‘Promoting a culture of life’

Congressman Chris Smith and wife, Marie, honored with Evangelium Vitae Medal for pro-life activism

By NICOLE MICHELS
Assistant Managing Editor

Congressman Chris Smith and his wife, Marie Smith, will receive the 2014 University of Notre Dame Evangelium Vitae Medal in the spring, the University stated in a press release on Oct. 8.

First elected to the House in 1980, Chris Smith has represented the 4th district of New Jersey for 33 years. Marie Smith serves as founder and director of the Parliamentary Network for Critical Issues (PNCI).

The award honors “individuals whose outstanding efforts have served to proclaim the Gospel of Life by steadfastly affirming and defending the sanctity of human life from its earliest stages,” the press release stated.

“Through their tireless efforts to battle human trafficking and promote human rights, particularly the right to life of the unborn, Chris and Marie Smith provide a powerful witness to the dignity of all human life. We are honored to award them the Notre Dame Evangelium Vitae Medal.”

Recipients are awarded a specially commissioned medal and a $10,000 prize, if permissible, according to the release. Marie Smith said the monetary award will be given to her organization.

He and his wife have been involved in right to life issues since their undergraduate years at Trenton State College, now the College of New Jersey, Chris Smith said. But for him, his passion for the issue started after his experiences in a public speaking class.

“In 1972 before Roe v. Wade, I had to do a speech for a public speaking class,” Chris Smith said. “I choose (to discuss) abortion, and there were several speeches done in retaliation to mine. I’ll never forget, I read a story about a child in New York, which had recently legalized abortion. The child survived the abortion … the abortionist was livid as if the mother was entitled to a dead baby and the baby went on to be adopted.

“This story got the wheels of my mind spinning about abortion as violence, not just to the child but to the mother.”

French professor wins Sheedy Award

By CHARLIE DOCEY
News Writer

Professor Julia Douthwaite, professor of French and Francophone Studies, has earned the 2013 Sheedy Excellence in Teaching Award for her dedication to undergraduate students, the University stated in a press release on Oct. 16.

The Sheedy Award is given to a professor in the College of Arts and Letters each year to recognize the amazing work they do in a number of areas, including research, innovation, and perhaps most importantly, in classroom instruction, the report stated.

As a general reaction, Professor Douthwaite said she was surprised and honored to receive the award.

“My students consider me a hard teacher, so part of me was surprised that I was selected,” Douthwaite said.

“I make sure that every day is a new experience.”

Morris Inn recognized with Four Diamond award

By JESSICA MERDES
News Writer

Thanks to a generous donation from Ernesto Raclin, the hotel was able to redesign and revamp its facilities. In a mere 10 months, the hotel was transformed, earning it a new four-diamond rating by the AAA.

Kurth said although it is uncommon for a hotel to receive a four-diamond rating so soon after reopening, the Morris Inn strives to maintain its position as “the living room of the University.”

According to the AAA’s website, a Four-Diamond hotel is “refined, stylish with upscale physical...”

Morris Inn became the 10th hotel in the state of Indiana to receive the AAA Four Diamond award, the University stated in a press release on Oct. 9.

The award comes after a more than $30 million renovation if the hotel, Joe Kurth, Morris Inn’s general manager, said.
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Periodical postage paid at Notre Dame and additional mailing offices
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779

THE OBSERVER | THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2013 | ndsmcobserver.com

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Question of the Day:
When is the best time to wear a striped sweater?

Lance Mulcahy
Senior
"According to Spongebob, the best time to wear a striped sweater is all the time."

Selina Wang
Sophomore
Ryan Hall
"When it’s cold."

Jorge Cortes
Sophomore
O’Neill Hall
“All the time, except July."

Kathryn Thompson
Freshman
Ryan Hall
"On a rainy day."

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At Wednesday night’s Student Senate meeting, the group once more addressed the ongoing student government response to sexual assault on campus.

During the Oct. 9 meeting, Siegfried senator Rahain Andersen proposed the dorm in which the alleged assault occurred have a meeting to talk about how it will move forward in response to sexual assault reports. At the end of that meeting, student body vice-president Nancy Coccia and vice-president Nancy Joyce asked the senators to discuss the proposal with their respective dorms during hall council this week. Wednesday’s Senate discussion focused largely on feedback from the dialogues within the residence halls.

“The O’Neill guys said that they felt if there were no girls present during the conversation, then the same thing would just be said over and over again...One thing we may need is some help facilitating this conversation,” O’Neill senator Kyle McCaffery said. “Maybe someone from the GRC [Gender Relations Center] could help with that.”

Senior class president Carolina Wilson agreed. “I think they should have some sort of questions in case things go awry, or the conversation stops,” she said.

Several senators expressed the concern that students, especially incoming freshmen, didn’t have an understanding of what rape means. “A view held by most guys, especially freshmen, is that rape is what you see on Law and Order, … Non-consensual sex induced by alcohol is not always seen by them as malicious rape,” Andersen said. McCaffery, as well as Lewis Hall senator Dotty Schleuter, said they doubted whether making a mandatory meeting for each hall was feasible.

“The Lewis girls said that, to be successful, they thought the conversation should be had in section-sized groups,” Schleuter said. “Our hall president asked if mandatory meetings were even something that the student government could mandate.”

According to Andersen, Siegfried Hall rector Fr. John Conley said rectors would be all for making the discussion mandatory and, in his opinion, “wouldn’t be hesitant to follow through with this.”

“The discussion we had was that they would be mandatory,” Andersen said. “If it were to be optional, then the people who would go would not be the people most inclined to be involved in such an incident.”

Although, he added, “enforcing this would be difficult.”

The discussion was then tabled for further discussion after fall break. The Senate also welcomed a new senator from Lyons Hall, Mary Susan.

Student body president Alex Coccia and vice-president Nancy Joyce will present the student government report to the University’s Board of Trustees on Thursday.

Contact Margaret Hynds at mhynds@nd.edu
Healing takes courage,
and we all have courage, even if
we have to dig a little to find it

-Tori Amos

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Professor researches potential allergy treatment

By ABI HOVERMAN

News Writer

Baasar Bilgicer, assistant professor in the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering and Advanced Diagnostics and Therapeutics Initiative, said groundbreaking scientific advances have taken a step towards preventative treatment possible for millions of Americans who suffer from life-threatening allergies.

He said he has made progress towards the first-ever inhibitory therapy for Type I Hypersensitive allergic reactions.

“These allergies are potentially lethal,” he said. “Unfortunately, there are no available medications that can prevent the occurrence of an allergic response to... Type I allergies.”

Allergic responses occur in the parts of the immune system designed to fight harmful parasites when mast cells and basophils, both types of white blood cells, respond to harmless allergens with symptoms from mild itching to lethal anaphylactic shock, Bilgicer said.

The only treatments currently available for severe allergies, like an EpiPen, attempt to manage symptoms until a victim can be taken to the hospital, Bilgicer said.

Bilgicer, also part of the Center for Rare and Neglected Diseases and the Harper Cancer Center, said his team of Notre Dame researchers have designed and synthesized Heterobivalent Inhibitors (HbI), which bind more effectively to mast cells and basophils than allergens like shellfish, peanuts and bee venom.

“Our approach is to stop it before it takes place,” Bilgicer said. “Our molecules are designed so that they will compete with the allergen molecule in binding to the receptor in mast cells and basophils. Our molecule binds more effectively, blocking binding of allergens and keeping allergic reactions from happening in the first place.”

He said HbI molecules have worked successfully in cellular and animal tests in mice, and although all the ideas were developed at Notre Dame, he has been in collaboration with Dr. Mark Kaplan at Indiana University in 2008, and he said Dr. Michael Handlogten, a recently graduated PhD student, worked closely with him from the beginning.

Bilgicer said the most updated version of these advances included the findings from the mice studies were published in the Nature Chemical Biology Journal.

Bilgicer said Notre Dame partly funded his research, but the project also received money from the National Institute of Health’s National Institute of Allergic and Infectious Diseases.

Society increasingly needs this groundbreaking inhibitory treatment, as Type I allergies become more prevalent, Bilgicer said.

“So there is a strong prevalence of peanut allergies unfortunately,” he said. “The cases are increasing.”

