Blog considers diversity at ND
Students illustrate minority experience through photos on Tumblr, Facebook

By MARISA IATI
Senior News Writer

When senior Zuri Eshun created the blog “I, Too, Am Notre Dame” for a photography class project, she didn’t know it would grow into a vehicle for conversations about race and culture at the University.

One week after the Tumblr page launched, messages on the blog drew students’ and faculty members’ attention to issues of diversity on campus.

“It started out as just the [class] project, but once I started reading more about [a similar campaign at Harvard University] and different schools that were doing it, I wanted it to be something ... that had some kind of impact on campus,” Eshun said. “So that’s why I then turned it into a project involving a lot of diversity students on campus, rather than just my friends.

“I wanted it to be something that was widespread and something that caught attention and something that really brought that sense of where we are with race as a campus to the forefront.”

The blog, located at itooamnotredame.tumblr.com, and a Facebook page titled “I, Too, Am Notre Dame” feature photos of students with messages written on their arms, palms or other parts of their bodies. Eshun said those messages are either hurtful statements that other people have said to them or reactions to those statements.

“I know that a lot of the [other schools’] campaigns use white boards or a chalkboard or something to write their saying down, and so what I wanted

By EMILY McCONVILLE
News Writer

PEMCo performs to aid community

PEMCo performers practice for their upcoming show, which will open Thursday in the LaFortune Ballroom.

By EMILY McCONVILLE
News Writer

This weekend in the LaFortune Ballroom the Pasquerilla East Musical Company (PEMCo) will hold its annual PEMCo Revue, a series of performances from popular musicals viewing vulnerability as a strength being open to having conversations like these, airing my dirty laundry, as I like to say.”

Although Richmond openly shared her personal encounter with violence, she said she was once much more reluctant to speak about the horrific experience.

“There are very few people in my life that knew what happened and to the great detail of what happened,” she said.

Richmond, who shared her story with her father this past weekend, said her parents’ reactions to the events were why she did not want to tell them in the first place. Richmond said that upon hearing of her attack, her mother misdirected

Student assault victim shares experience

By REBECCA O’NEIL
News Writer

The Justice Education Department at Saint Mary’s began its “Week Against Violence” on Tuesday night in the Student Center with the discussion “Beyond the Violence,” led by Saint Mary’s junior Jessica Richmond, who discussed her personal account of violence.

“Authenticity requires vulnerability, courage and integrity,” Richmond said, adding that she lives by these words.

Richmond shared her story of physical and sexual assault to offer perspective and advice to her peers as fellow victims and friends of victims.

“People see vulnerability as being weak,” she said “But I build my life around

By ALEX CAO
News Writer

Hedrick Smith, former New York Times Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, was the featured speaker at the 2014 Red Smith Lecture in Journalism at the auditorium of the Hesburgh Center for International Studies on Wednesday night.

Smith, a former Notre Dame journalist and member of the team responsible for the publication of the Pentagon Papers, promoted his book, “Who Stole the American Dream?” and spoke about the problems plaguing American politics and the American news media.

“I wish I could be really positive and upbeat about both the country and about journalism,” Smith said. “But the truth of the matter is that this is a troubling time for both the country and journalism.”

Smith said there is extreme distrust toward both the government and news media as a result of economic strife and American unhappiness and dissatisfaction.

“We know that public attitudes toward our major institutions—including the press—are poor,” Smith said. “Confidence in our political system as a whole is at one of its lowest points in the last 40 years.

“One of the polls I read recently said that 63 percent of the people responding to that poll said that America was in decline. We also, unfortunately, know that the public has a low opinion of us in the media as well. There was a Gallup poll in 2012 where ... 60 percent had little or no confidence in the press to report the news freely, fairly and accurately.”

Smith said experts in the field of journalism attribute the negative opinion of the
The Observer is the independent, daily newspaper published in print and online by the students of the University of Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s College. Editorial content, including advertisements, is not governed by policies of either institution. The Observer reserves the right to refuse advertisements based on content.

The news is reported as accurately and objectively as possible, except during exam and vacation periods. The Observer reserves the right to start living up to the values they profess all the time.” The Observer regrets this error.

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By JESSICA MERDES

Senior John Gore founded and serves as current president of the Notre Dame chapter of Moneythink, an organization founded in 2008 at the University of Chicago that places college volunteers in local high schools to teach students about financial literacy and entrepreneurship.

Moneythink’s mission is to empower the next generation with economics and financial literacy. Mentors go to underserved communities within the United States, such as South Bend, and aim to provide students aged 17 and 18 with financial literacy skills and entrepreneurial skills to succeed in the future, Gore said.

“The Mendoza College of Business is founded on the principle of ‘Ask More of Business’ and this is a great example of asking more of business,” he said.

Gore said Moneythink spans 30 campuses across the United States, has trained more than 600 mentors and provides services for more than 6,000 high school students in underserved communities.

During his study abroad experience in Santiago, Chile, Gore said he spoke with native students from underserved communities in order to improve his Spanish fluency. He said a lot of the students did not know much about banking and finances.

“When I came back, I knew I wanted to do something with sustainability and financial education,” he said.

Gore said he talked to Kristen Collett-Schmitt, assistant professional specialist in Mendoza, about opportunities regarding this idea, and she proposed starting a chapter of Moneythink.

In order to start the chapter, Gore said he first submitted an application to the Moneythink website. He was then interviewed by representatives and attended a summer leadership institute at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business with the other chapter presidents and founders.

Sydney Rehne, current vice president of operations, said Moneythink is a unique opportunity for Notre Dame business students to combine social service with their interests in business and finance. Notre Dame business students are not only helping these high school students with their financial skills, but they are also solidifying their business acumen and understanding of finance.

Gore said many obstacles were faced in establishing the Notre Dame chapter. The first involved gaining Notre Dame’s approval of the chapter, which was followed by a lengthy wait time. Gore said he was not able to reach out to schools until receiving official approval.

Today, Gore said the Notre Dame chapter will face is the development of its campus branch. Moneythink currently consists of a board of directors and faculty advisor Collett-Schmitt, but Gore said the organization is still in its recruitment stage.

The current board of directors will also sit on next year’s board, and Gore said Rehne will succeed him as the next chapter president.

Gore said the chapter plans to finish building the board of directors and lay down a solid recruiting base before reaching out to the local schools in South Bend. In the near future, Gore said the organization hopes to partner with South Bend’s Clay High School and Adams High School.

“Don’t think your background and upbringing should determine your success,” he said.

“This is a really unique opportunity for not only business students but all students of the university,” Gore said. “The curriculum is really easy to understand, and anyone can get involved. Not only are you making a social impact, you are also developing your own financial skills.”

Contact Wei Lin at wlin4@nd.edu

Driehaus architecture prize awarded

By JESSICA MERDES

On Saturday, Notre Dame presented Italian architect Pier Carlo Bontempini with the 2014 Richard H. Driehaus Prize, the most significant recognition for classicism in the contemporary environment, according to the Notre Dame website.

