Compton hosts Chicago Blackhawks

Stanley Cup champions bring training camp to Notre Dame for the weekend

By TORI ROECK
Associate News Editor

Reigning Stanley Cup champions, the Chicago Blackhawks began training camp in the Compton Family Ice Arena on Thursday and will host public practices Saturday and Sunday, with a special student event Friday.

Tom Nevala, general manager of the Compton Family Ice Arena, said Blackhawks’ General Manager Stan Bowman, a 1995 Notre Dame alumus, wanted to bring the team to his alma mater for a little team unity exercise instead of operating from their individual homes in Chicago and just coming to the United Center.

They thought to spend a few days on campus with a facility like we have here would be a great way to start their next year.”

Nevala said the Blackhawks would take advantage of Compton’s many amenities during training camp.

“They’re bringing 60 players here so you have to have the

Blackhawks forward Patrick Sharp, left, speaks at a press conference in the Compton Family Ice Arena on Wednesday. The Blackhawks will hold training camp in Compton starting Thursday.

New off-campus housing opens

By LESLEY STEVENSON
News Writer

Two new off-campus housing developments are offering increased and more luxurious amenities to students in the market for a home beyond the dorms.

University Edge, an apartment complex to the north-west of campus, includes a fitness center, business center, pool, outdoor grills and a TV and game room, property manager Nicole Woody said.

“It’s more resort-style life,” Woody said. “It’s really all-inclusive... It’s very common in student housing now to have these types of amenities and it’s just not something that’s ever been brought to South Bend before. We really just want to change the way off-campus housing is perceived.”

“For the space and the amenities it was definitely the best value of the [apartments] that I looked at,” senior Emma Buckley said. “The only bad thing was that it was a lot

Students research Roman Forum

By HENRY GEN
News Writer

Contemporary research does not often correct the near-canonical beliefs that have persisted in a particular field for centuries, but this past summer Notre Dame’s Digital Architectural Research and Material Analysis (DHARMA) project in Rome did just that.

The project team, led by Associate Professor of Architecture Krupal Uplekar Krusche, spent most of June analyzing the temples and above-ground terrain of the Roman Forum using novel 3D-scanning technology to reconstruct the ruins with unparalleled accuracy, offering an alternative view to the widely-accepted measurements of 19th and 20th century architects.

“The Forum is a world heritage site, and as a heritage site people presume that it is very well documented,” Krusche said. “And yes, a lot of scholars have looked at the Forum for many years and studied

Alumni teach lacrosse in Honduras

By CAITLIN SISK
News Writer

As the children of Nuestros Pequenos Hermanos Orphange in Honduras first approached the pile of lacrosse sticks lying on their soccer field, they giggled and wondered at the foreignness of these strange items that resembled nothing they had seen before.

But after a week of learning to play under the instruction of David Earl, former Notre Dame lacrosse player and current professional lacrosse player for the Minnesota Swarm, the children fell in love with the sport.

Three Notre Dame graduates: John Arlotta, owner of the Minnesota Swarm, Dr. Peter Daly, an orthopedic surgeon for Summit Orthopedics and Earl began this program several years ago when Daly got involved with Nuestros Pequenos Hermanos and visited the Honduras location to find a glaring lack of available
A Saint Mary’s stairwell, resplendent with graffiti and goodwill, brightens the commute. Positive messages on the walls encourage students to carry on. The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at (574) 631-4541 so we can correct our error.
Candlelight vigil honors 9/11 victims

By KELLY KONYA
News Writer

In remembrance of the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, Saint Mary's students and faculty gathered together for an evening candlelight memorial service in the Atrium of the Student Center on Wednesday.

Director of Campus Ministry Judy Fean said the College has offered a similar prayer service since the events 12 years ago.

“The Saint Mary’s community always remembers Suzanne Kondratenka (Class of 1996), Amy Jarret, niece of Fr. Peter Jarret, niece of Fr. Francis E. Grogan, a Holy Cross priest, since the events 12 years ago. Fr. Peter Jarret, Fr. Francis E. Grogan, a Holy Cross priest, since the events 12 years ago.

First-year Yaritza Vidaurre said the candles made the event particularly spiritual. “It reminded me of being at the Grotto in ways,” Vidaurre said. “It was so serene and the light of hope to a war-torn world.”

Senior Galicia Guerrero, a peer minister, read Scripture and offered her reflection at the vigil. “As we reflect on this event, a sense of hope and healing regardless of what is going in our lives and in our world.”

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SMC moves up in rankings

By REBECCA O’NEIL
News Writer

U.S. News and World Report ranked Saint Mary’s No. 76 in the nation on its list of Best National Liberal Arts Colleges of 2014. Up from No. 87 last year, the College’s ranking has improved each year since 2009.

This year’s list, released Tuesday, is primarily based on the graduation and retention rates of 248 liberal arts colleges located throughout the United States.

Jessica Ickes, director of institutional research and assessment, said she hopes the school’s ranking reflects the continuing work of the administration and the students.

“We would hope that the rankings are positively impacted by the work that the College is undertaking around the president’s strategic plan that, among other things, continue included focus on student success, the value of a liberal arts education and the unique benefits of a small, residential Catholic women’s College,” she said.

Ickes said the academic preparedness of Saint Mary’s first-year students has always been strong, and student graduation rates have consistently outperformed the predicted graduation rate calculated by U.S. News.

Saint Mary’s President Carol Ann Mooney said she expected the better ranking. “I am not surprised that Saint Mary’s College continues to ascend in the U.S. News rankings,” Mooney said.

Mooney said she has been campaigning for the College to achieve national recognition since 2004 and has been taking proactive steps ever since.

Gwen O’Brien, director of media relations, said the Four Year Graduation Promise Premia demonstrates the College’s confidence in its students’ abilities.

“Starting with the Class of 2017, students who follow the promise’s guidelines are guaranteed to graduate in four years or the College will pay for any additional courses a student needs to earn their degree,” O’Brien said. O’Brien said the program underscores what was already happening at Saint Mary’s.

“Approximately 93 per cent of students who graduated in four years or the College will pay for any additional courses a student needs to earn their degree,” O’Brien said. O’Brien said the program underscores what was already happening at Saint Mary’s.

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MBA competition works with Coca-Cola

By PAUL KIM
News Writer

The Coca-Cola Company has teamed up with Notre Dame’s Master of Business Administration program to host an online competition called the Deep-Dive Challenge. In the contest, participants submit plans on how the company could utilize the SlingShot, a water-purification device, to provide clean water in case of a natural disaster.

Derk Hendrickson, the general manager for the SlingShot program, said Coca-Cola hopes to utilize the SlingShot for humanitarian work.

"Through SlingShot technology developed by DEKA Research and Development, Coca-Cola is committed to improving the well-being of people who are currently without access to safe drinking water," Hendrickson said.

According to Coca-Cola's internal release, the SlingShot takes advantage of vapor compression desalination technology to turn unclean water into clean drinking water. The company claims each machine can deliver 200 gallons of water per day using 1 kWh, equivalent to the power usage of a hair dryer.

According to Deep-Dive Challenge's website, participants must submit a one-page proposal including plans on how the units could be used in a disaster and how they could be deployed and how they could be funded.

MBA Senior Director Mary Goss said this competition is a great way for prospective students to get a sample of the Notre Dame MBA program.

"It requires participants to apply their best problem-solving skills and creativity toward a real-life issue with significant global impact," she said.

MBA Director of Admissions Brian Lohr said sponsors of past years’ Deep-Dive Challenges include Green Mountain Coffee Roasters, Microsoft and Sprint. The contest, in its fourth year, was inspired by Inter-term Intensive, a program part of the MBA curriculum in which students participate in real-world presentations and case competitions from top Fortune 100 companies.

Lohr said this competition benefits both the company and the participants.

"It's a great opportunity not only for Coca-Cola, because there are some great ideas, but it's also a taste of graduate business education—how you can use business to be a force for good in the world," he said.

In addition, Lohr said this competition is a helpful way in the MBA admissions standpoint to get the word out about the Notre Dame MBA program, showing what the program is doing to be a force for good.

"I think there is a lot of people that are winning here," he said.

Lohr said the number of participants, compared to last year, has increased by 40 percent.

"The energy around this Coca-Cola case was more than I've seen in my years at Notre Dame," he said. "People are really engaged, really asking good questions."

