Officials appoint new University librarian

By AMANDA GRAY
News Writer

University officials appointed Diane Parr Walker to the position of University librarian, according to a Thursday press release.

Walker is currently deputy university librarian at the University of Virginia. She will begin her position at Notre Dame on June 25.

“Diane Walker is a superb administrator who has the experience, vision and leadership skills to transform the Hesburgh Libraries into a model research library of the 21st century,” provost Tom Burish said in the release. “She is a proven innovator who understands how to manage the complex challenges imposed by rapidly changing technology and the demands of traditional scholarship.”

Walker has worked at the University of Virginia library for 26 years and has been in her current position since 2003, the release said. “It is an honor to be invited to lead the libraries at this time of high expectations and great opportunity,” Walker said in the release. “I look forward to joining the community and together with them building the Notre Dame library for the future.”

The University librarian is responsible for the administration, well-being and development of the University Libraries, its faculty and staff, collections of books, manuscripts, research materials, services and other activities, according to Section 11 of the Academic Articles governing the University.

Walker will take over for assistant provost Susan Ohmer, who was named interim University librarian on May 18. Former University librarian Jennifer Younger left at the end of the 2009-10 school year for a position with the Catholic Research Resources Alliance, according to a March 22 University press release.

“I am grateful to assist provost Susan Ohmer for her skillful and dedicated service as interim director of libraries, as well as for the hard work of the search committee that identified, recruited and evaluated candidates for the position,” Burish said. Ohmer said she liked Walker for the position.

“I can say that the libraries of the University of Virginia are models for us and that we are very excited to have someone who was important to their success coming to the Hesburgh Libraries,” she said. “I am enthusiastic about the choice.”

David Morris, a graduate student and one of the principal organizers of the student petition for library improvement, said in the release. “I am enthusiastic about the choice.”

Food Security Council creates plan of action

By JOHN CAMERON
News Writer

The West Side Food Security Council — a coalition of 16 community leaders and six Notre Dame students — met Jan. 28 to create a plan of action in addressing the problem of food insecurity in South Bend.

Student government’s END Hunger campaign, an initiative of the student body president Catherine Soler and student body vice president Andrew Bell’s 2011-12 academic year transition plan, is being used to raise awareness about the issue.

Professor examines gender

By NICOLE TOCZAUER
News Writer

A study conducted on boys and girls demonstrated differences in social interactions. When the boys were asked to have conversations with one another, they set their desks so that they didn’t have to look at each other. The girls put all the chairs together and invited everyone in.

“I’m talking about whether men and women, maybe pertaining to evolution, use different conversation techniques,” professor James J. McKenna said during his lecture on gender differences, held in the LaFortune Ballroom Monday night.

McKenna said there is a sort of human telepathy. Every second of the day, humans work to understand relationships.

Study abroad applicants receive decision letters

By SAM STRYKER
News Writer

A world of possibilities was opened to Notre Dame sophomores Monday, as the Office of International Studies (OIS) mailed out decision letters regarding study abroad programs for the 2011-12 academic year.

Sophomore Augie Bossu, who was accepted to study in Bologna, Italy, in the spring of 2012, said he was happy to hear such positive news at the same time as many of his friends.

“The anticipation and hearing everyone else find out [was great],” he said. “I was getting nervous, but it was a relief and I am really excited.”

Bossu said participation for the decision letter has been building since the application was due Nov. 15, climaxing in the week before the results were released.

“I was nervous when I origi- nally filled out the application back in November, but over break I almost forgot about it,” he said. “It was almost too long of a wait. This past week I was getting more nervous as people were talking about it on campus. The buzz came back.”

Sophomore Jenny Lesko was accepted to be one of the first Notre Dame students to study abroad in Dakar, Senegal, in the spring of 2012. She said while she isn’t familiar with the program, she is excited to be studying in Africa for the semester.

“I am so excited. I called about 10 people when I got in. I was so happy,” Lesko said. “I don’t know much about the program yet. I like trying new things out.”

Lesko said the destination and the freedom of the program is what she is looking forward to the most.

“I’ve always wanted to go to Africa. It’s been a dream of mine,” she said. “It won’t be so structured, but that is good for me.”

Bossu said the travel opportunities offered by studying in Bologna are what he is most excited for in his study abroad experience.

“I definitely plan on travelling through Europe to see friends. I am just excited about all the possibilities because it is just so easy to get around everywhere in Europe,” he said. “I haven’t really planned anything yet. I just know it’s going to be so easy to go wherever you want.”

Lesko said she was anticipat- ing the cultural opportunities at her disposal in Dakar.

“I am really looking forward to the field trips and staying with the host family. Apparently there is a lot of art and music,” she said. “It’s a huge city, about a million people, so there is a lot of stuff to do.”
The Observer

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News

OFFBEAT

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The animal didn’t scratch or bite anyone, but it’s not known whether it had rabies.

The Grand Forks Herald reports school officials brought the team home as a precaution. Health officials say there’s no risk to athletes who competed against Carrington.

Surf and turf: Dead cow washes up on Seattle shore

Seattle — Authorities in Seattle say bovine met the cow at a harbor patrol vessel towed the cow to a harbor patrol vessel.

The tide later moved it in front of a home.

A Seattle Police Department Harbor Patrol officer said the cow was found on a harbor patrol vessel.

Graves say it had no ear tag or other identification.

It’s not clear how it got in the water. Graves says it could have been dumped by owners after it died naturally.

Siegfried Hall’s annual Day of Man will take place this Wednesday. Throughout the day, the men of Siegfried will be stationed outside at various locations throughout campus, wearing only shorts and flip-flops in order to raise awareness for the homeless. Each Rambler will be collecting donations to benefit the South Bend Center for the Homeless.

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Information compiled from the Associated Press.

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IN BRIEF

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Student to hold walk for autism

By ALICIA SMITH
Associate Saint Mary's Editor

Katrina Mesina, a senior, has been a team member of Autism Speaks for two years. Mesina said she decided to be a part of the team because she has a cousin who has autism.

“Autism Speaks really exists to help raise funds and awareness for autism,” Mesina said. She hopes to do just that by having the Saint Mary's chapter host its first walk for autism on April 17.

“All of the other girls in Autism Speaks have personal connections, too. It’s really cool that we can bring it on to campus,” Mesina said.

Katrina Mesina
senior

At the kick-off event, Mesina explained why autism was an important cause.

“One in every 110 children and one in every 70 boys in the United States will be diagnosed with autism this year,” she said. “One shocking fact that I always like to tell people is that that’s more than AIDS, diabetes and cancer combined. Not to say that it’s more important, but that’s how prevalent this is.”

According to Mesina, the cause of autism is still unknown, and therefore no cure has been found.

Mesina became involved with Autism Speaks in high school when she participated in her first walk. “I went with a group with I want to say, like 30 kids in my class and we had a test,” she said. “So every year we went back, and for me it kind of developed into something more.”

Mesina has been a team leader for walks in the past, and is excited to lead the Saint Mary's chapter's team this April.

Mesina said she and her family have participated in the walks for her cousin and many other members of the club have personal ties to autism as well.

“I’ve been walking for her and a lot of the other girls in Autism Speaks have personal connections, too. It’s really cool that we can bring it on to campus,” Mesina said.

According to Mesina, the club has a goal of raising $10,000 with the 2011 walk. Prior to the actual event, the club will host different fundraising events including selling lip-gloss and sunglasses.

On the day of the walk, Mesina hopes to see a variety of different events for children with autism to participate in. The festivities begin at 10:30 a.m. where Sodexo will provide breakfast. The walk itself will begin at noon. Lunch will be served from 1 to 2 p.m.