Michael Lykoudis, the Francis and Kathleen Rooney Dean of the Notre Dame School of Architecture, said the prize was started by Richard Driehaus 12 years ago with the goal of furthering the use of tradition in the modern world.

“The work that Bontempini has done has been all about focusing on the local character,” Lykoudis said. “He builds with consistent principles while also adapting those principles to the climate and geology, including aspects in the work that tie back to its location.”

According to Notre Dame’s website, Bontempini, who originates from Fronovo di Taro, Parma, Italy, studied architecture at the University of Florence and has taught architecture at universities across America and Europe. He is most noted for his block recovery plan in Parma’s historic center, the Place de la Republique, and the Driehaus Lac resort near Paris.

“Bontempini is unique in that he doesn’t see architecture as an art or design, he is an architect, but to the building’s central place,” Lykoudis said. “While there is a great deal of beauty in his work, he is very modest in creating quality work.”

According to Lykoudis, Driehaus believed the $200,000 award and bronze statue would act as sufficient incentive to fuel the practice of classicalism and traditionalism with an emphasis on sustainability in modern architecture.

Lykoudis said the Driehaus Prize allows Notre Dame to engage in the practice of advancing the use of tradition in the modern world. The Notre Dame national recognition as a top university allows the prize to grow in stature.

According to Notre Dame’s website, recipients of the Driehaus Prize are distinguished architects who are skilled in the areas of traditional or classical architecture, contribute positively to society and whose work focuses on sustainability and innovation.

Each year, a panel of judges evaluates the work of various architects and comes to a consensus on the winner. The 2014 panel members included Adele Chatfield-Taylor, president of American Academy in Rome, Robert Davis, developer and founder of Seaside, Fla., Paul Goldberger, a contributing writer for Vanity Fair and Witold Rybczynski, award-winning architecture critic and professor. The panel also included Léon Krier and Demetri Porphyrios, past winners of the Driehaus Prize.

Bontempini possesses all of the qualities the panel values, Lykoudis said.

According to the jury citation, Krier said “the serenity and robustness, elegance and economy of Bontempini’s considerable built work demonstrate the falsety of the economic, philosophic, technical, artistic argument as excuses for the catastrophic performance of the common contemporary building industry.”

Contact Jessica Meredes at jmeredes@nd.edu

New senators swear in staff

By MARGARET HYNDS

At Wednesday night’s student Senate meeting, student body president Lauren Vidal vice president Matt Devine were officially sworn into office. In their oath, administered by Judicial Council president Kathryn Peruski, Vidal and Devine swore to uphold the Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Body.

New senators from all 29 dorms were also sworn in Wednesday night, and their first order of business was approving the following 19 different student government positions:

Chief of Staff: Shannon Montague
Parliamentarian: Carolina Ramirez
Secretary: Katie Wood
Executive Controller: Thomas Schneeman
Director of Communications: Lindsay Huth
Athletics Representative: Corey Robinson
Diversity Council Representative: Stephen Kim
Campus Ministry Representative: Grace Carroll
First Undergraduate Experience in Leadership (FUEL) Director: Louis Bertolotti, Marisa Olsen
Director of the Department of Academic Affairs: Michelle Laasana
Director of the Department of Campus Technology: Shuyang Li
Director of the Department of Community Relations: Jamie Gryzowski
Director of the Department of Constituent Services: Jack McKeen
Director of the Department of Gender Issues: Kristen Loehke
Director of the Department of Internal Affairs: Angel Zambrano
Director of the Department of Residence Life: Bessie Ramirez
Director of the Department of Social Concerns: Paul Lipari
Director of the Department of University Affairs: Andrew Carmona
Director of the Department of National Engagement and Outreach: Elizabeth Penson
Past student body president Alex Coccia, vice president Nancy Joyce and chief of staff Juan Rangel were also granted the title emeritus by unanimous vote.

Contact Margaret Hynds at mhynds@nd.edu
Panel offers artistic critique of “12 Years a Slave”

By ALEX WINEGAR
News Writer

The Saint Mary’s Art Department screened Steve McQueen’s Oscar-winning film “12 Years a Slave” in Carroll Auditorium on Wednesday, followed by a panel discussion. Tiffany John, Jamie Wagman, and Tiffany Johnson Bidler were assistant professors of art, started the panel with her opinions on the comparison of McQueen’s gallery and video work.

“McQueen always communicates directly with viewers through what he calls the medium of aesthetic effect,” Bidler said. “What this means is a nutshell is that McQueen is interested in engaging viewers’ emotions. Much of McQueen’s gallery work addresses historical moments.”

Bidler said it was interesting to see connections between McQueen’s older work and “12 Years a Slave.” An example she gave concerned McQueen’s 1997 short film “Deadpan.”

“We see a couple of things that are evident in ‘Deadpan’ and also ‘12 Years a Slave,’” Bidler said. “First is the relationship between the projection and the viewer. The projection is large for deadpan and when you walk up to it, it is overwhelming.

“It only focuses on his face, which I also think he does in interesting ways in ‘12 Years a Slave.’ He focuses on the faces of the characters.”

Jamie Wagman, assistant professor of history and gender and women’s studies, gave a historical context to the 19th century and slavery. Child slavery began in the 1600s, and historians estimate that approximately 12 million African slaves endured the middle passage, Wagman said.

“Some people however never reflected on the morality of owning slaves,” Wagman said. “For example, historians have reason that George Washington, like many white slave owners, never gave much thought to slavery. We don’t have any evidence of any of his writings including slavery.”

Wagman said she wanted the audience to think about how McQueen exposes the ways in which men and women experience slavery in different ways. She said “The New Yorker” brought up an interesting perspective to viewers.

“The New Yorker recently brought up that this film leaves audiences grieving for thousands that were never able to tell their stories,” Wagman said. “I think that’s an important comment and I hope that’s something you’ll remember. So many people were born into and died into slavery; you will never know their stories.”

Junior Clarissa Frederick compared the movie to the novel and said the two were very similar.

“The movie did a great job of portraying the characters in the novel, but there were some things that I wish they would have expanded upon.” Frederick said. “I found Eliza and Patsey’s characters to be the most tragic of the entire novel, because … of the way that she begged to have her children stay with her.”

The biggest difference for Frederick was the character named Bass and his role with the main character Solomon.

“Bass, the one that helped him be freed, worked a lot harder to getting him free than what is shown,” Frederick said. “He worked for almost a year, sent out several letters, and when they weren’t hearing anything back he began saving up for the trip to Saratoga himself in order to petition to a long list of people that he knew to save him.

“He was an older man who took this as his mission in life to see this man free. Solomon is very grateful for him and prays for him every night, as said in the novel. He calls Bass his savior, and Bass saw Solomon as basically the reason he had lived that long.”

Rika Asai, visiting assistant professor of music, spoke on the importance of the soundtrack to the film. She said there are three categories of music on the soundtrack that include the sound effect, the music and the dialogue.

