” by Chromatics: This hypnotizing track is sure to pull you into the dream pop world. Singer Ruth Radelet’s vocals aren’t frilly or overpowering. They meld with the persistent bass line, letting the prominent synth effects really shine.

3. “Daniel” by Bat For Lashes: Remember “The Karate Kid”? If so, you’ll probably find something familiar about the lyrics to this song. The lyrics were inspired by singer Natasha Khan’s crush on Daniel LaRusso. If the lyrics aren’t enough to tell you that, just look at the single’s cover — Natasha has a giant painting of Daniel’s face (headband and all) on her back.

4. “Reptile” by The Church: For a little more retro feel, I like to go for The Church, which formed in 1980. This song was the first that I had heard from them, and it’s been my favorite since. The lyrics paint an interesting picture of someone who is entralling but dangerous. The guitars on this track are phenomenal — the lead weaves in and out of the ringing rhythm guitar, while the drums keep your heart racing. All this is layered on a simple synth background.

5. “Lord Knows” by Dum Dum Girls: From the very start, “Lord Knows” has got you hooked with its slow and simple drum beat, simple and echoing guitar line, and reverberating harmonies. This all-girl band pulls off every song they play with an effortless cool.

6. “Hanging On (White Sea Remix)” by Active Child: Thanks to Mia Michaels’ imaginative and abstract choreography on “So You Think You Can Dance,” I offer you this track. The choral-like harmonies enhance this heavily synthetic composition, which features pulsing beats and a plethora of keyboard and effect tidbits that build to a climax before the hushed ending.

7. “The Moment I Said” by Imogen Heap: I am enthralled every time that I listen to this song. It weaves up and down and in and out of so many varied sounds, rhythms and harmonies, that I find something new to love with each press of the replay button. If you get the chance, check out Imogen Heap work her looping magic on YouTube.

8. “Norway” by Beach House: Yes, this is my third Beach House feature. But not including a Beach House track on a dream pop playlist would be a travesty. Victoria Legrand’s unique vocals are set against a constant tom-tom drumbeat, circling guitar and other-worldly effects.

9. “Here’s Where the Story Ends” by The Sundays: This British group has been on hiatus since the late 90s, but their music continues to strike in order to leave an impression on the dream pop genre. Whatever mood you’re in or work that is consuming your time and attention, this track is sure to absorb you, if only for its four-minute duration. The smooth, repetitious guitars and Harriet Wheeler’s sweet, unique vocals envelope you in an almost, well-dream-like state.

10. “Glóčói” by Sigur Rós: If you’re looking for something more out-there, lyr and songs that you can’t pronounce — because they’re Icelandic), than Sigur Rós is the group for you. This song slowly builds from sweepy sung vocals and xylophone-like sounds to electrifying guitar and pounding drums, coming full circle at the end.

11. “Not in Love” by Crystal Castles ft. Robert Smith of the Cure: I have to admit, usually after the first time that I play this song, it ends up on repeat for the next 15 minutes or so. Robert Smith’s distinct vocals and Island and Olivier Sim in their duo vocals and Jamie Smith keeps time and effect with his always spot-on beats and synths.

Contact Lizzy Schroff at eschro01@stmarys.edu
By EMILIE TERHAAR

Scene Writer

Saturday night, Washington Hall, 8:00 p.m. “Pitch Perfect” meets “Whose Line Is It Anyway?”. Last year, over 250 people attended the part improv, part a cappella collaboration show between Notre Dame’s Humor Artists and a cappella group Halftime. This year, twice as long has been spent planning the performance. More time was spent writing the script, which includes twice as many songs, twice as many crossovers of actors taking on singing roles, singers performing improvisational scenes and everyone dancing. There has been over a week of rehearsals putting the two hour show together.

One might wonder how it is possible to plan and rehearse for an improvisational musical performance. How is something improvised if there is a script and rehearsals? Halftime club member Dagny Nagengast explains “the script holds the scenes together, it lets us know who is supposed to be on stage, and for how long.” The script tells a broad story about an improv group and an a cappella group working with each other. One improv actor, Alec Vathournout, and an a cappella performer, Grace Foster, are at odds with each other, trying to break up the collaboration of the groups. Alec, because he hates singing; Grace, because she hates humor. A mysterious cloaked figure, Ra’him Khan, guides the plot forward from the shady corners and dark depths of the stage.

Within this larger frame of a story, individual scenes allow for either a song by Halftime, a collaborative song by Halftime and some of the Humor Artists together, or some improv games (some scenes may even have all three!). Improv games typically last three to five minutes, and are entirely unscripted, un-rehearsed venues for silliness.

The script for the show was written by several of the Humor Artists: Alec Vathournout, Brian “Brodgers” Rodgers, Stephen “Paco” Elser, and Saad Khan. Vathournout said the script takes the actual Humor Artists and Halftime members, and creates caricatures exaggerating their best, worst and funniest features. While the show will still be funny for anyone who goes attends, it should be even funnier for people who know members of the Humor Artists or Halftime.

This performance promises to be unlike any other event at Notre Dame. Brian Rodgers says how they aimed to create a collaboration that showcased different forms of talent in a way other student performances are unable to. The Keenan Revue is a sketch comedy. We have student stand up comics. We have the Humor Artist’s regular Improv shows. Notre Dame has various choirs and a cappella groups. We have bands. We have the student players and other drama clubs. There are dance teams, dance collectives and dance troops. But this show is entirely different. It will have humor, improv, drama, scripted acting, comedians singing, singers being comical and everyone will dance. You will laugh, you will cry, you will have a really, really good time.

If you are a fan of “Glee,” or Marx Brothers’ movies, musicals, or comedy, or if you enjoy laughing or fun, then come see the show! Tickets will be available today and tomorrow at the box office in Washington Hall for $2, and will continue to be sold until the show starts.

Contact Emilie Terhaar at etheraa@nd.edu

I like weird music. Weird keeps things interesting. So if you aren’t prepared for someone weird, don’t listen to James Blake.

Blake joins the crew of musicians who have become more famous than their athletic counterparts with the same name (Jack Johnson, Jim Jones). But with the performance he has put on in his past two albums, weird might just become the new normal.

