University holds memorial
Fr. Pete McCormick presides over Lisa Yang’s Mass, family in attendance

By KAYLA MULLEN and EMILY McCONVILLE
Associate News Editors

Notre Dame students and staff filled the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on Tuesday evening to honor senior Lisa Yang with a memorial Mass. Yang’s parents and priests from the Congregation of Holy Cross were also in attendance.

Yang, a native of Herndon, Virginia, died March 3 at Memorial Hospital in South Bend, after a suicide attempt the previous week.

Readings were done by Erin Hoffmann Harding, vice president of student affairs, and Hannah Knochelmann, a resident assistant in McClinn Hall, where Yang had been a resident. William Kennedy delivered the petitions.

Fr. Pete McCormick, director of Campus Ministry, gave the homily. Yang’s death has been difficult to come to terms with, his parents and family said.

By MARTHA REILLY

Students, faculty and members of the Congregation of Holy Cross gathered Tuesday night to honor Lisa Yang with a memorial Mass. Yang died March 3 at Memorial Hospital in South Bend.

New program announced

By KATIE GALIOTO
News Writer

The Rome Global Gateway, a sector of Notre Dame International, will launch the Rome International Scholars Program in the spring of 2016. This program will facilitate a select group of undergraduate students to conduct independent research, participate in job internships and practice service learning while studying abroad.

“The goal of the program is to offer to highly motivated Notre Dame undergraduate scholars the opportunity for a life-transforming education abroad experience in the Eternal City,” Theodore Cachey, inaugural academic director of the Rome Gateway, said.

Couple endows rector position in residence hall

Observer Staff Report

Alumnus James Corgel and his wife, Christine, gifted $1 million to endow the rector position in Dillon Hall on Tuesday, a University press release said. This gift represents the first endowed rector position in a new initiative launched by the University to endow all rector positions in the 29 residence halls, the press release said.

The endowment will provide for a portion of the rector’s salary, which will allow the University to provide more funds to each hall for events and programs, the press release said.

“The residence hall community has always been central to a Notre Dame undergraduate education, and the rector is a crucial figure in building that community,” University President Fr. John Jenkins said.

“Through their gift, Jim and Chris support the continuation of an educational ideal at Notre Dame that...”

Sexual assault on campus

Observer Staff Report

Notre Dame Security Police (NDSP) alerted students via email Tuesday to a report of sexual assault that took place in the early morning hours Friday in a men’s residence hall on North Quad.

The report was made to a University official, the email said.

Quoting from “du Lac: A Guide to Student Life,” the email defined consent as a clearly communicated agreement, which cannot be inferred from circumstances.

SMC celebrates Annunciation

By MARTHA REILLY
News Writer

A 24-hour adoration for the Feast of the Annunciation began last night in Holy Spirit Chapel at Saint Mary’s and will continue until 6 p.m. this evening. Freshman Julie Weilbaker engendered this event and said students from Notre Dame and Holy Cross are welcome to join in prayer to commemorate the Annunciation.

“God truly is so good to us and gives Mary to each of us to be the mother of us all.”

SMC celebrates Annunciation

Students gather in Le Mans Hall’s Holy Spirit Chapel during the adoration in commemoration of the Feast of the Annunciation.

By KAYLA MULLEN and EMILY McCONVILLE
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If you could meet any woman in history, who would it be?

Rachel Wallace
junior
Farley Hall
“Michelle Obama.”

Rachel Rudnick
senior
Walsh Hall
“Rosa Parks.”

Daphne Reynolds
junior
Pangborn Hall
“Benazir Bhutto.”

Brendan Perry
senior
Off-campus
“Eleanor Roosevelt.”

Brian Mukhaya
sophomore
Duncan Hall
“Queen Victoria.”

Amanda Ball
freshman
Walsh Hall
“Mother Theresa.”

QUESTION OF THE DAY: Have a question you want answered? Email photo@ndsmcobserver.com

If you could meet any woman in history, who would it be?

Wednesday

“Is Immigration Reform Dead?”?
LaFortune Ballroom
7 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Participate in dialogue.

Thursday

Art Battle
LaFortune Student Center
All day
Student competition.

Friday

LGBT Retreat
Off campus
All day
PRISM ND student-organized retreat.

Saturday

Holy Half Marathon
Campus-wide
8 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Benefits the South Bend community.

Sunday

Solemn Mass
 Basilica of the Sacred Heart
10 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Worship service.

“Two Priests and a Nun Walk into a Bar”
Legends of Notre Dame
7 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Panel discussion.

“The Bible, Narrative and Modernity”
McKenna Hall
All day
Interdisciplinary conference.

Baseball
Eck Baseball Stadium
6:05 p.m. - 8:05 p.m.
The Irish take on Virginia.

The NEXT FIVE DAYS:

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

Correction:
The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at (574) 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

McGlinn Hall and Duncan Hall honor the memory of Lisa Yang, a senior in the Mendoza College of Business who died March 3. Words of comfort and remembrance are written on this poster located in McGlinn Hall’s lobby where Yang was a resident.
Alumni recalls Selma march

By EMILY McCONVILLE
Associate News Editor

In March of 1965, to protest the lack of voting rights for African American citizens and violence against civil rights activists, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) planned a 54-mile march from Selma to the courthouse in Montgomery.

Georges Hall on Saturday, May 16, to celebrate the graduation of approximately 350 students who constitute the class of 2015. This year’s graduations herald from 30 states, one United States territory and five countries besides the United States, including Canada, China, Mexico, Rwanda and Singapore.

At the ceremony, St. Rosemary Connolly, will deliver the commencement speech. Connolly and Terri Kosik will receive honorary degrees from the College.

In her speech, Kosik said both recipients of honorary degrees are mothers. "I am delighted to receive this recognition," she said. "I am proud of my children at both circumstances and their dedication to promoting quality programs and services to the underprivileged, both at home and abroad." Kosik, who is a member of the Religious Sisters of Mercy, was named administrator of Misericordia Home in Chicago in 1969 and is now executive director, as stated in the press release. Misericordia Home provides programs, service and residential care to more than 600 children and adults with developmental and physical disabilities.

The organization’s mission is to ensure that each person is encouraged to achieve his or her greatest potential through educational, spiritual, vocational or recreational outlets. According to the press release, the College wishes to recognize Connolly for playing an integral role in Misericordia Home’s development into a loving, challenging and dignified environment to its residents.

Kosik has received numerous awards and honors throughout the years, including seven honorary doctorate degrees from Notre Dame, Loyola University, DePaul University, Lewis University, Marquette University, Dominican University and Lewis University.

Kosik also teaches a course at Saint Mary’s each fall semester that pertains to early childhood ministry, as well as, graduate and undergraduate courses at other institutions.

"What I love most about my job is supporting the development and learning of young children, but almost equally, empowerment of teachers as they cherish young children, but almost equally, empowerment of teachers as they cherish young children, but almost equally, empowerment of teachers as they cherish young children. Children have the capacity to change the world," Kosik said. "I still feel there was some risk involved, but people do many things for the sake of where there’s a benefit to doing it," she said. "So I accepted that risk, but I was a little afraid.

"I knew people would help, Muller said, to see King a ways away, conferring with the other march leaders. He also saw a group of young African American girls, unafraid, singing, ‘Ain’t Scared of Your Jails.’"

"I thought, if these girls are doing this, then I shouldn’t be afraid," Muller said. "I marched with them as we walked down the street that day with lines of guardsmen with guns.

The crowd marched from the field to the state Capitol building, where King gave his ‘How Long, Not Long’ speech. They then marched to the governor’s mansion to deliver a petition to Alabama Governor George Wallace.

"It was that, the Muller siblings boarded a bus, and Jim Muller was back at Notre Dame by the morning of March 26. Muller said his further involvement in the Civil Rights Movement after that last leg of the final Selma march. Even so, Muller said the same concern for social justice that led him to board the bus to Selma motivated him years later to campaign against nuclear war — and win a Nobel Peace Prize. Muller had studied Russian at Notre Dame, and at John Hopkins Medical School, he became more aware of the possibility of nuclear war between the United States and the Soviet Union. In 1980, he and several other Soviet and American doctors founded the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, which worked to educate the public and promote discussion about the dangers of a nuclear war. Muller’s writing spurred action.

"We were all horrified that a minister would be beaten to death just because he was helping a minority group exercise voting rights," Muller said. "So a call went out from the march for people to join them, and that’s what I heard.

Muller took a bus from South Bend to Indianapolis, where he, his brother John, class of 1969, and his sister Joanne, a student at Maryville Catholic College, boarded the city’s Greyhound bus station. There, they received a crash course on nonviolent civil disobedience.

