SMC student to read at Vatican Mass

Ali Mahoney will give first reading at Palm Sunday Mass in St. Peter’s Square

By KELLY KONYA
Senior News Writer

Most students who study abroad can testify to having a unique experience, but not many can say they offered the first reading at the Holy Father’s Palm Sunday Mass.

Saint Mary’s sophomore Ali Mahoney, who is currently studying abroad in Rome, was chosen to give the first reading this Sunday in St. Peter’s Square to kick off Holy Week for Catholics across the globe. According to Mahoney, she was selected to do the reading by Fr. Geno Sylva, the speaking official of the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization, whom she was introduced to one day while attending an English Mass at Santo Spirito in Sassia in Rome.

Mahoney said she and her friends began attending Mass in English at Santo Spirito in Sassia each Sunday, and it was there that Sylva first asked Mahoney to give a reading. “I spoke up and said I would greatly love to,” she said. “Throughout this semester, my friends and I have become good friends with Fr. Geno, and a few of the Saint Mary’s girls and myself have joined him for coffee a few times.”

On St. Patrick’s Day, Mahoney’s fellow student and friend Mary Luka relayed the news that Sylva had sent an e-mail requesting for Mahoney to call him as soon as possible. Mahoney said she attributes her selection to this fateful e-mail to “the luck of the Irish,” and she hurried to the hotel’s front desk to make the call.

“[Sylva] told me that he was very impressed with my readings at the past few Masses at Santo Spirito and was wondering if I would like to read the first reading for the Holy Father’s Palm Sunday Mass in St. Peter’s Square,” she said. “His job was to find a young, English-speaking pilgrim to speak at the Mass, and he felt that I would be a great fit.”

Mahoney said she could not see MASS PAGE 5

ND professor’s first book released in Dublin

By JACK ROONEY
Managing Editor

DUBLIN — Surrounded by notable priests, politicians and members of the Notre Dame community at the historic Merrion Hotel in Ireland’s capital, professor of political science Fr. Sean McGraw launched his new book, ‘How Parties Win: Shaping the Irish Political Arena.’


By EMILY McCONVILLE
News Writer

The Latino Student Alliance (LSA) will host Latin Expressions, an annual showcase of music, dance and other performances related to Latino culture, Friday at 7 p.m. at the Century Center in South Bend.

“We hope that this showcase will make the Latino presence on campus felt,” LSA treasurer and Latin Expressions committee co-director Kaylee Calles said. “We are here, and we have a diverse culture of music, dance and talent, and we want to share it with ND and those of the South Bend community so that they can better understand what it means to be Latino.”

The show will feature a variety of individual performers, community groups and student groups, including Mariachi ND, Ballet Folklorico Azul Y Oro, which performs traditional Mexican dances, and Coro Primavera, Notre Dame’s Spanish-language choir, as well as two bands, Los Vecinos and Mouse Child.

“[This is a] great opportunity to share our culture with others,” he said.

This year’s show is the first to be officially hosted by the LSA, which was created last year when two Latino student groups, La Alianza and MECHA Notre Dame, merged. Calles said this year’s Latin Expressions theme, “Raices: Return to Our Roots,” reflects these changes.

“[This is] a great opportunity to share our culture with others,” he said.

“Wanted to encompass what LSA meant to us,” Calles said. “At this time, our logo was a tree with all the leaves as flags from different Latin American countries.”

“I got me thinking that see EXPRESSIONS PAGE 5

Latin Expressions showcases Latino culture

PrismND hosts annual LGBT retreat this weekend

By MADISON JAROS
News Writer

This weekend, PrismND will host its second annual retreat — one it hopes will foster reflection and a feeling of fellowship within the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community at Notre Dame, PrismND spirituality commissioner Shannon Connolly said.

PrismND’s second annual LGBT retreat MARCH 27-28

“A 24-hour retreat where you will reflect on spirituality, sexual and gender identity and discuss your life at Notre Dame.”

Open to all students of Notre Dame, Holy Cross and Saint Mary’s

see RETREAT PAGE 5

PAGE 16
QUESTION OF THE DAY:
Who is the most influential woman in your life?

Michael Wajda
senior
DeRidder Hall
“My three sisters.”

Katie Loughran
junior
off-campus
“Mrs. Kathy McShane.”

Katie Cox
junior
Pangborn Hall
“Katie Dohl.”

Marissa Ray
senior
Walsh Hall
“My nani (grandma).”

Pat Hansen
junior
Knot Hall
“Sally Ride.”

Amber Watson
senior
Yochum Hall
“My mom.”

Several exiting hall presidents and vice presidents from the Hall Presidents Council hosted an awards dinner, where they announced the winners of various dorm appreciation awards, including Best Brother and Sister dorm relationship, various dorm awards, including “Best Brother/Sister.”

WEEKEND PREVIEW:
Include your event: email news@ndsmcobserver.com

Friday
LGBT Retreat
Off-campus
All day
PrismNO student-organized retreat.

Holy Half Marathon
South Bend
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Benefits charities in South Bend

Baseball
Frank Eck Stadium
6:05 p.m. - 8:05 p.m.
Notre Dame takes on Virginia.

Saturday
Solemn Mass
Basics of the Sacred Heart
9:45 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Worship service.

Women’s Tennis
Eck Tennis Pavilion
12 p.m. - 2 p.m.
Free admission and open to the public.

Today’s Staff

News
Emily McConville
Madison Jaros
Margaret Hynd
Graphics
Kris Rice
Photo
Amy Ackermann
Sports
Rachel O’Grady
Manny De Jesus
Zack Klimkowsk
Scene
Mike Malabas
Viewpoint
Mary Kate Luft

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.

Corrections
In Thursday’s issue, a story about the BridgeND immigration debate incorrectly reported Mark Gianfalla said immigration quota numbers should be increased to 650,000-690,000. These are actually the current visa quota numbers, and Gianfalla stated he favors increasing them.

In addition, a story about the Wednesday student senate meeting failed to report that a letter presented to the Senate was written by student body vice president Matthew Devine, who could not present the letter to the senate himself because he serves as its chair. Student body president Lauren Vidal, who presented the resolution with student union chief of staff Shannon Montague, tabled the motion so that Devine, who leaves office next week, can present it at the next senate meeting. The Observer regrets these errors.
ND graduate examines pitfalls of service projects

By GABRIELA MALESPIN
News Writer

Daniella Papia, a 2000 Notre Dame graduate and social entrepreneur, presented a lecture on the importance of language, perspective and learning in the context of international service Thursday night. Part of the DeNiro Fellows speaker series, the talk centered on Papia’s experiences in Cambodia and the lessons and perspectives she obtained from her years of service work.

Papia, the founder of the educational travel organization PEPY Tours, said an important step in international service is reframing the language and vocabulary currently used to describe service work. She said words such as “villager,” “aid” and “development” often convey power dynamics and “aid” and “development” often stemmed from a well-intentioned but often misplaced desire to provide a solution without focusing on the particular problem or community.

“If the one that I learned was that we shouldn’t be investing in things we needed to invest in people,” she said.

Papia said in order for more effective leaders to change and engage in meaningful service work, there needs to be a fundamental shift in mindset from intending to save a community towards wanting to learn from it.

“The question shouldn’t be, ‘How are you innovating how are you uniquely solving this world problem?’” she said. “It should be, ‘Who’s shoulders are you standing on? Who has tried to solve this problem before you?’

Papia said in order to take action and learn how to become an agent for service, people must engage in frequent personal development by becoming self-aware, understanding their culture and becoming open to learning. Papia emphasized that engaging in meaningful service work requires recognizing how personal and global development are intertwined.

“If we are constantly focusing on ‘saving the world’ as an external things to ourselves, that is what is going to cause problems later on,” she said. “Personal development and global development are entirely interlinked. If we’re not willing to look at ourselves, we’re not going to change the world.”

Contact Gabriela Malespin at gmalespi@nd.edu

Students to run in 11th annual Holy Half

By ANDREA VALE
News Writer

The 11th annual Holy Half Marathon will be held this Saturday. This year’s race will be filled with the maximum 1,500 participants, as well as 500 waiting list members, and will benefit the local charities St. Margaret’s House and La Casa de Amistad.

Holy Half President Katie Wood said the tradition started eleven years ago with only 80 runners and earned $1,000 for charity.

“It was really these kids seeing, ‘Hey do you think we could run a half marathon?”’ Maria Murphy, Vice President of the Holy Half, said, “So they decided to put one on, and a couple kids joined in. It’s expanded a lot.”

This year’s race was capped off at 1,500 runners, with 500 left on a waiting list.

