NDAA partners with schools

By NICOLE MICHELS

Notre Dame added two Catholic elementary schools in Florida to the Notre Dame ACE Academies (NDAA) program. The two schools — Sacred Heart of Pinellas Park and St. Joseph of Tampa — will be the program’s newest partners.

Christian Dallavis, director of NDAA, said the program conducted a feasibility study to determine which schools in the Diocese of St. Petersburg would have the greatest potential for growth.

“We want to do two things: increase the number of kids that enjoy the benefits of the education offered at these two schools, and ensure that the schools are providing education of the highest possible quality,” Dallavis said.

Dallavis said the program chose these two schools after focusing on areas with mechanisms like parental choice programs, vouchers and tax credits for low-income families to send their children to private schools.

Students travel to Super Bowl

By ANN MARIE JAKUBOWSKI

The sports world’s eyes will turn to Indianapolis this Sunday for the Super Bowl XLVI, which will feature a rematch between prominent East Coast teams the New England Patriots and the New York Giants.

Several students plan to make the short trip to Indianapolis and participate in Super Bowl festivities before the game begins Sunday evening.

Freshman Kayla Polcari said she and her sister, senior Annie Polcari, decided to spend the weekend in Indianapolis after they received tickets to the Super Bowl as a surprise gift from their father.

“The best dad in the world surprised me with them,” she said.

Seniors Christina Carson and Michael Oliver said they are also driving to Indianapolis with a group of friends to experience the social and sustainability issues in companies within which they invest. Their current focus is on hotels.

“AdMeter,” an application developed by the Ad Council, will be interactive with consumers. Some will use the “AdMeter,” an application on Facebook, to track the receptiveness of viewers to company ads, he said.

Williams said companies use this information in preparations and designs for future ads and products.

Due to these changes, the cost of running advertisements during the Super Bowl has increased by 16.7 percent since last year, he said.

“It will cost $3.5 million dollars for one 30-second spot to run during this Super Bowl this year,” Williams said.

The rising cost in running time, however, demonstrates strength in the United States economy, he said.
QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE TYPE OF FACIAL HAIR?

Ryan Quillard
senior
Dillon

"Chinstrap with mustache, because I can't connect."

Jialai Zhang
freshman
Dillion

"Nose hair."

Cam Roberson
freshman
Fisher

"Chinstrap."

Alyson Grillot
freshman
Badin


Sam Ganser
freshman
Farley

"Chinstrap."

Alex Stembaug
freshman
Welsh Family

"Walrus."

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

OFFBEAT

Entire town, except for one resident, wins lottery

SODETO, Spain — Back in December, the tiny Spanish village of Sodeto collectively won a major stake in the annual $950 million Spanish national lottery. Today, the village of farmers and construction workers is enjoying a minimum payout of $130,000 per resident.

And yet for all of the new wealth making its way around Sodeto, one villager came away empty-handed. Costis Mitsotakis, a Greek filmmaker who moved to the village for a woman, is the only resident of Sodeto who did not purchase a ticket. Mitsotakis says he is no longer with the woman and now lives in a barn he is renting just outside the village. Mr. Mitsotakis said it would have been nice to win. But he had benefited nonetheless. He had been trying to sell some land without much success. The day after the lottery a neighbor called to say he would buy it. The next day another neighbor called. But Mr. Mitsotakis refused to get into a bidding war. "This is a small village," he said. "You don't want bad feelings."

China bans palm reading of toddlers to determine IQ

BEIJING — China has banned kindergartens in a northern province from offering palm-reading tests that the schools had claimed could predict toddlers' intelligence level and potential. Although many parents in Taiyuan, capital of Shanxi province, eagerly brought their children to be tested, some later complained about the high cost and raised questions about the testing method, which testers said could reveal the children's aptitude in music, mathematics and languages. "We have issued a circular to criticize the three kindergartens that offered palm-reading tests for 1,200 yuan ($190) per person," said Ma Zhaoxing, the local education bureau chief. Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

The Ten Years Hence Lecture Series is hosting an event called "Innovation in Global Health" today from 10:40 a.m. to 12:10 p.m. in Jordan Auditorium of the Mendoza College of Business. The speaker is Andrew Serazin, senior program officer in global health discovery division at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

The Nanovic Institute for European Studies is hosting a lunch and lecture called "The State of the Drug Problem in Europe" today from 12:10 p.m. in the Dooley Room of the LaFortune Student Center. The speaker is Ignacio Vázquez Moliné of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction.

Flipside will host an ice skating night tonight from 9:15 to 11:15 p.m. in the Olympic Rink of the Comp
cfamily Ice Arena. Event is open only to students. The event costs $5.

The Lewis Hall of Pancake Day is serving pancakes every day until tomorrow, taking place tonight from 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. in Lewis Hall. Come enjoy all you can eat pancakes for $3. Proceeds benefit the Food Bank of Northern Indiana.

Let's Spoon will be donating a portion of Monday's profits to SMG/ND Dance Marathon benefitting Riley Children's Hospital. Visit any Let's Spoon Location at any time Monday and give back to the community.

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

a fugitive slave in the mid-19th century. Though White successfully escapes to the North, he is not free due to a Fugitive Slave law that stated a U.S. Marshal could recapture slaves and send them back South. When White’s owner took the case to court, it received national attention, Baxter said.

Baxter said he hopes “Freedom Bound” will be an enlightening experience for all involved. “Audience members may expect an outstanding performance from an award winning theatre company,” he said.

“Freedom Bound” premieres tonight at 7:30 p.m. in O’Laughlin Auditorium at Saint Mary’s. Tickets costs $8 with a student ID and $18 for the general public. Tickets may be purchased before the event, by visiting www.moreaucenter.com or by calling 574-284-4626.

Contact Bridget Feeney at bfecn01@saintmarys.edu

By BRIDGET FEENEY

Mad River Theatre Works, a traveling company of actors, will debut “Freedom Bound,” an original play that explores the history of the Underground Railroad, tonight at Saint Mary’s. Richard Baxter, director of Special Events for the College, said he first heard of “Freedom Bound” from a friend who recommended the theatre company to him. “I had heard about Mad River Theatre productions from one of my colleagues and we had an opportunity to book the group on a return trip from a performance in Chicago,” he said.

Baxter said the play tells the story of Addison White, a fugitive slave in the mid-century. Though White successfully escapes to the North, he is not free due to a Fugitive Slave law that stated a U.S. Marshal could recapture slaves and send them back South. When White’s owner took the case to court, it received national attention, Baxter said.

Baxter said he hopes “Freedom Bound” will be an enlightening experience for all involved. “Audience members may expect an outstanding performance from an award winning theatre company,” he said.

“Freedom Bound” premieres tonight at 7:30 p.m. in O’Laughlin Auditorium at the Moreau Center for the Arts at Saint Mary’s. Tickets costs $8 with a student ID and $18 for the general public. Tickets may be purchased before the event, by visiting www.moreaucenter.com or by calling 574-284-4626.

Contact Bridget Feeney at bfecn01@saintmarys.edu

SMC premieres “Freedom Bound”
Ace
continued from page 1

The relationship between Bishop Robert Lynch of the Diocese of St. Petersburg and Notre Dame also played a factor.

“Lynch has always been a great friend to the University and a big supporter of ACE,” Dallavis said. “The Holy Cross champion of Catholic schools also played a factor. Dame also played a factor. Bishop Robert Lynch of the Diocese of St. Petersburg and Notre Dame.”

Shannon said. “I could easily put another 100 students into Sacred Heart. We have 140 students,” Shannon said. “I could easily put another 100 students into my school... and be under standards for accreditation.”

Dallavis said the program would focus on bolstering enrollment, while increasing the quality of education.

“We want to prepare kids for the economic and social mobility [that will] get them to a place where they can break the cycle of poverty,” Dallavis said.

