**Boxers prepare for 85th Bengal Bouts**

Tournament participants reflect on event’s significance, impact before preliminary rounds begin Sunday

*By PETER DURBIN*

News Writer

Sunday marks the start of preliminary rounds for the 85th Bengal Bouts tournament, held annually in the Joyce Center Field House. For all participants, the long-running boxing tournament is an opportunity to raise money for Holy Cross missions in Bangladesh. For others, the fight goes farther.

Bengal Bouts captain Pete McGinley said the tournament, which is broadcast on ESPN3 for the final round, “combines elements of sport and service to create a really unique experience.”

‘Like Dominic ‘Nappy’ Napolitano [who organized the first tournament] once said, the beautiful part of Bengal Bouts is that while there are some students who join simply for the boxing, most of the boxers are there because they know that they are doing something good for someone else,” McGinley said.

McGinley said he has seen marked improvement in how connected the boxers feel with the people they are aiding.

“This year we started having ‘Mission Mondays’, which would typically feature one of our boxers who has gone to Bangladesh either telling stories from his experience or just emphasizing the shift from their previous home, but when they were looking to visit us regularly before that, more than 15 years.

Fean will head the Division for Mission, working with both the College and the Congregation to integrate the Saint Mary’s College mission statement into community life.

Fean said she looks forward to continuing to integrate the mission of the College through the Congregation.

"I’m excited to work with so many people who have been developing and living the mission,” Fean said. “The position also means continuing our relationship with the sisters and assessing what it means to be a Catholic women’s college in the United States."

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**SMC appoints laywoman as vice president of mission**

By HALEIGH EHMSSEN

Associate Saint Mary’s Editor

Judith Fean, director of Saint Mary’s Campus Ministry since 1995, will be the first laywoman to lead the College as vice president for mission.

The vice president for mission position is a joint appointment of the president of the College and the president of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross.

Fean will head the Division for Mission, working with both the College and the Congregation to integrate the Saint Mary’s College mission statement into community life.

Fean said she looks forward to continuing to integrate the mission throughout the College.

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**Three employees injured after aerosol can ruptures**

Observer Staff Report

Three South Dining Hall employees sustained minor injuries Thursday around 11 a.m. after an aerosol can ruptured in the kitchen of the dining hall.

University spokesman Dennis Brown said.

Brown said the employees were transported to St. Joseph Regional Medical Center for evaluation after the incident, which occurred when the can was accidentally exposed to heat.

Brown said the kitchen was not damaged.
QUESTION OF THE DAY:
What is your favorite class this semester?

Jen Simons

Sophia Buonoc

“Chemistry across the periodic table.”

“PLS great books seminar, where you read classic books and discuss them.”

Reed Hunnicutt

Luisa Mader

freshman

freshman

Lyons Manor

Pasquerella West Hall

“Stats.”

“Developmental psychology.”

Stephanie Mellert

Matthew Gambetta

freshman

Knott Hall

Walsh Hall

“Econ.”

“Econ.”

Aided by a poster and plastic cup for donations, freshman Pierce Cunneen prepares to brave the cold air during Siegfried Hall’s Day of Man. Thursday, Siegfried’s inhabitants shed their winter coats to fundraise for the South Bend Center for the Homeless.

KAT ROBINSON | The Observer

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Matthew McKenna

Graphics
Erik Rice

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Mike Malabahen

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Sali Lin

Viewpoint
Mary Kane Latif

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Today’s Next Five Days

Friday

Cookie Decorating
LaFortune Student Center
3 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Celebrate Valentine’s Day with cookies.

“Macbeth”
Washington Hall
7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Authors From the London Stage perform Shakespeare.

Saturday

Men’s Lacrosse
Loftus Sports Center
12 p.m. - 2 p.m.
In the wake of last week’s loss to Indiana University, the Irish aim to rebound against the Blue Devils of Duke.

“Treasure Island”
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
3 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.
National Theatre Live.

Sunday

Men’s Boxing
Joyce Center
3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
65th Annual Bengal Bouts Preliminaries.

SonnetFest 2015
D’Shaghneesey Hall
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Public reading of all 154 Shakespearean Sonnets.

Monday

Women’s Basketball
Purcell Pavilion
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
The Irish take on Wake Forest.

Tuesday

Men’s Basketball
Purcell Pavilion
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
The Irish take on Duke.

Student Skate Night
Compton Family Ice Arena
10 p.m. - 11:50 p.m.
Proceeds support Operation Smile.

Want your event included here?
Email news@ndsmcobserver.com

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UN official examines global business ethics

**By MATTHEW McKENNA**

Joan Dubinsky, director of the United Nations Ethics Office, wrapped up the Mendelssohn College of Business & Ethics Week by sharing stories from her professional experience that contained lessons about business ethics in a world of mixed cultures and experiences. Dubinsky said in today’s world, ethics must be clearly defined, and people must not have arguments about what ethics is.

“Ethics is about how we make tough choices,” Dubinsky said. “Or, put more eloquently, ethics is the set of criteria or principles that we use when selecting a course of action in the face of competing values.”

Dubinsky said honesty in business is important, and her field was recently created to ensure that morality occupies the proper place in the realm of business.

“We ethics officers, well, we’re the experimental philosophers,” Dubinsky said. “We creatively solve everyday problems and challenges. We look at rights, duties and obligations. We consider the perspectives of multiple stakeholders, and we examine how to exercise moral judgment in the every day challenges of business.”

Dubinsky said while her particular field of work is relatively new, it has roots in the early history of humanity and civilization.

“The Hammurabi code of Babylon dates roughly to 1772 B.C.E,” Dubinsky said. “It represents, as far as archaeology can tell us, the first written evidence of a legal system. In today’s knowledge it’s a bit draconian, an eye for an eye. But it set forth basic principles of justice like the presumption of innocence or the right of the accused to give evidence or speak.”

“From this very early example, we learn that the rule of law matters,” she said. “As part of the United Nations, we reinforce every day the importance of the rule of law, because in our world, might does not make right.”

Dubinsky said never to assume people share the same ethical realities because an individual’s perception of ethics can be influenced by culture and other factors.

“We are guests in the world,” Dubinsky said. “As imperfect as our world is, there might not always be a best, or even a good, answer to a moral choice that we face.”

“Because we are an international and diverse organization, I have to ask if our conflicts of interest are absolute or if they are influenced by the countries in which they arise or by the nationality of the people in the drama,” she said.

Dubinsky said there is a fine line between a genuine gift and gift given for reasons other than generosity.

“Sometimes I wonder if you can ever exchange gifts in a business setting without strings attached,” Dubinsky said. “Conflicts of interest are not always absolute, and detecting them requires a great deal of finesse and empathy.”

Ethical action is not always the obvious or easy solution, and it takes real courage and prudence to act in a moral fashion, Dubinsky said.

“Your ethical compass, as a business person and citizen of the world, permeates your choices,” she said. “You hold a mirror through which you can reflect your ethical self, and my prayer for you is that this mirror is not distorted.”

Dubinsky said United Nations ethics is a “contact sport” that is not purely theoretical.

“To do ethics, we must be willing to engage in the world as we find it, with all its imperfections, and not the world that we wish it to be,” Dubinsky said.

Contact Matthew McKenna at mmcken@nd.edu

SMC to serve students’ favorite home recipes

**By MARTHA REILLY**

Instead of complaining for a weekend away or a good night’s sleep at home, students can new homeickness with a simple trip to the dining hall. Saint Mary’s new “Recipes from Home” initiative will introduce some students’ favorite foods to the rest of the school, as the dining hall will now serve a different requested meal each month.

Senior Mary Kate Luft presented this idea to Barry Bowles, director of dining services, last year.

“He was more than happy to work with SGA and make these special meals of our choosing,” Luft said. (Editor’s note: Luft is a Viewpoint copy editor for The Observer.) “I’m excited to show students that dining services does take their opinions and wants into account when choosing what to serve.”

According to Luft, the reaction so far has been a positive one.

“Many people have come up to me and told me they are looking forward to ‘Recipes from Home,’” Luft said. “They think it’s a great idea. Many people have already submitted recipes.”

First-year Morgan Matthews said she looks forward to trying foods she normally would not. Although she hopes that her dad’s seafood medley will be one of the featured “Recipes from Home,” she also recognizes the value of experiencing other people’s favorite meals.