Brian Lohr
director of admissions
Notre Dame MBA Program

The Coca-Cola Company's Kilian Millar, explained the two different ways first-year students could get involved.

"First Year Committee is just made of freshmen and their main objective is to really reach out to the freshmen who haven't necessarily been in this environment before and haven't seen all the Dance Marathon propaganda around campus," Millar said. "Miracle workers mostly focus on the day of the marathon, by helping with the event getting started and helping with set up and clean up."

"What we're really hoping is not only for freshmen to get involved but is looking forward to beginning the year. "Realizing how much you can actually do to help these kids by hearing the stories, seeing all the smiles on their faces and knowing you're making a difference is what really hits home," she said.

Contact Alex Winegar at awineg01@saintmarys.edu

Dance Marathon announces theme

By ALEX WINEGAR
News Writer

Belles will don ten-gallon hats and snake skins boots at this year's country western themed 2013-2014 Dance Marathon. The theme for the annual Saint Mary's event was announced Tuesday at the group’s “First Year Call Out” event.

Junior co-president Kristen Millar said the Dance Marathon raises funds and awareness for the young patients of Riley Children’s Hospital in Indianapolis.

“It was started nine years ago by a girl who was really passionate about doing dance marathons and really wanted to do something to help her community and kids who are less fortunate,” Millar said.

Throughout the year Dance Marathon sponsors several events including flash mobs, EMX and Dance Marathon merchandise sales and an annual 5k walk/run, Millar said.

The main event will take place April 5, she said.

"What you try to do is stay on your feet for a full 12 hours in order to raise money for these kids," Millar said.

Last year, the Saint Mary’s Dance Marathon raised a grand total of $108,374.83 for Riley’s Children Hospital, but Millar said the work is not about reaching a goal but rather having a lasting impact on Riley families.

“It's just something fun, even if we don’t hit our goal, because it’s more about awareness than anything else,” she said.

Saint Mary’s Dance Marathon has had an exceptional relationship with the Riley organization for the past nine years that Saint Mary’s has a room in the hospital, Millar said.

"Saint Mary’s actually has their own room and it’s really cool because if you ever go there, they can take you to see it," she said.

Millar said she has been involved with Dance Marathon since she was in high school, and her favorite part is meeting Riley families that benefited from raised funds.

"I think something that really stuck with me was one man said ‘you are beautifully and fearfully made,’” she said. "His one child was having procedure after procedure and nothing seemed to be working, but they just prayed, and against all odds the child made it."

Millar said the goal of Tuesday’s event was to introduce first-year students to Dance Marathon.

“I hope that freshmen learn about what Dance Marathon is and that they are excited about this event, but mostly I want people to come to our marathon and really experience it for themselves,” she said.

At the event, Millar and co-president, senior Ellen Smith, explained the two different ways first-year students could get involved.

"First Year Committee is just made of freshmen and their main objective is to really reach out to the freshmen who haven’t necessarily been in this environment before and haven’t seen all the Dance Marathon propaganda around campus," Millar said. "Miracle workers mostly focus on the day of the marathon, by helping with the event getting started and helping with set up and clean up."

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Write News. Email us at obsnewsseditor.nd@gmail.com
Sophia Program adds a class

By ANNEMARIE LOESSBERG
News Writer

The Class of 2017 is the second class at Saint Mary’s to be a part of the Sophia Program, a general education curriculum, but the first to take a part in the First Year Common Course, a weekly one-credit seminar for first-year students.

Sophia Curriculum Committee Chair Julie Storme said first-year students are enrolled in the common course this semester in order to focus on advising, to gain a better understanding of what the program entails and to provide the incoming Belles with a common experience.

The Sophia Program began last year with the Class of 2016, and all aspects of the program will be implemented in time for the Class of 2019. Student chair of the Sophia Curriculum Committee Shannon Schalk said, “This year’s Class of 2017 is phase two and that’s pretty much just to make sure that if there is a problem within Sophia that they didn’t catch, before they implement the entire thing, they can catch it,” Schalk said.

The transition into the Sophia Program has been difficult, especially for the current sophomores, but the changes that have been made and the continual effort to make the program an integral part of Saint Mary’s education made it easier for the first-years, Schalk said.

“They (The Sophia Curriculum Committee) have time and the ability to adjust when they need to so that it’s even better for the next class,” she said. The Sophia Program is the only of its kind in the country, Schalk said, and it caters to all the different majors on campus in order to help the women of the College be citizens of the world.

“Saint Mary’s gets you ahead by making sure you can actually be a part of the world around you when you leave rather than just your field,” Schalk said. Schalk, a sophomore, said she originally wanted to attend Michigan State in order to pursue the school’s pre-med program, but one of the aspects of Saint Mary’s which made her apply was the opportunity to study abroad.

“Sue the school’s pre-med program was one of its kind in the country, but one of the teachers of the program, but one of the schools in Michigan State in order to pursue the school’s pre-med program, but one of the aspects of Saint Mary’s which made her apply was the opportunity to study abroad.

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medical care. "[Their situation] got us thinking that they really need a surgical facility that the poor can access … So over the ensuing three to four years we got the money raised and got it built and started getting all of the equipment from the facilities around," Daly said. "Now it’s been functioning well, and it actually just started functioning on a full-time basis."

Daly, however, felt the need to not only provide medical care but to also enrich the lives of the orphans in order to provide both a healthy and a happy living situation for them.

"He does a lot of different things … to encourage the kids on an ongoing basis with the foundation, if you will, being his surgery center," Arlotta said. "Then when he goes down there … he likes to have some additional things that he brings that is beyond just doing surgeries but helps in terms of the growth and education of the kids in this orphanage."

This principle of enrichment brought about the idea of exposing a new sport to the orphans that the children usually could not access, Daly said. "The kids down there principally play soccer and really don’t have the resources and the means to be involved in a sport that’s really equipment intensive," he said.

Daly provides medical care for the Swarmp, and this connection inspired the plan, and Arlotta’s connection to Daly through Summit Orthopedics allowed Arlotta to make the concept a possibility.

"It was primarily a funding mechanism from our standpoint. Once the idea came from Dr. Daly, we just jumped on and provided the funding for David and the equipment," Arlotta said.

When Arlotta and Daly approached Earl, he immediately latched onto this idea that combined his favorite sport and the service-based teachings of Notre Dame.

"Any way to give back to these children and give back to the center and the orphanage would be just a privilege for me … If I can go out there and bring a sport that I love to play and love to teach and put smiles on kids faces by teaching that, I think that’s just an unbelievable opportunity in itself," Earl said. The children received the sport well, even though it differed greatly from the sports they usually played, Daly said. "They got to use a sport that necessitates a lot of hand-eye coordination, and mostly they can’t use their hands if they’re playing soccer, so that gives them another skill, and the kids loved it," Daly said. "The children just had a great time throwing and scooping and passing."

Earl said his trip to Honduras went beyond just lacrosse. "What was interesting to me was that lacrosse was such a small part of being out there," Earl said. "I was able to obviate teach lacrosse to the PE classes, but outside of that I was able to just kind of get to know the kids."

Current Notre Dame lacrosse coach Kevin Corrigan implemented similar efforts to combine the sport of lacrosse with the service teachings of Notre Dame in his program many years ago and continues to do so.

"We really want to make it a really kind of a university, community thing that is initiated and built around the lacrosse idea, but it has much, much less to do with lacrosse than it does with our involvement with each other and the community," Corrigan said.

Earl’s and Arlotta’s work in bringing the sport to new places and to disadvantaged people fits in with the common attitude of a lacrosse player, Corrigan said. "Everybody feels like that’s kind of their charge as a lacrosse player is to spread the word and share the game," he said. "That’s a little bit part of the culture of the sport and it’s a good thing."

Contact Caitlin Sisk at csiskl@nd.edu

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further from Eddy Street, but if you have a car it wasn’t bad.” Buckley signed a lease at University Edge after returning from studying abroad in London last fall.

Apartments at the Belfry, a new Holladay Properties complex located at 700 Notre Dame Avenue, are fully furnished for competitively low prices, according to their website. “They come with granite countertops, top-of-the-line appliances and include washers and dryers in each unit,” property manager Kahli Anthony said. “And they’re walking distance to Notre Dame.”

Anthony, who is also the property manager of neighboring Holladay property Darby Village, said the Belfry offers two-bedroom units with a personal bathroom for each bedroom. She said the close proximity to Notre Dame and Eddy Street Commons makes the location ideal for students. “We feel that with Darby and Belfry, students are getting a place that’s larger than the other options out there and for a lesser price,” Anthony said.