With his sophomore release “Overgrown,” Blake matures and settles down, while breaking barriers with his introspective lyrics and hypnotizing electronic production. It’s hard to fit Blake into a category because the London producer covers everything from R&B to low-fi to being unfairly pushed into the post-dubstep niche. But Blake croons, cries and harmonizes with them best of them, sometimes all on one song. Blake’s a one-man band, utilizing samples of his voice and adding electronic drums and high-hats to add to the mystique of his unique sound.

For example, the best song of the album, “Retrograde,” has only four minor elements: an electronic clap, lyrics, buzzing synths and Blake’s hum which serves as the baseline. It’s a haunting revelation of the self and what’s left of it after losing a significant piece. The same goes for the spooky “Take A Fall for Me,” featuring the low-key spoken-word-type rap of Wu-Tang Clan’s RZA. Famed producer Brian Eno even hops on a track, “Digital Lion.”

The album’s vibe is certainly mellow, but with a few twists it’s good for a rainy day or just a small treasure in the quest for unique music you won’t hear from anyone else.

Contact Andrew Gastelum, Editor-in-Chief

“Illusion”

Genre: Electronic, Neo-Soul

Record Label: Republic Records

Artist: James Blake

The Kickback
**SPORTS AUTHORITY**

**Top 10, not amateur hour**

Andrew Gastelum
Editor in Chief

This is one of those ideas that have been stewing for a long time. Or I’m just a writer in search of a topic. But I can go ahead and write about soccer. After all, it ends wars. But after Champions League and Manchester United turned the English Premier League into a snoozefest like a day game at Pepto Park, there’s not much left.

Or I could do the typical “Spring is here, I love baseball and sun dresses” schtick. Sadly, it is probably a few days too late to talk about the most entertaining NCAA national championship game in my lifetime and the celebration cannons that made Rick Pitino hit the deck. And while we were here this weekend, but I refuse to talk about Tiger until he cops a green jacket from Rory McIlroy in “Happy Gilmore.”

So here goes the universal idea that is sure to get me into trouble, but I’m looking at you Clippers “fans”. It’s about SportsCenter, but this is no cop-out. I consider myself a pretty green person — like Notre Dame in the Big East basketball tournament, no affiliation — but I must speak of electricity as much as I can like the Superdome during the Super Bowl. But SportsCenter offers where I break that rule like I’m The Game or Busta Rhymes. It’s always the first thing I turn on in the morning and the last thing I do before going to sleep. It’s on when no one is in the room, when I’m in class.

It’s something I take seriously because it keeps me in the loop in a world where I can’t afford to miss a day. In high school, I would wake up at 5 a.m. so I could get in my hour-long fix before heading to class. So, why have I a bone to pick with you, SportsCenter. The adage “to be the best for last” actually applies to SportsCenter because of the precious Top 10. Seeing the bone to pick with you, the sidebar keeps me through watching the Connecticut Sun vs. Indiana Fever and from a watching to Netflix for 22 minutes of “Parks and Recreation.” Even those annoying “Coming up next: SportsCenter Top 10” teases during the first commercial break keep me from switching to ESPN 2 for some PBA Bowling.

But really, SportsCenter, you’re too far gone. That’s right, “Who do you think you are? I am.” The past few weeks, I’ve had it up to here (pretend I’m Hasheem Thabeet reaching to grab something off the top shelf) with the order in the Top 10. I don’t want to see little Jimmy making a half-court shot with his eyes closed and one shoe untied in a YMCA game between the Elkhart 76ers and the Muncie Heat. As a matter of fact, I don’t even want to see a Division III version of Blake Griffin jumping over two guys and throw down an East Bay Funk while eating a salami sandwich.

What I want to see is LeBron James run the full length of the court to swat a shot off the backboard and then do the Soulja Boy afterward. I want to see Mike Trout jump over the wall and into the bullpen while he makes a catch and gets carded by an off-duty police officer. I just want to see Top 10 plays from Top 10 leagues and players.

Then, there’s the highlight of my week: the Not Top 10.

If you have any dignity, SportsCenter, show Carlos Boozer losing his as he cup-checks our AFV-style, not some slip-up in my sister’s volleyball game that could end up on “America’s Funniest Home Videos.”

In fact, that’s all I want to see. I want to see all our favorite athletes that run the world like its Mount Olympus mess up. Just the fact that it’s Jim Larranaga doing a remix of the Ali shuffle or Nick Young forgetting to take the ball with him on a layup makes everything better.

I want to see all that, along with Mark Sanchez still being shown as the top Not Top 10 play with his Thanksgiving fumble.

So, yes, I know “This is SportsCenter,” but this is my Top 10 and I want it back.

Contact Andrew Gastelum at agastelum@nd.edu

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

---

**MLB BASEBALL**

**Teixeira could be swinging for Yankees**

Associated Press

Mark Teixeira isn’t dreading his next doctor’s visit. He’s actually excited about it.

New York’s star first baseman said he expects to be cleared to begin swinging a bat as early as Friday in his recovery from a wrist injury that will sideline him for the first month of the season. Teixeira has been on the disabled list since March 31 with a torn sheath in his right wrist.

When the Yankees return to New York on Friday, Teixeira will be examined by Dr. Melvin Rosenwasser, the team’s hand and wrist specialist, at Yankee Stadium before the series opener against Baltimore.

“I'm confident the doctor will let me take swings tomorrow,” Teixeira said Thursday in New York’s clubhouse before the Yankees had the finale of their rain-shortened series against the Indians postponed. “I feel good and I'm getting better every day. There’s no pain. I couldn’t be happier with the progress. The plan is to take BP for a week — it could make my wrist sore as part of the process — but that is a definite possibility.”

It’s more encouraging news for the Yankees, who have got positive reports this week on All-Stars Derek Jeter and Curtis Granderson.

Jeter has resumed off-field hitting at the team’s training complex in Tampa, Fla., after being shut down last month by soreness in the left ankle he broke in the playoffs last October. Granderson, who broke his right forearm when he was hit by a pitch during spring training, was able to remove a stabilizing brace on Thursday and throw.