The bus traveled through the night, arriving at the City of St. Jude’s on the outskirts of Montgomery. Thousands of people filled the City of St. Jude’s athletic field, preparing for the final march to the governor’s mansion. Notable guardsmen rings the edge. Muller said in spite of the National Guard’s protective presence and the media’s close coverage, he did not feel entirely safe.

"I felt there was some risk involved, but people do many things for the sake of where there’s a benefit to doing it," he said. "So I accepted that risk, but I was a little afraid.

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SEEING WITH THE EYES OF THE HEART (EPH 1:18):
Cultivating a Sacramental Imagination in an Age of Pornography

March 26—27

What is the effect of pornography on the human imagination and relationships? In a culture of pervasive pornography, how can we cultivate the capacity to behold one another as women and men created in the image of God (Gen 1:27) and redeemed in the image of Christ (2 Cor 3:18)?

The public is welcome to attend any of the conference sessions listed below.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26 | AT NOTRE DAME ECK VISITORS CENTER AUDITORIUM

8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
Lady Chapel, Basilica of the Sacred Heart

9 a.m. Welcome and Introduction
Auditorium, Eck Visitors Center

I. The Visual Culture of Pornography and the Pornographic Imagination

9:10—9:30 a.m.
The Character of Contemporary Pornography
Erica Sacher, Professor and Chair of Communication, University of Massachusetts at Amherst

9:30—10 a.m.
Pornography’s Influence on Men
William Struthers, Associate Professor of Psychology, Wheaton College

10:15—10:45 a.m.
Pornography’s Influence on Women
Jill C. Manning, PhD, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist specializing in research and clinical work on pornography

10:45—11:15 a.m.
Pornography and Sexual Violence
Mary Anne Layden, Professor of Clinical Psychology and Psychiatry and Director of the Sexual Trauma and Psychopathology Program, University of Pennsylvania

11:15—11:50 a.m. Discussion

II. The Sacramental Imagination and the Visual Culture of Catholicism

1—2:15 p.m.
The Sacramental Imagination
Kimberly Belcher, Assistant Professor of Theology, University of Notre Dame
David W. Faegerberg, Associate Professor of Theology, University of Notre Dame

2:30—3:45 p.m.
The Visual Culture of Catholicism
Dianne Phillips, Independent Scholar

4—5:20 p.m.
Graduate Student Panel
Ascension, Prayer, and a Sacramental Imagination
Carl Vennstrom, Villanova University

The Force Behind the Age: The Consideration of Dominandi in Assessing a Sacramental Imagination
C. A. Chace, Saint John’s School of Theology-Seminary

Reforming Our Minds through the Eucharist
Nathanial Peters, Boston College

Sacramental Vision vs. Purevserse Aesthetics
Michael Anthony Abril, University of Notre Dame

FRIDAY, MARCH 27 | AT SAINT MARY’S VANDER VENNET THEATRE

8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
Regina Chapel, Regina Hall

III. Cultivating a Sacramental Imagination

A. Visual Culture on the Campus of a Catholic College
9–10:20 a.m.
Beauty is God’s Visiblity: The Educational Philosophy of Sister Madeleva Wolff, CSC
Gail Porter Mandell, Professor Emeritus of Humanistic Studies, Saint Mary’s College

B. Resources in the Christian Tradition for the Cultivation of a Sacramental Imagination
10:30–11:40 a.m. Panel
The Spiritual Senses
Boyd Taylor Coolman, Associate Professor of Theology, Boston College

The Practice of the Corporal Works of Mercy: Seeing Christ at the Table of the Peter Claver Catholic Worker
Nick Ogle, MTS student, University of Notre Dame, and staff member of the Peter Claver Catholic Worker

The Song of Songs and the Sacrament of Marriage
Ann Astell, Professor of Theology, University of Notre Dame

12:45–1:45 p.m. Undergraduate Student Panel
Matters of the Heart
Dana-Kirstie Pineda, College of Mount Saint Vincent

Where Lust Meets Life: A Phenomenological Study of Lust in a Culture of Pornography
Andrew J. Hoy, Walsh University

Reclaiming the Mystery, Truth and Dignity of Man and Woman in a Porn-Saturated World
Dionis Kastawa, University of Michigan

Seeing with Eyes of the Heart
Brandon Turk, Holy Cross College

2–4 p.m. Stapleton Lounge
Learning to See: The Sacralized Vision of Byzantine Iconography
Presentation and Icon Writing Workshop | Pre-registration required
Randi Sider-Rose, Iconographer

C. The Healing of Vision
4:15–5 p.m. Panel
The Healing of Vision
John Cavadias, Professor of Theology and Director of the Institute for Church Life, University of Notre Dame

The Healing Power of Beauty
Jennifer Newsome Martin, Assistant Professor of the Program of Liberal Studies, University of Notre Dame

5:15 p.m. Eucharistic Liturgy
Regina Chapel, Regina Hall

Sponsored by The Center for Spirituality at Saint Mary’s College, with support from the Our Sunday Visitor Institute.

Co-sponsored by:
Saint Mary’s College: Belves Against Violence (SBVA), Campus Ministry, Office of Student Affairs, University of Notre Dame: Campus Ministry, Department of Theology, Gender Relations Center, Institute for Church Life, Holy Cross College: The Division of History, Philosophy & Theology

CENTER FOR SPIRITUALITY
SAINT MARY’S COLLEGE
Visit saintmarys.edu/seeing for conference details or call (574) 284-4636.
Assault CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“silence, passivity or lack of ac-
tive resistance” or given if a per-
son is threatened.

“Anyone initiating any kind of sexual contact with another per-
son must seek consent and not engage in sexual contact unless consen-
sual consent is clearly given,” email said.

Further quoting Lacle, the email said sexual miscon-
duct is inconsistent with the University’s mission by putting every-
one in the community is re-
sponsible for maintaining a safe and respectful environment.

“On college campuses, per-
petrators are more likely to as-
sault an acquaintance than a stranger,” the email read. “Being aware of your own safety and watching out for your friends are

Memorial CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to grasp, McCormick said.

“We ponder this event, the death of someone with such love and compassion for others, who suffered so greatly on the inside,” McCormick said. “We are anxious, too, by the fact that Lisa is not the only one to feel this way. We ask ourselves how is it that we can deal with this in the future.”

McCormick thanked the Yongs for their openness with the Notre Dame community.

“The Notre Dame family owes the Yongs a great debt because if it were not for you, for your will-
ingness to allow us to be so hon-
est about what it is, we would not be able to help those who feel the same way, who feel that they are alone … who feel that it is im-
possible for anyone else to experience this type of pain,” McCormick

Selma CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

two courses will consist of an independent research project supervised by a Notre Dame faculty member and an expe-

Rome CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

graphic importance steps you can take to reduce the risk of sexual assault. The University also notes the survivor, is responsible for any instance of sexual assault.

“Nothing a survivor does or does not do can excuse for sexual assault.”

Information about sexual as-
sault and resources for survivors can be found at ndsp.nd.edu and csap.nd.edu

Adoration CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Weilbacher said. “This is a chance for us to reciprocate that gift and invite the other campuses come to Jesus here at Saint Mary’s. I always love to be able to celebrate the feast with as many people as possible.

Weilbacher said

Annunciation is the highest Marian feast day, for it cel-
bates Mary’s acceptance of God’s plan to give her a son. “Human history centers around that event where God became man, out of pure love for us,” Weilbacher said. “Our only response can be to adore Him and love Him as best we can. Jesus is con-
stantly calling to us, waiting for us to give Him even the slightest glance and return the love that He gives to us every moment of our lives.”

The adoration itself will al-
low students to participate as Weilbacher said it involves a variety of prayers and songs in honor of Mary. According to Weilbacher, each hour will begin with a different prayer, including the four mysteries of the rosary, litanies to Mary and meditations written by Fr.

“We wanted to incorporate some of our own Holy Cross tradi-
tions by including one of the meditations written by Fr. Basil Moreau and a few poems to the Blessed Virgin writ-
ten by Sr. Madeleva (Wolf),” Weilbacher said. “Then when we celebrate the Annunciation and honor Mary, she gives that glory to God, and it is magnified.”

Weilbacher said her past participation in 24-hour adorations at her home par-
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Dillon CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

joins moral and spiritual growth with intellectual learning in the residence hall and the classroom.”

The current roster of Dillon Hall is Fr. Paul Doyle, who has served in this position since 1997, according to the press release.

“The rector role at Notre Dame is unique within high-
er education,” Erin Hoffmann Hartling, coordinator of student affairs, said. “While they have other important responsibilities, rectors serve first and foremost as shepherds of our cherished residential community.”