People could eventually use Bilgicer’s HPI research with severe allergies in multiple ways, he said. First, it could work to replace an EpiPen if symptoms of a reaction begin to occur. It could also be used if an exposure to a deadly allergen is likely, like when sending a child to school, he said.

“If you are allergic to peanuts and you know you are getting on a flight, you could take an HPI,” he said. “The dust from the guy next to you opening a bag of peanuts can cause deadly reactions, which has happened before.”

He says another important usage could be in Immunotherapy, which involves slow exposure to an allergen so that the body gradually learns that the pathogen is not actually harmful, eventually leading to tolerance. Currently, he said Type 1 allergy sufferers cannot safely be exposed to any amount of their allergen.

“We could give the allergen in presence of HPI to control the effects of the allergen and reduce the symptoms so a patient,” he said. “In Immunotherapy, we can now potentially be able to treat it with the help of HPI.”

Bilgicer said he plans to develop a specific HPI for each type of allergen that causes Type I allergic reactions.

“The next step is to take this away from model system and into a system where it would be more relevant to natural allergens,” he said. “The HBI needs to be redesigned for every new allergen. To inhibit, say, peanuts we have to make a new HBI, and that is the next step in our research.”

Contact Abi Hoverman at ahoverma@nd.edu
After working on another campaign in 1976, Chris Smith served as executive director for the New Jersey Right to Life Committee. Chris Smith then ran unsuccessfully for Congress in 1978 before the fourth district elected him in 1980, where he served 27 years old.

A senior member on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Smith also works as co-chair of the bipartisan Pro-Life Caucus. Throughout his time in the House, Chris Smith said he has focused on defending fundamental human rights by fighting human trafficking, efforts and advancing religious freedom.

“Out of the things I have learned about this job, I see this as a ministry… a place where you can take the Gospel and defend fundamental human rights, which are at the core of the Gospel,” Chris Smith said.

“You can really take a job like this and use it strategically and effect-ively to bring about positive change.”

Chris Smith said among his most notable legislative accomplishments are critical human rights victimized in many ways, including the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, the Combating Autism Act of 2006, the Seem-Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005.

The cause of the pro-life move-ment can be advanced on purely human rights grounds, he said.

“I try to argue it in secular terms, because on human rights grounds (greatly misdirected people can accept that killing is the wrong thing to do…) (at least) to most age groups,” Chris Smith said. “It’s a schizophrenic perspective to say that if you are wanted we will take care of you and if you are unwanted we will destroy you. Human rights for all, or they are not human rights. In every floor speech I’ve given I’ve emphasized that it is a violence against children and against mothers.”

For him, he said his faith also fac-tors into his desire to advocate for the pro-life movement.

“I do believe that if one truly be-lieves in the Gospels, but particu-larly Matthew 25 where he said, ‘Whatever you do to the least of our brothers you do unto me’,… it is a circumstantial thing but there are ‘least’ all around us,” Chris Smith said. “It is a consistent value of life that has to be aggressively promot-ed, that nobody gets left behind. A

newborn, a disabled person, an unborn baby, a mother in distress, has all a matter to the state of the Lord, and Christ to the best of our abilities.

We have a duty to protect that is not necessarily suicidal. The challenge is to try to bring our abilities through grace and perseverance to do his work on earth as well.”

“Morris Inn is proud to be a part of the Notre Dame communi-ty, providing visitors a place, host-ing weddings and conferences and even serving food at one of its three eating establishments since April 21, 1952.”

“The Morris Inn is proud to be a four-diamond rank-ing shows guests that they will have an experience that is unique and only available at a select num-ber of hotels,” Kurth said.

According to its website, the Morris Inn has been an integral part of the Notre Dame communi-ty, providing visitors a place, host-ing weddings and conferences and even serving food at one of its three eating establishments since April 21, 1952.

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According to its website, the Morris Inn has been an integral part of the Notre Dame communi-ty, providing visitors a place, host-ing weddings and conferences and even serving food at one of its three eating establishments since April 21, 1952.
McCarthy, a former Indiana State Police trooper, has been delivering safety messages at Notre Dame football games for over 50 years. He said he began giving safety tips at Notre Dame home football games in 1960. McCarthy said his superiors at the police department were the first ones to encourage him to deliver a safety message to fans during a home football game.

“I told [my superiors] … I’m going to start using a quip at the end and see what happens, and the following season — that was in 1961 — in the very first game there was a discussion among the referees for something and the crowd was unusually quiet. "So I gave the thing. The message gave a pitch on drinking and driving. And I said, 'Remember, the automobile replaced the horse, but the driver should stay on the wagon.'" McCarthy said more boos followed this announcement, but over time the crowd began to look forward to his sayings.

“About the end of the season I noticed a kind of quieting down because everybody’s waiting to see how corny the quip line was going to be. And I just started it off from there; got to be fairly popular at the games,” McCarthy said.

McCarthy said he now gathers ideas and listens for plays on words during the offseason. As games resume, he organizes them into quips that vary from season to season, although some lines do get repeated.

“Last season … there was an awful lot of construction around the South Bend area and we focused a little bit on that for a couple games,” McCarthy said. "Generally, I have one on the site in case of rainfall … I have one for snow too, but we haven’t had snowfall for a long, long time … This is my 54th year of doing it, so I have run into repeats from time to time."

McCarthy said he carefully prepares to deliver the quips because he fears making a mistake in front of a crowd of 80,000.

“I do get nervous, I’m always nervous,” he said. “I have three-by-five cards and I just write the whole message I’m going to give on the three-by-five card. It’s everything, you know, I even write my name on it so I don’t mess up. You never know what’s going to happen.”

The students not only support his puns but also maintain the energy of the stadium as a whole, McCarthy said.

“They’re the ones that kind of keep the excitement of the game going, I think, students,” he said. “In my opinion they’re No. 1 every season. They really do a good job for Notre Dame in cheering the team.”

McCarthy said he used to direct traffic with the police during home football weekends in addition to speaking during the games. He said he retired from the police department in 1979 and served two terms as Porter County sheriff.

“[Now] I’m just kind of retired, and the Notre Dame thing is kind of a hobby,” McCarthy said. “I sure enjoyed my career with the state police, and it makes me feel a little bit a part of it again.”

When asked how long he wants to continue delivering safety messages, McCarthy said he has plans for the long run.

“I wish forever! Because I love it,” McCarthy said. “It’s a lot of fun, I’ll tell you.”

Contact Lesley Stevenson at lsteven1@nd.edu
When control becomes destructive

Amanda Peña
The Bubble

As students attending one of the most prestigious universities in the country, we tirelessly attempt to find balance among classes, exercise, work, parties, relationship statuses and a social life. It is very easy to get caught up in deadlines and stress, so last week’s Irish State of Mind provided the student body with a variety of opportunities to reflect on mental health issues and the importance of self-care.

In the previous weeks I neglected regular sleep and meals to push my body to its absolute limits, so I spent Mental Health Awareness Week sick in bed. Unfortunately, many students also experienced a failing immune system; I would bet that most were stressing themselves out in the weeks leading up to their finals, too. While the type-A personalities of most Notre Dame students have contributed to the creation of a demanding, hardworking culture driven toward success, these same extremists and perfectionistic behaviors could also be an Achilles’ heel, and I will be the first to admit that.

A day in the life of an average college student typically includes leftovers, caffeine or caffeinated beverages, minimal rest and constant movement from one activity to the next. I am no stranger to this lifestyle. I attempted to balance three jobs, 18 credits, boxing practices, writing for The Observer and a few leadership roles on top of my daily, personal stresses and current events that I was following. I was averaging about four hours of sleep per night and developed potentially fatal cardiovascular reactions to caffeine. I didn’t have time to see my friends and stay in every weekend because I had too much work. (I was barely keeping up with the moulds of readings and assignments my professors assigned in the syllabus.) I began to skip meals for carrots and eat between walks to classes. I knew I was leading down a dark road, but I was convinced I could do it all. I was unstoppable. I had it under control.

