Weekend celebrates juniors, parents
Students, families share campus traditions through gala, academic workshops

By MADISON JAROS
News Writer

Notre Dame welcomed juniors’ parents to campus last weekend, this time not to cheer for Irish football, but to attend Junior Parents Weekend (JPW).

A committee of 13 juniors, led by JPW chairperson Shannon Hagedorn, planned the event, which aimed to expose parents to the strong sense of tradition at Notre Dame.

“My goal for this year’s JPW was to make it a really special and elegant weekend,” Hagedorn said. “In selecting the program pictures, centerpieces and decorations, I tried to represent the tradition and magic of Notre Dame.”

Even though severe storms in the Northeast prevented some parents from attending, more than 4,000 people attended the weekend’s events, which also included a gala and dorm brunches.

Club sponsors autism conference

By JESSICA MERDES
News Writer

Notre Dame’s Special Friends Club will hold its fifth annual Autism Conference on Wednesday at 8 p.m. in the Carey Auditorium of the Hesburgh Library.

Vanderbilt pediatrics professor and Notre Dame alumna Julie Lounds Taylor will give a talk titled “Understanding the Transition to Adulthood with Autism Spectrum Disorder.”

Sophomore Thomas Gordon, a member of the Special Friends Club, said Taylor is a leader in examining how people with autism interact with the rest of society.

“Dr. Taylor’s research program investigates how individual, family and societal factors interact to promote healthy development, and she is especially interested in how families experience the transition to adulthood for young adults affected by Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD),” Gordon said.

Gordon said the Special Friends Club aims to bring speakers to the conference who have made a significant commitment to fighting autism.

“The beauty of the Autism Conference is the professionals invited to speak at the event,” he said.

“Past speakers have represented a group of individuals who have impacted the knowledge we have of ASD through their research.”

Play explores story of Jackie Robinson

By ALEX WINEGAR
News Writer

The Mad River Theater Works (MRTW), an Ohio-based touring theater company, presented the play “Everybody’s Hero: The Story of Jackie Robinson” on Monday night in O’Laughlin Auditorium at Saint Mary’s.

Written and directed by Jeff Hooper, co-founder of MRTW, the musical told the beginning of Robinson’s baseball career for the Brooklyn Dodgers.

A cast of six performed, including Bob Lucas, co-founder of MRTW and the show’s composer.

Richard Baxter

An actor portrays baseball great Jackie Robinson in the play “Everybody’s Hero” in the Saint Mary’s O’Laughlin Auditorium on Monday.

Professor wins research award

By ALEX CAO
News Writer

Computer science professor Kevin Bowyer received the 2014 Institute of Electrical Engineering and Electronics (IEEE) Computer Society’s Technical Achievement Award for his research in the field of biometrics.

Bowyer said he and his group of student researchers work in facial recognition technology, focusing on “using infrared imaging and 3-D imaging as well as using regular pictures like you would take with a...”
offenders often lack “self-love.” The themselves.” In fact, she said ex-offenders lack a connection with faith and law,” Adrienne Lyles Chockley was misquoted, saying "Ex-offenders lack a connection with faith and law."
attending, 4,000 people were involved in the weekend’s events, Hagedorn said.

Hagedorn said the weekend involved a number of diverse events, including a gala, collegiate workshops, a JPW Mass and a president’s dinner.

“It was so fun to see everyone mingling and dancing at the gala, meeting professors at the academic workshops, coming together for the Mass and sharing dinner and brunch together with incredible speakers, including keynote speakers [University President Fr. John] Jenkins, [junior class president] Olivia LaMagna and [director of the Institute for Educational Initiatives Fr. Timothy] Scully,” Hagedorn said.

Junior Stephanie Scherer said JPW opened her eyes to how large the junior class was.

“Sometimes you don’t realize how many people you don’t know until you’re all in one place,” Scherer said. Junior Catherine Puma said student involvement in the event helped build community within the junior class.

“I feel a better sense of community, especially since we had student speakers, because so many people were involved,” Puma said. Junior Kathryn Bush said the experience gave her parents a chance to better understand her life at Notre Dame.

“Our parents liked to see how we made the University our own,” Bush said. The weekend was not only an opportunity for students to interact, but for parents to meet their children’s friends and their parents, Puma said.

PUMA also reminded students that graduation is closer than they think, Scherer said.

“It gives us a sense that we don’t have much time left here, so we want to enjoy it and have an impact before we leave,” she said.

Mary Prebys, first-year student

Saint Mary’s first-year Mary Prebys, a former student of Benedict’s, said she will definitely be in the audience to see Benedict’s passion and brilliance for writing and theatre shine through his work.

“Professor Benedict’s class last semester was hands down my favorite class,” Prebys said. “He had an incredible way of relating all of the texts we read to each other and to our world and society today.”

“I learned so much in his class, but I believe the most important thing he taught was the importance of asking questions outside of class.”

Prebys said Benedict was always willing to meet with students who wanted to discuss his work, and she saw firsthand his zeal for teaching.

“It was in those conversations that I truly felt myself grow, not only in my writing, but in how I mentally approach a topic and think through that topic,” she said. “Even though he taught a literature class, I felt I grew more as a philosopher and critical thinker, in the best way possible.”

Saint Mary’s first-year Colleen Maus, another former student of Benedict’s, said Benedict was very intriguing in class because the students never knew what to expect from him.

“He always managed to command the class in an engaging and interesting manner,” Maus said. “We could easily tell how passionate he is about his field.”

Benedict said he is currently working on two plays: one an expansion of a short story and the other historically-based.

“I’m also doing some very rudimentary work with comic and graphic writing,” Benedict said. “I’m currently working on two plays: one an expansion of a short story and the other historically-based. I’m also doing some very rudimentary work with comic and graphic writing.”

By KELLY KONYA
Saint Mary’s Editor

Former Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s professor Matthew Benedict will make his debut as a local playwright Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at the South Bend Civic Theatre.

His play, titled “A False Lie,” begins when two strangers meet on an ordinary fall day in Cape Cod, both attempting to escape their complicated lives, Benedict said.

“Over the course of the ensuing day, they slowly reveal to each other their physical and psychological scars, and through this joint revelatory act, each embraces the 'false lie,' or 'truth,' ignored,” he said. “‘A False Lie’ explores how trust cultivates truth and truth triggers redemption.”

Benedict, who most recently taught a course in language and literature last semester at Saint Mary’s, was also a member of the Notre Dame Department of English for 18 years. He received his M.A. in English and an M.F.A. in creative writing from Notre Dame, he said.

Benedict said the two main characters of “A False Lie,” Grace and Kane, are protagonist’s from two separate short stories he had published years ago.

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Contact Kelly Konya at kkonya01@ saintmarys.edu

Tuesday, February 18
7:30 PM @ LaFortune
Montgomery Auditorium
Movie Screening:
“O Samba que Mora em Mim” &
Talk by Professor Sarah Wells

Wednesday, February 19
7PM @ Legends
Performance by “Flores De Samba”
Dance Company & Samba Dancing
Free food and drink
Open to Public

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JPW
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Biometrics

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

normal camera you’d get from Best Buy, or with your phone,” Bowyer said. He is researching iris-recognition technology over retina-recognition technology for the former’s practicality and reliability.