“That’s big,” Yankees manager Joe Girardi said of Granderson. “That means the bone has healed and it’s just the rehab process and getting him to where he can play in some games and getting him back here. It’s real encouraging.”

Granderson posted a photo of his wrist on his Facebook page. “Brace is finally off for non-baseball activities,” he wrote. “Another step closer!”

Girardi has been watching video tape of Jeter’s workouts and said he’s gotten favorable reports.

“I think he’s OK,” Girardi said when asked for the latest on the Yankees’ captain. “I didn’t get any encouraging reports.”

The Yankees and Indians were washed out two straight days, cutting a four-game series against the Indians down to two. No makeup date was announced, but both teams have a common open date on May 13, when they will likely play a doubleheader.

“Everybody was looking at the radar for a window,” said Phil Hughes, who had his second start of the season postponed.

Hughes will not pitch until Tuesday against Arizona as Girardi will stick with his scheduled starters — CC Sabathia, Hiroki Kuroda and Andy Pettitte — over the next three days. After coming to the ballpark on Thursday to work out, the trio returned to New York ahead of their teammates.

Teixeira, who turned 33 on Thursday, said his rehabilitation program is on schedule. When his injury was diagnosed March 6, the Yankees estimated he would need at least eight weeks to recover. If he receives the go-ahead from Rosenwasser, Teixeira expects to spend New York’s six-game, seven-day homestand working his way from dry swings to hitting with a fungo bat and then soft tosses.

“Hopefully, the first day we’re in Toronto (April 19), I’ll take BP on the field with the team,” said Teixeira, who has 338 career home runs.

Girardi was excited to hear the five-time Gold Glove winner was moving toward a return to New York’s lineup.

“So far, so good,” he said. “Everything has been positive in his rehab. The true steps are going to be in the swinging part. He’s been strengthening it and he was in that brace for a while but everything has been encouraging so far.”

---

**CLASSIFIEDS**

**FOR SALE**

18145 Crownhill In Georgetown near ND. $76.00: 2-story condo, large master b/d, 2nd floor can be converted to 2nd bdrm. Fireplace, washer/dryer, alarm system, 1-car garage w/openers, Pristine condition. Open house 10 -12 Sat & Sun. $74.532-5961.

Rental LLC 574-999-RENT (7968)

**PERSONAL**

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY?

Don’t go it alone. Notre Dame has many resources in place to assist you. If you or someone you love needs confidential support or assistance, please call Ann Whittal at 1-8084 or Karen Kennedy at 1-5550. For more information, visit ND’s website at: http://pregnancysupport@nd.edu

**FOR RENT**

28R, 28A, 2 car garage. Privacy fence. 424 Eddy St. Cal Michiana

---

1. A paper cannot be folded more than 9 times.
2. More calories are wasted by sleeping than sitting and watching TV.
3. The first object with a number scanning label is the chewing gum.
4. The Wright Brothers’ first flying journey is shorter than a Boeing 747 airplane’s wingspan.
Cubs errors open door for Giants comeback

Associated Press
CHICAGO — Starlin Castro was too quick in the field while Scott Feldman was too slow.

Partly because of those problems on defense Thursday, the Chicago Cubs gave away a five-run lead in a 7-6 loss to the San Francisco Giants.

With runners on first and third and two outs in the fourth inning, Giants pitcher Ryan Vogelsong hit and two outs in the fourth inning, on defense Thursday, the Chicago Associated Press
MLB

“Yeah, you spend hours and hours on it for 45 days of spring training and then to have the lapses in games when it counts,” said Vogelsong. “It costs you games, it costs you pitches, it costs you not being able to go five innings.”

Cubs catcher Welington Castillo scores on a single as San Francisco catcher Buster Posey dives in with the tag on Thursday in Chicago.

Handed a 5-0 cushion after three innings, Feldman couldn’t hold the lead against the World Series champions and lost his second straight decision to start the season. He gave up six runs, two earned, and seven hits in 4 1-3 innings. He walked three and struck out three.

“The offense came out and threw five up there for me and I would have loved to keep going and put some zeros up there,” Feldman said. “But I ran into some trouble there in that one inning and threw too many pitches and they were able to claw a few across.”

Castro’s error was his third in nine games, and he said he was too aggressive in changing a routine groundiner with the pitcher running.

“I feel really bad because that’s one of the plays you have to make. It’s a routine play and it’s the pitcher running,” Castro said. “Those things can’t happen because you have to know the pitcher’s running, you have to be ready to wait for the ball and throw.”

Vogelsong (1-1) yielded eight hits and five runs, four earned, in the first three innings before retiring his final 10 batters on a foggy and damp, 40-degree day. Meanwhile, the Giants rallied to win their fourth in a row.

Looking to win consecutive games for the first time this season, the Cubs (3-6) started building their lead early.

After scoring once in the second, they added four in the third. Anthony Rizzo hit a two-run homer and Brent Lillibridge snapped an 0-for-17 start to the season with a one-out double to right. They were able to claw a few across.”

Sergio Romo saved this season for the Giants (7-3) by pitching a scoreless ninth despite allowing a one-out double to David DeJesus. Romo finished the game by striking out Castro and Romo. Giants manager Bruce Bochy saluted his players for coming back from a five-run deficit despite traveling overnight from San Francisco.

“It’s easy to lay down at that point, but they fought back hard and that’s a great comeback for us,” he said. “I tip my cap to these guys because they kept grinding and they got it done.”

The big rally was the second in three games for San Francisco, which came back from a four-run deficit Tuesday to beat Colorado.

“This team’s got a lot of fight. We try to go out and win every game,” Romo said. “We believe we can win every game, understanding that it’s hard to do, but we try. Today was just a good example of pulling for each other and that never-say-die attitude.”

Undergraduate Courses

BEGINNING ITALIAN

ROIT 1010

This is a six-credit hybrid introductory language course, which combines traditional classroom with online instruction. Students attend class with an instructor (MVW) and work on line (TTH). Equal emphasis is placed on spoken and written Italian.