Dublin Village, a townhouse community close to Saint Mary’s College, offers townhouses and a neighborhood unlike that of the typical apartment complex, Erin Nanovic, a Saint Mary’s senior, said. Nanovic’s house was constructed in 2005 and was renovated last year after smoke from a fire next door damaged the building. “[Dublin Village is] a lot like Eddy Street in the sense that there’s normal families there too,” Nanovic said. “The experience in our community is awesome.”

Currently the Office of Housing has no set relationship with property managers or off-campus students. Assistant Director Bill Mckenney said the department was open to expanding its resources for off-campus students, but remained completely committed to on-campus housing. “The experience in our residence halls is something that we firmly believe in,” Mckenney said. “If you look at the renovations that we’ve got, we’ve really tried to improve the quality of life … We believe that it is an opportunity for someone to stay for four years.”

Mckenney said the new options for off-campus apartments and townhouses did not affect residences on campus. “I can say that our numbers for on-campus housing are about the same as last year, so we’re seeing the exact same number living in our residence halls, and our graduate communities are hovering around the same as well.”

Senior off-campus president Erin Killmurray said the new complexes did not impact her and the Off-Campus Council either. “The only relationship is that we now serve more students and we need to plan around that,” Killmurray said. “One effect I am hoping this increase in options will have is that students will feel less pressure to sign leases two years in advance.”

Killmurray said the Off-Campus Council was planning new initiatives to keep off-campus students more connected with the University, including reliable access to dorm lobbies and information about campus events. “Personally I feel like moving off campus does not take away from the Notre Dame experience in any way,” Killmurray said. “It’s a great combination of being part of both the Notre Dame and the South Bend communities.”

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Finding compassion on a coaster

Scott Boyle
The Sincere Seeker

For as long as I can remember, I have been terrified of roller coasters. Although my house in Cincinnati is 20 minutes from a popular amusement park named Kings Island, I can count on one hand the amount of times I have been there.

Somehow, I always found excuses to fudge these thrilling adventures, not because I didn’t want to hang out with my friends and family, but because my fear and uncertainty surrounding the coasters’ height and drops was too great.

Flash forward to high school. You can imagine my horror when, on a choir trip to Atlanta, I discovered that we would be spending an entire day at a mecca of amusement parks: Six Flags Over Georgia.

As we drove up to the park, the shrills of excitement that went up on the bus instead sent shivers down my spine. Although it was difficult to see into the park, the sights and sounds of one particular attraction were unmistakably clear. Screams could be heard in the distance as riders plunged 170 feet over bright orange and blue tracks on a roller coaster named Goliath.

Although nothing about this “attraction” was attractive to me, it quickly became clear that Goliath was the first roller coaster everyone wanted to ride.

Of course, I had no desire to go on that roller coaster. In fact, I did not really want to be on any roller coaster. Of all the things that we could have done on that day, being in the vicinity of that roller coaster was one of the least attractive options.

To this day, I still can’t believe what happened next. To make a long story short, I found myself getting in line with my friends.

“We’re not letting you sit this one out!” they said. “It really won’t be that bad!”

And slowly but surely, my friends worked their magic over me. Even in the moment, I could not help but feel like I was a spectator watching a different “Scott” slowly inch forward towards the beginning of the queue.

But my friend’s comforting words did nothing to calm the mixture of emotions and nerves erupting within me. Violent “word debris” began to spout from my mouth, sparring no man, woman or child who was in my immediate vicinity. And my friends loved every minute of it.

But as we neared the ride’s launching gate, I had nothing more. My nerves were blocking any sort of word production. I felt my arms and legs tense up as my heart began to beat very quickly. I turned to my best friend Josh and my friend Megan and said, “I’m going to need to hold your hands through this one.” Thankfully, they did just that. I slid into the seats next to them and held their hands like my life depended on it.

If you’ve ever been on a big roller coaster then you know the seconds that pass inching up that first major hill can be some of the most agonizing. This was no exception. As we tipped over that peak, I thought my heart was going to leap out of my chest.

Although my terror did not wane throughout the entire ride, I made it through, thanks to Josh and Megan’s “helping hands.” My hands never left theirs for the entire ride.

Yesterday, we commemorated the 12th anniversary of 9/11. And over the past weeks, our attention has turned especially to Syria and the deaths of 1,400 innocent civilians in chemical attacks. Terror and fear, albeit in a different form than mine, still persist in our midst. And despite our best efforts, it can be hard to keep going. It can be hard to see the “helping hands” in a world that seems so suffocated by darkness.

But Andre Trocme gives us a helpful reminder: “Jesus did not have a pessimistic view of the world. He did not propose asceticism or withdrawal, or demand an ‘ethical of absolutes’ impossible to practice in real life. Rather, he described behavior governed by the love of God and demonstrated its possibility in the world.”

What if we were to open our lives and hearts to be governed by the love of God? Could we look past our fears towards our neighbor to see the person who just longs for love, understanding and acceptance? Dorothy Day said, “Love casts out fear, but we have to get over the fear in order to get close enough to love them.” If we opened our hands to each other’s hands, and opened our hearts towards each other’s hearts, together we could help cast out fear and sow seeds of love in our world. God will take care of the rest.

Scott Boyle is a graduate of Notre Dame and intern in the Office of Campus Ministry. He can be reached at sboyle2@nd.edu

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

INSIDE COLUMN

The almost real world

Joseph Monardo
Associate Sports Editor

I’m living real life. No more St. Michael’s laundry service, no more cleaning staff, no more candy bowls in the hallway, much fewer dining hall meals and flex points. I’m out of the dorm and on my own. Well, almost.

After three fantastic years in Knott Hall (aka Knott “Men’s Hall of the Year” Hall), I decided to move off-campus with three friends. As a journalist, I guess I am tasked with many new experiences. My roommates and I have more space and more freedom, but also more responsibility.

Since moving out, our attention has turned especially to Syria and the deaths of 1,400 innocent civilians in chemical attacks. Terror and fear, albeit in a different form than mine, still persist in our midst. And despite our best efforts, it can be hard to keep going. It can be hard to see the “helping hands” in a world that seems so suffocated by darkness.

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EDITORIAL CARTOON

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“Aim at heaven and you will get earth thrown in. Aim at earth and you get neither.”

C.S. Lewis
English essayist & novelist

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Inside Column is written by the staff of The Observer. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Am I in the driver's seat?

Bianca Almada
This is Real Life

In true Notre Dame fashion, let’s talk about religion. Or rather, let’s talk about faith.

This semester, I am taking my first Notre Dame required theology class. Because I have attended Catholic school since kindergarten, I was completely ambivalent about being placed in a class about Catholicism again. Like many Notre Dame students, it is not that I am unreligious or loathe religious study; it is just that I have reviewed the material so many times that it often feels repetitive and dull.

Being the know-it-all I can sometimes be, I entered my theology class thinking I knew most everything I needed to know and I would not learn many new things throughout the semester. While I am currently only two weeks into the course, I can retain that the biblical material has been somewhat repetitive, but I can also say some of the topics in class discussion have struck a chord with me.

We talked about the Israelites, and how Moses led them out of Egypt and into the ever elusive Promised Land. Most of us have heard this story, or at least have seen “The Ten Commandments” or “The Prince of Egypt.” The story was nothing new to me, but I had never really looked at it critically. None of the Israelites had any idea who Moses was, and still they were willing to drop everything in an instant to follow him on a long, dangerous journey. They were not even sure where they were going. Their final destination was unknown; God promised to show them the way as they went along. They had no idea how to get basic necessities like food and water.

They were just supposed to trust that everything was going to work out. They were completely, utterly clueless and yet they had faith that God and Moses would lead them in the right direction and do the right thing. This is absolutely baffling to me. How can you follow someone if you have no idea where they are leading you? How can you put that much trust in someone you do not even know? Speaking as a Type A personality, this does not make any sense at all. Imagine that you are in a car, riding in the passenger seat. The driver will not tell you where he is taking you, but he assures you that everything is fine. To make matters worse, you barely know who the driver is. Would not your first thought be, “What am I doing in this car?” Where is this person taking me?!” People would think you were crazy for getting in the car in the first place.

(Mother danger!) They teach it in elementary school. Do you not deserve to know where you are going, at the very least?