“The iris is the muscle that controls the size of the pupil, how much light gets in,” he said. “With the retina you have to get up really close [and] shine a light through the small hole in the eye to get a picture of the back into the eyeball. … Another thing we have been involved in … is this idea that if you start using the iris-imaging to recognize somebody — so you sign up and you enroll in a system to get into your bank account with [your] iris — that the quality of the match does not degrade over time.”

Bowyer said he and his team perform their research by using digital mapping as opposed to photographic recognition.

“One of the things that comes up often is the idea of using the 3-D shape of the face as a way of recognizing a person,” he said. “Think of an Arnold Schwarzenegger science fiction movie or something where they sweep a light beam over the face to get the shape of a face. It’s a high-tech and a bit of a ‘science fiction-y’ idea. “But the thought is that the 3D shape is not so much affected by lighting. If you’re standing under a light or if you have light coming at you from the side … then it would look different than it would normally. If you used a 3-D shape center, lighting wouldn’t impact it, and if you look at the face from the side, you can still get information about the face.”

Bowyer said his research has been influenced by the Boston Marathon bombing that took place April 15, 2013.

“There were all these spectators that were taking all these pictures,” he said. “There were all these businesses taking video. There was no shortage of images and no shortage of videos and images that had the people in it. But face recognition technology did not really help solve the crime … and the government recognized that.”

In the future, the United States may fall behind in facial recognition technology, Bowyer said.

“The country that’s probably leading the world in applied biometric recognition technology is the country of India,” he said. “They have an ambitious program where they are going to get all of their 1.3 billion citizens biometrically-enabled government I.D. … The rest of the world would de facto use the technology … and the U.S. will have to play catch up with the rest of the world.”

Autism

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and a lifelong commitment to helping us come closer to understanding ASD.”

The Special Friends Club’s president, senior Christina Mondi said our society needs to develop better strategies for supporting autistic individuals and their families.

“According to the [Center for Disease Control], roughly 1 [out of] 88 children will be diagnosed with ASD,” Mondi said. “Almost all students will inevitably have a family member, friend, colleague, classmate or neighbor affected by autism. … It is incredibly important that students be aware not only of what autism is, but how they can play a role in supporting those whose lives and families are affected by it in the classroom, workplace and community. This is not a special interest topic.”

The Notre Dame community can help make the transition to adulthood for people with autism smoother, Mondi said.

“If individuals with ASD are to reach their fullest potentials as they move into adulthood, they will need the understanding and support of their classmates and community members in doing so,” she said. “This is an area where we, as young college students and emerging professionals, could make a real difference in forging a culture of acceptance for our peers affected by ASD.”

Christina Mondi
President
Special Friends Club

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Kevin Bowyer
Professor

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Contact Alex Cao at acao@nd.edu

Contact Jessica Merdes at jmerdes@nd.edu
director of special events, said MRTW came to Saint Mary's last year, and performed the play "Freedom Bound."

"MRTW] has been around since the late 1970s, and their primary mission is to get original works out into areas that don’t have access to the arts,” Baxter said. “Their purpose is to take their program with the original music and take it to school auditoriums and places that don’t have access to touring shows. They’re coming to Saint Mary’s because they have a great show and they have a history of doing great shows."

MRTW came to Saint Mary’s as part of the Shaheen/Duggan Performing Arts Series, sponsored by the Office of Special Events. This series which will feature a yet-unannounced spring theater performance from April 3 to 6 and a performance of "The Snail and The Whale," a children’s show that will premiere April 26, Baxter said.

"’Everybody’s Hero’ was written in 2004 with permission from the Robinson family and will conclude its run with MRTW tomorrow in Ohio," Lucas said. The show was chosen by the Office of Student Activities because February is Black History Month and because Robinson broke many racial barriers, Baxter said.

“Baseball means grass and summer and that’s what we need right now — warm weather," Baxter said. “More importantly this celebrates the breaking of a racial barrier in professional sports, and [Robinson] made it possible for athletes in all fields and all arenas to integrate the professional world of sports.”

Baxter said the cast of "Everybody’s Hero" hopes to instill the feelings of joy, pride and courage to go out on one’s own in its audience. The play examines the ways individuals can help make the world a more inclusive environment, Baxter said.

“We need to be socially conscious,” he said. “We need to be inclusive. We need to take this sense of community we have here and take it past the confines of the campus as we go out.

“I would hope a student coming to see the show would go out and ask, ‘How can I help integrate the world in which I’m going in whatever way? ... How can I make this a more accepting environment?’”

Kalyn Whitaker, assistant director of arts for the Office of Special Events, said the performance allows the audience to see what Robinson experienced. "[The play helps the audience learn] the story of Jackie Robinson and ... the things he experienced during his time and how much he influenced baseball at the time, and not just baseball itself, but anything toward the African-American culture and how far he pushed it into the future," Whitaker said.

Contact Alex Winegar at awinegar01@saintmarys.edu
The problem with slacktivism
Michael Flitosa
Viewpoint Columnist
Lots of words can be used to describe the members of our generation — busy, distracted, stressed, what have you. Of all of those, “connected” seems to be the most ubiquitous. Information regarding the world around us is more available than ever before. News reports from across the globe are available almost immediately on Twitter timelines and Facebook newsfeeds everywhere, and the news diffuses through social networks at a breakneck speed, with the popularity of certain tidbits of information growing exponentially in a snowball effect as they are shared and retweeted. Truthfully, we are members of the most well-informed generation of young people to date.

The connectivity of the modern age and this social media information translation has subtly crept its way into how young people involve themselves in social causes. One needs to look no further than the viral sensation that was Kony 2012 (throwback, right?) to get an understanding of how powerful and pervasive internet-catalyzed social movements can become. Aside from the fact that by early 2012, Kony’s followers were estimated to number only a few hundred at best and the video erroneously pinpointed Kony to be in Uganda as opposed to the Central African Republic, the indisputable fact remains that within the span of a week, 100 million viewers were more educated about the man and his injustices where very few even knew who he was before. It’s obvious social media has drastically changed the number of people who are aware of obscure social, political and economic issues across the world and there is nothing inherently objectionable to that.

As we should probably know by now, knowing is just half the battle — this type of viral marketing can only do so much to work past that goal. Some people are frightfully willing to throw their support behind certain campaigns and it makes sense why — doing so makes us feel good, and we are supposedly doing our part to help others become more aware of the issue at hand. The problem with this line of thinking is it encourages quantity of engagement over quality of said engagement. When our Facebook profiles are chock-full of likes for certain charitable organizations and causes, one cannot help but wonder the amount of time and effort — if any — that person put behind said cause in the real world. This type of “slacktivism” can have deleterious effects when people are too caught up in the touchy-feely, lovey-dovey pathos of the campaign that they become numb to what — or who — they’re even supporting in the first place. A recent study from Sara H. Konrath of the University of Michigan found empathy — the feeling of “genuinely caring about other people’s emotional experiences” — has steadily decreased over the past several years, a trend magnified by the unavoidable narcissism inherent with social media.

This trend bleeds over to and hurts social causes whose main support for a cause in Washington, D.C. or South Bend, Ind., requires a physical presence (and in the case for March for Life, braving negative 20-degree weather) that forces you to feel a tangible connection to the cause you are supporting. Standing in the elevator lobby of LaFun handing out fliers or selling an item for charity, or garnering support for a cause forces an intimate connection between you and said cause that an Upworthy video simply cannot foster. Ultimately, we must come to realize that while social media can act as the conduit of information that can ignite the spark within, the only way to make that flame into a true fire is to get out in the world and kindle it yourself.

