Ticket goes unchallenged in campus election
Rocheleau, Rose only candidates to submit completed petition; Senate votes to proceed with contest

By SAM STRYKER
News Editor

For the first time in recorded history, Notre Dame will hold a student body president and vice president election featuring only one approved ticket.

Juniors Brett Rocheleau and Katie Rose filed the only completed official petition by the Jan. 27 deadline. If no write-ins are approved, they will run unopposed in the Feb. 8 election.

Tuesday evening, the Student Senate voted against a recommendation by the Judicial Council to suspend the election, as outlined by the Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Body.

If the order had passed, Rocheleau and Rose would have assumed the positions of student body president and vice president, respectively, without being elected by the student body.

According to the recommendation, the request to suspend the elections was made to save financial and human resources that would otherwise be expended in the conduction of an election.

The recommendation was filed because Rocheleau and Rose were the only interested candidates to file a successful official petition.

Sophomore class president Nicholas Schilling, who served as Senate Chairman pro-tempore as Rocheleau was absent from the meeting, said the group decided it was in the best interest of the student body to go forward with the election.

The general feel from the Senate was they didn’t want to deprive the student body from the right to vote,” he said. “Also, in case there were any write-in candidates they wanted to make sure there was an opportunity for those candidates to come forward.”

Senior Cait Ogren,

see ELECTIONS/page 5

Belles for Fitness get into shape

By LISA SLOMKA
News Writer

The women of Saint Mary’s gained 134 new BFFs on Monday — Belles for Fitness, that is.

The Belles for Fitness program, created in 2008, encourages participants to exercise 200 minutes per week over a five-week period.

Kecia Van Schooy Clark, fitness instructor and Belles for Fitness director, said the program had been well-received and had brought a sense of community to the students.

see FITNESS/page 5

Students network at Winter Career Fair

By CAITLIN HOUSLEY
Saint Mary’s Editor

The women of Saint Mary’s see FITNESS/page 5

By LISA SLOMKA
News Writer

Armed with crisp résumés, snappy suits and firm handshakes, hundreds of students descended on the Joyce Center Field House Wednesday to speak with recruiters from 130 companies at the Winter Career and Internship Fair.

Students from all colleges and majors were invited to explore summer job opportunities and career options spanning several industries, from accounting and marketing to engineering and health care.

Senior marketing major Emma Higgins said the fair provided opportunities for students to network with companies they are interested in working for.

“The fair is a great way to talk to people who have already had internships and to get your name out there,” Higgins said. “Advertising doesn’t hire until they have a need. Typically you won’t know if you have a job until July. I want to go into advertising though, so I’m looking for companies that would be present and what jobs they offered,” Downs said.

Senior marketing major

see FAIR/page 4

Administrators dedicate new London Program building

By MEGAN DOYLE
News Editor

First the building housed a hospital for women and children in the early 20th century.

Then it was a gloomy, dilapidated building in the background of a Sherlock Holmes film.

Now it is home to more than 130 Notre Dame students studying abroad in London during the spring semester.

University President Fr. John Jenkins and University administrators officially dedicated Conway Hall during a ceremony in London on Friday.

The dedication marked the beginning of the building’s second semester as the new residential space for students studying abroad in the capital of the United Kingdom.

Since the building officially opened in August 2011, London Program Director Greg Kucich said it has been “a major center for Notre Dame’s international operations in London.

The building had been abandoned and was “an eyesore” when Notre Dame began its renovations, Kucich said.

When its first residents moved into the flats last fall, that eyesore was completely transformed.

“THERE was an incredible process of renovating the building over less than a year period actually, a major renovation project to turn it into the very efficient and elegant building that it is now,” Kucich said. “I think you get the impression when you go in there that it looks like a four-star hotel.”

The University previously rented accommodations for its students in London, but Kucich said owning a unique property was financially beneficial.
TO THE EDITOR

For Fuller’s financial motives...

Alec Van蹲motsh

sophomore

Dillon

"Sleep in a queen bed for the sake of irony."

Angie DiNinni

sophomore

Badin

"Buy everyone a poppy."

David Fleming

sophomore

Krug

"Bring pizza bread back to the dining hall."

Grace Wessel

sophomore

Welsh Fam

"Serve Panera in the dining halls."

Kristen Jackson

sophomore

"Make money with my face on it."

Mark Paluta

sophomore

Dillon

"Build a colony on the Moon."

Have an idea for Question of the Day? Email obsphoto@gmail.com

IN BRIEF

A lecture by Professor Asli Baykal titled “Neither Postsocialist Nor Transi-
tioning: The Pressure of Living Under Uncertainty in Post-Soviet Uzbeki-
stan,” will be held at 4 p.m. tonight in Room C103 of the Hesburgh Center. The lecture is free and open to the public.

The film “On the Bridge” will play tomorrow at 7 p.m. in the Browning Cin-
ema of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. “On the Bridge” is a powerful study of post-traumatic stress disorder and will be shown as part of the ScreenPeace 2012 Film Festival.

The Office of Sustain-
ability, the Center for So-
cial Concerns and GreeND will be co-sponsoring a film screening of “Sun Come Up” tomorrow at 8 p.m. in the Geddes Hall Auditori-
um. “Sun Come Up” is an Academy Award-nominat-
ed short documentary of 40 minutes in length that follows the experiences of the Carteret Islanders, a community living on an is-
land chain off the coast of Papua New Guinea, as they are forced to relocate due to a sea-level rise.

SUB will be hosting a screening of the movie “50/50” tomorrow at 10 p.m. in Room 101 of De-
bartho Hall. The movie is a comedy starring Seth Rogen and Joseph Gar-
don-Levitt and will cost $3.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed in-
formation about an event to obsnews.nd@gmail.com.

iras: Today in THE OBSERVER

Irish football coach Brian Kelly speaks to the media during the National Signing Day press conference at the Guglielmo Athletics Complex on Wednesday afternoon. 16 high school seniors and one transfer student will join the Notre Dame football team in 2012.

OFFBEAT

Toothless bank robber suspects needed dentures

WAYNESBURG, Pa. — A woman who appeared to not have any teeth in surveil-
ance photos from a western Pennsylvania bank robbery last month has confessed, apologized and told police she planned the heist because she needed the money for den-
tures.

Evelyn Marie Fuller, 49, of Carmichaels, on Wednesday remains in the Greene Coun-
ty Jail unable to post bond on bank robbery and other charges filed Tuesday by po-
lice in Waynesburg, where she allegedly robbed the First National Bank on Jan. 20. Arresting Officer Tim An-
krum said Fuller explained her motives when she con-
fessed to the crime.

"During her confession, she stated she wanted to use the money to pay for dentures she was unable to get through welfare until next year," An-
krum said.

After her arraignment, Fuller told a reporter, "I’m very sorry for what I did and I know I am going to punish me for it," before explaining that her pastor told her to tell the truth about what she did.

Ohio woman gives birth in car after traffic stop

COLUMBUS, Ohio — A woman’s speeding got her a warning from an Ohio state trooper but wasn’t enough to keep her granddaughter from be-
ing born in her car. Donna Richmond got pulled over on Tuesday morning as she was trying to rush her daughter to a Columbus hos-
pital. She told reporters that the State Highway Patrol of-
ficer told her she was going 90 mph.

That’s when daughter Debbie Richmond said she screamed from the frost pas-
senger seat. “I’m in labor!”