Dallavis said these schools will give students the skills they need to succeed by essentially being “college prep” elementary schools. “We want to make sure that they get the message that we expect them to be prepared to go to college. Dallavis said. “High school graduation and college attendance are critical to jobs in the current economy, and [this trend] is only going to become more pronounced.”

Shannon said for his school, being offered the chance to partner win Notre Dame is like winning the lottery. “We are blessed we are by God to get this opportunity,” Shannon said. “It’s a game changer. It’s going to position us for future growth and development.”

Both schools will be under the jurisdiction of a board dedicated to facilitating their advancement. Shannon said. The schools will also benefit from the advice of a learning specialist and an advancement director.

“The learning specialist will work with both principals and teachers in both buildings to make our education the best it can be,” Shannon said. “The advancement director will help to raise significant funds, especially to get more students and more families into our schools.”

Though the will not be immediate, Shannon said the impact on the St. Joseph and Sacred Heart communities will undoubtedly be enormous.

“I think what’s going to do for our families is give them a lot of hope,” he said. “I just think that hope is what a follower of Christ has to give out.”

Contact Nicole Michels at nmichels@nd.edu

Super Bowl
continued from page 1

The Observer • NEWS
Friday, February 3, 2012

pages Pepsi Super Bowl Fan Jam concert to be the highlight of their weekend.

“We also somehow won tickets to the crossroads concert at the Pepsi Coliseum with Steven Tyler and Carrie Underwood, so I’m really excited for that,” Oliver said.

Though they plan to visit Super Bowl Village, Carson and Oliver said they expect Saturday day evening and continue through Sunday. Carson and Oliver said, “We don’t want to be set against students like us.”

Gorman said the program will give more kids the opportunity to express themselves artistically through the Shakespeare program, Gorman said.

“Super Bowl goes international, beer companies will show beer in company names which American viewers will recognize, such as Miller Light,” Williams said.

Williams said companies are already getting feedback by viewers on their websites. Due to companies’ use of social media, however, viewers may ignore advertisements during the actual game time watching them weeks in advance, he said.

Contact Christin Kloski at ckloski1@stmarys.edu

Dance
continued from page 1

choirographed specifically for the show.

Gorman said she hopes the DanceFest’s collaborative nature will entice students to attend one of this weekend’s performances.

“People don’t necessarily want to go to all the different dance shows, but this gives them a taste of the different companies in one sitting,” Gorman said. “Hopefully, attending one show will spark their interest, and they will recognize the impressiveness of dance.”

Gorman said though all the performers share an enthusiasm for dance, each group participating in DanceFest brings its own unique style to the show.

“When you see the dancers on stage, you can see that passion, and you can tell their having a great time dancing under the lights and having an audience to enjoy their performance,” Gorman said.

Sophomore Katie Fusco, a member of the TransPose modern dance company, said DanceFest builds a stronger campus arts culture for students.

“DanceFest is an opportunity invaluable to fostering a supportive performing arts community at Notre Dame,” Fusco said.

Gorman said proceeds from the DanceFest will benefit the Robinson Community Center’s Summer Shakespeare Program in support of the performing arts.

“We hope our efforts will give more kids the opportunity to express themselves artistically through the Shakespeare program,” Gorman said.

Contact Aubrey Butts at aibuts@nd.edu

Ads
continued from page 1

“For 46 years, the prices of Super Bowl ads have increased and decreased, it is based on how well the economy is doing during that year,” Williams said.

Williams said social media may also help the Super Bowl and its advertisements become international. As more countries become interested in the sport, they will also be entertained by its advertisements.

“For example, if the Super Bowl goes international, beer companies will show beer in company names which American viewers will recognize, such as Miller Light,” Williams said.

Williams said companies are already getting feedback by viewers on their websites. Due to companies’ use of social media, however, viewers may ignore advertisements during the actual game time watching them weeks in advance, he said.

Contact Christin Kloski at ckloski1@stmarys.edu

Midnight Movies Worth the Walk
Experience Notre Dame’s THX-certified cinema right here on campus at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Purchase your $3 student ticket now online at performingarts.nd.edu

The Princess Bride (1987)
Saturday, February 4 at Midnight
The beautiful Buttercup is kidnapped and held against her will in order to marry the odious Prince Humperdick, while her childhood beau, Westley, now returned as the Dread Pirate Roberts’ attempts to save her.

Presented in partnership with the Medieval Institute

DEBARTOLO PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
University of Notre Dame
310 South Saint Mary's St.
Notre Dame, IN 46556

For more information, contact our box office at 574-631-2299 or visit performingarts.nd.edu
STORIES OF PRACTICAL HOLINESS
AN EXERCISE IN INTERRELIGIOUS UNDERSTANDING

February 5 - 8, 2012 | McKenna Hall Auditorium

Featured Speakers & Events:

Film Screening: *Of Gods and Men*
Montgomery Theater, LaFortune Student Center | Sunday, February 5 | 3:00 p.m.
McKenna Hall Auditorium | Monday, February 6 | 8:30 p.m.

**Dharma Master Hsin Tao**
Transforming Self and the World—A Story of Buddhist Spirituality
Sunday, February 5 | 7:00 p.m.

**Bhai Sahib (Dr.) Bhai Mohinder Singh Ahluwalia**
The Story of A Sikh Luminary: Guru Nanak Nishkam Sewak Jatha as an Exemplar of Holiness
Monday, February 6 | 4:30 p.m.

**Fr. Armand Veilleux, OCSO**
Of Gods and Monks: The Story of the Trappist Martyrs of Algiers
Monday, February 6 | 7:30 p.m.

**Abdolrahim Gavahi, Ph.D.**
Men of God - Symbols of Love and Compassion: The Story of Ismael Dulabi, A Contemporary Muslim Religious Healer
Tuesday, February 7 | 4:30 p.m.

**Dalia Landau, Khader Al-Kalak, Yehezkel Landau**
OPEN HOUSE: The Story of a Grassroots Model for Promoting Reconciliation in Israel/Palestine
Tuesday, February 7 | 7:30 p.m.

Details at ICL.ND.EDU
Allegory of the cave

As many of you know, Plato’s “Allegory of the Cave” is a part of Plato’s larger dialogue, “The Republic.” Many of you may have heard of the allegory before. It was a story about shadows, shadows and more shadows. They are in a cave that is lit by artificial light — so if you’ve done homework in Fisher Hall you can relate. Finally, they are watching shadows of statues of real things go by. This part is a little harder to understand but there was a way to make sense of it. Plato considers these as representations of real things. Words and pictures in a textbook might find in a textbook, are used to represent things. In the allegory, for our purposes, let’s say they are looking at words and pictures in a textbook. Later in the allegory it applies here though, trust me. Plato mentions that the people in the cave have contests for getting the shadows and are given prizes for their skill in doing so. Students can think of the contests as exams and the prizes as grades. What do we have so far? We have students indoors, at their desks reading their textbooks so they get good grades.

From that point, we want to imagine one individual is brought out of the cave and into the outside world, which is equivalent to well this one is pretty obvious. This individual then has to look up to see the brightness of the sun — so think early fall or late spring semester and you can really sympathize with the individual. This individual can only see the shadows of real things in water and other materials. The individual can be related to a trip to Notre Dame’s wonderful lakes. Once the individual’s eyes have adjusted they can ultimately look at the real things themselves. From the student’s perspective, this means you can play Ultimate Frisbee.

However, Plato is not finished. He says that the individual reaches “the good” when they look at the sun itself. First, a student may interpret “the good” as “the good life.” The meaning of “good life” is clear to anyone familiar with the popular OneRepublic song of “good life.” The second part of the Allegory has urged us to go outside, take a walk. This is equivalent to standing outside Student Center, something that has been weeks coming. It tells a different story — Notre Dame students may not quite be the leaders we imagine ourselves to be.

Student Senate rejected a recommendation by the Judicial Council to suspend next Wednesday’s student body presidential election. The measure was proposed because juniors Brett Rocheleau and Katie Rose were the only official ticket approved by the Judicial Council.