Yet this is what we do with our lives, every single day. This is real life — real life is full of uncertainty. No one knows exactly where they are headed, and no one will get a straightforward response if they ask.

If you are religious, you will put full faith in the driver, God, and believe him when he says you everything is going to be okay. When he refuses to tell you where he is taking you, you just trust it all is for the best.

I still have trouble with this. I am not good with uncertainty, and I am even worse with trusting blindly. I am nowhere near as brave as the Israelites. I guess I always have the choice to get out of the car — no one is forcing me to stay inside, right? But then where would I be? I would be walking at a much slower pace, and I would be even more unaware of where I was going.

I like to think of myself as a co-driver or a navigator of some sort in the car ride of my life, and I hope to God that I am in control at least somewhat. But at some point or another, everyone has to accept the fact that they can never be completely in control. Even if you are not religious, other factors besides God will most definitely play a part in determining your life’s direction without your consent — freak accidents, family drama, bad luck, good luck, lay-offs, promotions, relocations, you name it.

And you’re going to need faith of some sort to get you through — faith in God, faith in yourself, or just faith in the goodness of the world.

I am trying my best to be along for the ride, even though it is difficult. I encourage you to do the same.

Bianca Almada is a sophomore residing in Cavanaugh Hall. She is studying English, Spanish and Journalism. She can be contacted at balmada@nd.edu

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

Tyler Bowen
Junior
Stanford Hall
Sept. 11

Each year, statistics come out which show that the incoming Notre Dame freshman class is one of the best in the country. In addition, administration, faculty members and ND alumni constantly boast about the academic prowess of the student body, and with good reason.

However, I believe this campus is still lacking in one critical academic area: the development of a politically literate community characterized by a high spirit of activism and by rational, intelligent discourse about the most important political issues. In short, no proper political forum exists on this campus.

This is not to say that all Notre Dame students are not politically or socially involved. Activist, liberal and tangentially political groups are growing on campus, like College Democrats, Progressive Student Alliance and the newly-formed LGBTQ group, PrismsND. In addition, College Republicans, with which College Democrats actually shares friendly bipartisan relations, is one of the largest student groups on campus. So, there are clearly a large number of students who are actively involved in political and social causes, and this body is also very bipartisan and moderate.

If this is the case, then why is the intellectual political community on campus also not as robust? It seems incongruous to think that such an intelligent student body would not also have a strong arena for activism and intellectual debate when it comes to political issues. There are two reasons for this. First, the political culture is one-sidedly conservative at Notre Dame. Second, liberally-minded students are hesitant to speak their minds in this conservative environment. So long as conservative opinions and values are voiced strongly and the liberal retorts remain weak, then a proper intellectual discourse about political issues can never truly emerge.

I believe there is a large, (latent) liberal population on campus, as indicated by the growing number of politically liberal and activist student groups. It is time that these students and groups stop believing that they must tacitly consent to the conservative norm on campus. It is also time the conservative groups on campus and conservatively-minded students recognized the legitimacy of liberal opinions and values. I understand if you do not agree with these values, but I do not understand the perpetuation of a narrow-minded culture where they are brushed aside.

Once liberals start to speak out more strongly and conservatives start to give greater respect to liberal values on campus, a proper political forum can emerge. We can start to have discussions that are not defined by heated ad hominem arguments or dominated by one side’s opinion, but rational, intellectual discourse that welcomes all opinions and truly engages with the important political issues of the day.

From there, the intelligent, active and politically literate community that we are fully capable of creating can begin to blossom.

WHERE’S THE DEBATE?

Tyler Bowen
Junior
Stanford Hall
Sept. 11

Write your own column for Viewpoint next year?

Arts and Culture
Business
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To apply email
obsviewpoint@gmail.com
It is once again time for Microsoft and Sony fanboys alike to rant on online message boards about why their next-gen consoles of choice is the best thing to happen to gaming since the invention of Monster energy drinks. In recent months the two videogame empires have been mobilizing their gears to try and pull ahead in the newest of console arms races. For those of you who haven’t been keeping score at home, Sony’s PS4 seemed to take a short-lived lead at this summer’s E3 (Electronic Entertainment Expo). This was due mostly because Microsoft’s earliest press releases, including E3, showcased several unpopular policies in regard to the brand new console.

The most poorly received of these was the Xbox One’s Digital Rights Management (DRM) restrictions; this policy explicitly stated that the gamers would not be able to sell their used games back because each game was going to be play-able on only their own system. Another point that did not sit well amongst most gamers was the Xbox One’s price point, which was effectively $100 more expensive than Sony’s PS4. However, with the sudden reversal of Microsoft’s DRM restrictions policy it seems that things have settled down and Xbox fanboys are finally ready to try and pick between one of these two new consoles.

For those of us who like to play videogames, even with the never-ending list of due dates looming over our heads, it can seem like a rather difficult proposition to try and pick between one of these two next-gen consoles.

I am here to hopefully give a clearer idea of what to expect from this holiday seasons’ brand new consoles. Before we get into some of the more specific subject matter I want to try and briefly illuminate some of the basic hardware and software specifications these new consoles will be sporting.

Let’s start off with the Xbox One. The One will come with a Blu Ray/DVD reader, 8 GB RAM (DDR3), 500 GB hard drive (non-removable), an 8 Core Microsoft custom CPU and a 853 MHZ AMD Radeon GPU (estimated 1.33 TeraFLOPS’s peak GPU shader throughput).

As for the PS4, it will come with a Blu Ray/DVD reader, 8 GB RAM (GDDR5), 500 GB hard drive (removable), a single-chip x86 AMD “Jaguar” processor with 8 cores, and a AMD Radeon Graphics Core (estimated 1.84 TeraFLOPS’s peak GPU shader throughput). For those of you who aren’t too up to date on your tech speak, that should give the PS4 a slight advantage on the hardware/software side of things.

That being said, Microsoft’s corporate vice-president Yusuf Mehdi said it best while speaking to investors at the Citi Global Technology conference.

“Hardcore gamers, … buy for the game … [they] don’t buy for stats on a spec sheet,” Mendhi said. All the technologi-cal specifications aside, we can all rest assured that both systems will produce beautiful quality content and will most likely produce essentially the same amount of resolution, so this should not be a main concern. It is important to re-alize however, that some of Microsoft’s higher price is due to the fact that they are including an updated Kinect system with your Xbox One purchase. This system has been revamped to exploit the full potential of the now apparently integral add-on. The plan is to use this camera device to create a simpler interactive TV experience by allowing your Xbox One to respond to simple voice commands as relayed by the Kinect system.

Likewise, it is pertinent to point out that the Xbox One system will be providing the option to watch live TV with this product. Microsoft has partnered with Time Warner Cable, the NF, and possibly ESPN to produce dedicated apps and content for its users.

The PS4 will not be shipping with the PlayStation Eye (the response to Microsoft’s Kinect), and will therefore be approximately $100 cheaper. It will also force its users to begin paying for online gaming by purchasing the PlayStation Plus service, much like Xbox’s Live service. However, with the key difference that as far as we know so far the PlayStation Plus service will only encompass online player-to-player gaming. This is very different from Microsoft’s Xbox Live service which encompasses and essentially bars users from accessing any of its online features without paying for the membership. In short, with the PS4 you will supposedly not be barred from using apps like Netflix if you haven’t paid for the PlayStation Plus membership.

The PlayStation 4 will be available for purchase in the United States this coming holiday season Nov. 1 for $399, and the Xbox One will be available Nov. 22 for $499.

Contact Juan Ramon Cancio Vela at jcancio@nd.edu

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

#### THURSDAY

**What:** HAts off to HAAutum: The Reckoning  
**Where:** Legends  
**When:** 10 p.m.  
**How Much:** Free

Come to Legends to see Notre Dame’s very own comedy troupe improv their way through their latest show, “HAts off to HAAutum.” The free show, according to Associate Scene Editor Maddie Daly, is stuffed to the brim with “Flubber” and American Revolution jokes, so it’s got that going for it.

### FRIDAY

**What:** PEMCo  
**Where:** Washington Hall  
**When:** 7:30 p.m.  
**How Much:** $6

Pasquerilla East Musical Company starts off their year at Washington Hall this weekend. The 90-minute show is aimed at a college audience, with jokes about theater and trying to be an artist mixed in with the musical numbers.