“I was so excited when I first heard about ‘Recipes from Home,’” Matthews said. “There will be such a wide variety of foods presented. Everyone will get to try something new. A girl can only have so many hamburgers.”

Matthews said “Recipes from Home” will make her feel like she’s at her own dining room table back in Pennsylvania, but she mostly looks forward to the surprise element, since there is a new meal each month.

“I’m not going to know what to expect,” Matthews said. “It’ll add some excitement because it’s more of a mystery.”

Matthews also said she appreciates the effort that the dining hall staff has invested to make this new initiative a success.

“By asking us our opinion, they are incorporating the views and opinions of the student body,” Matthews said. “They are serving the exact meals that we ask for and trying to make us feel comfortable.”

According to Luft, that is the whole purpose of this new approach.

“Part of being a college student is complaining about the dining hall food, because it can’t compare to what we have at home,” Luft said. “Barry Bowles and I will choose the recipe of the month based on the viability of it to be prepared in the dining hall and what we think students would most enjoy.”

“The best part of ‘Recipes from Home’ is that students can have meals similar to what they eat at home, which hopefully will make them happy,” she said.

With some of students favorite foods made available, Luft hopes that students realize that the dining hall prioritizes their individual requests.

“Recipes from Home’ will personalize the dining hall for students by giving them more of a say in the food that is served, which will hopefully provide them with a more positive and interactive experience in the dining hall,” Luft said.

Contact Martha Reilly at mreilly01@nd.edu

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**SonnetFest 2015**

**Monday, February 16**

11am – 3pm

**The Great Hall of O’Shaughnessy**

**Spend a moment or an hour enjoying live readings of Shakespeare’s 154 sonnets by members of the Notre Dame and Michiana communities. Light refreshments will be served. Free and open to the public.**
Professor examines prevention of civil wars

By MADISON JAROS
News Writer

In a talk Thursday, professor of political science at University of Colorado Boulder Jaroslav Tir said preventing civil war and the horrors that come with it require a change of perception.

Academia’s study of civil war is often not as in-depth as its study of interstate war, which leads many experts to overlook the most important aspects of these conflicts, Tir said.

“We [Tir and colleague Johannes Karreth] think of civil wars as not just something where you pull a switch, flip a trigger of some sort and then you suddenly have a civil war,” he said. “This is something that is actually a process that builds up over time. So we’re thinking about looking at civil wars from a developmental perspective.

“Incidentally, this has been done in the context of interstate war, but it hasn’t really been applied before to civil war all that much.”

Tir said the goal of his research was to find the most effective way to prevent civil wars from breaking out because ending the violence of war is much more difficult once the fighting begins.

“Some of the consequences of civil wars actually turn out to be predictors of civil wars as well, which means that countries that have experienced one civil war find themselves in this business of what’s called a civil war trap, or a conflict trap,” Tir said. “… Basically, Ms. Taylor Swift would be disappointed by these countries that cannot just ‘shake it off’ and that get caught over and over again in civil war.”

Tir said one reason nations continue to fall into civil war is because of the distrust between civil war rebels and the governments they are fighting against. Tir described this lack of trust as the “credible commitment problem,” which impedes peace efforts.

“The rebels [in a civil war] worry and fear that the government won’t hold up its end of the bargain, and this is the story why peace deals may be difficult to reach or why they ultimately fall apart,” Tir said. “… So if we’re going to come up with a way to prevent civil wars, we have to tackle this really tricky problem.”

While traditional intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) often lack the tools to influence their member states’ policies, particular organizations known as highly-structured intergovernmental organizations (HISGOs) hold the key to tackling the credible commitment problem and preventing civil war, Tir said.

“What it takes to qualify as one of these highly-structured IGOS is that they have independent administrative monitoring bodies – which means the government of these member states can’t just shut the organization down if the organization is doing something the government doesn’t like,” he said. “So they have some authority, some oversight, basically, that is independent from the member governments.”

These organizations, which include the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, are able to influence the political policy of member states because they provide the aid on which many nations that struggle with conflict rely. This pushes governments to respond peacefully to rebel groups and even prevents violence from the rebel groups themselves, Tir said.

“If the rebels were to overplay their hand … what would happen is that these HISGOs would probably stop constraining the government or at least release some of their constraints,” he said. “…” So we argue that the rebels are actually better off playing along in this structure of interactions, which actually constrains the government indirectly and the rebels as well, which basically pushes their preferences toward peace and away from public escalation.”

Contact Madison Jaros at mjaros@nd.edu
The importance of the missions, McGlinsey said, is a crucial part of Bengal Bouts' relationship with the Holy Cross missions is the International Summer Service Learning Program (ISSLP), which sends boxers to Bangladesh every year. Freshman Chris Dethlefs, who will live in Bangladesh this summer, said he hopes his experiences abroad will make him even more committed to the club's mission. "Participating in the ISSLP will give me the chance to dedicate myself more fully to the real purpose of Bengal Bouts, which is a fight for the poor and marginalized in Bangladesh," he said. Dethlefs said he appreciates the "service aspect and the physical challenge of the tournament."

After a grueling workout and seeing how hard each individual was working, I could see that this was the chance to love the challenges the club presented," Dethlefs said.

For junior Chris Bertini, the fight is a personal challenge. He said he was unable to compete his sophomore year because he was recovering from cancer surgery and had to regain strength for the 2015 tournament. "I was able to shape from my chemotherapy treatment four months prior, so I worked out on my own to get my fitness back," he said. Bertini said the tournament is a way to show he has improved. "Bengal Bouts is my chance to prove to myself that I am capable of anything," Bertini said.

In addition to its service component, McGlinsey said the tournament is a chance to connect fellow students across grades—boxers commonly hear about the club from older friends, and some even knew of the tournament while still in high school.

"That's one of my favorite parts of Bengal Bouts, the way that it allows older guys to come back and get involved, especially freshmen, and get them involved with a great team even on in the very next semester," McGlinsey said.

Bertini said he hopes everyone will come to a great challenge on par with boxing at least once in his or her life. "You don't know how strong you really are until you challenge yourself," Bertini said. "Whether it be Bengal Bouts, running a marathon, a grueling academic schedule or beating cancer."

Tickets for Bengal Bouts can be purchased through the tournament's website. Student tickets cost $5, and a four-round season pass costs $20.

Contact Peter Durbin at pdurbin@nd.edu

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Bouts CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

The four core values of Saint Mary's are faith/spirituality, learning and justice, which go hand-in-hand with the mission, she said. The interconnectedness of these values is important in making Saint Mary's a place for young women to call home.

"Coming here, students realize the importance of women and how they can develop their gifts and what a wonderful unfolding it is," she said. "Everything we do is grounded in the philosophy of education, divine providence that the church and prayer, and the question is how do we integrate the core values and bring them to life on campus?"

In her experience as director of Campus Ministry, Fean said she has seen the mission statement guide programs such as the Ministry Assistant Program. The program, new in 2012, trains and develops a leadership team in each of the four residence halls to be an extension of Campus Ministry and to help students explore and define their spirituality.

Fean said she will miss watching students grow and develop on such an intimate level, but she looks forward to working with faculty, staff and students to further the mission of the College.

"I'm looking forward to breaking open the stories of the Saint Mary's community and seeing how the lives of students are centered around the mission.

"The sisters were mentors for me, and I look forward to conveying the guidance I received and making a difference."

Contact Haley Ehmsen at hehmsen01@stmarys.edu

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Fean CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The liberal arts tradition and how the mission guides us.

Fean is inspired by an iconic quote of former College President Sr. Madeleva Wolfe: "I promise you that the only accountings of yourselves, discovery of the universe and your place in it." I believe in this quote because I discovered myself here and what it means to be a woman in the Church," Fean said. "I'm excited to see what this new chapter looks like and how we can continue to promise young women discovery of themselves."

Fean said the education is the importance of connection and using the core values as stepping stones to make connections with students, faculty and staff.

Contact Gabriel Malespin at gmalespi@nd.edu

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Actors CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

the tours, working with the Associate Directors [in London] who cast the shows and organize the rehearsal period. In 2012, members act as ambassadors for Notre Dame as they travel across the country for their U.S.tours. "This year, two of the actors, visited Holland's Shakespeare and Film class, where he gave feedback on scenes. He also led a reading of scenes from "Much Ado About Nothing." Holland said this workshop is offered every semester and it is always a class favorite.