Mesina encouraged everyone to participate in the walk, adding that all of the proceeds will go directly to the Autism Speaks foundation.

The cost for participating in the walk is $10.

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@saintmarys.edu

CAMPUS LIFE COUNCIL
Group discusses course revisions

By MELISSA FLANAGAN
News Writer

Campus Life Council (CLC) discussed how to improve alcohol education and the impact of meeting requirements for freshman courses.

Contemporary Topics, a two-credit course that all freshmen are required to take during their six-cycles of physical education, spends part of its curriculum discussing alcohol and drug use, specifically at Notre Dame.

“One of the conclusions we’re coming to is that a lot of alcohol education is front-loaded in your first year at Notre Dame,” junior and student body vice president Andrew Bell said.

“Because of this, Bell said student government is planning to look closely at alcohol education on campus and determine what’s relevant and what’s not, as well as what can be re-iterated in upperclassmen.

Alexa Arastoo, chair of Diversity Council, said the binder of assigned readings for Contemporary Topics should include more information on low-risk drinking and how students can stay in this range if they choose to drink.

“There’s no point of just demonizing it throughout the entire lesson when kids are going to do it,” she said.

Fisher Hall senator Skip McShea said that the current drink equivalences should be reformed.

“I think the drink equivalencies should be expanded a lot,” he said. “A lot of people really don’t know what alcohol is or what it does.”

Similarly, Arastoo said the section on the amount of alcohol in common mixed drinks is irrelevant to freshmen who don’t go to bars. She recommended instead that the binder include shot equivalences between different types of hard alcohol.

Mike Oliver, co-chair of Hall Presidents Council, said one of the biggest problems with alcohol education in Contemporary Topics is that freshmen do not actually do the assigned readings for the class.

He suggested finding ways to make the readings more appealing.

“I think if the first couple pages were striking statistics and graphics it’d be such a better way to catch someone’s eye,” Oliver said.

Student body president Catherine Soler said one way of combating this might be to make the classes on alcohol education similar to those on diversity, which are student-led by an undergraduate who has experience with the topic.

Toward the end of the class, students were encouraged to ask questions and share their own ideas on the issue for the next class meeting.

Kelsey Behan, student liaison to senate, said having a student lead the discussion would be a major improvement.

“I think it’d be great to have someone who is closer to our age,” she said. “It gives us someone you can relate to.”

Soler also said it might be helpful if the binder included a laminated page with tips for drinking responsibly that students could take out of the binder and keep after the class ends.

“For example, what to do if your friend gets sick, with contact information on the back,” she said.

Sr. Mary Donnelly, rector of Pangburn Hall, said they need to try more events and get the information out to students, but also convince them to read it.

Whatever we can do to make it happen, the students should know,” she said. “We need to try to draw their attention in.”

Contact Melissa Flanagan at mflanag3@nd.edu

SMC to hold social work week

By CAITLIN HOUSLEY
News Writer

To inform, to learn and to volunteer — these are the goals of Saint Mary’s Social Work Week.

This week, the Social Work Department will highlight its diverse field of study with various events held each day, including a speech today by Laura Recio, a registered play therapist and Social Work, Sanchez, professor of Family Dining Hall at noon, and graphs it'd be such a better eye,” Oliver said.

“Whatever we can do to make the week benefits all students, but not just Social Work majors.

“Social Work is so essential in the way we live our lives today,” Sanchez said. “Child social workers to Child Protective Services and Work are throughout the community. Social workers are everywhere, and their positions can be found under almost every career heading.”

Alma Bravo, a junior Social Work major, said, “Wednesday, students can learn how to de-stress with a lesson in origami art in the Saint Mary’s Student Center atrium from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. On Thursday, Becky Ruvalcaba, executive director of South Bend’s LaCasa de Amistad will speak from noon to 1 p.m. in the West Wing of the Noble Family Dining Hall. According to Kominkiewicz, LaCasa de Amistad is a non-profit organization that provides services to the Hispanic community.

Friday wraps up the week with a breakfast outside of the Social Work offices from 9:30 to 11 a.m., and a speech on Gerontology by Andrea Soler in conference rooms A and B of the Noble Family Dining Hall. According to Kominkiewicz.

According to Leonard Sanchez, professor of Specialist and Social Work, the week events have something for everyone.

“There’s a social worker in everybody,” Sanchez said. “Human relations, integrity, compassion are all things that social department is about, but it goes beyond that. We show how to give back to each other and the community.”

Sanchez said the week is being held to encourage people to take action within the little time they have at Saint Mary’s.

“Four years may seem like a long time to the students, but it flies,” Sanchez said. “We teach that everyone can make a difference in the world, even in this small community. We aren’t trying to change the world all at once — just our little corner of it.”

Sanchez said he hopes to show students they can make a difference, and that their “presence counts.”

“Whatever we can do to do something, they just don’t know how. Social Work week bridges that impossible gap,” Sanchez said.

Kominkiewicz said the importance of the event is for all students, but for the first time, students were encouraged to participate.

“First-year students find that they learn a great deal about social work as a major and as a profession. Feedback indicates that social work week was most helpful to them in deciding to become a Social Work major,” Kominkiewicz said.

All students are encouraged to participate and are given a link in an e-mail “to make Saint Mary’s Social Work Week a moment of community.” Sanchez said. “It’s the little things you do for the things that moves mounds.”

Contact Caitlin Housley at chousb01@saintmarys.edu

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Donate blood at one of these blood drives and you will receive a free custom Notre Dame t-shirt and be entered into our weekly February raffle to win an iPad!

St. Edwards Hall
Thursday February 10
11:00 am - 6:00 pm

Sign up for an appointment online at http://bit.ly/NDEd

Rolfs Sports Rec Center
Tuesday & Wednesday, February 16-17
11:00 am - 5:30 pm
Thursday, February 18
9:00 am - 3:30 pm

Sign up for an appointment online at http://bit.ly/RolfsRec or call RecSports at 631-6100

Please recycle The Observer. The koala bears thank you.
It is an honor to be invited to lead the libraries at this high expectations and of great opportunity.

Diane Parr Walker
University Librarian

The second facet of the plan is a comprehensive approach focused on nutrition-related issues. The Student International Business Council will be heading up the business planning of the center, which will be constructed in the LaSalle Square area — an area of high poverty.

"It’s one of the regions of highest poverty, around LaSalle Square. It’s an identified food desert, so there’s no grocery store," she said. "Within the two mile radius of LaSalle Square, 28 percent of the residents have a household income below $15,000, and 50 percent have an income of less than $28,000 a year, meaning 50 percent of the food-stamp eligible.

The community center would house the Urban Garden Market, one of the non-profits whose leaders serve on the council. The center could also hold a small-scale grocer and a food pantry, or offer online ordering for families eligible for food stamps.

This fund will double the value of purchases made by food-insecure students, according to Kids in Need of Welfare, which serves children in need, said her husband, Robert.

"Our community is seeking to articulate the exact structure of this fund as well as beginning to look into local resources and running out of space for books, and we will need a place to keep those collections if and when we do relocate the building," Morris said.

Morris said the library’s goal is to raise $350,000 in endowment money in order to open the new facility, the $150 million a year on administration and business operations. We dropped $50 million on a new hockey arena," Morris said. "So $40 million a year for a library is the heart of our academic mission." According to Morris, the library currently receives possibly house 20,000 to 25,000 million a year. He said he needs closer to $40 million a year to improve.

To that end, Notre Dame spends $75 million a year on athletics and over $150 million a year on administration and business operations. We dropped $50 million on a new hockey arena," Morris said. "So $40 million a year for a library is the heart of our academic mission."