### SATURDAY

**What:** Before Midnight  
**Where:** DPAC  
**When:** 6:30 p.m. (and 9 p.m.)  
**How Much:** $4

For the non-football crowd (since we can’t just put football for every Saturday on these weekend calendars because that’d be redundant), the critically acclaimed “Before Midnight” shows twice on Saturday evening at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. The film, starring Ethan Hawke and Julie Delpy, is the third of a trilogy of films following a couple that meets by chance on a train in Europe.

### SUNDAY

**What:** Third Coast Percussion  
**Where:** DPAC  
**When:** 2 p.m.  
**How Much:** $15

A medley of musical works from some of America’s greatest composers will be interpreted through the unique percussion talents of the Third Coast Percussion ensemble. Japanese prayer bowls, an African thumb piano, slide whistles and plain old stones are all expected to be used.

### HUMOR ARTISTS

**Bring the Hilarious**

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<th>Name</th>
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<td>Maddie Daly</td>
<td>Associate Scene Editor</td>
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The funniest kids on campus are back for another year of comedy shows full of entertaining audience-active performances and improvisation.

The Humor Artists are a group of about 12 students who enjoy getting up on stage and having us laugh at them simply because they are downright hilarious. Similar to “Whose Line is it Anyway,” the group performs short, on-the-spot skits that usually involve some sort of audience participation. According to the club’s vice president Conor Hanney, the group is just like the cast of the hit comedy show only more energetic and agile on account of all the bike riding he did this summer. He does make a disproportionate amount of Revolutionary War jokes, though. Sometimes they’re not super relevant to the scene, but they’re still positively rib-tickling.

Hanney said, “and now he’s super fit and agile on account of all the bike riding he did this summer. He does make a disproportionate amount of Revolutionary War jokes, though. Sometimes they’re not super relevant to the scene, but they’re still positively rib-tickling.”

In case you already made plans on this Thursday to visit a South Bend night club or to finish up some homework, the Humor Artists perform on the first Thursday of every month, right before the First Friday of every month, right before the Humor Artists, as well as sporadically in Washington Hall’s Black Box Theater. If stand-up is something you are interested in, just email standup@nd.edu to become involved. You may want to beef up that self-confidence before your first show, though, because Hanney’s favorite part about watching stand-up is the heckling.

“[Alec Vanthournout] does make a disproportionate amount of Revolutionary war jokes, though. Sometimes they’re not super relevant, but they’re still positively rib-tickling.”

Conor Hanney  
**co-president**  
**Humor Artists**

You can never be sure what you’ll expect from one of these improv shows, but apparently this is a throwback theme from 2010 when the group “tried to show their respect for the fall season,” a “gesture [that] was met with hostility as autumn split in our faces,” according to their Facebook page. When asked what his favorite part of the show is, Hanney said he enjoys watching Alec Vanthournout, the club’s co-president.

“[Vanthournout is] super hysterical,” Hanney said, “and now he’s super fit and agile on account of all the bike riding he did this summer. He does make a disproportionate amount of Revolutionary War jokes, though. Sometimes they’re not super relevant to the scene, but they’re still positively rib-tickling.”

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“The student comedians feel super disrespected. It’s hilarious!” Hanney said. Entrance is free, so come out tonight to watch some of your fellow students make fools of themselves up on stage at Legends.

**Contact Maddie Daly at maddaly6@nd.edu**

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Out-of-conference games are out of fashion.

Brian Hartnett
Sports Writer

Upon hearing that the wonder team of Brut Musburger and Kirk Herbstreit (and hopefully their upcoming broadcast companion, Eminem) will be broadcasting ABC's national game of the week from West Lafayette this week, I asked myself one simple question, "Are "the week that once was" over?"

And the answer: Although not as bad as they were in the last two weeks, this week's matchups, outside of the potential game of the year in College Station, are still uninspiring.

For most people, this gripe probably carries no weight. After all, who's really going to watch whatever game tries to challenge Texas A&M-Alabama? And to be fair, there are some very good inter-conference showdowns, including Oregon-UCLA, Nebraska-Wisconsin and Arizona State-Arizona. All three will be a treat to watch.

But there are still too many contests like Kent State-LSU and Lamar-Oklahoma State that make it too hard to care about non-conference games.

Which brings me to my main point — major college football teams need to beef up their non-conference schedules.

I understand the reasoning behind weak non-conference scheduling for most top programs, with the current system of scheduling for most top programs, the big 12 conference schedules, and the pac-12 both have nine-game schedules for a fringe bcs team to potentially win.

If the chance at going to a bcs bowl means the difference between a fringe bcs team and punching a ticket to a bcs bowl, then the current system is a huge boon to schools in rust belt locales where high school football is king, but it could be a huge bummer for programs with the current system.

The current system allows a major powerhouse you scheduled now to decide with the arrival of short-handed quarterback Derek Jeter would miss the rest of the season with an injured left ankle, that runs all over Virginia or Wake Forest, but it does gain plenty of legitimacy when it does the same to Georgia. There's definitely a flip side to this — Oregon's loss to lsu in its 2011 season opener didn't help the perception that the Ducks couldn't extricate a top SEC defense — but a major non-conference win can definitely help launch an otherwise borderline team into the top echelon of football powers.

Games outside a team's geographic area can help open potential recruiting bases. This might not matter for schools in locales where high school football is king, but it could be a huge bonus for teams in belt states, such as Pennsylvania and Michigan, or states that don't have an abundance of football talent.

Although I'm generally one against gimmicks, I believe non-conference matchups could have a gimmicky element. I think it's really cool that Wisconsin and LSU are opening the 2016 season in Lambeau Field. Similarly, I think games at iconic venues, like Yankee Stadium, the Cotton Bowl and Soldier Field would spice up the start of the season.

I know there's certainly an element of chance to non-conference scheduling—the powerhouse you scheduled now might be in the down period when the game is played. Nonetheless, it's time for some teams to step up, schedule some real programs and stop giving fans what is essentially the NCAA version of a preseason game.

Contact Brian Hartnett at bhartnet@nd.edu
The views expressed in this Sports Authority are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Yankees come back to beat the Orioles

Associated Press

Baltimore— Robinson Cano tied a nine-game homer leading off the ninth inning, and the New York Yankees also got solo shots from Alex Rodriguez and Curtis Granderson in a 5-4 victory over the Baltimore Orioles on Wednesday night.

The Yankees moved past Baltimore and Cleveland in the AL wild-card hunt. New York has hit eight home runs in winning two of three in the four-game series that concludes Thursday night.

The Yankees trailed 3-1 before Granderson homered in the fifth — New York's first hit — and Rodriguez tied it in the sixth with his 653rd career home run.

In the ninth, after Cano connected off Tommy Hunter (4-4), Granderson tripled with one out and scored on an infield hit by Rodriguez.

David Robertson (5-1) worked the eighth and Mariano Rivera gave up a run-scoring single to Brian Roberts before securing his 43rd save, tied for the major league lead with Baltimore's Jim Johnson.

Rodriguez slugged Chris Davis in two runs with a double, making him the first player in team history to have 40 doubles and 40 home runs in a season. Danny Valencia tied a career high with four hits, and Roberts had three singles.


Before the game, the Yankees announced that shortstop Derek Jeter would miss the rest of the season with an injured left ankle. The Yankees captain played in only 17 games this season and made four trips to the disabled list.

The announcement coincided with the arrival of shortstop Brendan Ryan, obtained one night earlier in a trade with Seattle. Although Ryan went hitless, he performed flawlessly and showed good range in the field.

Yankees starter Andy Pettitte gave up three runs and nine hits over 6 1/3 innings. The 41-year-old lefty has gone 13 straight starts since Sept. 2007 without losing to Baltimore, going 8-0 over that stretch. Pettitte has lost only twice to the Orioles since 2005 and is 28-6 lifetime against them.

Pettitte has pitched at least six innings in each of his last six starts and is 3-0 in seven outings since Aug. 5.

Baltimore's Scott Feldman allowed only three hits in 7 2/3 innings, two of them homers. The right-hander struck out six and walked two. His first walk came against the first batter of the game and the second was to the last batter he faced.

New York got a first-inning run when leadoff hitter Brett Gardner tripled with one out and scored on two groundouts.

The Orioles took a 2-1 lead in the third. Roberts and Manny Ramirez doubled with two outs before Davis lined a two-run double through the shift into right-field.

Doubling by Valencia and J.J. Hardy made it 3-1 in the fourth, but Baltimore stranded runners at the corners.