Control, my arch nemesis. I have a problem of always needing to be in control — over my diet, schedule, details, planning, etc. It’s a deceptive possession because I will more often than not think I am in control of my life, when I am in fact being controlled and consumed by the aspects I am simply trying to have control over. Every time I play with this double-edged sword, I find myself re-gressing from my goals toward success because I end up spending more energy trying to make up for the sleep and meals I deprived myself of.

When I step into the ring with Control, I keep thinking I’m winning the round, when in actuality I’m fighting a losing battle. Each stressor I add to my life becomes one more round I have to gather the energy to last through. Eventually someone has to emerge victorious, and last week I was bloodied, and the fight ended early. A lack of sleep and nourishment weakened my immune system over the course of the semester, so once I got a viral infection, I experienced my first real gut-check. This week, I am beginning the slow recovery process but have fallen so far behind in my courses and work that I will need to spend almost all of fall break catching up. The bright side to being sick was the time it gave me to reflect and analyze my behaviors that made my immune system give out on me. I let deep-rooted control issues that stemmed from an eating disorder long ago seep back into my daily life. I ignored my body’s screams for respite, I punished it with excessive exercise, and starred to write a part of my own body’s pain. Few weeks into the semester, I admitted to one of my best friends that I was beginning to worry about my health because I noticed eating disorders tendencies returning. Thankfully, I have gained control over the problem again, but I fear this tug-of-war will continue to reenter my life as long as I focus on control and not on my well-being.

A healthy mentality is the lifetime for every action you perform. Negative attitudes and obsessive behaviors will eventually grow into a monster you no longer can seize control over. I take comfort though in knowing I am not the only person on this campus who struggles with control or the reality that perfectionism is unattainable. It is important to seek help from friends or professionals when you notice yourself slipping from your obligations to take care of yourself. The UCC and UHS offers services to students to help them with time-management, stress, counseling, etc. Don’t wait until your body fails you to realize the importance of self-care!

Amanda Peña is a junior sustainable development studies major with a poverty studies minor. She can be contacted at apena4@nd.edu

 LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The second point I want to make (and I feel embarrassed that I even have to explain this) is that the Knott Hall Americana Dance is a celebration, a celebration “of love, of community” and, yes, life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

This isn’t a clumsily thought-out jab at those less fortunate than we are — give me some credit. It’s a celebration of a distinct culture that makes our country great. It’s held in the RV Hall of Fame to celebrate the great American tradition of exploration, reminiscent of the historic journey Lewis, Clark and Sacagawea (although this seems like an idea you’d disdain, equating it with manifest destiny). We wear jeans, cutoffs and flannels in the spirit of the myriad of industries that made America great. Manufacturing, mining, lumber, and, yes, cutoffs, because only one can be betting at a net loss of thousands of dollars to our dorms, ensuring that all students have access to this great Knott Hall tradition.

Operating over budget ... What’s more American than that?

Mick Hammock
alumnus
Class of 2013

Oct. 16

The Bubble

A celebration, not a defamation

I am recent graduate of Class of 2013, an alumnus of Knott Hall and the founder of the Knott Hall Americana Dance. When I read Grace Ciarezza’s comments on what is unarguably the best dance at Notre Dame (SYR themes disrespect rural poverty; Oct. 14), I felt compelled to respond — after all, no one knows the ins-and-outs of this dance better than I do.

As it is written in Matthew 10, “Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? And one of them shall not fall on the ground without your father knowing.” I daresay the Americana Dance is worth more than a multitude of sparrow’s to its father, and so must I try to justify my dance to you, although I run the definite risk of my seeds falling on sallow ground.

Your first incorrect assumption you make is that “rednecks, hillbillies and white trash” is equivalent to 75 million American living in rural poverty. This is laughable. If you turn on the television to A&E, there’s a definite chance that you will run into one of the top television shows of our time, Duck Dynasty. These hardworking, camouflage-wearing Americans, by who your definition are “dressed in accordance with the very stereotypes this (Appalachian seminar) attempts to invalidate” are, once again in your words, “rednecks, hillbillies and white trash” equivalent to you would be incorrect, and in fact, prejudiced yourself if you believe this to be true. The main character, Willie, is worth over $20 million from a business that his family built from the ground up, is supported by a loving family and has an inspiring and outspoken relationship with Jesus Christ. Instead of pitting or making fun of these living stereotypes, these “rednecks, hillbillies or white trash,” (again, your words, I daresay that they provide us with a blueprint for how to live a successful and happy life.)

The second point I want to make (and I feel embarrassed that I even have to explain this) is that the Knott Hall Americana Dance is a celebration, a celebration “of love, of community” and, yes, life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Surprise! We wear distinctly American clothes while studying American history and heritage; we do not divide ourselves into warring victimizing factions. We are here to unite under one cultural umbrella, not divide ourselves into warring victimizing factions.

The bubble

Photographer

What started out as a clever Inside Column has transformed into a full-blown Nancy Drew-esque investigation. This is Part II of an indefinite series about the identity of the @FatherSorin Twitter account.

As I covered in Part I, it’s document- ed that Fr. Sorin was the first to predict the announcement of the first Jesuit student. And if you were like me, you paid more attention to your phone than television during the conclusive and all its historical and traditional majesty. Tweets reading, “No Jesuit, no Jesuit, no Jesuit!” were read before the rest of the world heard the announcement. A tweet from Fr. Sorin. Holy Cross clergy were just as shocked as the students by his psychic abilities (or maybe just Divine Inspiration).

Even Fr. Pete McCormick said casually during a conversation about the very identity of which we speak, “He tweeted me wishing me happy birthday, it was awesome!”

Fr. Sorin is somewhat of a Twitter sensation around campus. When people think of @FatherSorin Twitter accounts about Notre Dame they usually cover, ND Makeouts, ND Crusades and Fr. Sorin. I’m not sure what he would say about his company of Twitter faves. Probably something that begins with “Lads ...” It seems that Fr. Sorin still believes this University’s student body is comprised of all male students.

Dennis Brown, University spokes- man and assistant vice president of public information and communica- tions, stated, “@FatherSorin is almost always funny, usually appropriate and, whoever he or she is, has an amazing knowledge of the University and the Church — both past and present.”

Brown was correct; his intel with the Vatican and the University is undoubt- ed. In a recent tweet @FatherSorin stated, “I feel better about our Fig Thing since the Vatican minted a coin in the name of Jesus, but what the heel is going on with Catholic spelling.” Followed by, “Is it the cooler weather adding fur or is our wildlife getting disturbingly bigger? I just saw a rac- coon that could pass for an octopus.”

I encourage you all to keep an eye out for a person of the Order of the Holy Cross who is on his iPhone often. If anyone has any insights into who @FatherSorin may be, or any thoughts concerning the account, I encourage you to contact me. I wish to continue this series on the identity of @FatherSorin, not in pursuit of the exact identity, but to a deeper understand- ing of the personality behind the Twitter account.

Contact Allison D’Ambrosio at adambros@nd.edu

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

Gabriel Griggs
Softening, Reconciling and Forgiving

In the opening chapters of "Introduction to Christianity," Pope Benedict explains there is great human tendency to reduce life to questions of "how" — science and the mechanics of situations — at the expense of "why." He ultimately draws a distinction between faith and reason: Reason is concerned with, and limited to, questions of "how," whereas faith is the means by which we are able to answer questions of "why." This reduction causes us to lose sight of the great mystery of life — and the accompanying sense of wonder and awe. This reductionism plays out in the realm of sports, where the beauty of the game is too often reduced to results-oriented "how." This reduction causes us to lose sight of those figures are able to transcend pivotal moments of history as though they were fated to become heroes.

Predictive analytics and the Michael Jordan effect lie within the same general worldview that is concerned with the "how": How are we going to win the next championship? Is there a way in which we can predict the future into both cold, hard probabilities and into the formation of mythic superstars. Using statistics and probability, we arrive at the conclusion that the combination of superstars and a well-assembled cast of players will give us the best chance to win a championship. This, in fact, is the very script that we see currently in the NBA.

In last year's NBA finals, the San Antonio Spurs and the Miami Heat used this very formula: Get a couple of superstars and surround them with the "right pieces," as determined through advanced analysis. Both franchises were laden with superstar talent and smart, analytically assembled casts.