Michael Flitosa is a sophomore Science-Business major residing in Duncan Hall. Contact Michael at mflitosa@nd.edu.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
At the President’s Dinner on Junior Parents Weekend, Father Jenkins said Junior Parents Weekend only served as a reminder to parents that “this is a four-seasons school.” Laughing politely with the crowd at the comfortable and familiar joke about the weather, I didn’t realize how deeply that sentiment would actually resonate with me.

We were reminded constantly during the weekend that Junior Parents Weekend is the beginning of the end. Parents were informed that we are now old, wise adults preparing for graduation, tycoons of maturity, education and worldliness. We are certainly not the doe-eyed babes of that sparkling, mystical freshman year of college. We are so far removed from two years ago when we were the mere apprentices of the new. But what they forgot to mention between recycled-yet-heartfelt speeches about how we are the best class ever, was freshman year, sophomore year and even junior year were really astoundingly hard.

Coming to a prestigious university like Notre Dame is an honor. It is a source of deep pride, something making you puff your chest out when someone from home asks where you go to school. But it also means that you go to school with the smartest and most accomplished kids in the country. It means that you compete on a grading curve that is not too easy to ride when studying has to take a backseat to stress, depression, homesickness, family problems and social anxieties. But you are not riding that curve alone. You’re on it with the same kids who decided to be a doctor the day they were born and the ones who are the CEOs of Overachieving Teenage Start-Up, Inc. At the very least, they aren’t the ones who seem to be strangled by self-doubt every moment of their college career. But then again, you’re usually so deep in your own worries you can’t tell if anyone else is drowning too. The Titanic is burning in the distance, hundreds of bodies are flailing in that same ocean, but you’re too exhausted to reach out, too scared that you’ll pull someone else under. But college goes on and you try to survive the Notre Dame ride — you pull off passing grades because you are a world class “taker,” you go to parties, get drunk, talk about how to volunteer in clubs and dream of making a difference in the world while you feel like your world is only hanging on by the last shred of confidence and sanity.

But then one day, you have your “Father Jenkins, four seasons” moment.

As the tycoon of maturity and experience that I have become, I learned that if you’re offered any opportunity to get a ride in a real and heated car to cut down on any of the walking distance between the JACC and Badin, you take it. So I got into my parents’ car after the Junior Parents Weekend brunch, let them pull into Main Circle and said my goodbyes. As I made my way across the South Quad diagonal to my dorm, four thoughts entered my head in succession. First, my goodbyes to my parents just then felt so similar to my goodbye outside of Badin in the late summer of 2011, when I started my time at Notre Dame. Second, the bustle of campus over the weekend was reminiscent of the family atmosphere of fall football weekends. Third, it was stupid-cold outside in a skirt in the snow. Fourth, the strange noise I repeatedly heard this weekend was actually the very first chirps of spring songbirds.

Four seasons.

As I thought about that strange combination for a few paces, I felt a deep and new weight of contentment settling into my soul. How many times had I made that walk back to Badin before, coming back from class, a cab or a football game? How many times did I spend that long, quiet walk questioning myself and my place at this school? Of those many walks, many were dark and lonely. But this one wasn’t. My “four seasons” moment communicated something to me, quietly and softly as the snow rustled on the muddled path under my feet. I had somehow survived those darkest days of self-doubt in what was supposed to be that happy, wild and sparkling freshman year of college. And sophomore year of college.

Maybe the Junior Parents Weekend speeches were right and we are the best class ever and we are tycoons of maturity, education and worldliness. Maybe we’re not. But they are right about one thing. If this is the beginning of the end of my time at Notre Dame, then I am going to finish as a person who is much different from the girl who came in feeling so inadequate. I’ll leave as someone who has friends and a dorm she is proud to show off to her parents. I’ll be someone who has made the transition from drowning, to swimming. I’ll be someone who can walk across campus on the heels of past experiences at Frosh-O’s, football games, snowy days and Frisbee tosses and truly feel like I’m walkers the path of my home. I’ll be a proud survivor of all the good and the bad alike.

I will be a true Father Jenkins, four-season Domer.

Maura Kelly is a junior residing in Badin Hall. Contact Maura at mkelly22@nd.edu

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

GOP should clarify immigration stance

Ethan Demers

Speaking last Thursday, House Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio) made a concerted effort to temper immigration reform expectations for this year.

“I never underestimated the difficulty in moving forward this year,” Boehner said. “There’s widespread doubt about whether this administration can be trusted to enforce our laws. And it’s going to be difficult to move any immigration legislation until that changes.”

I believe Boehner is saying this because he fears immigration reform could harm the GOP midterm elections in very conservative districts. For the future of the Republican Party, members need to address immigration reform as soon as possible. Otherwise, they risk losing significant ground in national elections as the Hispanic population continues to increase.

Prior to these remarks, it appeared Boehner was prepared to aggressively push for immigration reform in 2014. For months he had been saying the House would take action on immigration.

It is disappointing to see that, yet again, Boehner appears to be governing at the mercy of Tea Party Republicans, rather than leading his party to where it needs to be to win national elections.

But it’s not only Tea Party Republicans that Boehner fears alienating with immigration reform. Centrist Republicans from conservative districts who are likely to face challenges from Tea Party candidates are understandably wary of the possible political repercussions of supporting immigration reform — especially if reform includes a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants or “amnesty” as many conservatives refer to it.

While it is true President Barack Obama has made unilateral changes to the Affordable Care Act unauthorized by Congress, this cannot be an excuse for Republicans to refuse to move forward on immigration reform. Throughout time, the general public will become quite weary of hearing it if blaming the Affordable Care Act for all of the nation’s problems is the GOP’s only message.

Yet the reality is, under Obama, more illegal immigrants have been deported than during any previous administration. He simply cannot be blamed for the fact that Republicans have been unable to agree on how to move forward.

Groups like the Tea Party Patriots will never be supportive of Boehner, no matter how hard he tries to accommodate their interests. Even after Boehner made his comments, Jenny Beth Martin, national coordinator of Tea Party Patriots, was still critical of him.

“We fully expect him to change his mind again,” Martin said in a statement. “This is not leadership in any sense of the word and clearly demonstrates that Speaker Boehner’s ability to speak for the House of Representatives, the Republican Party or even the American people is over.”

Groups like these will never support Republicans like Boehner, and it’s time he forgets about letting them influence him and begins concentrating on what is really important: pushing forward an immigration bill that is bipartisan enough to pass in not only the U.S. House of Representatives, but also the Senate.

The GOP publicly released its immigration reform principles on Jan. 30, 2013, and that was an important first step. Republicans can no longer be accused of not being explicit in their terms thanks to this.

Republican politicians must begin to treat immigrants and minorities as human beings who can add value to our economy, society and culture. The language of “illegal alien” is decisive and should no longer be used by Republicans. It will be measures like these that are just as important as any policy decisions in the long run.

If Boehner really cares about his own legacy as Speaker of the House and the future of his party, it’s time he started to show more political courage on this issue.