The trooper let them go with the warning. But the de-
lay from the traffic stop kept them from reaching the hos-
pital in time, so Debbie Rich-
mond gave birth to a daughter in her mother’s Hyundai.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

The Observer ◆ DAY-TO-DAY
Thursday, February 2, 2012
Students lead RecSports fitness classes for their peers

By CAROLYN GARCIA
News Writer

Between schoolwork, socializing and extracurricular activities, many Notre Dame students turn to fitness classes to incorporate exercise into their busy schedules.

But some students take that commitment to fitness even further by working as RecSports student fitness instructors.

Senior Caitlin Kinser channels her interest in dance by teaching Zumba, a dance-based fitness program that involves routines set to international music. After attending her first Zumba class with a friend two summers ago, Kinser continued pursuing her interest in the program through a RecSports class the following fall and became a licensed instructor that October.

For Kinser, the decision to become a student instructor instead of a class participant was an easy one.

“I said to myself, ‘Okay, I could either pay to take the class or I could get paid to work out and do something that I love.’” Kinser said. “It’s a win-win situation.”

Kinser said student fitness instructors are responsible for creating unique routines and workouts for each class meeting and are free to choose accompanying music for the classes. As a member of the Zumba Instructor Network (ZIN), Kinser said she receives CDs and DVDs with suggested songs and choreography.

Although the provided material would simplify Kinser’s role as a Zumba instructor, she said she prefers to choreograph most of her own material set to her favorite music, even if it requires more time and effort to do so.

“My classes are one hour, but it may take me all day to make up new routines.”

Senior Alie Hamman decided to become an indoor cycling instructor after her own instructor of two years encouraged her to pursue the opportunity through RecSports. To qualify for the position, Hamman took a grueling indoor cycling instruction course that involved six hours of biking and a written exam. She is now completing her second year as a RecSports instructor.

“Having the microphone on definitely took some getting used to. I think that was the hardest thing,” Kinser said. “Because I did a lot of dance in high school, I’m used to learning and doing choreography, but when you’re dancing you don’t have to tell people what’s coming next, you just do it.”

However, Kinser said those challenges gradually disappeared as she became accustomed to teaching her classes.

“After teaching for about a month, I get comfortable with it and started being able to have fun when I was teaching, so now I’ve kind of got my own style,” Kinser said.

Though developing class workouts can be challenging, Hamman said she tries to motivate her students by providing them with fresh, interesting workouts each week.

“You never want someone to come to a class and think, ‘I could have done this on my own. Why am I here?’” she said. “You want to be pushing them further than they would normally push themselves, which I think is the goal of having a fitness instructor.”

Whatever the difficulties of their respective positions, Kinser and Hamman agreed the rewards of seeing students improve outweigh the challenges of their jobs.

Students exercise in a fitness class offered by RecSports. Classes are taught by both adult instructors and students.

“Normally, working out is more of a personal thing and instructing’s more about projecting what you want people to do,” Hamman said. Both Kinser and Hamman said they faced some initial difficulties leading their first few classes.

“Having the microphone on definitely took some getting used to. I think that was the hardest thing,” Kinser said. “Because I did a lot of dance in high school, I’m used to learning and doing choreography, but when you’re dancing you don’t have to tell people what’s coming next, you just do it.”

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Whatever the difficulties of their respective positions, Kinser and Hamman agreed the rewards of seeing students improve outweigh the challenges of their jobs.

There were people that I could see a physical difference in, and that’s really rewarding, because ultimately you want to see your students succeed and you want to see them getting fitness results,” Kinser said.

“It’s always rewarding to see people doing something I enjoy and knowing that they are feeling the enjoyment that I am trying to project.”

Allie Hamman
senior

Students can visit recsports.nd.edu for more information on student-instructed fitness courses and other RecSports fitness programs.

Contact Carolyn Garcia at cgarcia7@nd.edu

Life Issues in the Black Community:

Planned Parenthood vs. Purpose

Friday, February 3 at 4:30 PM
Geddes Hall Auditorium

Ryan Bomberger
The Radiance Foundation

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www.nd.edu/~lifefund/
The Saint Mary's College Student Government Association (SGA) passed legislation outlining the future structure of Senate and announced the dates of the upcoming College-wide elections in their meeting Tuesday.

The student body election period will take place from Feb. 27 to March 1. Candidates for SGA, Residence Hall Association, Student Activities Board, Student Diversity Board, student body president and vice president may begin campaigning Feb. 26. The results of the elections on March 1 will be announced the following day.

Senate and Class Board candidates may begin campaigning March 5. Current juniors, sophomores and first years can campaign for Senate positions during this period.

Incoming first years will round out the Senate with elections in Septem-
ber. SGA members will staff an informational table from Feb. 13 to 17 to introduce students to the future structure of SGA.

Though the table’s location has yet to be determined, SGA members will inform them about the election process, Executive Secretary Emma Brink said.

“SGA is extremely excited to be comprised of fifteen students who represent diverse interests and student involvement at Saint Mary’s. The students will be divided by class year to guarantee fair representation of the student body, with positions allocated for four seniors, four juniors, four sophomores and three first years,” Brink said. “SGA is extremely excited to introduce the new structure to students and promote the new opportunities that students will have on the Senate.” Brink said.

Contact Cailin Crowe at cccrowe1@smcm.edu
Conway continued from page 1

need to walk about 15 minutes to reach the London Center in Trafalgar Square for their classes.

“That not only provides students with a wonderful walk across the bridge every day, but it also integrates the two facilities really nicely so we can do academic events and cultural events at Conway Hall, as well as in the London Center,” he said. “Notre Dame becomes like a colossus with one foot in Trafalgar Square and another foot in South Bank, striding the Thames.”

Conway Hall is also located next to one of the campuses of King’s College in London, and students have access to the college’s student union, gym and library facilities.

One of the challenges of the London program traditionally has been for students to move outside of the Notre Dame friend-work of living together, taking classes together, which has its benefits but has its limitations too because as an international student, one really needs to become immersed in local contacts and meet new people,” Kucich said.

“This opportunity to link with King’s College in this way is an accomplishment and fulfillment of the principle goals for this program, which has been a challenge for many years now. Now we are overjoyed at the connection and the apartment-style living in Conway Hall helped her get to know the other students of her study abroad program.

“I love how it encourages a sense of community, even more so than the dorms,” Tramontin said.

Tramontin and junior Kailey Grant, who live together in a flat with eight other girls, said they especially enjoy cooking with their roommates and gathering for meals around their large dinner table.

“I love our weekly flat dinners,” Grant said.

Conway Hall accommodates a total of 268 students, according to a University press release. Kucich said 132 of those students are Notre Dame undergraduate participants in the London program, six are Notre Dame graduate students studying at the School of Oriental and African Studies through the University of London and 22 are Notre Dame law students. Students from other universities occupy the remaining spots.

At the dedication ceremony, Jenkins said the building strengthens Notre Dame’s historical ties to London.

“Notre Dame has had a presence in London since 1968, when our first students came here to study law,” Jenkins said. “Since that time, we have been able to expand our international presence here, enabling the Colleges of Arts and Letters, Business Administration and Engineering to develop their own programs in London as well.”

Kucich said the building opens new doors for the expanding international programs at Notre Dame.

“The number one issue is Notre Dame’s commitment to expanding and strengthening its international centers, in London in particular because this is the flagship international study abroad program also around the world,” he said.

Elections continued from page 1

president of elections, said the circumstances surrounding this election were unprecedented in recent history.

“Since 1996, there has been no situation like this,” he said. “Whether one happened before, we don’t have record of.”