Yet this view fails to account for the real mystery of team chemistry, the swings of momentum and the larger-than-life moments of heroism and tragedy — like Ray Allen's last second three-pointer and Tim Duncan's failed put-back attempts. There are elements in the game of basketball that cannot be explained by our limited mathematical languages of probability and statistics nor our sense that heroes always win and villains lose. Predictive analytics breaks the path to basketball into mere statistics, we lose the magic of a group of veterans banding together for one last championship run. If we reduce it simply to the Michael Jordan effect, we lose proper appreciation for the role players' contributions and for team chemistry. There is a mysteriousness to a championship-caliber basketball team that is hard to reduce and explain. There is nothing more that can be expressed than wonder, awe and joy in the beautiful game.

Beyond basketball, though, life is so rich and complex and imbued with meaning that it is impossible to reduce. The Church often refers to the inexplicable mystery of God, in which we share because we are created in God's image and likeness. We must always be aware of and take joy in the very mystery that is life itself. This very sentiment is echoed in the Psalmist's words: "I praise you, Lord, because I am fearfully and wonderfully made."

Gabriel Griggs is a senior living at his home in South Bend, Ind. He is in the Program in Liberal Studies, and he is also studying applied mathematics.

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From bad to good: a change of heart

Conor Houlihan
Guest Columnist

Hello, my name is Conor Houlihan, and I was "Breaking Bad" addict. I am finally free of this show's bonds thanks to Carter Boyd's Viewpoint column, "Breaking Bad: five seasons of sin," (Oct. 14) which I thankfully read before going back to watch another episode on Netflix. (I think it was the one where Walter and Jesse made meth.)

I knew the article was going to be a life-changing experience when Boyd listed off Breaking Bad's competition for the best show in television: "The Flintstones," "The Cosbys Show," "Andy Griffith," "The Today Show," ESPN and "Jeopardy." Not only does Boyd's list do away with pesky genres such as drama, sitcom, cartoon and game show, but also adds a television network (ESPN) to the contender's for best show! I thought to myself, "A man who disregards the conventional definition of 'show' must know what the best show on television is."

Captivated by Boyd's audacity, I read on. Boyd proclaims that "Breaking Bad" is a good show for its viewers in the same way that crack is a good drug for dope fiends. Furthermore, he declares that the show draws in new victims not through some clever ad campaign, but through its already addicted viewers.

"The show's follow-ers, represent- ing every age range, waited eagerly for their chance to attain that high while watching that week's episode. After just a few doses the fans were hooked, addicted to the point of dependence on the show." I knew it! All this time I thought "Breaking Bad" was a poorly crafted show that utilized traditional plot techniques such as rising action, foreshadowing and climax to draw viewers to its massive fan base, but now I see I was just a helpless pawn in Vince Gilligan's master plan. I wasn't watch- ing "Breaking Bad" to know how Walter and Jesse were going to get the methyl- amine for the next cook, I was watch- ing this evil show because without it, I would go through the same symptoms of meth withdrawal. After one day off of "Breaking Bad," I can already feel a lack of energy, extreme nausea and a desire to binge on my drug of choice. (Did they make the meth or not?)! Thankful- ly, Boyd set me on the straight path by go- ing before taking in the imminent con- clusion of a well-meaning man into a ruthless drug lord. Furthermore, I thought the overarching theme of "Breaking Bad" was that a person is de- fined by whether or not he does what's morally right during pivotal moments in his/her life. Boyd self-righteously showed me the true meaning of the show, to subtly undermine the audi- ence's morals until they themselves are just as evil as Walter White. At this point in reading, it dawned on me that Boyd's article suggests hu- manity lacks a moral conscience and is thus incapable of distinguishing even the most morally evil acts for the morally good. If true, the Catechism of the Catholic Church states in sec- tion one, chapter one, article 6: "Moral Conscience, must be completely null and void." In other words, what Boyd is grawlingly pointing out to the rest of us is that we are incapable of distin- guishing right from wrong and thus mimic any cool action we see on a television or in theaters. I completely agree with this as it explains why I exerted busi- nesses after "The Godfather," led a few Scottish uprisings after "Braveheart," started carrying a samurai sword after "The Walking Dead" and have a current affinity for chemistry equipment and organic compounds that I can't pro- nounce! Without Boyd's intervention, I'm sure I would only have been a mat- ter of time before I was starring in my own meth making montage with my old high school chemistry teacher.

In the final paragraph of the article, Boyd suggests that we should instead be watching shows like "Securing Good," a show that features Maler Might, the foil of Walter White, as he goes about spreading the Word of God. Now before this article, I thought this would make for awful programming, as morally good characters are likeable, but predictable because everyone can agree on the morally correct response to most situations. In contrast, Boyd has now shown me that I was wrong to believe that humans have a conscience, thus it is paramount that we have our morals fed to us in the form a weekly TV show.

Conor Houlihan can be contacted at chouliha@nd.edu

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Failure is the condiment that gives success its flavor." 

Truman Capote
Author

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Pharrell Williams has been everywhere in 2013. Between “Get Lucky” and “Blurred Lines,” it seems like you just can’t escape his catchy, high-pitched vocals on the radio. Then again, Pharrell Williams has “been everywhere” many times before. (Remember seeing him in the “Hollaback Girl” or “Drop It Like It’s Hot” music videos way back in 2005?) Of course, we know Pharrell is by no means a newcomer; we’ve all heard him before collaborating with everyone from top-40 superstars like Britney Spears to up-and coming artists and indie groups alike.

Then there’s his own group, N.E.R.D., his own fashion line. It’s no wonder that the “Hollaback Girl” or “Drop It like It’s Hot” music videos way back in 2005? Of course, we know Pharrell is by no means a newcomer; we’ve all heard him before collaborating with everyone from top-40 superstars like Britney Spears to up-and coming artists and indie groups alike. Then there’s his own group, N.E.R.D., his own fashion line. It’s no wonder that, along with The Neptunes, Pharrell has “been everywhere” many times before. (Remember seeing him in the “Hollaback Girl” or “Drop It Like It’s Hot” music videos way back in 2005?)

Since 1992, he and fellow writer and producer Chad Hugo have been creating hits under the name The Neptunes. They’ve been the men behind the curtain, helping artists, such as Robin Thicke and Kelis, gain worldwide notoriety.

Let’s not forget that, along with The Neptunes’ work, Pharrell has also spent the last 20 years singing, releasing solo tracks, writing movie scores, performing with Hugo in N.E.R.D. and launching his own fashion line. It’s no wonder that Tyler, the Creator calls him his idol. I can’t even begin to list all the tracks and albums Pharrell has been involved in, but I encourage you look him up yourself. In the meantime, here’s a list of a few songs for which we have Pharrell to thank.

Contact Allie Tollaksen at atollaks@nd.edu
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Why it’s so hard to forget a face and so easy to forget a name.

You meet the cute boy and shake his hand. His wavy hair and deep brown eyes are ingrained in your memory. The next time you see him, you wave your hand excitedly in his direction before you realize that—crap—you don’t remember his name.

Why is it almost impossible to forget a face yet so easy to forget a name? It could be that college students and people in general are innately shallow and care more about someone’s appearance than their name. It could be that every individual has a different face, whereas many people share the same name. Or it could be that trying to figure out. Not only has Pharrell been making music way longer than most of us realize, but he also has been responsible for writing, producing and making beats for more tracks than most of us recognize. Since 1992, he and fellow writer and producer Chad Hugo have been creating hits under the name The Neptunes. They’ve been the men behind the curtain, helping artists, such as Robin Thicke and Kelis, gain worldwide notoriety.

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“Got Your Money”
O’D’irty Bastard (1999)
Probablly my favorite ODB song, this track was produced by The Neptunes and features an up-and-coming Kelis at the time on the hook.

“Chasin’ Papers”
Current$ feat. Pharrell (2012)
From Current$’s excellent album, “The Stoned Immature,” Pharrell wrote, produced and sang the hook for this track and it features one of my favorite samples on the album: Five Startrises “O-oh Child.”

“Hollaback Girl”
Gwen Stefani (2004)
Turns out, Pharrell was in the music video for a reason. He wrote and produced the track with Stefani and Hugo. So yes, he is primarily responsible for all of us constantly spelling out the word “bananas” in the mid-2000s.