The press release says, "Women aim to negotiate close-knit relationships of the participants which are characterized by cooperation and support."

Bacon said she remains optimistic about her degree in music literature in Cairo were "It is upsetting, it’s sad. I know what you mean. That same thing happened to me."

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"It’s one of the regions of highest poverty, around LaSalle Square. It’s an identified food desert, so there’s no grocery store," she said. "Within the two mile radius of LaSalle Square, 28 percent of the residents have a household income below $15,000, and 50 percent have an income of less than $28,000 a year, meaning 50 percent of the food-stamp eligible.

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This fund will double the value of purchases made by food-insecure students, according to Kids in Need of Welfare, which serves children in need, said her husband, Robert.

"Our community is seeking to articulate the exact structure of this fund as well as beginning to look into local resources and
AOL buys Huffington Post

Associated Press
SAN FRANCISCO — AOL Inc.'s $315 million deal to buy news hub Huffington Post signals that it is serious about building its profile as a media company as its legacy dial-up Internet business dies off.

The acquisition announced Monday is AOL CEO Tim Armstrong's most aggressive play so far as he tries to retool a faltering Internet business and boost efforts in news and online advertising. It is the largest purchase the company has made under Armstrong, a former Google advertising executive hired by AOL to engineer a turnaround.

The Huffington Post ranks as one of the top 10 current events and global news sites and draws 25 million U.S. visitors each month. It has built its popularity by compiling news from a wide selection of other media outlets, with links to articles and videos on everything from politics to style to food. The site combines that type of aggregation with original work by its own small staff and blog posts from celebrity journalists and draws 25 million U.S. visitors each month.

Ned May said the Huffington Post “has done a fantastic job for free. Outsell Inc. analyst Andrew Frank added that the deal is risky these days.

There is a lot of effort ahead for online media to recapture the map.”

Obama addresses U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Barack Obama U.S. President

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Obama needs the centrist clout that the business community can offer, as he seeks to win independent voter support for his re-election bid come November.

The Chamber can benefit by offering the sharp edges it developed fighting the broader Obama and lighter finanical

The Chamber can also act as Republican ballast against the White House and the Chamber face Republican opposition from fiscal hawks within the GOP. It could be spending on public works, from roads and bridges to the Chamber has called for such spending to the private sector, to users, such as a higher gasoline tax. The White House is also spending at least $32 million in the 2010 elections, most of it spent by the Chamber against candidates against Democrats.

The Chamber and the White House have mutual interests.

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The Chamber and the White House have mutual interests.
How not to get a date for Valentine’s Day

In response to yesterday’s Viewpoint article asking for a date for Valentine’s Day, I thought I’d give my fellow Dartonians some advice on what not to do if you if you’re still looking for a special someone to bring to dinner on February 14 with. Here are my top 10 list for how not to get a date on Valentine’s Day.

Number Ten: Looking like anyone from the Jersey Shore. Since you are a senior and it’s your last Valentine’s Day, I’m sure you’ve got a Dis-O-T-Shirt. The first few weeks of freshman year may have been fun and exciting, but white T-shirt covered in sharpie continuously validates your manhood, half of those numbers are either older than the number of the girl’s local pizza hut (I’m talking to you, girl from my hometown thinking I wouldn’t recognize 926-5000). At the same time, looking like some one from the Jersey Shore. UGL. Number Three: Asking someone out who doesn’t know you but who you know very well is good to ask out the person you see on your walk to DeBartolo Monday Wednesday Fridays who doesn’t know you but you know every place she’s ever been employed or her favorite movies. Number Two: Sending a letter to someone on Viewpoint asking for any girl to check you out on Facebook while your profile is private. And then suggesting ordering in Domino’s. Seriously, anything else than Gino’s East is weak. Sorry Pierce.

Number One: Not asking anyone out. While the odds may be against you that the girl you have a crush on in your philosophy class actually wants you to ask her out, there is the possibility that she’s as anxious as you are to have someone to go out with for Valentine’s Day. And as the adage goes, you can’t get a date without asking. Unless your a scholar.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Ankur Chawla at achawla@nd.edu

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Jose,

In your letter you claim to support people’s fitness resolutions, then spend a paragraph detailing what you hate about those people. Surely any student in our esteemed law school could see the disconnect in your argument. This is not even clear to the new crowd to find non-peak hours in order to convene you. Perhaps more people could maintain their resolutions if they didn’t have to dodge pedestrians who such as yourself. Anyways, I won’t stick to Keough’s fitness room. It doesn’t have all the amenities of the Rock, but it has people with some humility.

Stephen Siena
senior
Keough Hall
Feb. 7

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“There can be no happiness if the things we believe in are different from the things we do.”

Frey Madeline Stark
British travel writer

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Room for humility

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Frey Madeline Stark
British travel writer
Dear GreenMan,

Does recycling an Observer really save a polar bear?

Skeptical in Sorin

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Dear Notre Dame Family,

This Wednesday, February 9, is Siegfried Hall’s Day of Man. On Day of Man, Siegfried residents will wear only a T-shirt, shorts and sandals. On our way to classes and outside the dining halls, Delbartos and Fieldhouse Mall, we will collect money from students and staff for the South Bend Center for the Homeless.

We participate in this event in order to show solidarity with those who suffer from the cold South Bend winter on a regular basis. If the homeless are cold every day, why can’t we be cold for one day? We hope that our day of sacrifice will assist the individuals in our community who receive support from the Center for the Homeless.

This Wednesday, we challenge you to support the homeless as the men of Siegfried brave the cold. Please bring money to class or to the dining hall. You can also send a check made out to “South Bend Center for the Homeless” to Fr. John Conley, CSC, Rector, 190 Siegfried Hall, Notre Dame, IN 46556. We will accept donations throughout the month of February.

Here at Siegfried Hall — “where home is warming much faster than other regions of the globe. The resulting loss of sea ice habitat has caused the U.S. Department of the Interior to protect polar bears under the Endangered Species Act.”

While recycling your Observer is a good start to decreasing your greenhouse gas emissions and helping the polar bears, it’s only the beginning.

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Andrew Ritter
sophomore
Siegfried Hall
Feb. 6

Peter Thompson
sophomore
Siegfried Hall
Feb. 6

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Dear Skeptical,

Skepticism is an understandable response to the bold ad run in this publication last week, which asserted that “Every recycled Observer saves a polar bear” (Jan. 31, p. 9).

In the first place, we typically think of saving trees as the primary benefit of recycling paper. However, the reduction in deforestation that would result from recycling newspapers does little to help our polar friends, since polar bears live on ice. Does not, in forests with the exception of a few notable fictional polar bears on the island on Lost.

Fortunately, recycling paper does more than just decrease deforestation by reducing demand for virgin paper products. According to EPA and Paper Industry Association Council estimates, recycling one ton of paper saves 7,000 gallons of water, 3.3 cubic yards of landfill space, and enough energy to power the average American household for more than 35 years, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by about 73 MTC.

So how does this help save polar bears? Polar bears have become one of the most recognizable symbols of campaigns to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate climate change, because their Arctic home is warming much faster than other regions of the globe. The resulting loss of sea ice habitat has caused the U.S. Department of the Interior to protect polar bears under the Endangered Species Act.

Now let’s consider these statistics in the context of The Observer. The Observer circulates 9,000 copies daily, five days a week during the academic year (with 13,000 copies on home football Fridays). This amounts to about 1,465,000 copies of The Observer printed each year. Using the conservative estimate that 10 copies of The Observer weigh one pound, this means that The Observer circulates about 73.4 tons of newspaper to the campus community annually.