“We have a strict cap of 1,500,” Kate Simons, chief of staff for the Holy Half, said. “The campus is not big enough to go bigger than that. So we’re going to keep it at 1,500 for the foreseeable future.”

Wood said registration for the race opened the first week in December, and the 1,500-runner cap filled up by early January.

“This is the earliest it’s ever filled up since we’ve been race directors ... for the past three years,” Wood said.

After beginning the race at the Stephon Center, the same starting place as last year, runners will embark on a 13.1 mile route that is a departure from past years.

“This year is unique because of all the construction on campus,” Murphy said. “We’re still finalizing the course due to last minute changes we had to make. We’re avoiding the stadium and everything in that direction. We’re seeing a lot of the main sights of Notre Dame Avenue; we’re hitting both of the lakes, which are really nice to run along; God Quad; going up by the groto.”

Murphy said this year will feature another first - a spaghetti dinner on the Friday before the race.

Everyone can carbo-load, meet each other, get excited for the race,” she said. “We’re trying to expand it into more of a week-end experience, as opposed to a three-hour race.”

For each of past two years, the Holy Half has raised $30,000 for charity, and all three race directors hope to exceed that figure this year.

The charities the race benefits changes every year, but Simons said they make a point of choosing charities that have a connection with Notre Dame.

“We always try to keep it with in the South Bend community,” Wood said.

According to their respective websites, La Casa de Amistad assists bilingual and bicultural members of the community in education and work, with an emphasis on Latinos, and St. Margaret’s House is a day center aiding homeless or suffering women and children in the area.

Anne Arnsen, a member of the charity committee and participant in this year’s race, said the club has “done charity days with both of the organizations. With La Casa we went over and toured their building and met with the director of their program, who told us what they do.”

As an organizer, Arnsen said she hopes the race “gives students an opportunity to know what their participation in the race is for. Both of the charities will be setting up a booth at the race for both runners and spectators to learn more about the organizations, which will hopefully give them a way to make known all the good things that they do for the South Bend community.”

Murphy said emphasizing the charity aspect was the most important part of the race.

“That’s obviously why we’re doing this,” she said. “We’re excited to raise money.”

Contact Andrea Vale at avale@nd.edu

Are you staying at Notre Dame this summer? Need a job? Want a fun job? Come help the Alumni Association make this the best Reunion Ever!

We are looking for Notre Dame alums and St. Mary’s students and children of Notre Dame faculty and staff to assist us in welcoming our returning alumni to campus during Reunion Weekend 2015.

The Notre Dame Alumni Association has posted employment opportunities for 2015 Alumni Reunion weekend on the Notre Dame employment website for a variety of positions paying between $7.65 and $8.65 per hour.

The work schedule for Reunion is as follows:

General Employee Orientation: Tuesday, June 2 (4:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m.)
Transportation Employee Orientation: Wednesday, June 3 (4:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m.)

Reunion: Thursday, June 4 through Sunday, June 7.

This is an excellent chance to enjoy the Reunion atmosphere on campus while welcoming and assisting returning alumni. Reunion employees receive a t-shirt and meals during their work shifts.

Please check out all the positions and apply for your top choices. The application deadline is May 15 or when all positions have been filled. To view Reunion postings, visit the Notre Dame employment website at jobs.nd.edu. Type in ReUNION as the keyword to search postings.

*Please note, employees must be 16 years of age or older to apply.
*Housing for employees is not provided.
*No phone calls please. Email: alumnwork@nd.edu.

We look forward to having you as a member of the Notre Dame Alumni Association Reunion 2015 Team!
The politicians [in Ireland] take a bad wrap, I think, as politicians do in many places, but they are really hard working, and they’re almost hyper responsible in responding to the needs of their constituents, maybe to a fault,” he said. “But it was pretty remarkable to see how hard they work and literally knock on doors with them and go into peoples’ homes with them and to see how responsive they are.”

Some of these politicians who read earlier drafts of McGraw’s book have given him positive reviews, he said. “Thankfully, the few politicians who have read it already in earlier drafts have given me good feedback,” McGraw said. “Mary McAleese … used the image that it was as if I gave her my hand and walked her through a period of her life that she lived through and showed her things that she hadn’t seen before, which was a great compliment because in some ways, I’m an outsider, so to be able to have them say that you’re an insider is really a great honor.”

McGraw said his research for the book led to several basic conclusions “about how major political parties adapt to huge socioeconomic change.”

“I think the main thing that’s different in my approach than in many others is that I try to look at multiple dimensions and I look at competition over time,” he said. “So a lot of studies look at one election and make a lot of that, and my point is actually you have to look at how parties adapt over a series of elections, and that’s really what matters. “The other thing is I come up with this idea of what I call ‘displacing issues.’ In Ireland they have referenda and all kinds of other institutional bodies that deal with issues that I think in some ways some people look at as a bad thing because they feel like political scientists are nit-picking. But in some ways it reduces tension and creates consensus, and that’s not such a bad thing, every major election look at what we’re experiencing in the U.S. or other places where there’s such intense polarization.

In his remarks at the event, McGraw thanked the politicians and academics he worked with throughout his research, and also the friends who he said have helped make Ireland his home. “One of the first times I came to Ireland, I heard the phrase, ‘Home is the place you always have to go back to and they always have to take you, and for me, that’s the way I think about Ireland … that it’s my home.” McGraw said. “And even though for many people I encounter, I am just one of these yanks and I’m an outsider, in some ways, my time over the last really 20 years of coming to Ireland has been one of shifting from, hopefully, being an outsider to one of being an insider.”

In an interview before the event, McGraw, who said he hopes his second book will focus on “the collapse of the institutional Church in Irish society,” also expressed his gratitude to the Notre Dame undergraduate students who have worked with him over the course of his research for the book.

“I’ve been very fortunate to have students working with me over the last five years,” he said. “When I was here as a doctoral student, I had students who were at the Trinity and [University College Dublin] program who literally helped me look through newspapers and went to elections with me. One of the exciting to me all along is that Notre Dame undergraduates have been hugely helpful to me in my research, and that’s also made it more fun.”
“[The show] is an opportunity for the Latino community to invite that great ND community to convivir con nosotros [live with us], to share a space and a place and celebrate with us ...”

Diana Gutierrez
Latin Expressions co-director

Connolly said the retreat looks to serve LGBT students whose spiritual needs may not be entirely met by what is provided on campus. “There are not many venues on campus that are, understandingly, willing to create a space that addresses the LGBT student needs in terms of spirituality,” Connolly said. “... And that’s understandable because that’s not serving the needs of the majority. That’s definitely not the majority here. So, there are conversations that happen on campus around the theology of [LGBT issues], which is great, there are a lot of fellowship opportunities in general and resources in general, but we feel really called to offer that space where orientation or gender identity isn’t going to come up as an issue.”

Sophomore and PrismND secretary Jennifer Cha said the club established the retreat to give students the chance to engage with the faith life “so integral to Notre Dame’s identity.”

“Spirituality and LGBTQ life are sometimes portrayed in opposition to each other, and we wanted to challenge that notion and have the space where the two can be not only in conversation with but intimately connected to each other,” Cha said.

Connolly said she hopes the retreat, which will feature LGBT student speakers in addition to other basic retreat activities, will foster internal reflection. “I’d like to think that [the retreat] will invite people to look at a process that they don’t have time to look at,” Connolly said. “Journeying with your orientation or your gender identity is something that’s very difficult, and it’s part of who you are. ... Not planning to take that time [to explore that], it’s an invitation to be with people who understand it, will pay off not only in a great show but in a legacy we’re trying to create.”

Tickets to the show, which are available at LaFortune Box Office, are $3 for dues-paying members of LSA, $4 each for groups of 10 or more and $5 for individual tickets. Shuttles will transport attendees from Library Circle to the Century Center starting at 6 p.m. Friday.

Contact Emily McConville at emconvi@nd.edu

Dr. John Mahoney
LGBTQ student at the retreat, which will feature LGBT student speakers in addition to other basic retreat activities, will foster internal reflection. “I’d like to think that [the retreat] will invite people to look at a process that they don’t have time to look at,” Connolly said. “Journeying with your orientation or your gender identity is something that’s very difficult, and it’s part of who you are. ... Not planning to take that time [to explore that], it’s an invitation to be with people who understand it, will pay off not only in a great show but in a legacy we’re trying to create.”

Tickets to the show, which are available at LaFortune Box Office, are $3 for dues-paying members of LSA, $4 each for groups of 10 or more and $5 for individual tickets. Shuttles will transport attendees from Library Circle to the Century Center starting at 6 p.m. Friday.