The fact that student government ultimately decided we should have the student body presidential election is a good thing. It is disturbing to even imagine the suspension of elections was a viable option in the first place. Even if there is only one official choice, the student body should always have a venue to express its support or disapproval in an election. Thank fully, the privilege of choice was upheld.

However, the issue remains that this measure even came to a vote in the first place. The fact only one official ticket stepped forward is alarming. Complete and utter indifference from the undergraduate student body is unacceptable. This is Notre Dame — a school comprised of students who are leaders on this campus. Student election is to be leaders in whatever field they choose.

In this case, however, we came up short. Students often complain about student government’s perceived lack of action, but we are equally as guilty of such a charge. Here was the perfect opportunity to stand up, make our voice heard and do something — and we failed. What does it say about our student body when among thousands of us, only two are able to identify themselves as worthy of such a role? Last year five tickets ran. What happened in a year that all of a sudden, no one wanted to fight to represent the student body?

It is hard, therefore, to take much issue with what student government does (or is perceived not to do) when no one wants to upset the status quo. Students can complain all they want about how they view student government, but it is a two-way street. Student government was not created to do amazing things for students with no strings attached — it was created as a voice for our campus community to identify issues, solve problems and therefore advance our undergraduate lives. But when students don’t want to use this voice, their ideas cannot be realized. The student body as a whole is at fault for not rising to the challenge.

Apaty is no excuse for dissatisfaction.

That isn’t to say student government and the Judicial Council should get out of this with a free pass. It is hard to call the student body to action with only one or two bland picks ad vertising informational meetings during the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season, which most students probably reg egated to their trash bin right away. Additionally, this process has been a long time coming. Even if both parties had the ut most faith in Rocheleau and Rose as leaders, it ultimately falls on their shoulders to make sure due process is followed — and it will not be. While they may have saved face by having the election, student government needs to realize that essentially promoting from within, without challenging other student leaders to step forward and identify themselves, cannot fly.

Wednesday with any other day at the University. Students will go to classes, practices and meetings as usual. The one difference is we will be voting to identify two of our peers to represent our student body. And as much as we are choosing them, these past few days and weeks we have made an even bigger statement — we don’t identify ourselves as worthy of tackling the challenge.
A (brief) case for contraception

There has recently been a lot of discussion about contraception and the Catholic Church’s teachings. I wish to continue the discussion about the use of contraception started in “Contraception and dignity” by Mr. Damian, Mr. Lynch, and Ms. Stempky.

I have been using contraception for some time, and have always benefited from it. It has given me the freedom to take care of myself and my partners without worrying about unintended pregnancies. It has also allowed me to prioritize my career and studies, as well as to enjoy the intimacy of my relationships without the fear of unintended pregnancies.

Although contraception is widely used and effective, it is often met with resistance and criticism. Some people argue that contraception devalues the human person and the sanctity of life. However, I believe that contraception is a tool to enhance the dignity of women and men, and to improve their quality of life.

I believe that the Church should seriously consider the benefits of contraception, including its role in promoting personal and social well-being. I encourage all Catholics to engage in a respectful dialogue about contraception, and to support policies that promote its availability and accessibility.

John Galezewski
junior
Siegfried Hall
Feb. 2

A woman’s dignity

Dear Christopher Damian, Andrew Lynch, and Samanatha Stempky,

I am writing in response to “Contraception and dignity,” published on Jan. 31. Although I understand and sympathize with the position of the Catholic Church’s stance on contraception, I found this article offensive. The argument put forth by Notre Dame Right to Life, that women who use contraception lack “dignity,” is both narrow-minded and dangerous.

Notre Dame Right to Life claims that women should not have to resort to name-calling to make their stance clear on the subject of contraception, and should not expect to be able to publish such a letter to the Editor without backlash. Notre Dame is an artificial safe haven for such rhetoric; this language would not be tolerated outside of Notre Dame’s campus. People throughout the United States and across the globe use condoms and contraception to protect themselves and their loved ones in a variety of difficult circumstances that include, but are not limited to: protecting against consequences of domestic violence and rape, preventing the spread of HIV and other STDs and ensuring that they can feed the children that they already have. These people are not unimportant. In fact, they actively take steps to improve their situation with bravery and dignity.

The Catholic Church and Notre Dame Right to Life may oppose the use of family planning techniques, but such a general condemnation of the characters of the men and women who choose to use contraception is inappropriate and judgmental. Notre Dame students should not tolerate this kind of broad-brush smear in their personal discussions about contraception.

Emily Bieniek
junior
off-campus
Feb. 2

Dignity in contraception

I also take issue with how you described what I believe to be a responsible and healthy choice. As a law student, I am in no position to be raising a child and have chosen to save what dignity I have left to provide (both emotionally and financially) for a family. I have not “sterilized” myself, nor have I “destroyed my” body’s power to bring forth life. I have simply followed the process until a time at which it would be responsible and healthy for all involved. This is an idea endorsed, I believe, in the Church’s teaching of Natural Family Planning.

The most disturbing part of your letter, however, was in the statement that, as a woman on birth control, I am “sexually available to any man.” This is insulting and more disturbing than I can even begin to express. I am “sexually available” to the man (or men) I choose. Period. The thought that “any man” has access to my body simply because I am on birth control is dangerous, demeaning and incredibly infuriating. My decision to take birth control has not made me “less,” it has not sterilized me and it certainly has not given control of my body to anyone but me. On behalf of all Catholic women, I urge you to remember that.

Anne Besser
Class of 2011
Charlottesville, VA
Feb. 2
By MARY CLAIRE O’DONNELL
Scene Writer

For years, I heard students bemoan the lack of good concerts at Notre Dame. When Wiz Khalifa or T.I. perform at friends’ schools, students gnash teeth and wail about the lack of big names in South Bend.

And then Snoop Dogg came to Club Fever. For the second year in a row.

And don’t worry, all you underclassmen too young to get into Fever — he promised he would come back to South Bend any time.

Snoop put on a fantastic concert at Club Fever on Wednesday night in front of a full crowd of South Bend natives and a few Notre Dame students.

Two local DJs opened for him, putting on a good show of house rap and R&B tracks, but the crowd was really waiting for the headliner.

Unfortunately, it took Snoop an hour to come on stage after the opening act left. This would have been forgivable, had an emcee not come out frequently to announce Snoop’s arrival in 15 minutes. But he more than made up for the wait.

To open his show, Snoop performed songs from his early albums. He and his group all sported Notre Dame swag, from visors to pinnies. Snoop himself even wore a green Dayne Crist jersey, as well as some black sunglasses.

Nasty Dog, his animal mascot, however, was not in Irish gear.

The best part of Snoop’s ensemble, though, was his microphone. Embellished across a golden background were diamonds, laid out to spell Snoop Dogg in cursive. His name, reflecting the lights of the stage, shone across the room, visible even to those at the back near the bar.

Although Snoop has been on the music scene for about 20 years, he still gave a fantastic performance.

He dedicated his show to peace, love and soul. He went on to punctuate his raps with running commentary, asking how the crowd was doing and commenting on his favorite illicit substances. He kept the crowd’s mood — and hands — up throughout his entire set.

A highlight of his first half hour was “Gin and Juice,” which he called his anthem to adolescence.

As his one-hour set progressed, though, Snoop appealed to the younger, radio-conscious crowd with some of his newer hits.

Akon may not have been with him, but he still performed “I Wanna Love You,” letting his backup dancers have the stage during Akon’s parts. At times he also showcased his own fantastic dancing.

Throughout the show, Snoop dedicated quite a few songs to the sexy and single ladies in the crowd.

Near the end of his set, he even took off his shades off so that he could sing “Sensual Seduction” to a woman in the front row who requested it. He kept the glasses off for the rest of the night, finishing his set with “That’s That Sh**,” a cover of “Jump Around” and “Drop It Like It’s Hot.” The best two songs of the night were the final two. After reminding the crowd of just who he was with “Who I Am (What’s My Name),” Snoop demanded crowd participation, which was more than freely given.