“Milkshake”
Kelis (2003)
The Neptunes and Kelis worked together for years, but of course the track we all remember is “Milkshake.” The Neptunes wrote and produced the track with Kelis, helping make her a household name.

“Money Maker”
Ludacris (2006)
Written and performed by Ludacris and Pharrell and produced by The Neptunes, this song has Pharrell written all over it. Maybe that’s why it went platinum.

“I’m a Slave 4 U”
Britney Spears (2001)
Though it may not be Britney’s best song (sorry, but “Toxic” will win every time), this single was a huge hit and gave us all our first look at the new, super-scarabaceous Britney Spears. The Neptunes strike again.

“Grindin’”
Clipse (2002)
If you’re a fan of Pusha T’s new album “My Name Is My Name” (and you should be because it’s great), then you have Pharrell and Hugo to thank in part. In case you didn’t know, King Push himself the other half of rap duo Clipse, which made it big with the help of some excellent production by The Neptunes.

“Everyone Nose (Remix)”
I’m pretty sure the title and artists say enough, but I will say that the elaborate beat paired with some seriously talented rappers and impressive wordplay made this song memorable in the best way.

Try conjuring up an image of him or her that corresponds with the words you have to remember, such as Hanna with a henna tattoo of Texas stamped on her forehead. Coming from Texas, though, she may already have one of those.

If you don’t master the technique, don’t cry too much. It’s always fun to stick your nose in the air and say, “Sorry, what’s your name again?” Then you can pretend you haven’t been dreaming about him during the past three calculus classes.

Warning: Don’t get too proud when you actually remember where someone is from. They may run the other way if you yell, “I KNOW WHERE YOU LIVE.”

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**“The Counselor”**  
Ridley Scott  
Release Date: Oct. 25  
Starring: Brad Pitt, Javier Bardem, Cameron Diaz  
Genre: Crime/Drama

**“Skinwalker Ranch”**  
Devin McGinn  
Release Date: Oct. 30  
Starring: Taylor Bateman, Steve Berg, Michael Black  
Genre: Horror/Thriller

**“Dallas Buyers Club”**  
Jean-Marc Vallée  
Release Date: Nov. 1  
Starring: Matthew McConaughey, Jennifer Garner  
Genre: Drama

**“Prism”**  
Katy Perry  
Release Date: Oct. 22  
Label: Capitol  
Tracks: Roar, Legendary Lovers

**“Reflektor”**  
Arcade Fire  
Release Date: Oct. 28  
Label: Merge  
Tracks: Vol. I, We Exist, Reflektor

**“Matangi”**  
M.I.A.  
Release Date: Nov. 5  
Label: Interscope  
Tracks: Karmageddon, MATANGI

**“The Marshall Mathers LP 2”**  
Eminem  
Release Date: Nov. 5  
Label: Aftermath  
Tracks: Bad Guy, Parking Lot
NFL faces player safety dilemma

Associated Press
ENGLEWOOD, Colo. — Indianapolis offensive tackle Matt Elam hit Bronco defensive back Chris Harris from behind the knee, carted off the field.

In the second week of the pre-season, rookie safety Matt Elam hit a Bronco just below the knee and brought him down four yards short of the first down marker. Green Bay fans across the nation were left wondering if the hit had to be catted off the field.

Here’s the problem. Not only was that hit perfectly within the new rules and league policies actually encourage this type of play. Almost every week, one of the NFL’s best athletes in the NFL is fined for hitting a defenseless offensive player in the “head or neck region.” Not only do these players go away lighter wallets, but they are also tackled with 15-yard penalties for “unnecessary roughness.”

These policies certainly de-incentivize highlight reel upper body hits. What’s the natural reaction? If players aren’t going to hit high, they are going to hit low. Elam, with these rules in mind, made the decision to hit the smallest Cobb low. As a result, he avoided a fine, a penalty, and effectively got a gifted athlete on the ground. The big problem is, that player never got up.

This isn’t the first time a defensive player took out an offensive player by going low. In the second week of the pre-season, D.J. Swearinger, another one for Houston, cut down Miami’s Dustin Keller at the knee. Keller tore his ACL, MCL and PCL and dislocated his knee all on that one play, effectively ending his season.

“With the rules in this era, you’ve got to hit low,” Swearinger said after the game. “If I would have hit him high, I would have gotten a fine. Right now, it’s just instinct. You see somebody come across the field and you’ve got to go low. You’ve got to play within the rules.”

A hit to the knee is one of the most dangerous hits in the game. Careers are ended on hits like that. Knees are inherently fragile and hits like that are intrinsically violent. When facing a gifted athlete trying to make you miss, you have to get him on the ground. One strategy may cost you thousands of dollars and your team fifteen yards. The other, meanwhile, is safe from these harsh policies and is effective. The problem is, both are equally dangerous to the receiver.

The NFL is stuck at crossroads. Here they have two choices: they can extend the policies to protect the lower extremities of offensive players, further shrinking the “strike zone,” or they can leave the policies as is and continue to encourage high hits. Due to the previous precedent, I fully expect the league to outlaw low hits to the knee.

Sure, there will be fewer injuries, but at what consequence? You restrict defensive players to a minute “strike zone” on receivers. They have to manage to hit above the knee and below the knee and without success, at full speed, with receivers often airborne.

When Calvin Johnson, with his 6-foot-5 frame, takes flight, you’re telling a defensive player he’s going to fly. Johnson was one of the most dangerous receivers in the league. It doesn’t work out, but I fully expect the league to outlaw low hits to the knee.

Irsay backs off Manning comments after criticism

“I thought it was a bit of a cheap shot. In my opinion they were disappointing and inappropriate. You know, Peyton would never say anything because he’s too classy to do that.”

John Fox Bronco coach

That leaves you frustrated. You make the playoffs 11 times, and you’re out in the first round seven out of 11 times. You love to be in the middle of Manning’s numbers from Peyton and Marvin (Harrison) and Reggie (Wayne). Mostly, you love this,” Irsay added, she has been quoted as saying, according to the newspaper.

Those comments were similar to the ones Irsay made in an interview with The Associated Press last summer, when the Colts owner said his only regrets about releasing Manning were that he wanted the quarterback back to throw his final pass as a Colt and he wished Manning had departed with more than one Super Bowl ring.

So, instead of relying on the high-handed offense Manning directed, Irsay said the team’s future February celebrations would come more frequently if the Colts ran a more balanced offense and divided the budget more evenly between the offensive and defensive players.

Irsay’s latest verbal barrage, coming as it did this week, created quite a buzz.

Fox noted he doesn’t one to criticize anyone in public, but Irsay’s comments clearly struck a nerve.

“I thought it was a bit of a cheap shot,” The Denver Post quoted Irsay as saying. “In my opinion, they were disappointing and inappropriate. You know, Peyton would never say anything because he’s too classy to do that.

Poliain fired back at his old boss, saying Irsay had it wrong.

“For one thing, I don’t believe that Baltimore had two at the time that we were fired, all of us, Peyton, me and the rest of the staff, (coach) Jim Caldwell at the end of the ‘11 season,” Polian said.

He said Irsay was “very upset” after the Colts lost to New Orleans in the 2010 Super Bowl, round exits.

The Broncos — who have won 19 of 23 games under Manning, but lost to Baltimore in the playoffs — joined the Colts on Monday night in Manning’s first return to Indianapolis since his tear-yoked goodbye news conference alongside Isray in May 2012.

Manning’s former coach, Tony Dungy, said on a conference call this week that he thinks Irsay was wrong in both his facts and repercussions on Twitter on Tuesday night that he quoted Manning as saying that both he and the owner wanted him to stay in Indianapolis but “circumstances forced our hand.”

He finished with a joke, saying he hopes for old time’s sake that Manning completes some passes to his old teammates such as safety Antoine Bethea.
Irish compete in Regional Championships

By BRIAN HARTNETT
Sports Writer

Fall break will be anything but restful for Notre Dame, as members of the Irish team will play in three tournaments over the next week-and-a-half.

Several top-ranked members of the team will play in the USTA/ITA Midwest Regional Championships at the Varsity Tennis Center in Columbus, Ohio, which begins today and runs through Monday.