LET’S TALK ITALIAN I

ROIT 2030-01 (1.0 credit) R 3:30-4:45 TBD

This mini-course, recommended for students returning from Italy or who have completed 2.5-3 semesters of Italian, offers conversation practice on topics related to Italian politics, society, and culture.

LET’S TALK ITALIAN ADVANCED

ROIT 2030 (1.0 credit) R 3:30-4:45 TBD

This mini-course, conducted in Italian, meets one hour per week for group discussions on varied contemporary issues in Italian culture, society, and politics.

INTERMEDIATE ITALIAN I

ROIT 27500 MW 12:30-1:40 A. Blay / P. Vergine

An advanced, four-semester language course designed for further students’ written, oral, spoken and cultural skills in a communicative environment.

INTENSIVE INTERMEDIATE ITALIAN

ROIT 2025 MW 11:35-12:25 TR 11:00-12:15 A. Blay

The third and fourth semesters of Italian combined into one course.

SURVEY OF ITALIAN RENAISSANCE ART

ROIT 3620 TR 9:30-10:45 C. Rosenberg

This course, taught in English, examines the painting, sculpture and architecture produced in Italy from the very end of the 12th c. through the beginning of 16th c. - from Giotto’s Franciscan spirituality to Michelangelo’s heroic vision of man and God. Crosslisted with ARHI 3630.

PASSAGE TO ITALY

ROIT 3030-01-02 TR 12:30-1:45 MW 1 9:00-10:15 V. Montemaggi / A. Leone

In this fifth-semester course, you will learn to analyze great works, from the major literary and artistic genres of Italian culture (lyric poetry, prose, theatre, epic, novel, film, opera, contemporary song, art and architecture), while consolidating your grasp of the language at an advanced level.

MEDIEVAL-RENAISSANCE ITALIAN LIT. & CULTURE

ROIT 3071 TR/MT 11:00-12:15 C. Mosca

This introduction to the masterpieces of the Ducento through the Renaissance, taught in Italian, will trace the profile of Italian literary history by setting texts in the rich cultural contexts with attention to changing understandings of human nature and the physical world. Crosslisted with MI 30577.
Augusta, Ga. — Sergio Garcia is still chasing that first major title. It never figured to come at Augusta National.

But there he was Thursday, after a bogey-free opening round, sharing the top spot on the leaderboard at the Masters.

"Obviously, this is not my most favorite place," Garcia said, trying to be diplomatic.

"But we try to enjoy it as much as we can every time we come here. Sometimes it comes out better than others. Today was one of those good days. Let's enjoy it while it lasts."

Garcia's 6-under 66 tied him with the first three Masters winners of the 1990s. All three were Spanish. The other Masters appearances were eight long years since he joined Jack Nicklaus and Gary Player with his fourth green jacket in 2004. Garcia is still four majors shy of tying Jack Nicklaus' record 18 championships — a mark that becomes a little more daunting each time the 37-year-old Woods fails to win one of golf's biggest events.

Guo Tianlang of China is just getting started. At age 14, he was the youngest player to ever qualify for the Masters, but showed he belonged with a solid 68 in 2010. "We've got a lot of golf to play," said Guo, who was a 68 in 2010. "We've got a lot of golf to play.

"Every time I see off in a tournament, the goal is to play the best I can and have a chance at winning. That doesn't change this week," Garcia said. "Today was a nice day, one of those days you really enjoy. Hopefully I'll have three more of those and we'll see what happens on Sunday night."

With all eyes on Tiger Woods, the overwhelming favoritism, plenty of others stood out amid the azaleas and towering Georgia pines.

There was Leishman, who had played two whole rounds at Augusta National.

There was David Lynn, a Masters rookie who was just two strokes back.

Lynn was the early clubhouse leader, then Leishman surged to the front with four straight birdies on the back side starting at No. 13. The Australian sure didn't play like someone who had missed the cut in his only other Masters appearance in 2010.

"The first time I was here," Leishman recalled, "I was like a bit of a deer in headlights, I guess. I found myself looking around a little bit too much and not concentrating on getting the ball in the hole."

He was hardly on a roll coming into Augusta, having missed the cut in his two previous PGA Tour events. But it all came together, for one day at least.

"To be sitting here is pretty cool," Leishman said. "But it's only Thursday afternoon, so a lot of golf to play."

No Australian has ever won the Masters.

Lynn, a runner-up to Bubba Watson in last year's PGA Championship, birdied four of five holes around the turn and rolled in a testy 15-foot putt at the final hole to save par.

"It's about playing the percentages," the Englishman said. "When I was on the ninth, I turned to my caddie and said, 'We're leading the Masters.' He just looked at me and smiled. I told him, 'I'd rather be leading it Sunday afternoon.' But it's not a bad thing to see your name up there leading the Masters. That's always something I can look back on."

Lynn moved from the European to the American tour this year, a change that seems to have rejuvenated his passion for the game.

"It's given me a second wind," Lynn said. "Everything is new. I'm going to different places every week, different courses. It's like I've started my career again almost."

Dustin Johnson was one shot off the lead after a 67. Lynn was joined at 68 by a group that included Rickie Fowler, who went on the wildest ride of the day — a 4-under score despite two double-bogeys.

Jamie Donaldson turned in the shot of the day, acing the 180-yard sixth for the 24th hole-in-one in Masters history. He is only the fifth player to make a 1 at the hole known as Juniper, with its towering tee box and a green at the bottom of the hill. Donaldson was the first to do it since Chris DiMarco in 2004.

Woods was still the favorite after opening with a 70.

But it appears he'll have a lot of competition.

"I felt a little bit nervous on the first tee," Guan said. "But I hit a great tee shot and, after that, everything feels comfortable."

Shortly after dawn, the tournament began with ceremonial shots from three of golf's greatest players, 83-year-old Arnold Palmer, 77-year-old Gary Player and the 73-year-old Nicklaus.

Palmer was clearly pleased with his effort, which settled right in the middle of the fairway. He pumped his right fist as the crowd roared.

"The only nerves are to make sure you make contact," Nicklaus quipped. "It doesn't make a diddly-darn where it goes."
**SMC SOFTBALL**

**Belles face busy schedule**

**By MEREDITH KELLY**  
Sports Writer

Due to weather and field conditions, Saint Mary’s game scheduled for Thursday against MIAA opponent Hope was postponed until Friday. Belles coach Erin Sullivan said.