Though Rocheleau and Rose will run unopposed on the ballot, write-in candidates have the opportunity to be approved up until midnight Monday.

As outlined by the Constitution, those interested in running as write-ins must provide 100 extra unique signatures in addition to the 750 signatures mandatory for all candidates.

They must also furnish proof of academic good standing from the First Year Office of the Registrar, and prove good disciplinary standing as determined by the Office of Residence Life.

According to Ogren, no write-in candidate has been approved yet.

Ogren said that writing-in candidates have been approved in Student Government elections in the past, they have usually replaced a candidate on a ticket. She said having an entirely new ticket emerge through this process is unheard of.

“If for some reason in the past someone got dropped out or has been deemed ineligible for some reason and the ticket has wanted to continue with a new candidate, that has happened before, but never in a situation like this,” she said.

Ogren said it is too soon to decide if there will be a debate or public forum in which students can discuss issues with eligible candidates.

We just found out the election will be proceeding, so the first things we are going to have to take into consideration with these write-in candidates is what they want to do,” she said. “The one thing we know is the election will take place as planned.”

Though Rocheleau and Rose are the only official ticket, Ogren said she hopes students approach this year’s election system as they have in the past.

“We are hoping that students will participate in this election as fully as if it were a contested election. We hope that everyone considers it their duty to the Student Government to vote. We hope that everyone considers it their duty to the Student Government to vote. We hope that everyone considers it their duty to the Student Government to vote.”

Contact Carolyn Housley at chou201@SaintMarys.edu
**The Observer** | ndsmcobserver.com Thursday, February 2, 2012

**INSIDE COLUMN**

**Senior year, no regrets**

This is it. The moment I’ve been waiting for my whole life. Tonight is the night I turn 21. With the clock striking 12:00 and my Mar- hod column toasts it’s finally Feb. 3, 2012, I’ll let out a sigh of relief and casually sipping a legal drink. Along with that sigh, though, I’ll shed a tear or two. Because, you see, I am the second-to-last senior to turn 21. Yes, for the last, in case you were wondering, and that is why I’m writing this. I give up. You don’t all think that the youngest person in the room just to be put on the same playing field as everyone else by some label. I thought it through here, but I’m not ready to go. What if I didn’t have to?

Let's put Groundhog Day, after all. What if, like Bill Murray, I kept reliving today over and over again? Wouldn’t that be ironic? What if I never turned 21 and became forever stuck in a state of underage youth, reveling in my inability to buy girls drinks and crawl into the backside of Father? What if I never have to grow up?

Don’t get me wrong, I can’t wait to turn 21. I’ve been looking forward to the second-to-last two. You see, I am old enough to be controlled. To justify a $100 billion valuation, however, the Facebook model has to be good for more than advertising. The market, at least, thinks it is. Facebook began as a pioneer in the communication revolution, but its real value is its use of the information it has gathered through fostering communication and networking of its users.

Facebook continues to develop tech- nology to aggregate and analyze the massive amount of data generated each day on the site — data about you and me. Take “suggestions” location check- ins? Facebook knows where you are, what you’re doing and whom you’re with. It knows the eb and flow of your high school relationships and which restaurants are gaining popularity in your town, all because you and 800 bil- lion people are willing to share. If Facebook can learn to predict traf- fic patterns or the spread of disease, the types of pages they link to could indicate political leanings, intelligence or even credit worthiness. At the most extreme, the possibilities bring a whole new meaning in creeping on someone.

Of course the key question moving forward is whether all of this data will add to the Facebook. If it does, investors are going to have a whole lot to “like.”

Grace Concelman is a senior majoring in finance and philosophy. She can be reached at gconcelm@nd.edu

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

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**INQUIRY INTO IMPURE THOUGHTS**

**Father Joseph V. Corpora, CSC**

Guest Columnist

I could never list all the things I love about being a priest. There are very many. Of the top things that I love about being a priest is the in- credible privilege of being able to hear confes- sions. I am al- ways grateful to be able to be a minister, unworthy as I am, of God’s grace and mercy in the confessional. I have the privilege of hearing con- fessions a lot at Notre Dame — most often in the Basilica, on NDEs and re- treats, and sometimes in my room in Dillon Hall. One of the most common things that I hear is, “Father, I have impure thoughts.” I hear it a lot. I suppose that most priests do.

While I know what the penitent means by saying “impure thoughts,” I wish to look at a different meaning or take on these words. No one of us can really begin to understand the unconditional and ever-present love of God. The love of God is greater than what we can imagine. The love of God is free. The love of God is unconditional. God initi- ates this love in each one of us. God loves us when we sin and when we don’t. God loves us when we suc- ceed and when we fail. God loves us when we win and when we lose. God loves us when we turn towards Him and when we turn away from Him. God loves us without reason.

The Scriptures tell us that God’s love is like the rain, which falls on the good and on the bad. God loves us in season and out of season. God loves us when we are hopeful and when we are despairing. God loves us when we do good and when we do evil.

St. Paul repeatedly assures us that nothing can separate us from God’s love. Even if we wanted to escape from God’s unconditional love, we could not. God has created us at every moment of our existence. If God stopped loving us for a split second, we would become like a grease spot on the floor somewhere. I long to know that love more deeply. I want to be penetrated by that love to the core of my being. I think that the only “impure thought” I can really have is that I am not totally loved by God or that I am unlovable or that something that I have done could cause God to withhold His love from me.

Father Joseph V. Corpora, CSC

**Quote of the Day**

“Those who control their passions do so well that their passions are weak enough to be controlled.”

William Blake

English illustrator & poet

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**Weekly Poll**

What’s the best part of the Super Bowl?

- The advertisements
- The food
- The uniforms
- The rivalry

Vote by 5 p.m. Thursday at ndsmcobserver.com
Ron Paul's undesired candidacy

The GOP field currently features three presidential candidates who appear willing to do anything short of making a deal with the devil simply to be addressed as 'Mr. President' come 2013. But the fourth candidate seems fine with keeping the title 'Dr. Paul.' Just ask Ron Paul's campaign chair-man, Jesse Benton, whose words were featured in a September issue of Time Magazine. “He does not have a great personal desire to be the President,” said Benton. “Come again?”

Paul is a man with intellect, experi- ence and the courage to present radical ideas in an environment full of empty rhetoric. But he should not be running for president.

Perhaps we need to take Mr. Ben- ton’s quote in context. After all, it was published at a time when Paul’s closest competitor in the polls was Michele Bachmann and he was still trailing not only Mitt Romney, but Rick Perry as well. Maybe at the time he truly did not have the desire to be president, but it has since changed. Isn’t it funny how a tumultu- ous four months of polling and a strong showing in Iowa can suddenly make a man want to be leader of the free world?

It is more likely the case that Paul actually does not want to become the president. Benton’s quote did seem to be pretty cut and dry. Even now, with mil- lions of dollars in campaign funds and resilient polling numbers, some maintain that his campaign is about ideas. There is the notion that the presidential elec- tion is Paul’s platform for spreading the message of minimized government, and any discussion on winning or losing is secondary.

All of this is enough to make many Americans cringe. We are talking about the presidency, the highest office in the land, a position that only a handful of people have known and some of the most extraordinary people have served. Sure, a few dim bulbs slipped into the White House over the years, but overall the in- stitution has shown bright. So if someone lacks the burning desire to go after it with all that he or she has, or if there is even a shadow of a doubt about whether that desire will stay lit for eight challeng- ing years, don’t run.