Applying the estimates above, this means that recycling all of The Observers printed in a single academic year would save more than half a million gallons of water, free up more than 240 cubic yards of landfill space, save enough energy to power the average American home for more than 35 years, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by about 73 MTC.

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sophomore
Siegfried Hall
Feb. 6

Peter Thompson
sophomore
Siegfried Hall
Feb. 6

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In Monday’s Viewpoint section, Notre Dame junior David Mahin of Siegfried Hall wrote in to the Editor publicizing Siegfried’s “Day of Man.” While I fully endorse Mr. Mahin and the Rambler’s collective support for the South Bend Center for the Homeless — the recipient organization of the money raised by Siegfried’s “Day of Man” — I nonetheless wholeheartedly dispute the overt connotation of “man” with “toughness.”

The Rambler’s have their hearts in the right place; raising money for the homeless is a noble cause. But their Day of Man (consciously or not) encourages a phallocentric, discriminatory culture, and perpetuates the notion of “man” with “toughness.”

Siegfried Hall wrote in to the Editor maintaining that “Every recycled Observer saves a polar bear” (Jan. 31, p. 9). While I fully endorse raising money for the homeless, this approach is not the right place; raising money for the homeless is a noble cause. But their Day of Man (consciously or not) encourages a phallocentric, discriminatory culture, and perpetuates the notion of “man” with “toughness.”

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

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Siegfried Hall
Feb. 6

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Dear GreenMan,

Have a question about the environment or how to go green in your personal life? Ask the GreenMan! Seriously. The GreenMan will be here every other week to answer your eco-related questions: email askthegreeman@gmail.com

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Dear GreenMan,

Ask the GreenMan

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Dear GreenMan,

Does recycling an Observer really save a polar bear?

Skeptical in Sorin

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The Rambler’s have their hearts in the right place; raising money for the homeless is a noble cause. But their Day of Man (consciously or not) encourages a phallocentric, discriminatory culture, and perpetuates the stereotype that to be a man, one must be tough.

I argue that a man should be defined by more than his “rippling abs,” “bulging biceps” or ability to wear flip-flops in February. Man can be many things, man can even be social. So feel free to put on a sweatshirt or bundle up with a tooboggan.

Support the homeless. But be cognizant: you’re no less a man when wearing layers.

Peace,

Brian Metz
sophomore
Knap Hall
Feb. 7

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It is our senior year and the last four years have been some of the best in our lives. We experienced new things, visited new places and made many fabulous new friends. One of our friends in particular has a soft spot in her heart for Notre Dame Hockey. As a dedicated fan, she has never missed a game (except when she studied abroad in Ireland for a semester), and she always keeps all of us updated on how the team is doing. Molly (our friend) is an amazing person who is going to dedic- late her life to teaching our young peo- ple. She also has a favorite Notre Dame Hockey player, No. 19. You know who she is. If any of the hockey players are read- ing this right now we know that a shout out to Molly (morgor0401@aol.com) would be a dream come true. You can decide whem and where, but remember as a No. 1 fan, she never misses a game. GO IRISH!

Kate Keyk

Regina Hall

Feb. 7

Theresa Rasi

Regina Hall

Feb. 7

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Submit a letter to the Editor — or else.

www.ndsmcobserver.com
South Bend is about to get yelled at. And now, Lewis Black is bringing his lat- est stand-up tour, "In God We Rust," to the Morris Performing Arts Center on Thursday.

The anger and frustration with society that have made Black famous are at full tilt in his latest tour. He describes the title of his show as a description of the current state of our country.

"The tour is about … how we basically had all this stuff (in this country) and it was going really well and now it’s rusting. It’s basically about the same things all my other tours are about. I look around, I see what’s going on and it makes me nuts," Black said.

The Grammy award-winning Black may be most familiar to students from his recurring "Back in Black" segment on "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart" or his performance as the fake dean of a fake university in the 2006 film "Accepted," but Black is actually one of the most prolific stand-up comedians performing today.

His professional career dates back to the late 1970s, after he received his Masters in Fine Arts at the Yale School of Drama and began working as a playwright at a theater in New York City.

While working as the playwright-in-residence, Black not only oversaw the writing of all the plays performed at the theater, but also emceed every show. This emceeing position turned into an opportunity for Black to develop his performance as a stand-up comedian and dis-ply his show-persona.

By the late 1980s, Black left theater to pursue his stand-up career. It turned out to be a good decision, as he found his voice as a stand-up comedian and dis-ply his show-persona.

In winning a Grammy for Best Comedy Album in 2007 for "The Carnegie Hall Performance" and a nomination for the same award in 2006, he also boasts an Emmy nomination for the 2007 "Red, White and Screwed," one of his highly prized specials.

Black also won the 2001 Best Male Stand-Up Award from the American Comedy Awards. His numerous and continuous successes led to his ranking by Comedy Central as the 31st greatest stand-up comedian of all time in 2004.

"(I feel most comfortable) in stand-up. Because it’s just me and the audience and there’s nobody around and I’m the only one who can screw it up," Black said.

Despite a performance schedule that puts him on stage more than 200 nights a year across the globe, Black has made his mark in other forms of media as well. In addition to his aforementioned role in "Accepted," Black has appeared in several other full-length and critically acclaimed short films also.

Though he left theater as a full time career, he did not completely give up the art. He has written over 40 plays many of which have successfully been put on throughout the country. His writing skills are not contained to the theater, however, as he has also penned two New York Times best selling books. Fans who are familiar with Black’s usual style of jumping around between social and political commentary can expect the comedian to be at his best in his latest performance.

"I talk about how we’ve got to move Valentine’s Day to the spring where it belongs, it doesn’t belong in … the most depressing month of the year. I talk about health care, and I … look at both parties and I … get old after the sixth or seventh track. This would be almost the same thing as me kicking me … the most depressing month of the year. I talk about health care, and I … look at both parties and I … get old after the sixth or seventh track. This would be almost the same thing as me kicking me off the planet. It gets dumber by the minute," Black said.

And through all his political commentary, despite proclaimed socialist viewpoints, Black maintains his own form of fairness and bipartisanship when looking at American politics. Namely that he is ticked off at everybody equally.

"What [the political parties] don’t seem to realize is that both sides have part of the answer, but they won’t sit down and do anything. They’re so … big on that their idea is the better idea, they’re idiots … I don’t really feel like I try to influence people. My only influence might be to comfort people who are also losing their minds too," Black said.

And like any good comedian, he’s willing to make fun of himself. Black throw in his two cents on the unanny resemblance that he shares with ESPN NFL analyst Ron Jaworski.

"Ron Jaworski is not even close to being as attractive as I am. No, he’s an athlete, I am the opposite of whatever an athlete is," Black said.

The show is Thursday at 8:00 p.m. Tickets, which range from $27-$47, can be purchased at the Morris Center or on their website at morriscenter.org.

**Bright Eyes: ’The People’s Key’ Leave Expectations at the Door**

By CHRIS COLLUM
Scene Writer

Conor Oberst has already made more folk-rock masterpieces than most guys with guitars riding the coffee shop circuit. But don’t expect another one here. America’s favorite Midwestern Hippie-boy obviously isn’t very interested in hushed acoustic ballads this time around.

Look no further than the bouncy synth-rock of first single “Shell Games” for confirmation of that fact.

“I was really burnt out on that rootsy Americana that is that it works. These songs sound absolutely fantastic. I wasn’t coupled with one of the best hooks I’ve ever written. What makes the lyrics so frustrating is that Oberst is very close to something great, but he gets too wrapped up in his own hallucinations and fantasies to come back down to earth long enough to explain what he’s talking about. He claimed in interviews that the title track is about the confluence of society and technology, but it seems doubtful that anyone can figure that out from listening to the song. For a man who once practically beat us over the head with imagery in every line, this kind of vague nonsense is puzzling.