Contact Emily McConville at emconvi@nd.edu

Dr. John Mahoney
LGBTQ student at the retreat, which will feature LGBT student speakers in addition to other basic retreat activities, will foster internal reflection. “I’d like to think that [the retreat] will invite people to look at a process that they don’t have time to look at,” Connolly said. “Journeying with your orientation or your gender identity is something that’s very difficult, and it’s part of who you are. ... Not planning to take that time [to explore that], it’s an invitation to be with people who understand it, will pay off not only in a great show but in a legacy we’re trying to create.”

Tickets to the show, which are available at LaFortune Box Office, are $3 for dues-paying members of LSA, $4 each for groups of 10 or more and $5 for individual tickets. Shuttles will transport attendees from Library Circle to the Century Center starting at 6 p.m. Friday.

Contact Emily McConville at emconvi@nd.edu
Math in March

Jodi Lo
Section Photographer

March is coming to a close, and because of this, I would like to talk about the inevitable end of March Madness. So how is your bracket doing? Great? You’re going to win your pool! Not so hot? Well I’m here to remind you that if your bracket isn’t 100 percent accurate then you are pretty normal. I’m checking ESPN right now to see who has the most accurate bracket so far in the country. And even jghayes2932, who leads the country in accuracy, only has 620 points out of the possible 640 points.

Sure jghayes2932 has the most accurate bracket in a pool of millions of entries, but he still does not have a perfect bracket. No one has a perfect bracket and perhaps that is the beauty of March Madness. Being in computer engineering I know several different ways one can formulate an algorithm and system to pick all of the teams and decide who is going to make it to the top. My favorite algorithm so far is from the Wall Street Journal, which has a Madness Meter. The Wall Street Journal literally has a setting accepting the fact that statistics, skill and strategy might not always guarantee a win. Sometimes what determines a win over a loss is the heart of the team and how much that team wants to win; two discerning factors that are not quantifiable and yet are perhaps the most important factors to a team.

So back to brackets, if you also did not take into consideration the heart and drive to win in a team, don’t worry, you are not the only one. If you are one of the people to have an awful, shaming bracket then let me cheer you up. In the annual The Observer Group, where what will be won isn’t money but bragging rights over every other department, my personal bracket has been destroyed. I am no longer in last place, but I am in the penultimate position. Not surprising considering the fact I picked Villanova to make it to the final four, did not see Baylor and SMU getting upset and forgot that Wichita State is a grossly underrated team while KU is a grossly overrated team. It comes out that I may not be the ultimate loser in The Observer Group, but my PCT stands at 4.4 percent (meaning my bracket is in the bottom 5 percent of brackets in terms of accuracy).

My bracket is bad. But I would like to defend myself in stating that sure it is difficult to be in the top 50th-percentile but it is also just as difficult to be in the bottom 5th-percentile (assuming the graph is a bell curve). And we should all be impressed with the people who do really well in their bracket and people who do really poorly in their brackets because it takes just as much talent to be in the bottom 5 percent as it takes to be in the top 5.

Also, go Irish! Beat Stanford!

Contact Jodi Lo at jlo1@nd.edu
The views expressed in the Inside Columns are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Implement Good Samaritan policies at ND

Alex Caton
Modern Proposals

One night in January of my junior year, I was roped into a walkover to a dorm on the south half of campus to pick up a passed-out friend of mine. After a fragmented night of hopping dorm parties, he had wound up basically unresponsive on a futon, his head resting eight inches above a trashcan on the knee of an Eagle Scout who was trying unsuccessfully to make him throw up.

We talked about what to do. He could probably sleep it off. His pulse was slow but regular. His skin wasn’t cold or discolored. But he was unable to talk, and his eyes were dead-looking. Rolling the dice with a friend’s life and health is no way to conduct business, so we determined that the best thing to do was to call for help.

If I told you that we never talked about our friend (and us) getting disciplined in the 10-minute discussion was to call for help, our student body, and in the few other times I have seen someone carted off in an ambulance for alcohol poisoning, ND students have put disciplinary concerns aside to do the right thing.

But why risk it? Why build in disincentives to do the right thing?

Contra Mr. Coughlin’s argument, Notre Dame does legislate good behavior. Whatever their legitimate communitarian aims, partietals exist and no one is going to deny their connection to Catholic moral teachings on sex. The same can be said for our stringent policies on marijuana use.

There’s no discernible downside to explicitly implementing medical amnesty and Good Samaritan policies making no attempts to deny their connection to Catholic moral teachings on sex. The same can be said for our stringent policies on marijuana use.

For these demands, we will picket Knot Quad at 5 p.m. on March 27. We look forward to working with the University to secure a bright future for our Quadrange.
By BRIDGET DEDELOW
Scene Writer

When I think of bands that have truly been with me throughout my life, the ones I can count are few and far between. However, one that would instantaneously put me on my soundtrack would be Death Cab for Cutie. The band has had a hefty 17-year career, and they have been working their way up through the charts with well-known songs about love, loss and everything in between. However, youth cannot stay for long, and this is identified on Death Cab for Cutie’s newest album, “Kintsugi.”

Kintsugi, as a method, is a Japanese art of taking broken pottery and repairing the cracks with gold or silver. The Japanese treat this art as a breakage being part of the pottery’s history, instead of something to cover up and disguise.

This album is Death Cab for Cutie’s very first without their producer, Chris Walla. “Kintsugi,” born as an album title and an idea, fits along with the concept of the album, because while the theme is partly adulthood, it has an underlying theme of repair and renewal. I was surprised by the simplicity of this album overall, compared to the upbeat nature of their last album, “Codes and Keys.” Its opener, “No Room In Frame,” is definitely a breakup song, a possible ode to Ben Gibbard’s break-up with Zooey Deschanel earlier in the year. Their premiere single, “Black Sun,” has the memorable lyrics that Death Cab for Cutie is known for, but with a new, clearer mellowness that radiates throughout the entire album.

A third song that is definitely worth mentioning is “Little Wanderer.” It has a dreamlike, drifting quality, while keeping with the overall neatness of “Kintsugi.” A memorable lyric comes from the chorus: “You’re my wanderer / Little wanderer / off across the sea / You’re my wanderer / Little wanderer / How I wish that you could see / How I need you back with me.” This song would definitely be perfect for when you have a serious case of wanderlust.

On the same note, “Hold No Guns” is different from anything I’ve ever heard Death Cab for Cutie do before. This is because in the beginning, there are no instruments on the track. Gibbard’s soulful voice bleeds through, and just like at his shows, his raw emotion and talent are showcased. It eventually fades into barely-there guitar, accentuating the softness of the song. “My love, why do you run / My hands hold no guns,” then, “Break you with the slightest bend / That leaves you lost and helpless.” I believe that if they had added anything more to this track, it would have taken away from its aesthetic and meaning; this is something they did just right.

Although I do not have many negative things to say about “Kintsugi,” I did not end up connecting with one of the songs as much as I thought I would. As a major Death Cab for Cutie fan, I expect to love all of their work, especially after hoping for a comeback after the disappointment that was “Codes And Keys.” “El Dorado” is one of the songs I felt myself skipping, even after listening to the album a couple of times. I hope it will grow on me, like some of my old favorite Death Cab for Cutie songs did.

Overall, Death Cab for Cutie has definitively rounded out their career — and their style — with “Kintsugi.” This concept definitely works with their growing up and coming-of-age, and I’m happy to report that they are back and better than ever. This is one album that I will not just be getting on iTunes only. If this is what Death Cab for Cutie’s future looks like, it is definitely bright, and they are going to be sticking around for more than 17 years.

Contact Bridget DedeLOW at bdedelow@nd.edu

“Kintsugi”
Death Cab for Cutie
Label: Atlantic
Tracks: “Little Wanderer”
If you like: All-Time Top 10

By CAELIN MILTKO
Scene Writer

Titling something “The Room” is, at this point, a dead giveaway that whatever medium the creative work is using, it is going to be playing with our psychological responses and our perceptions of reality. The very title creates some kind of captured tension, where the reader must instantly start to question everything about this “room,” and try to analyze what about it makes it important enough to give it such prominence space.

Jonas Karlsson’s recently published and translated “The Room” explores the concept of reality (and personal reality and delusions) through the (probable) ravings of a desk worker. At the beginning, nothing appears to be wrong with protagonist Bjorn, but as he tells us more about his work at the office and his coworkers’ reactions to him, it quickly becomes clear he is not as authoritative as he would have us believe.