I, like the vast majority of Americans, also grew tired of watching candidates bash one another month after month. A primary battle filled with attacks and counterattacks — like we just saw take place in Florida — often reaffirms the reasons why so many people find politics entirely unattractive.

Say what you will about the personali- ties, policies and/or credibility of Rom- ney, Gingrich and Santorum, but nobody can deny that they want the job. This alone anyone can appreciate, even if we don’t necessarily appreciate the distaste- ful ways in which they compete.

As far as “spreading a message” is con- cerned, why does Paul’s platform need to be the presidential election? Aside from the fact that he has already run for president twice before, Paul serves in the U.S. Congress and sits on the House Com- mittees on Foreign Affairs and Financial Services, some influential stages in and of themselves.

And why must this campaign of ideas cost so much? More individuals donate personal money to Paul’s campaign than any other candidate. Given the grand promotion of ideas which we are seeing seems excessively expensive, and ironic, considering the man who is the center of the campaign has long been a crusader against excessive spending.

Paul has strong academic credentials, a history of military and governmental service and unflinching resolve in his beliefs on governmental policy. Not to mention he’s easily the most entertaining guy to watch in the Republican debates. For these things he should be applauded.

In a presidential election, however, these merits don’t mean a thing when some voters still aren’t convinced that you want the job.

John Sandberg is a sophomore political science major. He is a fan of the Chicago Cubs, Dave Matthews band and good Mexican food. He can be reached at jsandberg18@nd.edu

Letters to the Editor

So long bike shop, sustainability

Dear Students and Faculty,

This may come as a surprise to some of you, but the Notre Dame Bike Shop is closing indefinitely this semester. It has been wonderful serving the Notre Dame community by working at the bike shop for the past three years. For those of you who haven’t heard of the bike shop, it provided free bicycle repair for Notre Dame students and workers. We repaired 331 bikes last school year and also fixed-up old bikes for priests and rectors on campus. All parts we used were salvaged from bikes NDPs collect at the end of the year.

This leads me to two main reasons why the shop closing is such a big loss for the Notre Dame community: sustainability and safety. Our school is making great strides to become a greener, more sustainable family. The bike shop was one of the most sustainable endeavors on campus: all parts were reused from old bikes, all junk parts were recycled and, of course, the shop encouraged riding bikes, the most efficient form of transportation.

The shop was also responsible for promoting safety across campus. A large number of repairs were on broken brakes. I imagine that now most students don’t have the resources readily available to fix their broken brakes. Therefore, in the coming months there may be many students speeding through campus without a way to stop for that freshman looking for Geddes Hall or that Jimmy John’s driver zipping into campus for a fast drop-off.

It won’t take much to restart this invaluable service. All we need is a heated garage where we can store tools and shop experience or even just a wish for this free and friendly service to be available to the Notre Dame family once again.

Jon Schommer
junior
Knott Hall
Feb. 1

Protecting the right to choose

The recent issue of the availability of contraceptives on Notre Dame’s campus has sparked much controversy. A letter from the officers of Notre Dame’s Right to Life Club (Feb. 1) states that artificial contraception is “neither a ‘right’ nor health care.” I would like to respec- tfully disagree.

The choice of whether or not to use prescriptive contraceptives is a choice involving a woman’s body and subse- quently her health. The act of procre- ation involves the biological fact of taxing on both the physical health of the woman and on the emotional health of the man and the woman. It is a difficult decision to make that certainly concerns multiple aspects of the par- ents’ health.

The officers’ letter also quotes the Catholic Church (Feb. 1) stating, “Without the [unitive and procreative] aspects the sexual act is stripped of its meaning, and man and woman fail to give themselves to each other in complete love.” The deci- sion whether or not to have children involves many factors in a person’s life, such as finances, the woman’s job and the current health of both parents.

The decision to hold off on having children or to not have children at all involves many factors in a person’s life, such as finances, the woman’s job and the current health of both parents.

“I realize that not everyone has these reasons why the shop closing is such a big loss for the Notre Dame community: sustainability and safety. Our school is making great strides to become a greener, more sustainable family. The bike shop was one of the most sustainable endeavors on campus: all parts were reused from old bikes, all junk parts were recycled and, of course, the shop encouraged riding bikes, the most efficient form of transportation.

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So long bike shop, sustainability

Dear Students and Faculty,

This may come as a surprise to some of you, but the Notre Dame Bike Shop is closing indefinitely this semester. It has been wonderful serving the Notre Dame community by working at the bike shop for the past three years. For those of you who haven’t heard of the bike shop, it provided free bicycle repair for Notre Dame students and workers. We repaired 331 bikes last school year and also fixed-up old bikes for priests and rectors on campus. All parts we used were salvaged from bikes NDPs collect at the end of the year.

This leads me to two main reasons why the shop closing is such a big loss for the Notre Dame community: sustainability and safety. Our school is making great strides to become a greener, more sustainable family. The bike shop was one of the most sustainable endeavors on campus: all parts were reused from old bikes, all junk parts were recycled and, of course, the shop encouraged riding bikes, the most efficient form of transportation.

The shop was also responsible for promoting safety across campus. A large number of repairs were on broken brakes. I imagine that now most students don’t have the resources readily available to fix their broken brakes. Therefore, in the coming months there may be many students speeding through campus without a way to stop for that freshman looking for Geddes Hall or that Jimmy John’s driver zipping into campus for a fast drop-off.

It won’t take much to restart this invaluable service. All we need is a heated garage where we can store tools and shop experience or even just a wish for this free and friendly service to be available to the Notre Dame family once again.

Jon Schommer
junior
Knott Hall
Feb. 1

SMC is doing it right

Regarding medical amnesty in the Observer’s Jan. 27 article, “ND explains lack of medical amnesty,” Brian Coughlin stated, “It is hard to fathom one Notre Dame student acting so much out of a perceived self-interest that they may help a fellow student in need because they are more worried about potential discipline.”

In my mind, this situation is easy to fathom. Let’s say that a friend of mine is extremely inebriated and I’m really not sure whether he or she needs medical help. Of course, the smart thing to do is err on the side of caution. How- ever, the threat of discipline stands as the primary motivation to do otherwise.

There’s a simple rule of economics that states that people respond to incentives. Discipline is a significant disin- centive when one is unsure if their friend needs help. It is also important to bear in mind that the people making these decisions are often inexperienced and they might not be expected to make rational choices.

The University should be more concerned with ensuring the safety of students than its right to discipline.

Brian Appleton
junior
Morrises Hall
Feb. 1

Matthew Planell
junior
Morrises Hall
Feb. 1

Please recycle The Observer.
This is the Scene section, not the Sports section. I know that.

If you read Scene regularly, you know what I’m talking about. This is the time of year when the single most important event in the entertainment industry is a sports event — the Super Bowl.

This is really a big one. It’s not just a football game either.

If you factor (also known as the “Johnny Damon” factor) Tom Brady’s successfulness. Boom, people hate him.

Nothing bonds sports fans more than hating the same people. Right now, everyone’s hating Brady, and Eli Manning (Giants). Why? People hate Tom Brady is pretty simple. He’s wildly successful. And if there’s one thing that people will hate you for in sports, it’s killing dogs. No, just kidding, it’s being successful.

Ironically, being successful is also the only way to be forgiven for something horrific, like a dog fighting scandal. But that’s a whole another topic.