And his final song truly encapsulated the feeling of the crowd. As every person in attendance sang along to “Young, Wild and Free,” the crowd felt alive, utter joy coursing through their bodies.

Snoop’s concert was everything that a concert should be. Yes, the crowd had to wait very impatiently for him to go on, but it was worth it.

One substantial downside, however, was the ticket price, which deterred a lot of people who wanted to attend.

But Snoop was worth the tight, smoky quarters at Fever. Don’t miss him next time he comes to town.

Contact Mary Claire O’Donnell at modonne5@nd.edu
Fashion, as we true enthusiasts know, is universal. It crosses seemingly impenetrable boundaries. Likewise, here at Notre Dame, we are lucky enough to belong to a student body with representatives from every part of the international scene.

With this spirit in mind, how can we not combine the forces of fashion and student perspective for a greater good? I interviewed our first fashion ambassador Yitong Zheng, a senior and a proud young Chinese woman.

Commenting on the differences between American and Chinese fashion, and sharing style notes, Yitong opens our eyes to the cool Chinese fashion aesthetic and the global fashion forces at work on our very own campus.

FbyF: So, Yitong, what were your style influences growing up in China?

YZ: Well, high school was generally when you start developing your own style. At boarding school for five days a week you hang out with your friends, read a lot of fashion magazines and start to cultivate that “daredevil” sense of young fashion.

You move away from the more conservative generation of your parents’ style, and in China there’s a lot of Western style influence, so we definitely adapt that as well.

FbyF: What do you think is unique to Chinese fashion?

YZ: There’s a huge sense of “dressing neutral,” and androgyny in Chinese fashion. Men have a more feminine aesthetic, girls dress very boyish. This is definitely not something, especially for men, that you would see here on campus and in the States. Likewise, there is a “cuteness,” meaning absorbing different influences from all over Asia into a young anime, naive and happy aesthetic.

FbyF: What was the most surprising fashion impression you had when you arrived at Notre Dame for your freshman year?

YZ: Yes, I was surprised by how casually people dress to go to class, and then dressed up they would get to go out to evening events, almost as if they were changing into a different persona.

In China, you never wear sweatpants out of the house. After a 16 hour flight back to China the summer after my freshman year, I got off the plane in sweatpants and my mother asked me how I could wear those in public.

The private and public spheres are much more delineated. In China, students get more dressed up for class, but they dress down for evening events.

FbyF: So have you changed your overall fashion since being at Notre Dame?

YZ: Yes, I’m more concerned about my formal wear when I’m in China. And I’m more casual to go to class at Notre Dame and overall. Also, before, I would wear much more anime items like in China, but now I wear them less.

FbyF: Have you noticed a general change in the dress of other students from China?

YZ: Yes, I think overall the fashion is more Americanized, but we still bring the animated, fun quality of China style into our everyday aesthetic.

Contact Felicia Caponigri at fcaponig@nd.edu

Disclaimer: For the sake of full disclosure, the author of this column wants the reader to know that she is someone who read Kevin Noonan’s article in Wednesday’s Observer, “Guide to watching that big football thing with all the funny commercials,” and thought, “Wow, those are great ways to make my interest/knowledge/expertise on the Super Bowl!”

What follows is my naive assessment of the challenging, heart-breaking, dire situation Peyton Manning must face as Indianapolis is swarmed by fans of his enemy, determined to claim a Patriots victory on Peyton’s home turf.

For the first time in the history of the great city known as Indianapolis, a teeny, tiny, barely noticeable event will take place on its freshly primped grounds.

For all intents and purposes, we’ll call this weekend’s Super Bowl game “This Could’ve Been Yours, Peyton Manning.”

On Sunday evening, Peyton’s baby bro Eli and unfortunately good-looking nemesis Tom Brady will face off in the year’s biggest sporting event.

For all intents and purposes, we’ll call this weekend’s Super Bowl game “This Could’ve Been Yours, Peyton Manning.”

Peyton will once again watch from the seats at Lucas Oil Stadium, as he has the entire season. A neck injury sidelined him for the year and any chance the Colts had of playing the Super Bowl in their very own stadium rapidly melted away.

The Colts’ year has been, to put it nicely, less than laudatory.

The only exciting part of their 2-14 record is that the numbers, coincidentally, are my birthday. As much as I appreciate the gesture, I’m self-less enough to sacrifice it if it means Pats fans would stay off Indy’s hallowed ground.

As the New York Giants and the New England Patriots swarm the city, the monumental pain the Colts are used to is obvious. After two Super Bowl showings in the past six years, the possibility of playing in this year’s championship wasn’t too outlandish until Peyton got injured.

On the bright side, at least Peyton’s family will be around to keep him company this weekend.

Though their attention will likely focus on their other progeny Eli, at least they can share a burger and beverage with their oldest son.

I hear Paula Deen will be at the pregame party—she’ll surely raise both Peyton’s spirits and cholesterol.

Though attention this weekend should really focus on the two teams duking it out for the trophy, Peyton can’t seem to find his way out of the spotlight.

As both he and Indianapolis Colts owner Jim Irsay have tried to turn attention to the actual sporting event about to take place, the media won’t leave the question of Peyton’s future alone.

Controversy has surrounded the Colts quarterback since fans realized his neck injury might complicate his contract with the Indianapolis team. ESPN reported Thursday that Peyton was medically cleared to resume his NFL career, but his fate in Indianapolis remains unclear.

Irsay has also been in the spotlight recently as outloookers have watched tense moments between him and the franchise quarterback play out.

With the recent firing of head coach Jim Caldwell and general manager Jim Irsay has also been in the spotlight as coaches, people wonder whose head will land on the chopping block next.

The teams are expected to add former Stanford quarterback Andrew Luck to the team in April, which casts suspicion on the future role Peyton might have with the team.

Poor Peyton not only has to deal with recovering from an injury and wondering about his future, this weekend, he will also be forced to watch the conniving and contriving Patriots attempt to destroy another Manning.

Peyton, Indianapolis Colts fans feel for you. For the challenges you face this week, we wish you the award for Worst Week Ever.

Contact Adriana Pratt at apratt@nd.edu

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

Felicia Caponigri
Scene Writer
For Rent

House for rent.

2BR '18: 1st floor, basement & fenced, in backyard.

20 minutes from campus - Malwah, $500 - utilities.

Call 574-248-0189 or 574-633-4064.

CLASSIFIEDS

Sports Authority

Amping up the drama: series and relegation

One of the best things about sports is the drama it occasionally produces. Few things cause as much joy and pain at the same moment as the result of an exceptionally close scoring event. So as grand as many of all that sports offer, why wouldn’t I want to increase the drama?

Football is already one of the most dramatic sports, so little needs to be changed. In fact, football will suffer in comparison if I increase the drama in the other sports. The NFL’s 16-game schedule nearly always produces close races that come down to the wire at the last week of the season. Even more dramatic is the college football season; when one loss can cost a team the chance at a championship. So how to best duplicate that drama in sports where the regular season season series? Let’s go through the motions through the teams.

The NBA is a prime example — an 82-game schedule when more than half the teams make the playoffs keeps things about as exciting as a food fight on a cruise that ends 9-6. Teams take games away and the best teams stay the longest. In the league know almost before the season starts the teams that will make the playoffs.

But what if that season was shrunk to 20 games? The excitement would certainly increase. But 20 games is a terrible sample size for basketball games. So instead of 20 games, I would make the NBA season a set of 20 five-game series. That means we could have anywhere from 60 to 100 games per season, and must beat a team three times in five tries to earn a win.