“The People’s Key” is probably not what anyone outside of Oberst’s inner circle expected it to be. The album has some dizzying highs despite the lack of lyrical depth. With so many rockers in the bag to choose from, the band’s coming tour promises to be one of their most exciting to date. Catch them in Chicago at the Riviera Theatre on March 15.
By CLAIRE STEPHENS  Scene Writer

This Valentine’s weekend Loretta Lynn brings a hit of country music to South Bend. After touring through Kansas City and Des Moines on the Friday and Saturday, Lynn performs this Sunday at the Morris Performing Arts Center before continuing her tour to New England, the South and the West throughout the spring.

Lynn’s first autobiography, published in November 2008, is titled “Van Lear Rose.” In 2004 — produced by Jack White of The White Stripes — for which she won several Grammy Awards. Recently Sony Music Nashville pre- sented Lynn with a custom guitar, an ever-blooming forklift hybrid enti- tled the “Loretta Lynn Van Lear.” With 54 studio albums, 88 singles, 23 No. 1 singles and 15 compilation albums, Lynn’s music has had a pow- erful presence for country, pop and rock fans for half a century. More than just Lynn’s music has been famous, however; her autobiog- raphy, “Coal Miner’s Daughter,” was made into an award-winning film with the same title in 1980, starring Sissy Spacek and Tommy Lee Jones. Her famous life story starts humbly in Butcher Holler, Ky., during the Depression as one of eight children. Lynn married Oliver “Doolittle” Lynn when she was 14 and was already a mother of four when she learned to play guitar and began singing seri- ously. Zero Records was started by Norm Burley just to record her after she was spotted at a talent contest. She and her husband traveled cross- country pushing her first Zero Records release “I’m a Honky Tonk Girl,” which become a minor hit when she reached Nashville. Lynn’s musical influences included “girl- singer” Kitty Wells and the distinctive style of Patsy Cline.

Lynn’s music not only reflected her hometown and upbringing, but a strong female point of view as well. Some of her singles that presented the strong woman character unafraid to stand up for herself include “You Ain’t Woman Enough (To Take My Man),” “Don’t Come Home A Drinkin’ (With Lovin’ On Your Mind)” and “Fist City.” Her songs tell the story of women in their everyday lives, cover- ing motherhood, marriage, sexuality and divorce. Lynn and her music advocates for the woman’s point of view particularly in blue-collar and work- ing class roles.

Lynn refused to avoid controversy by writing her first song in 1966, “Dear Uncle Sam,” one of the first songs to mention the human costs of the Vietnam War Similarly, “The Pill” was banned by many radio stations in its time for its message of how birth control gives women the free- dom to love without the fear of preg- nancy.

Starting the 1970s with three albums in one year ("Wings Up Your Horses," "Loretta Lynn Sings 'em and Sings 'em and "Coal Miner's Daughter") Lynn went on to win a second Best Female Vocalist Award from the Country Music Association and was the first woman to win the title of Entertainer of the Year in 1972. She appeared on the cover of Newsweek the next year and wrote her autobiography, a New York Times Bestseller, in 1976.


Tickets for Lynn’s concert went on sale Dec. 18 at the Morris Box Office, Super Sounds in Goshen, Hammars Bookstore in South Bend, Eddy Street Commons and Karma Records in Plymouth to Warsaw, with a limit of eight tickets per per- son.

All biography, discography, tour, and news information about Lynn can be found at her website, LorettaLynn.com.
Super Bowl MVP Rodgers savors championship celebration

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Aaron Rodgers’ smile never faded as he drove along Florida’s sur-"Meridional parking down a confetti-""covered parade route through Disney World’s Magic Kingdom on Monday afternoon.

The Super Bowl MVP was operating on only a few hours’ sleep following Green Bay’s 31-25 victory Sunday. But even with a Florida after-"noon storm threatening in the distance, it was clear nothing could cloud the Packers quar-"tback’s spirits.

“It’s a special day, it really is,” Rodgers said afterward. “I didn’t get a lot of sleep (Sunday) night, but it’s great to be able to celebrate. This is a team that came together and accomplished something spe-"cial.

Rodgers became the latest Super Bowl MVP to participate in Disney’s “I’m going to Disney World” commercial series Sunday. He was the first to do it in 1987, following Super Bowl XV. Rodgers flew from Orlando to Little Rock Monday.

A California native, Rodgers said he had been to Disney World in Anaheim, but never to Orlando’s Disney World. The thousands of fans lined Main Street in the theme park Monday, many of them decked out in Packers’ jerseys. T-shirts and cheesehead hats.

Rodgers posed for photos with the Disney characters and even took a bite of a specially-"made block of cheese in the shape of the Packers’ team emblem.

“Rodgers said that even with the victory, he doesn’t expect the comparisons to former Green Bay quarterback Brett Favre to end. Favre led the Packers to their previous Super Bowl win in 1997, but unlike Rodgers, was not named the game’s MVP.

“I don’t think they ever stop because I’ve never really loved him,” Rodgers said. “But I hope. You know, we’re doing something here in Green Bay right now and I hope people can recognize that. I’m proud of the way our team came together this season.

“[We have] two or three parents that raised me the right way and pushed me to be the best at whatever I did. And I wanted to be a football player. So, right now I’m at the top of my game.

Longtime Packers’ fan Mike Gottlieb has lived in Orlando for the past 25 years, but is from Menomonee Falls, Wis., Wilson won the frost-delayed Phoenix Open on Monday for his second victory in three months of this season. He earned $1,098,000 for his fourth PGA Tour title. The 36-year-old former University of North Carolina player also won the 2007 Honda Classic and 2009 Mayakoba Golf Classic. He jumped from 91st in the world to No. 11.

Wilson’s victory at the Phoenix Open followed closely with a 2-under 69 to close out his Sunday finish. The Monday finish.

Two strokes ahead when play resumed Monday, Wilson closed with a 2-under 69 to match Dufner at 18 under. Dufner shot a 66, with birdies on Nos. 16 and 17.

“I was a little more nervous today than I was expecting,” Wilson said. “I didn’t sleep that well last night. I think it was ra-"ther the excitement with the Super Bowl and the uncertain-"ty of today.

The Sony Open winner last month in a 36-hole Sunday fin-"ish, Wilson made a 4 1/2 - foot par putt when he ended the playoff.

“Was a little bit of an easy putt,” Wilson said. “Just thankfully, I got it in on time and knocked it in.”

Dufner was facing a 7-"foot par putt when he ended the playoff. Dufner made a cou-"ple birdies to put maybe a little heat on Mark, and he played well, too. I think I have to go two-putt on the first playoff hole from 70-plus feet and makes birdie on the next hole.

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The Sony Open winner last month in a 36-hole Sunday fin-"ish, Wilson made a 4 1/2 - foot par putt when he ended the playoff.

“Was a little bit of an easy putt,” Wilson said. “Just thankfully, I got it in on time and knocked it in.”

Dufner was facing a 7-"foot par putt when he ended the playoff. Dufner made a cou-"ple birdies to put maybe a little heat on Mark, and he played well, too. I think I have to go two-putt on the first playoff hole from 70-plus feet and makes birdie on the next hole.

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NBA

Cavs set NBA futility mark

Associated Press

DALLAS — Over one season or two, no team in NBA history has lost as many games in a row as the Cleveland Cavaliers.

The surging Dallas Mavericks beat Cleveland 99-96 on Monday night, making it 25 straight losses for the Cavs.

Cleveland already held the record for the most losses in a single season, but the league also keeps a record for losses spread over two seasons. This topped that one, too, making it the most consecutive losses in league his- toric period.