If you don’t care about the game, don’t know anything about football or both, it can be a little confusing between you and your friends. No fear, here are a few things to remember on Sunday to make a smooth game for everyone.

This is football, not a fashion show.

There are few things more irritating while watching a football game than someone commenting on the style sense of the uniforms.

If you don’t believe me, start doing it on Sunday and watch the collective rolling of eyes that you get in response. One team will be in blue. One team will be in white. That should be clue enough about your concern about uniforms.

I know Tom Brady is married to a supermodel. I’m also well aware of his objective attractiveness, which will make you a deal, and I’m sure any good sports-loving man would agree with me here — if you don’t talk about Gisele and fashion during the Super Bowl, then we won’t talk about Tom Brady and football while I’m watching the Victoria’s Secret Fashion show.

Pick a quarterback to hate, you’ll fit right in.

Nothing bonds sports fans more than common hatred, and there is so much to go around in this game you really can’t go wrong. Just pick someone to actively root against and your friends will both be surprised by your sports knowledge and respect you as a person.

There are two safe bets in this game — the two quarterbacks, Tom Brady (Patriots) and Eli Manning (Giants). Why people hate Tom Brady is pretty simple. He’s wildly successful. And if there’s one thing that people will hate you for in sports, it’s killing dogs. No, just kidding, it’s being successful.

Ironically, being successful is also the only way to be forgiven for something horrific, like a dog fighting scandal. But that’s a whole another topic.

Eli Manning is a little more difficult to explain. He’s been portrayed, fairly or not, like an overrated, possibly selfish brat ever since he came in the league. He also plays in New York, and after being successful, the second best way (although slightly redundant) to get yourself hated in sports is to play for a New York team.

Moral of the story. Complain every once in a while when your player of choice makes a good play, and your friends will cut you some slack when you don’t understand what “first downs” means.

If you don’t understand, just pretend. Dear God, please just pretend.

This is really a big one. It’s okay if you don’t understand everything that’s going on. You think I know what peep-toe heels are? Or who Valentina Garvani is? No, I don’t. And your sports fan friends won’t expect you to know every detail of the game either.

Perhaps because car insurance is so boring and the different companies all offer basically the same thing, many car insurance commercials are among the best that air throughout the year.

One of the best is the series of Allstate commercials in which actor Dean Winters portrays Mayhem. Always clad in his black suit, he personifies a variety of dangers on the road that might cause an accident and hence bring insurance into the mix. They are quite humorous.

Another great car insurance commercial of the present is the Geico one featuring a woman driving home with a pig in the back seat, literally going “wee, wee, wee” all the way home. Sure, it is random and maybe a little bit annoying, but the pig is so cute and the concept so elegant that the whole package is endearing. The same cannot be said for the sequel with the pig on the zip line, however.

One of the most interesting commercials to pop up in a while is the Direct TV commercial that features a series of causal relationships beginning with having cable and waking up in a world where everyone is Mayhem. On first viewing it is something of a revelation, though the novelty does subsequently wear off. It remains to be seen whether this genre of commercial has any staying power, but it represents good niche.

The Old Spice commercials featuring “The Man Your Man Could Smell Like,” Isaiah Mustafa, are fantastic. Something about the way he talks, the crisp colors and the striking visual effects make those commercials endlessly entertaining.

The Old Spice commercial with Terry Crews’ brain flying around is not as good.

All of the above commercials are worthwhile, but undoubtedly the greatest advertising character of our time is the Dos Equis “Most Interesting Man in the World.” Those commercials drastically increased sales of the product they were advertising, entertained America and spawned an Internet meme.

What more could one ask for? Unfortunately, for every good commercial there are countless bad ones. The current most annoying commercial has to be the AT&T spot with the tailgating guys and their 4G phones dismissing everyone else who has slower phones. It seems like 4G technology makes people feel superior.

Picnics are not healthy, we know.

Part of the Super Bowl tradition for most people is an abundance of food. No, it’s not healthy. We know that, we accept it and we move on. Football is a dangerous sport. You take risks.

If all else fails, there is one thing that every football fan can agree on (outside Boston):

Bill Belichick is the head coach for the Patriots. You can recognize him by the natty sweatshirt he wears and the maniacal scowl etched across his face.

Belichick has a whole host of factors going against him. He’s successful. Boom, people hate him. He coaches in Boston, the second city in America in terms of the people-who-hate-you factor (also known as the “John Madden” factor).

No matter how successful he is, he always offends and offends an ungrateful jerk in interviews. And on top of it all, he’s really, really smart.

So if you ever find yourself in a tight spot, or make an egregious error like calling a field goal a free throw, or saying that the Patriot’s uniforms are tacky), just cover it up with one of these: “Yeah, but Belichick is the smartest guy!” And now you’re the most popular person in the room.

Contact Kevin Noonan at knoonan2@nd.edu
The second annual “Eat. Drink. Downtown South Bend” is upon us. Through Feb. 4, various restaurants in Downtown South Bend will feature specials and discounts on their food and beverages. Each participating restaurant offers a special dinner menu for $25 along with various other discounts on individual items.

By COURTNEY ECKERLE
Scene Writer

courtecker01@saintmarys.edu

"Good old Freddy Mercury's the only guy who advises me," The Hold Steady front man Craig Finn belts on his first solo venture, "Clear Heart Full Eyes," in true cool-guy fashion. Really, invoking the name of Freddy in a song is second only to well ... God, and this album sees Finn doing that too. Rock idolatry and religion, all in one album. Let the smiting and lightning strikes begin.

The Hold Steady is currently working on their sixth album, but fans shouldn’t worry; this solo debut is not a sign of the dreaded band-pocalypse breakup. In other words, no need for a Destiny's Child-era Flashback. The album was recorded in Austin, Texas, with Spoon's producer Mike McCarthy. Use local musicians and add in a nod to television show "Friday Night Lights" (a clever switch up of its mantra, "Clear Eyes Full Hearts Can't Lose"), and you have a rock and roll front man in Finn who is seriously dippng his toe into the Americana pool.

Lighter musically but lyrically darker than the usual Hold Steady fare (the band's 2008 album "Stay Positive"), most of the tracks reflect the yin and yang otherwise known as the human condition. Dynamically narrative, "Jackson" talks about depression, and "No Future" references the Sex Pistols both in title and with the lyrics. "The best advice I've ever gotten/ was from good old Johnny Rotten/ he said God save the Queen/ he said, no future for you/no future for me."

The Americana flair emerges again in the emotionally tasteful "When No One's Watching," which tells a tale about telling tales. "The way that you prevailed in the face of greater danger/The way at first that you misunderstood you... That's the pieces come together that's these things I keep hearing, about the hero that you are when no one's watching." Another bit of the Texas element that comes out in the album is when Finn, in true Hold Steady style, mentions "The Wagon Wheel" in more than one song. The band commonly encourages the interaction of people and places across songs and albums. Also, the description sounds like a place that would have great barbecue. Finn is a rarity in the rock world. He is openly Catholic (he was with Jesus when I met you), he's a fanatic sports fan (mostly sinners) album. As with any good solo venture, Finn's core fans will feel at home, while at the same time new fans will be welcomed in this Americana infusion.