Karlsson’s story does interesting work with the concept of the unreliable narrator. Other than the clearly ominous title, the work begins with a seemingly trustworthy narrator. He’s starting a new job, and he clearly works very hard. He seems somewhat intelligent. There seems to be no real reason to question the existence of the room he tells us about on the very first page.

Bjorn’s actions within the room are always fuzzy, and when he brings others into the room, he never explains exactly what happens there. For the reader, this means that the only thing that is available is Bjorn’s explanations after the fact, which make it somewhat confusing when his coworkers and boss start talking about “staffing issues.” Despite Bjorn’s complaints about his coworkers, it’s fairly clear that he has not taken the time to relate anything serious enough to require intervention.

After the “staffing issues” remark, the inconsistencies in narrative start to pick up. If possible, it becomes even less clear what Bjorn does exactly and he works for the ominously named “Authority” (all I can really think is “Big Brother,” but this never really fleshes itself out). His coworkers clearly find him strange and at some point, he’s even asked if he’s on drugs. Despite his language, it’s very clear that his perception of reality is not the same as everyone around him.

At the heart of all Bjorn’s delusions is the mysterious empty office between the elevator and the bathroom. For him, it provides an important space to think and relax from the stressors of his job. For everyone else, it’s not clear that it exists.

Perhaps the most interesting part about Karlsson’s creation is the relationship between Bjorn’s productivity and the room. There is something about this space that allows Bjorn to tap into some intellectual power that helps him become one of the very best workers at his firm. He uses this space to unwind and to consider problems. For some reason, it allows him to unlock problems that have puzzled his coworkers for weeks.

Karlsson appears to be making some kind of link between madness and genius, though Bjorn’s final predicament casts serious doubt over whether this is worth it.

While many pieces of the novel are perhaps not meant to be realistic, personally I could never figure out why his firm didn’t fire him after he broke their rules again and again. It’s the only piece of story that is just unrealistic enough to distract from the overall theme of the story.

As an unreliable narrator, Bjorn clearly wants the reader to think highly of him. He consistently reassures the reader that he is very good at his job, and he clearly believes himself the intellectual superior of everyone he works with. While the fact that he still has a job implies that this isn’t a complete lie, almost everything else leads the reader to question just how well Bjorn knows himself.

In the end, Bjorn’s genius fails to compensate for his strange eccentricities that border on complete madness. Still, for him, the room remains a very real thing, and it become his only retreat when everyone he knows attempts to make him come to terms with reality.

Contact Caelin Miltko at cmilorai@nd.edu
bluegrass vibe with rap and R&B sty-
listic touches. The lyrics to many of his songs reflect the stereotypical country message: summer lovin’, day drinkin’ and life reflectin’. Though some songs embrace calmer tunes and lyrics, a handful adopts high spirits and upbeat vibes. Therefore, country gurus and inter-
terested spectators alike can be assured that there’s an adequate variety of song types and impressions.

Concert-goers can expect many of Hunt’s popular hits, including “Take Your Time” (which has recently climbed to the top of Billboard’s top 100 Country Songs), “Bottle It Up” and “Speakers.” Hunt’s most renowned song, “Leave The Night On,” has landed within the top-25 country hits for a period of consecutive weeks, and viewers can certainly an-
ticipate this as one of the loudest, most anxiously awaited songs of the night. As stated before, Hunt’s notably soulful style brings great diversity to the stage, which places a unique spin on contem-
porary perception of country. This, in turn, should attract a wide variety of musical interests. So, if you can’t decide on whether to attend, go for the sheer fact of unconventional style and intrigu-
ing takes on songs.

For all you country fanatics, keep in mind that Sam not only performs his own songs, but has also composed an assortment of songs as well. Aside from his own album, Hunt has aided in the production of “Come Over” by the leg-
endary Kenny Chesney and “Cop Car” by Keith Urban. If these prominent beats do not entice you, think of Hunt’s simple stage presence. A former University of Alabama at Birmingham quarterback, Sam’s love for performance and music — not to mention his muscles — will carry positive favor for the audience. Even more, Hunt’s unconventional-
country style rejects cowboy hats and boots to embrace snap-backs, black tees and flannels. His music and fash-
ion choices, therefore, embody the uni-
fication of dissimilar genres. Thus, the threatening combination of good music, compellingly diverse styles, summer-
time lyrics and performance capability will certainly boost energy and mood for whomever chooses to attend. All that sais, if you’re searching for a Saturday night filled with music and hopes for the summer, then rest assured: your Hunt is over!

Contact Kathryn Minko at kminko@nd.edu

By KATHRYN MINKO
Scene Writer

As spring and warm weather ap-
proach, everyone notices a difference in mood, activity and, of course, mu-
ic. They say March roars in like a lion and comes out like a lamb, and it simi-
larly follows that depressing music and moods transform into bright energies and warm tones. What better way to ring in the spring season than to attend one of country music’s most anticipat-
ed stars Sam Hunt? Hunt is coming to Legends on Saturday night, courtesy of SJU.

After the release of his 2014 fall al-
bum “Montevallo,” country fans around the nation have shared and jammed to Hunt’s R&B-country-mix melodies. Many of his songs uniquely combine a
Cinderella has nothing on Bhutan

Daniel O’Boyle
Sports Writer

Earlier this month, one of the greatest events in all sports began, and a huge underdog pulled off an unlikely upset to begin what they hope will be a great Cinderella story. They may not have any hopes of going all the way, but they’ve already made some great memories.

I’m not talking about March Madness, or about basketball at all. I’m talking about the 2018 FIFA World Cup and the Bhutan national soccer team.

Maybe you’re confused—shouldn’t the 2018 World Cup be happening in, well, 2018? They haven’t moved the date of this World Cup too, have they? And what exactly did Bhutan do that’s so impressive? The answer is they’re the early stages of the Asian qualifying section—a first official match of the World Cup against one of the worst international soccer teams. This is a story about which teams travel to Brazil just over three years from now—and Bhutan beat Sri Lanka, 1-0 away, and then 2-1 at home, to qualify for the second round.

Maybe that still doesn’t help, maybe you just like a game between two obscure Asian nations with little claim to soccer fame. But Bhutan isn’t just any minnow of international soccer: before it played Sri Lanka, the national team held the title of the worst international soccer team in the world. What’s going on about Bhutan. Wikipedia tells me it’s a small state—just a little bigger than Maryland—at the eastern end of the Himalayas. The capital city is Thimphu. The national sport is archery, but the most popular sport is soccer. In 2006, Business Week rated it as the happiest country in Asia, but starting in 2008 it might have gotten a little less happy as the national soccer team lost every game for six years and nine months.

That run saw them fall down the FIFA World Rankings. In December 2012, they fell into a tie for last place, with zero ranking points. On November 15, 2014, San Marino—a European bottom-feeder—played out a 0-0 draw with Estonia, dooming Bhutan to last place. Bhutan’s streak ended losing 7-0 to Turkmenistan and Pakistan, 8-1 to Afghanistan and three games against the Sri Lanka team they would later defeat: losing 6-0, 3-0 and 5-2. Before that, Bhutan’s soccer history isn’t much better: they’d never won a World Cup qualifying game before, and in 2000 they lost a game against Kuwait 20-0.

So expectations for Bhutan weren’t high when they were to face Sri Lanka again. The island nation may be better known for cricket, but at 17th in the world and their domi-


cant head-to-head record, they were a powerhouse compared to Bhutan. To make matters harder for the Bhutanese team, they were without a full-time coach, relying instead on for-


mer player Chokey Nima after their last coach left the role. Like most South Asian, usually Bhutan brings someone in from a country with a stronger soccer heritage to coach up, like a South Asian coach, but Nima was able to call on the national pride and do what three coaches before him couldn’t.

But win they did, twice. A late goal in the first game was enough to ensure victory in Sri Lanka, and in front of a sell-out crowd at Thimphu, with the second game at 1-1, Chencho Gyeltshen scored his second goal of the game in the last minute to seal the victory.

Making it all the way to the World Cup still looks outlandish for the Bhutanese national team, and its fans. They’d have to make it through two group stag-


es against much tougher opposition than the two teams they faced in their history. But just making it far is an achievement: Bhutan will be drawn in a group with at least 5-6 Asian teams—perhaps Tim Cahill’s Australia or Shinji Kagawa’s Japan. It may not be a real glam-


orous game like Brazil, Germany or Argentina, but for Bhutan, it’s something their players will have dreamed.

So if you’ve liked watching teams pull off unlikely upsets this March, Bhutan might be a team to watch, just in case their Cinderella run has another sur-


prise. Or maybe you should root for Angkha, who takes over the reins as the world’s worst international soccer team.