“These three categories, the dialogue is usually considered to be the most important element, but I think also we were all really aware as to how much silence there was in the film,” Asai said. “It wasn’t dead silence.

“There was a lot of ambient noise in there. I think the first time I watched this film, I had the sensation of feeling the heat of this film with the crickets and insects, and the wind of all of this. I think this is really all part of this authenticity the sound world is trying to help us create.”

Asai said non-diegetic music helped the audience understand the emotion and importance of the movie.

“This idea of non-diegetic music, which means it is music that doesn’t take place within the world and the narrative, it is what the composer has scored to aid our understanding of the narrative and perhaps even the characters.”

Rika Asai
visiting assistant professor
art department

“This idea of non-diegetic music, which means it is music that doesn’t take place within the world and the narrative, it is what the composer has scored to aid our understanding of the narrative and perhaps even the characters.”

Rika Asai, visiting assistant professor, art department
We still will provide on-campus ATMs.

We’ve heard your concern, and we’re taking action to ensure a safer and more secure environment for our students and employees. We have upgraded our security measures at all campus ATMs, including installing new cameras and light fixtures to deter potential suspects. Additionally, we have increased our presence of security personnel during high-risk hours. If you have any concerns or suggestions, please feel free to contact us.
“The Church cannot be herself without the woman and her role. …The feminine genius is needed wherever we make important decisions.”
—Pope Francis

WOMEN IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH
THURSDAY, APRIL 3 | 7 PM
JORDAN AUDITORIUM
MENDEZA COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

JOIN THE CONVERSATION STARTED BY AMERICA MAGAZINE

PANELISTS INCLUDE:
KERRY ALYS ROBINSON, Executive Director of the National Leadership Roundtable on Church Management

REV. MATT MALONE, S.J., Editor-In-Chief of America magazine

SISTER ANN ASTELL, Professor of Theology

KATHLEEN SPROWS CUMMINGS, Director of the Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism and Associate Professor of American Studies

ANNIE SELAK, Residence Hall Rector and Lay Minister

ANNE THOMPSON, MODERATOR
NBC NEWS

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP
THE NOTRE DAME FORUM
FORUM.ND.EDU
for the whole world to have
want to air my dirty laundry
an act of self-preservation.
to keep the attack private was
Richmond said. “I didn’t
about what had happened,”
and when no one knew
I wanted to press charges
worked with me, he didn’t
after knowing he no longer
that,” Richmond said. “But
an authority in society, and
Richmond said Richmond
judicial system, Richmond
the possibility of switching a little bit, but I
and hầu hết the things that happen to us don’t
me. Richmond said that in spite
Richmond said the decision
to report might not be the best choice for all oth-
other victims of violence. Each
person should make an indi-
friend and his sensitivity
friend of three-and-a-half
years.

I didn’t want to have to tell
my story a thousand times
only to be told, ‘Well, there’s
nothing we can do.’”
Richmond said she also
fear it would become a ‘he
said, she said’ situation, she
would be condemned for
not explicitly saying ‘no’.

Life went on,” she said. “I didn’t
I didn’t regret not reporting.”
Richmond said her decision
to report might not be the best choice for all oth-
er victims of violence. Each
person should make an indi-

Do I think [other victims]
应该? Richmond said.
Yes, because there’s a great chance [they] can get some-
thing out of it, but I think for
my health I couldn’t. This
is not ‘Law and Order.’ Due
process doesn’t happen in 45
minutes.

Richmond said she attrib-
utes much of her growth
since the attack to her boy-
friend of three-and-a-half
years.

“He’s my support system,”
she said. “It’s kind of strange
because he’s a man, he’s six-
feet-seven and almost three
hundred pounds. He is my
version of empowerment.”
Richmond said her boy-
friend played key roles in her
ability to heal.

“I found that when we first
dated I had all sorts of
triggers,” she said. “A cer-
tain smell would throw me
into a hysterical crying fit, a
certain way of being touched, a
certain playful comment.
Sometimes it wasn’t the
words that were being said; it
was just the tone it was said
in.

“I can’t have my neck
touched. That is like my one
thing that will put me in a fe-
tial position crying.”

As a victim of violence,
Richmond said it is amazing
to have someone there to say,
“Okay, that’s completely fine.
I respect you for that.”

“Once I got to that point,
I became offended when
people used tamer words
because it’s oppressive,” she
said. “Don’t be afraid of us-
ing the terms. Don’t be afraid
to say, ‘She was raped.’”

Richmond said that in spite
of having a solid and healthy
relationship with her boy-
friend now, if she could go
back in time she would tell
her high school self that she
did not need a man.

“We’re women at such an
amazing school with such an
empowering philosophy that
we can do anything,” she
said. “I don’t want someone
to stand in front of me.

This is such a gift and a
refreshingly honest dialogue,
so I want to affirm this and
affirm you,” Lyles-Chockley
said.
The Justice Education pro-
fessor said she also support-
ed Richmond’s decision to
don’t go to the police.

I’d also just like to affirm
your choice not to report,”
Lyles-Chockley said. “I ap-
preciate that part of giving
the person that was raped
or assaulted control [means]
granting them control of
what happens next. So we
support women by listen-
ing and helping according to
their individual needs. Friends
often don’t understand,
and it’s just not that simple.”

As a continuation of the
Week against Violence,”
Saint Mary’s will host a panel
presentation on community
responses to violence against
women, titled “Justice and
the Victims: Beyond Law and
Order,” on Thursday night at
7 p.m. in the Vander Venne
Theater.

Contact Rebecca O’Neill at
ronell01@saintmarys.edu

Earthquake emits aftershocks

Associated Press
QUIQUE, Chile — A power-
ful 7.6-magnitude aftershock
hit Chile late Wednesday night,
shaking the same area where a magni-
tude-8.2 earthquake hit just a
day earlier and causing some dam-
age and six deaths.
Chile’s Emergency Office
and navy issued a tsunami
alert under a preliminary
evacuation of low-lying
areas on the northern coast,
meaning many people could
be spending another restless
night away from their homes.
The aftershock caused
buildings to shake and people
to run out into the streets in
the port of Iquique, which
was one of the cities that saw
some damage from Tuesday night’s
big quake. But there were no
immediate reports of new
damage or injuries from the
latest tremor, which was one of
dozens that have followed the
8.2 quake.

“I was evacuated like all
citizens. One can see that
the people are prepared,” tweeted
President Michelle Bachelet,
who was in the nearby city of
Arica to assess the damage.

The aftershock was centered
12 miles (19 kilometers) south
of Iquique at a depth of 25
miles (40 kilometers), the U.S.
Geological Survey said. The
USGS initially reported the
tremor’s magnitude at 7.8, but
downgraded it to 7.6.

It was felt across the bor-
der in southern Peru, where
people in the cities of Tacna
and Arequipa reportedly fled
buildings in fear.

On Tuesday, authorities re-
ported just six deaths from
the initial quake, but said it
was possible others could have
been killed in older structures
made of adobe in remote com-
nunities that weren’t immedi-
ately accessible.