Finn comically croons, "I wish I was with Jesus when I met you ... You'd give yourself right up to me." He continues, "It's hard to suck with Jesus in your hand," a clear reference to the Notre Dame marching band. "In 'Western Pier,' Finn characterizes Jesus as a judge: 'He is kind, and he's just.' But it isn't all happy-go-lucky religious hand-holding. There's real doubt and pondering in his lyrics. In "Honolulu Blues," he laments, "All those hymns you learn as a kid and they make perfect sense to you," and "you've got to think that maybe Jesus isn't getting through." However, the lyrics conclude, "We're all good, we're all bad, we're eucharistic and we're sad," reflecting this up and down, light and dark, saints and sinners (mostly sinners) album. As with any good solo venture, Finn's core fans will feel at home, while at the same time new fans will be welcomed in this Americana infusion.

"Clear Heart Full Eyes"
Label: Vagrant Records
If You Like: The Hold Steady, Bruce Springsteen & the E Street Band

Contact Courtesy Eckerle at ecker01@ saintmarys.edu
The contraction of just four MLB teams (Rays, Padres, Marlins and Royals) from 32 to 28 would create a more competitive environment in which Prince Fielder may actually deserve a $214 million contract.

But seriously, Scott Boras throws his weight around harder than Fielder rounding the bases. I realize he represents the greatest players in baseball, but owners and general managers quiver in fear at the sight of his phone number across their cell phones. Now playing hardball with Boras is a losing prospect, because if you tick him off once you lose access to the best talent.

But it’s baseball — which will never happen without a salary cap rather than land with a new owner willing to spend big money on free agents.

No matter what Giants and Patriots players and coaches have said this week, Peyton Manning somehow winds up страница 10 | ndsmcobserver.com

Irsay has already said the Colts will choose Manning’s successor in April. The decision is expected to be decided on page No. 1. Irsay has said that if Manning’s salary cap rather than land with a new owner willing to spend big money on free agents.

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Woodhead battles stereotypes to reach Super Bowl

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Under-sized and undrafted, Danny Woodhead had two things against him when he set out on his pro career. In less than four years, the diminutive star from Division II Chadron State has made it to the pinnacle of the NFL.

The 5-foot-8, 195-pound running back has been a steady contributor to New England’s Super Bowl season. Woodhead has become an inspiration for other undersized players — proof that a small guy from a small school can make it in the NFL.

To him, it’s not all that impressive.

“I’m not too concerned with the past,” he said. “I think every day is the drive, not necessarily something in my past. I just want to get better every single day.”

Woodhead was a star running back at North Platte (Neb.) High School, where he was the Omaha World-Herald’s male Athlete of the Year in 2004. Like most youngsters in his state, he wanted to play college football for the Nebraska Cornhuskers. Nebraska and the other big schools weren’t interested, so he stayed in state and went to Chadron State.

He won the Harlon Hill award in 2006 and 2007 as the nation’s top Division II player and finished his career with a then-NCAA record 7,962 yards rushing.

Those numbers weren’t enough to impress pro scouts, and he went undrafted. The New York Jets signed him as a free agent in 2008, but he missed the season with a knee injury. He played sparingly for the Jets in 2009, then they cut him at the start of the 2010 season. The Patriots signed him four days after the Jets cut him, and he has been a solid contributor since.

Super Bowl XLVII.

The Giants respect his tenacity.

“Woodhead’s a good football player,” Giants defensive end Osi Umenyiora said. “I love his story. I love where he’s come from to be what he is now.”

Woodhead always thought he’d make it in the league, even after the Jets cut him.

“I felt like I’d get another chance,” he said. “I don’t know if there was something that made me believe that. I guess I just didn’t think it was over. I felt like I had a lot of football left in me.”

His first year with the Patriots, he ran for 547 yards, averaged a team-record 5.6 yards per carry and caught 34 passes for 379 yards. This season, he ran for 351 yards, caught 18 passes for 157 yards and returned 20 kickoffs for a 21.9-yard average.

Woodhead is humbled, but not surprised about his success because he never saw his size as a negative.

“To me, it is not an issue,” he said. “I don’t think it is something that I have to fight at all, because it is not something I have had to worry about ever. I don’t think being 5-8 has ever hurt me. Maybe in the eyes of some, but it is not something that I worry about at all.”

His toughness makes him a favorite of his teammates.

“Woody comes to practice, he works hard,” BenJarvus Green-Ellis, the team’s leading rusher, said. “He’s extreme- fast, quick. He does good things as a running back.”

The Patriots don’t see Woodhead as a novelty — they need him.

“The things that this guy brings to the team are truly unbelievable,” Branch said. “We truly appreciate this guy being here, and he has a big role in this game this week.”

Kevin Faulk, another undersized back on the team, paid him perhaps the best compliment: “He’s everything you want in a small guy.”
**Upset victory in Egypt leads to devastating riots**

Associated Press

CAIRO — At least 74 people were killed and 248 injured after soccer fans rushed the field in the seaside city of Port Said Wednesday following an upset victory by the home team over Egypt's top club, setting off clashes and a stampede as riot police largely failed to intervene.

The latest has been especially troubling for the team but couldn't play because it was on display when thousands of fans ran onto the field before the end of an African Champions' game between local club Zamalek and Tunisia's club Al- Riyadh. The hundreds of police on duty at Cairo International Stadium could not stop the violence then either.

Activists quickly scheduled rallies Thursday outside the Cairo University headquarters of the Interior Ministry in Cairo to protest the inactivity of the police to stop the bloodshed.

The scuffles began out after fans of Al-Ahly stormed the field following a rare 3-1 win against Al-Ahly. Al-Masry supporters hurled stones and stones as they chased players and fans from the rival team, who ran toward the exits to escape, according to witnesses. One man told state TV he heard gunshots in the stadium, while a law- enforcement official from Egypt's powerful Muslim Brotherhood said the police didn't prevent fans carrying knives from entering the stadium.

TV footage showed Al-Ahly players running for their locker room as firelights broke out and emergency set fire to the bleachers at the main stadium in the Egyptian capital, authorities said. No injuries were reported and employees said firefighters ex- tuning hoses because it caused much damage.

The violence also underscored the role of soccer fans in Egypt's recent protest movement. Organized fans, in groups known as ultras, have played an impor- tant role in the revolution and rallies against military rule. Their angi- ologists, peppered with curses, have quickly become viral and an expression of the hatred many Egyptians feel toward security forces that were accused of much of the abuse that was widespread un- der Mubarak's regime.

Egypt is not immune to soccer violence. In April, the ineffec- tiveness of the police force also was on display when thousands of fans ran onto the field before the end of an African Champions' game between local club Zamalek and Tunisia's club Al- Riyadh. The hundreds of police on duty at Cairo International Stadium could not stop the vio- lence then either.

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**Women's Tennis**

**Venus practices, aims for return at Fed Cup**

Associated Press


The latest has been especially slow for Williams, who plans to return this weekend in the Fed Cup matches against Belarus after a five-month layoff caused by Sjogren's Syndrome, an auto- immune disease that can cause fatigue and joint pain.

Williams practiced with the U.S. team Wednesday morning and said she's thrilled to be on a team every week and playing Wednesday. "I need to be on a team every week and not at home." Williams had has had to learn the difference between recovering from an injury and an illness. That has meant pacing herself more its playing. It means respecting doctors' orders not to push it while she tries to regain her form. The former world No. 1 and seven-time Grand Slam singles winner. Williams isn't used to taking it easy.

"The difference is acceptance — trying to accept how you feel and limitations. Listening to your body and taking care of your- self," she said. "Instead of trying to run through a wall, just really kind of take a step back and be smart. I think that's kind of what I've learned." Williams hasn't played a san- ctioned match since the U.S. Open in August. She withdrew after the first round and was not ready to return last month for the Aus- tralian Open.