The previous record was held by the Cavaliers, set back in 1982-83.

Cleveland had a chance to tie it with a 3-pointer in the final sec- onds, but made one pass too many and time expired without a shot going up.

Jason Terry scored 11 of his 23 points in the fourth quarter to make sure the Mavs avoided the embarrassment of being Cleveland’s streak-buster. It would’ve been especially surpris- ing because Dallas came in with the longest active win streak in the NBA, now nine straight.

Shawn Marion had 17 points and 10 rebounds, and Dirk Nowitzki scored 12. Tyson Chandler had 12 points and 11 rebounds, and Ian Mahinmi had 11 points and eight rebounds.

Peja Stojakovic had eight points and five rebounds over 20 min- utes. Shawn Marion had 17 points and eight rebounds. Ian Mahinmi had 11 points and eight rebounds.

The previous record also was held by the Cavaliers, set back in 1982-83.

Antawn Jamison scored 18 points and Christian Eyenga 15. Everyone knew Cleveland would struggle this season after losing LeBron James, but this... 

“Jenny is a freshman and played five matches and really just dominated.””

Kristy Frilling

Irish junior

Irish continued from page 16

season.

“I absolutely love playing with Christy and I think we play really well together,” Kellner said. “I always look forward to it.”

Most recently, the pair defeated Wake Forest doubles partners Ryann Cuttill and Emilie Malveth in an 8-6 victory.

Kellner, a Pasquerilla East resident, had her choice of uni- versities when she came of age to continue her education and tennis career. The freshman explored her options at Boston College, North Carolina, Michigan and Illinois before settling at Notre Dame.

“I loved the campus, the team, the school...I could just see myself going here,” Kellner said.

So far, Kellner has been a good fit for the team, who lost two of their main competi- tors with the last gradu- ating class. She’s been fairly consistent in her singles play at the No. 5 spot, where she is currently 4-2 and ranked 106th in the

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Irish continued from page 16

met a minimum degree of difficulty were eligible to com- pete in a preliminary qualifying competition, held the previous Sunday. The top 12 performers from the preliminary round moved on to the quarterfinal round of Nationals, which was held on the campus of the University of Iowa. Many of the nation’s strong-est divers, including sev- eral Olympians — were in attendance and the final results were used to de- termine the American con- tingent for major interna- tional competi- tions, including the World University Games. Canada Cup, AT&T USA Diving Grand Prix and World Championships.

Chiang, who had not par- ticipated in national meets since her junior year of high school, gave a strong per- formance in the 3-meter springboard event at the National Preliminary com- petition, finishing in second place. But the quarterfinal round did not go as she had hoped, and she failed to qualify for the semifinals after scoring 232.30 points, good for 29th place.

“My performance in pre- lims went really well, I ended up in second going into quarterfinals, but I wasn’t really happy with my performance at quarterfi- nals,” Chiang said. “It went really badly.”

Chiang typically attends meets with the rest of her team, but did not attend Caiming Xie was the only member of the Notre Dame diving team or staff that accompanied her to Iowa. While the competition lacked the team camar- aderie present at college meets, Chiang was able to check out non-collegiate competition and catch up with old friends.

“A lot of friends that I know from previous meets were there,” Chiang said. “It’s really nice to see a change, in college we com- pete against a lot of schools that are just around us, so it’s nice to see peo- ple from all over the country, a lot of people I haven’t seen in a while.”

Although Chiang was not completely satisfied with her dives on Friday, she still relished the opportunity to compete in such a high-pro- file event, and hopes to attend another USA Diving event this coming summer.

“It’s a great meet to go see because you get to see really talented divers there, especially this year because it was a qualifying meet for Olympic trials and the Grand Prix,” said Kellner. “It’s a good meet to go to because it motivates you to do better and work harder.”

Contact Vicky Jacobson at vjacobse@nd.edu

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National"s continued from page 16

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Irish diver
Skating team makes history

Women's Water Polo

A successful weekend, the Irish scored seven goals in three games to win the Lindenwood tournament in commanding fashion.

The Irish Women's Water Polo team kicked off the weekend strong with a 7-2 victory over their rivals from the Big Ten, University of Illinois. The Irish offense was led by the five-time co-captain junior Maisey O'Malley and the defense was led by senior Alix Murnane.

The Irish won both games this weekend with six steals. The Irish defense held Lindenwood to 12 shots in three games.

The Irish offense had three goals and McCray and Hayes were both able to get one goal on the net.

Skii and Snowboard

The Irish skied well in the Men's Divisional Championships over the weekend at Crystal Mountain in Thompsonville, Mich., recording a first and second place victory.

"I am pretty impressed with the success we've had so far this season," said Deirdre Murdy. "We have broken through some major obstacles and have come back strong. I am head over heels excited for our next game." The women's ski team came in first place overall and had four steals in the top 10.

Men's Volleyball

The Irish men's volleyball squad ventured to Marquette this weekend for a MIVA tournament featuring many nationally ranked clubs, proving that they belong among the elite.

"I am really impressed with the success we've had so far this season," said Deirdre Murdy. "Our men's ski team placed second overall with sophomore Tommy Kneudler finishing first, followed by senior Kneudler in eighth and senior Kevin Davey in 10th.

The men's snowboard team took sixth place overall. Freshman Stella placed sixth, which was top for the Irish. The team will move on to compete in the USCSA Regional Championships at Marquette Mountain on Feb. 19-20.

Bowling

Led by coach Dan Drws, Notre Dame pulled off their best result in a tournament in years, finishing 11th out of 36 teams in the annual conference tournament.

With an average of near 940 pins per set, the Irish posted their best score of the season. Freshman Mike Sullivan finished with a 209 pin average to lead the Irish. Irish co-captain Mormon Davis led junior co-captain Richard Skelton, junior Brian Frisch and senior Armani Skelton, all averaging over 200 pins.

The Irish have two tournaments remaining, the Hoosier and the American Heartland Conference Championships, before the USCSA Championships.

Women's Ice Hockey

Notre Dame dropped two games this weekend when it hosted the Brew City Blades this weekend at the Joyce Center ice rink.

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The men's snowboard team took third place and was led by senior Erin McNeill, who took home the gold.

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Rangers looking to trade infielder Young

The Rangers have started negotiations to trade third baseman Adrian Beltre as the team signs free agent Robinson Chirinos to a multi-year deal.

"Our first choice would be to continue with our offseason plan and go camp with Michael and him playing pivotal role on the club," Daniels said Monday. "He's changed his mind, had a change of heart about that role, and if we can accommodate his request, and in doing so upgrade the club, we certainly would like to do that."

The Rangers are currently negotiating with several teams, including the Texas Rangers, who have made a trade offer for Beltre.

"What could make that difficult is Young is owed $46 million over the remaining three seasons in contract — $15 million in 2012, $16 million in 2013. Plus, there are only eight teams not on his no-trade list," Daniels said.

Team president Nolan Ryan, who spoke to Young twice over the last few days, said that list hasn't expanded at this point.

Daniels said he has already been approached by some clubs not on Young's list, though he wouldn't get into specifics about who they were.

"It certainly hasn't gotten to a point where we've had a trade with Michael with anything because he's been clear on his feelings about that," Daniels said.

The 34-year-old Young has spent his entire major league career with Texas, and played in 1,538 regular season games before finally making it to the playoffs last season. A 300 career hitter whose 1,548 hits are the most in Rangers history, the veteran pitched a 200-hit season (2003-07) and led the AL with a .331 average.

Young was a second baseman when he became a starter for Texas in 2001, then switched to shortstop after Alex Rodriguez was traded. Young was a two-time all-star and helped Texas win three World Series championships.