Because the playoffs would be decided by a team’s record in its series rather than its games, which would be important. Teams that are successful would have a shot at more rest because they could finish a series in three rather than five games. The MLB could institute a similar process. Teams would play 25 seven-game series, more against teams in their division and none against teams from the opposite league (dividing interleague play). Each game becomes more important because it is, for all intents and purposes, part of a seven-game season. And the series are each important because they are a part of a 25-game season.

In addition to the new schedule-type, I would set up a relegation system similar to the one the English Premier League uses. It would split each of the professional sports leagues in half, and the bottom teams from the upper leagues would be in danger of losing their spots to the top teams in the lower division. This makes sure that almost every team is playing the entire season, either for a playoff spot or to keep themselves from being relegated. Drama is what makes sports great. A last second 3-pointer, a two-minute drill touchdown drive and a bottom of the ninth walk-off home run are some of the most exciting moments in life to witness. Changing schedules and creating relegation systems serve only to increase this drama.

But one type of drama that we need to avoid at all costs — the type of drama created by talking heads on television stations that provide 24-hour sports coverage. We need to avoid drama manufactured by people screaming and making predictions for the sake of drama. And for this reason, as my last act as grand master of all that is sport, I would make a decree that Skip Bayless is no longer allowed to speak in public. Ever again.

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

Contact Eric Prister at epriester@nd.edu

Irish face ranked foes in Tennessee

By VICKY JACOBSEN

Spor Writer

The Irish face a stiff test this weekend as they travel to Tennessee to take on two top-20 teams.

No. 21 Notre Dame (4-1, 1-0 Big East) will play No. 19 Tennessee (2-2) in Knoxville, Tenn. on Friday before heading to Nashville for a 12pm ET match-up with No. 17 Vanderbilt (6-2) on Sunday.

“We’re playing two top-20 teams on the road, so it’s going to be a big weekend for us,” Irish senior Jay Louderback said. “They’re both ranked ahead of us, so it’s a crucial weekend for us after losing to Yale last weekend.”

Louderback said neither team has any obvious weaknesses to take advantage of.

“They’re both well-coached, they’re both very good,” Louderback said. “Their singles are good, their doubles are good, they really don’t have a very weak line-up, so they’re going to be tough matches for us.”

Tennessee is qualified for the ITA National Indoor Championshiop last weekend by knocking out UC Davis (1-3) and No. 22 Tulsa (3-1) at home. This is the third consecutive season Tennessee has qualified for the tournament. The Volunteers accept their ticket to the ITA National Indoor Championships with a point from freshman Sarah Tun, who was named the SEC Freshman of the Week on Tuesday. Tun is 8-5 in singles and 15-3 in doubles on the season. She and her doubles partner, sophomore Brynn Boren, are ranked No. 16 in the country and have won their last seven matches.

Irish seniors Kristy Frilling and Shannon Mathews lost last to Toni and Boren at the Riviera/ITA All-American Championships last October.

The Irish lost to No. 3 Yale (1-1) before winning their consolation match against No. 40 Maryland (1-2) in an ITA qualifying tournament last weekend. Mathews slined in the matches, winning both of her singles matches and splitting her doubles matches against the Bulldogs and the Terrapins. She played in the No. 1 position for the first time this season in her singles match against No. 26 Cristina Stam, a Maryland sophomore, winning 6-2, 6-4. Mathews’ hard work did not go unnoticed as she was named the Big East Women’s Tennis Player of the Week this week.

The Irish begin play against Tennessee at 4:30 p.m. Friday and go on to play against Vanderbilt at 12 p.m. Sunday.

Contact Vicky Jacobson at vjacobson@nd.edu

ND Women’s Tennis

Freshman Katherine White prepares to serve during a dual match in Eck Tennis Pavilion on Jan. 22.

By WALKER CAREY

Spor Writer

The Irish will be back in action this weekend as they travel to North Carolina to take on a pair of ACC squads.

Notre Dame (4-2) faces Wake Forest (4-4) Friday before making the short trip to Chapel Hill, N.C. to face Duke (5-0) Sunday. Irish coach Bob Bayless said Notre Dame’s unfamiliarity with Wake Forest might present a challenge in Friday evening’s match. “The interesting thing about [Wake Forest] is that we have not played them in awhile,” Bayless said. “We have not seen them, so we have no experience against any of them. We have some solid scouting reports, but we can’t prepare as much, but it should be interesting when we actually get out and play.”

Bayless said the Irish are in a good place with their facility and night-match surroundings. “The bounce is a little more pronounced than at our facility. They have a bit more rubber on the court, so points are probably going to be slightly faster.”

It will be interesting to see what the environment will be like for the night match. I imagine there will be a good crowd and I would expect the crowd to be slightly animated.”

Bayless said the Wake Forest match would have a few moments in both before heading to play No. 10 Duke on Sunday.

“It would be really nice to head into Duke coming off a win,” Bayless said. “Getting the victory before going to Duke would provide us with a little spark and that would be good to have when facing a very talented team.”

In contrast to their unfamiliarity with Wake Forest, the Irish are familiar with Duke and its personnel.

“We have seen [Duke] and its guys a few times,” Bayless said. “[Duke] is a very strong team and are led by a very good player in junior Henrique Cunha at No. 1; we have never beaten [Cunha] before, but we are looking forward to the challenge that he can bring.”

Though the North Carolina teams offer different challenges, Bayless said the Irish are just quite simple for the Irish to win both matches this weekend.

“We just need to play really well,” he said. “We are facing two quality opponents who we know will be ready to play, so we have to do our best. We know the matches are quite important to us.”

Besides coming away with two victories, Bayless said he would like to see the Irish doubles play to improve this weekend.

“Getting better doubles play is definitely very important,” he said.

“We have been working on it this week because we believe such significant momentum going into singles play. I want to see our doubles play improve because it will help our team as a whole.”

The Irish travel to Winston-Salem, N.C. to square off with Wake Forest Friday night before heading to Durham, N.C. to take on Duke on Sunday afternoon.

Contact Walker Carey at wcary@nd.edu

Men’s Tennis

No to visit Wake Forest and Duke

By WALKER CAREY

Spor Writer

The Irish travel to Winston-Salem, N.C. to visit Wake Forest and Duke.

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 024 South Dining Hall. Deadline is 2:30 pm. The Observer reserves the right to accept all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

Eric Prister

Senior Sports Writer

WALK TO CAMPUS

Great Specials!

Studios 1, 2, 3 Bedroom

Townhomes available.

(574) 272-8124.

www.cloverleafapartments.com

YOUR SONG

It’s a little bit funny this way inside

I’m not one of those who can easily lose

I don’t have much money but you could

I’d buy a big house where we both could live

If I was a worker, then again, no

If you or someone you love needs confidential support please call: Sue Dunn at 1-718-996-9308 or Ann Ferris at 1-973-863-3489.

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY? Don’t go it alone. Notre Dame has many resources in place to help. If you or someone you love needs confidential support please call: Sue Dunn at 1-718-996-9308 or Ann Ferris at 1-973-863-3489.

For more information, visit ND’s website at: http:// programming.https://nd.edu

The Observer classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for classifieds is 2:30 pm. All classifieds must be prepaid at $20 per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to accept all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

Contact Walker Carey at wcary@nd.edu

The Observer
The Observer ◆ SPORTS

Belles close regular season against Albion

By JOE WIRTH
Sports Writer

With only one meet remaining before the all-important MIAA championships, the Belles have only a short time to hit their stride as they host conference rival Albion.

Belles coach Mark Benishek said he has high hopes for the contest.

“My expectation are the same for all our meets,” Benishek said. “I want to see my swimmers swim their fastest and never give up on themselves or their teammates.”

The Belles (1-6, 0-5 MIAA) were defeated by Alma and Calvin in their last competition two weeks ago and have not raced competitively since. Despite the defeats, there were some individual bright spots for Saint Mary’s. Performances from upperclassmen have been a strong point all season for the Belles, and senior Megan Price and junior Kristyn Gerbeth continued that trend in the Calvin and Alma meet. Price had two second-place finishes in 1000- and 500-meter freestyle, while Gerbeth stood out with a second-place finish in the 100-meter butterfly with a time of 1:03.71.