“This wonderfully gener-
ous gift,” said Fr. Jim and Chris is a powerful affirmation of the importance of this role to Notre Dame’s undergraduate education,” James Corgel ‘73 earned his B.A. and M.B.A from Notre Dame and participated in the Irish National Scholars Program as an undergraduate, the press release said. Corgel retired from IBM in 2013, where he was a member of the se-

Dillon house resident, I experienced great coach-

press release said. He cur-
rently serves as chair of the University’s Undergraduate Advisory Council and previously served on the Graduate Studies and Research Advisory Council, the press release said. He also received the 2006 Distinguished Alumnus award, according to the press release.

His wife, Christine Corgel, earned her B.A. from Michigan State University and served in a variety of ex-

Chapel,” said Msgr. Michael O’Donnell, the vice president of student affairs.

Chey said the application process for next year’s Rome International Scholars Program is in progress from now until April 17. Anywhere from eight to 10 students will be selected to participate in the program’s pilot year.

“Students in the new inter-
national scholars program will be selected from across the disciplines and departments,” Chey said. “I would stress that this is a special kind of Italian

“Weberger has served in this position for the past seven years,” Corgel said.

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I stepped outside early this past Monday morning, clad in Sperry’s and sans socks with only a light jacket. Sure, it was a little brisk out, but it wasn’t bad at all — I headed to class no worse for wear. I’d been enjoying the span of pleasant weather the weekend had brought to campus.

Flash forward to the conclusion of my biweekly hour and fifteen minutes of Strategic IT. Stepping outside DeBartolo Hall, I felt as though the seasons had shifted: six inches of snow blanketed the ground, and a veritable blizzard swirled around me. Snow blanketed the ground, and a veritable blizzard swirled around me.

I can see it now: Gale-force winds buffeted him from all sides, and he raises his voice to be heard. “And now that we’ve conveniently re-centered campus with our Crossroads Project, admitted students get to experience even more of nature with longer walks to class.” Sun begins to peek through the clouds and the rain fades, as Father Jenkins dabs at his dripping forehead with his pocket square. “This is the Notre Dame difference.”

Oh, South Bend, how I love your weather. Nowhere but Notre Dame do aerospace engineers have the privilege of walking through a wind tunnel on their way to class. Nowhere else does the swim team get extra practice swimming across the lakes formed by uneven sidewalks. One thing is certain, however. No matter how much the temperature falls below zero, and in spite of the fact that winter jackets are still being worn in March, campus still manages to look absolutely beautiful every day — and that is what keeps me going every morning as I look out the window, sigh, and start layering.

Contact Brian Lach at blach@nd.edu

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

Money madness

The distribution of all that money is part of the deal. Nearly three-fourths of the revenue is earmarked by the NCAA for various programs such as financial aid and academic programs. The remaining $194 million is distributed based on performance in the tournament. Each game participated in counts as a “unit.” Each “unit” is worth $255,379, paid to the school’s conference each year for six years. Altogether, winning a game in the tournament will earn a school’s conference roughly $1.6 million when it’s all said and done. Within the conference, the money is typically split evenly, so even though only six teams from the ACC made the tournament this year, all 15 members will receive a cut. On the first day of the tournament this year, a single point decided five games. Roughly $8 million changed hands based on five possessions of basketball.

Outside of TV contracts, still more big money changes hands because of March Madness. A recent survey estimated $9 billion would be bet on the men’s tournament this year. About $2 billion of that will be placed in bracket pools. And it’s important to note that companies, such as Quicken Loans last year, often create free pools with cash prizes in the hopes of gaining new customers. In Las Vegas, betting on March basketball outfits the revenues for the Super Bowl. March Madness commands the attention of the nation, and it also commands the nation’s wallets.

The pride and passion on display during March Madness have few equals in sports. The unpredictable nature of the tournament draws fans of all levels of engagement to watch, fill out brackets and bet. While the players and coaches are the stars of the show, it is the vast amount of money behind the scenes that makes it all possible. The NCAA, college conferences, Las Vegas and television broadcasters all have a vested interest in creating and increasing the emotional connection and excitement you feel every March. So cheer and scream and pray for your favorite team to go all the way — I certainly will. But in the midst of the Madness, try to remember that there are dozens of organizations depending on your passion to cash in on college basketball.

Tim Scanlan is a senior finance major with a minor in public service. He is a former resident of Morrissey Manor. He encourages debate on his columns and can be reached with any comments or questions at tscanlan@nd.edu

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
On Monday, Senator Ted Cruz of Texas announced his candidacy for the 2016 Republican presidential nomination. He is the first major candidate to officially enter next year’s race. This column isn’t about 2016, though. It’s hardly about Ted Cruz. It’s almost about where Senator Cruz made his announcement — Liberty University, founded by Pastor Jerry “the gays caused 9/11” Falwell — but not quite. Really, it’s about religion in politics.

This also isn’t a column about Ted Cruz’s chances for the nomination. He may not be the party favorite, but he’s a high-profile senator with an active base in the “religious right.” He’s certainly relevant enough for us to be alarmed by his rhetoric and his populism. I’m not going to tell you not to vote for him, since that would imply my asking you to vote for someone else — and I certainly won’t be supporting Scott Walker, Jeb Bush, Hillary Clinton or anyone else thrown into the ring by the economic elite. I just want to tell you why you should be alarmed.

Ted Cruz is a dominionist, and he’s far from alone. Dominionism holds that Christians should work towards a country where the government is run according to the principles of their religion. It’s effectively Sharia law for Christians. This doctrine rears its ugly head every time someone makes a political argument that invokes religion, however seemingly harmless.

The dominionist point of view generally comes with two arguments. The first is that the United States is a Christian nation that has lost its way; the second is that moving towards Christian government is the right thing to do. The first is wholly historical. The first amendment to the U.S. Constitution prevents an establishment of religion, with the clause that it was intended to maintain a separation of church and state. The 1796 Treaty of Tripoli, ratified unanimously by the Senate and signed by President John Adams in 1797, explicitly stated, “the Government of the United States of America is not, in any sense, founded on the Christian religion.” I’m hardly one to make an argument of authority from the Founding Fathers, but the dominionist history is all wrong.

Every time someone invokes religion in a political argument, however, they vindicate the dominionists little by little. The fact is, it’s really unnecessary. If God tells you not to kill, you can still make an argument against murder that doesn’t require someone to share your religion. If you can’t make an argument for a policy without religious appeals, then maybe the policy belongs in your church, not in public governance.

No one is actually arguing for rule by the Bible. In no uncertain terms, the Bible says that rich men will not go to heaven. Opponents of this like to point to the following claim that all things are possible through God, but that’s hardly an argument to do everything. Best to just ignore the rules for all sins, big and small, and still hope to get into heaven, because all things are possible through God. It’s straight denial.

So, what happens is that a religious group will take their holy text, pick around for their preferred morality and declare that they have “the truth” and that their country must heed “the truth” or be struck down by God. That’s what caused 9/11 and Katrina, apparently. Almost invariably, true belief is reserved for the followers, while leaders manipulate the movement for personal gain. The most extreme may not be the majority, but they have done ingratiated themselves into the public sphere for so long that every major candidate of every major party must claim at some point to be guided by their faith, preferably their Christian faith, in their decisions. Where the Constitution bans a legal test of religion for office, religious groups have made one in the court of public opinion. So you either get only those of certain religious beliefs, or you get those willing to lie to get into power. What could go wrong?

History shows that when reactionary groups motivated by religion take power, those who hold different beliefs suffer. Every time you think about bringing faith into politics, think about what would happen to you if a different religious sect won out. Next time you almost draw on religious principles rather than secular values or basic human empathy for a political decision, ask yourself if a theocracy is truly in your favor. Even if you’re comfortably in the Christian majority, ask yourself if value making up your own mind. If so, do not think that they wouldn’t come for you like they once got rid of people like me, if so, don’t think they won’t come for you someday.

William McMahon is a senior studying Latin American history and is active in the labor movement. He welcomes all comments at wmcmahon@nd.edu. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

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**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

**Student Leadership at the GRC**

Do you have a lot to say about what’s going on around campus, but nowhere constructive to say it? Do you want to make a positive impact on issues like interpersonal relationships, gender identity, sexual identity, embodiment and sexual assault or relationship violence? These topics are important to the Notre Dame community, but often times, students don’t know where to go to get involved in the conversation. We wanted to change this, and that’s why we applied to be student leaders with the Gender Relations Center (GRC); most GRC student leaders echo these sentiments:

- “I became a FIREStarter student leader for the GRC because it gave me the voice I needed to try to help change the gender relations issues that I had noticed at Notre Dame. I realized in my first year here that it is very important to have ongoing discussion about gender issues such as sexual violence, relationships, friendships, sexual identity, gender identity and body image. I learned that the GRC was the best route I could take to attack these issues head-on.” — Michael Nolan, senior

- “I really wanted to learn more about gender issues on campus and the intersections with gender and race. I also wanted to become an advocate for better gender relations on campus.” — Chizoh Ekechukwu, junior

- “I decided to join the GRC as a student leader because I wanted to be directly involved in facilitating campus dialogue concerning gender relations, interpersonal relationships and other pertinent topics. Prior to my experience in the GRC, I had a shallow understanding of the important issues at hand, and I really wanted to have a better gauge of the campus climate.” — Michael McFadden, junior

If you’re thinking, “Having conversations with my friends, or even thinking about these topics myself, is hard enough. How am I supposed to feel comfortable talking about these things with the student body at large?” You’re not alone. Many of us were nervous going into the process of being GRC student leaders, but you really are in a position to make a difference.