Young indicated in those recent conversations with Ryan that he initially accepted the role because it has made the Dallas area his home, where his family is comfortable. The California native also wants to be on a winning team.

"I think once he had time to think about his career and about his future, I think he felt the time wasn't right for him to take on that role," Ryan said.

Excited about the unique plans for Young, Ryan said he tried to assure the player that manager Ron Washington was committed to the young shortstop and the number of at-bats he has always gotten. And the acquisition of catcher-first baseman and potential DH Mike Napoli after the Beltre signing wouldn't change things.

"Obviously at this point his numbers are that in the interest of his career, it'd probably be better for him to move on and continue to play a position on a daily basis," Ryan said.

Young was among several teammates Josh Hamilton worked out with Monday. The AL MVP said there was no real sense of what might happen and if Young would be at spring training with the Rangers first full-squad workout Feb. 20 in Surprise, Ariz.
TENNIS

Nadal awarded with sportsman of the year

Associated Press

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates — Rafael Nadal and Oliver Khan were named Laureus World Sports Awards in London on Monday, with Spain’s World Cup winners taking home a record five awards.

The No. 1-ranked Nadal — winner of three Grand Slam tournaments in 2010 — was named sportsman of the year, beating nominees including Carolina Marin of Spain, Los Angeles Lakers star Kobe Bryant, Filipino boxer Manny Pacquaio, and Barcelona footballers Andres Iniesta and Lionel Messi.

Local media that the women’s downtown at the Vancouver Games and a third consecutive overall World Cup title, took the sportswoman’s award. High jump Olympic champion and tennis players Serena Williams, Kim Clijsters, and Can Cazan were named the other nominees.

Former football great Zinedine Zidane won the life-time achievement award and American surfer Kelly Slater took the Laureus Sport for Good award. Accepting the award was captain Colin Montgomerie, who dedicated it to Seve Ballesteros, the five-time major winner and former No. 1 who has been suffering from a brain tumor.

“Won this because of him,” Montgomerie said. “He spoke to us on the phone from the room was silent.”

He is a smart football man and someone who will guide us again into the playoffs. Munchak was the first man to interview for Fisher and had been considered the top candidate for the job.

“I feel like we’re starting a new chapter,” Fisher said. “It’s not same old, same old. We come in, sit down and figure out what’s best for the Titans going forward with what we have … Anything’s possible.”

“Munchak has to fill at least five positions left open by his predecessor, the firing of defensive coordinator Chuck Cecil and departures of assistants coaching defense line, running backs, wide receivers. His best friend and former team-mate Bruce Matthews is considered a possibility to replace him on the line but he is offensive assistant coach with the Houston Texans.”

Munchak’s promotion is being praised by those who work with him, including Paterno calling him a hard worker. Detroit coach Jim Schwartz said he didn’t realize how respected Munchak is throughout the NFL until he left Tennessee.

“I am known as someone who works hard,” Munchak said. “I have been around the block and have only known success. I think I did my best to coach the team. I left. Titans fans can sleep one just yet.”

Nadal won the Laureus sportsman of the year award after winning three Grand Slam titles in 2010.

**NFL**

Titans hire O-line coach Munchak to replace Fisher

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — A usually conservative Mike Munchak showed off much more personality than usual at his first news conference as head coach of the Tennessee Titans.

He made jokes about how he expected a gold watch after 30 years of serving the franchise and even joked at his quiet manner.

“I am my excited face.” Munchak said at one point.

The new coach also made one thing very clear. Change is coming, even though he coached under Jeff Fisher the past 14 seasons.

“I’m going to be my own man,” Munchak said at his new contract as quality control coach and a person.”

Munchak has only had the Titans for two seasons. But he has had four play-off wins out of five regular season games with the Titans before retiring in 1994, and he became the fifth player from the franchise included in the Hall of Fame—the first to spend his entire career with the Titans.

Munchak also had the club record with nine Pro Bowl berths during his career. Adams retired Munchak’s No. 63 in 1996, joining Campbell, Jim Norton and Elvin Bethea in rare company with that honor.

Mike Munchak is the first former Tennessee player to become head coach of the Titans after his promotion Monday.
By JOE WIRTH Sportswriter

Coming off a remarkable high school career, freshman Patrick Feeney is already trying to make a mark at Notre Dame. Feeney, a native of Indianapolis, was a multi-sport athlete in high school. While attending New Palestine high school, he was an eight-time better winner in track and field, football and basketball. Among the three sports, he was elected to six all-conference teams and was captain of each and every one of them. Feeney accumulated numerous school and conference records while in high school. He broke the school, conference and sectional records for the 400-meter dash with a time of 47.56. He also recorded a 3:18 in the 800 relay to break the school and conference record. Despite being a good athlete, Feeney said he chose track by default simply because he did not have a sport to play in the spring season. "I started running track in sixth grade mainly because I didn't have a spring sport and everyone was telling me I was fast," Feeney said.

He explained that while attending to Notre Dame he was always more interested in soccer and he knew if he had the credit hours available he would not be a question.

"I knew people was been a huge Notre Dame fan and have come to games all my life," Feeney said. "Throughout high school I knew if I could get accepted then it definitely would be the place for me." Feeney said that although running track is very challenging and time consuming, the camaraderie with the other players makes it fun. "I'm running in college at a lot more serious, but at the same time still very fun," Feeney said. "We have fun together at practice, but we still work really hard and get the work done."

Feeney said that while he does have individual goals for the rest of the season, he places a higher priority on contributing to the team's success.

"One of the goals for the season is to keep lowering my times each and every meet and also helping people at the other points at Big East," Feeney said. "Our main goal for our team is to win Big East Indoor and Outdoor and also try to get everyone into regionals and nationals."

The Irish track and field team continues action at the Big East Indoor champi- onships on Feb. 19 in Akron, Ohio.

Contact Joe Wirth at jwirth@nd.edu

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**Men’s Track and Field**

**Indianapolis native Feeney fulfills lifetime dream**

Patrick Feeney
Irish freshman

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Patrick Feeney
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**NCAA Men's Basketball**

**Pittsburgh wins without Gibbs**

Associated Press

MORGANTOWN, W. Va. — Pittsburgh had a solid Plan B for West Virginia in the absence of injured center Gary McGhee — spread the ball around inside to the Panthers’ other playmakers.

The fourth-ranked Panthers overcame an awful start by shooting 61 percent from the field in the second half and beat No. 25 West Virginia 71-66 on Monday night.

Without Gibbs, the Panthers’ leading scorer (16.3) who is out to up two weeks with a left knee injury, Pittsburgh had little out- side scoring presence—and it didn’t matter. The Panthers, who lead the nation in rebounding margin, outrebounded West Virginia 40-28 on the strength of Deniz Kilicli scoring a career-high 20 points and 10 offensive rebounds, leading to a 15-point edge in second chance points and a 14-point advantage in points in the paint. Seven different Belles notched an offensive rebound, including all five starters.

"That’s one of the things we beat Virginia to death on sea- son long," Henley said. "We had the height advantage on the boards. Our kids are really good and good things are happening, especially on the offensive glass."

Saint Mary's will next look to gain more experience coming into regionals and nationals through a road contest against Alton (11-10, 9-3) on Saturday at 3 p.m.

Contact Matt DeFranks at nddefranks@nd.edu

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**Defense continued from page 16**

lower prior Saturday's 76-68 victory, McGraw said the win was not a strong showing of the team's talent.

"We're first in the Big East in steals, but then we only had five, and we normally have 12," she said. "We held teams to 53 points a game, and they can both hit good three-pointers on the board. Essential to 53 points a game, and they can both hit good three-pointers on the board. Essential effort, and I think they will go in transition, and Skylar Devereaux Peters and Becca Bruszewski.