About 2,500 homes were
destroyed in Alto Hospicio, a
poor neighborhood in the
distress, a city of nearly
200,000 people whose coastal
residents joined a mandatory
evacuation ahead of a tsuna-
mic that rose to only 8 feet (2.5
meters). Iquique’s fishermen
poked through the aftermath:
sunken and damaged boats
that could cost millions of dol-
lars to repair and replace.

Still, as President Michelle
Bachelet deployed hundreds of
anti-riot police and soldiers
to prevent looting and round up
escaped prisoners, it was clear
that the loss of life and prop-
erty could have been much
worse.
INSIDE COLUMN

Lessons abroad

Colby Hoyer

Study abroad: this experience will change your life. You hear this over and over again in every meeting leading up to that moment when you step on the plane towards the journey of a lifetime. I was definitely skeptical at first, thinking “these people are building this up too much.” After almost three months abroad, I have to say I have learned some pretty important lessons. So here goes a shot at a list of my top three: I will take with me as I return to the States in just over a month.

1) Confidence using public transportation. Raised in a small town with one taxi for public transportation, I had a lot to learn. No matter what environment you grew up in, nothing can prepare you for some of the crazy situations you may find yourself in. After asking complete strangers for directions multiple times, chasing the airport bus down as it pulls away and receiving glaring looks because you stood on the wrong side of the escalator, things settle down and you really begin to get the hang of navigating a plethora of affordable methods of transportation. The elated feeling of arriving at your intended destination and the rush of getting somewhere is double the price. Nutella is a real game-changer. Completely acceptable at breakfast, lunch and dinner, this spread pairs perfectly with everything from toast to fruit to the left overs for directions multiple times, chasing the airport bus down as it pulls away and receiving glaring looks because you stood on the wrong side of the escalator, things settle down and you really begin to get the hang of navigating a plethora of affordable methods of transportation. The elated feeling of arriving at your intended destination and the rush of getting somewhere is double the price. Nutella is a real game-changer. Completely acceptable at breakfast, lunch and dinner, this spread pairs perfectly with everything from toast to fruit to the leftovers for directions multiple times, chasing the airport bus down as it pulls away and receiving glaring looks because you stood on the wrong side of the escalator, things settle down and you really begin to get the hang of navigating a plethora of affordable methods of transportation. The elated feeling of arriving at your intended destination and the rush of getting somewhere is double the price. Nutella is a real game-changer. Completely acceptable at breakfast, lunch and dinner, this spread pairs perfectly with everything from toast to fruit to the leftovers.

2) You can never have enough Nutella. The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

3) if you want to really get to know some of my best friends through traveling abroad. These lessons may not fall under the category of “life-changing” (except number 2), but in all honesty, I have grown so much as a person and have made lifelong friendships. Like anything else, you get out of it what you put in. Take advantage of every opportunity and never be afraid of exploration. Cheers!

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON

Shelley Kim

Canceling Colbert

I’m an Asian-American and, like many Notre Dame students, an avid fan of "The Colbert Report." Instinctually, I dismissed the #CancelColbert fiasco with contempt. The trending hashtag was a reac- tion to a tweet from the @ColbertReport account (now terminat- ed) that referenced a line from the episode taken out of context. In the actual seg- ment, Colbert satirized how Washington Redskins’ owner Dan Snyder erroneously named his Washington Redskins for Original Americans” by fabricating his own organization, the “Ching-Chong-Dong-Dong Foundation for Sensitivity to Orientals or Whatever.” The tweet only showed the latter name. Even out of context, the name of Colbert’s fake organization was a spot-on articulation of a white man misguidedly asserting his benevolent superiority. "Oriental" is an archaic term, just as offensive as “ching-chong.” Pretty sure the writers knew that, and were making fun of Dan Snyder, not Asians.

Still, #CancelColbert brings attention to a more insidious kind of micro aggres- sion. I grew up in very diverse Orange County areas and made race jokes often and openly. Many of us did. It wasn’t until I matured in my later college years when I realized imitation racism was a very problematic way of recognizing racism. I laughed along with racial stereotypes under the assumption that I was “allowed” to because I was a minority and knew the difference. As a Korean-American, I especially felt permitted to mention Asian stereotypes in everyday conversations. Soon enough my friends, all ethnicities, openly made jokes that targeted Asians and Asian-Americans around me be- cause, come on, we’re not actually racist. We saw someone like Suey Park, an activi- list behind #CancelColbert, as someone who just really didn’t get it.

Just as the @ColbertReport tweet provided a limited view of the show’s humor, #CancelColbert is a simplistic label on a larger concern. In The New Yorker article “The Campaign to Cancel Colbert,” prominent Asian-American writer Jay Caspian Kang interviewed Asian-American activist Park even though he did not support the hashtag. Finding that Park had an issue with exceptional- istic attitudes instead of with Colbert, Kang admits “like Park, I have seen how quickly a presumed collegiality can turn into a mocking, almost threatening, tone when- ever I stray from the assumed consensus that we all hate ‘worse racists,’ Fox News and gun nuts. Like Park, I have always assumed — again, fairly or not, that white liberals believe that as a person of color, I owe a debt of gratitude to the generations of well-intentioned white people who have fought hard for my right to write for prestigious publications.”

The U.S. Census Bureau recognized “Asian” and “Pacific Islander” as ethnicities relatively recently, the former in 1990 and the latter in 2000. Again and again, the Asian-American populace is still de- meansed as a novelty, an “other,” gaining prominence because “well-intentioned white people” let them. An unfair gener- alization, but an experience nonetheless expressed by many Asian-Americans who attain a ceiling in the workplace despite their merits. Racist media portrayals from the past perpetuate the sentiment. Whether or not the majority is cultured or a conservative “gun nut,” there still seems to be an air of superiority and predomin- ance over the minority. When a racist joke is said for the public, will anyone really be able to read (or care) about the person’s actual intentions and views?

Along with Park’s views, we need to understand #CancelColbert in context to everything that’s been concerning the Asian-American activist community. The hashtag, I think, is a reaction towards a culmination of micro aggressions. “Jimmy Kimmel” aired a segment where he asked children if they wanted to be a Redskin. One child responded, “Kill everyone in China.” “Kimmel” received a significant response to the public, but not nearly the same amount of internet activism. The hashtag fiasco for a hilarious response episode from “The Colbert Report.” Self-aware of his show character and the issue, Colbert celebrated his non-cancellation while explicitly discouraging his viewers from harassing Suey Park.

Of course, Colbert was also unafraid to satirize the movement that wished for the show’s demise. In classic “Report” fashion, Colbert called out the media and its attention to #CancelColbert, which inadvertently concealed the original com- mentary on Dan Snyder’s lack of cultural sensitivity. Restating his actual intention, Colbert questioned that “Twitter seems to be fine with the” Redskins Foundation for Original Americans “because I haven’t seen shit” about that. "As an Asian-American who is also a fan of "The Colbert Report," I could not have asked for a more enjoyable 30 minutes of television than watching one of my favorite comedians discuss the issues of unrecognized minori- ties with humor, insight and fairness.