Because of the postpone-
ment, Saint Mary’s (10-10, 2-0 MIAA) will now embark on a game-intensive week-end. The Belles will face Hope (12-10, 4-0) on Friday, Olivet (7-13, 0-6) on Saturday and finish the weekend on Sunday with Manchester (13-9, 5-3 Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference).

“We could have six to-
tal games in three days, with doubleheaders Friday through Sunday,” Sullivan said. “So, we have to make sure not to get down when errors are committed and to adjust quickly to pitchers, as there is no time to get in a practice to improve hitting a certain pitch.”

The weather forced prac-
tices inside during the week, which Sullivan said frustrated her. Yet she said she believes the Belles will be prepared, especially because their com-
petition has been under the same restrictions. Sullivan also said the team’s playing style may need to be modified in wet conditions.

“Weather is uncontrol-
lar, so we as a team have to go into the games with a game plan of grabbing the seams of the ball when throwing, as it will likely be wet,” Sullivan said. “We also have to work on getting bunts/slaps out of the circle in front of the catcher, as hits won’t travel very far on a damp field.”

Saint Mary’s second oppo-
nent, Olivet, is ranked last in the MIAA, with a record of 0-6. Yet Sullivan said the Comets play with great passion, and Saint Mary’s cannot overlook them as an opponent.

“I don’t think their confer-
ence record of 0-6 defines how they are playing this year,” Sullivan said of Olivet. “They have a lot of freshmen, and we need to go into the games with the mindset that Olivet wants to win and we cannot take these games as sure wins at this point in our season.”

Sullivan also said Olivet’s losses have been to very tough teams like Alma, which has received votes in the national polls, and Hope.

Although Saint Mary’s third opponent, Manchester, will also be a tough challenge, Sullivan said MIAA games are the matchups Saint Mary’s has been preparing for all season. The top four teams in the MIAA conference play in the conference championship, and the winner automatically qualifies for the NCAA championships.

“We know we need to be in the top four in the regular season as goal number one,” Sullivan said. “From there, our second goal is to win the tournament and advance to the NCAA tournament.”

Saint Mary’s will face Hope at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, Olivet at 1 p.m. on Saturday and Manchester at 1 p.m. on Sunday. All games will be played at the Saint Mary’s softball field.

**Contact Meredith Kelly at mkelly292nd.edu**

---

**SMC TENNIS | SMC 7, BELHEL 2**

**Team beats Bethel, refocuses for Alma**

**By DONG-HYUN KIM**  
Sports Writer

Coming off a brutal 8-1 loss against Albion on Wednesday, the Belles re-
deeemed themselves with a 7-2 win over Bethel at the Eck Tennis Pavilion on Thursday.

The Belles (7-5, 2-1 MIAA) faced some early struggles, falling behind in No. 1 and 2 doubles. In addition, sophomore Shannon Elliott quickly dropped her match at No. 3 singles, 6-1, 6-3.

The Belles, however, turned the match around when the No. 1 doubles pair of junior Mary Catherine Faller and sophomore Kayle Sexton came back to win 8-6 against the NAIA Pilots (12-5, Crossroads League).

“We had to focus shot by shot rath-
er than look at the big picture,” Belles coach Dale Campbell said. “We were down in two doubles matches, but we came back to win one.”

The Belles took advantage of the match in singles, as sophomores Audrey Kiefer and Jackie Kjolhede won at No. 1 and No. 2 singles, respectively.

Campbell said inconsistency with serves, net plays and passing shots led to some early problems for the Belles. He also said net play was a crucial area for improvement going forward in the season.

Despite these problems, the match was sealed at 6-2 with ensuing singles wins by Kiefer, Kjolhede and freshman Margaret Faller, as well as a win by the No. 3 doubles team of Elliott and Margaret Faller.

Campbell said resilience, consis-
tency and depth made up the differ-
ence between the Belles’ blowout loss against Albion and its dominating win over Bethel.

“We were successful because we have a good combination of consis-
tency in terms of high percentage shots, depth and technique that we showed today,” Campbell said.

With its 2-0 conference record, the Belles are in contention for the MIAA championship, given to the team with the best record in conference dual matches.

The Belles will look to continue their winning ways when they travel to Alma, Mich., to face Alma at 1 p.m. on Saturday.

**Contact D.H. Kim at dkim6@nd.edu**

---

**PAID ADVERTISEMENT**
Irish mix up lineup for last tournament

By CASEY KARNES
Sports Writer

Notre Dame looks to finish out its regular season on a strong note when it travels to Iowa City, Iowa, this weekend for the Hawkeye Invitational.

The Irish had a disappointing showing last weekend in the Irish Creek Collegiate, finishing in 15th place with a score of 895 (297-299-299). Junior Andrew Lane led the starters with an average of 74 over the three rounds, good enough to tie him for 35th place individually. Senior Paul McNamara (73-76-75) and junior Niall Platt (75-76-73) tied for 47th place, while the remaining starters, freshman Corey Scupider (77-73-77) and sophomore Patrick Grahek (75-76-82), finished tied for 64th and 81st places respectively. The Irish did not record any below-par rounds at the tournament.

For the Hawkeye Invitational, Irish coach Jim Kubinski will change up his starting lineup. Sophomore Tyler Wingo will be returning to the starting spot he had earlier in the season, replacing Grahek. According to Kubinski, the move is more of a reflection of Wingo’s strong play in practice than any other factor.

“We gave [Wingo] a week off to regroup and get himself together, and he looked really good this week in practice,” Kubinski said. “We’re going to give him a chance, although Patrick [Grahek] has ... showed well [in practice] too.”

The Irish hope the lineup changes will allow them to gain consistency, Kubinski said. He added that the Irish feel as though they can build some momentum if a few players put together some strong rounds in the same tournament.

“We’ve been disappointed with our results thus far, we just haven’t put four rounds together with four guys playing well,” Kubinski said. “We’ve typically only had one or two guys [playing well] this season at each event. Obviously, at this level, you need to have four good rounds, if not five.”