"Every semester, when I ask my students what have been the most useful and enjoyable ses- sions in the semester, they pick the AFTLS visit — and that after 31 sessions with me," he said. "That stops me feeling too good about my own teaching." Hansing said the experience was useful because it offers a unique perspective for students. "I think they get the insights into how to interact into professional perform- ance that only an experienced theatre professional, like Ben, can provide," he said. "Of course I'd love it if he could come back many times in the semester but they're on tour."

The actors didn't just visit FIT classes; they also led an acting workshop in Fr. Kevin Sandberg's theatre class titled Discipleship: Loving Action for Justice. Sophomore Catherine Wagner, a student in Sandberg's class, said it was a nice break from the usual class format. "I really enjoyed how he made connections between [Martin Luther King Jr.], Hamlet and Iob — not three topics easily inter- twined," she said.

Wagner said it was interesting to see how the experience of her classmates, and she loved the advice that Warwick gave them. "It praised the art of acting because it's honest and naked and wracking being on a stage in performance, it is because of this vulnerability that we enjoy the theatre."

Wagner also said today experienced a small bit of this vulnerability by trying new things, but we came out better for it."

The last AFTLS performance of "Macbeth" will take place tonight in Washington Hall, and student tickets are available to be purchased at performingarts.nd.edu

Contact Megan Valley at mvalley@stmarys.edu

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The two sides of anonymity

As humans, we experience a universal desire for connection, and in the age of social media this desire has only become more obvious. Various social networking sites that help us associate with others digitally allow us to be in contact with anyone, anywhere, and at any time. However, one of the most vital human interactions is conversation: the act of saying our thoughts and having someone willing to listen and respond. It is crucial that we have opportunities for constructive dialogue, particularly within a college campus community. It is necessary that students feel their voices can be heard in a respectful forum. The student body’s obvious desire for campus-wide conversation is demonstrated by participation in various events, lectures and panels, but also is latent in more controversial forums like Yik Yak.

What makes Yik Yak unique is its anonymity, a feature of the app that has the potential to destroy constructive conversation as much as it provides a place for candid confessions. Having access to an anonymous voice gives the app’s users the courage to say things they might not admit otherwise, but it also lends itself to the ignorance and cowardice that speech can be found on campus as well. Forums like Loyal Daughters and Sons and Show Some Skin are constructive and empowering, giving voices to people who have been hurt or victimized and allowing them to use this verbalization to help in their healing.

By its nature, anonymity magnifies the impact of what is said. In forums such as Loyal Daughters and Sons or Show Some Skin, presenting stories through anonymous voices provides a sense of universality to the accounts shared, allowing others to better understand the incidents that they did not personally experience. When anecdotes about campus life are shared through Show Some Skin and Loyal Daughters and Sons, we gather to listen, empathize, reflect and discuss, and anonymity helps us do so more productively.

On the other hand, when users on Yik Yak capitalize on the app’s anonymity, often it is the ignorant and hateful voices that are heard the loudest and given the most weight. These voices might not represent the Notre Dame community at large, but behind a mask of anonymity and upvotes, we are bombarded with as many hurtful messages as helpful, and one voice can seem to represent many.

What’s more, Yik Yak’s medium doesn’t allow for contemplation. As quickly as something is posted — whether poignant and interesting or hurtful and ignorant — the post disappears, and opportunities for further discussion are gone.

The popularity of Yik Yak may speak to a campus-wide desire for conversation, but we must ask ourselves whether the lack of accountability damages the potential for meaningful and productive conversation. We all want to feel comfortable sharing our thoughts, opinions and experiences, and while anonymity can be a useful way to start a conversation, it can’t simply end there. Only by speaking to each other — having that essential human conversation — will our anonymous comments begin to take shape into productive dialogue.
**Philosophy belongs in the core curriculum**

Alex Caton

Modest Proposals

I will never forget when my Introduction to Philosophy seminar professor taught me that “which begs the question” was not just a flashy phrase I used to introduce new paragraphs in my ACT Writing section. It turned out that begging the question was a specific kind of circular logical fallacy, and I had been using the term wrong for a very long time.

The University is now undergoing its decennial review of the core curriculum, the required courses every student must take to graduate and has given numerous indications that the two required courses in philosophy may soon get the axe.

Core curricula exist on a continuum. On one end is Brown University, where students have one required writing class and a major and pick the rest for themselves. Conversely, the University of Chicago prides itself on “The Core,” a roughly two-year gauntlet of liberal arts requirements that is closer to what we have currently.

Defending the two-course philosophy requirement requires us to establish three things: first, that it is worthwhile to have a core curriculum of required classes; second, that philosophy is important enough to explicitly include in those requirements; and third, that the current two-course system is the best way to do so.

While the question of whether having a core curriculum at all is plenty interesting, I am confident that at the end of this review the University of Notre Dame will still have a core curriculum of 10-14 classes. So I’m going to move on to the second and third more interesting questions.

In arguing that philosophy should be required at Notre Dame, it is tempting to list the “peer institutions” which also include philosophy in their general education requirements and then conclude that Notre Dame should also require philosophy. For those interested, those colleges include Georgetown, Boston College, Princeton (one course in “Epistemology and Cognition”) and the University of Chicago. But listing peer institutions is a shoddy way of arguing that philosophy is a necessary part of a real liberal arts education, first because Brown, Harvard and Duke don’t explicitly require it (so much for peer institutions), and second because philosophy can stand on its own merits.

Philosophy is important for a number of reasons, and I will try to list the ones that are as divorced as possible from value judgments about the intrinsic worth of the humanities, reflections on “the unexamined life,” and the centrality of philosophy in an institution claiming a Catholic heritage and worldview. I believe these arguments wholeheartedly, but also recognize that they appear romantic and impractical to those not already convinced when the cost of a Notre Dame degree is $62,000 per year. For those keeping score at home, that is about $10,000 more than it was when I first arrived on campus.

Philosophy is a shoddy way of arguing that philosophy is worth keeping in Notre Dame’s core requirements because it structures your thinking in ways that very few disciplines can and does so very quickly. It improves your writing, forces creativity and punishes arrogance. It alerts us to the fact that sloppy and dishonest argumentation has too strong of a hold on our public discourse. If we believe that Notre Dame students will be leading that discourse down the road, then we better prepare them to do it well. If Notre Dame’s philosophy requirement as currently practiced has fallen short for some students, I think it speaks to the need to improve the quality of the philosophy 100- and 200-level philosophy classes taught here. It does not mean that philosophy forfeits its position as a subject Notre Dame undergraduates should engage. But an other way, my struggles in statistics and calculus and the pencils I broke in the process do not invalidate the need for a University requirement in math.

Finally I would like to note that Notre Dame is a sufficiently impressive institution that it does not need to check in with other schools for final verdicts on its curriculum or any other matter. Internal committee documents, including a four-page list of the core requirements at Harvard, Chicago, Duke, Columbia and others circulated to Arts & Letters faculty in October by professor of French JoAnn Della Neva are indicative of this approach. These outlines can be instructive and I am not about to question the commitment of a two-time National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship recipient. But adopting a general attitude of “I saw Harvard wearing army pants and flip flops, so I eliminated my philosophy requirement,” is a silly rabbit hole to fall down.

When the committee completes its review Notre Dame will still have a core curriculum of required classes. It should keep philosophy among them. If my arguments for taking two semesters to learn some of this discipline are not convincing (and they may not be) then I will defer to our President, Fr. John Jenkins. I hear he likes philosophy too.

Alex Caton is a senior political science major in the one and only St. Edward’s Hall. He welcomes commentary at acaton@nd.edu

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

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**Divestment: a financial argument**

You’ve probably heard of the word “divestment” floating around campus, whether it was from classes, Facebook or a GeeND member knocking at your door about a petition. Maybe you haven’t heard the word at all. If that’s the case, it is important to understand what the word “divestment” means because it is a growing campaign not only at Notre Dame, but also nationwide.