The Belles need another strong performance from the upperclassmen against Albion to garner some momentum going into the season-ending meet. Benishek said he counts on his senior leaders to set the course for the rest of the team going into big meets.

“Our senior leadership has been a strong point all year. [Senior swimmers] Katie Donovan, Megan Price and Audrey Dalrymple have all had strong performances,” Benishek said. “Their senior leadership has been great and they have backed it up with strong swims. We know we can always count on them for motivation.”

The Britons (1-3, 1-3 MIAA) are coming off a loss against Calvin in a conference meet, but pose a definite challenge for Saint Mary’s. Although Albion’s record is not formidable, the Belles have only defeated them once since 2005.

The meet will take place at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Rolfs Aquatic Center on Notre Dame’s campus.

Contact Joe Wirth at jwirth@nd.edu

Saint Mary’s hopes it can rely on its seniors to mimic their previous success against the Comets come Saturday.

The Belles will need to cool off a Comets team that has been hot as of late, having won three of their past four contests. Olivet has averaged 66.3 points per game in the wins, almost 14 points-per-game better than their season average.

“Going into this final stretch, we are motivated to leave everything on the court,” Mahoney said. “With five seniors realizing their collegiate career is quickly coming to an end, we are willing to do everything we possibly can to play as long as possible.”

Saint Mary’s will take the court against Olivet on Saturday at 3 p.m.

Contact Nick Boyle at nbboyle@nd.edu

Olivet continued from page 16

play to this point,” Belles senior guard Patsy Mahoney said.

The Belles have already faced off against Olivet (6-14, 4-7) once this season, taking a 67-54 decision on Jan. 7.

Senior forward Kelley Murphy led the Belles in the January contest, scoring 15 points and securing 10 rebounds as Saint Mary’s led from start to finish in a dominant conference win. Mahoney and fellow senior guard Maggie Ronan also finished that game in double digits in scoring.

“To be successful on Saturday we need to do the little things right consistently,” Mahoney said. “We need to play team defense, talk, box out, and have efficient offensive possessions.”

Saint Mary’s will take the court against Olivet on Saturday at 3 p.m.
DePaul continued from page 16

verseaux Peters’ recent tear on the glass. Peters has had at least 15 rebounds in her last three games, including a career-high 17 against Rutgers on Tuesday. Peters is only the second player in Notre Dame’s history to accomplish such a feat.

The Blue Demons could challenge Notre Dame’s stingy defense as well. DePaul ranks behind only the Irish and No. 3 Connecticut in conference scoring averages this season. The Irish held Rutgers, which averages 57.6 points per game, to 41 points Monday. McGraw said the Irish do not scout each team specifically to pick out exploitable weaknesses. Rather, they have a daily commitment to bring the best defensive test they can be. “We take a lot of pride in our defense,” McGraw said. “We hold teams under their average, and we are in the top five in the nation in steals. We really like to play good pressure defense. We can get some easy transition baskets.”

Notre Dame’s offense has been in a groove this season as well. The Irish lead the conference in points per game, margin of victory, free throw percentage and field goal percentage. Ignited by a fast pace offense due to junior guard Skylar Diggins, the Irish can get out, run and put teams away early.

McGraw is hesitant, however, to say that her team has peaked. She said there is a lot of work to be done. “We continue to put new things in so that there’s always something new for them to look forward to at practice,” McGraw said.

There is a balance that must be struck between challenging the players in the gym every day and keeping them fresh during the grueling Big East season. McGraw said the Irish did not practice Thursday to give the team a break. “We try to give them a lot of time off, and if we can keep them fresh physically and mentally,” she said.

Even with a big rematch with the Huskies in Storrs, Conn., looming on the horizon, McGraw said that it has not been a challenge to keep the Irish focused on game. “This is a team that is focused on every game.” McGraw said. “I think we know anything can happen in the Big East. Every game is a tough one. They’ve been really good at just looking at the next game.”

Notre Dame takes on DePaul at 1 p.m. in the Purcell Pavilions on Saturday. The game will be televised nationally on ESPN.

Contact Matthew Robison at mrobison@nd.edu

Irish to close season against Ball State

Sophomore Mikelle Masciantonio swims in the 100-yard breaststroke in a home meet against Michigan State on Jan. 21. The Irish won 218-82.

By BRIAN HARTNETT
Sports Writer

The Irish will look to close out the regular season with a strong showing when they travel to Muncie, Ind., to face in-state opponent Ball State on Saturday. Notre Dame (5-6) comes off a solid second-place performance in Ball State (9-3), a victory in the IUPUI House of Champions Invitational. On their way to four victories, the Irish defeated Iowa 201-169, but could not get past Ohio State, falling to the Buckeyes by a score of 214-147.

The Irish will face tough competition in Ball State (9-3), a team that began its season with victories in its first nine events, including victories in the ITU/IU House of Champions Invitational and the Doug Coers Invitational. The Cardinals have struggled recently though, dropping their last three dual-meets and faltering recently against in-conference opponents well below their season averages this season. The Irish hold Rutgers, which averages 57.6 points per game, to 41 points Monday. McGraw said the Irish do not scout each team specifically to pick out exploitable weaknesses. Rather, they have a daily commitment to bring the best defensive test they can be. “We take a lot of pride in our defense,” McGraw said. “We hold teams under their average, and we are in the top five in the nation in steals. We really like to play good pressure defense. We can get some easy transition baskets.”

Notre Dame’s offense has been in a groove this season as well. The Irish lead the conference in points per game, margin of victory, free throw percentage and field goal percentage. Ignited by a fast pace offense due to junior guard Skylar Diggins, the Irish can get out, run and put teams away early.

McGraw is hesitant, however, to say that her team has peaked. She said there is a lot of work to be done. “We continue to put new things in so that there’s always something new for them to look forward to at practice,” McGraw said.

There is a balance that must be struck between challenging the players in the gym every day and keeping them fresh during the grueling Big East season. McGraw said the Irish did not practice Thursday to give the team a break. “We try to give them a lot of time off, and if we can keep them fresh physically and mentally,” she said.

Even with a big rematch with the Huskies in Storrs, Conn., looming on the horizon, McGraw said that it has not been a challenge to keep the Irish focused on game. “This is a team that is focused on every game.” McGraw said. “I think we know anything can happen in the Big East. Every game is a tough one. They’ve been really good at just looking at the next game.”

Notre Dame takes on DePaul at 1 p.m. in the Purcell Pavilions on Saturday. The game will be televised nationally on ESPN.

Contact Matthew Robison at mrobison@nd.edu

ND WOMEN’S SWIMMING AND DIVING

Irish to close season against Ball State

Sophomore Mikelle Masciantonio swims in the 100-yard breaststroke in a home meet against Michigan State on Jan. 21. The Irish won 218-82.

By BRIAN HARTNETT
Sports Writer

The Irish will look to close out the regular season with a strong showing when they travel to Muncie, Ind., to face in-state opponent Ball State on Saturday. Notre Dame (5-6) comes off a solid second-place performance at last weekend’s Shamrock Invitational. The Irish will face tough competition in Ball State (9-3), a victory in the IUPUI House of Champions Invitational. On their way to four victories, the Irish defeated Iowa 201-169, but could not get past Ohio State, falling to the Buckeyes by a score of 214-147.

The Irish will face tough competition in Ball State (9-3), a team that began its season with victories in its first nine events, including victories in the ITU/IU House of Champions Invitational and the Doug Coers Invitational. The Cardinals have struggled recently though, dropping their last three dual-meets and faltering recently against in-conference opponents well below their season averages this season. The Irish hold Rutgers, which averages 57.6 points per game, to 41 points Monday. McGraw said the Irish do not scout each team specifically to pick out exploitable weaknesses. Rather, they have a daily commitment to bring the best defensive test they can be. “We take a lot of pride in our defense,” McGraw said. “We hold teams under their average, and we are in the top five in the nation in steals. We really like to play good pressure defense. We can get some easy transition baskets.”