Contact Daniel O’Boyle at dboyle@wrd.com

BELLES FELL IN DOUBLEHEADER

By BRETT O’CONNELL
Sports Writer

No. 12 Notre Dame heads to Columbus, Ohio, this coming weekend to take part in the annual Big Ten-ACC Double Downs on Saturday.

After their first regatta of the spring two weeks ago in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, the Irish row-


ers have taken advantage of the changing weather to take to the water on the St. Joseph River in preparation for their trip to Columbus this coming weekend, junior Katie Scorza said. The Irish will face a slate of both con-


ference and out-of-conference foes during the regatta, including clashes with host and two-time defending national champion Ohio State, the No. 1 team in the country.

Scorza praised the Iowa team's work ethic throughout this week's practices, citing the unpredictable South Bend weather as a benefit—but useful—obstacle during their outdoor training.

“We were on the wa-


ter on Sunday, Monday and Wednesday,” Scorza said. “We’ve been focusing on the same skill and drill activities that we’ve been doing every day. Luckily, we’ve been on the water most every day since we’ve been back. ... We’ve had to work a little bit more against the wind and the current than we think we’ll make it a bit slower for our racers and it can offset the boat—it’s been a bit unfortunate, but it has been good practice for Columbus, where it is supposed to be pretty cold and windy. I think we’re better prepared for this week.”

Scorza also said she was pleased with the team’s difficult nonconference schedule— in-


cluding teams like Ohio State, Michigan and Yale—citing the slate’s relative rigor as both an op-


portunity to get better and make a statement to the NCAA selection committee.

“We don’t get to row against every team—we only race five times in the year, including the ACC championships. From there, all the teams who place first in their conference go to the NCAA tournament,” Scorza said. “But there are 30-40 at-large bids, so the more we race out of confer-


ence can help us get one of those.”

The regatta is a chance for Ohio State, the host team, to think that we’ll come in and measure ourselves.”

There are 10-20 at-large bids, so we’re going to say do we have it in us to beat them—I think the expec-


tation is that we use our race with them as an opportunity to really measure ourselves.”

“Maybe you’re rooting to Columbus, Ohio, on Thursday night. They will spend Friday training before competing in their second regat-


ta of the year—the Big Ten-ACC Double Downs—on Saturday.

Contact Brett O’Connell at bsoccer@nd.edu

Irish prepare for test at Ohio State

ROWING

“Last year, Yale didn’t race out of conference,” she said. “[They were] arguably one of the fastest teams, but because they didn’t race as many races as we did, they didn’t get the opportunity to compare against other people. Harvard won the Ivy League champion-


ship and Yale didn’t get the at-


large bid because they didn’t have the opportunity to race competi-


tors out of conference.”

The team is especially excited to face quality competition like Ohio State, Scorza said. “We go to put up a really good fight,” she said. “They were number one the past two years. It’s a little unrealistic to think that we’ll come in and stomp on them, so we’re going to use them as a measure. I’m not going to say we don’t have it in us to beat them—I think the expec-


tation is that we use our race with them as an opportunity to really measure ourselves.”

The regatta is a chance for Ohio State, the host team, to test their team against one of the best in the world, and their dominance over the Big Ten teams, and to see how they stack up against conference powers.

The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces.
Irish host Marquette, NC State over weekend

By BENJAMIN PADANILAM
Sports Writer

No. 36 Notre Dame will return home this weekend for a pair of matches, welcoming ACC foe North Carolina State on Friday followed by a matchup with Marquette on Sunday.

The Irish (10-6, 5-3 ACC) are coming off two close road matches this past weekend, as they fought their way to a narrow 4-3 victory over Florida State last Friday in Tallahassee, Florida, before falling to Georgia Tech in Atlanta by 4-3.

Against both opponents, the outcome was decided in the final singles match. Against the Seminoles (10-6, 3-4 ACC), the Irish trailed 3-1 after winning the last three singles matches to secure the victory. Then, just two days later against the Yellow Jackets (6-6, 3-3 ACC), four of the six singles matches took all three sets to reach a conclusion. Irish head coach Jay Louderback said he believes close, competitive weekends such as this past one will prepare the team for the bigger matches down the road.

“It’s going to really help us later on,” Louderback said. “It’s hard losing one as tight as we did, but both teams are very good. As we get into the ACC tournament and then — even more than that — the NCAA tournament, playing these type of matches helps. We’ve had 11 matches that were either 4-3 or 5-2 this year, which is a lot, and we’ve won seven of them. It’s going to help us later as we get further into the season and the postseason.”

Louderback said he expects his team is in for another close match Friday when it welcomes the Wolfpack (9-8, 0-6 ACC) to Eck Tennis Pavilion. The Wolfpack are coming off losses to Miami and Florida State this past weekend that kept them winless in conference play. However, Louderback said it will be a hard-fought match due to the fact that conference play has had one tight match after the other for the Irish all year.

“If you look at their scores, (NC State has) had tight matches with everyone,” Louderback said. “They just lost a tight 5-2 match at Florida State two days after we played them. We haven’t had an easy ACC match [either]. It’s going to be another good ACC match for us, and they’re needing a win and want a win in the ACC right now so they’ll be tough.”

Notre Dame will play their second match of the weekend Sunday when they host the Golden Eagles (9-7, 0-1 Big East). Although no longer a member of the Big East, Notre Dame has continued to play Marquette due to the natural rivalry that exists between the teams, Louderback said.

“We’ve played Marquette every year for a long time,” Louderback said. “Now that we’re not in the Big East, they’re just sort of a natural close rival for us, so we’ve continued to play them. We haven’t lost to them for a long time, but we’ve had close matches. And they always compete well.”

In addition to the rivalry, the benefit of the match for the Irish is the timing of it, as Louderback said it provides the team with a strong but relaxing non-conference tilt.

“I think it will actually be good for us to play a non-conference match because, even though it will be a good match, it’s not quite the same pressure as when you’re playing ACC matches,” Louderback said.

The Irish will take to the courts Friday at 3 p.m. when they take on NC State at Eck Tennis Pavilion, followed by the matchup with Marquette on Sunday at noon.

Contact Benjamin Padanilam
bpadanil@nd.edu

ND to take on Miami in Florida

By RYAN KLAUS
Sports Writer

Coming off a doubleheader sweep Sunday, No. 37 Notre Dame is set to begin a four-match road trip Friday against Miami. The Irish (10-7, 2-3) dominated in both of their matches Sunday, beating both Georgia Tech and IPFW 6-1. The two victories were a welcomed sight for the Irish following home defeats to No. 25 Texas Tech and No. 8 Virginia earlier in the week.

“Even though we lost to Virginia and Texas Tech earlier in the week, we felt like we were playing good tennis and putting ourselves in a position to be successful,” said Irish head coach Ryan Sachire. “We actually entered the matches on Sunday with a lot of confidence that we were doing a lot of the right things and that it was going to be a great day for us and it was.”

“It’s one thing to walk off the court and know you did a lot of good things, but winning reinforces the positives and that you are doing things well. We were really excited to continue to do things well and also get the win.”

The wins Sunday furthered a trend dominating for Notre Dame when it comes to playing in doubleheaders. Over the course of the season, Notre Dame has played in three doubleheaders, winning all six of those matches by scores of either 6-1 or 7-0.

“I think it’s maybe a little bit of a coincidence,” said Sachire of his team’s success in doubleheaders. “We’ve had a good year. Short of having a few injuries here and there, our guys are playing well. They’re improving and progressing, and we’ve lost close to a lot of teams. We’re happy with where we are and we’re excited for what’s ahead.”

Notre Dame’s final road trip of the season starts with the Hurricanes (6-9, 4-4), who are looking for their first conference victory of the season. Following Miami, Notre Dame has road contests against Florida State, Duke and North Carolina.

“Our focus is just on Miami right now,” said Sachire. “We know it’s going to be a really tough and competitive match. They’re a good team and playing them down in Miami is not an easy chore, and we know that. We’re hoping to start off this four-match road swing with a good performance and hopefully a win. If we do that then we can build to Florida State, Duke and North Carolina, but it all starts with a good performance on Friday.”

Notre Dame’s first position singles player, junior Quentin Monaghan was named the ACC Tennis Player of the Week following a successful 3-0 weekend.

“We’re continuously excited about the play of our doubles and the play of Quentin Monaghan at number one singles,” said Sachire. “I think that if those two components of our lineup keep putting us in position to get wins in those spots, then we’re going to be tough to beat coming down the stretch.”