National 3, Mets 0

NEW YORK — Dan Haren pitched one-hit ball for six innings, Ryan Zimmerman homered and the Washington Nationals won their fifth straight game, beating the New York Mets 3-0 on Wednesday in a night full of 9-11 tributes.

Mets manager Terry Collins said he hoped his team would "find some light amid the darkness." The Nationals have too.

Bryce Harper beat out an infield single with one out on one hit by nationals lefty Ross Detwiler, added a two-run double that scored the tying run, and Zimmerman homered twice in the fifth — New York's first hit — and Rodriguez tied it in the sixth with his 653rd career home run.

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Pirates complete sweep of Rangers

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — These Pittsburgh Pirates keep saying their goal this season was always bigger than just having a winning record.

“The American League better watch out if they are able to make it to their first World Series since 1979,” Pirates manager Clint Hurdle said. “They’re challenging because they’re like pop quizzes. You got to watch video and maybe you’ve seen them. I had a little history here with a few of the hitters. It’s just been the way we’ve been able to show up.”

After being swept in three games at St. Louis last weekend, the Pirates moved into a tie with the NL Central-leading Cardinals, who hosted Milwaukee on Wednesday night.

“The thing I’m most impressed with is our consistency, our focus and our preparation,” Hurdle said. “It doesn’t waver. We didn’t come here with sweep on our mind. We came in here to win the first game.”

Texas (81-64) has dropped nine of its last 12 games, a stretch in which the Rangers have lost four consecutive series. They have gone from nine of its last 12 games, a stretch in which the Rangers have lost four consecutive series. They have gone from 2½ behind Oakland west to 2½ behind Oakland.

That first hit by Pierzynski was effective. I started to lose it toward the end,” Burnett said. “My arm started dragging a little bit. But I just wanted to come out and set the tone and keep it going.”

That first hit by Pierzynski might have been caught if Gold Glove center fielder Andrew McCutchen wasn’t getting a day off. The ball went over the outstretched glove of Pie.

Burnett gave up five hits and walked two over the last 10 batters he faced. After the bottom two batters in the Rangers lineup walked to start the sixth, they scored when Andrus got a single that ricocheted off shortstop Barnes’ glove into short left as he tried to make a back-handed stop.

Belles win three straight sets to defeat Olivet

By MIKE GINOCCHIO

Sports Writer

The Belles continued to roll with another come-from-behind victory, this time over Olivet last night in a four-set match (24-26, 27-25, 26-20, 31-29).

The victory over the Comets (2-7, 1-3 MIAA) gives the Belles (4-4, 3-1 MIAA) a three-game winning streak, their longest of the season. The win also moves the Belles into fourth place in the conference, behind Kalamazoo, Hope and Calvin.

Head coach Toni Elyea said she was proud of her team’s ruggedness and determination in once again pulling out the win.

“I’m very happy with the team’s come-from-behind win,” Elyea said. “It was a great team effort.”

Similar to their match earlier in the week against Alma, the Belles found themselves in a hole early, dropping the first set 26-24 but the Belles took the next three sets.

Elvea said strong defense once again played a key role in securing the Belles’ victory, particularly the play of junior libero Meredith Mersits and sophomore outside hitter Katie Hecklinski. “Our defense made the adjustments to get key digs this evening,” Elvea said. “Meredith and Katie did a great job and our service receive was fantastic.”

The Belles also received significant help from junior outside hitter Kati Schneider and freshman setter Clare McMillan. Schneider recorded 31 kills over the course of the match, while McMillan chipped in with 57 assists.

Elvea said she was impressed with the record-setting performances of McMillan and Schneider, as well as 31 kills over the course of the match, while McMillan chipped in with 57 assists.

Elvea also pointed to out seven in 6⅓ innings, a good team when you can out seven in 6⅓ innings, a good team when you can.

The Belles will resume play with a doubleheader against Lakeland and Wheaton at the Wheaton Quad in Wheaton, Ill. The Belles will begin play at 11 a.m.

Contact Mike Ginocchio at mginocchio@nd.edu
Belles expect preparation to pay off at Calvin

By KIT LOUGHRAN
Sports Writer

With two meets under their belts, the Belles head to the Calvin Knight Invitational in Grand Rapids, Mich. on Saturday.

Coming off the Alumnae Race that Saint Mary’s hosted last weekend, the Belles are excitedly anticipating the meet Saturday. Belles coach Jackie Bauters said.

“Racing thus far has helped get the team excited for the upcoming weekend, which will really be the first test of the season,” Bauters said.

Bauters said she is confident preparation through practices and races leading up to the invitational will help the Belles.

“Prior races and practices should give the team an idea of where they are at and who they can run with this weekend,” Bauters said.

Belles senior Jessica Biek said the team devoted an exceptional amount of effort and focus in preparation.

“To prepare for the Calvin meet, we all have been putting in almost 40 miles a week even in this inhospitable weather,” Biek said. “Speed workouts are thrown in to build our confidence at race pace, much before the race even happens.”

Biek and Belles freshman Brittany Beeler led Saint Mary’s with a fifth-place 23:51:45 finish in the relay-style Washash Hukum Karem on August 31. Biek said it is hard to determine team improvement until after this weekend, but she has still seen the team grow as a whole.

“Since the Washash Hukum Karem has been our only real race so far, we can compare race improvements after this weekend,” Biek said. “But, we have all bonded as a team really well over the past three weeks, establishing a supportive group to race with can be very beneficial.”

Biek said she hopes that the team continues to work together and motivate one another this weekend. She said she has also set goals for herself.

“If everything works out Saturday, I hope I will be more consistent and not run the first mile too fast,” Biek said. “I’m attempting to last through 3.1 at a 6:06 pace.”

Bauters said she has high hopes and standards for her returners, like Biek and senior Colette Curtis.

“Especially for my returners that have run the course before and know how competitive the field is, I hope to see better race strategies utilized,” Bauters said. “There could be some really great performances if we run smart.”

Bauters would like to see the team continue to come together as a whole this weekend,” Bauters said. “I think the strength of the group is helping build confidence in individuals.”

The Belles head into the Gainey Athletic Complex in Grand Rapids, Mich., with confidence for Calvin College’s annual Knight Invitational on Saturday at 10 a.m.

Contact Kit Loughran at kloughr1@nd.edu

MLB

CINCINNATI — Devin Mesoraco hit his first home run in more than a month and Jack Hannahan added his first career pinch-hit homer as the Cincinnati Reds avoided a sweep by the last-place Chicago Cubs with a 6-0 win on Wednesday.

Mesoraco, hitless in his previous 13 at bats, had three to lead the Reds to their seventh win on a 10-game home stand. It included a 3-4 record against St. Louis and three-game sweep of NL West Division leading Los Angeles.

Cincinnati entered the game in third place in the Central, three games behind the division-leading Cardinals and two behind Pittsburgh.

After winning the first two games of the three-game series, the Reds were in position for their first sweep of the Reds in Cincinnati since May 2001.

Mike Leake (13-6) threw 107 pitches in 5-2-3 innings en route to a career high in wins, despite humid conditions and an 84-degree temperature at game time.

Leake allowed four hits and four walks with six strikeouts. He joined relievers J.J. Hoover, Alfredo Simon, Manny Parra and Sam LeCure to produce Cincinnati’s 16th shutout of the season, four more than last season.

Chicago has been shut out 13 times, three fewer than last season.

The Reds used small ball in the second for a 2-0 lead. Jay Bruce led off with a single and went to third on Todd Frazier’s softly lined single down the left field line. Both players scored on RBI groundouts to second by Xavier Paul and Zack Cozart, who went 0-for-4 and ended his career-high hitting streak at 15 games.

Mesoraco added his ninth homer in the fourth, a one-out solo shot off a pitch by Jeff Samardzija that sailed 429 feet into the first row of the second deck in left field. The homer was Mesoraco’s first in 25 games since he hit two against St. Louis on Aug. 3.

The Reds broke it open in the sixth on Hawaiian’s 402-foot, three-run homer into the right field seats off of Samardzija, Hannahan’s first since last July 20 for Cleveland against Baltimore.

Associated Press
Belles begin conference play in Kalamazoo

By A.J. GODEAUX
Sports Writer

Saint Mary’s kicks off its MIAA conference season Thursday when it travels to Kalamazoo College to take on the Hornets.