Divestment is the opposite of investment — it is the act of removing the University’s endowment from companies involved in the production of fossil fuels. As part of the We Are Nine campaign, we are asking to withdraw the endowment from the top 200 fossil fuel companies (by size of coal, oil and gas reserves) and reallocate the money in more environmentally and socially responsible companies. This means that any new investments will be immediately frozen and any direct ownership or commingled funds in such companies will be divested over a five-year period.

Environmental implications aside, one must ask if divestment is a wise choice from a purely financial standpoint. The answer is a resounding yes. The main reasons are as follows:

1. Investment is a long-term commitment, but fossil fuels are in limited supply. This makes it an economically irresponsible investment and violates fiduciary responsibility.
2. Strict regulatory controls from the EPA have forced the demand for coal to go down, negatively affecting power stations and mining companies.
3. If more than 20 percent of all fossil fuel reserves are burned, the costs of repairing the resulting global damage will enormously exceed the benefit of funding fossil fuel companies.
4. If the government takes action to keep 80 percent of fossil fuels in the ground, fossil fuel investments will become worthless, creating stranded assets.
5. Although it is unclear how much Notre Dame invests in fossil fuels, the worst case scenario (for removing investments from the top 200 fossil fuel companies) would likely decreases the endowment by 0.075 percent. And, if the University were to divest from the top “Filthy 15” fossil fuel companies, there would be only a 0.0002 percent decrease. This translates to $19,600 from a 9.8 billion dollar endowment.

Divestment has been successful in the past. In a protest against apartheid in South Africa, 135 universities divested from South African corporate collaboration by 1988, in addition to over 90 cities, 26 states and 22 countries. The movement dramatically affected the country’s international economy and caused considerable economic plight, contributing to the system’s ultimate removal. Fossil fuel divestment has already occurred in a number of cities, religious organizations and large universities such as Stanford University. The University of Dayton divested in the summer of 2014 from all fossil fuel companies, a decision that was lead by the Board of Trustees. In strongly becoming the first Catholic university to divest, the University of Dayton encourages other Catholics to respond to the growing necessity for the care of creation.

From a Catholic standpoint, divestment is the ethically appropriate decision, in accordance with Care for God’s Creation, a theme of Catholic Social Teaching. From an environmental standpoint, divestment is as necessary as it is urgent, and a powerful tool in spreading awareness. And finally, from a financial standpoint, divestment is both secure and responsible. Taking this into account, the We Are Nine campaign strongly encourages the University of Notre Dame to realize the importance of divesting from fossil fuels.

Sharlo Bayless

sophomore

Walsh Hall

Feb. 12
LYNNE TILLMAN: LADY, WRITER

By EMMA TERHAAR
Scene Writer

Lynne Tillman is a lady writer I heard read at the Eck Visitors Center on Feb. 11, a very special experience. English profes-
sor Steve Tomula said in Tillman’s nov-
el “Haunted Houses,” Tillman is like an ethnographer who happens to be study-
ing 20th century American girls. Tillman
read from “Haunted Houses” despite the
strangeness of returning to a work she
finished 20 years ago — which she said
was like “being dropped into a river.”
Tillman then read from her later nov-
els “Motion Sickness” and “American
Genius.”

Tillman said it took seven years to
write “Haunted Houses,” and yet when
she went to read it, she had to remind
herself that she wrote it. “Once I finish I
can never go back,” explained Tillman.
She said she could never write the same
book again. “I think we do what we can
do when we’re drawn to it.”

I find this terrifying, the idea that
you have a story inside you for a certain
amount of time, and you’ll never again be
able to write it like you would right now.
That’s some serious carpe diem lifestyle
designed. But I suppose by this logic we
can also be too close to a story to write
it properly. Some stories are impossible
to tell later, and some stories need to
be gestated.

Most of Tillman’s novels are lauded as
defying conventions. As a millennial, it’s
hard to know what the conventions are or
what they were in the ’80s and ’90s when
she was defending them. I think she must
difficult in the way she makes a per-
son — she could tell you what every char-
acter in a scene is thinking and what they
had for breakfast, even if it’s a first-person
story and none of that information ever
enters. For “Haunted Houses,” Tillman
wrote three case histories of each main
character in the text. The story is just a
story; it moves and develops like any plot,
but underneath the plot there’s some
psychoanalyzing of characters and an
argument for a determinist worldview.

One of the best parts of the reading was
when Tillman responded to a question from
the audience about the association
between feminine sexuality and fear in
her novels. Tillman answered bluntly
that sex is scary. We have birth control
now and unwanted pregnancy is less
prevalent, and yet there are still conse-
quences that come from having sex. My
mother has said the same thing to me a
dozen times, so hearing Lynne Tillman,
ladywriter and child of the ’60s it was
like a grand “I told you so.”

But don’t listen to me; check out Lynne
Tillman’s stuff for yourself. She’s writ-
ten five novels, three collections of short
stories, one collection of essays and two
nonfiction books. Keep in mind the
next creative writing reading is Feb. 18,
Ross Gay at the Hammes Notre Dame
Bookstore.

Contact Emma Terhaar at eterhaar@nd.edu

By EMMA TERHAAR
Scene Writer

Modern pop culture is an interest-
ing phenomenon. It’s an obsession for
me. Between Facebook, Twitter, red-
dit, MySpace, AIM and whatever other
outdated technology I’m hooked to, I’m
constantly searching for any update I can
get on the celebrity trends that make up
the 24-hour news cycle. Sometimes, if I’m
lucky, my editor lets me write about these
important new pieces of culture that will
shift the paradigm of our very existence.
Like shoes.

On Saturday, 9,000 pairs of Kanye
West’s latest fashion project, the adi-
das Yeezy 750 Boost, will drop. Also on
Saturday, I won’t be getting a pair. Not
because I don’t have $350 to drop on some-
thing as inane as sneakers or that I live an
hour away from the nearest adidas outlet,
but because I honestly think they’re the
worst thing ever.

Now don’t get me wrong, I’m a
huge Kanye West fan. All four of my
roommates can begrudgingly attest
to that fascination, especially since
“Yeezus” is the only thing we listen to
in my car on our trips to Meijer. It’s just that
everything surrounding these sneakers,
as hideous as they are, has been so hari-
crous that I think the entire sneakerhead
industry needs to take a step back and
calm down.

I mean, seriously, the hype campaign
alone for these new Yeezy shoes has been
absolutely absurd. Adidas has done about
everything it can to make this shoe seem
as exclusive and as high-end as possible.
For months, both adidas and Kanye
have been as tightlipped as possible
about their first shoe collaboration, oc-
asionally dropping a hint here and there
about how awesome the shoes would be.
Meanwhile, Kanye’s friends have been
hyping up the shoes, including Big Sean
and Theophilus London, who claimed
that these would be “the future of sneak-
ers.” That’s a pretty big claim for a shoe
that has turned out to be as exciting and
grey as the South Bend sky in the dead
of winter.

Then, adidas announced that it had
developed an app called “Confirmed”
with the sole purpose of reserving shoes
such as the Yeezy Boosts as soon as
pickup dates are announced. On Feb. 5,
Kanye linked to the mysterious website
“yeezy supply” on his Twitter. When I
followed the link, a countdown timer
to 4 p.m. EST on Feb. 12 appeared. No
one on the internet knew what the timer
meant when it first came out. A number
of people claimed that we would finally
hear about Kanye’s highly anticipated
new album. Then the news came out that
it was just for the announcement of the
“Kanye West x adidas” shoe, and sneaker-
heads everywhere freaked out.

After all this hype though, adidas or
Kanye didn’t even get the opportunity
to reveal the shoe first in the end, because
Kanye’s friend Ibn Jasper leaked a picture
of them on Instagram on Feb. 6. It didn’t
matter to them, though, as the Instagram
photo just became kind of the flames
of hype and demand. So more and more
announcements about the official an-
nouncement came out.

The yeezy supply website updated with
the news that you could reserve tickets
to see a live stream of the announcement
at 50 theaters worldwide. What are you
doing with your life if you’re able to go
to a movie theater to downtown Chicago
in the middle of a Thursday to watch a live
stream about an announcement that you
already know about?

I honestly just don’t get the shoe or the
hype. The shoes aren’t that good looking.
The strap is about the same color and
size as duct tape, and the rest of the shoe
is the same color and material as an Ugg
boot. So I guess it costs $350 for me to feel
like a basic Notre Dame girl?