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Family traditions, divine love

Scott Boyle
The Sincere Seeker

Each year in the final days before Christmas, my family travels to Kenwood Mall in Cincinnati so that my brothers and I can get our annual picture with Santa.

The casual observer might chuckle seeing three relatively grown-up boys entering a line filled with crying, excited and whiny youngsters, but we’ve gotten used to it. The tradition of this yearly picture has always meant a lot to my mom and served as our Christmas card, so we have kept it up. (As a side note, I think I have a greater understanding of how Dorothy must have felt when she entered Munchkinland.)

But our annual picture with Santa is just one of the many Boyle family Christmas traditions.

Ever since I can remember, we have attended Mass on Christmas Eve and enjoyed the same post-Mass feast: the annual Boyle family “Chub Buffet.” Our main course includes Doritos Bugles, Mike-Sells, Simply Naked chips, Cheroets Puffs, along with Mom’s legendary chip dip. We have salad and shrimp too, but those dishes are an afterthought compared with the main courses. I can’t remember the last time we actually had nutritious dinner on Christmas Eve.

We stuff ourselves to such a degree that we are too full to do much of anything after dinner. Our bodies usually wave the white flag around 9 p.m., and it usually takes us about an hour to muster up the willpower to move from the couch.

Fortunately, this is all part of the plan. We go to bed early to give Santa and the reindeer the opportunity to get everything done before morning. But before we go to bed, we always make sure to leave a hospitable environment for our guests: cookies, milk and oats.

But while the days before Christmas are fun, nothing beats our Christmas Eve bedtime ritual. When we are home, my brother Steven and I share a bedroom. My mom, brother Kevin, dog Charlie and I all pile onto my single bed while my brother Steve listens from his own as my Mom reads us two classic Christmas stories: “Mr. Willowy’s Christmas Tree” and “Twas the Night Before Christmas.”

I used to protest this particular Christmas tradition. I had tired of the stories and thought we were a little too old to be read to.

Despite my protests, my brothers insisted that we continue. Although I didn’t recognize it at first, I have come to realize that there was always something much deeper at work here, and it has very little to do with the stories themselves.

I understand now how often I take for granted what a gift it is to be able to gather together as a family. Each one of my family members is growing into his or her own path, paths that are increasingly taking us away from Cincinnati and from one another to other parts of the country and the world.

Yet each Dec. 24, all of that fades into the reality of the present. No matter where we have been, on that day we all gather together in the same place. There, in that small room with two beds, we gather to listen to the same stories we have always listened to.

Yes, the stories bring us together, but love causes us to stay. There, in that room, I look around and marvel at my family, the people who have been with me for my highest highs and my lowest lows. Truth be told, sometimes the stories get lost as I realize I am in the presence of the most important people in my life, those whose love has made me who I am.

St. Clare of Assisi wrote, “We become what we love and who we love shapes what we become. If we love things, we become a thing. If we love nothing, we become nothing. Imitation is not a literal mimicking of Christ, rather it means becoming the image of the beloved, an image disclosed through transformation.”

We must take care to continually guard against the dreary prophecy: “If we love nothing, we become nothing.” In the same way that God’s love shapes what he becomes in Christ, who and what we love shapes who we become as “imago Dei,” the hands and feet of Incarnate Christ to the world.

So, to become who God wants us to be as imago Dei, we must love one another. And this love begins with our families, friends and communities. It means taking time to gather together, to recognize how good it can be to slow down and to recognize that even the smallest and silliest of traditions can teach us the greatest lessons: there are people worth slowing down for.

And there, in that slowness, we will find love, God’s love, that we have been most longing for.

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Don’t do a British accent

Gerna Mour-Barrett
The Soapbox

Yes, you heard it here first. The first rule of doing a British accent is never to do one. Ever. No, seriously. Since I’ve been in America, every attempt at impersonating my accent (that has inadvertently ended up sounding more like the Queen or Eliza Doolittle) has been terrible, and if I’ve told you otherwise, I was lying. The number of people that mimic me each day is incredible. Granted, at first it was cool. My accent was a novelty that made me marginally interesting and was handy as an icebreaker, if only for someone to ask if I was from England and for me to solely reply “yes.” However, if I am to be wholly frank, this accent is a pain in the arse. I urge you all never to mimic another person’s accent without permission, and here is why.

It was a day like any other. I entered a coffee shop (with the intent of buying tea and not coffee, obviously) and looked for a table. Laptop open and tea in hand, I searched for a sign that displayed the Wi-Fi password, and it was nowhere to be found. I looked to a guy who seemed to be tapping away happily on his computer and simply said: “Scuse me, do you know what the Wi-Fi password is?” “PARRRRSE-word,” he replied, laughing, “PARRRRSE-WORD!” I stared at him, confused as to why he’d just repeated part of my sentence back to me in what sounded like Russian.

“Erm yeah, the … password.” He began laughing again, and for what, I have no idea, because he really was the only one amused. Eventually, he told me the password, and I thanked him, doing a steering job at not shouting a truckload of profanities at him. He didn’t even know me, yet he thought it was perfectly acceptable to mimic my accent in the least flattering way possible. It’s something that we all like to do, and I am the first person to admit I have had a field day with some people’s accents in the past — but I don’t think the majority of us realize how rude it can come across as. Have you ever experienced a younger sibling or friend copy everything you say to the point of insane irritation?

That, my friends, is an accurate description of what it is like to have a British accent in America.

I have never been able to understand the fascination with the British accent. People have told me that they love it, that it’s cool and that I even sound smarter because of it. It makes no sense to me. British accents are just like any other accent — different, but ultimately boring. Contrary to popular belief, I am no better off in the United States having an accent, and judging by the snapshots my friends have the joy of receiving, it definitely doesn’t make me any cooler. The only thing it pretty much gives me is social anxiety, knowing my accent is so obviously recognized and so easily targeted as a source of humor. Of course, I understand that for many people I’ve met, mimicking my accent is not something that is done out of spite.

Most would assure me the reason they do it is because they like it, and I am guilty of copying an accent out of admiration. However, when someone tries to impersonate me, two things happen: They do an awful job at it, and I instantly feel like a joke.

We have been times when I have been interrupted mid-sentence just so the person can laugh at a word I’ve said or ask to reel off different words just to hear how I say them. After some months, the ol’ “accent thing” has become pretty old. Just when I think I have sneakily slipped under the radar, I am fiercely reminded of my difference, which is a beautiful thing but often tiring. Sometimes, I just don’t want to be reminded that I say things “weird” or that I sound “bella foreign.”

Thus, if you are reading this and happen to meet me, do me a favor and leave my poor accent alone. I assure you, your mimicking it is not as cute as you think it is, nor will any amount of fake laughing I force make it funny. However, if you are interested in learning how to do a decent one, I will quite happily teach you. For a fee, of course.