- “I realized as students, despite all our griping about gender relations at Notre Dame, we tend to perpetuate these norms because we don’t want to risk rejection. Being a FIREStarter with the GRC is not about giving permission to break norms but about creating spaces where students feel safe to do so of their own volition.” — Jenn Cha, sophomore

- “With issues of gender, sexuality and sexual assault, institutional policy is only part of the solution. It’s just as important to have a community that engages with these issues. I joined the FIREStarters because I wanted to help spark that kind of community. I am grateful for the training and professional development that I have been able to take part in but even more so for the opportunity to talk to students, especially first year students, about how we can make campus a safer, better, safer Notre Dame family.” — Bryan Ricketts, junior

- “Being a GRC student leader has definitely introduced me to people who I have come to call good friends through our efforts to spread awareness of certain issues on our campus. I have seen my peers gain a better understanding of these issues, even those who were not as quick to be open-minded. I think our campus is moving in the right direction for positive reform!” — Justin Jones, junior

We have valued being GRC student leaders during our time here at ND, and we need new leaders like you to join us in the future. Take a risk, spark some dialogue and apply for a leadership position with the Gender Relations Center for the 2015-2016 academic year. Applications are available at grc.nd.edu and will be accepted through Friday, March 27 at 11:59 p.m. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to current student leaders and/or the GRC.

Rachel Wallace, senior

Deirdre Harrington, junior

March 24
Daniel Barabasi
Scene Writer

It’s official. We’ve heard about them flirting for a while. They’ve gone on a few dates through the 3DS and WiiU app store. But just last week, they came out with the big news: Nintendo and mobile are truly together.

The story isn’t exactly the neat Nicholas Sparks novel. Rather, it plays out like that of high school sweethearts. Nintendo, the haughty jock with a reputation to keep, had spoken out against its alleged interest in mobile gaming for a long time. Over the past two years, company president Satoru Iwata repeatedly told journalists Nintendo would not go mobile under any circumstances and dismissed any analysis of Nintendo actions that would point toward mobile as a misunderstanding of offhand remarks.

Then Nintendo made a joint announcement with the mobile gaming company DeNA detailing the upcoming modifications to Nintendo’s core platform. Nintendo announced it would be making the mobile games itself, implying that DeNA will be mainly involved as an expert on the business and institutional front. Furthermore, Nintendo has pulled back on its membership program, Club Nintendo, with the intent to develop a more unified solution through DeNA. The deal was solidified with a 22 billion yen capital exchange ($184 million), which corresponds to Nintendo giving DeNA 1.24 percent of its stock and receiving 18 percent of total DeNA stock in return.

So other than a giant bump in the two companies’ trading values, what can we can we hope from the digital? Probably not much.

Unfortunately, the details of what Nintendo mobile will look like have been more ambiguous than the castle Princess Peach was last seen in. What has been made clear is that Nintendo mobile will not be a professionally-developed SNES or GBA emulator. Satoru Iwata firmly believes games developed for Nintendo consoles are not compatible with the mobile interface. Personally I agree, as doing so would not offer a concrete vision for the direction of Nintendo mobile.

What are the other options? On the one hand, Nintendo mobile could become a “demo” version of console games. Think Age of Empires and Sid Meier’s Civilization, both of which released simplified, mobile renditions of their widely popular desktop franchise. On Nintendo’s end, however, these would not be full games but rather a form of marketing that would drive users to acquire the console rendition.

Alternatively, Nintendo could create completely free-standing experiences, either using previous characters or developing new dimensions that would simply develop the trademark as a whole. Nintendo has been pushing for a “successful” online game initiative, which may mean such full-bodied mobile games would be their choice. However, the main drawback is Japan has a strong free-to-play culture for mobile, one DeNA has adhered to.

In order to turn a profit, it seems like Nintendo is turning towards the second option and incorporating a freemium gaming dynamic. On the 3DS, various “apps” have been released that allow for purchase of new minigames or “energy” to keep playing. Initiatives like these make me feel like the days where the Wii reminded users once an hour to go outside or read a book for once. As a die-hard Nintendo fan, I worry for the future of my Pokémon and villagers. Pay-to-win games bastardize the base Nintendo experience. Remember the first Mario games? Where you actually had to have skill to beat the game? Freemium kills that. When the going gets hard, just buy a Deku Nut. Or if you’re not a fan of the new techniques of zero suit Samus, chuck your cash towards getting her suit back.

All in all, Nintendo is still a company. If mobile games overshadow console revenue, then guess where the capital will be reinvested.

I have a Wii for the social gaming it provides, be it Mario Kart, Brawl or Jeopardy. I have a Nintendo handheld for commutes but honestly mostly to play Pokémon. I love the time I spend on each, and I don’t want either Falcon Punch’d out of the spotlight to make room for Donkey Kong’s Mobile Beat.

Contact Daniel Barabasi at dbaraba1@nd.edu
The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

By DANIEL O’BOYLE
Scene Writer

George Lewis Jr., better known as Twin Shadow, keeps his album titles short, never using more than a simple two-syllable word to make his statement for the album clear.

2010’s “Forget” was an intimate piece of bedroom synth-pop. Its deliberately limited production and thoughtful lyrics ensured it remains his most personal work. The result is a scattered album, where Lewis’ brilliant songwriting is sometimes there but not enough to make the whole album memorable.

The good songs on “Eclipse” are still definitely some great work. The second track of the album, “When the Lights Turn Out” drags you in towards its memorable chorus like Lewis did time and again on “Confess” and builds itself up as it goes on, with the chorus of “jealousy and ecstasy slowly taking over me” becoming more and more addictive.

But “When the Lights Turn Out” is found among some decidedly average tracks. The album opener “Flatliners” never really drags you in; if Lewis was hoping to make an album bigger than anything he’s done before, he’s lost any kind of personal touch in doing so. Too many tracks on the album feature loud, buzzing synths which may mean such full-bodied mobile games would be their choice. However, the main drawback is Japan has a strong free-to-play culture for mobile, one DeNA has adhered to.

In order to turn a profit, it seems like Nintendo is turning towards the second option and incorporating a freemium gaming dynamic. On the 3DS, various “apps” have been released that allow for purchase of new minigames or “energy” to keep playing. Initiatives like these make me feel like the days where the Wii reminded users once an hour to go outside or read a book for once. As a die-hard Nintendo fan, I worry for the future of my Pokémon and villagers. Pay-to-win games bastardize the base Nintendo experience. Remember the first Mario games? Where you actually had to have skill to beat the game? Freemium kills that. When the going gets hard, just buy a Deku Nut. Or if you’re not a fan of the new techniques of zero suit Samus, chuck your cash towards getting her suit back.

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George Lewis’s Engagement

obsCured: George Lewis Jr.’s ‘Eclipse’

unforgettable piano hook and screams of “drill me to the floor.” If Lewis was done with personal albums, more work like this could have been somewhere for him to go, but instead it feels a little out of place and although it quickly improves, it starts off rough before thankfully lurching into a more pleasant gear.

“Eclipse” was released only days after Northern Europe experienced a solar eclipse, which served as a useful reminder of the realities of an eclipse: they’re often obscured by cloud and not quite the sight that they could have been. If this was the kind of image Lewis hoped to convey with this album, he achieved his goal. If not, “Eclipse” is a hit-or-miss affair with some brilliance but too much obscuring it.

Contact Daniel O’Boyle at doboy1@nd.edu
Artistic memories of the Great War

By ERIN MCAFULIFE
Scene Writer

A collision of media, history and discussion will take place in the Debatboro Performing Arts Center tonight. “WWI In the Graphic Novels: A Drawing Cabaret,” hosted by the Nanovic Institute for European Studies and the Film, Television and Theater (FTT) Department, will combine acting, drawing and an audience-centered discussion in memorial of the First World War.

Four artists chose texts that served as inspiration for their works, and four actors from the FTT department will perform each text. There will be an ongoing discussion with the graphic novelists, while one of the artists performs a live drawing of the text he or she chose. A camera will project the drawing process for the audience.