“But these shoes are going to be worth
the hype just because of the exclusivity,”
you may say. “There’s only 9,000 pairs!”

Wrong. Kanye confirmed in an interview
with Ryan Seacrest this week that more
pairs of the shoes would be made so that
“everybody who wants to get Yeezys will
get Yeezys.” So while traditional adidas
or Nike special sneakers will be worth more
down the line, like Kanye’s Nike Air Yeezy
Red October collaboration — which can
ge for as high as $20,000 on eBay right	now — these ones will not.

No matter how I may feel about these
shoes and the artificial hype that exists
for them, I do not have a doubt that the
initial run of the Yeezy Boosts will all sell
don Saturday. So I guess Kanye and
adidas did their job, and 9,000 lucky
people will be running around on Valentine’s
Day with $350 Uggs.

The views expressed in this column are
those of the author and not necessarily
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“Multi-Love” — Unknown Mortal Orchestra

For those that can relate to the lyrics “you checked into my heart and trashed it like a hotel room,” head bob in agreement to this breezy, synth-y track.

“Get it” — Matt and Kim

For those who are excited that Valentine’s Day is on a Saturday so they can capitalize on the “At 1 a.m. we go for gold! / At 1 a.m. we lost control” holiday aesthetic, this song’s chorus is just like your roommate — repeatedly coming up to you on the dance floor and whispering “get it.”

“Fool for Love” — Lord Huron

The swing band immediately entices you to bust into “This Can’t Last,” causing you to look like a fool for more reasons than love.

“Love Me Like You Do” — Ellie Goulding

For those with pre-purchased tickets to you-know-who’s Valentine’s Day party, lead by “50/50,” you should have known you are / No, you’re not perfect but you’re not dumb/or dumb, dumb, dumb / I ain’t.” — the “I’m too regal for this, so I’m strutting back to my throne” Valentine aesthetic. This song is also the perfect anthem for walks to and from class when you’re feeling sassy and better than everyone.

“Only One” — Kanye West and Paul McCartney

Kanye said this heartfelt ballad came to him as “my mom was singing to me, and through me to my daughter.” The track, featuring Kayne’s up-and-coming prodigy, offers sage advice and emotional sentimentality: “Hello my only one / Remember who you are / No, you’re not perfect but you’re not your mistakes.”

“Bound 2” — Kanye West

Uhh, honey — this song is on this list. You should have known I was bound to feature my twin twice. Pour one out for all the people “tired of love,” of love / With nobody to love, nobody, nobody.

Contact Erin McLafferty at emcعلاlf@nd.edu
Just how good is Kentucky?

Tyler Wojciak
Sports Writer

Down by two points with 3.2 seconds left, the 35-0 and No. 1-seeded team in the NCAA tournament inbounds the ball to the backcourt and conference MVP, who takes one dribble and pulls up from a few feet beyond the arc for the 3-pointer. The shot has a little too much on it and clangs off the back of the rim and into the hands of the opposing team’s power forward. The buzzer sounds — game over. Kentucky moves on.

Wait ... what?

How does Kentucky move on? Aren’t the Wildcats supposed to be the undefeated team and No. 1 seed?

On March 23, No. 8 Kentucky defeated previously undefeated Wichita State to advance to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA tournament in an instant classic. After starting the season as the country’s No. 1 team, Kentucky struggled mightily during the regular season but appeared to finally display the level of talent that many projected the team would have by going toe-to-toe for 40 minutes with the Shockers and ultimately reigning victorious. The Wildcats eventually lost to UC oni in the NCAA championship, but this game laid the foundation for one of the greatest teams in collegiate basketball history.

This season, the Wildcats are off to their second-best start in school history, with a 24-0 record and a No. 8 ranking in every major poll. Many think this team has the best shot to go undefeated and win the NCAA championship since Indiana did it 39 years ago.

But just how good is this Kentucky team? Coming off a 3-point demolition over UCLA, Bruins coach Steve Alford went as far as to say, “In my 24 years of coaching, this is the best team I’ve coached against.”

Regarding pure basketball talent, this Kentucky team might just possess the most of all time. Of the 12 players that received scholarship, eight were five-star recruits coming out of high school, two were four-stars and the remaining two players were three-stars, according to ESPN. Nine of those players were McDonald’s All-Americans, and there is so much talent that the starting roster that coach John Calipari has resorted to using two “platoons” to balance playing time among the team’s 10 best players. At this point in the season, ESPN’s Chad Ford projects that at least four Kentucky players will be drafted in the first round of the upcoming NBA draft, with the potential for more depending on the amount of Kentucky players that declare for the draft after the season’s end.

With that said, talent doesn’t only lead to championships. In order for this team to go undefeated during the regular season, it must have good team chemistry and buy into Calipari’s system. So far, Calipari said that has been the case. After throttling Kansas earlier in the season, Calipari raved about the Wildcats’ teamwork in his post-game press conference.

Statistically, Kentucky’s offense has been relatively average throughout this point in the season. The Wildcats are 48th in the NCAA in points per game (73.5) and 66th in field goal percentage (46.1 percent), but they make 12.2 three-pointers per game (48.7 percent) and 25.7 shots per game (7.1) and first in team defensive efficiency rating (98.7) and opponent field goal percentage (34.2 percent).

Opposing teams have hardly any chance of scoring inside on Kentucky’s imposing frontcourt, composed of 7-foot junior Willie Cauley-Stein, 7-foot sophomore Dakari Johnson, 6-foot-11 freshman Karl-Anthony Towns, 6-foot-10 freshman Trey Lyles and 6-foot-9 sophomore Marcus Lee. This has been frustrating for opponents and especially so when finding open looks on the outside with 6-foot-6 sophomore guards Andrew and Aaron Harrison.

With 16 games left to pull off the undefeated season, there are still some questions surrounding the Wildcats. The inconsistent play by the Harrison twins has been a concern for some fans, and close calls against Mississippi, Texas A&M and LSU could be reasons to believe this Kentucky team won’t be able to go all the way without a loss. But these games also serve as examples of a great team underperforming on the mark yet still walking away with a win — something not often done in college basketball. Tough games will still be in the Wildcats’ future, but this team has talent along with enough experience to compliment it, along with a great coach leading the way. Kentucky is 0-0 to finish season 40-0 and win the NCAA championship.

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

PGA TOUR | AT&T PEBBLE BEACH NATIONAL PRO-AM

Daly surprises field with opening round 65

Associated Press

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. — Sunshine was always a pleasant surprise at Pebble Beach, and Thursday brought a real stunner: John Daly was near the top of the leaderboard.

With his best opening round on the PGA Tour in nearly 10 years, Daly kept a clear card at Pebble Beach on a magnificient day along the Monterey Peninsula for a 7-under 65, leaving him one shot behind J.B. Holmes and Justin Hicks in the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am.

Daly won an exhibition in Turkey last year. The last official win for the two-time major champion was at Torrey Pines in 2004. So when Daly rolled in a 15-foot birdie putt on his final hole, one of the volunteers wasn’t joking when he said, “Daly is at 7 under? On his own?”

Daly laughed when he heard that. Then again, this day could not have gone better for Daly, who has been frustrated by the game for years.

“This weather like this — it’s supposed to be like this all week — it is absolutely incredible,” said Jim Furyk, who made his 2015 debut with a 64 at Monterey Peninsula. “It’s already one of the most beautiful places I’ve been to and then to have weather like this, it’s just spectacular.”

Hicks and Holmes each shot 8-under 64 at Pebble Beach, typically the easiest course in the rotation in benign conditions.

For 2015 Pebble winner Brandt Snedeker and Chesson Hadley were at 7-under 64 at Monterey Peninsula, while J.J. Henry and Dudley Hart joined Daly at 65 at Pebble Beach. The low score at Spyglass Hill belonged to Alex Prough at 6-under 66.

Jason Day, coming off a play-off loss at Torrey Pines that included Holmes, struggled to a 72 at Pebble Beach. He wasn’t even the low man in the day’s final group, Day, in his final year before he is eligible for the Champions Tour, shot a 5-under 66 at Monterey Peninsula. Holmes had said he was ideal as the weather. He holed a wedge from 123 yards on the 10th hole for eagle, and then hit another wedge to 5 feet for birdie on No. 11. For all his length, he only birdied one of the par 5s, and that was with a 20-foot putt.