Notre Dame senior Greg Andrews has the No. 2 seed and sophomore Quentin Monaghan has the No. 5 seed in the 64-player singles main draw. The winner of the singles main draw will receive an automatic berth in the USTA/ITA National Indoor Championships, which will be held in Flushing Meadows, N.Y., from Nov. 7 to 10.

Irish coach Ryan Sachire said Andrews' and Monaghan's performances against tough competition at the ITA All-American Championships held earlier this month prepared them well for regional competition.

“I think that guys that played the All-American know they can compete with the best players in the country,” Sachire said. “Certainly having seen the high level of play at the All-American, they’re not going to see anything in Columbus that they haven’t seen before.”

Senior Ryan Bandy, sophomore Alex Lawson and freshmen Eddy Covalachi and Josh Hagar will also compete in the singles main draw in Columbus.

Covalachi and Hagar will attempt to replicate their strong performances from the Bobby Bayliss Invitational, which was held at the Eck Tennis Pavilion earlier this month. The two freshmen each finished the tournament with a 3-1 record in singles play, and Hagar took home the tournament’s Most Outstanding Player after recording a 2-1 record in doubles.

Sachire said, “Just going from an indoor hard court to an outdoor clay court will be a challenge because it’s pretty significantly different. When we made the schedule, we wanted to prepare our team for some of the challenges they may face in the spring, when we may be playing outdoor down at Clemson or Georgia Tech in March and then come here and play indoors because it’s not quite warm enough here.”

Notre Dame will start play at the USTA/ITA Midwest Regional Championships today at 8 a.m. at the Varsity Tennis Center in Columbus, Ohio.

Contact Brian Hartnett at bhartnet@nd.edu
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Special to The Observer

The Irish had a long weekend with four tough games. Notre Dame traveled to Milwaukee on Saturday to take on the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and Marquette.

In the first game against Wisconsin-Milwaukee, the Irish traveled to Milwaukee with four tough games. Notre Dame faced a very strong Marquette team. The game was evenly matched, but neither team was able to capitalize on the high pressure in the first half.

In the second half, the Irish scored two goals. The first goal came from midfielder Casey Gross in the 55th minute. Gross then scored in the 77th minute after she received a pass from midfielder Maddie McCormick.

In the 78th minute, a foul on the Rambler defense gave the Irish a penalty kick. Forward Mary Wickert scored off another penalty kick after a handball in the box. Again, the Irish added the final goal in the 86th minute, when she beat the keeper and scored on the front post.

Coed Tennis

The Irish faced Western Michigan and Grand Valley State on Sunday in Kalamazoo, Mich., winning 23-19 and 24-19, respectively.

Against Grand Valley State, the doubles pair of Anna and Janelle Wanzek fell, 6-1. Ed Kielb and Brett Beattie played men's doubles and won, 6-2. In singles, Ali Scoggin won, 6-2, and Bobby Michels lost a tough match, 6-5, dropping the tiebreaker, 1-6.

In the 55th minute, Gross took a deflection from a corner taken by Midfielder Erica Heissler headed in. The Irish scored again with a try by Elizabeth Peterson off of a penalty. Ohio State scored twice more before the game was very intense right up to the end. The Buckeyes kicked off the afternoon, as Nearhos won with a try by Elizabeth Kephart.

The IRISH continued to put up a good fight but were never able to recover from their mistakes and lost to the Buckeyes, 38-14.

Men's Hockey

The Irish would score three more goals before the final whistle to finish with a 4-1 win. In the second half, the Irish grabbed a rebound off the end of the box. The Irish scored again with a try by Conor Kelly and never looked back.

The Irish continued to put up a good fight but were never able to recover from their mistakes and lost to the Buckeyes, 38-14.

Men's Rugby

The team got off to a great start on Saturday, as captain Katie Walsh and Rebecca Hauserman finished second and fourth, respectively, in Open Fences. Sierra Hajdu had a good showing in Intermediate Fences, finishing third. To close out the morning, Katie Lockhart and Annabelle Duncan had good rides and finished second and fourth, respectively, in Open Fences. Stephanie Nearhos kicked off the afternoon with a first-place finish in Open Flat, while Walsh finished third and Hauserman finished fourth in the event.

The team got off to a great start Saturday, as captain Katie Walsh and Rebecca Hauserman finished second and fourth, respectively, in Open Fences. Sierra Hajdu had a good showing in Intermediate Fences, finishing third.

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Sports

Irish battle top teams in Adidas Invitational

By A.J. GODEAUX
Sports Writer

The Irish travelled to Madison, Wis., on Saturday to compete in the fifth annual Wisconsin Adidas Invitational.

The Irish men dropped from No. 22 to No. 28 in the latest rankings, despite a seventh-place finish in a field of 27 Division I teams at the Notre Dame Invitational on Oct. 4. Junior Jake Kildoo said the Irish were disappointed with their performance after the Notre Dame Invitational, and made adjustments in practice the last two weeks to get back on track for the Adidas Invitational.

“We don’t necessarily have a chip on our shoulder or anything,” Kildoo said. “We didn’t take our performance at the Notre Dame Invitational [Invitational] too heavily because we know it was such a poor reflection of our actual fitness … But we’ve done a lot of work the last two weeks to get out faster, something we struggled with, and then settling into pace as a group.”

In addition to focusing on quickening the pace at the start of races, the Irish made another notable change to their normal practice routine.

“We’ve still trained hard, especially last week, but we’ve also trained a lot smarter,” Kildoo said. “This week we’ve taken it lighter than normal, and I think that’ll better prepare us for this weekend. We’ll be able to have more energy to compete against the great competition we anticipate facing.”

The 35-team men’s field is filled with perennial cross country powers, No. 3 Northern Arizona, No. 5 BYU, No. 6 Arkansas, No. 7 Portland and Notre Dame Invitational champions, No. 8 Columbia.

“There’s a lot of great teams,” Kildoo said. “If it all goes according to plan, though, we’ll be able to get a group of guys up toward the front, working together.”

The Lady Irish are coming off a sixth-place finish in the Notre Dame Invitational, paced by senior Kathleen Curran’s ninth-place finish. Like the men’s team, Irish women’s coach Tim Connelly said his team has also been working on improving their pace out of the gate.

“Early in the season, you’re mostly working on general preparation work for the season,” Connelly said. “You’re not necessarily focused on race specific work. What got us in trouble at the Notre Dame Invite was we didn’t go out as fast as we should have. Now, we’re just trying to get the confidence to go out a little harder at the beginning of races, and working on staying together.”

The women’s team will face an equally tough field as the men. Of the 36 women’s teams in the Adidas Invitational field, 12 teams are ranked, including the No. 19 Irish. Three of the top five teams in the latest poll — top-ranked Providence, No. 3 Arizona and No. 4 Duke — will be running this weekend.

Connelly said the Irish will look to Curran and fellow senior Alexa Aragon, who placed 17th at the Notre Dame Invitational, for leadership as the season moves forward.

Those two girls have competed at the NCAA Cross Country Championship, and are all-Americans in track, both outdoor and indoor,” Connelly said. “They have the experience and especially that confidence that I hope the younger runners can develop.”

The Wisconsin Adidas Invitational kicks off Saturday with the men’s 8K championship race at 11 a.m. The Women’s 6K race will follow at noon. The men’s 8K and women’s 6K “B” races will follow at 12:45 and 1:20, respectively. All races will be held at the Thomas Zimmer Championship Cross Country Course.

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

SMC SOCCER

Belles fall 1-0 to Alma

Observer Staff Report

In their second meeting with Alma, the Belles lost their four-game-winning streak with a 1-0 defeat.

Last time the Belles (6-5-3, 4-3-3 Midwest) met Alma (9-5-2, 9-2 MIAA) they lost 4-0. After Wednesday’s game, Alma cutaps into first place, while the Belles remain in fifth.

The Belles started off strong with a shot from sophomore midfielder Maggie McLaughlin in the first five minutes, saved by goalie Julie Debus. Minutes later freshman forward Rossie Bielh forced a turnover from an Alma defender and with only one defender standing between her and the goal, shot a ball just wide of the post.