The event has been a work-in-progress since Jim McAdams, the Director of the Nanovic Institute, and Anthony Monta, the Associate Director, approached Olivier Morel for an innovative event to mark the 100th anniversary of the First World War (1914-1918). Morel, a native of France with three ancestors who fought in the Great War, took on the project.

“We tend to forget that it was not just a ‘world’ war in the sense that many nations and people were involved,” he said. “It is also about the scale: with this war, the world, the ancient world, was upside down.”

At the time, nearly everyone in France, Belgium, the U.K., Italy, the Balkans, Central Europe and Germany felt the war’s consequences. The stories remain prevalent today, and Morel has a few of his own.

“One of my great-grandfather’s ships sunk in the Strait — he survived after spending 48 hours on a small piece of wood. The other one, who was a very poor illiterate peasant, got a severe head injury that kept him from working. He died eight years after the war due to the consequences of his injury.”

Morel has approached the First World War in creative and insightful ways before.

“At a personal level, I have worked extensively on this conflict: from 1995 until 2004, I traveled around the world, and I interviewed and filmed many WWI veterans — they were all 85 years old and older. I wrote two books on the subject, put together an exhibit that was displayed in several venues including the Gare de l’Est train station (where many soldiers left from), and I am currently completing a web documentary with the international television channel TVS.”

Tonight’s event will focus on the graphic novel as a medium for “writing and storytelling with a strong relationship to artistic and literary traditions, as well as photography, sociology and cinema,” Morel said.

The event will feature four graphic novelists who embody these ideals. Mael & Kris are currently turning their four-volume graphic novel, “Notre Mere la Guerre,” into a feature film, Chloé Cruchaudet’s graphic novel “Mauvais Genre” was inspired by a true story, and Ivan Petrus, who published “The Nieuport Gathering,” has a personal family history that links him to the subject.

“One of the most interesting developments in the sector of graphic novels that I have experimented and taught is ‘documentary graphic novels’ or ‘comics journalism,’” Morel said. “Interestingly, the four artists that I invited are very active in this sector.”

The inclusion of ‘comics journalism’ in the event will lend itself to topical discussions of the Charlie Hebdo attacks in Paris in January, Morel said.

“Several of the artists know some of the people who were killed or targeted at Charlie Hebdo, so the audience will hear from firsthand connections,” Morel said.

The event will be held at Philbin Studio Theatre in DPAC tonight at 7 p.m. Tickets are free and can be reserved online.

By JOHN DARR
Scene Writer

It’s 6:19 p.m., and I’m in my dark, cramped, single dorm room with clothes all over; I’m out of Nutter Butters. I got two hours of sleep last night. I have a six-page paper I haven’t started due tomorrow. I have to find a date for Saturday’s dance. My bracelet is destroyed. I have music review to write. Someone’s knocking at my door again. “Come in, I guess,” I say.

“Are you okay, man?” asks a voice.

“I’ve had a migraine for four straight days now, if that’s what you’re asking, and I have to write a Death Grips review.”

“Oh Lord,” says Dan as he peaks his head around the corner of my desk. He’s a fashionable, tall fellow whose only shortcoming as a hipster is his lack of Death Grips fanaticism.

“Yeah, I mean their new record is actually pretty good, but I don’t want to write about it that much, and I sure as hell don’t want to go through the whole history of Death Grips again.”

Dan says, “Weren’t they the band that got picked up by a major label and then leaked their own album for free with one of the band member’s *$$’s on the cover?” I laugh. “Yeah, this is actually the first album they haven’t released for free and the first one that they’re actually asking people to pay for.”

Dan looks interested. “What does it sound like exactly?”

“A lot of it is actually really guitar-driven. Whereas a lot of their past records really built up the ‘beats’ vocal-ist MC Ride (real name Stefan Burnett) who raps or yells over catchy synth lines and massive, twisted samples ranging from Bollywood to Pink Floyd. The new record — well, actually, the way I’m phrasing it is kind of confusing. The new record, half of it was released last year. Like the whole album — it’s a double album — is called ‘The Powers That B’ and it comes in two parts, one of which was released last year and one of which was just released last week. So I guess I have to talk about both parts.”

“The first part, called N** on the Moon, often abbreviated as NOTM, which is an odd title, because MC Ride, as the only black member of the group, has used every profane word in the book except for the one in the title just told you. And he doesn’t really address race in his lyrics.”

“But anyway, that record was basically built on the drumming work of Zach Hill, who’s been a core member of the band since day one. He’s always been bringing the fire with his beats, both acoustic and electronic. So for NOTM, he basically put a bunch of samples — drum, samples, synths and samples of Björk singing — on an electronic drum set and hammered out the beats all by himself. They’re lightning fast, erratic and really percussive.”

“MC Ride’s rapping is as crazy and frenzied as ever. His words sprint from insane violence to technology-in-duced paranoia to psychological terror and even symbol-ic social commentary over Hills’ relentless beats. I don’t know how much work Flatlander — the last core member of the band, the producer — put into the record, but there are some amazing moments on it.”

“For example, the record’s first track, titled ‘Up My Sleeves,’ is about death and using your own destruction as some tool against your enemies — very kamikaze, a tactic which the group has referenced before. But any- way, there’s a moment on the track where everything cuts out, and MC Ride just describes this cemetery scene and contemplates the point of an ultimately transient existence and wonders if he even wants to say if anything matters. And all you hear is this nightly haze, this surrounding group of still crickets, unable to answer him, and capturing the environment perfectly. Death Grips are almost never quiet; the juxtaposition of their normal style with this moment of relative peace, and yet ultimate doubt, is stunning.”

“There are moments like that all over the record. MC Ride raps, ‘I don’t talk to the help,’ clearly a reference to the past ‘unofficial’ slavery of black servants post-Civil War, before shrieking ‘help!’ repeatedly after that state-ment — contradicting himself immediately if we assume he’s calling for the people he just claimed to be indepen-dent from or higher than.”

“And then this new record, this second half of ‘The Powers That B’ that’s called ‘Jenny Death,’ is instrumen-tally drenched in roaring guitars courtesy of Tera Melos’ Nick Reinhart and all in all is a far more acoustic endeavors. Zach Hill’s back on the acoustic drum, hammering out sick beats, and MC Ride’s yelling out these absurd lines. What’s a better way to end your last record than by meeting Death on your front porch and having him say, ‘It’s been a pleasure, Stefan!’ Did I already tell you that MC Ride’s real name is Stefan Burnett?”

Dan smiles and laughs. “Yeah, you did.” I laugh. “Alright, well I’m gonna have to write this re-view now. It’s probably gonna be really unfocused and mediocre. Sorry to kick you out.”

The door closes. I look at the blank page on my comput-er screen. I realize that by some miracle, I haven’t been talking to Dan, but rather I’ve been writing this review the entire time. Thank goodness it’s over.

Contact John Darr at jdadjr@nd.edu
ACC proves itself best conference

By Brian Plamondon Sports Writer

Bracket busted? Yup, mine too. But we’re not alone. Out of 11.57 million brackets filled out on the ESPN College Basketball Bracketnik, none was perfect after the first weekend of play in this year’s NCAA men’s tournament. In true ACC tradition, we missed all the Sweet 16 teams correctly.

I could write about how this team will shock everyone and make the Final Four or how that team is a lock to win it all. But after more than 20 hours of basketball braying my brain last weekend, I still don’t know what’s going to happen — and that’s the beauty of it.

So I won’t waste my time on what amounts to a guessing game. I’d rather write about something I’m certain of: the Atlantic Coast Conference is the best of the USA college basketball conference in the country, and it’s not even close.

After a season in which punt- ing games became the norm and rallied the likes of the Big Ten and Big 12, it’s the ACC once again proving otherwise.

The Cardinals a Duke team that is as good as ever this year with three of its four losses coming to fellow Sweet 16 teams — not to mention it has a Player of the Year candidate in freshman forward Jahlil Okafor. Oh, and they just so happen to dismiss their first two opponents by an average of 24 points. Not bad.

Notre Dame and Louisville both are relative newcomers from the Big East but have wasted no time asserting themselves in the ACC. Notre Dame does seem to do more with less every single year, this time showing their penchant for winning close games isn’t just limited to the regular season. Louisville went toe-to-toe with Kentucky in December, eventually losing 58-50: a lot more respectable than Big 12 champ Kansas’s 32-point loss to the undefeated Wildcats. They also moved on to the Sweet 16 even though Chris Jones, one of Kentucky’s best playmakers, was dismissed from the team in February.

North Carolina only had one loss to a team not in the tournament, falling to Pittsburgh. On their way to the Sweet 16, the Tar Heels handled an Arkansas team that needed to be second-best in the SEC.

North Carolina State boasts one of the best backcourts in the country, a group which powered the Wolfpack past No. 1 seed Villanova, the best the Big East had to offer. This is all without mentioning Virginia, the ACC regular-season champion that inexplicably fell in the round of 32.