Even so, it was good way to forget last week, where he lost on the second playoff hole. “I’ve just got to keep reminding myself, ‘it’s a good day, it’s a good day, it’s a good day.’ I have nothing to lose and I did everything I could do and just carry that on to this week and maybe things will go a little different this week,” he said.

LITTLE LEAGUE WORLD SERIES

Mayor calls for reinstatement of title

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Hours after Little League International announced its stunning decision to strip a Chicago team of its national championship, the city’s mayor was on the phone asking the organization to reverse a decision that he said unfairly made the young players responsible.

But Little League International CEO Stephen D. Keener would not budge, telling Mayor Rahm Emanuel that as difficult as the decision was and as tough as it has been emotionally on the children and their families, the decision by the organization’s charter committee was final, according to the organization’s spokesman.

The organization announced Wednesday that Jackie Robinson West had been stripped of its title because team officials falsified boundaries so they could add ineligible players to the roster and that the officials then scrambled to persuade surviving youth teams to go along with what they’d done. Little League International spokesman Brian McClintock wouldn’t comment on the conversation between Keener and Emanuel. But the Chicago mayor’s office said that during the 10-minute call, first reported in the Chicago Sun-Times, Emanuel suggested alternative punishments could apply, including banning the team from playing for a certain period of time. “The decision has turned the young players into ‘perpetrators when they are victims,’” Emanuel said, according to the mayor’s office.

This is not the first time, McClintock said the decision is final, in Chicago where the march of the all-black team from the city’s South Side was one of the most heartwarming stories in recent memory, angry community activists made it clear that the fight to give the boys back their championship at the Little League World Series is not over.

“We are asking a group to prove they are not capable of being a pretty decent one,” Emanuel said, adding the city has been “working with folks from all over the country that the (boundary) standards that Jackie Robinson West is being held to is not being held to by other teams across the United States,” said the Rev. Michael Pfleger, a prominent activist and Catholic priest on the city’s South Side. “Jackie Robinson West officials, who Little League International either suspended or insisted not be allowed to remain in positions of authority, were expected to speak at a news conference at a downtown law firm on Thursday afternoon.”

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 2524 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without offering refunds.

“You had a career before the third company, before you got into law and not for the sake of art. It’s because you want to feel relevant again. Well, there’s a whole world out there where people fight to be relevant every day. And you act like it doesn’t even exist!”

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Irish head to Ohio for Spire DI Invitational

By ANDREW ROBINSON
Sports Writer

A week removed from hosting the Meyo Invitational, one of the largest and most competitive meets of the indoor season, many Irish runners will return to the track this weekend for the Spire DI Invitational in Geneva, Ohio.

With only two events before the ACC Indoor Championships begin Feb. 26, many of the Notre Dame athletes will be vying to hit the qualifying benchmarks and secure spots in the conference meet.

Among the men's 4x400-meter relay team, for example, which finished second at the Razorback Invitational with a time of 3:09.90, only senior All-American Chris Giesting has qualified individually. Irish coach Alan Turner said he thinks the younger members of the team — sophomores Harvey Smith and John Rutkowski and freshman Eric Ways — could all potentially translate their relay performances into individual qualifying times. He noted a similar situation on the women's side as well.

“We're going to be watching for freshman Parker English in the 400-meters,” Turner said. “She ran a very good split last week at Meyo ... but she needs to duplicate that effort in the open 400. She's definitely someone who could score well for us at the ACC Championships.”

Senior All-American Jade Barber is also fighting to earn her spot in the 60-meter hurdles. Barber last year won the ACC Championship with a time of 8.19 seconds and cut a further nine hundredths off to finish seventh in the NCAA Championships. However, her best time this season is 8.32 seconds.

“Turner, who said he remains confident in Barber, said simply, "I'm looking for her to come up big time this weekend.”

While many Irish athletes will be at the Spire Invitational, juniors Molly Seidel and Michael Clevenger will head to Ames, Iowa, to compete in the mile run at the Iowa State Classic, a perennially fast meet for longer-distance races. Last year, 22 percent of the eventual NCAA Championship field for middle- and long-distance events participated in the meet.

In the Spire DI Invitational, however, the Irish will carry primarily sprinters and jumpers. Most of the distance runners — with the exception of Seidel and Clevenger — will be resting to prepare for the Alex Wilson Invitational, the last meet before the ACC Championships.

Just as the past several weekends have pushed Notre Dame to keep up with high levels of competition, Turner said he expects this meet to test the team's mettle once again.

“It's going to be a tough meet,” he said. “It's not going to be as [many competitors] as Meyo, but the quality is still there.”

At this point in the season, Turner said he feels confident in his team's ability.

“We're definitely progressing as I would like, especially on the women's side,” he said. “The men's side we're just a little thin in a lot of areas. We don't have the depth that we've had in the past...[so] it could always be better, but they're progressing nicely.”

Irish athletes will travel to Geneva, Ohio, to kick off the Spire DI Invitational on Friday at 2 p.m., and the meet will continue through Saturday afternoon.
Halfpenny indicated that Notre Dame might be able to change things up in formation this year, with a 3-4-5 formation potentially in its arsenal.

“[Junior midfielder Stephanie Toy] is back, and we’re so deep in the midfield that we’re looking at the potential of being able to play a 3-5-3,” Halfpenny said. “[The formation] gives us an enormous amount of speed; it gives us the ability to keep players on the field while they rest behind the re-straining lines.”

Despite everything, the biggest returner for the Irish in 2015 might be one that made a minimal impact on the field last year, as senior captain and defender Barbara Sullivan returns after an injury-plagued 2014.

Sullivan, who was a first-team All-American selection in 2013, was named to the preseason all-ACC team, and Halfpenny said the Irish have a difference-maker back in the fold.

"Now we have an X-factor player back to the lineup, which it’s very obvious that she’s been missing,” Halfpenny said. “Barbara’s back, ready to go, and hopefully we see that sophomore Barbara, that first-team All-American player who raises the level of every set we run.”

Despite only playing in six games last year, Halfpenny thinks her defensive standout has improved her game since that sophomore season.

"Her pressure is outstanding, and even though it was really hard to go an entire season without her at full-go, we’re seeing that she too grew in that year off,” Halfpenny said. “Her communication has amped up, and her hunger has amped up.”

Anchored by Sullivan, the Irish have become known for their high-pressure defense, and Halfpenny said the team will continue that moving into 2015.

“We’re very excited to continue our aggressive defense,” Halfpenny said.

Though Allie Murray, who started in goal for the Irish in 14 games last season, is no longer on the roster, Halfpenny said she is confident in her two sophomore options at the position, Liz O’Sullivan and Jennifer Blum. O’Sullivan saw time in 14 contests last season and started five of them.

“[Our sophomore goalkeepers] have just had a tremendous offseason,” Halfpenny said. “ … We’re thrilled with what they’re bringing to the table — their communication, their maturity just through having the freshman years under their belt.”

Despite winning last year’s conference title 25-1, the Irish are looking at today’s game against the Bearcats as a good chance for a challenge.

“We’re really excited to see what the team puts out there Friday against Cincinnati, who will be an incredible opponent,” Halfpenny said. “[They’re] super physical; they’ve been getting better every single year under the leadership of [coach] Regina Oliver.”

Halfpenny said with another season of ACC play on the horizon, Notre Dame needed to find a good mixture of teams in its non-conference schedule.

"Playing in the toughest conference in the country, we have to find the right balance with our non-conference schedule as well,” Halfpenny said. “We want to play teams that are going to test us, that are going to look different from one to the next because that’s what the ACC is like.”

The Irish take on Cincinnati today at 3 p.m. on the road before returning home Sunday for a noon matchup with Detroit at Loftus Sports Center.

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Irish junior attack Rachel Sexton works her way to the front of the net in Notre Dame’s 19-7 exhibition win over Michigan on Feb. 8, 2014.

Irish prepare for busy weekend

By MIKE GINOCCHIO
Sports Writer

Coming off a 4-1 weekend that included an upset of No. 12 UCLA, No. 20 Notre Dame gets back to work this weekend.

The Irish (4-1) travel to take their cuts at the annual Tiger Invitational in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, facing off against Central Arkansas, No. 16 LSU and Hofstra.

For Irish senior third baseman Katey Haus, the winning weekend was all about finding and settling into a groove.