Notre Dame’s offense has been in a groove this season as well. The Irish lead the conference in points per game, margin of victory, free throw percentage and field goal percentage. Ignited by a fast pace offense due to junior guard Skylar Diggins, the Irish can get out, run and put teams away early.

McGraw is hesitant, however, to say that her team has peaked. She said there is a lot of work to be done. “We continue to put new things in so that there’s always something new for them to look forward to at practice,” McGraw said.

There is a balance that must be struck between challenging the players in the gym every day and keeping them fresh during the grueling Big East season. McGraw said the Irish did not practice Thursday to give the team a break. “We try to give them a lot of time off, and if we can keep them fresh physically and mentally,” she said.

Even with a big rematch with the Huskies in Storrs, Conn., looming on the horizon, McGraw said that it has not been a challenge to keep the Irish focused on game. “This is a team that is focused on every game.” McGraw said. “I think we know anything can happen in the Big East. Every game is a tough one. They’ve been really good at just looking at the next game.”

Notre Dame takes on DePaul at 1 p.m. in the Purcell Pavilions on Saturday. The game will be televised nationally on ESPN.

Contact Matthew Robison at mrobison@nd.edu

ND WOMEN’S SWIMMING AND DIVING

Irish to close season against Ball State

Sophomore Mikelle Masciantonio swims in the 100-yard breaststroke in a home meet against Michigan State on Jan. 21. The Irish won 218-82.
Sports Writer

The Irish will face one of the most competitive fields of teams they will face this season when they host the Meyo Invitational this weekend.

The meet, named in honor of the man who funded building the Loftus Sports Center track, will celebrate its 25th anniversary this weekend. The donor, a 1963 alumnus Ray Meyo, attends the meet each year to shoot the starting gun.

The meet’s one-mile run — dubbed the “Meyo Mile” — highlights the competition as athletes typically strive to break the elusive four-minute mark. Last year, junior Jeremy Rae won the race with a time of 3:59:62.

“Last year was an amazing experience,” Rae said. “I had put pressure on myself to win the race and run under four minutes, and doing so was an incredible feeling.” Rae said he is not as focused on running under the four-minute benchmark this year.

The situation is a little different this year as I’m not putting all that much pressure on myself to run a fast time,” he said. “The emphasis is purely on winning. The Meyo Mile is known for annually being one of the fastest mile races of the indoor season.”

The men’s 400-meter relay team will be looking to keep its winning streak alive this weekend, and will face some strong competition. The meet draws dozens of top teams and competitors from around the country.

“There are plenty of good teams coming from all around the country,” Rae said. “Teams from the South are typically strong sprinters. The goal for the meet this weekend is for everyone to improve their marks heading into [the Big East meet],” he said.

Senior captain Maddie Buttinger of the women’s squad said her team will face tough competition as well.

“In all of the events, we have a bunch of all-Americans and National champions coming,” she said. “There are a huge amount of entries and it’s the highlight of a lot of people’s indoor season.”

The women have already had a number of athletes qualify for the Big East meet, and Buttinger said there is a great atmosphere surrounding the team right now.

“We’ve been getting better times and there has been a better spirit on the team since we’ve been doing well this year,” she said. “It’s really exciting because we’re looking to rebuild after last year’s disappointing Big East performance and rebuild.”

The team will hope to continue receiving strong contributions, including from underclassmen.

“We have a lot of athletes who can be really competitive at the events,” Buttinger said. “It’ll be really exciting to see how everyone does with such big fields and really good competition.”

The meet will get underway at 4 p.m. Friday inside Loftus Sports Center.

Contact Laura Coletti at lcoletti@nd.edu

Fr. Bob Dowd, C.S.C.

He served the poor in East Africa and now seeks to integrate research and real-world efforts to alleviate extreme poverty.

He founded Notre Dame’s Ford Family Program in Human Development Studies and Solidarity.

He teaches a new generation of Notre Dame students how to put their talents at the service of others.

What could you do?

Come and see...
Goals continued from page 16

shots in a 6-3 Alaska win. Junior netminder Mike Johnson started Saturday and made 15 saves in a 4-2 victory. Jackson did not indicate which goal- tender would start tonight against the Falcons.

The Irish will also hold “Lefty Fest” this weekend to celebrate the life of long-time Irish hockey coach Charles “Lefty” Smith, with many of Lefty’s family, friends and former players in attendance to honor his memory.

Smith passed away Jan. 3 from natural causes at the age of 81.

“It’s going to be a nice opportunity for our team to pay tribute to his legacy and Lefty’s family that will be here since we didn’t have the opportunity when he passed to attend the funeral, because we were on our way to Minnesota at that exact time,” Jackson said. “So it will be a nice opportunity for our team to be able to pass their respects on to the family, which I think is important because our guys, they know who Lefty was and they had a relationship with him.”

While the Irish will pay tribute to Smith this weekend, there is also business to be taken care of on the ice.

In addition to the tight OCHA race, Notre Dame, who swept the Falcons at Bowling Green last weekend. “The Irish have benefitted from the breakthrough of sophomore guard Jerian Grant, who Brey said continues to grow in confidence.

“He’s been fabulous,” Brey said. “He’s done a really good job on [Connecticut guard Jer- eny] Lamb in both games. The Irish sabreurs paced the men’s team (23-5) in last week’s Notre Dame Duals. The group combined to post a 100-8 mark over the two days of competition, including a number of strong performances from underclassmen.

Though both squads got off to a mediocre start that were uncharacteristic of Notre Dame in recent years, the path toward defending the 2011 National championship was smoothed with an impressive showing at home last weekend. It remains to be seen whether the performance can be duplicated in a series that will reveal a lot about the potential of the Irish squads.

“I hope that after this competition we are seen as a strong team — if not the favorites,” Bednarski said. The Irish take to the strip Saturday at 7:05 p.m. for the NCAA tournament field. The five used to determine the 16-team NCAA tournament field. The five

Big East continued from page 16

KELLY SONG/THEDOSMIRROR

Junior defenseman Sam Calabrese carries the puck against Michigan Jan. 20 in the Compton Family Ice Arena. The Irish won 3-1.

Princeton continued from page 16

to young Irish fencers Channing Foster and Nicole Amell, a pair of freshmen who led the Irish epee unit with a combined record of 35-4 at home last weekend.

The standout performance by the two has to be repeated this weekend.

“They will be put to a very strong test because Princeton’s epee fencers are their best,” Bednarski said. “I believe they will learn how to fence against the best in the nation.

Further competition on the women’s side is expected from Temple, and on both sides from Duke and North Carolina. Fea- turing former Olympic medalist Rebecca Ward, the Blue Devils figure to test the Irish strength.

It will be very interesting to see how all of these teams fence against us and how we will fence against them,” Bednarski said. “I expect a very serious clash between these teams.”

The Irish sabreurs have the men’s team (23-5) in last week-end’s Notre Dame Duals. The group combined to post a 100-8 mark over the two days of com- petition, including a number of strong performances from underclassmen.

Though both squads got off to a mediocre start that were uncharacteristic of Notre Dame in recent years, the path toward defending the 2011 National championship was smoothed with an impressive showing at home last weekend. It remains to be seen whether the performance can be duplicated in a series that will reveal a lot about the potential of the Irish squads.

“I hope that after this competition we are seen as a strong team — if not the favorites,” Bednarski said. The Irish take to the strip Sat- urday at 7:05 p.m. for the NCAA tournament field. The five

Big East continued from page 16

behind Syracuse.

“I couldn’t be prouder of a group of what we’re becoming,” Brey said after his team’s win at Connecticut last weekend. “The run we’re on right now to beat a really good team here — the key is, with us, we really controlled the tempo and that takes its toll on a team over 40 minutes when the rhythm’s not there.