Just look at the numbers — the ACC had eight teams in the tournament through the first weekend, an unprecedented feat that will result in the NCAA distributing more money than ever from the conference over the next six years. If the success continues, the ACC would be the first conference to earn more than $30 million of one off. But sure, the ACC had a down year.

When you look at the competition, the gap is wide. The Big Ten fielded seven tournament teams, led by No. 1 seed Wisconsin. The Badgers, however, looked lackluster in a 14-point victory over Coastal Carolina. They followed that up by eking out a seven-point win over an Oregon team that suffered back-to-back losses to two dreadful teams, Washington and Washington State, in January.

The only other Big Ten team to make the Sweet 16 is Michigan State, a squad that was vastly underseeded at No. 7. The conference’s other seven seeds, Iowa, was dismantled by Gonzaga in Round 1. In short, it’s hard to make a case for the Big Ten.

How about the Big 12? The conference was praised as having the highest number of quality teams, with depth across the board. Seven teams made the Big Dance, and only two remain.

Two of their strongest teams, No. 3 seeds Baylor and Iowa State, lost to Georgia State and UNLV, respectively. You don’t need much of an explanation.

Two other teams had no business being in the tournament at all: Texas and Oklahoma State, which both finished with 14 losses and sub-.500 records in conference play.

And then there’s the crown jewel, Kansas, who went down without a fight against Wichita State.

The Big 12 and the Big Ten for that matter, have depth. But to be the best conference in basketball, it takes more than a bunch of quality teams beating up on one another. You need more than one elite team, teams that manhandle inferior opponents. You need teams that lurk in the periphery all season but have the ability to shock a top-10 team. The ACC has those teams — don’t be surprised if more than one ends up in Indianapolis.

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

Sharper pleads guilty in sexual assault case

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Former NFL star Darren Sharper pleaded guilty Tuesday in a Las Vegas to a reduced felony attempted sex assault charge, in the third part of a four-state plea deal that promises to pay him in federal prison for about nine years.

Appearing by Internet hook-up from a courtroom in Los Angeles, Sharper entered his plea before Clark County District Court Judge Douglas Herndon, who scheduled sentencing for June 25.

A plea agreement calls for Sharper to serve 38 months to eight years in prison for the Nevada conviction, but at the same time as sentences from California, Arizona and Louisiana.

On Monday, the 39-year-old Sharper pleaded guilty to sexual assault in Arizona — again using an Internet hook-up — and no contest in Los Angeles to raping two women he drugged after meeting them in a West Hollywood bar.

He was sentenced to nine years in the Arizona case and will face 20 years in the California case when he’s sentenced July 15. The

The California no-contest pleas have the same effect as a conviction, and state sentencing rules will have him serve about nine years.

Sharper is due in federal court April 6 in New Orleans, the city where he won a Super Bowl as a member of the NFL Saints from 1991-2010, and is scheduled to serve in Louisiana state court 10 days later.

Sharper won an orange jail uniform with “LA County” stamped over his chest pocket as he sat Tuesday in Los Angeles flanked by attorneys Blair Berk and Lisa Wayne.

One of his Las Vegas lawyers, Richard Schoenfeld, appeared on his behalf — first before a Las Vegas justice of the peace and then before Herndon.

The former all-pro cleared his throat and said, “Guilty,” when asked to enter his plea.

Sharper’s other lawyer, David Chesnoff, issued a statement noting that Sharper took responsibility for his misconduct.

Sharper could have faced 20 years to life in Nevada state prison on two sexual assault charges filed against him last week in Las Vegas.

Those charges were dropped as part of the plea agreement. Prosecutor Craig Hendricks said he spoke with the two victims, both in their mid-20s, before terms of Sharper’s plea deal were made public.

Sharper was accused of clubbing the women in January 2014 before taking them to his room at a Las Vegas hotel and raping them while they were unconscious.

Police and prosecutors characterized the Las Vegas case as weaker than in California, Arizona and Louisiana because the women didn’t report the attack until after they returned home and heard about similar allegations against Sharper.

District Attorney Steve Wolfson said Tuesday he was satisfied that Sharper was accepting responsibility for his crimes in Las Vegas and the other states.

Shaper retired in 2011 after a 14-year NFL career as the Green Bay Packers, Minnesota Vikings and New Orleans Saints Super Bowl in New Orleans.

He was working as an NFL network analyst when women began telling police in several cities similar stories of blacking out while drinking with him and waking up groggy to find they had been sexually assaulted.

Jack Nicklaus awarded congressional gold medal

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Golden Bear got a gold medal.

Congress on Tuesday awarded its highest civilian honor to golfing great Jack Nicklaus, who accepted the medal with a few tears, humility and humor.

In a ceremony in the Capitol Rotunda, the House and Senate leadership bestowed the award on Nicklaus, winner of 18 major championships, including six Masters titles, five PGA championships and four U.S. Opens.

“Few transcended their sport to achieve that kind of moment, or this kind of honor,” said House Speaker John Boehner, an avid golfer who grew emotional at times during the ceremony. “With Arnie (Palmer), it was how he brought an audience to the game — an army. With Jack, it’s how he gave the game a gold standard — a ladder to climb.”

The 75-year-old Nicklaus, dubbed the Golden Bear, recalled the hard work of his parents, praised his family and paid tribute to his wife, Barbara. He recalled that when his son Jack was six, he was asked what his father did for a living. The younger Nicklaus said, “Nothing, he just plays golf.”

An emotional Nicklaus told his family that his whole life he wanted to make them proud of him, and “hopefully I have.”

The speakers, from congressional leaders to Nicklaus’ son, recalled the drama of the golfer’s 1986 win at the Masters. They praised Nicklaus’ charitable work, including the Nicklaus Children’s Health Care Foundation, which recently pledged $40 million to the Miami Children’s Health System.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said Nicklaus had a brush with polio as a teenager. McConnell said that as a fellow survivor of polio he appreciated Nicklaus’ perseverance.

Attending the ceremony for Nicklaus was golfing legend Arnold Palmer. The Ohio State marching band performed for the Ohio-born Nicklaus.
SMC Falls to Elmhurst, Prepares for IIT, JCU
Observer Staff Report
Despite establishing an early 2-0 lead, Saint Mary's fell victim to an 8-0 scoring run en route to their 14-5 loss to Elmhurst on Saturday.
Sophomore goaliekeeper Shannon Weyer described herself as a presence in the Saint Mary’s net early, saving the first four shots she faced and giving the Belles defense a fair bit of early game momentum. Efficient ball movement in the defensive zone eventually resulted in an opportunity for freshman midfielder Clare Theisen, who drove toward the goal and scored to earn a 1-0 lead for the Belles.
The Belles’ offensive production would continue a few minutes later, as she scored her second goal of the afternoon to give the Belles a 2-0 lead with about twenty minutes remaining in the first half. Unfortunately for the Belles, the Elmhurst offense responded in kind soon after. Though offensive possessions were fairly even throughout the remainder of the first half, the Belles saw a few more opportunities within the 8-meter fan, the Blue Jays were able to capitalize on their chances and earn an 8-2 lead moving into halftime. This despite the continued efforts of Weyer, who had two strong saves in the closing moments of the half to prevent Elmhurst from expanding their lead before moving into the break.
The second frame allowed for an opportunity for Saint Mary’s to reclaim some offensive momentum early, as sophmore attack Emilee Vanneste managed to convert on a free position shot, making the score 8-3 with 24:38 remaining. The Blue Jays did not take long to respond, however, responding with a goal of their own four minutes later. This sparked the Elmhurst offense to score three more consecu- tive goals before the Belles managed to respond again. The Belles’ fourth goal on the afternoon came with 11 minutes remaining in regulation time, when Theisen caught a pass from freshman attack Hanna Makowski and converted on the ensuing shot to complete her hat trick. Still not done, Theisen would convert her fourth goal of the game in the closing moments of the match, bringing the final score to 14:5 in favor of Elmhurst.

Ellis Scores 38 in Win over Spurs
Associated Press
DALLAS — Monte Ellis provided an emphatic rebuff to Tuesday night's 2-0 lead and giving the Spurs a fair bit of early game momentum.

The Belles now look to continue their out-of-conference schedule in the early stages of the season, with their next two matches pitting Saint Mary’s against two other programs that have only recently entered the competitive league field: Illinois Tech and John Carroll. This is the first year that Illinois Tech (1-3) is a member of a formal conference. As an independent program in the Spring of 2014, the Scarlet Hawks posted a record of 0-11, scoring an average of 3.56 goals a game.

John Carroll’s program is one of the newest in the country — this season marks the first that the university has fielded a varsity women’s lacrosse team. The Ohio-based university has seen a fair amount of success in the early stages of their squad’s inaugural season — they currently hold a 4-2 record following a 21-1 victory over Wayneburg on Tuesday.

