MIAMI BOUND
Irish coach Brian Kelly speaks with ESPN reporter Heather Cox after Notre Dame's 22-13 win over USC. Kelly guided Notre Dame to an undefeated regular season in his third season at the helm of the Irish program after going 8-5 his previous two seasons.

Swarbrick and Kelly carrying out a grand vision for Notre Dame

Allan Joseph

LOS ANGELES — As the final seconds ticked off the clock Saturday night, Director of Athletics Jack Swarbrick made celebratory rounds on the Notre Dame sideline, embracing sweaty Irish players while wearing a sharp grey suit. As he moved from player to player, he wore an ear-to-ear grin, and with good reason: Swarbrick’s most prominent player had never looked like a better hire.

Before the season, Swarbrick said Irish coach Brian Kelly was on the “coolest seat in America” after two consecutive five-loss campaigns. Many fans scoffed at Swarbrick’s seeming overconfidence — as much as the program had improved in two years, it also seemed to be in a state of flux.

Chuck Martin, a safeties coach for two seasons, had risen the ranks to lead an inconsistent Irish offense. The quarterback position was mad- deningly unsettled, and after moving Theo Riddick to receiver right after they arrived, Kelly and Martin asked Riddick to receiver right after they arrived. Kelly guided Notre Dame to a third season at the helm of the Irish program after going 8-5 his previous two seasons.

Irish coach Brian Kelly speaks with ESPN reporter Heather Cox after Notre Dame's 22-13 win over USC. Kelly guided Notre Dame to an undefeated regular season in his third season at the helm of the Irish program after going 8-5 his previous two seasons.

The Irish should be competing for BCS bowl berths for years to come.

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

Riddick’s rushing, late goal-line stand close out 12-0 regular season with win over USC

By ANDREW OWENS
Assistant Managing Editor

LOUISVILLE — After the final seconds of a perfect regular season were marked and the Irish celebrated at midfield, Brian Kelly put his arm around his daughter and paced toward the tunnel. On his way to the jubilant locker room, he looked toward the Notre Dame fan contingent on the south side of the Los Angeles Coliseum and lifted his index finger.

No. 1 Notre Dame had risen to the task for the 12th time this season, and now a championship berth in Miami awaits the undefeated Irish following a 22-13 defeat of archrival USC (7-5).

“Was it as you would’ve expected?,” Kelly said of the post-game scene in the locker room. “There was a lot of singing, dancing. It was what you would expect it to be for a team that’s this close and has won so many games in that fashion. It was fun to be in there.”

With the conquest of the Trojans, the Irish will play the winner of Saturday’s SEC championship game between No. 2 Alabama and No. 3 Georgia in Atlanta. A win would secure Notre Dame’s first national championship since 1988, with the current 24-year drought serving as the longest in program history since the Irish won their first in 1924.

Director of Athletics Jack Swarbrick, who hired Kelly nearly 36 months ago, had one word for the feeling as he celebrated with players on the field. “Phenomenal.”

The Irish held their opponent to fewer than 20 points for the 11th time this season, and the final instance might have been the best. USC quarterback Matt Barkley watching from the sidelines with a shoulder injury. Outside of a 53-yard reception by sophomore Marqise Lee, the Notre Dame secondary largely held the receiver and his talented teammate, Robert Woods, in check.

“I think Notre Dame showed they have phenomenal senior leadership,” embattled USC coach Lane Kiffin said. “You can see those guys understand the game and they really know how to do it together. They’re really physical and pretty old school — that’s why they have so many close scores — but they don’t screw up. You have to play really well to beat them. They don’t hand you things.”

Leading by nine points with a little more than five minutes remaining, Notre Dame’s defense buckled down and held USC out of the end zone with another scoreless stand. The Irish took over on downs with 2:33 remaining after a dropped pass by fullback Soma Vainiku, a symbol of how the archrivals’ fortunes have changed since last season’s 31-17 USC victory at Notre Dame Stadium.

“If you followed us at all this year, that was how we play,” Kelly said. “We come up big defensively at sometime during the game. We did that again. Unbelievable goal-line stand to hold any program, any team …

get inside your two and come up with a great goal-line stand.”

Notre Dame’s offense out-gained USC 439 yards to 281 and more than doubled the Trojans’ rushing output. Sophomore quarterback Everett Golson and senior running back Theo Riddick fueled the Irish offense, with the former once again showing no nerves on the road and the latter breaking countless tackles to secure precious yardage and field position.