This article was originally published on April 1 for The Soapbox, the Daily Californian opinion blog. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
By ALLIE TOLLAKSEN
Scene Editor

When Mac DeMarco released his first full-length album, "2," in 2012, the Canadian crooner received plenty of critical success and quickly gained almost cult-like indie admiration for his bizarre behavior and lo-fi, poppy tunes. A year and a half later, the misfit singer/songwriter has released his sophomore full-length LP, "Salad Days," reminiscent of "Sgt. Pepper's" and John Lennon at times, with "Salad Days" an occasionally bizarre but overall enjoyable listen.

DeMarco, with a more prominent voice on the album, the singer sounds distractingly like a cross between Ringo Starr and John Lennon at times, with "Salad Days" an intriguing 30-minute long acid trip of an album that distorts everything you love about summery guitar-pop in the curiously appealing way only Mac DeMarco could.

The most immediately noticeable element on "Salad Days" is DeMarco's vocal presence on the track. While his first two albums, "Rock and Roll Night Club" and "2," ring with a distant, lo-fi voice matching DeMarco's now-noticeable nonchalance, "Salad Days" gives us a much more present DeMarco. With this sharper voice comes an overall cleaner sound — a sound: his distinctive, affected guitar, and amusingly cheeky, a balancing act that DeMarco has worked towards perfecting in his young career.

Though much of the album reflects on aging, fame and anxieties (as so many second or third albums do), "Salad Days" is a disorienting carnival song that distorts everything you love about summery guitar-pop in the curiously appealing way only Mac DeMarco could.

Some tracks stand out and almost reach the caliber of DeMarco's most famous and still ridiculously good single "Ode to Viceroy" from "2," including the hypnotic "Let My Baby Stay," "Blue Boy" and, oddly, "Jenny's Odyssey," the final and only instrumental track on the album. Other songs could have been omitted from "Salad Days" altogether, like the uninspired "Brother" and the painfully slow and grating "Chamber of Reflection." Still, the album as a whole is consistently Mac DeMarco, and ultimately, to hear him apply his laid-back sound to less laid-back themes makes "Salad Days" an occasionally bizarre but overall enjoyable listen.

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"Salad Days"
Mac DeMarco

Label: Captured Tracks
Tracks: "Salad Days," "Blue Boy"
If you like: Real Estate, The Beatles, Foxygen
 Indie-rock stalwarts The National are characterized by a reliable consistency. The band's cerebral and often existential songs about middle-class adult concerns often earns it the “dad rock” label, aided by the fact that sound has remained wildly consistent as well, with their past four albums earning metacritic scores over 80. The band's new documentary “Mistaken for Strangers” is a film about a disruption to that consistency — the tumultuous sibling dynamic lurking under the band's perfectly projected facade.

The National has two sets of brothers — Bryan and Scott Devendorf and twins Aaron and Bryce Dessner — and two sets of fathers — Bryan and Scott's father, and Jennifer Lawrence. It was nominated for 10 Academy Awards but didn't win any, so who knows. Presented by SUB.

Tom is a compelling subject for all the band's members and reveal Tom's dissatisfaction with the documentary, with the band serving as a background for a profile of a flawed, successful older sibling. “Having Matt as your older brother overshadowed by his younger brother Tom as the documentary’s main subject — the ludicrous questions he asks in interviews — i.e. “Do you have your wallet on stage with you?” or “Where do you see The National in 50 years?” — baffle the band’s members and reveal Tom’s disinterest in the band as a subject.

In contrast with the responsible Matt, Tom is depicted as relatively immature and unambitious. He constantly neglects his responsibilities as a member of the crew, which include checking the back of the tour bus at one point and is left behind by the tour bus at one point and is eventually fired by the band’s tour manager. “Matt was a lot easier to raise than you,” Tom’s mother tells him. “You always quit things.”

As Tom becomes frustrated trying to determine the direction of the documentary, he tearfully films himself admitting, “I just want to make something good for [Matt], as well as myself.” While it is a lo-stakes conflict, Tom’s unguarded vulnerability and focus on universal sibling conflicts make for a surprisingly engaging film. In an interview with The Dissolve, Tom explains that his “directing credit” was part of the narrative. For me, it was part of the movie itself. ... The movie is only complete when someone is sitting down watching it.” Completing the film is a redemptive moment for Tom, a necessary victory for someone constantly criticized by his seemingly perfect older brother. Even for non-fans, “Mistaken for Strangers” is well worth a watch, a fascinating subversion of rock documentaries grounded in familial relationships, meta commentary on filmmaking and affirming the importance of small victories in life.
March Madness lives up to its name

Associated Press
Northwestern University athletes pressed their case for collective bargaining rights during meetings Wednesday with lawmakers, as a vote was scheduled for them to decide whether to authorize a strike.

The vote will be held April 25, according to Ramogi Huma, president of the College Athletes Foundation.

During meetings on Capitol Hill, Huma and Northwestern quarterback Kain Colter tried to drum up support just a week after a ruling that the athletes were employees and had the same rights to bargain collectively as other workers.

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Belles can’t avoid Hornets’ sting in MIAA loss

By REBECCA ROGALSKI
Sports Writer

Despite solid effort and improvement on the field, Saint Mary’s came up short in its MIAA opener against Kalamazoo, falling 16-9 in Wednesday night’s matchup.

The Hornets (3-4, 1-0 MIAA) jumped out of the gate quickly, posting a 2-0 lead less than six minutes into the game, but Belles freshman defense Jackie Loesch took a free position shot on goal only minutes later to put Saint Mary’s (0-7, 0-1) on the board.

After multiple fouls and turnovers by the Belles, the hornets capitalized to extend their lead by three goals. Saint Mary’s regained some momentum late in the first half, countering Kalamazoo’s 4-1 lead with three straight goals of its own. Freshman midfielder Cathy Baxter tallied an unassisted goal, Loesch connected with freshman attack Lauren Telford for another goal and freshman midfielder Aubrey Golembieski knotted the game at 4-4 with an unassisted effort to cap off the run.

Still, Kalamazoo closed out the half with a set of goals to take a 7-4 lead at the break. The Hornets continued their run in the opening five minutes of the second half with two more goals. Loesch brought an end to Kalamazoo’s scoring streak with an unassisted goal halfway through the second half.

As the game progressed, both teams exchanged goals, with Golembieski scoring a pair to keep the Belles alive. With the clock winding down, however, Kalamazoo strung together a string of goals to put the Hornets up 14-7 late in the second half. Golembieski capped off the scoring for the Belles in the final minutes of the game with two additional goals but Saint Mary’s never secured a lead.

“Overall, I believe we played a great game tonight,” Belles coach Amy Long said. “However, we gave up too many turnovers, especially in the second half. Having everyone play the whole 60 minutes with no subs definitely wears on our players. Regardless, I am proud of their continued strength and the way they played tonight.”

Saint Mary’s held the advantage in draw controls, 14-13, while Kalamazoo collected 23 ground balls to the Belles’ 17.