Otherwise, Republicans can expect the 71 percent of Latino voters who supported Obama instead of Mitt Romney in 2012 to vote for a Democrat again in 2016.

The Daily Orange is the independent student newspaper serving Syracuse University.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Not “nobody,” okay, but their viewer–ratings. And second, before anybody else says Stephen Colbert remains as strong as ever, so I think it’s about as good a time as any to take stock of where everybody stands, power-ranking style. It comes with two exceptions — first, I’m only ranking hosts under 60, since an educated guess tells me those are the only shows that people under 60 watch. And second, before anybody else calls me a sexist, Chelsea Handler isn’t included, but neither is Craig Ferguson and both for the same reason — nobody watches their shows. Not “nobody,” okay, but their viewer–ratings don’t put them in the same category as any others here. And one last caveat — though it may seem like I’m critical of some of these hosts, and though it may sound like I’m more impressed by the other, and though it may look like I’ve ranked them based on perceived quality, I would, in fact, probably drop out of school right now to accept a job (or internship, I’m not picky) with any of them. Just keep that in mind in case you happen to be reading this on your lunch break, Conan.

1. Jimmy Fallon
Jimmy Fallon is, without a doubt, the hottest name in late night television. He may not be the naturally funniest (I’d say Colbert, maybe Kimmel), or the best joke-writer (Meyers, I’d guess, but it’s a toss-up) or even the most brilliant (Conan, probably, though some say Colbert), but he has all three qualities to spare, and he is without a doubt the absolute best showman in the business. When he takes the stage every night, he puts on a show, combining his humor, musical talent, intelligence and natural good will to win over the audience. With The Roots at his side, Lorne Michaels at his back and his boundless energy, he fuels the show. I think “The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon” will be a huge hit.

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2. Stephen Colbert
Stephen Colbert, though, plays Stephen Colbert every night, much to his advantage in the power rankings. The character he’s created has transcended its original concept of simply parodying Bill O’Reilly. Colbert’s show hits hard and moves fast, and he never breaks character. The pitch-black commercial at the Super Bowl was decide “Boulevard of Broken Dreams” to trigger memories of the majestic green-screened, Kardashian-driven motorcycle ride. The message here is that if you’re Kanye, you can reference your own songs because you’re Kanye and you do what you want.

Kanye West released a remix of Beyonce’s single, “Drunk In Love,” on Valentine’s Day. The song is from Beyonce’s self-titled album and features her husband, Jay-Z, laying down some lusty lyrics.

Kanye and Jay-Z are undoubtedly the power couple of our generation, but add Kanye West into the mix and “ain’t nobody messin’ with that clique.” The trio is the Illuminati personified. They are my dream — or should I say My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy — come true. Literally. Just last week I took a nap and dreamt that Kanye took me under his wing. Also, becoming Beyonce is obviously a recurring theme in my imagination, so this combination makes sense.

In classic Yeezus fashion, Kanye adds some raunchy references, samples his own song, and gives a shout-out to his fiancée on the track. He makes sure to emphasize Kim’s booty in a surprisingly endearing way, saying, “Let me remind you, you got a great future behind you.” Such inspirational words. Kanye is such a giving man, rapping pep talks to his wife over Beyonce’s beats. What more could a woman ask for?

The remix features a sample of Kanye’s own 2007 hit, “Flashin’ Lights.” He’s one of the few artists who can pull this off. Beyonce, of course, is another. She recently sampled her own song, “Bow Down,” in the track, “Flawless.” This is totally fine because she is “Flawless” and can do anything she wants. Although Beyonce herself was enough to black out the Superdome, her. Since I have applied to work at various dude ranches out west this summer, I totally relate with this image and it’s most likely how I will be spending my summer — in a bikini with chaps on, lassoing horses (and men), while fulfilling my aspirations of becoming Beyonce.

Perhaps this teaser means we can expect a full video to come. Will Kanye be featured? Might Kim K make her second video appearance? (Music video, that is.) Video or no video, this song has enough star power to run “This Town.” Just think, the mega-star wattage of Beyonce herself was enough to black out the Superdome, but if we add in Jay-Z and Kanye West, Double dang. I don’t know if he gives Jay-Z enough credit in the article thus far, but his star-power can be summed up like this — over break I told my mom her gas tank was running on empty and she responded, “Running out of gas is just one of my 99 problems.” This verifies Jay-Z’s lyrics have managed to reach literally everyone.

Be sure to give this “Drunk In Love” remix a listen. The combination of Jay-Z, Beyonce and Kanye West makes for something of a holy trinity, and “Yeezus Walks” all over the track.

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The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
At some point in this article, I’m going to review the movie “Nebraska,” which I enjoyed and believe deserves the acclaim heaped upon it by critics. But first, you’ll have to sit through some context so I can explain why it’s unlikely I’ll ever sit through it again.

A few weeks ago, Scene featured a fantastic profile on and interview with acclaimed nonfiction writer John Jeremiah Sullivan. I’ve read enough of Mr. Sullivan’s work to arrive at the easy conclusion that he’s both much smarter than me and a much better writer than me, which is to say, approximately two paragraphs. I found much of what he said fascinating, but I took some issue with one particular point:

“Really, if anything, the whole regional question, for me, has put me in touch with how absurd the whole thing is,” Sullivan said. “It’s really a kind of costume drama. It’s like cosplay and always has been.

“The moment I found out the regional stuff was kind of crap, it became very interesting to me, which is weird. When it had seemed like a monolithic thing, a real thing, it had seemed kind of tiresome, like something I just wanted to stop talking about. But when I realized that it was some sort of weird play that we’re all acting in here, then it got interesting.”

I get what he’s saying. I see the argument that regional identity is put on and not real and we want to take on the identity when it’s advantageous to us but not when it’s not. I understand, but I don’t agree — not totally, at least.

I grew up in Kansas, I went to high school in Missouri and I go to college in Indiana. Almost the entirety of my formative years has been spent in the Midwest — more specifically, I’d say, in Kansas. To say that Kansas and its culture, identity and image haven’t influenced and informed my own identity is incomprehensible to me. I grew up in the suburbs, and you can say suburbs everywhere are pretty much the same because that’s part of what defines the suburbs, but we passed a century-old farmhouse planted in the middle of the suburbs on our walk home from grade school every day and knew the 90-year-old man who’d lived there his whole life and remembered when it was all farmland and swamp — that had an effect on me. If I had a bad night in high school, I could turn left instead of right, drive 10 minutes and park my car in a wheat field with no modern civilization in sight — that had an effect on me. I was too unaware growing up to recognize it, but pretty much everyone had similar values, tendencies and ways of speaking — that had an effect on me.

Right or wrong, real or not, product of human nature or of decades of successful marketing, where we’re from affects who we are. It’s a part of us, and, in my opinion and with due respect to Mr. Sullivan, that’s important. It was that part of me, the one that still draws from Kansas and the Midwest for identity, that wanted to turn off “Nebraska” approximately 30 minutes in.

Director Alexander Payne is from Omaha, Neb., and screenwriter Bob Nelson is from Yankton, S.D., and their midwestern influences bleed through in the film. And it truly is an exceptional film. The story follows Woody Grant (Bruce Dern) and his son David (Will Forte) as they embark on a quest from Billings, Mont., to Lincoln, Neb., after Woody receives what is clearly a bogus letter in the mail claiming he’s won $1 million and must come to Lincoln to collect it.