The Irish and Hurricanes are set to begin at 2 p.m. Friday at Neil Schiff Tennis Center in Coral Gables, Florida.
**BASEBALL**

**ND to challenge Virginia in conference home series**

*Observer Staff Report*

Since it entered the ACC last season, Notre Dame has faced some of the toughest competition in the nation. This week-end, the team will welcome a perennial national contender in No. 14 Virginia, which will enter Frank Eck Stadium fresh off a College World Series final appearance last season.

The Cavaliers (15-8, 3-6 ACC), which fell to Vanderbilt in the best-of-three College World Series finals last June, have struggled recently, losing seven of their last 10 games. Nonetheless, Notre Dame head coach Mik Aoki said he expects Virginia to present a tough challenge for the Irish (16-7, 3-6).

"I know that they're a really good club," he said of the Cavaliers. "I know that they're going to pitch their rear ends off, and we're going to have to do a great job of competing from pitch to pitch in order to get the results we want to come out with.

"Whether they're struggling or not, I don't think it matters. They're a really good ball club, and we're going to have to do a really good job against them."

Aoki said Virginia has typically been strong in multiple facets of the game under head coach Brian O'Connor, an assistant coach at Notre Dame from 1995 to 2003. Since O'Connor arrived at Virginia in 2003, the Cavaliers have made 11 NCAA tournament appearances and reached three College World Series.

"I think over the years, they've proven that they can be one of the best pitching teams in the country," Aoki said of the Cavaliers. "They've had really good players from a positional standpoint.... They're typically very athletic, and they swing the bat very well."

*By Brian Hartnett*

Senior Sports Writer

*South Bend's First Original Pizza*

Since 1951

www.roccosoriginalpizza.com

537 N. Saint Louis Blvd. (574) 233-2464

**WOMEN’S LACROSSE**

**Irish set up for ACC showdown**

*Observer Staff Report*

Coming off a win over Marquette in Milwaukee on Wednesday, No. 17 Notre Dame returns back home Sunday for an ACC showdown with No. 3 North Carolina.

After losing their first three games of March, the Irish (6-4, 1-2 ACC) are now winners of three consecutive games, with Sunday representing the month's rubber match.

Following losses at No. 6 Duke, No. 2 Boston College and No. 12 Stony Brook, the Irish rebounded with a pair of home wins over Virginia Tech and No. 18 Ohio State prior to Wednesday's win.

In addition to the trio of wins, the three-game run has seen the reemergence of Cortney Fortunato as the prominent scoring threat for the Irish. The sophomore attack — who scored just 10 times in Notre Dame's first six games — has tallied 17 goals over the last three games.

Fortunato is not the only one making a sizable contribution to the Irish attack, though, as the team's second-leading scorer — junior attack Rachel Sexton — has eight goals in the past two games, including a five-goal outing Wednesday.

The Tar Heels (9-2, 2-1 ACC) enter Sunday's contest looking to keep in touch with undefeated Boston College at the top of the conference standings; North Carolina fell 10-9 in overtime against the Eagles on Saturday before bouncing back with a 14-5 win over Virginia Tech on Wednesday.

North Carolina — the 2013 national champions — is led offensively by a sextet of players with double-digit goals on the year, including sophomore attack Molly Hendrick's 23 goals. Junior attack/midfielder Sammy Jo Tracy has tallied 21 times on the year while junior attack Aly Messinger has paired her 15 goals with nine assists to trail just Hendrick in points.

At the back, the Tar Heels will likely turn to goalkeeper Caylee Waters. The sophomore — who holds an 8-2-0 record on the year — has saved 47 of 104 goal-bound shots so far this year (45.2 percent) and allows just over eight goals per game. If the choice is not Waters, junior goalkeeper Megan Ward has also seen significant action for Sunday's visitors; she has played in just over one third of the minutes logged by the Tar Heels so far this season.

While Fortunato leads the Irish by a significant margin in goals (32) and points (43), senior midfielder Casey Pearsall (10 goals, 12 assists) and sophomore attack Grace Muller (13 goals) have also made their presences felt on the field this year.

Irish head coach Christine Halfpenny will be expected to turn to Liz O’Sullivan in goal again for the Irish; the sophomore has been the goalie of record in each game this season. O’Sullivan has saved 38.5 percent of goal-bound chances so far this year, but has posted a 54.1 percent save percentage during Notre Dame’s three-game winning streak.

The Irish can pull back to .500 in ACC play Sunday when they host North Carolina at Arlotta Stadium. The first draw is scheduled for 1 p.m.

*By Brian Hartnett*

Senior Sports Writer

Irish sophomore catcher Ryan Lidge prepares to swing at a pitch during Notre Dame’s 6-4 loss against Louisville on Saturday at Frank Eck Stadium. Lidge finished 1-for-5 at the plate.

Irish junior midfielder Brie Custis sprints by defender in Notre Dame's 17-5 win over Detroit on Feb. 15 at Loftus Sports Center.
Irish freshmen forward Kathryn Westbeld attempts a layup in Notre Dame’s 79-62 second-round win against DePaul on Sunday. 

By BRIAN PLAMONDON Sportswriter

“When No. 2 Notre Dame takes on No. 1 Syracuse tomorrow at Arlotta Stadium, both teams will bring top-10 offenses and top-10 defenses to the matchup. Naturally, something’s got to give in this battle of heavyweights. While some might think the stakes higher than usual for Notre Dame (5-1, 1-0 ACC), head coach Kevin Corrigan said the Irish have prepared for tomorrow no differently than previous games. “We don’t put any more or less importance on any game,” Corrigan said. “That’s just the way it is. It’s not the sexy approach, it’s just the one that works.”

Still, Corrigan said his players are undoubtedly keyed in. After all, the Orange (7-0, 2-0 ACC) recently dismissed No. 6 Duke 97-90. They sport one of the most balanced and veteran offenses in the country; in addition to a starting midfield made up of three redshirt seniors, the Orange are led by two older attackers in se- nior Kevin Rice and redshirt ju- nior Mattew Linn, and they lead the Orange with 22 goals this season, while Rice adds 15 goals and 35 points. “Kevin Rice is the quarter- back, but everyone else on that offense can hurt you,” ESPN ana- lyst Paul Carraccia said. “…[Rice is] a playmaker, even if he doesn’t run by you. He always capitalizes off of any defensive mishap, and the guy he’s looking for is Mattew Linn, who’s a lefty finisher.”

Rice and Donahue are not the only players that can hurt oppo- nents, however. Each of the front-six starters for Syracuse averages at least a goal a game.”

“I think the challenge is that you can’t concentrate on any one of their guys,” Corrigan said. “As efficient as Syracuse’s scor- ers are, the ‘X factor’ for the Orange could be sophomore faceoff specialist Ben Williams. Williams, who owns 68.2 percent of his draws this year, has the ability to dictate the pace of the game, Carraccia said. “This is an offense that is veteran, smart and has great lacrosse IQ to begin with, and now you’re giving them so many more opportunities com- pared to what they had in the past with their ability to win the faceoff with Ben Williams,” Carraccia said. “He’s one of the biggest stories of lacrosse. If you look at the Duke game, Ben Williams won 12 of the faceoffs. Eleven more pos- sessions than another team. Do the math, it’s just going to put the defense in a tough situation.”

Notre Dame has struggled to find a replacement for gradu- ated faceoff specialist Liam O’Connor, trotting out the likes of senior Nick Ossello, sopho- more PJ. Finley and freshman John Tschida at different occasions this season. One of them will have to limit the ef- fect Williams will have on the game, Corrigan said. “The key for us is to make sure [he’s] not a huge factor,” Corrigan said. “Both by win- ning faceoffs but also by mak- ing sure we don’t allow them to make any plays outside of the faceoff game. If they’re [doing that], then that’s a problem for us.”

If the Irish can limit Williams, they will still have to deal with the wealth of offen- sive weapons at Syracuse’s disposal. That task will be left up to goalie Shane Doss, reign- ing ACC Defensive Player of the Week, and the defensive trio of sophomore Garrett Lippie and juniorsavin Glasner and Matt Landis.

“[From the defense we need] good, smart, off-ball play; guys who really hard in small spaces to be where they need to be and [communication at a high level],” Corrigan said. “[But] nice to know for our defense, when they make a mis- take, the other team still has to beat Shane. And that’s no small task.”

The Irish will also counter Syracuse’s firepower with a deadly offense of their own. Junior attack Matt Kavanagh has tallied 13 goals and 27 points on the season, while freshman attack Mikey Wynne has netted 10 points against DePaul and 18 against Montana—fairly modest compared to her season average of 20.1 points per game. The play of freshman for- wards Brianna Turner and Kathryn Westbeld has also been key—the two tournament rookies combined for 42 points between them in the first two rounds.