“What worked best for us is when we play our game,” Haus said. “Regardless of the competition, we need to focus on what we do best in order to play to our full potential, and so far when we have done that, we have been successful. As we continue to play more games, the small details that come with more game experience will sort themselves out.”

Haus had those small details ironed out last weekend,atching five at the plate by finishing the weekend with a .625 batting average, eight RBIs and three home runs. Haus connected for two of them during Sunday’s victory over No. 25 Cal State Fullerton.

Having a hitter on a hot streak like that, as well as a team that is batting well in general, does wonders for a pitcher’s confidence, sophomore right-hander Rachal Nasland said.

"As a pitcher, to have such a strong hitting team behind me is a relief on the mound,” Nasland said. "It makes the game more fun for me because it allows me to pitch to batters more aggressively and gives me more liberty with my pitches.”

Nasland appeared in three games over the weekend, starting two, and finished with a record of 1-0 with a 4.20 ERA and a tie for the team lead in strikeouts with 13.

As with many spring sports stuck in the Indiana cold, Notre Dame has to travel to warmer climates to play early in the season. While this allows the team to escape from the cold, it also means Notre Dame has to fit in a large and varied amount of teams to play in such a short time. The Irish play four games against three teams in two days this weekend: Central Arkansas (4-2) and LSU (5-0) on Saturday as well as Hofstra (0-0) and a rematch against the host team slated for Sunday.

However, both Haus and Nasland said they view the busy schedule as just part of the life of playing college softball.

“The best way to deal with our jam-packed weekends is to take it one game at a time,” Haus said. “Our goal is to bring our best game every game, regardless of our opponent.”

There is also one more adjustment the Irish have to deal with in their travels, Nasland said.

“I think that right now we are just trying to get adjusted to playing on a dirt field,” Nasland said. “We have been practicing inside for couple months now. … Thank you, South Bend.”

The strong start for the Irish has given them high morale heading into the weekend, and the enthusiasm carried over into Haus’ attitude.

“I think the team’s chances [this weekend] are great,” Haus said. “We are rolling off a great opening weekend and some good practices this week.”

The Irish return to action Saturday against Central Arkansas. The first pitch is scheduled to be thrown at 11 a.m. They later take on LSU at 4 p.m. Saturday. Hofstra at 10 a.m. Sunday and LSU again at 12:30 p.m. Sunday.

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think they’re a fast-paced, physical team, particularly early in possessions.”

Warne posted a 10-19 record with Hoyas in his first two seasons. After a Big East tournament berth in 2013, the team struggled last year, dropping 10 games, including four by two goals or fewer. Despite this, Corrigan said Georgetown has an ability to start strong. Last year, the Hoyas won 65.2 percent of their faceoffs.

“They really get after you and play very hard and fast at both ends of the field,” Corrigan said. “So that’s something we’re going to have to really get a feel for during the game.”

For Notre Dame, a strong start will largely depend on how quickly its newest players can integrate into the regular rotation, Corrigan said.

“Getting contributions from all the players we can get contributions from if we play the right way is going to be one thing,” Corrigan said on what the Irish can do better. “We know we got some guys who can make plays, but I think if we really wanted to utilize all of our players and all of our talent, we really got to play in a very unselfish manner.

“Then we really got to play in a very unselfish manner.

“Last season, Notre Dame played even its home games on the road until the last few matchups of the season because snow delayed the completion of FieldTurf installation. The Irish posted a 22-31 overall record and a 9-21 mark in the ACC but closed out the season with six games at home, winning five of them against Clemson and Pittsburgh.

“Our outlook going into those last few games changed so much because we were finally playing at home, and it breathed some excitement into an otherwise challenging year,” Aoki said. “And I think the lesson that we tried to take from it was that perspective plays a really big deal in this.

The way in which you choose to look at things makes a really big deal.”

Notre Dame has not forgotten that lesson, Aoki said.

“Those last six games of the year, we really looked at it from a positive state of mind, and our kids … just kind of played with clear minds and a positive outlook, and I think that piece really has carried over to this year’s team,” he said.

The Irish return the majority of their regulars this season and add eight freshman to the roster.

“These guys are at a really good place in terms of where they are from their confidence level, from the culture of our team, and I think at this point, our preparation has been really, really good, and they’re just ready,” Aoki said.

The Irish head to Norman, Oklahoma, to match up against SUU Edwardsville at 2 p.m. Friday and against Oklahoma at 6 p.m. Friday, 6 p.m. Saturday and 1 p.m. Sunday. All games are scheduled at L. Dale Mitchell Park.

Contact Samantha Zuba at szuba@nd.edu
Hockey
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

a nationally-ranked team.

“Obviously, we want to finish in the top four, but the most important thing for me is making sure we’re playing our best hockey heading into the playoffs,” Jackson said.

Notre Dame’s next six games are against three nationally-ranked opponents: No. 11 Providence, No. 3 Boston University and No. 10 Boston College.

Four of those six games will be at Compton Family Ice Arena, and while Jackson said this is a clear advantage, he noted the Irish have struggled at times on their home ice.

“It’s a little easier to play at home than on the road obviously, but we have not come out as well as we should’ve on Friday nights this season,” Jackson said.

Jackson said there are two areas in which the Irish must excel to have success during this tough stretch: goaltending and possessing the puck at the blue lines.

He added the goaltending percentage for the team must be at the 90 percent mark for the Irish to be successful during this period.

“There’s no question that goaltending is going to be the most important thing for us in the next six games,” Jackson said. “We have to get nine out of 10 saves on every given night if we’re going to do anything during this stretch run.”

During this week of practice, Jackson said he gave the team an extra day off for some rest and more time for schoolwork.

“It was a difficult academic week with a lot of exams going on, so we took Tuesday off;” he said. “I hope that helps them being able to get their academic work taken care of before we get out there Friday.”

Talking about the Irish opponent this weekend, Jackson said Providence is an exceptional defensive team with a tough goaltender, along with high quality forwards and defensemen.

“They clamp down pretty tight, and they’re good on transition,” Jackson said. “They have good defensive numbers, but they’re not just a defensive team. If you turn pucks over against them, they’re going to capitalize.”

Providence allows a little more than two goals per game (2.04), and Friars junior goaltender Jon Gillies boasts an impressive .933 save percentage.

Junior left wing Mario Lucia, Notre Dame’s leading goal scorer, said it’s a must that the Irish put a lot of shots on goal against Gillies, and he added that the Irish special teams units will play a large factor this weekend.

We just have to focus on getting pucks to the net, and special teams are going to be huge this weekend,” Lucia said. “If we win the special teams battle, I think we’ll have a good chance of winning the game.”

Lucia also said playing at home will be a big advantage for the Irish in this last month and that the team must “utilize our fans” during this stretch run.

“Having that element of the crowd cheering you on and getting into the game, that helps a lot, and when you have a full crowd in here, it’s intimidating to the other team and helps our guys,” Lucia said.

Notre Dame will square off against Providence on Friday and Saturday, with the puck dropping at 7:35 p.m. Friday and 8:05 p.m. Saturday.