Bruce Dern gives an astounding performance as Woody, an aging alcoholic, mentally deteriorating war-veteran and all-around jerk. Will Forte gives nearly as impressive a performance in his understated delivery of the sad, unaccomplished David in the shadow of his older brother, the local news anchor, Ross (Bob Odenkirk).

They encounter Woody’s family and old friends and foes along the way, everyone believing he’s won the lottery, and nearly everyone (family included) believing they’ve owed a piece of the pie. June Squibb, as Woody’s grouchy but loving wife, delivers one of the greatest and most powerful “Go f**k yourselves” lines I’ve ever seen on screen and adds tremendously to this intricate illustration of family that Payne creates.

As a story, it’s tremendous. As a study of family life and what success means to different people, it’s spectacular. As a look at a crotchety old man who just wants a new truck and an air compressor, it’s darkly hilarious. But as a midwestern film, which it very much is, it’s a slap in the face. It’s a midwestern movie for people who don’t want to learn anything about the Midwest.

Outside of the Grant brothers, nearly every character is dead. We meet is fat, ugly, stupid, petty, mean and old. “Old” may not be the best term, as some of them are middle-aged, but the total lack of any youth is painfully apparent throughout. The characters are racist, but too dumb to be so malicious — that’s just the way they are. This is a place where nobody does anything different, where nobody changes and where frivolous disputes are carried over decades.

The whole world of the movie seems to be portrayed as anachronistic, without even taking into consideration that it’s shot in black and white. The buildings are old and wearing down, just like the men. The businesses that are still open seem to be almost exclusively bars, and everything else looks to be closed. The men of this world fought in wars and put hard labor into their jobs, and while these aren’t things to be looked down upon, necessarily, it certainly didn’t lead them to any sort of happiness or success in their lives.

This may be Payne and Nelson’s experience and relationship with the Midwest — they love the place, not the people. They seem to think that, like the one-woman newspaper in Woody’s hometown, the Midwest is a relic of the old days, and the old days weren’t that good.

But that’s not my Midwest. That’s not where I grew up. It may be a different perspective than that of either of the coasts, but the Midwest in my identity is alive and well, and it’s not quite so old, ugly and ignorant.

As I said before, “Nebraska” is a great film worthy of praise. It’s well made, engaging and heartfelt. But at its core, for me, at least, it’s an art film about the Midwest that allows film critics and coastal elitists to appreciate the Midwest while keeping their distance from it and still being able to look down on flyover states and the people who inhabit them.

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Sports Writer

Bode Miller is a 36-year-old man whose life has had more turns and jumps than an Olympic downhill course. Each time Ryan attempts to pick him up by the railing in front of Jack Agodaux, Miller gets free and runs down the track, overpowering Martin. Miller used his weight to his advantage, and when the tape rolls he asks him the classic question: a 36-year-old in the twilight of his career would be asked, inquiring how it felt to win a medal at his age, if there was "a lot of emotion riding on this race," and so forth. Miller, unprovoked, brought up his deceased brother, Chelone, who passed away last year of a seizure.

At that first mention of his brother, Miller already starts choking up, but Cooper feels the need to ask him about it again. Miller was still emotional but answered the question without too much of an issue. That's when it should have ended. But Cooper asks again, recounting to Miller how he and his brother were going to achieve worldwide media prominence once every four years. McShea kept it up by the railing in front of Agodaux. NBC could easily have cut back to the studio, but the network doesn't. It lingers on Miller as Cooper awkwardly lays her hand on him in a sort of pseudo-comforting pose.

Sports Authority

Sports Writer

Belles claim victory over Alma on Senior Day

By ANDREW ROBINSON

Saint Mary's capitalized on turnovers and strong defense to break out of an early deadlock against Alma and come away with a 72-61 victory Saturday on Senior Day.

The Belles (7-16, 5-9) and the Scots (8-24, 0-15 MIAA) traded baskets for most of the first half but neither team gained a significant edge. Alma shot well from beyond the arc, making four of its nine three-point attempts, while Saint Mary's created several easy baskets.

There were six ties and 14 lead changes in the first half alone. Neither team led by more than three points until the final two minutes of the opening half, when senior guard Shanblynn Bias stole the ball on consecutive possessions, and the Belles took a 39-33 lead into halftime.

"The first half was back and forth a lot," Irish coach Jennifer Henley said. "They had some key turnovers at the end that we were able to convert into points, which gave us a little cushion."

Saint Mary's opened the second half strong, with a 15-4 run, evoking its lead to a game-high 17 points midway through the half. Then, the Scots stopped making their shots while the Belles continued to push their transition game, extending their lead, which Henley said she attributed in part to 12 second-half steals and Alma's 26 total turnovers.

Scots junior guard Mallory Pruett, who had 19 points in the contest, led the comeback charge for Alma. Though she cut the lead to six with under 10 minutes to play, Saint Mary's sophomore forward Krista Knecht had two consecutive put-backs, contributing to the Belles' 44 points in the paint and securing the eventual 72-61 win.

Three players provided all but nine of the Belles' points. Junior forward Ariana Paul finished with 17 points and 12 rebounds, Knecht had a career-high 24 points and eight rebounds, and Bias also recorded a career-high with 22 points and six steals on her Senior Day.

Henley said defense was another key to the Belles' success. "Paul, Knecht, and Bias did very well for us on offense," she said. "But, what impressed me most is how our team played defensively. Our team stood its ground. Winning on Senior Day is always special. You want to send out your seniors on a positive note and this team did that."

The Belles gained their attention to their game against Olivet, which stands at second in the MIAA standings after losing only once in its last 16 games.

"We need to focus on their inside game and slow down their guards in transition," Henley said. "We know we can compete with them."

The matchup against Olivet, the second-to-last of the year for Saint Mary's, will take place Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at the Angela Athletic Facility.

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Bouts CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

The match, overpowering Martin. Williams shocked Martin with a right hook to send him straight to the ground in the third round, winning the fight unanimously.

Justin "Penta" Tabit def. Jack "Shadow Recruiter" Ryan

Tabit was able to dominate this matchup against Ryan from start to finish, putting together a myriad of combination strikes to Ryan's body and forcing him towards the ropes and corners through the majority of the match. Each time Ryan attempted to pick up momentum, his defense was penetrated by Tabit's blows, and, in the end, Tabit walked away with unanimous decision.

Jack Considine def. Jack "JG Three" Griffin

Considine was very precise on when and how to decide to take his strikes on Griffin. He waited until Griffin was the most vulnerable, which was whenever Griffin needed to recover to bombard Considine with a ferocious array of punches. Through the first and second rounds Griffin was unbalanced with his form as he tried to take the offensive. Considine focused on punishing Griffin's head from the first and second rounds and carried it over to the third round, when the referee stepped in to give Considine the victory.

James "The Iceman" Hodgens def. Eric "TT Showbiz" Krakowiak

Hodgens aggressively attacked with combinations of hooks and jabs to Krakowiak from the first bell. Krakowiak was forced into a defensive technique for the first round as Hodgens focused all of his efforts into damaging Krakowiak's body. It looked like Hodgens was going to continue the onslaught in the second round when a blow of his own sent Krakowiak to the ground. Krakowiak met Hodgens' offense with intensity, forcing Hodgens to tire out into the third round. The comeback fell short, and Hodgens won the close match-up with unanimous decision.