With a team as varied in experience as the Irish, it is sometimes difficult to get every golfer focused and performing simultaneously, Kubinski said. Regardless of the team’s situation, however, Kubinski said he could always rely on his senior leader McNamara as a stabilizing influence.

“Paul [McNamara] has come from being a young freshman to really, not only an experienced senior, but someone who has improved as much as anyone we’ve had over his four years,” Kubinski said. “He’s totally dedicated, and you won’t find anyone who loves Notre Dame more than Paul.”

Practice this week has added significance, as the Irish begin to prepare for the upcoming Big East tournament. The Hawkeye Invitational will act as the team’s final tune up before postseason play. Kubinski said his team has the talent to succeed and simply needs to get out of its own way on the course.

“We put extra pressure on ourselves each time out,” Kubinski said. “Rather than focusing on the shot and what they need to do, they focus on what each shot means. You just have to play the shot and focus on what you need to do to score. We just have to relax, focus on the right thing and our talent will start to show.”

This weekend, Kubinski said the Irish would be more focused on improving themselves than anything else.

“The expectation is to try and get everyone going, build some positive momentum,” Kubinski said. “Kick back and enjoy the competition, and start to work towards the Big East [tournament] in a couple of weeks.”

Notre Dame will tee off at the Hawkeye Invitational on Saturday at the Finkbine Golf Course in Iowa City, Iowa.

Contact Casey Karnes at wkarnes@nd.edu


Squad competes in unique “Border Battle”

By GREG HADLEY
Sports Writer

For most of the outdoor season, the Irish travel around the country and participate in huge meets with thousands of elite athletes. This weekend, however, the team will stay in the Midwest for a smaller meet that has a lot more pride on the line.

The Louisville Border Battle pits the “Commonwealth” team, consisting of Kentucky and Louisville against the “Hoosier Land” team, represented by Notre Dame and Indiana. Scored as a dual meet, the Border Battle puts state pride on the line and builds a friendly rivalry between the Kentucky and Indiana schools, junior captain and long jumper Logan Renwick said.

“It’s a very different kind of meet from our usual ones,” Renwick said. “It’s a lot like the dual meets we had in high school, but it’s become a tradition. ... The competition is always very good.”

The Irish have competed in every edition of the Border Battle, which began in 2010. After losing on both sides in the inaugural edition, “Hoosier Land” has swept the event the past two years. Last year, the Irish contributed seven individual victories and took three of the four relay run titles.

“This year, the team returns with thousands of elite athletes and enable the team to conclude competition in one day,” Renwick said. “For the field athletes, it’s a lot different from the big meets [we’re usually in].”

Renwick said. “With less athletes, the flights are less crowded, you get your jumps in faster and you get it all done quicker.”

Renwick said the team hopes to use the meet to take stock of its spring season, which is about to reach its midpoint.

“We’re about halfway through outdoor right now, and we want to see if we’re getting faster and getting stronger,” Renwick said. “It’s a chance for more people to get personal records and hit the [Big East] standards, or even qualify for regionals.”

The Irish will travel to Louisville, Ky., to compete at the Louisville Border Battle, which starts Saturday at 10:30 a.m.

Contact Greg Hadley at ghadley@nd.edu

Belles take on tough field

By A.J. GODEAUX
Sports Writer

Coming off a ninth place finish in a competitive field of 20 teams at last weekend’s Washington University-St. Louis Invitational, Saint Mary’s goes into Saturday’s Dutch Spring Invitational with some wind under its sails.

If the Belles are to record a top finish this weekend, they’ll need strong rounds out of junior Paige Pollack and sophomore Janice Heffernan. Belles coach Jason Kolean said Pollack leads the team with a scoring average of 82.3 strokes and finished 41st out of 112 participants at the Washington University-Saint Louis Invitational. Heffernan has posted three straight sub-85 rounds and led the Belles with a 24th place finish last weekend.

With this weekend’s meet being the Belles’ final tune-up before the first NCAA qualifier, Kolean said his team is focused on rounding out before the first NCAA qualifier, Kolean said his team is focused on rounding its games into form, not its finish.

“We will be facing some quality teams at the Dutch Spring Invitational, but we just want to continue improving with each round of golf,” Kolean said.

In addition to providing an opportunity to improve, the Dutch Spring Invitational will give Saint Mary’s its first look this spring at fellow MIAA members Hope, the invitational’s host, and Calvin, two of the three teams the Belles are competing against. The other is Olivet — the Belles will go against in the three NCAA qualifiers.

Hope is coming off a second place finish at last weekend’s eight-team Adrian Invitational, and Calvin slid in right behind them in the third position.

With this weekend’s temperatures forecast in the 40s and the course wet from several days of rain, Kolean said the weather should play a factor at the invitational.

“The conditions may not be ideal this weekend, so we need to be mentally tough,” Kolean said. “I expect all of us to be focused and play one shot at a time.”

The Dutch Spring Invitational will be held Saturday at 9 a.m. at Ravine Golf Club in Saugatuck, Mich.

Contact A.J. Godeaux at agodeaux@nd.edu

Iris sophmore pole vaulter David Schipper launches himself into the air during the Blue and Gold Invitational on Dec. 10 at Lofus Sports Center. Notre Dame won 26 of the 33 possible events.

Irish sophomore pole vaulter David Schipper launches himself into the air during the Blue and Gold Invitational on Dec. 10 at Lofus Sports Center. Notre Dame won 26 of the 33 possible events.
Spark is a student run conference on Notre Dame Research, Commercialization, and Entrepreneurship.

April 16, 2013
2:00–6:00PM and reception afterwards
Jordan Auditorium, Mendoza College of Business

ndspark.com
Facebook (bit.ly/ndspark)

David Murphy
ESTEEM and Better World Books

Come listen to any of the twelve 15 minute presentations by:

Jeffrey Bernel  Director of Gigot Center
Rachel Cotton  ND Undergraduate Researcher

and many more including

Dustin Mix  Jeffrey Christians  Brett Hummel
Evan Doney  Laura Hollis  Joan Brennecke
Robb Crow  Joey Kim  John Rocha

Spark is sponsored by

[Logos of various sponsors]
Notre Dame ends season with rival Louisville

By PETER STEINER
Sports Writer

Riding a six-match win streak, the No. 32 Irish will close out the regular season when they travel to Kentucky to face No. 47 Louisville on Saturday.