Since a season-opening 4-1 loss to Ohio Northern, Kalamazoo (2-1,1-0 MIAA) has rattled off back-to-back shutouts, the second a 1-0 victory in the conference opener against Trine. The Belles (2-2, 0-0 MIAA) are coming off a shutout win of their own, a 3-0 victory Sunday at the College of Mt. St. Joseph. However, the Belles found themselves on the wrong end of a shutout the previous day against Wilmington. The Belles did not play well in the loss, senior midfielder and captain Mollie Valencia said.

“We didn’t possess the ball well at all against Wilmington,” Valencia said. “If we want to win against Kalamazoo, that’s definitely something we’ll have to do better.”

One notable bright spot for the Belles going into their matchup with the Hornets has been their play on the offensive end, particularly junior forward Kelly Wilson and freshman forward Rosie Biehl. Wilson earned recognition as the MIAA offensive player of the week last week after scoring a goal against both Illinois Tech and Mt. St. Joseph. Biehl leads the Belles in shots on goal and is coming off a two-goal performance against Mt. St. Joseph.

In order to come away with the win Thursday, the Belles will have to outscore the Hornets’ biggest scoring threats. Senior defender Jordan Meeth has been a viable scoring threat from the back for the Hornets, having already tallied two goals and an assist on the year. Freshman midfielder Elizabeth Cleenger has only scored once on the year, but has proven to be a disruptive force, leading the team with 10 shots.

“It will be up to the experienced defense of the Belles, led by 2012 All-MIAA performers juniors Mary Kate Hussey and Kerry Green, to limit Meeth and Cleenger’s chances.

“Kalamazoo is really quick,” Valencia said. “They’re great at stringing passes together to create chances, and against Trine (Saint Mary’s head coach Michael Joyce) said they looked very sharp. The easiest way to go against that is, again, controlling possession, and that starts at the back.”

With the Belles’ MIAA season getting underway tonight, Valencia said the team’s focus is still on developing team chemistry.

“We’re trying to grow as a team still,” Valencia said. “We’re developing that chemistry, and trying to get that camaraderie we’ve developed off the field to translate to success on it.”

The Belles and Hornets take the field Thursday at 7:00 p.m. at Mackenzie Field.

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

Allison D’Ambrosia | The Observer
Belles sophomore midfielder Rachel Schulte dribbles past an Illinois Tech defender in the Belles’ 4-1 home victory Sept. 2.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT
Waldrum said, “They’re much more organized than I’ve seen them in the last couple of years, and I think [Santoro’s] brought some confidence to the team.”

The Wolfpack have been bolstered by the play of freshman forward Jackie Stengel, who leads the squad with five goals on the season. Sophomore forwards Caroline Gentry and Brittany Stankos are tied for second on the team with three goals apiece. [Stengel] is a strong physical player, kind of the key for her team to make things happen for them, and we’ve got to be aware,” Waldrum said. “They’ve also got Caroline Gentry, who is a little bit of a handful because she’s got good size, she’s good in the air. They’re built the way you should be, and they’re very defensive-minded. They drop back and bunker in and look to counter.”

Notre Dame will look to counter North Carolina State with one of the most efficient offenses in the country. The Irish have scored four goals in four of their five regular season matches, with the only blemish being a 1-0 loss to then-No. 4 UCLA on Sept. 1.

Waldrum said he doesn’t expect the Irish to rattle off 34 shots per game, as they did in Sunday’s 4-0 win over Detroit, but he hopes the team makes the most of its looks on goal.

“I think the thing we’ve got to make sure we focus on is taking advantage of the chances we get,” he said. “I don’t think against North Carolina [State], for example, we’re getting to 35 shots, but I think if we can get 10 shots, we’ve got to be efficient in our percentages there. I think it’s more about the quality of chances we get as opposed to the numbers.”

With Notre Dame’s non-conference season concluded, the focus for the Irish will now shift toward a conference title, Waldrum said.

“This is the second part, we try to bank those wins in the first part and then when we get to conference play, we obviously try to win the conference — that’s the approach we’re taking.”

The Irish and the Wolfpack will square off tonight at 7 p.m. at the Dail Soccer Complex in Raleigh, N.C.

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MARATHON SWIMMING

Nyad denies being helped

Associated Press

MIAMI — Addressing her skeptics, Diana Nyad claimed the right to set the ground rules for future swims from Cuba to Florida without a shark cage.

Speculation that she had gotten into or held onto a boat during part of her 53-hour journey drove Nyad and her team to hold a lengthy conference call Tuesday night with about a dozen members of the marathon swimming community.

Nyad said it was her understanding of the sport that the first person to make a crossing got to set the rules for that body of water. She said her “Florida Straits Rules” would largely maintain what they all agree on: no flippers, no shark cage, no getting out of the water, never holding on to the boat, never holding on to the kayak, never being supported by another human being being drifted up or helped by buoyancy.

She would allow innovations such as the protective full-body suit and mask she wore to shield herself from the venomous jellyfish that can alter a swim as much as a strong current. Marathon swimming purists had questioned whether that gear violated the traditions of the sport.

“It is the only way. The swim requires it,” Nyad said. “I don’t mean to fly in the face of your rules, but for my own life’s safety, a literal life-and-death measure, that’s the way we did it.”

Nyad said she never left the water or allowed her support team to help her beyond handing her food and assisting her with her jellyfish suit.

“I swam. We made it, our team, from the rocks of Cuba to the beach of Florida, in squeaky clean, ethical fashion,” Nyad said.

Her critics have been skeptical about long stretches of the 53-hour swim were Nyad appeared to have either picked up incredible speed or to have gone without food or drink. Since Nyad finished her swim Sept. 2 in Key West, Fla., long-distance swimmers have been debating the topic on social media and in online forums.

After the call, Evan Morrison, co-founder of the online Marathon Swimmers Forum, said Nyad and her team addressed most of the issues that concerned the members of the forum.

He was pleased by Nyad’s pledge that all the observations and notes taken by her navigator, John Bartlett, and two official observers of the swim will be made available for public examination.

“I wouldn’t expect to discover anything untoward, but I think it will help us understand a lot better what happened and give us a fuller picture of the achievement,” Morrison told The Associated Press. “That’s just part of the process. This was a great first step.”

Nyad’s speed, at some points more than doubling her average of 1.5 mph, has drawn particular scrutiny. Bartlett attributed her speed to the fast-moving Gulf Stream flowing in favor.

Nyad’s fastest speed averaged about 3.97 mph over a 5.5-hour period over about 19 miles on Sept. 1, crossing the strongest parts of the Gulf Stream, which was flowing at a favorable angle, Bartlett said.

“What you’re seeing is the combination of the speed of Diana propelling herself in the water and the speed of the current carrying us across the bottom,” he said.

The 64-year-old marathon swimmer said the data collected from a research buoy drifting in an eddy referenced by Bartlett confirms that ocean currents contributed as much to Nyad’s speed as Bartlett said they did.

The eddy appears periodically in that region, and it alters the course of the Gulf Stream. The buoy’s average speed was about 1.6 mph, said Tamay Ozgokmen.

“So, if you’re close to (the eddy), you’re going to benefit from it, too,” Ozgokmen said. “I don’t have trouble believing that she said she essentially doubled her speed during her swim because of the ocean currents.”

Nyad and her team published statements by her doctors that she went seven hours without eating or drinking were mistakes, and while there were hours when she didn’t eat solid food, she never went more than 45 minutes without water once she was well on her way from Cuba.

Not all of the open water swimmers on the call questioned Nyad’s methods or track.

“I feel sorry for the questions you were just asked, understanding that when you’re the first person to do something, the questions you’re asked are rather ridiculous,” said Penny Dean, who set records swimming across the English and Catalina channels. “I think the only thing she needs to show are the logs of the swim.”

Nyad attempted the swim from Cuba to Florida four times before finally completing the journey on her fifth attempt, making her the first to make it without the aid of a shark cage.

Nyad said she had not known about all the controversy over her methods and speed until she made national news.

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Blackhawks
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

Blackhawks fans.” Quinnenville said he was pleasantly surprised by Compton’s amenities.

“I was looking around here thinking, ‘Notre Dame: It’s old school, it’s got the tradition,’ and everything looks brand new around here. It looks spectacular.”

Chicago captain and center Jonathan Toews, who played two seasons of NCAA hockey at North Dakota, had a similar reaction.

“It’s a great building,” he said. “I heard a lot about it. A couple of buddies that I played college hockey with have been here before and they were raving about it, so I kind of had high expectations.”