The Irish have controlled the game’s tempo for much of their season with their talent and depth, while forcing opposing teams to play at their own pace.

“We’ve found a way to get them to play at our pace,” Brey said. “When we’re playing, it’s about doing whatever we need to do to get that puck to our players. I don’t care who it is or where we’re playing, it’s about us.

“If we’re playing our opti- mal level, if we’re playing our A-game, we’ve seen what this team is capable of. The thing is finding a way to get them to play the A-game every night. We still have time, but time’s running out.

The Irish will skate in a criti-
cal series tonight and Saturday against Bowling Green. The puck will drop at 7:05 p.m. for both games in the Compton Family Ice Arena.

Contact Sam Gans at sgans@nd.edu

Contact Conor Kelly at ckelly17@nd.edu

Contact Andrew Owens at awomens@nd.edu

Goals

continued from page 16

shots in a 6-3 Alaska win. Ju- nior netminder Mike Johnson started Saturday and made 15 saves in a 4-2 victory. Jackson did not indicate which goal- tender would start tonight against the Falcons.

The Irish will also hold “Lefty Fest” this weekend to celebrate the life of long-time Irish hockey coach Charles “Lefty” Smith, with many of Lefty’s family, friends and former players in at- tendance to honor his memory.

Smith passed away Jan. 3 from natural causes at the age of 81.

“It’s going to be a nice opportunity for our team to pay tribute to his legacy and Lefty’s family that will be here since we didn’t have the opportunity when he passed to attend the fu-
neral, because we were on our way to Minnesota at that exact time,” Jackson said. “So it will be a nice opportunity for our team to be able to pass their re-

Looking for a way to get the puck to their offensive players, the Irish were able to use their defense to create opportunities for their forwards.

“If we’re playing our opti-

mal level, if we’re playing our A-game, we’ve seen what this team is capable of. The thing is finding a way to get them to play the A-game every night. We still have time, but time’s running out.

The Irish will skate in a criti-
cal series tonight and Saturday against Bowling Green. The puck will drop at 7:05 p.m. for both games in the Compton Family Ice Arena.

Contact Sam Gans at sgans@nd.edu

Contact Conor Kelly at ckelly17@nd.edu

Contact Andrew Owens at awomens@nd.edu

Goals
Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community. Join the more than 13,000 readers who have found The Observer an indispensable link to the two campuses. Please complete the accompanying form and mail it today to receive The Observer in your home.
**Men's Basketball**

No. 15 Marquette comes to Purcell

By ANDREW OWENS  
Associate Sports Editor

After a week off following their 50-48 road defeat of No. 24 Connecticut, the Irish return to Purcell Pavilion to face conference rival No. 15 Marquette.

Notre Dame (14-8-6-3 Big East) has won its last three games, two of which came against ranked opponents, to climb into the top quarter of the Big East conference standings.

"To be 6-3 halfway through the season, a win over Marquette (19-14, 8-2) is a huge win," Irish coach Mike Brey said.

Marquette (19-14, 8-2) is currently six points behind conference-leader Ferris State with eight games remaining. Although six points in the standings seems a strong part in whether those two goals are met.

The Irish (15-10-3, 10-7-3-0 CCHA) currently sit in sixth place in the CCHA standings, but are just four points behind conference-leader Ferris State with eight games remaining. Although six points in the standings seems a strong possibility this weekend with the last-place Falcons (8-15-5, 3-14-4-3) coming to town, Irish coach Jeff Jackson is not looking past Bowling Green, who has lost only two of its last six games.

"This is a huge game for us, as we are only one game away from being one of four qualifying teams in the newly restructured MIAA playoffs. With only four games left in the season, a win on Saturday is a must," Jackson said.


**SMC Basketball**

Belles look to qualify

By NICK BOYLE  
Sports Writer

Coming off a conference win against Albion, Saint Mary’s hopes to continue its winning ways when it takes on Olivet on Saturday afternoon in Michigan.

The Belles (10-11, 6-6 MIAA) now boast a .500 record in conference play and sit in fourth place in the MIAA. They are currently in line to be one of four qualifying teams in the newly restructured MIAA playoffs.

With only four games left in the season, a win on Saturday would greatly boost Saint Mary’s chances for playoff qualification.

"This is a huge game for us, as we are only one game ahead of Olivet in conference


**Hockey**

Every game counts as championships come closer

By SAM GANS  
Sports Writer

As No. 6 Notre Dame enters the final month of its regular season, the quest for a CCHA championship and a berth in the NCAA tournament field make each series crucial. A two-game series in the Compton Family Ice Arena this weekend against Bowling Green will play a big part in whether those two goals are met.

The Irish (15-10-3, 10-7-3-0 CCHA) currently sit in sixth place in the CCHA standings, but are just four points behind conference-leader Ferris State with eight games remaining. Although six points in the standings seems a strong possibility this weekend with the last-place Falcons (8-15-5, 3-14-4-3) coming to town, Irish coach Jeff Jackson is not looking past Bowling Green, who has lost only two of its last six games.

"This competition which is coming will certainly have another portion of the best teams in the nation," Irish coach Jonas Bednarski said. "There are many teams who we haven’t faced yet, who are still able to beat us."

Not least among these opponents is Princeton, a team Bednarski said will be among the top teams in the field.

"Princeton has made a big push in recruiting many of the top fencers in the country recently, and it has a growing program," Bednarski said. "On both the sides, men’s and women’s, the danger is coming from several teams, including Princeton."

For the Irish women (18-5), the Tigers will present a challenge.

"[Falcons coach] Chris Bergeron has done a nice job and I think they’re starting to come on a little bit," Jackson said. "They play hard and they execute their system well. They’re hard to play against and that’s a sign of a team that’s going in the right direction.”

The Irish return home following a split at Alaska last weekend.

Sophomore goaltender Steven Summerhays was given last Friday’s start after two strong outings the previous weekend against Michigan. The Nanooks shelled Summerhays early, scoring four goals on their first 11 shots.

**Fencing**

Irish look to repeat undefeated weekend

By CONOR KELLY  
Sports Writer

Last weekend, Northwestern’s women’s team came into the Joyce Center and posted an 8-1 record in action on Notre Dame’s home strip. Unfortunately for the Wildcats, the Irish women posted an undefeated 12-0 mark and were matched by the men’s squad in a perfect weekend for Notre Dame.

This weekend, Northwestern will get its own chance to play host as the Wildcats will host the Northwestern Duals Saturday and Sunday.

In a season that has been tumultuous in the early going, the duals will be a chance for the Irish to show they can compete with the top teams in the country, and an opportunity to build off a strong performance at home last weekend.

“[This competition which is coming will certainly have another portion of the best teams in the nation],” Irish coach Ja-nusz Bednarski said. “There are many teams who we haven’t even faced yet, who are still able to beat us.”

Not least among these opponents is Princeton, a team Bednarski said will be among the top teams in the field.

“Princeton has made a big push in recruiting many of the top fencers in the country recently, and it has a growing program,” Bednarski said. “On both the sides, men’s and women’s, the danger is coming from several teams, including Princeton.”

For the Irish women (18-5-1), the Tigers will present a challenge.

See PRINCETON/page 14

**ND Women’s Basketball**

ND seeks revenge on Blue Demons

By MATTHEW ROBISON  
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will take on DePaul at home Sunday at Purcell Pavilion in what will be a grudge match for Irish coach Muffet McGraw’s squad.

The Blue Demons (17-6, 4-2 Big East) beat Notre Dame (22-1, 9-0 Big East) last year in the regular season. The Irish went on to beat DePaul in the Big East tournament, but the Blue Demons are never an easy team to defeat, McGraw said.

“They’re a very good team,” she said. “They shoot a lot of three’s, shoot the ball extremely well, and they have a good center.”

DePaul junior center Katherine Harry leads the Big East in rebounding and will challenge Irish senior De-