“Stephanie truly stepped it up in goal tonight and had her best game of the season,” Long said. “She executed her clears well, and I couldn’t be more happy for her.”

In addition to Szymas, Golembieski had a record night, scoring a season-high five goals and controlling eight draws.

“Aubrey really amped up her game today by scoring multiple goals to lead our offense,” Long said. “She worked incredibly hard on the draws and was a true leader on draw controls.”

As the Belles look ahead to their next game, Long emphasized the importance of her team’s continued improvement.

“I am very proud that we scored more goals in this game than any of our games so far this season,” Long said. “It just goes to show that we are constantly improving, which is huge for us moving forward as a team. We played a solid opponent tonight and truly rose to the challenge.

As a team, we played tough and worked to the best of our abilities in order to have our best game yet. Tonight with-out a doubt helped us gain confidence as we head into our next game.”

The Belles return to the field Saturday when they host Illinois Institute of Technology in the program’s first-ever home game at 1:00 p.m.

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The Belles will play their second doubleheader of the week as they square off with Anderson tomorrow. After being swept by Carthage on Tuesday, the Belles (8-6) look to get back to the form that recently helped them win six games in a row.

Senior pitcher Callie Selner continues to lead the way for the Belles with her 2.62 ERA on the mound and a .382 batting average at the plate. Selner suffered a loss in her most recent outing but still sports a 5-3 record on the year.

After Selner, the Belles get most of their production from their young infield. Freshman shortstop Caitlin Migawa, sophomore first baseman Jillian Busfield, sophomore second baseman Angela Dainelli and sophomore third baseman Kayla Chapman are the only four members of the team to start all 14 games, and the group boasts four of the top five batting averages on the team.

Busfield leads the team offensively, hitting a team-high .392, with four doubles and the Belles’ lone home run. She also tallied three of the team’s six hits in their doubleheader against Carthage. Meanwhile, Dainelli has stolen three bases this season to go along with five RBIs while Migawa and Chapman are both hitting over .300 for the year.

The Belles will be looking to get wins against an Anderson squad that has won ten straight to push its record to 11-2. Anderson is led by the pitching of sophomores Sami Frazier and Hannah Belvo. Frazier is 5-2 on the season with a 1.52 ERA and 40 strikeouts while Belvo has yet to drop a decision, posting a 3-0 record to go with her 2.28 ERA.

At the plate, Anderson’s leading hitters are sophomore Katie McCool and freshman Shelby Shaffer. McCool is hitting .538 with 4 RBIs while Shaffer has filled up the stat sheet. She has a .415 batting average to go along with her seven RBIs and nine stolen bases.

Selner will pitch against Frazier in the day’s first game, which starts at 3:30. The second game will feature the Belles’ sophomore pitcher Sarah Burke against Belvo. Both games will be played at Saint Mary’s College Softball field.
Belles travel to St. Louis for invite

By MANNY DE JESUS
Sports Writer

After placing fifth at the Southwest Minnesota State University Invitational at LPGA International in Daytona Beach, Fla., two weeks ago, the Belles are looking to continue their success at the Washington University in St. Louis Invite this weekend.

With the MIAA NCAA Qualifiers less than two weeks away, the Belles will be competing against 10 ranked Division III schools this weekend, including first-ranked Washington University in St. Louis. The Bears’ top golfer is sophomore Connie Zhou, who ranks fifth in the country with a 76.69 average. As a team, Washington averages a solid 314.73.

While the Belles are not ranked in the top 25, they took fifth at the SMSU Invitational, where they were the only Division III school represented.

“We were the only Division III school amongst all Division II schools, and if we would have shot average on day one then we probably would have finished even higher,” Belles coach Kim Moore said. “It just showed our girls that it doesn’t matter what division they are playing against, if they just play the course and play one shot at a time that they can play with a lot of different schools out there.”

Saint Mary’s top golfers included both senior captains Alexi Brown and Paige Pollak who scored a 176 and a 177, respectively, on the two days of the invitational. All of the Belles’ active golfers at the invitational were able to improve their scores from day one to day two.

“I feel that our team is more than capable of being the best in the MIAA conference, and I feel that we have a legitimate chance to qualify for our NCAA championship,” Moore said. “It will require intense focus and determination during practice and the confidence that our hard work will pay off. Once we get an opportunity to practice outside I know we will get our short game feel back, which will allow us to post better numbers. I know that all the hard workers we possess on this team, along with the leadership our seniors bring, will give us a great chance to experience play beyond our regular season.”

During the fall season last year, the Belles finished second in the MIAA behind No. 10-ranked Olivet.

The Belles will continue their quest to qualify for the NCAA championship when they take some of the top programs in the country at the Washington University in St. Louis Invitational this weekend.

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proper stance to where their eyes should be, to how the first step, and then they've got to process what the offense is doing and then react based on what the scheme is," Cooks said. "So they’re starting from square one. But you've seen improvement from day one to … now."

Cooks said junior cornerback KeiVarae Russell and graduate student safety Austin Collinsworth have shined the brightest during spring practice. Russell has started all 26 games at cornerback in his career, and Collinsworth made 11 starts in 2013 after missing the entire 2012 season because of shoulder and back surgery.

"I love KeiVarae Russell. I’m a little spoiled with him. And Austin Collinsworth," Cooks said. "Those two guys right now — and they’ve got experience, they’ve been in our system for a while, they’ve been around the program — they’re at a different level. The other guys have got to keep coming."

In practices open to the media, sophomore safety Max Redfield has seen the majority of reps as the first-team safety playing alongside Collinsworth. Redfield was the No. 23 player in his high-school class, according to ESPN.com. The four-star recruit didn’t crack Notre Dame’s starting lineup until the Pinstripe Bowl, when the 6-foot-1, 194-pounder tallied two of his 12 tackles.

"Max Redfield is going to be a heck of a player, he’s just got a lot to learn. Very talented kid," Cooks said.

Cooks said sophomore cornerback Cole Luke is similar to Redfield in that sense. Luke has been slotted opposite Russell at the other cornerback position, the one former captain Bennett Jackson manned for the past two seasons. Luke appeared in all 13 games last season as a freshman and notched 15 tackles. Cooks said Luke is one of the smoothest athletes he’s ever been around.

"He’s just got to piece it all together," Cooks said.

Senior Matthias Farley boasts 19 career starts at safety but has switched to cornerback this spring. Cooks said Farley gives the Irish depth at several positions.

"Matthias is a smart kid, so he can pretty much do anything that we ask," Cooks said. "He’s played safety. He’s played nickel. Obviously he’s playing a little corner for us right now. So we just plan on using him in a lot of different areas, not one specific, but we know that he’s got value at safety, he’s got value at nickel. He’s probably been the best nickel that we’ve had in the last year or two right now just through [10] practices, through spring."

And through 10 practices, Notre Dame’s defense seems more aggressive than that of years past, a shift new defensive coordinator Brian VanGorder said last week starts on the outside with the cornerbacks. Cooks said while the old system under former defensive coordinator Bob Diaco was “awesome” and successful, the new system brings a mindset of constant attack.