Golson completed 15 of 26 pass attempts for 217 yards and added another 47 rushing yards as he improved to 10-0 in his first season as a starter.

“He’s making better decisions with the football,” Kelly said.

“I guess the difference is he’s not careless with the football. Careless I can’t take. He’s going to make some bad decisions every once in a while, but he’s not careless with the football.”

“We couldn’t win the game if we were going to control the game (in a conservative fashion). I felt all week that you can’t come in here hoping that USC doesn’t play well. You’ve got to come in here and take it from them. Our gameplan was to let [Golson] play.”

Golson engineered scoring drives on Notre Dame’s first three possessions, as the Irish jumped out to a 13-7 lead midway through the second quarter.

As has been the case during much of the season, Notre Dame stalled inside the red zone, one of the points Kelly said he needs to address during the final six weeks and two days leading up to the BCS National Championship Game on Jan. 7.

“It means there’s things we still need to work on,” said Kelly of an offense that scored just one touchdown in six red-zone appearances. “We’re not a perfect team. We know that. Here’s what we like: We know that’s going to get better as our quarterback matures.”

But sophomore kicker Kyle Brindza converted five of six attempted field goals, the longest of which booted from 52 yards out as the first half expired, giving the Irish a 16-10 halftime lead.

“I knew that was going to get better as our quarterback matures,” Kelly said.

“[Kyle] Brindza has confidence in me and it’s a great thing to have from a coach, rather than having a coach trying to rip your head off,” Brindza said.

“Big game and I just hope to go up to everyone, if they made a mistake and be able to talk to them about what you did wrong and what you did right and be able to instill the confidence that you’re going to go out there the next time and do the right thing.”

Brindza contributed with a key special teams tackle as well. Lee, a Heisman candidate, found a seam in the Irish kickoff coverage with the Irish up 22-13 with 5:58 remaining in the game, but it was the Notre Dame kicker who forced the speedster out of bounds at the Trojan 45.

“That was one of my nightmares all week,” said Brindza on being the last man between Lee and the end zone. “It was a nightmare and when Lee was running up, I was a deer in the headlights. It was like a nightmare coming back to me, but then I turned it off and I realized I had to make the tackle and I was glad I was able to help my team.”

After the ensuing goal-line stand and the game’s conclusion minutes later, senior linebacker Manti Te’o, who recorded his seventh interception of the season in the third quarter, found his coach in the tunnel and had a simple message for him.

“I said, ‘I love you.’ I love him,” Te’o said. “Our relationship was bumpy at first, but it’s great (now). I’m happy to be part of this and have him as our coach. He’s the best coach in college football.”

Te’o said the Irish reached a goal with the 12-0 regular-season finish, but that there’s one remaining chapter in the 2012 book yet to be written.

“We’ve brought a lot of pride back to Notre Dame,” he said. “I’m grateful to be a part of it. “We’re the best team. We’re No. 1.”

Notre Dame will have the opportunity to finish as the best team and win 13 games for the first time in program history at the BCS National Championship Game on Jan. 7 against either No. 2 Alabama or No. 3 Georgia.

Contact Andrew Owens at aowens2@nd.edu

PLAYER OF THE GAME

THEO RIDDICK
NOTRE DAME RUNNING BACK

Riddick had a career game and spurred Notre Dame to an undefeated season with 179 total yards. The converted wide receiver took 20 carries and fought for each of his 146 yards on the ground. His highlight reel spin move set up the game’s final score on a crucial drive in the fourth quarter.
Quarterbacks
Everett Golson continued a remarkable run of play dating back to the win over Oklahoma. The sophomore made plays with his arm and legs, and most importantly protected the ball on the road to ensure the win.

Running Backs
It has been a group effort at running back all season, but under the brightest lights senior Theo Riddick shined even brighter as Notre Dame’s offensive star. Riddick had 179 total yards and countless highlight reel moves.

Receivers
Another solid, if not spectacular, performance by the receivers. Robby Toma and Tyler Eifert showed remarkable concentration on bobbled balls down the field. Eifert finally had a defensive back knock a pass away from him on a jump ball in the end zone.

Offensive Line
It was a great effort in run blocking by the offensive line, particularly the stalwarts on the left side — Zack Martin and Chris Watt. Riddick had room to run and make people miss thanks to the group's work.