S MCU BASKETBALL | SCM 72, ALMA 61

am Your Father" Pardue

Sullivan maneuvered around the ring defensively as Pardue took several hooks and jabs to Pardue while he was on the move. As the match wore on, Sullivan consis- tently broke through Pardue's par- ries and landed several head shots. In the third round, both fighters were fatigued, but Sullivan was able to give the extra push to land decisive blows to Pardue's head and win him the match by unani- mous decision.

Jack Corrigan def. Sandy "Back Breaker" McShea

Corrigan was able to put the momentum on his side and dominate the match from start to finish. McShea kept it close early by showing a stifling defense that would not allow any strikes to land, but Corrigan eventually broke through and hit McShea with a strong com- bination of hooks and jabs to McShea's head. McShea never recovered, as Corrigan walked away with the unanimous decision.

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SPORTSCLASSIFIEDS

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"Oh you can't make yourself stop dreaming who you're dreaming of, if it's who you love, then it's who you love." - "Who You Love" by John Mayer featuring Katy Perry

Please recycle the Observer.

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Notre Dame bounces back
By HENRY HILLIARD
Sports Writer

At the ITA National Indoor Championships last weekend, the No. 18 Irish bested No. 9 Mississippi State 4-1 on Saturday and No. 12 Florida 4-0 on Sunday after dropping their first match to defending national champion No. 1 Virginia on Friday 4-2.

“I think we played really well in all three matches,” Irish coach Ryan Sachire said. “We put ourselves in a position to beat the defending national champion on Friday, and even though we lost a competitive match, the guys still responded by beating two very talented SEC teams to close out the weekend.”

Heading into the weekend, Notre Dame focused on improving its doubles play, which had proven inconsistent in recent matches. That focus paid off as the team tent in recent matches. That which had proven inconsistent in improving its doubles play, the Irish rolled over the Gators (5-5) on Sunday morning. Pecor and Hagar did not complete their match because the teams of Andrews and Lawson and senior Ryan Bandy and sophomore Josh Cavalier already secured the team double point for Notre Dame.

In singles play, Andrews, Bandy and sophomore Quinton Monaghan swept past their Florida opponents in the first, third and second flights, respectively. All three matches were won in straight sets.

“The biggest thing we emphasized heading into the tournament was being competitive in all nine slots,” Sachire said. “We know that we are not always going to win all of our matches, we are just trying to put ourselves in a situation to win from the top down and we did that this weekend.”

Against Mississippi State, the Irish lost their only doubles point of the weekend, forcing them to attempt to come from behind in singles play. Bandy, Hagars, Schnurrenberger and Andrews quickly overcame the deficit and secured the 4-1 Notre Dame victory.

Notre Dame will take to day off and resume practice Wednesday as they prepare to face Ohio State and Ball State back at their home Eck Tennis Pavilion this upcoming weekend.

“Our consistency has to be there as we progress through the schedule. We are really emphasizing an attack mentality both at an individual and team level. Everyone has something to improve on,” Sachire said.

The Irish hit the court Saturday against Ohio State at 12 p.m. and against Ball State at 7 p.m. at the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

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Irish fall to Wolverines
By ZACH KLONSINSKI
Sports Writer

Getting back on the courts for the first time in two weeks, No. 22 Notre Dame fell 6-1 to No. 13 Michigan in Ann Arbor on Saturday.

The Irish (5-2) dropped the doubles point to start the match, as the Wolverine duo of Sarah Lee and Amy Zhu knocked down the No. 41 pair of senior Jennifer Kellner and freshman Monica Robinson 8-3 in the No. 2 doubles slot.

At No. 3 doubles, freshman Mary Closs and senior Julie Sabacinski lost a close 8-5 decision against Michigan’s Ronit Ucros and Laura Vrabel.

At No. 1 doubles, freshmen Alex Lawson and sophomore Alex Lawson claimed victories in the second and first doubles slots with scores of 6-4 and 6-5(3), respectively. “In two out of three matches our doubles teams improved significantly,” Sachire said. “It’s all about how you approach it mentally, and our guys worked hard to give us the edge heading into singles play.”

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College of Engineering T-Shirt Sales, 217 Cushing Hall
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MR. ENGINEERING CONTEST
Ballroom, LaFortune Student Center
7:00 pm

ENGINEERING FREE SKATE
Compton Family Ice Arena
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A TALK WITH ASTRONAUT JIM WETHERBEE
102 DeBartolo Hall
6:00 pm
Notre Dame’s most flown astronaut returns to his alma mater for one night only! Come hear Jim Wetherbee speak about his storied career as the commander of five Space Shuttle missions and how his Notre Dame education helped him get there. A Q&A session will follow the event.

SUB MOVIE: GRAVITY
101 DeBartolo Hall
8:00 pm Thursday | 8:00 pm and 10:30 pm Friday and Saturday
Bouts
continued from page 14
first round, Howe backed Delfillo against the ropes with his longer reach before Delfillo forced him back. The second round featured loose hitting as both boxers seemed to target Delfillo’s body and hit home several times, though Delfillo was able to land a shot to the head in the final round, both fighters landed some violent hits to the head of his opponent. Howe’s height gained him the better edge of the split decision.

Charles “Chuck” Rollino def. Paul “The Fool” Foley
Power proved to be the key factor in this bout, as Rollino fought his way to a split-decision win over Foley. Rollino knocked Foley hard in the head midway into the first round and pushed him into the corner during the second, but Rollino extricated himself fairly quickly. Foley landed several blows to the head but seemed to lose energy as time wore on. Rollino made a major comeback in the third round as Foley exhibited signs of exhaustion, giving him a win by split decision.

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By BRIAN PLAMONDON
Sports Writer

Trevor “Sting” Stevens def. Nick “the Irish Cowboy” Keleher
Keleher came out swinging before Stevens landed a right hook to the jaw, dropping Keleher to the ropes. He followed by landing multiple blows on the defensive Keleher in the second round. Stevens again took the offensive in the third round, cornering Keleher early and finishing strong on the tiring Keleher to win by unanimous decision.

Brett “Italian Ice” Sassetti def. David Jensen
Sassetti, a defending champion, was able to get on his feet early as he landed a series of jabs on Jensen. The bout featured some good back-and-forth between the boxers before Sassetti knocked Jensen to the ground with multiple right hooks. Although Jensen came out stronger in the third round, Sassetti knocked him to the ground, killing Jensen’s momentum and securing a win by unanimous decision.

Melchior “I Lupo” Perella-Savarese def. Nicholas “Stud” Walter
Perella-Savarese and Walter fought an even first round with neither boxer landing many punches in the second. Perella-Savarese was able to back up Walter into a corner, landing multiple right hooks. Perella-Savarese continued his strong performance in the third round, coming on the offensive on his way to winning by unanimous decision.

Eric “I Still Cant” Reed def. Clayton “C-Dawg” Conroy
Reed demonstrated his quickness early, landing solid right hooks on his opponent. Conroy came back strong to end the first round before Reed beat the bell with another crushing right hook. Conroy started with a combination of left and right jabs to Campopiano’s head that threw Campopiano off balance. Campopiano tried to throw him off by holding onto his body and eventually ended up taking more of a beating as Ellinwood cruised his way to victory.