In the second half, a free kick from Alma’s Autumn Root created a perfect ball for Agatha Weddle to head in the back of the net to score the only goal of the game.

The Belles came back into the second quarter strong with senior Jordan Diffenderfer notchting three shots on goal. Yet it was not enough to come back from the 1-0 lead Alma gained in the first half.

The Belles fought until the end, getting off two shots from junior midfielder Erin Mithu and sophomore defender Lindsay Repecki in the last two minutes – both saved by Debus.

The Belles look to turn their luck around against Calvin at 12 p.m. on Saturday at Calvin.
Irish take on top ACC opponents

By CONOR KELLY
Sports Writer

After winning its first match of the year and ending a seven-match loss against Georgia Tech, Notre Dame will look for its first ACC home win this weekend as the Irish host Miami and Florida State at the Purcell Pavilion.

While the team prevailed over the Yellow Jackets, the road does not get any easier for the Irish (7-10, 1-5 ACC). The Hurricanes (13-3, 6-0) sit atop the ACC standings while Florida State (12-5, 5-1) is in a four-way tie for second.

“Getting the win last week was a big boost,” Irish coach Debbie Brown said. “Anytime you can snap a losing streak like the one we were on, it’s huge. We were struggling to put a good match together and we did. Now, we just need to keep it going.”

The Irish will first take on Miami on Friday, who is looking to extend its six-game winning streak. The Hurricanes have yet to lose in conference play and have not dropped a match since losing in straight sets to Tulsa in the NIKE Invitational on Sept. 21. Since then, the team has rattled off half a dozen ACC victories in impressive fashion. The Hurricanes are led offensively by junior outside hitter Savanah Leaf, whose 3.85 kills per set puts her third individually in the ACC, but Brown said that it is Miami’s balance that makes it dangerous.

“They’re at the top for a reason, and all five attackers are very good,” Brown said. “In their last game, all five attackers had at least nine kills. It’s really a balanced attack.”

For Notre Dame, the issue all year has been consistency, especially on the offensive side. The Irish have hit just .208 on the year, and Brown said that achieving better consistency is something she would like her team to achieve after a promising performance against Georgia Tech in which the team hit .227.

“These are things we’ve been talking about all year,” Brown said. “We’re just looking for consistency game in and game out, controlling errors and getting better passing and hitting. We’re looking to generate more kills.”

On Sunday against Florida State, the Irish will face another tough test in a Seminole squad that has won six of its last seven matches. The team has lost just once in the ACC this season, falling at Georgia Tech on Sept. 4, and the Seminoles are coming off two straight-set victories over Maryland and Pittsburgh.

Hitting at a .253 clip as a team, Florida State is led offensively by sophomore outside hitter Nicole Walch and her 226 kills, 53 more than her sister, senior outside hitter Elise Walch.

Brown said that her team has a plan for attacking the Seminoles, and it begins with the service game.

“They’re at the top for a reason, and we were able to talk to [Georgia Tech’s] coaches and find out that they really attacked them with aggressive serving,” Brown said. “We’ve got to try and get Florida State out of their system.”

The Irish have averaged 0.9 aces per set and another 0.9 in forced errors off of serves and will look to junior outside hitter Jeni Houser and senior libero Andrea McHugh for production in the serving game.

Notre Dame takes the court against Miami at 7 p.m. Friday at Purcell Pavilion.

Contact Conor Kelly at ckelly17@nd.edu
W Soccer
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

“Don’t have to much train- ing time over the weekend, so to have this week, where we can have three good days of training to correct some things, is very good,” Waldrum said. “You just need to keep pushing away. We knew coming in that we were go- ing to lose games. We just need to keep a positive attitude and keep everyone focused on what we’re looking for which is to get back to the College Cup.”

To get back on track, the Irish will have to go through the Blue Devils (5-6-3, 2-4-2), who started the year strong but hit a rough patch midway through September when they went on a six-game winless streak. Recently though, Duke has righted the ship, as it defeated Maryland, 2-1, on Sunday in the first game of its three-game road trip.

“Duke is loaded with talent,” Waldrum said. “They’ve been struggling a bit with injuries ear- lier in the year, but they are abso- lutely loaded. I’ve coached some of their players on the [United States] under-23 national team. They have [junior forward] Kelly Cobb, who was part of the team that won the under-20 World Cup, and she’s a handful. I could go on, but overall, Duke has a lot of offensive weapons. We have to be very careful and strong defen- sively because they have as good an offensive side as any [team] in the conference.”

Defense has been an area of concern the Irish must improve in, Waldrum said. During their three-game slide, the Irish al- lowed six goals in three games, after surrendering just two in their previous seven matches.

In an attempt to strengthen the team’s back line, Waldrum moved sophomore Car Rocc aro from her usual spot in the mid- field to right back during Notre Dame’s 1-0 loss to then-No. 10 Virginia Tech on Sunday. Rocc aro, however, has also been an offensive sparkplug for the Irish at the forward position, re- cording four goals and two as- sists on the season.

Waldrum said he was still un- sure of how he planned to use Rocc aro against Duke and in the future.

“We really don’t want to keep moving [Rocc aro] all over the field,” Waldrum said. “It just felt like we had to when we got to Virginia Tech over the weekend in order to plug some of the leaks we had back there. We’ll look at the next three days of training and see where she’s most com- fortable and who’s most com- fortable around her, and I’ll have a better sense at the end of the week.”

The Irish look to return to form this Sunday at 1 p.m. when they play Duke at Alumni Stadium.

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M Soccer
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

We’ve had to deal with travel, and we’ve also had to deal with midterms. I’m reason- ably pleased.”

The Irish are undefeated, but their tie total is nearly equal in their number of wins. Clark said everyone on the team has the potential to be contributors for Notre Dame.

“You’re looking for them all to break out,” Clark said. “I think we’ve got a pretty good squad.”

Notre Dame will look to keep its undefeated streak alive when it faces North Carolina State on Saturday at 7 p.m. at the Dail Soccer Complex in Raleigh, N.C.

Contact Samantha Zuba at szuba@nd.edu

Irish sophomore midfielder Glory Williams races to stop the ball during Notre Dame’s 3-0 victory over Pittsburgh on Sept. 29.

Irish sophomore center Steven Fogarty attacks the puck during Notre Dame’s 5-2 win over Guelph on Oct. 6.

Hockey
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

Irish junior center T.J. Tynan lines up to block a shot.

he’s grown up in that area.”

Despite the early success, Summerhays, who posted a 21-12-2 record and a .919 save percentage last season, empha- sized that the Irish need to con- tinue to work hard on defense.

“It’s the beginning of the year, and there were a couple posts and bounces that went our way to get us those results,” Summerhays said. “Moving forward, once we do give up that first goal, it’ll be important for us as a team to see how we react and bounce back from that.”

Though the Huskies have scored just two goals on the season, they will present a challenge to the Irish defense and penalty kill. While the Michigan Tech power play has yet to find the net in eleven chances, the Husky special teams will be a challenge for Notre Dame to deal with, Lind said. “Michigan Tech, after looking at them today, they’re going to give us a different look,” Lind said. “They have two or three different power plays. This week will defi- nitely be more of a challenge than Western Michigan was. [Michigan Tech’s] penalty kill is a little different, and they have a lot of speed guys who like to fly.”

While Notre Dame’s strength this season has come from the back, finding the net against Michigan Tech may be slightly more difficult for the team.

The Huskies have split time between sophomore netmind- ers Jamie Phillips and Pheonix Copley, and each has a save percentage greater than .950. While the Irish have had seven different players score the team’s seven goals on the year, Jackson said he would like to see his top line, featuring se- nior forward T.J. Tynan, create more chances.

“The key for us right now is to get Tynan’s line going,” Jackson said. “[Sophomore left wing] Mario Lucia started off a little slow. If we can get him going, him, Tynan and [senior right wing] Bryan Rust are three of our best offensive players. If they can find a way to work together and support each other defensively, they’re very talented and very creative, and they should find a way to score goals.”

While the Irish have some tough competition ahead of them, Summerhays said the team is enjoying playing com- petitive hockey again and look- ing to keep its record perfect.