Defensive Line
Though the duo of USC backs Silas Redd and Curtis McNeal got loose a few times, the unit had a solid day. Louis Nixon was a force in goal-line situations and Kapron Lewis-Moore recorded one-and-a-half sacks in his final regular-season effort.

Linebackers
Manti Te’o returned to the stat sheet in the interception column with his incredible seventh pick on the year. Te’o and fellow inside linebacker Carlo Calabrese had a solid game tackling the shifty USC running backs and outside linebacker Prince Shembo recorded half a sack.

Defensive Backs
He had to interfere with the best receiver in college football — USC sophomore Marqise Lee — on multiple occasions, but freshman KeiVarae Russell had an interception and contained the star Lee and Robert Woods.

Special Teams
Kyle Brindza had a career day, making five field goals despite a miss at a crucial time. Though the punt return game was again quiet, George Atkinson put together a big kick return in the fourth quarter.

Coaching
Brian Kelly has completed his transformation of the Notre Dame program from mediocre to elite. If he can win the BCS National Championship Game, he will become a legend.

Overall GPA: 3.60

The Irish played in their 12th game as they had in the previous 11 — as a team. Riddick paced the offense, Te’o and Russell paced the defense and Brindza shined on special teams. Kelly spoke in his first two seasons of a “winning instinct” he hoped to instill. The Irish clearly listened — they are 12-0 and headed to Miami.

Play of the Game
Wittek’s Pass to Vainuku Dropped on Fourth Down
After stuffing three straight runs inside the 2-yard line in a valiant effort, the Irish defense completed yet another memorable goal-line stand as the fourth-down pass in the flat from USC quarterback Max Wittek to fullback Soma Vainuku was bobbled and dropped.

Brindza’s big day
Irish sophomore kicker Kyle Brindza had a career day Saturday with five made field goals. Brindza now has 23 converted field goals on the year — the highest single-season total in Notre Dame history. Brindza passed the mark of 21 set by long-time NFL kicker John Carney in 1986 with a 33-yard kick in the third quarter. Brindza’s 31 attempts on the season are also the most in Notre Dame history, besting Carney’s 28 in 1986. With his 52-yard field goal as time expired in the first half, Brindza tied ex-teammate David Ruffer for the second-longest field goal in school history. His kick was one yard short of the record of 53 yards set by Dave Reeve in 1976.

Golson unbeaten as starter
Irish sophomore quarterback Everett Golson improved to 10-0 as a starter in Saturday’s win over USC. His 10 consecutive victories to start his career are the second-most in Notre Dame history, trailing only Bob Williams’ mark of 11 set from 1949-50. Golson attempted 26 passes without throwing an interception against the Trojans. He has not thrown an interception on the road since the season opener against Navy in Ireland, spanning games against Michigan State, Oklahoma, Boston College and USC.

The Irish have allowed only nine points in the first quarter all season.
A triumphant return

Fans welcome home undefeated Irish after close victory over USC

By MATTHEW DeFRANKS
News Writer

The cold weather and early hour did not stop hundreds of Notre Dame fans from greeting the No. 1 Irish as they returned to campus from Los Angeles.

Notre Dame, with a 22-13 win over USC on Saturday night, finished the regular season undefeated and punched its ticket to the BCS National Championship Game in Miami on Jan. 7. In frigid 25-degree weather, fans lined the sidewalks leading into the Guglielmino Athletics Complex as the team arrived at 6:33 a.m. Sunday morning. A procession of police vehicles escorted the team from South Bend Regional Airport back to campus.

As the Irish approached, Notre Dame fans broke out into chants of “Here come the Irish” and “Let’s go Irish.” The crowd was mostly South Bend residents, since many Notre Dame students were away for Thanksgiving break.