"The new system that we’re under right now is just something that we want to challenge all routes," Cooks said. "We want to be on attack mode. And the whole philosophy is that we don’t want the offense to dictate how we play defense. So everything that we do … we’re aggressive, we’re competing, we’re physical, and that whole mindset of challenge every route, challenge every play …"

"So just being more aggressive when the ball is in the air, being more aggressive when you’re engaging a blocker, being more aggressive flying through the ball."

Quick hits

Cooks said they see sophomore safety James Onwualu, who played receiver last season, providing value at safety as well as in some of the sub packages in the nickel, dime and at linebacker.

Sophomore cornerback Devin Butler, who had offseason shoulder surgery, has yet to participate in contact drills, but Cooks said he’s been working with Butler for 10 to 15 minutes after practice doing all the individual work not including contact.

"He’s staying into it mentally. He’s locked into our meetings. He’s asking a lot of questions," Cooks said. "So he’s doing everything you can ask a kid who’s injured to do."

Cooks said junior safety Elijah Shumate is still showing the athleticism, physicality and toughness he’s always displayed and said he’s making “small steps,” but Cooks said Shumate has been in the system long enough to where he needs to make “a big jump.”

Contact Mike Monaco at jmonaco@nd.edu

Irish sophomore safety James Onwualu warms up for spring practice March 3. Onwualu is making the switch to defense from receiver.
Join the fight to find a cure for Niemann-Pick Type C (NPC) by cheering on your Fighting Irish Rugby Team at the

2nd annual

PARSEGHIAN CUP

Notre Dame Fighting Irish vs. Arizona Wildcats

Saturday, April 5, 2014, 7:00 pm

Stinson Rugby Field

A generous donor has pledged to donate $25* to NPC research for every person who attends the game.

*The donor will support up to $25,000.

Bring all of your friends and help make this the biggest Notre Dame Rugby game ever!

Go Irish!
Beat NPC! Beat Wildcats!
Smith

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

is deeper, we have a lot of talent and our need is on the defensive end," Halfpenny said. “It’s been neat to see her turn into a player who will do whatever is needed at this point. She’s been one of our top matchup defenders and she’s continued to lead the young kids to show them how we play defense, how we play midfield so that’s been huge for us.”

Smith is the only senior starter for the Irish this season and was recent-
ly named a second-team midseason All-American, along with freshman at-
tack Cortney Fortunato. Smith said her success is in part due to the influences of former players.

“I’ve had a lot of older players who have helped me develop along the way and a great coaching staff,” Smith said. “Without my teammates and coaches I wouldn’t be as good as a player.”

Despite the success she has found with the Irish, Notre Dame was not origi-
nally on the top of her col-
lege list.

“It wasn’t my first choice when I started looking originally,” Smith said. “It’s just something about when you get here and then you leave and you know you’ve just felt something. I had a great experience with the team and the en-
vironment as a whole. It’s really different from any other place.”

Though Smith has had a lot of personal success since joining the Irish squad, her favorite mo-
moment of her career came earlier this season, when the Irish took a close 9-8 victory over Northwestern, national champion in sev-

en of the last nine seasons, on March 5.

“That’s something our program hasn’t done in a long time,” Smith said. “It was a complete team ef-
fort, and it was something not just us but the alumnae have worked toward over the last several years so that was just an amazing moment.”

Halfpenny said Smith’s leadership and skill are the key impacts the senior has made to the team.

“She’s such a huge leader by example,” Halfpenny said. “She is probably one of our top creative play-
ers. She has an incredibly unique skill set.”

Smith said her leading role as the only starting senior has been fully sup-
ported by the rest of her teammates.

“One thing I’ve had good support from my other se-
niors and the other upper-

classmen so that’s been really helpful,” Smith said. “Even the younger kids are really willing to lis-
ten to the leadership so it’s an all-around effort to contribute.”

Smith and the Irish are back in action against Virginia at 3 p.m. at Arlotta Stadium.

Contact Katie Heit at kheit@nd.edu
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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Happy Birthday: Your ability to be proactive yet cautious will be your ticket to success this year. Separating your emotions from whatever task you face will enable you to reach your goals and impress those who have something to contribute.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Take the plunge and get into the groove. It’s time to get fit and fabulous. Sign up for a rigorous routine that will help you look and be your best, both mentally and physically. Any challenge should be welcomed.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Share your shop. Taking care of the needs of others will help you put your heart and soul into the care you provide.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): Prepare to make last-minute changes based on what others do or say. Don’t expect everyone to be honest or give you a proper assessment of a situation you face. Do your own fact-finding and make your choices based on your needs.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Take on an interesting project or challenge that someone presents. Your ability to think outside the box will help you grab the attention of someone with clout. Discussions will help put you in control. Avoid taking on too much.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Jumping from one thing to another may suit you just fine, but it will make those around you nervous. A deal or contract will favor you as long as you take care of your responsibilities. Home improvements will make your life more entertaining.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Turn up the volume and take on whatever comes your way. Show your mental and physical abilities. You can stabilize your position among your peers and colleagues. A change in an important relationship will add to your happiness.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Feeling free to come and go as you please and to enjoy friends who offer excitement and adventure will keep you satisfied and enthusiastic about the future. Overspending will be your downfall. Find a way to have fun without being extravagant.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Make important changes at home that will help you accomplish personal goals and expand your interests and friendships. A difficult situation will turn in your favor as long as you want to do what is right for you. Use your imagination.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, in four ordinary words.

Birthday Baby: You are creative, active and clever. You are innovative and open-minded.

Happy Birthday! Your ability to be proactive yet cautious will be your ticket to success this year. Separating your emotions from whatever task you face will enable you to reach your goals and impress those who have something to contribute. Building a solid base will ensure long-lasting success. Your desire to experiment, coupled with your innovative ideas, will enhance personal relationships. Your numbers are 6, 21, 23, 33, 36, 41.

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Smith exemplifies Irish culture

By KATIE HEIT
Sports Writer

Four-year starter and 2013 All-American senior defender Margaret Smith has been making an impact since she was a freshman.

“I think she’s single-handedly elevated the program’s IQ and their ability to play the high pressure we want to play,” Irish coach Christine Halfpenny said. “She’s one of a few players who have been playing and making a massive impact since her freshman year, so that alone has been a great thing for our program. Since I’ve come here, it’s been really nice to see her support the direction and the culture the program is going in.” Smith entered her freshman year as a defender, but Halfpenny said she saw more potential in her when she arrived.

“As a freshman, he was a defender and when I got here her sophomore year, we moved her into a midfielder role, seeing some explosion,” Halfpenny said. “She did a good job learning the game as a midfielder defender. Her junior year she really started seeing the other side of the ball and did a lot for us. She was on fire against Ohio State last season, which was a pinnacle to our offensive season.”

With a deeper team this year, Halfpenny said she again needed to put Smith back on defense.

“This year we’ve moved her back because our team