The Belles travel to face Illinois Tech on Thursday at 6 p.m. before returning home for their match against John Carroll on Saturday.

Westbrook Carries Thunder in Win
Associated Press
OKLAHOMA CITY — It would have been understandable for the Oklahoma City Thunder to overlook the struggling Los Angeles Lakers Tuesday night with a road game looming against defending NBA champs San Antonio.

Despite this, NBA scoring leader Russell Westbrook refused to let that happen, scoring 27 points and adding 11 assists as the Thunder beat the Lakers 127-117 for their fourth straight victory.

Westbrook took over the game after the Lakers had closed to 70-61 three less than three minutes into the second half, getting a steal and dunk and draining a 3-pointer seconds later on his way to a 14-point third quarter.

“Westbrook was a difficult man to guard,” Thunder coach Scott Brooks said. “He scored 27 points, 8 assists and 7 rebounds.”

Westbrook said the Thunder had to get back into the game after the Lakers had closed to 70-61 three less than three minutes into the second half, getting a steal and dunk and draining a 3-pointer seconds later on his way to a 14-point third quarter.

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Irish ready for matchup with Mastodons

By BENJAMIN PADANILAM
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will carry its five-game winning streak into its non-conference matchup with Purdue-Fort Wayne (IPFW) today at Melissa Cook Stadium at 5 p.m.

The Irish (19-11, 4-5 ACC) enter their game with the Mastodons (0-23, 0-3 Summit) having won five straight games, including four straight conference victories, to rebound from their 0-5 start in the ACC.

Despite the fact that the Mastodons are winless on the year, senior third baseman Katey Haus says that the team will treat this game as they would any other.

“T don’t think there’s any concern about overlook-ing IPFW,” Haus said. “We’re looking to take this season one game at a time and play our A-game regardless of the opponent.”

The Irish will likely send either sophomore Rachel Nasland or junior Alii Rhoades to the mound against the Mastodons. Nasland currently leads the team with 10 wins and a 2.42 ERA in 18 starts. In the series sweep of Georgia Tech this past weekend, she pitched two complete games and allowed just one run, including a one-hitter with 10 strikeouts in the series finale this past Sunday. This performance led her being named ACC Pitcher of the Week for the second straight week and third time in total this season. Rhodes, on the other hand, pitched three shutout innings in the team’s 13-0 win on Saturday. She has started 10 games for the Irish, and she currently holds a 3.68 ERA and a 7-4 record on the year.

The Irish bats have recently woken up as well, outscoring their opponents 44-5 during their five game winning streak. As a result, the team is now ranked in the top five in the conference in batting average, hits, stolen bases, slugging percentage and runs per game. They have been led on offense by the trio of Haus, junior first base Micaela Arizmendi and sophomore left fielder Karley Wester. Haus leads the team with eight home runs and is second in RBIs with 24 and batting average at .404. Wester leads the team with a .438 batting average and 15 steals, while Arizmendi has a team high 25 RBIs and trails only Haus with six home runs.

The Mastodons’ poor record is in large part due to their struggles both on the mound and at the plate. As a team, they hit just .186 and have 25 RBIs total through 23 games. Their pitching staff, consisting of junior Sarah Lazarowich, sophomore Kaitlyn Biere, and freshman Kaitlin Kovalski, have a combined ERA of 10.27 and an opponents have hit for a .389 average against them as a staff.

Over the next few weeks, Notre Dame’s schedule consists of one or two non-conference games in the middle of the week followed by a weekend series versus an ACC opponent. Haus believes that the formatting of the schedule in this way is beneficial for the team.

“These midweek non-conference games give us more opportunities to work in game situations to better prepare us for the weekend,” Haus said. “We’re focused on making sure we’re playing the way we can for a full seven innings every game. If we do that everything else will fall into place.”

Notre Dame will take the field later today against IPFW at Melissa Cook Stadium at 5 p.m.

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BELLES SET TO TAKE ON THUNDER

Observer Staff Report

After a strong start to their season, the Belles look to stay hot as they travel to Wheaton on Thursday.

Saint Mary’s (8-2) has not taken the field since a Spring Trip game in Florida on March 12 after their scheduled double-header against Dominican this past Sunday was postponed. Wheaton is not a familiar foe for Saint Mary’s, as the scheduled matchups between the Belles and the Thunder (6-7) were cancelled in both 2014 and 2013. The Belles’ early-season success has been in large part due to the team’s performance at the plate. Freshman outfielder Cassie Young currently leads the team in batting average at .452, registering 14 hits in 31 at-bats. Junior outfielder Sarah Callis is not far behind Young, however, registering a .424 average thus far.

The Belles have also received a significant amount of production from junior catcher/first baseman Jillian Busfield. Busfield, who was named first team all-MIAA and first team all-region in 2014, has been tearing the cover off the ball up to this point in the season. Through 10 games, Busfield has hit four home runs and has registered 16 RBIs, leading the team in both categories. Her slugging percentage of .735 far outpaces the player with the next highest percentage on the team, which is Young at .582.

The Thunder are led by Junior pitcher/first baseman Katie Thornton. Through just 13 regular season games, Thornton has already pitched six complete games, pitching a total of 50.1 innings thus far. Despite her heavy workload, Thornton has been very efficient, only giving up 16 earned runs while her opponents are hitting a mere .213 against her.

During the Belles’ spring trip to Clermont, Florida from March 7 to March 15, they outscored their opponents 61-28. On the contrary, the Thunder will be looking to get out of a slump and register their first home win of the season after starting 0-4 at home.

The Belles look to make their case as a legitimate MIAA title contender at Wheaton this Thursday at 3 p.m.
open midweek slot by adding Western Michigan (8-11, 1-2 MAC).

Sophomore right-hander Ryan Smoyer will get the start tonight for Notre Dame, making his third midweek start of the season. Smoyer earned the first win of his college career last Wednesday, giving up seven hits and one run in 4 1/3 innings against Central Michigan.

The Irish will face Broncos sophomore left-hander Kneegan Akin, who has a 3-1 record and 4.50 ERA in six starts this season. Akin started Sunday for Western Michigan, only lasting 2 1/3 of an inning and surrendering four runs, three of them earned, on four hits.

Despite Akin's struggles Sunday, Western Michigan avoided the sweep in its conference-opener series against Miami (Ohio) with a 9-5 victory. Junior infielder Hunter Prince paced the Broncos with two doubles and three RBIs, and junior infielder Kurt Hoekstra added two hits and two RBIs in Sunday's win.

Hoekstra currently leads Western Michigan with a .416 batting average, .489 on-base percentage, 16 runs scored, 32 hits, four triples and 21 RBIs. The next-highest batting average on the Broncos belongs to junior catcher Brett Sunde, who sports a .299 mark.

Akin said it will be key for the Irish to play with a renewed energy and focus, something he admitted they lacked at different points against Louisville.

"I think the big thing is for the first half of [Sunday's] game, I wasn't all that enthused with where our energy level was," he said. "I think the important thing for us is that we show up back on [Wednesday], and our engagement and compete level are back to where it's been. I thought in the latter half of the game we did that. We will get back to who and what we are, and the wins and losses will take care of themselves. We just have to worry about us trying to be as good as we can, both individually and collectively, and keeping that one-pitch-at-a-time mentality."

Notre Dame and Western Michigan will meet tonight at Frank Eck Stadium. First pitch is scheduled for 6:30 p.m.

Irish look to keep rolling

By ZACH KLONSINSKI
Sports Editor

After riding a special source of inspiration to a second-half touting of No. 14 Ohio State on Saturday at Arlotta Stadium, No. 18 Notre Dame looks to keep the momentum going tonight on the road against Marquette.

The Irish (5-4, 1-2 ACC) returned to their locker room after practice Friday night to find green jerseys hanging in their lockers. The next day, donning green for the first time in program history, Notre Dame tallied the first six goals of the second half to pull away from the Buckeyes (8-2, 0-0 Big Ten) by a final score of 13-5.

After a three-game losing streak to begin the month of March, the win was Notre Dame's second consecutive victory after a 15-8 victory over Virginia Tech on March 14. With lots of youth seeing time on the field and a number of key players returning after missing extended stretches last year, Irish head coach Christine Halfpenny said she witnessed a transformation in her team over spring break.

"I think it's just been [playing with] a lot more conviction," Halfpenny said. "I think kids have really settled into their role. ... I think that they're really getting comfortable in their contribution to the team.

"I think they've put expectations on themselves a little bit higher. You don't hear them anymore being like 'Oh, that's ok,' when a ball drops. They're saying 'I've got the next one.' A switch has been flipped for the team, and it's all been a natural process."