Contact Benjamin Horvath at bhovrat1@nd.edu

Irish senior defenseman Bobble Basso weaves through the UConn offensive zone during the two teams’ 3-3 tie Jan. 16 at Compton Family Ice Arena. Basso leads all Irish defensemen with 25 points this season.
Happy Birthday: Guiltlessness can lead you astray. Focus on facts, but use your signature imagination to come up with ideas and plans that will distinguish you from any competition you face. Being a little reserved and secretive will be to your benefit, keeping your ideas under control and setting reasonable goals will build a solid base for your future projects. Your numbers are 1, 3, 14, 21, 26, 34, 42.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Take pride in what you do, but don’t let any aspect of your reputation get away from you. You don’t need to put yourself out to anyone else. Work diligently toward your goals. Don’t spend unnecessarily or get involved in a risky venture. **

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Try not to overreact or take too much on. If you feel you are overcommitting yourself, you will make a costly mistake. You may be able to persuade those working under you to do things your way, but supervision will push back. **

Gemiini (May 21-June 20): Expect to face opposition if you get involved in a cause involving people from different walks of life. Listen carefully, but don’t agree to do something if the boundaries are not set. Demands coupled with insincere gestures of friendship are apparent. **

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Put in the time required to get the results you are looking for. Someone you can trust will reciprocate if you send the right signals. Share your thoughts and make plans for the future. An idea you have will help you excel. **

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Make the changes that will position you for advancement, and don’t lose sight of your goals. Get involved with people who share your positions on worldly matters, and it will boost your plans to bring about worthwhile changes. **

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Troubleshooting is a very business personal and business partnership are concerned. Your status to show face, leaving you in an impossible position if you aren’t ready to make a decision. Follow the rules and move forward cautiously. **

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Approach domestic matters with a serious tone. Offer solid solutions. A change in the pecking order at home will take place if you are adamant about your position and what you are prepared to do in an order to get your way. **

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Stick to your game plan and don’t allow yourself to bend under pressure. Love is highlighted, and you should be able to find common ground with the right partner. Ask pointed questions and you’ll answer important questions. **

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Keeping secrets will pay off in the end. A change in perspective will come up with ideas and plans that will distinguish you from any competition you face. **

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Charity begins at home. Don’t lend, borrow or fall victim to someone with a get-rich-quick scheme. Expect to face opposition if you get involved in a cause involving people from different walks of life. Listen carefully, but don’t agree to do something if the boundaries are not set. Demands coupled with insincere gestures of friendship are apparent. **

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You will face emotional resistance. Listen to what’s being said, and try to find common ground without depreciating your integrity, beliefs or future plans. Strive for equality and it will make you distinguish you from any competition you face. **

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Honor your promises, but don’t let anyone take advantage of you. Avoid letting your emotions take over, resulting in a foolish mistake. Keep an open line of communication, and you will be able to work on your ideas, leaving your status is on the line. **

Birthday Baby: You are adaptable, aggressive and emotional. You are unique and fearless. **

** = horoscope has not been approved by the Observer editorial board. Please use at your own discretion. 

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**HIGHLY PUBLISHABLE I CHRISTOPHER BRUCKER**

**DOMES NUTS I ALEXANDRA WELLMAN**

**CROSSWORD I WILL SHORTZ**

ACROSS
1 Some are square
6 G.I. rank
9 March
11 It might keep you up at night
14 Fail bad
15 Vile
16 “And that’s ___”
17 Morganstern’s locale
18 Some mingoes
19 John Lennon,
20 Dandy
21 Glandular prefix
22 Some are square
23 With 44-Across,
24 Common
calling phrase related to this puzzle’s outer circled letters
25 To a huge extent
27 Christie’s launcher
29 Los Angeles district
30 Dilated
31 Bangkok native
35 With 37-Across,
events described by 23-/44-Across
36 Abr. after a
37 See 35-Across
38 Pain delay sight
39 Peace, to Play
40 Middle manager?
41 Jr. in an office
42 One of two on a short day?
43 See 32-Across
44 With 44-Across,
common broadcasting phrase related to this puzzle’s outer circled letters
45 To a huge extent
46 Stranger to Strunk and White’s advice
53 Greenhouse square
58 “Irish your vote to the wind”
59 “Family Matters” role
60 Alumni grouping
down
1 Omerta organization
2 Word inspired by Callhol, it’s a
3 One saying
4 Request to a butcher
5 Mines of film
6 In hock
7 Shorlsh race, for short
8 Peta Founan
10 5,000 Yrs
11 “Would you like to see ___”
12 Online bonchao
13 23-/44-Across
14 Request to a butcher
15 Mines of film
16 In hock
17 Shorlsh race, for short
18 Peta Founan
19 5,000 Yrs
20 “Would you like to see ___”
21 Online bonchao
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61 “Irish your vote to the wind”
62 “Irish your vote to the wind”

**SUDOKU I THE MAPHEM GROUP**

**JUMBLE I DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK**

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

ODORP
ONKWK
YUDLOC
KUENJT

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

**WORK AREA**

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HOCKEY

Irish to play host to Friars

By BENJAMIN HORVATH
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will play No. 11 Providence this weekend at Compton Family Ice Arena in a pair of matchups that could be crucial in determining the team’s postseason fate.

Notre Dame (12-14-4, 7-5-4 Hockey East) enters this weekend’s series coming off a successful trip to Maine last weekend. With a tie Friday and a victory Saturday, the Irish earned three points in conference standings.

With just six regular-season games remaining, the Irish find themselves in fifth place in the conference, trailing fourth-place Providence (17-9-2, 9-6-1) by just one point. The top four teams earn a first-round bye in the Hockey East tournament once the regular season wraps up.

Irish coach Jeff Jackson said his team cannot get too caught up in the standings, and instead he said he views this weekend as an opportunity to play well against a conference foe.

BASEBALL

Bats ready for Oklahoma’s heat

By SAMANTHA ZUBA
Assistant Managing Editor

Notre Dame is more than ready for this upcoming season. When the Irish head to Norman, Oklahoma, this weekend, they can put last season’s weather-related challenges behind them.

“They’re ready to get out of here,” Irish coach Mik Aoki said. “The position guys are ready to face some pitchers that aren’t our own, and our pitchers are sick of facing our own hitters, and it’s just time for us to get up there and play.”

Notre Dame plays SIU Edwardsville and Oklahoma in a Friday doubleheader and then takes on Oklahoma again on Saturday and Sunday to complete a three-game series.

SIU Edwardsville ended last season with a 21-33 record overall and a 16-14 mark in Ohio Valley.

Notre Dame has the luxury of playing without the worries of weather-related challenges behind them.

ND WOMEN’S LACROSSE

Notre Dame opens with two

By ALEX CARSON
Sports Writer

No. 9 Notre Dame starts off its season with a pair of contests this weekend, looking to build off a 10-win 2014 campaign.

The Irish (0-0) travel to Cincinnati today for a 3 p.m. meeting with the Bearcats (0-0) before taking on Detroit (0-1) in their home opener Sunday at noon at Loftus Sports Center.

Notre Dame returns a majority of its goals from last season — all eight players that reached double digits on the scoresheet last year are back — and Irish coach Christine Halfpenny said she feels like her team has gotten even stronger in the offseason.

“We’re really excited about the amount of returning starters and returning contributors that we have this season,” Halfpenny said. “We’ve seen an enormous amount of growth physically, mentally and even emotionally on the field of play.”

Sophomore attack/midfielder Cortney Fortunato led the Irish with 46 goals in her freshman year and will be joined at the front by junior attacks Rachel Sexton and Kiera McMullan, who each broke the 25-goal mark last term.

“We’re excited to welcome some mainstays back — Kiera and Rachel and Cortney — that are really locking down that low offensive area,” Halfpenny said.

The returning leaders up front are not the only ones in the program though, and Halfpenny said a trio of freshmen attacks have acclimated well to the college game.

“They’ve had a very quick learning curve,” Halfpenny said. “[Freshmen attacks] Ali Cullinan, Sydney Cardozo and Olivia Mikkelson … have really shown us some really exciting looks at what the future holds.”

While the Irish return plenty of firepower on attack, the midfielders are no slouches for the Irish, Halfpenny said.

“(The midfield) is probably the deepest part of our team,” Halfpenny said. “We’ve really worked hard on upping up and bringing in players in the midfield to really learn from the upperclassmen, and now we finally have upperclassmen outweighing underclassmen in the midfield.”

With the midfield depth, see HOKEY PAGE 14

MEN’S LACROSSE

After title game run, ND begins season with Hoyas

By GREG HADLEY
Associate Sports Editor

On the eve of a new season, Kevin Corrigan is taking things one day at a time, so much so that the Irish coach has not even had time to focus on who No. 2 Notre Dame is playing Saturday at noon.

“The biggest challenge [this weekend] is that we don’t know anything about them,” Corrigan said of his team’s season-opening opponent. “It’s a typical first game in that our emphasis is on ourselves and the way we play …”

For the record, the Irish are playing Georgetown.

The matchup between will mark the fifth time in the last six seasons that the former Big East foes have faced off. But the combination of a year-long gap last season and a third-year coach for Georgetown in Kevin Warne means Corrigan and the Irish are relatively unfamiliar with the Hoyas, he said.

“They got a new coach a couple years ago, so we don’t know much at all about them,” Corrigan said. “We’ve watched film of them from last year, and…”

see BASEBALL PAGE 13

see MD LACROSSE PAGE 13