“It’s always nice in the begin- ning of the year,” Summerhays said. “You feel fresh, and you don’t have anything that’s re- ally bothering you. Everyone’s always excited to start the sea- son off. To get those results in the beginning of the year, you can’t really ask for too much better.”

Notre Dame will face off against Michigan Tech on Friday at 7:05 p.m. at Compton Family Ice Arena. The two teams will also meet Sunday at 2:05 p.m. at Compton Family Ice Arena.

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CONTACTED FROM PAGE 28

We have excelled with increased playing time, Clark said.

“[Junior midfielder] Nick Besler and [sophomore mid- fielder] Patrick Hodan have been out, and we’ve still man- aged to dominate games with- out two of our key players,” Clark said. “That’s a big plus. We’re hopeful we’ll get them back soon … The young fresh- man, Brandon Aubrey, has stepped up and done a good job. He and Robby Gallegos have had to play fulltime now, not part-time, and both have done very well. We came out of possibly one of the most difficult spells (of gamee),
CROSSWORD | WILL SHORTZ

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12 27 Mohair source

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HIGHLY PUN LIKELY | CHRISTOPHER BRUCKER

TROJAN HOARSE

You can lose your heart.

PICKING OUT A COSTUME:

BEING A BORING COLLEGE STUDENT

IT FINALLY FINDS A COSTUME-like AND IT COSTS SOMEONE A FORTUNE

SUDOKU | THE MEPHAGROUP

Level: 1 2 3 4

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THE OBSERVER

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.

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Horoscope | Eugenia Last

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: John Mayer, 36; Kellie Martin, 38; Tim Robbins, 55; Angela Lansbury, 88.

Happy Birthday: Expand your outlook and turn your attention to a broader spectrum of interests. You will gain from the experience of dealing with those from unfamiliar backgrounds or new situations that are different from your normal surroundings. Poor friends and lovers are likely to surface, but tactfulness may not be your best instinct. Your numbers are 5, 10, 19, 24, 32, 47, 56, 65, 74, 83.

ARIES (March 21–April 19): Emotional changes are inevitable and can turn to beneficial if you are honest about the way you feel and precise in how you express what you want. Making demands will work against you, but using diplomacy will lead to resolutions.

T A R O T H R U S (April 20–May 20): Mix the old with the new. Breathe with people and places from your past and you will gain better perspective regarding a present situation if you face now. Speak from the heart, but make it clear that you expect and want to see bigger.

GEMINI (May 21–June 20): Keep your eyes about you. Listen carefully and respond logically. Misinterpretation is likely if you are not clear regarding the way you want, back away from aggressive action. A relationship problem is likely to surface due to a misinformation.

CANCER (June 21–July 22): Make special plans with someone you love. Use past references to plan something new. Engage in creative thinking and participate in something unusual, and you are likely to have a better idea what you want to pursue in the future. Match decisions.

LEO (July 23–Aug. 22): You may be held accountable for someone else’s mistake, problem, or responsibility. Be clear regarding what you can or can’t do. Stand firm on financial issues. Money and opportunity will come from a most unusual source. Love is highlighted.

VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 22): You’re in control as long as you are confident in your decisions. New perspectives on the future will be advantageous to you. You can expect that your connections to others will bring you closer to others. You are likely to have a better idea what you want.

LIBRA (Sept. 23–Oct. 22): Follow your heart, but do not overreact if uncertainty hits. Step back and look at how you can take advantage of whatever situation you face. Taking a unique approach to an old problem will lead to positive changes.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23–Nov. 21): Open your mind and share your thoughts and emotions with someone you feel close to. Innovative changes at home will bring you closer to someone you can discuss. Share your willingness to help and support others and you will be rewarded.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22–Dec. 21): Follow the quick to make your move, especially when it concerns your personal domestic life. Don’t let emotional manipulation lead to making a poor decision. Embrace change and do what’s best for you. Make physical improvements that boast your confidence.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22–Jan. 19): Use your charm to win the confidence and respect of those who are dealing with you. Keep an open mind and do your best to avoid overreacting to a situation that is inevitable. A change of heart could cause a poor decision.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20–Feb. 18): Keep a close watch over what others do and say. Protect your interests and guard against anyone trying to manipulate your situation. Beprepared to make whatever changes are necessary in order to keep moving in the direction of your choice.

PISCES (Feb. 19–March 20): Matters pertaining to relationships of the heart will be difficult to deal with. You will not get a clear picture regarding how someone feels and must take precautions to protect your emotional, physical and financial well-being.

Birthday Baby: You are intelligent, determined and gifted. You are open-minded and versatile.
Irish junior defensive end Stephon Tuitt said he will return for his senior season next year.

“I’m coming back next year,” Tuitt said. “I’m a junior. I still have one year.”

When asked again if he was returning next year, Tuitt responded, “Yes.”

A preseason All-American, Tuitt has 18 tackles, 4.5 tackles for loss and three sacks this season.

In 2012, he recorded 47 tackles, 12 sacks and nine quarterback hurries. Tuitt has started in 19 consecutive games for Notre Dame.

The 6-foot-6, 312-pound lineman is projected to be a first-round draft pick in the 2014 NFL Draft.

Scouts, Inc., has Tuitt rated as the No. 14 overall player in the draft and he sits at No. 11 on ESPN’s Mel Kiper Jr.’s big board.

Underclassmen typically have to declare for the NFL Draft by the end of January.

Contact Matthew DeFranks at mdefranks@nd.edu

Irish senior defender Luke Mishu takes control of the ball during Notre Dame’s 3-1 victory over Duke on Sept. 27. The Irish face North Carolina State on Saturday, looking to continue their undefeated season.

Undefeated Irish face NC State

By SAMANTHA ZUBA
Sports Writer

The No. 2 Irish will look to keep their undefeated streak rolling when they face North Carolina State on Saturday in an ACC contest.

Irish coach Bobby Clark said he expects Notre Dame (7-0-5, 4-0-3 ACC) to attack on both sides of the ball. It looks to improve its own play.

“There’s a lot of things we did well in [Tuesday’s] game,” Clark said. “That’s behind us now, and we need to move on. It’s important that we’re ready for NC State.

“Redshirt junior forward Nick Surkamp leads the Wolfpack with four goals, while Junior defender Clement Simonin has scored three goals on just seven shots this season.

Despite the talent on the Wolfpack, Clark said he is more concerned that the Irish turn their possession of the ball into goals.

“If we had won [the Maryland and Northwestern games], I’d be a lot happier,” Clark said. “That’s behind us now, and we need to move on. It’s important that we’re ready for NC State.

“Redshirt junior forward Nick Surkamp leads the Wolfpack with four goals, while Junior defender Clement Simonin has scored three goals on just seven shots this season.

“Every team in the ACC will have good players, but we’ve always been more concerned with where we are,” Clark said.

Junior midfielder Robby Gallegos and freshman midfielder Brandon Aubrey have filled in for Notre Dame during its recent difficult stretch of games, and both players have good upside.

“No. 4 Notre Dame hosts Mich. Tech

By CONOR KELLY and JACK HEFFERON
Sports Writers

After starting with season victories in a home-and-home series with Western Michigan, No. 4 Notre Dame will play host again this weekend, this time to Michigan Tech.

Hoping to extend their unbeaten streak and record their third consecutive shutout, the Irish (2-0-0) will face a stiff challenge from the Huskies (0-1-1), who battled No. 20 Minnesota-Duluth to a 1-1 tie and a 2-1 loss last weekend.

“We’re looking at a fast team, and they’ll be coming here ready to play,” senior defenseman Kevin Lind said of Michigan Tech. [Irish coach Jeff Jackson] said that they’ll be a stronger, more complete team than Western Michigan.

As projected, one of Notre Dame’s early strengths has been the play of senior goaltender Steven Summerhays. The Anchorage, Alaska, native stopped all 44 pucks that came his direction in two games against Western Michigan (0-2-0) on his way to being named Hockey East Co-Defensive Player of the Week on Monday.

Summerhays earned praise from Jackson for maintaining his focus against the Broncos.

“[Summerhays] stood tall, and he didn’t let up because he had sustained times where he wasn’t facing shots,” Jackson said. “That’s emotional maturity, and it starts in practice...