"There are some things you can't keep going through," she said. "I still have to be reminded to slow down, but hopefully there will be a day when I don't have to be reminded of that." Williams played her younger sister, Serena, in an exhibition in Colombia in November, but that has been her only public com- petition since Aug. 29 at the U.S. Open.

The recovery has been frustrat- ingly slow at times, but she feels ready for this weekend when the U.S. begins its quest to return to the top tier in the Fed Cup. The Americans were bounced to Group II in a 5-0 loss to Germany last year, when Venus was with the team but couldn't play be- cause of a hip injury.

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Northeastern University
Michigan Men’s Basketball

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Trey Burke scored 18 points, and No. 23 Michigan raced to a 20-point first-half lead before holding on for a 68-56 victory over No. 20 Indiana on Wednesday night.

The Wolverines (17-6, 7-3 Big Ten) remained unbeaten at home. They got off to a quick start after last weekend’s loss at No. 3 Ohio State, scoring the first 13 points and eventually taking a 28-8 lead.

Indiana (17-6, 5-6) twice fought back within two points in the second half, including at 52-50 with 3:20 remaining. Tim Hardaway Jr. hit a big 3-pointer for Michigan, and after Indiana’s Derek Elston missed the front end of a 1-and-1, Stu Douglass made a 3-pointer to put the Wolverines up by eight.

Jordan Hulls scored 18 points for Indiana.

During the final seconds, the Michigan fans began chanting “Beat the Spartans!” — the Wolverines will try for their fourth straight victory over Michigan State on Sunday in East Lansing.

The Hoosiers beat Michigan 73-71 earlier in the season, part of a 15-1 start for Indiana that included wins over Kentucky and Ohio State. The Hoosiers have lost five of their last seven to fall well off the pace in the Big Ten race.

Burke opened the scoring with a spinning layup and added two 3-pointers, and Zack Novak’s 3-pointer from the right corner put Michigan ahead 13-0.

It was 28-8 after a free throw by Michigan’s Jordan Morgan, but Indiana answered with nine straight points. Burke found a cutting Hardaway with an alley-oop pass to make it 33-20, and the Wolverines led 33-22 at halftime.

Michigan had only one turnover in the first half, while Indiana had eight.

The Hoosiers kept chipping away in the second half. Watford’s three-point play made it 38-36 with 12:53 remaining, but Novak answered with a 3-pointer, the start of a 9-2 run for Michigan.

Hardaway and Novak each scored 13 points. Cody Zeller had 11 for Indiana but was outshone by Burke in a matchup of two of the country’s top freshmen.

Hulls went 4 of 5 from 3-point range, but the rest of the Hoosiers were 1 of 9.

There were eight fouls called in the first half and 25 in the second.

Kuall continued from page 16

ample has been the most effective method, but that does not mean he won’t use a hands-on approach to leading if it is necessary.

“It’s a lead by example approach,” Kuall said. “But I absolutely do take time to break down certain techniques and skills and mindsets going into tournaments.”

This mode of leadership stems from the approach of the coaching staff, which allowed the culture of collaboration to rise “organically,” Kuall said. “(The coaches) didn’t ask me to do anything in particular,” he said. “They assumed I would figure it out.”

The lack of All-American star power does not mean the Irish lack the skill or preparation to defend their title, however. The junior said Notre Dame is as confident as ever in its ability to capture another national championship.

“We’re ready to go,” Kuall said. “We don’t have as many big names as we did last year, but I feel like we have all the talent in the world to win it.”
Cooley continued from page 16

pounds and enlisted in a cardio program, which included strenuous workouts and conditioning six days a week. But Cooley said the real change in his game occurred midway through the season, when the Irish endured a rough stretch, losing four of five games just two weeks before the start of conference play.

“When I was sick [with the flu] and watching the Maryland game, I got pretty upset with how the season had been going so far,” he said. “I was really disappointed in myself and how I had been playing. I made sure that I made changes, and that was the point where it really started.”

The mellow, soft-spoken junior seems anything but laid-back on the court, especially in Notre Dame’s 67-58 win over then-No. 1 Syracuse, during which he was praised nationally for his unyielding grit and tenacious defense. Cooley recorded a double-double (17 points, 10 rebounds), out-muscling and outhustling the Syracuse big men in a brilliant performance accentuated by the raucous cheers of the sellout crowd.

Then that same crowd jeered the big man on the court.

“I was in shock,” Cooley said. “I was just glad to be a part of one of the real rush-the-court games and not one of those lame ones where an underdog beats the No. 1 team. To beat the No. 1 team in the country, especially here because that is what we do here, it felt like a bunch of history continuing to happen.”

Contact Andrew Gastelum at agastel1@nd.edu

Sarah Donnelly, the Observer

Senior forward Jessica Centa goes up for a shot during the Belles’ 72-50 home victory over Alma on Dec. 3.

COURTESY ECKERLE/The Observer

Murphy continued from page 16

game.

“We all have to step up,” Henley said. “We have to do that on the defensive end.”

While the Britons shot 46 percent from the floor for the game, in the last five minutes the Belles held them to just nine points. The Belles also held the advantage on the boards, out-rebounding the Britons by a count of 42-26. Murphy was a count of 42-26.

“If this is a pretty solid week for us on both ends of the court,” Henley said. “We’ve been talking to her about her re-binding ability, and I think that showed up this week.”

Saint Mary’s will continue to lean on its seniors during the final stretch of the regular season. Under the new structure of the MIAA tournament, the top four teams will play for the conference title, providing an additional incentive for the Belles to earn a postseason berth.

“We have to do that on making sure we are one of those four,” Henley said. “We have to do that on making sure we are one of those four.”

Jennifer Henley
Belles coach

Johnson continued from page 16

tense practices approaching the championship meet and is mentally prepared for the big meet.

“I know we’re all excited and ready to get there and race,” Johnson said.

The Irish will travel to Pittsburgh for the Big East Swimming Championships, which take place from Feb. 15 to Feb. 18.

Contact Megan Golden at mgolde01@saintmarys.edu

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Happy Birthday: Nothing will be by-degther. You must take small steps toward your goal, but don’t be afraid to make mistakes. If you let your fears take over, you may miss out on opportunities that are waiting to be discovered.

The Observer P.O. Box 779
Notre Dame, IN 46556

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Lee Thompson Young, 28; Michael C. Hall, 41; Big Boi, 42; Paddy Mccoi, 44.