"Devereaux is having a fantastic year. Becca Bruszewski has really come a long way, scored her thousand point at Syracuse, she had 16 in the other night, she had double figures, she's rebounding bet- ter, and then Achonwa coming off the bench, she's scoring I think about 14 points and only playing 19 or 20 minutes."

McGraw said she has been pleased with Notre Dame's post play, particularly the contribu- tions from freshmen Nafatnle Achonwa and seniors Devereaux Peters and Becca Bruszewski.

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"We've really focused on rebounding," Pittsburgh coach Jamie Huggins said. "We cut down their offensive rebounds. We went with our rebounding defense and that's what we set out to do from the start. Pittsburgh pounded the ball inside, piling up 42 points in the paint and 19 points in the Mountaineers defense that eventually wore the Mountaineers out."

Nasir Robinson scored 15 points, Gary McGhee had 13, Travon Woodall added 12 and Brad Wanamaker scored 11 for the Panthers (22-2, 10-1 Big East). "Adson is a good player and a great shotmaker for us and without him we wouldn't have come out and play our game," Wanamaker said. "We just want to try and fill in his shoes. We just wanted to stay with Pitt basketball and get the guys that sub in to play their game."

Pittsburgh went hard to the glass after being held to a sea- son-low 23 points in the first half. The Panthers went ahead to stay with 8 minutes left in the game to improve to 5-0 on the road in the Big East and contin- ued their best overall start in conference play.

This is the 10th straight sea- son Pitt has won at least 20 games overall and at least 10 in the Big East, the conference's longest current streak. "I think one of the things that Bob Huggins had pointed to the Pittsburgh game as a possible jump start to a solid run of the Big East race. Instead, the Mountaineers traveled to West Virginia (15-8, 6-5) has now lost three of its last four games."

"That's one of the things we beat Virginia to death on sea- son long," Henley said. "We had the height advantage on the boards. Our kids are really good and good things are happening, especially on the defensive glass."

Saint Mary's will next look to gain more experience coming into regionals and nationals through a road contest against Alton (11-10, 9-3) on Saturday at 3 p.m.

Contact Matt DeFranks at nddefranks@nd.edu

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**Sophomore guard Skylar Diggins defends a Syracuse player in a game earlier this season. The Irish won the game, 74-48.**

**Defense continued from page 16**

"We really are back offen- sively, I really pleased," McGraw said. "The posts are playing well, they’re scoring, they’re shooting well, guards are playing well. Offensively, a lot of good performances from each individual player. Everybody who goes in the game is scoring and we’re doing a pretty good job of that.

"We’ve been scoring in transi- tion, I think we’ve been feed- ing off our defense when we go in transition, and Skylar and Nafatnle are both extreme- ly hard to guard on the open floor," McGraw said. "They’re so savvy with the ball and they can really attack the basket, they can hit good jumpers, so it makes them really hard to guard.

But the guards aren’t the only important forces on the offense. ""Running in college is a lot more serious, but at the same time still very fun."

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**Indiana native Feeney fulfills lifetime dream**

Patrick Feeney
Irish freshman

"My goals for the season are to keep lowering my mark at each and every meet."
**ND Women's Basketball**

**All hands on deck**

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

Impressing its coach and shaping up its defense may be the hardest tasks No. 8 Notre Dame faces tonight when it hosts Seton Hall in a Big East matchup, but Muffett McGraw knows her team has it in them.

“I was disappointed with our defense in the South Florida game (on Saturday), so I hope that we can defend a little bit better,” the Irish coach said. “I think we need to come out with a little more aggressiveness. I think it’s in them to come out and just play and beat a team.”

The Irish (20-4, 9-1 Big East) have won their last seven games since falling to No. 2 Connecticut, 79-76, on Jan. 8, and held four straight opponents to 50 points or fewer.

**ND Women's Diving**

Sophomore diver faces top eight

By VICKY JACOBSEN
Sports Writer

Sophomore diver Jenny Chiang was unsure of what to expect as she traveled the USA Diving Winter Nationals competition Friday. Although the reigning Big East 3-meter champion has compiled an impressive résumé as a member of the Irish diving squad, this marked her first time competing in a USA diving event since coming to Notre Dame.

“I was really nervous about going to the meet in general because I hadn’t gone to a U.S. meet in a while, so I wasn’t sure how I was going to place, if I was going to qualify, stuff like that,” Chiang said.

The meet was an elite affair — only athletes whose scores came in doubles play.

“We didn’t play our best and we need to play our best to beat Wisconsin,” Sachire said. “We need to adjust to going on the road and handle the environment.”

The Irish will face Wisconsin at 5:00 p.m. this evening before preparing for a weekend doubleheader against Marquette and Michigan State.

Contact Andrew Owens at aowens2@nd.edu

**Men's Tennis**

Irish try to bounce back with road victory against familiar foe

By ANDREW OWENS
Sports Writer

It is inevitable that any athletic team will have to fight through adversity during the course of a long season. For the Irish, that time is now.

Following a weekend split against Duke and Toledo, Notre Dame (3-2) will look to bounce back tonight when it visits Wisconsin.

The Badgers (2-2) lost both matches last weekend in an ITA tournament. They have had a week to rest and prepare for the Irish. Notre Dame, meanwhile, will be playing its third match in three days when it takes on the Badgers.

“We’re in good shape,” Irish associate head coach Ryan Sachire said. “This isn’t going to be too much for us.”

Sachire credits the strength and conditioning program that has been implemented for the success the Irish have had traditionally throughout a long season.

“Chris Sandeen is a great strength and conditioning coach,” Sachire said. “We do a good job preparing both our bodies and minds.”

Wisconsin and Notre Dame have not been strangers during the past several seasons.

Last year, the Badgers eliminated the Irish in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

“They’re a good team,” Sachire said. “They beat us 4-2 last year, but almost every other time it has been 4-3. The results between the teams have been pretty even historically.”

The Irish have dropped two of the last three matches, with the 7-0 victory over Toledo the only win during that span. The two losses each came against elite talent — No. 16 Illinois last weekend and No. 14 Duke on Sunday.

The Blue Devils topped the Irish 5-2 after falling behind early. Both Notre Dame victories came in doubles play.

“We didn’t play our best and we need to play our best to beat Wisconsin,” Sachire said. “We need to adjust to going on the road and handle the environment.”

The Irish will face Wisconsin at 5:00 p.m. on this evening before preparing for a weekend doubleheader against Marquette and Michigan State.

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**SMC Basketball**

Wade and Sadowski star in last home game

By MATTHEW DeFRANKS
Sports Writer

On Senior Day, it was seniors Liz Wade and Grace Sadowski who did the starring — and the finishing — during Saint Mary’s 66-57 win over Trine on Saturday afternoon at Angela Athletic Facility.

While Wade has started every game this season, Sadowski appeared in the starting lineup for the first time this year, and she made it count. Sadowski scored four of the game’s opening six points, helping the Belles (15-7, 8-5 MAIA) to an early 13-4 lead on the Thunder (7-14, 5-8). Both Sadowski and Wade finished the game on the floor and recorded seven and five points, respectively.

“Grace [Sadowski] got us going right away,” Belles coach Jenn Henley. “We got some looks early, but we just weren’t shooting very well in the first half. I give credit to Grace for getting us started right off the bat there.”

Helped out by junior forward Jessica Centa’s eight points and an eight rebound advantage over Trine, the Belles held a 30-24 lead at the half.

After Trine junior guard Danielle Senf, who scored a team-high 11 points, knocked...