The Cardinals (13-11) won the Big East conference championship last year and represent Notre Dame’s toughest Big East opponent this season, as they are the next-highest nationally-ranked team in the conference.

“It’s a big [match] for us because we have a great rivalry for Louisville and a lot of respect for them,” Irish coach Bob Bayliss said. “They have been a Round-of-16 team recently in the NCAA tournament and, every time we play, it brings out the best competitive instinct in both teams. They won the Big East last year and so we know what’s at stake, and we’re going to certainly give it our best shot.”

Notre Dame (15-7) found success against the Cardinals in the regular season last year, defeating them 5-2 on Senior Day in South Bend. The Irish lost to the Cardinals, however, in the finals of both the 2011 and 2010 Big East championships.

While the match marks the final regular season meeting between the two teams before they both move to the ACC, there is also a chance the teams will face off in the Big East championships, which will be hosted by the Irish from April 18-21.

“The dynamic changes between this weekend and next weekend,” Bayliss said. “The forecast looks like we’ll be outside in Louisville, but it’s going to be iffy here. There’s not a whole lot to be taken from whether we win or lose this match. It won’t have much bearing on the next weekend, which will be the bigger matchup of the two.”

To defeat the Cardinals in Louisville on Saturday, the Irish will have to win some key matches in the singles lineup and perform well in doubles, Bayliss said. One of these key matches will be No. 1 singles, where No. 89 Irish junior Greg Andrews will face No. 66 Cardinals sophomore Sebastian Stiefelmeyer.

“They have an outstanding No. 1 player, Sebastian Stiefelmeyer, who’s ranked ahead of Greg,” Bayliss said. “That will be a big match up for him. … I think a number of the matchups are intriguing in how they’re going to play out. We’ll take a lot away from this in terms of how we play this weekend.”

Experience will also play a key role in Saturday’s matchup, as both teams return at least half of their respective singles lineup from last year. One potential rematch of last year’s regular season meeting may arise at No. 4 singles.

“I think they have four of last year’s starters in their lineup and we have three,” Bayliss said. “We’re looking at a close match.”

The Irish will take the courts against the Cardinals on Saturday at 2 p.m. at the Bass-Rudd Tennis Center in Louisville, Ky.

Contact Peter Steiner at psteiner@nd.edu

Irish freshman Alex Lawson sprawls to return the shot in a doubles matchup April 5 at Eck Tennis Pavilion. The Irish beat SMU 6-1.

Irish women’s tennis

Irish hope to capture singles and earn wins

By KATIE HEIT
Sports Writer

Despite three recent losses to Big East opponents, the No. 25 Irish enter a two-match weekend with high hopes, facing Central Florida on Saturday in Orlando, Fla., and No. 57 South Florida on Sunday in Tampa, Fla.

Senior captain Chrissie McGaffigan said the weekend will be preparation for the upcoming Big East tournament. “It will be great to play some matches outside to prepare for the Big East tournament,” McGaffigan said. “We will play Central Florida and South Florida, who will both be used to playing with the outdoor weather factors.”

Due to poor weather in South Bend, the Irish (12-6) have had little practice on the outdoor courts. Playing the Knights (13-6) and the Bulls (12-6) over the course of the weekend will give Notre Dame a crash course on playing outside in the warm weather before the Irish are thrown into the Big East championships April 18.

The Irish face other challenges outside of the environment in their matches this weekend. Sophomore Molly O’Koniewski will be unable to play due to injury, meaning another player must step into her place at No. 5 singles.

“Some of our girls will definitely have to step up in Florida,” McGaffigan said.

McGaffigan said the Irish need to play at the top of their ability this weekend, especially with the Big East tournament around the corner.

“We are fighting as hard as we can in every match, knowing that our season is coming to an end and that every point matters,” McGaffigan said.

The keys to the Irish victories this weekend will be in singles. Notre Dame’s last three losses were decided by close, three-set matches in singles play. To sweep the weekend, the Irish will need to increase their stamina and close out close matches, McGaffigan said.

The Irish take on Central Florida in Orlando, Fla., at 2 p.m. on Saturday, followed by a matchup against South Florida in Tampa, Fla., at 11 a.m. on Sunday.

Contact Katie Heit at kheit@nd.edu
Irish sophomore infielder Jenna Simon starts her swing in a home matchup against Villanova on Sunday. Notre Dame beat the Wildcats 9-3.

Irish center fielder Charlie Markson gives the bat boy a high five.
Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community.

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

CRoSSwoRD | will shortz

ACROSS
1 Terminal cases
8 Something to do experiments in
19 One of the Big Three in credit reports
23 Off the rack
26 Bald Mountain range
28 Often-affected outburst
37 Time to go
39 Navigator who named Natal
43 Nice things to be messaged

DOWN
1 One of a tight pair
3 Some zoo attractions
6 Really going after, with “the”
8 It was ceded to Brit, in the Treaty of Utrecht
11 Way off
12 Raccoon’s array
17 Star of 2009’s Fame Ball Tour
18 Assist with a CD
22 Parts of the Big Apple
9 Try to scratch

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

HIGHLY PUNLICY | CHRISTOPHER BRUCKER

SUDOKU | THE MEPHAM GROUP

Level: 1 2 3

|

Square Roots

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>XENAN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SEARS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAHAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIBGOE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| SOLUTION TO TUESDAY’S PUZZLE |
| 4/13/13 |

| JUMBLE | DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK |

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JUMBLE</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JOHERN</td>
<td>TOKEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BITTEN</td>
<td>AVENUE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| WORK AREA |

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

THE OBSERVER | FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2013 | THE OBSERVER

23

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s Community.