Calvin Hemington def. J.D. “Saturday” Zarate
Hemington opened up several heavy combinations and controlled the fight from start to finish to win over Zarate when the referee stopped the fight in the second round. Swinging early and often, Hemington used his length advantage to establish himself in the first round. Zarate came out strong early in the second round, but Hemington absorbed the onslaught and countered with one of his own, eventually working Zarate into the ropes. Hemington continued the pressure into the third round, once again putting Zarate into the ropes. He opened a cut on Zarate’s right eye and stopped the contest in the late round.

Sebastian “El Papa” de la Casas def. Zach “Caveman” Sclare
De la Casas gave his fans a victory by unanimous decision over Prufer. The two boxers matched in a fury of flying arms and legs, with de la Casas cornering Prufer and connecting on his opponent’s body. Prufer appeared to lose steam, giving him to the mat early in the first round. Prufer came out strong in the second round, but it was not enough to prevent Sclare from advancing by unanimous decision.

Patrick Shea def. Thomas Hughes “Your Daddy”
Shea made use of his quick feet and fast high-low jabs combination to hold up Hughes and win a unanimous decision victory over Hughes. Shea’s hard punches established himself against Hughes, knocking him down in the second round. Hughes came out more aggressive in the second round but failed to land any significant blow, and Shea came back with a hard left hook to regain the advantage. Hughes struggled together a couple of strong combinations late in the final round, but it was not enough to prevent Shea from advancing by unanimous decision.

Brian “Rowdy” Reddy def. Hunter White
The much taller Reddy used his length to his advantage and cruised to a victory by unanimous decision over White. Both boxers opened up early in a high-flying first round. White could not seem to find a way to get within striking range of his opponent, having to lean into Reddy to try and land some body blows. Reddy was able to land most of his shots to the head of White, the deciding factor as he advanced with an unanimous-decision victory.

Mike “The Stake” Flanian def. Christopher Stephen
Stephen came out strong against Flanian, but Flanian worked his way back and forced the referee to stop the contest in the second round. Stephen started the first round with several hard body-head combinations that put Flanian into a defensive position. The second round started in a similar fashion, but Flanian quickly seized control, knocking Stephen down four times with left hooks before the referee stopped the fight to give Flanian the split-decision victory.

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By MANNY DEJESUS
Sports Writer

Eric “P-Express” Palutis def. John “Gantran” Szatkowski
Palutis and Szatkowski started off with a flurry of offensive attacks. Szatkowski was able to land a right blow to Palutis’s head, drawing blood, but Palutis pushed through and continued to efficiently make his offensiveness work to his advantage. Palutis allowed Szatkowski to hit him with combinations of jabs and uppercuts, trying to outpower Szatkowski, but the second round,countering with powerful combination head shots to conclude the second. The third round was a back-and-forth battle, but in the end, Palutis was able to come away with the victory in a unanimous decision.

Alex “Turtle” Jirschele def. Alex “Easy” Mcintyre
Jirschele used a flurry of quick jabs and hooks to gain control, knocking McIntyre to the ground early in the first round. Jirschele was able to control the ring with quick feet, taking over the fight and eventually moving into the second round, McIntyre tired, allowing Jirschele to hit clean uppers. Both fighters slowed down the pace of the match in the third round, but McIntyre was able to take advantage of Jirschele’s low energy by hitting him with jabs to the head. Nonetheless, Jirschele was victorious by unanimous decision.

Zack “Bedrock” Flint def. Matthew “The Goon” DiDonato
Flint and DiDonato showcased their speed from the start of the match. While DiDonato quickly threw punches, he wasn’t able to land them efficiently. Flint dodged all jabs and combinations and countered with powerful body blows throughout the rest of the first round. Flint continued to Work his way on the offensive on a multitude of right hooks to the head. The referee was forced to call the fight after Flint hit DiDonato twice in the temple in the tenth times.

Brian “Caicos” Wuensch def. Ryan “Little Bear” Muniz
Martin hit Willis with a barrage of early strikes, forcing Willis to struggle on the ropes. Using his long reach, Willis was able to control Willi’s movements using his quickness. The second round featured more energy between the fighters, Willis getting in some punches at one another but rarely connected. In the third round, Willis was able to take control of the
**Sports**

**McGraw said. “I think all three of them have contributed in such different ways, and the great thing about this trio is that they complement each other.**

“Barak gave us a spark, McGraw said, “and had heart and soul of this program,”

**The Irish will be back on the court Thursday when they travel to Winston-Salem, N.C., to take on Number 23 Wake Forest at Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum. Tip-off is at 7 p.m.**

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**Bouts**

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**Corinelli McGratn**

**Sports Writer**

**CONOR “The Invisible Hand” Durkin def. Fernando “Ola” Garcia**

The bout started off in a see-saw battle between Garcia and Durkin, with Durkin settling in faster, landing early blows. Durkin finished the first round strongly and continued to dominate the second. Garcia dominated the third, picking his punches selectively and landing some big blows. In the end, it was not enough, and Durkin just squeezed by for the split decision.

Alex Bogucki-Barak def. Arun Nadar

Moments gained swung widely between Nadar and Barak before Barak took control in the final round to win by unanimous decision. Nadar started stronger in the first round, landing some quick hits and dodging flailing punches from Barak. At the end of the first round, both boxers got inside on the other's blows. Barak took the majority of heavy blows in the third, and Humel too the fight by a split decision.

**BROGAN def. ‘Porkchop’ McCaffrey**

The first round was evenly matched, with both fighters landing some heavy punches. McCaffrey had some big hits in the first round that had Barak moving around the ring. Stone missed on a few straight rights to begin the second round, but Barak was able to knock him to the ground with a strong right. McCaffrey bounced back, landing a few rights to the head of his opponent. The third round was more of the same, with both boxers getting in several hits. The two had to be separated a few times, but Barak won by split decision.

**Joe “Trix are for Kids” Brogan def. Casey “Porkchop” McCaffrey**

The match heated up as time went on, with McCaffrey finishing the first round strong. Both fighters did not seem to do any significant damage. Corcoran gained the upper hand near the end of the first round with some hard hits and got inside on Monardo to land several strong punches during the second round. Monardo tried to rally early on in the final round but Corcoran pulled away for the win by unanimous decision.

**Joe Sulentic def. Nate Stone**

Sulentic and Stone both employed defensive strategies to try to win the fight, dodging and dancing around the ring. Stone missed on a few straight rights to begin the second round, giving Sulentic the opportunity to land two strong rights of his own, one of which drew blood. After the stop, Stone was a precise fighter who moved around with timing, but Sulentic ultimately was able to dodgeweaken. Sulentic's jabs and straight combos, as Sulentic took the fight by split decision.

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

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**Michael “Greasy” Grasso def. Joshua Smith**

Grasso started strong and held on through the second and third rounds for the unanimous decision victory over Smith. Grasso began with several jabs to the head and upper body. The second round started much better for Smith, as he came out with energy and engaged Grasso almost immediately with several heavy punches. Grasso brought Smith back to the center of the ring with some solid jabs in the second round. In the third round, Grasso had some strong counters to Smith's shots, landing some big punches to the head of his opponent. This proved to be enough for Grasso to claim the win by unanimous decision.