Blackhawks president and CEO John McDonough also formally announced Wednesday that Bowman received a two-year contract extension through the 2017-18 season, resulting in a special moment at the alma mater of the man who orchestrated the roster of last season’s NHL champions.

“It’s quite a backdrop for me to be here at the university where I spent four of the best years of my life,” Bowman said. “I loved it here. It was a special place. I think anyone who’s been around the school knows it.”

Bowman also said the team will consider possibly making Notre Dame a permanent home for the start of its training camp.

“There’s a lot of excitement from our players’ perspective,” he said. “I’ve talked to some of them and a few comments they made were, ‘Normally, I don’t get that excited about the start of training camp, but this year, I’m actually pretty interested to see what it’s all about.’”

The Blackhawks begin camp at 10 a.m. today with a practice closed to the public. The team will hold a free-to-attend practice for only Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s students Friday at 10:30 a.m. Tickets for the squad’s Saturday and Sunday practices, open to the public, are sold out.

Chicago opens its preseason schedule Tuesday at home against Detroit and begins regular season play Oct. 1 at home against Washington.

Blackhawks coach Joel Quinnenville speaks to the media Wednesday prior to the start of Blackhawks training camp at Compton Family Ice Arena. Chicago’s practices will take place through Sunday.

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CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:
- Mike Comrie, 33; Taraji P. Henson, 43; Harry Connick Jr., 46; Virginia Madsen, 52.

Happy Birthday:
- Adventure beckons you, but consider the consequences before leaping into action. Emotional deception will lead to poor choices that can result in unwanted personal changes. Don’t allow greed to be your motivator. Helping others will bring you respect and positive responses. Strive for perfection, equality and keeping the peace, and you will excel. Your numbers are 3, 8, 14, 26, 38, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Taking on too much will cause pressure, stress and sudden changes that require extra time and effort. Give your time and stick to a routine. Invest in your skills, not in helping someone else get ahead.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Do things differently. Taking a unique approach to an old idea will show off your talent. Someone is likely to be jealous or threatened by you. Offer your support and it will help turn an enemy into an ally.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Make positive changes in the way you help others. Offer services, time and physical assistance that can be easily documented. Keep any suggestions that may cause emotional disputes to yourself. Diplomacy is essential if you want to help things move forward.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Do not spend too much energy trying to impress someone who is impossible to please. You’ll get far more gratification out of doing things that will help you get ahead or pursuing something you enjoy. Creative projects will lead to greater opportunities.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don’t let troubles at home get you down. Get out and socialize with friends or take part in community events. Sharing your ideas and making new acquaintances will improve your emotional outlook and help you make important personal decisions.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Get involved in projects that can improve the environment around you. Show greater initiative to be part of your community. Refrain from making impulsive changes at home. What’s really required is patience, understanding and time to let things develop naturally.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Hanging out with friends and discussing plans for the future will result in income and enthusiasm to turn your ideas into reality. Don’t let an old issue harm your chance to follow a dream. Address pending problems and put the past behind you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Focus on personal goals and discuss plans with someone you want involved in your life. You will know where you stand and how you can get out of any obstacle that stands in your way. Love will take a positive turn.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your emotions will be stirred up by any impulsive move you make. Acting in haste due to an incident that happens between you and a friend, peer or neighbor will turn out to be in your best interest. Love will take a positive turn.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The spotlight will be yours and what you do will make a difference to your reputation. Speak openly and aggressively, and force issues that will put an end to a problem that has made your life difficult.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Listen, observe and protect what you have accomplished. A change in your money matters will be a relief and enable you to raise your standard of living. Someone you are close to stands to gain new respect.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Look over contracts, investments and other personal paperwork that can make a difference to the way you move forward. Don’t let emotions stand between you and making an irrevocable choice. You must consider every angle and do what’s best for you.

Birthday Baby: You are genuine and free-spirited. You thrive on adventure.

THE OBSERVER
Short-term memory

After their first regular season loss in 13 games, Irish look to return to their winning ways

By MIKE MONACO
Sports Editor

The last time Notre Dame lost a regular-season game and had to play again the next week was October 2011. The Irish lost to USC, 31-17, and squared off with Navy just seven days later.

After Notre Dame’s 41-30 loss to Michigan on Saturday, the Irish will have to bounce back this week against Purdue after what had to seem like an eternity.

“Any time you lose, you want to get back out on the field,” Irish coach Brian Kelly said Tuesday. “Our guys will get an opportunity to get back to work, and you know, obviously there’s a number of things we’ve got to get better at.”

In 2011, Notre Dame responded to its loss to the Trojans by dismantling the Midshipmen, 56-14. Irish senior receiver and tri-captain TJ Jones, who had three catches for 28 yards against Navy as a sophomore, said the key to bouncing back this time around is to flush last week out of the system and start anew.

“Really pay attention to the 24-hour rule,” Jones said Wednesday. “Learn from the mistakes, learn from the game and then come into this week ready to prepare.”

Senior cornerback and fellow tri-captain Bennett Jackson advocated a similar approach. Jackson said while the Irish certainly use the loss to motivate them, they’ve already moved forward.

“You use it as motivation,” Jackson said. “At the end of the day, even if we were to win the game, we know we have a 24-hour rule. When Monday comes along, it’s Purdue. We’re on to the next opponent. Obviously we wish we would have won that game but our thoughts aren’t really on it anymore.”

While Notre Dame won’t reflect on its first regular-season defeat in 22 months, the Irish have used the game for more than motivation, spending time studying the film and improving from the mistakes made against the Wolverines.

ND WOMEN’S SOCCER

Irish begin play in ACC

By BRIAN HARTNETT
Sports Writer

On Sept. 12, 2012, Notre Dame accepted an invitation to join the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) in all sports except football and hockey.

Exactly one year later, the No. 8 Irish begin ACC play with a trip to Raleigh, N.C., to face North Carolina State.

Tonight’s game will mark the start of a new era for Notre Dame (4-1-0, 0-0-0 ACC), as the Irish compete in a conference that sent nine teams to the NCAA Tournament last season. But Irish coach Randy Waldrum said he and his team view the matchup with the Wolfpack (5-1-0, 0-0-0 ACC) as just another game.

“I think every player knows, all of our fans know, [the ACC] is a much better conference. But I think we’ve got a lot of success over the years and I’ve been here with ACC competition. Waldrum said, ‘I think we’re just trying to keep the mindset that it’s a game against a good team that we’ve got to be prepared to play.’

North Carolina State was one of the few ACC teams that did not reach postseason play last year, as the Wolfpack only won five games and went 0-10-0 against ACC competition.

North Carolina State made some off-season changes, hiring Wake Forest assistant Tim Santo as its head coach in November, and with wins in five of their first six contests, the Wolfpack have already tied last year’s win total.

Watching some video of them last year and this year, they’re much improved,” Irish junior running back Amir Carlisle said while the Irish lost a regular-season game and had to play again the next week was October 2011. The Irish lost to USC, 31-17, and squared off with Navy just seven days later.

Blackhawks marvel at ND

By SAM GANS
Sports Writer

“What a place.”

Chicago Blackhawks coach Joel Quenneville’s first statement to the media on the eve of his team’s training camp wasn’t in reference to the United Center, the squad’s home arena.

When the defending Stanley Cup champions hit the ice today to begin preparation for the defense of their title, they’ll do so in the Compton Family Ice Arena, 90 miles east of their home city.

The Blackhawks arrived in South Bend on Wednesday and will spend the first four days of camp at Notre Dame before they return to Chicago after Sunday’s practice.

Initial talks between the Blackhawks and the Irish hockey department about the University hosting the team’s camp began nine months ago, said Blackhawks vice president and general manager Stan Bowman, a 1995 Notre Dame graduate. The Blackhawks announced the decision on July 22.

Bowman said the Blackhawks were particularly interested in starting camp away from Chicago after they won the Cup in June in order to shift focus away from last season and toward the new one. He said a number of factors made Notre Dame a great choice to host.

“Logistically, it’s going to work out really, really nice for us,” Bowman said. “There’s two sheets of ice, which also is a benefit as we have a lot of players here to start camp and I think there’s something to be said for our guys that come in together and spending some time – five days together as a team.

“I think certainly we have a lot of fans in this region, as well, and it’s nice to be able to connect with them and get them to see us. Maybe they don’t get up to Chicago as often and we can certainly solidify them as...