Happy Birthday: Nothing will be by-degther. You must take small steps toward your goal, but don’t be afraid to make mistakes. If you let your fears take over, you may miss out on opportunities that are waiting to be discovered.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Don’t labor over trivial matters. If a decision needs to be made, make it and move on. Don’t let personal uncertainty stand in the way of your progress financially or professionally. Don’t let others find you out. **

Taurus (April 20-May 20): An honest assessment of what you can and cannot accomplish must be established if you want to get ahead. Don’t be afraid to let others see how you feel or what you are willing to do. **

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Start the tip of your pen to do it. You can prove a point if you can show the way toward your responsibilities. Don’t let emotional matters give you down. Taking charge will prove you can be a leader. **

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Prepare to take advantage of an opportunity offered. Uncertainty will be what blocks you back. Pet a little pressure on someone reluctant to concede to your plans. Home improvement projects will go off in the near future. Love is high, heralded. **

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Your outgoing, generous nature will bring you greater popularity but don’t try to buy love or you will fail short. Someone will be looking for an opportunity to take advantage of you. Keep your guard up and your desires realistic. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Study all you can and apply what you know to your personal and professional life as well as your personal life. Be sure to keep an open mind; taking risks will lead to success. Avoid anyone using emotional blackmail. **

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Take the initiative and you will have an impact on the people you encounter. You can make a difference if you show your colors and do what it takes to make reforms a plan that lasts forever. ****

SCORPIO Oct. 23-Nov. 21: Take a back seat and listen carefully to others. You will get your turn, but it’s in your advantage to gather information that will enable you to lay out your thoughts and plans flawlessly. Perfect means avoiding rejection. **

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22-Dec. 21: Play to win. Talk the talk and walk the walk. Your chances of success will improve if you are more in tune with those who know you well. Any form of exaggeration will lead to a fault that will affect your personal life. ***

CAPRICORN Dec. 22-Jan. 19: Don’t be too good to look at others, because you are busy making changes that suit your needs only. Look out for others as well, and you will avoid being shortchanged. Equally important is that you will have your fill of love and success. Love is highlighted. **

AQUARIUS Jan. 20-Feb. 18: Put greater emphasis on your relationships. Regardless of who is good for you and who isn’t. You need to sort out your circle of friends in order to preserve your emotional, physical, financial and mental well being. **

PISCES Feb. 19-March 20: Love is in the stars, along with personal improvement. Do whatever it takes to upgrade and update so you can consider for advancement. A partnership will be enhanced if you do not lower expectations and expectations. ****

Birthday Baby: You are passionate and caring. You are an inventive and innovative dreamer.

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ndsmcoobserver.com | page 15

THE LONDON EXPRESS

Alex Griswold and Lee Haggénjos

THE LONDON EXPRESS

You’ve really been obsessing over the Mirror of Erisied, Harry. I know seeing your heart’s desire is pretty awesome, but it isn’t healthy to fixate on your dead parents.

Tee hee! Come to the pool and you can rub suntan lotion all over my body. Harry! But first, let me make you one of my sandwiches!

Parents...

[Crosswords]

[Horoscope]

[ExpND]

[The London Express]

[Horoscope]

10 more weeks of water for sure. Now let’s go back and try again.

[Horoscope]

[ExpND]
**SPORTS**

**Men’s Basketball**

Cooley heating up

Jack Cooley powers Irish with his competitiveness in midst of a breakout season

By ANDREW GASTELUM

Sports Writer

On Jan. 10, Notre Dame junior forward Jack Cooley dunked over a South Florida opponent. He landed, stared the syringe in his face and spurred the defenders to challenge him again with a booming roar.

“It was just a way to let it all out,” Cooley said. “I knew I was going to get [a technical foul]. A little voice in my mind told me to stop and avoid the technical foul but there was a bigger voice that told me to keep doing it if it looks cool. At that point in the game I knew it really didn’t matter, and [Irish coach Mike Brey] said he loved it.”

It was unlike anything he had ever done in a Notre Dame uniform, the junior said — a microcosm of his breakout season with the Irish.

At Media Day in October, Brey said he could never see Cooley, who is averaging 10.7 points and 8.4 rebounds per game, playing for the Irish in a single game. Now, the junior has logged 30-plus minutes in 15 of the last 16 games, including 43 minutes in Notre Dame’s 67-65 double-overtime victory at No. 10 Louisville.

“Coach [Brey] used to tell me that I am a guy who can get 20 minutes [per night],” Cooley said. “But I think he did that to get me a little angry, get me to work harder and get in better shape. I know I wasn’t planning on being a starter and playing only 20 minutes.”

Wanted to work hard to play more than that and I kind of took it upon myself to try and prove him wrong and change that. But the 6’9” forward said Brey’s message has changed ever so slightly as the season has progressed.

Junior forward Jack Cooley battles for a rebound in Notre Dame’s 67-58 victory over then-No. 1 Syracuse at the Purcell Pavilion on Jan. 21. Cooley had 17 points and 10 rebounds in the game.

“I wanted to work hard to play more than that and I kind of took it upon myself to try and prove him wrong and change that. But the 6’9” forward said Brey’s message has changed ever so slightly as the season has progressed.”

“Now he just tells me to not get in foul trouble so I could go that long,” Cooley said bluntly. “That works for me.”

During the offseason, the Chicago native said — a microcosm of his breakout season with the Irish.

**Men’s Swimming and Diving**

Postseason training begins

By MEGAN GOLDEN

Sports Writer

After falling to Iowa in the Shamrock Invitational last weekend, the Irish find themselves with less than two weeks to prepare for the Big East Swimming Championships.

With the regular season in the books, Notre Dame junior and co-captain Chris Johnson said he is excited to see the team’s 16 freshmen train for the postseason.

“Going through these next few weeks with no meets, it’s important for guys to focus on their technique and experience we have from the last two weekends of ACC and ACC [Miami Aquarium Invitational] than when they found themselves tied against the Britons (13-7, 8-4 MIAA) with five minutes remaining in the contest. At a critical point in the game, Saint Mary’s was able to fall back on its seniors for 16 of its final 17 points. Murphy and Cutaia’s offensive production, along with strong defensive play from the team as a whole, helped Saint Mary’s slowly work its way up to an eight point lead, a lead it maintained for the rest of the game, Saint Mary’s was able to fall back on its seniors for 16 of its final 17 points. Murphy and Cutaia’s offensive production, along with strong defensive play from the team as a whole, helped Saint Mary’s slowly work its way up to an eight point lead, a lead it maintained for the rest of the game.

**SMC Basketball**

Belles get late surge, beat Albion

By BRENDAN BELL

Sports Writer

Saint Mary’s displayed the importance of senior leadership Wednesday night, as senior forwards Kelley Murphy and Jessica Cutaia guided the Belles to a 76-62 victory over Albion.

“We are riding our seniors,” Belles coach Jennifer Henley said. “There isn’t one particular player that we need to help — we all do.”

The significance of experience has never been more evident for the Belles (10-11, 6-6 MIAA) than when they found themselves tied against the Britons (13-7, 8-4 MIAA) with five minutes remaining in the contest. At a critical point in the game, Saint Mary’s was able to fall back on its seniors for 16 of its final 17 points. Murphy and Cutaia’s offensive production, along with strong defensive play from the team as a whole, helped Saint Mary’s slowly work its way up to an eight point lead, a lead it maintained for the rest of the game.

**Irish eye title despite departures**

By MATTHEW ROBINSON

Sports Writer

During the 2011 campaign, the Irish were loaded with a talented crew of seven seniors and 11 All-Americans, eventually winning the national championship. However, the objective is the same this year: the Belles coach Jennifer Henley said. “There isn’t one particular player that we need to help — we all do.”

This season, several veterans have risen to replace the leadership and talent of graduated seniors. However, their focus is now developing the youth instead of carrying the team to victory by themselves.

The result is a dynamic environment that features young and experienced fencers working together every day. The leadership roles are constantly evolving.

Kaul said, “With them gone, the leadership roles aren’t so defined.” Kaul said, “With them gone, the leadership roles aren’t so defined.” Kaul said, “With them gone, the leadership roles aren’t so defined.” Kaul said, “With them gone, the leadership roles aren’t so defined.” Kaul said, “With them gone, the leadership roles aren’t so defined.” Kaul said, “With them gone, the leadership roles aren’t so defined.” Kaul said, “With them gone, the leadership roles aren’t so defined.” Kaul said, “With them gone, the leadership roles aren’t so defined.”