Halfpenny said she noticed Marquette's struggles in the second 30-minute period, and in particular, how Marquette 'sissy' half in both victories. Notre Dame exploded for a combined 18 goals in the second 30-minute periods. Halfpenny gave credit to her training staff for making sure the Irish still had legs in the second half, but she said the Irish can't afford to get off to a slow start against the streaky Golden Eagles (4-5, 0-0 Big East).

"The reality is at the first whistle, the game is tied no matter where you’re ranked," Halfpenny said. "We’ve got great speed and dodging ability … so we’re really going to look to fast-break on this team, … We’re really going to focus on us and go together."

Marquette coach Meredith Black is a 2004 Notre Dame graduate who was part of the team that reached the program’s first two NCAA tournament appearances in 2002 and 2004. She also earned the team’s first-ever All-American honors in 2004. She was an assistant with the Irish program from 2008-2010.

"Her dream is going to be to knock us off," Halfpenny said. "… Our players, they get that, and they can put that on the shelf and focus on each other.

"No matter if it’s a first-half team or a hot-second-half team, we’re able to take it in stride now and continue to focus on us. If we can just be our best and execute to our best ability, we should be able to limit that streaky, high-low game that Marquette plays.”

The Irish and Golden Eagles are scheduled to meet at 4 p.m. today at Valley Fields in Milwaukee.

Contact Zach Klonsinski at zkklonsin@nd.edu
bad performance can make the offseason a few days too long.

Even though she’s in the middle of her first postseason go-round, Westbeld said she has figured out how to channel any butterflies before the opening tip.

“You want to focus on the next game, and I just kind of take that excitement and bring as much energy as I can when I come in the game, and that’s really what my main goal and one of the roles I play is,” she said.

Westbeld proved she knew how to play that role in Notre Dame’s 77-43 first-round win over No. 16 seed Montana last Friday at Purcell Pavilion. Checking in three minutes into the game, she pulled down eight rebounds in the first half and notched 10 total boards, leading all players, along with eight points and four steals.

“We were definitely happy for her,” Irish junior guard Jewell Loyd said. “She’s a big-time player. She comes from a history of basketball where she knows she’s successful, so it was nothing new for us.”

The Kettering, Ohio, native wracked up major accolades during her time at Fairmont High School, including McDonald’s All-American honors and four Ohio all-state selections.

However, Westbeld earned those honors while playing a different role for Fairmont than she currently does for Notre Dame.

She was recruited as a shooter, not really a post player, so when she got here, she kind of had to transform her game a little bit,” Loyd said. “… But her confidence is very high right now. She’s very smart, so she understands the game, so just for her figuring out where she could score and how she can help us has really grown.”

Though her transition to the college game looks solid based on the stat sheet — she has played in all 35 games this year, averaging 7.3 points and 4.6 rebounds in 18.1 minutes on the floor — Westbeld said she has learned by making those adjustments in her first season in an Irish uniform.

“You come from being one of the best in high school and you get to college, it’s a completely different experience and game out here,” she said. “It’s a lot faster, so you’re really just got to take it from what you’ve done in practice is how you’re going to play in a game. So if you don’t go hard in practice, it’s not going to translate over into the game.”

She said she has also noticed a new vibe on the team during these crucial days in mid-March.

“After we came back from the ACC tournament after our break, you could just tell it was a different atmosphere,” she said. “It was a different feeling to our practices. It just feels a lot more intense, and you can tell, so I think that just had a lot to do with it.”

Westbeld continues her first NCAA tournament with the Irish on Friday, when Notre Dame takes on Stanford in a Sweet 16 matchup in Oklahoma City.

Contact Mary Green at mgreen8@nd.edu

**Irish senior guard Jewell Loyd continues her first postseason with the Irish on Friday, when Notre Dame takes on Stanford in a Sweet 16 matchup in Oklahoma City.**

**Irish junior receiver Will Fuller carries the ball towards the endzone in Notre Dame’s 43-40 overtime loss to Northwestern on Nov. 11.**
Happy Birthday: Take a serious look at your work situation and consider how you can use your attributes to bring in more cash. Sticking to a budget while you put your plans in motion will be the best way to ensure your success. You have a history, the closer you will come to finding the perfect solution to long time.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Look over your financial situation and you'll find a way to cut corners or earn more. Contracts can be negotiated and deals put into place if you are persistent. Business functions will help you connect with someone who can influence your future. ⭐ ⭐ ⭐

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Make love, not war. Use your intuition, charm and compassion to handle any disagreement with someone. You might not do justice to someone who is not in your position, but don't sacrifice when it comes to hard work and precision. Emotions will be hard to control. ⭐ ⭐ ⭐

GEMINI (May 21-June 21) You will be determined to complete what you start, but he realistic or you'll face disappointment. You can make changes, but don't sacrifice when it comes to hard work and precision. Emotions will be hard to control. ⭐ ⭐ ⭐

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Self-discipline will help you advance. You are unique, inventive and dedicated. You are sensitive and compassionate. Your numbers are 3, 10, 18, 24, 29, 37, 43.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Don't be tempted by a deal someone offers. Joint ventures will be costly and will require insight, but if you choose to proceed alone, you will find the road to victory. ⭐ ⭐ ⭐

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Get involved in activities that will allow you to show off your talents and leadership ability. Make professional changes that will encourage you to use your social skills. Learn from experiences and be persistent, and you will reach your goal. ⭐ ⭐ ⭐

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Happiness is in the stars. Will lead to personal improvements with someone you think is special. ⭐ ⭐ ⭐

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You will find the road to victory. Make plans for two. ⭐ ⭐ ⭐

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Don't be tempted by a deal someone offers. Joint ventures will be costly and will require insight, but if you choose to proceed alone, you will find the road to victory. ⭐ ⭐ ⭐

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Your ability to get things done will put you in a much better position. Take steps to see what you can do at home and make adjustments that will bring you peace of mind. ⭐ ⭐ ⭐

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) You will be determined to complete what you start, but he realistic or you'll face disappointment. You can make changes, but don't sacrifice when it comes to hard work and precision. Emotions will be hard to control. ⭐ ⭐ ⭐

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Consider what brings you the most happiness. Take time to do something you enjoy. Shopping for something that will make you feel or look good will encourage you to do more social. Romance is in the stars and will lead to personal improvements with someone you think is special. ⭐ ⭐ ⭐

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Get together with someone you haven't seen in a long time. Freedom to do what you enjoy most. Don't let anyone discourage you from taking on a new challenge. ⭐ ⭐ ⭐
By ALEX CARSON
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame started spring practice a week ago with a new offensive coordinator (Mike Sanford), a receiver cross-training at running back (junior C.J. Prosise) and without a clear view as to who will be under center when the season opens in September.

But despite all the noise, the Irish receiving corps carries on. “This is a big spring for us as a receiving corps, for everyone coming back,” junior receiver Corey Robinson said March 18. “We want to be a great receiving corps, so [spring practice] is the first step in that.”

Junior Will Fuller — whose 15 touchdown receptions ranked tied for third nationally last season — leads a receiving corps into 2015 that returns a full complement of players from last year, as senior Chris Brown, graduate student Amir Carlisle and junior Torii Hunter Jr. are all back, joining Fuller, Robinson and Prosise as the core of the group.

But despite everyone who returns, the Irish could get contributions from a pair of sophomores that did not see the field last year in Justin Brent and Corey Holmes. “I think I see a lot of hunger in both those guys,” Robinson said. “They’ve been working hard … and I’m really excited to see what they do this year.”

Robinson also said he and the rest of the corps have faith in the youngsters. “We’re in a group where we’re encouraging and building each other up,” he said. “When we put those guys in the situation, we’ve seen them practice, and we’ve seen them make those plays, so when they get nervous or anxious, we calm them down and say, ‘Look, guys, we do this all the time in practice, so just get out there and do it.’”

When Irish head coach Brian Kelly brought in Sanford, receivers ready for big year

Irish junior receiver Corey Robinson catches a touchdown pass in Notre Dame's 31-15 win over Syracuse on Sept. 27 at MetLife Stadium. Robinson had eight receptions for 91 yards in the game.

By MARY GREEN
Assistant Managing Editor

As unpredictable as the NCAA tournament can be, there are a few certainties for No. 1 seed Notre Dame in its game against No. 4 seed Stanford on Friday.

It’ll definitely be warm in Oklahoma City, or at least warmer than South Bend. Irish players, coaches and staff will all sport their traditional postseason green nail polish.

And freshman forward Kathryn Westbeld will be set for the 10 p.m. tipoff at Chesapeake Energy Arena. “I think it’s more exciting because this is what you really play for all year long,” Westbeld said about the difference between the regular season and the NCAA tournament. “It’s finally here, so I’m just really excited and ready to play.”

Pre-game jitters and anticipation are common in any locker room before a game in the tournament, when one