McGraw praised the ability of the freshmen to step up in a high-stakes environment like the NCAA tournament. “You know, I think when you come into a program, the expectation level is set pretty high, and so I think everybody comes in knowing that they’re going to be a lot expected of [the freshmen],” McGraw said. “We talked to the freshmen early on that they weren’t going to be able to play like freshmen. We were going to need them right away. … I think our posts, all three of them, [sophomore for- ward] Tayla [Reimer], Bri, and Kathryn, have really played well of late and have just continued to get better.”

Similarly, Stanford’s offense has a number of different scor- ing threats, and McGraw said the Irish have worked to defend all of them in practice this week. “We’ve got to figure out how we can stop the penetration and the kick-outs, which is very dif- ficult for us just having played DePaul which was a five-out team,” McGraw said. “I think we came away with a lot of things we need to do better. “It’s a difficult challenge for us. I think that defensively, man-to-man, containing the ball, has been somewhat of an issue for us this year, so I think that’s something that we hope- fully have fixed this week.”

Though Notre Dame breeched through the first two rounds with double-digit margin wins, its trip to Oklahoma City was a little more troublesome. The team’s plane was diverted to an airport in Lawton, Oklahoma, due to severe weather, waiting there until buses picked them up to finish out the journey. “We hung out, we ordered piz- za,” McGraw said. “It was a very small airport. We were the only ones there, and we had about 95 with the band and cheerleaders and our whole party. We made the most of it, and our condon- ences to the people that were severely affected by the storm.”

Eventually, Notre Dame ar- rived safely in Oklahoma City where it practiced at Stanford at Chesapeake Energy Area in a Sweet 16 showdown tonight at 10 p.m.

Contact Renee Griffin at rgrif6@nd.edu

WEI LIN | The Observer

No. 1 Orange set on collision course with No. 2 Irish

Irish freshmen forward Kathryn Westbeld attempts a layup in Notre Dame’s 79-62 second-round win against DePaul on Sunday.

W Bball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

nettled 10 points against DePaul and 18 against Montana—fairly modest compared to her season average of 20.1 points per game. The play of freshman forwards Brianna Turner and Kathryn Westbeld has also been key—the two tournament rookies combined for 42 points between them in the first two rounds.

McGraw praised the ability of the freshmen to step up in a high-stakes environment like the NCAA tournament. “You know, I think when you come into a program, the expectation level is set pretty high, and so I think everybody comes in knowing that they’re going to be a lot expected of [the freshmen],” McGraw said. “We talked to the freshmen early on that they weren’t going to be able to play like freshmen. We were going to need them right away. … I think our posts, all three of them, [sophomore for- ward] Tayla [Reimer], Bri, and Kathryn, have really played well of late and have just continued to get better.”

Similarly, Stanford’s offense has a number of different scor- ing threats, and McGraw said the Irish have worked to defend all of them in practice this week. “We’ve got to figure out how we can stop the penetration and the kick-outs, which is very dif-

ND WOMEN'S GOLF

Observer Staff Report
After a successful showing at the Clover Cup, the Notre Dame women’s golf team will head down to Baton Rouge to compete in the LSU Tiger Classic this weekend. The team is coming off of a second-place showing in the Clover Cup, which it hosted March 13-15. While most of the student body was re- turning to Notre Dame, the team placed behind only No. 18 Arizona State.

The team has been very consistent during this promising season, and it continued that consist- ency with Notre Dame’s third consecutive top-three finish. They shot a three- round score of 32-over-par 426 (296-301-309), which was eleven strokes below the Sun Devils, but ahead of the rest of the 15-team field. TCU made a late push on Sunday, but the Irish man- aged to hold them off, and the Horned Frogs ended up three strokes behind Notre Dame. Junior Talia Campbell led the Irish with a fourth over- par 77 (75-77). She matched her best finish this season and was a part of three Notre Dame firsts in the top-15. Her best day was Sunday, when she re- corded three birdies on the front nine and added two more on the back nine.

Senior captain Ashley Armstrong also picked up her fourth top-10 finish of the season. She tied for eighth at seventh-over-par 223 (76-71-76). She ran into trouble Sunday when she bogeyed three of her first five holes. However, she re- bounded with 12 pars in her final 13 holes to maintain her finish. The last of the trio of top- 15 finishers was sophomore Jordan Fierstine, who earned a share of 13th place. She finished just shy of a season best, shooting a nine-over-par 225 (73-78-74). After a rocky Saturday, Ferreira

recorded 16 pars on Sunday sandwiched around a pair of bogeys.

Senior Kelli Orfide tied for 40th at 17-over-par, while freshman Kari Bellville’s 22-over-par score rounded out the Irish roster in 64th. Now the Irish look to the Tiger Classic, which will fea- ture three teams in the top 11 and nine in the top 50. The entire field is 16 teams, so the team will be matched up with other blue chip programs.

Tee times start at 8:30 a.m. Friday, and the tournament draws to a close Sunday afternoon.
Shockers on Thursday night in Cleveland at Quicken Loans Arena.

“They’re really cruel competitors,” Brey said of his team. “When they feel a little blood in the water … they go for it again, and I think that’s why they’re special and playing for a region-al championship on Saturday.”

A 13-point first-half lead eroded into a one-point deficit at the start of the second half, and Notre Dame cooled from beyond the arc. But following Brey’s timeout with 16:28 remaining in the second half, the Irish transformed back into the free-flowing offensive juggernaut that has carried Notre Dame to the most wins in pro-
career history since 1908-09. Wichita State head coach Gregg Marshall called the Irish “hands down” the best offensive team the Shockers faced all season.

“They just shot the cover off of it, in reality,” Wichita State redshirt junior guard Ron Baker said. “I’ve never seen a team shoot it like they have today.”

Notre Dame shot 75 percent (18-of-24) from the floor and 3-point range (6-of-8) in the second half.

Irish sophomore guard Demetrius Jackson, who Marshall called the “catalyst,” ignited the squad with a pair of 3-pointers after the time-out. Sophomore guard Steve Vasturiazewa a beautiful bounce pass to senior guard/forward Pat Connaughton to finish off a give-and-go. Jackson lobbed an alley-oop to junior forward Zach Auguste.


“I’ve never seen a one-point lead get out of hand so quick-ly.” Shockers head coach Gregg Marshall. “And it did tonight because of their firepower.”

Jackson powered the Irish with 20 points, while Connaughton (16), Auguste (15) and Vasturia (12) all reached double figures too.

“They just shot layup after layup it seemed like,” Wichita State junior guard Fred VanVleet said. “We just, for whatever rea-son, couldn’t stop them.”

The Shockers struggled to find an offensive rhythm, as well. Notre Dame limited Wichita State to 36 percent shooting in the first half, and the Shockers connected on just three of their 13-3-point attempts.

“That’s been the story of our six wins in the postsea-son,” Brey said, referring to the 3-game stretch in the ACC tour-nament before the recent run in the NCAA tournament. “We’ve really defended the arc well.”

Though the offense thrived after Notre Dame’s early timeout in the second half, Connaughton said the defense set the tone.

“It wasn’t about strategy,” Connaughton said. “We talked about defense, about getting stops and getting out and run-ning. That’s the fun way to play and that’s the way that we’re at our best on both ends of the floor.”

Notre Dame stormed out to a 13-point lead in the game’s opening five-plus minutes, as Jackson buried two 3-pointers and Pat Connaughton added another. But the Irish soon went cold from long range, missing their final seven tries of the half.

Baker buried a pair of 3-pointers to lift Wichita State within three, and VanVleet added 10 first-half points with an attack-ing mentality. Notre Dame car-ried a 33-30 halftime lead into the locker room before explod-ing after the break.

“I just don’t want it to end for this particular team because this group has been so energiz-ing and so fun to be around,” Brey said.

The Irish will face No. 1 seed Kentucky in the Midwest Regional Final on Saturday in Cleveland at Quicken Loans Arena.

Contact Mike Monaco at mmonaco@nd.edu

Jackson

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

rim for the most part, but then he knocks down four 3s,” Wichita State head coach Greg Marshall said. “At the begin ning of the game, it started with him — he made two of the first three 3s.”

Jackson’s second boost of energy would come at a time when the Irish needed a jump-start a little bit more. After carrying a three-point lead into halftime, Notre Dame got off to a slow start in the second stanza. Behind eight combined points from senior forward Darius Carter and ju-nior guard Fred VanVleet, the Shockers had taken their first lead of the game at 38-37 with 10:40 remaining.

And then Jackson got going again.