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

Make checks payable to and mail to:

The Observer
Box 728
Notre Dame, IN 46556

Enclosed is $130 for one academic year
Enclosed is $75 for one semester

Name
Address
City State Zip
Double Trouble
Irish set to take on No. 17 Loyola and No. 8 Georgetown this weekend

By CORY BERNARD
Sports Writer

After defeating Cincinnati 13-6 last Sunday, the No. 5/6 Irish tied the program record for best start to a season with their 10th straight victory. This weekend, the squad puts its streak to the test with two home games against ranked opponents.

Notre Dame (10-0, 4-4 Big East) will face No. 17/20 Loyola today and No. 8/8 Georgetown on Sunday.

Loyola (5-6, 2-1) lost 14-11 to Georgetown (8-2, 3-0) in its most recent contest. The Greyhounds lost the Hoyas by one goal at various points in the second half and never trailed by more than two until the final five minutes.

“Their record does not quite indicate the talent that they have on their roster and the talent that they have this year,” Irish coach Christine Halfpenny said of the Greyhounds. “I think that obviously, when you have a 5-6 record you can get caught up in ‘they’re on a down year,’ but quite honestly, they’re a young team.” Loyola has already defeated No. 7/7 Penn State and then-No. 16 Towson this year and also dropped close contests to No. 20 Johns Hopkins and No. 11/15 Virginia early in the season. Halfpenny said the Irish are focusing not on Loyola’s record but on its personnel.

“[On Wednesday and Thursday], we worked on what we needed to focus on with hitting, offense and defense, and going into this weekend we’ll be strong.” This weekend’s Strikeout Cancer doubleheader Saturday and play one game Sunday.

Irish sophomore Barb Sullivan faces off with Villanova freshman Chelsey Henderson in a home matchup March 24. Notre Dame went on to rout the Wildcats 14-2 in the game. This weekend, the Irish will take on ranked Loyola and Georgetown at home.

Irish sophomore Barb Sullivan faces off with Villanova freshman Chelsey Henderson in a home matchup March 24. Notre Dame went on to rout the Wildcats 14-2 in the game. This weekend, the Irish will take on ranked Loyola and Georgetown at home. Irish sophomore Barb Sullivan faces off with Villanova freshman Chelsey Henderson in a home matchup March 24. Notre Dame went on to rout the Wildcats 14-2 in the game. This weekend, the Irish will take on ranked Loyola and Georgetown at home. Irish sophomore Barb Sullivan faces off with Villanova freshman Chelsey Henderson in a home matchup March 24. Notre Dame went on to rout the Wildcats 14-2 in the game. This weekend, the Irish will take on ranked Loyola and Georgetown at home. Irish sophomore Barb Sullivan faces off with Villanova freshman Chelsey Henderson in a home matchup March 24. Notre Dame went on to rout the Wildcats 14-2 in the game. This weekend, the Irish will take on ranked Loyola and Georgetown at home. Irish sophomore Barb Sullivan faces off with Villanova freshman Chelsey Henderson in a home matchup March 24. Notre Dame went on to rout the Wildcats 14-2 in the game. This weekend, the Irish will take on ranked Loyola and Georgetown at home. Irish sophomore Barb Sullivan faces off with Villanova freshman Chelsey Henderson in a home matchup March 24. Notre Dame went on to rout the Wildcats 14-2 in the game. This weekend, the Irish will take on ranked Loyola and Georgetown at home. Irish sophomore Barb Sullivan faces off with Villanova freshman Chelsey Henderson in a home matchup March 24. Notre Dame went on to rout the Wildcats 14-2 in the game. This weekend, the Irish will take on ranked Loyola and Georgetown at home. Irish sophomore Barb Sullivan faces off with Villanova freshman Chelsey Henderson in a home matchup March 24. Notre Dame went on to rout the Wildcats 14-2 in the game. This weekend, the Irish will take on ranked Loyola and Georgetown at home. Irish sophomore Barb Sullivan faces off with Villanova freshman Chelsey Henderson in a home matchup March 24. Notre Dame went on to rout the Wildcats 14-2 in the game. This weekend, the Irish will take on ranked Loyola and Georgetown at home. Irish sophomore Barb Sullivan faces off with Villanova freshman Chelsey Henderson in a home matchup March 24. Notre Dame went on to rout the Wildcats 14-2 in the game. This weekend, the Irish will take on ranked Loyola and Georgetown at home. Irish sophomore Barb Sullivan faces off with Villanova freshman Chelsey Henderson in a home matchup March 24. Notre Dame went on to rout the Wildcats 14-2 in the game. This weekend, the Irish will take on ranked Loyola and Georgetown at home.

Irish set to take on No. 17 Loyola and No. 8 Georgetown this weekend

Irish host double header vs. Rutgers

By LAURA COLETTI
Sports Writer

After rain canceled their scheduled games against Toledo on Wednesday and Thursday, the Irish will take on Big East conference opponent Rutgers this weekend at Melissa Cook Stadium.

Notre Dame (26-10, 7-1 Big East) and Rutgers (23-15, 6-5 Big East) will partake in the third annual Strikeout Cancer doubleheader Saturday and play one game Sunday.

Irish senior pitcher Brittany O’Donnell said the squad is prepared to play this weekend in spite of the recent cancellations.

“We know that Rutgers is a strong team and that they’re going to come out looking to play hard to beat us,” O’Donnell said. “We know that we have to play our best Notre Dame softball, and we’ll be fine.”

Although Notre Dame was not able to play against Toledo, the team managed to keep active and get in repetitions. The Irish practiced outside Wednesday and had hitting practice Thursday.

“I don’t think [the cancellations] affect us at all,” O’Donnell said. “[On Wednesday and Thursday], we worked on what we needed to focus on with hitting, offense and defense, and going into this weekend we’ll be strong.”

This weekend’s Strikeout Cancer initiative first took place in 2011, the first season after Irish coach Deanna Gumpf’s daughter, Tatum, was diagnosed with leukemia. Funds raised over the weekend will benefit children in South Bend and surrounding areas who have also been diagnosed with cancer.

“I think [the weekend’s events] are definitely important to us as a team just because seeing what Tatum went through with her fight makes us want to fight and play hard to represent the University and all of the cancer patients we’re playing for,” O’Donnell said.

This weekend, as in the past, will need to be a total team effort, O’Donnell said.

“Everyone’s been doing their...