**David “No Way, No How” Howe def. Chris “The Second Amendment” Delillo**

Howe had a significant height advantage over Delillo and used it to his advantage for the split-decision win. Early on in the fight, Howe dominated the second round and took control of the match to claim the split-decision win. Howe started strong in the first round, landing some quick hits and dodging flailing punches from Barak. At the end of the first round, both boxers got inside on the other's blows. Barak took the majority of heavy blows in the third, and Humel took the fight by a split decision.

Contact Collin “Meme” Corcoran at ccorcoran2@nd.edu

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**CONOR “The Wild Man” Douglass def. Andres “Gio” Lincon**

Both fighters started the fight throwing a flurry of punches, with Douglass connecting on a shot in the opening round that had Lincon bleeding. Lincon started the second round throwing some rights but only connected on a few. Douglass focused on throw-
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Crossword | Will Shortz

ACROSS
1. Climber’s goal
2. Giga-follower
3. Creator of Oz
4. King of tragedy
5. Dud’s sound
6. Caramel-filled candy
7. Puff, e.g.
8. Cyberdress
9. See 28-Across
10. [50]
11. Crumple (up)
12. Like late-night commuters
13. Harry Belafonte catchword
14. Eat like a bird
15. Alternative to CT or LA
16. Savor
17. See 32
18. Soft and smooth
19. Dishware, informally
20. Compound in disposable coffee cups
21. “South Pacific” setting
22. Small brook
23. [20]
24. [60]
25. Do better than 60
26. Bob Marley classic
27. Red ink
28. Let go
29. Support providers
30. Bananas’ container

DOWNS
1. [50]
2. [50]
3. [50]
4. [50]
5. [50]

Horoscope | Eugenia Last

Happy Birthday! Procrastination won’t get the results you are looking for. Align yourself with the doers. Put your intuition to work for you and map out the best possible way to go. The results will be greater freedom. Work, money and investments will begin to increase. Your own emotions will become a major issue. Talk to close friends who have as much to contribute as you. Your numbers are 5, 14, 18, 25, 34, 48.

ARIES (March 21–April 19): Concentrate on your future, not on your past. Make changes based on what’s important to you and how you want to move forward. An unexpected source of knowledge if you share your ideas and concerns with someone influential.

TAURUS (April 20–May 20): Helping others can be rewarding as long as you aren’t being taken for granted. Once the fear of failure is removed. Your time and money, if available, you should be rewarded for your effort.

Happy Birthday: Procrastination won’t get the results you are looking for. Align yourself with the doers. Put your intuition to work for you and map out the best possible way to go. The results will be greater freedom. Work, money and investments will begin to increase. Your own emotions will become a major issue. Talk to close friends who have as much to contribute as you. Your numbers are 5, 14, 18, 25, 34, 48.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23–Nov. 21): You may face opposition, but don’t get carried away doing something for the wrong reasons. Get your facts straight from the source before you jump into action. Taking control will save you from ending up in a vulnerable position. Romance is highlighted.

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Irish roll Yellow Jackets on emotional Senior Day
Notre Dame keeps undefeated season alive behind Loyd’s 27 points

By VICKY JACOBSEN  
Sports Writer

Georgia Tech made a concerted effort to bring down No. 2 Notre Dame on Senior Day, but the Yellow Jackets could not withstand the undefeated Irish, who ultimately won 87-72.

“I think next year we’re going to have Senior Night on the first day of classes, August 27th. There won’t be a game, but we’ll celebrate the seniors,” Irish coach Muffet McGraw joked after the game. “I feel like every year it’s the same thing with the emotion of the moment. I thought we got ourselves together in the second half, but the first half was a little rough.”

Georgia Tech (17-9, 7-6 ACC) grabbed an early 8-2 advantage over the Irish with two 3-pointers from junior guard Sydney Wallace and a jump shot from senior guard Tyanna Marshall.

“The ACC is the best league in women’s basketball, and every team comes in with that kind of intensity, especially for us, because it’s a chance to beat a top team and everyone is gunning for us. We have a big target on our back,” McGraw said. “At the beginning of the game, I was a little worried when they hit back-to-back threes and got off to a pretty good start, so I was glad they steadied the ship and were able to finish the game.”

The Yellow Jackets were able to hold off the Irish offense for the first five minutes, but then the shots began to fall for Notre Dame (25-0, 12-0 ACC). Sophomore guard Jewell Loyd hit two field goals, and with 11 minutes remaining in the half, sophomore guard Michaela Mabrey hit a jump shot from the outside to tie the game at 10. Less than a minute later, freshman guard Lindsay Allen hit a free throw to put the Irish up for good, then followed that up by making a contested layup and completing a three-point play.

Loyd finished with 27 points, nine rebounds and two assists.

Irish boxes complete preliminary round

By JOSH DULANY  
Sports Writer

Keith “The Chief” Loh def. Phillip “The Thrill” Stenger  
Emmet Farnan | The Observer

The night’s opening fight went to the Loh, who used his combinations to claim a unanimous victory. The first round began slowly, with both fighters cautiously probing each other with jabs. Loh landed a few hooks to the head and seized control in the second stanza with crushing one-two combinations and devastating hooks to Lee’s head. In the final round, Lee mounted a brief barrage of jabs, but Loh responded with enough hard shots to wrap up the unanimous decision.

Juan “Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish” Alvarez def. David “Different” Mattia  
Emmet Farnan | The Observer

Alvarez overwhelmed Vara with hard body shots to take the fight by unanimous decision. Both fighters landed only a few blows in the first round as Alvarez danced around Vara’s jabs. Vara continued to jab at Alvarez in the second round, but the stayed light on his feet and dodged most shots before getting a few of his combinations in. In the final round Alvarez continued to work his way inside on Vara and landed several left and right hooks to give him the win.

Emmet Farnan | The Observer

The sophomores battled back and forth, but Taiclet used his height advantage to pull away with a unanimous win. Both fighters came out with flurryes of jabs to the head and body. Taiclet used his left jab and right hook to dictate the action as the round progressed. Guifolile tried to work his way inside, but the sophomore used several explosive hooks to keep his shorter opponent at bay. Taiclet controlled the third round with his longer reach and earned the unanimous decision.

Garret “FedEx” Schmelling def. Phillip “The Thrill” Stenger  
Emmet Farnan | The Observer

Schmelling dominated the fight to earn the win in a referee stopped contest against Stenger. Both fighters came out swinging, as Stenger tried to control the bout with his lengthy jab, but Schmelling fought it off and got inside on his opponent’s body, pounding him with violent combinations. After a brief stoppage for Stenger to get treatment for a nosebleed he tried to rally, but Schmelling continued to control the bout with authoritative body punches before the referee stopped the contest after round two, giving Schmelling the victory.

Contact Josh Dulany at jdulany@nd.edu

Edward “Armagetti” Smith def. David “Different” Mattia  
EMMET FARNAN | The Observer

Smith used his stamina and conditioning to tire Mattia and take the victory by unanimous decision. The fight opened with Mattia dancing around Smith and peppering his body with hard jabs. Smith rallied towards the end of the first round, backing Mattia against the ropes and landing shots to his head. In the second round, Smith kept the momentum by pushing Mattia against the ropes and jabbing at his head. Smith succeeded in bloodying Mattia’s nose in the