He hit a 3-pointer from the corner to get Notre Dame back in the driver’s seat. And he fol-lowed that up the next posses-sion with a long shot from beyond the arc to give the Irish a five-point cushion, one they would never relinquish.

“We went to [Jackson] a little bit more,” Brey said of the team’s second-half strat-egy. “[Wichita State] took [Notre Dame senior guard] Jerian [Grant] away on the ball screen; they were doing a good job on him.

“We kind of went to [Jackson] off the ball screen, and he just kind of exploded for us.”

Jackson scored the first six points of Notre Dame’s second “lightning strike,” a 23-10 run over the course of nearly seven minutes that started with the Irish tail-ing and ended with them leading by a dozen.

Such “lightning strikes” reflect Notre Dame’s ment-a lity as a team of tough competitors, something Jackson displays, Brey said. “Demetrius was in an at-tack frame of mind, so we can get into those [offensive] flows at any time,” he said. “And then we da have — this group is cruel, and I love it, it’s a great trait.

“They really cruel competitors.”

Jackson’s second-half ef-forts were necessary to help open up the floor and get Notre Dame’s other scorers out in space, according to Brey.

“I thought what was a key was Demetrius got going — and he got us going, and then we came back around to Jerian and the ball screen, and they were a little tired, they couldn’t quite guard the ball screen,” Brey said.

Jackson finished the game with 20 points, just two shy of his career-high. The four 3-pointers made also tied his collegiate single-game best.

Jackson said the key to his quick-strike success in- volved crisp and efficient team play from the Irish.

“We really do a great job sharing the ball, finding a great shot every possession,” he said. “They guys step up and make huge shots.

“It’s a really fun way to play when we play the game that way, so we want to con-tinue doing that and continu-e getting better.”

VanVleet said the Shockers even came into the game willing to give Jackson deep looks so that he wouldn’t get too many points driving to the basket.

“That was our game plan going in — he’s so quick off the dribble, just pick him up at the 3-point line, and if he makes four or five of them, that was our game plan go-ing into the game,” VanVleet said. “… I think that was a guy that we would let take that shot, and he knocked them in … so give him all the credit.”

Jackson and the Irish will face No. 1 seed Kentucky in the Midwest regional fi-nal on Saturday at Quicken Loans Arena in Cleveland.

Contact Brian Hartnett at bhartnet@nd.edu
**CROSSWORD | WILL SHORTZ**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Across</th>
<th>Down</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Potential malad</td>
<td>36. There's nothing in it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Darken</td>
<td>37. I have had a perfectly wonderful evening, but this wasn't it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Roman export</td>
<td>40. Krewpie doll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Actress Hubbard of “West Side Story” and the Bilt</td>
<td>41. Home to The Observer, faculty, students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Abby's attribute</td>
<td>42. RUsh job</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Scotch on the rocks</td>
<td>43. Ready to be played, say</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SUDOKU | THE MEPHAN GROUP**

```
 5 1 4 9 6 2 7 3 8
 2 7 8 5 4 3 1 9 6
 3 6 9 2 1 8 5 7 4
 9 4 2 1 7 5 8 6 3
 6 5 7 8 3 9 4 1 2
 1 3 8 4 2 6 9 7 5
 4 9 3 7 5 1 6 2 8
 7 8 1 9 6 4 2 5 3
 8 2 5 6 4 7 3 1 9
```

**JUMBLE | DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNEUR**

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

- SYFFYS
- GRITE
- TRELNE
- UNAEVY

**Horoscope | Eugenia Last**

Happy Birthday: You’ll be ready to take on the world. Explore your options and talk as much as you can. The rewards you receive for the assistance and contributions you make will put your mind at ease and bring you greater options to turn an idea or investment into something tangible. Set aside for perfection by using your imagination and insight. Your numbers are 5, 12, 20, 34, 37, 46.

Birthday Baby: You are predictable, unplordable and unique. You are quick and free-spirited.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Look on the bright side and make plans to do something a little different. Activity and sharing an adventure with someone special will put you on a new lease on life. A dinner top will spark an idea or a residential move.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Make a list of the people you want to contact with who can help you reach your career goals. Discussing what you have to offer will bring you awesome rooms to suit the changing economic climate. Update your image.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21): Do something to improve your community or support a cause you endorse. Your ability to bring about change and your influence to reach out to those in need will give you the push required to succeed.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Take a quiet or secretive approach to what you feel needs to be done. Fitting under the radar will ensure that you avoid unnecessary stress and will allow you relax on heavy. Put more effort into an important relationship.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take advantage of the way you feel and what you appreciate are the changes you want to make will be much easier if you have the approval of the people who mean the most to you. Secure your position by taking action.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Form an alliance with someone who looks the same way you do. A concern you have. Making a difference in your community may not be easy, but you won’t be disappointed.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don’t let anyone stand in your way.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Do not believe everything you hear. Being gullible will make you look bad and you end up being costly as well. Do your own research and ask questions. Don’t go in to bullying.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Give your documents in order to avoid any trouble with banks, government agencies or other institutions. Preparation will save you time and energy in the way you do about a concern you have. Making a difference in your community may not be easy, but you won’t be disappointed.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Make sure your career is on track. A personal relationship will help you avoid an outpouring of complaints.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Be open to new and different. A new cause will give you a new lease on life.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): Return to give in to someone who is using emotional manipulation. Stand up for your rights and make changes based on your needs, not on what someone else wants. Don’t believe everything you hear. Being gullible will make you look bad and can end up being costly as well.

**Work Area**

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

Make checks payable to and mail to: The Observer

POL Box 779
Notre Dame, IN 46556

| Enclosed is $130 for one academic year |
| Enclosed is $75 for one semester |

**November 21, 2015**

**Highly Prolific | Christopher Brucker**

| Dome Nuts | Alexandria Wellman |

---

**The Observer**

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s Community.

Join the more than 13,000 readers who have found The Observer an indispensable link to the two campuses. Please complete the accompanying form and mail it today to receive The Observer in your home.
Elite at last

Notre Dame stomp Wichita State

By MIKE MONACO
Senior Sports Writer

CLEVELAND — One of the nation’s most efficient offenses looked decidedly average.

All-American guard Jerian Grant hadn’t hit a shot in more than 20 minutes, and Notre Dame had just committed a shot-clock violation, barely threatening with a good look.

Wichita State zotted down the court and snatched its first lead of the game early in the second half. Irish head coach Mike Brey watched seven seconds of the next possession before signaling for a timeout.

“We’ve been here before. Little did I know it would be another lightning strike,” Brey said of the timeout. “It was a flat-out lightning strike.”

From there, No. 3 seed Notre Dame (32-5) buried 15 of its next 17 field goals and never looked back in a second-half stomp of No. 7 seed Wichita State in the Sweet 16, advancing to the Elite Eight for the first time since 1979 with an 81-70 win over the

Irish sophomore guard Demetrius Jackson splits two Wichita State defenders during Notre Dame’s 81-70 win on Thursday in Cleveland. The Irish advanced to the Elite Eight for the first time since 1979.

ND WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Irish arrive in Oklahoma City for Sweet 16

Despite travel woes, team continues to prepare for multi-faceted Stanford offense

By RENEE GRIFFIN
Sports Writer

In the program’s sixth-consecutive Sweet 16 appearance, No. 2 Notre Dame meets No. 14 Stanford tonight in Oklahoma City at 10 p.m.

Both teams had the benefit of hosting the first two rounds inside their home arenas and now will play at a neutral location. The Cardinal (26-9, 13-5 Pac-12) are a No. 4 seed in the tournament and defeated California State Northridge and Oklahoma last weekend. The top-seeded Irish (33-2, 15-1 ACC), meanwhile, are coming off wins over Montana and DePaul.

Notre Dame and Stanford have not met since 1991 and Irish head coach Muffet McGraw said in her Thursday press conference the Cardinal’s intelligence on the court could be difficult to adjust to without much prior experience.

“You know, I think the biggest concern is how smart they are,” McGraw said. “They’re just a really disciplined team that — they run their offense, but they’re also really good at recognizing personnel and seeing some mismatches and weaknesses and really exploiting them. So they’re not a team that you can say they’re actually going to run this when I think they’re very flexible in what they do.”

Sophomore guard Lindsay Allen said the newness of the Cardinal as an opponent was a factor in the way the team prepared.

“Some teams we’ve seen before like DePaul and then the ACC schedule,” Allen said. “We’ve seen Stanford play before on TV and things like that, but just learning what they’re about and what plays they actually run is a little difficult.”

Through its first two tournament games, Notre Dame has depended on a balanced attack and contributions from a variety of players. Junior guard Jewell Loyd, the team’s leading scorer,