Sophomore Jeff Wilush was one of the students on hand and said the decision to come out early and in the cold was an easy one. “It’s definitely worth it,” he said. “It’s a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. It’s been 24 years since the last time we were undefeated and bound for the BCS title game. I was so excited to be there in the Coliseum,” she said. “It’s definitely worth it,” he said. “It’s a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. It’s been 24 years since the last time we were undefeated and bound for the BCS title game. I was so excited to be there in the Coliseum,” she said. “It’s definitely worth it,” he said. “It’s a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. It’s been 24 years since the last time we were undefeated and bound for the BCS title game. I was so excited to be there in the Coliseum,” she said. “It’s definitely worth it,” he said. “It’s a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. It’s been 24 years since the last time we were undefeated and bound for the BCS title game. I was so excited to be there in the Coliseum,” she said. “It’s definitely worth it,” he said. “It’s a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. It’s been 24 years since the last time we were undefeated and bound for the BCS title game. I was so excited to be there in the Coliseum,” she said. “It’s definitely worth it,” he said. “It’s a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. It’s been 24 years since the last time we were undefeated and bound for the BCS title game. I was so excited to be there in the Coliseum,” she said. “It’s definitely worth it,” he said. “It’s a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. It’s been 24 years since the last time we were undefeated and bound for the BCS title game. I was so excited to be there in the Coliseum,” she said. “It’s definitely worth it,” he said. “It’s a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. It’s been 24 years since the last time we were undefeated and bound for the BCS title game. I was so excited to be there in the Coliseum,” she said. “It’s definitely worth it,” he said.
QUESTION OF THE DAY:
What was the highlight of your Thanksgiving break?

Have a question you want answered?
Email obsphoto@gmail.com

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**Students cheer on the Irish at the Los Angeles Coliseum during Notre Dame's 22-13 victory over USC. For the second consecutive week, Notre Dame sits atop the BCS rankings and will most likely play the winner of the SEC championship game for the national title in Miami on Jan. 7.**

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**SARAH O'CONNOR | The Observer**

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**THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:**

**Tuesday**

*“How to Topple a Dictator”*
Hesburgh Center
4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Lecture by Srdja Popovic.

*“What Does an Actuary Do?”*
127 Hayes-Healy
7:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Panel discussion.

**Wednesday**

*Laughter Yoga*
St. Liam Hall
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.
Relieve stress and win a gift card to Jamba Juice.

*“A Grand Tour”*
Bond Hall
4:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Lecture by Michael Graves.

**Thursday**

*Zen Meditation*
102 Coleman-Morse Center
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Open to all students, faculty and staff.

*Film: “50/50”*
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
6:30 p.m. - 8:10 p.m.
Tickets $6-$7

**Friday**

*“The Death of Socrates”*
Eck Visitors Center
3 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Lecture from Kathrin Koslicki.

* Raptors Game*
United Center
8:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.
Tickets $36

**Saturday**

*Aiden Project*
South Dining Hall
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Make fleece blankets for patients fighting cancer.

*Film: “Sleepwalk with Me”*
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
6:30 p.m. - 11 p.m.
During World War II, Notre Dame stood as one of the premier academic institutions in the country. Notre Dame’s dedication to education excellence is reflected in its highly ranked Mendoza College of Business and Law School in addition to a well-regarded School of Architecture, he said. “Its research programs have made great contributions to national science and health over the years, ranging from the discovery of synthetic rubber by Fr. Julius Nieuwland in the 1920s to the mapping of the mosquito genome in this century as a way to prevent the spread of malaria and other diseases.”

The Senator-elect referenced the University’s affiliations with various service initiatives, beginning in the 1960s. “An association with the Peace Corps goes back to the agency’s founding in 1961, when the first volunteers were trained on campus under the strong support of Fr. Hesburgh,” he said. “Its Summer Service Learning Program has provided some 4,000 undergraduate students with a scholarship to perform eight weeks of community service in the communities of Notre Dame alumni clubs across the nation. The Alliance for Catholic Education, ACE, sends nearly 200 recent graduates each year to teach in about 100 understaffed Catholic schools across the country.”

Beyond the University’s achievements in academics and research, Donnelly praised Notre Dame’s dedication to those in need. “The University’s mission is to cultivate in its students not only an appreciation for the great achievements of human beings, but also a love of God and a disciplined sensibility to the poverty, injustice and oppression that burden the lives of so many,” he said. “Notre Dame makes our nation stronger and deserves our deepest appreciation.”

In a statement to The Observer, Donnelly claimed his sense of pride in being a product of a Notre Dame education. “I was proud to lead the Indiana delegation in recognizing the University of Notre Dame’s 170th anniversary because of its great impact from our community in northern Indiana to countries around the world,” he said. “I am honored to be a graduate of the University of Notre Dame, and I know the many lessons learned while a student there will continue to help guide me in serving the great state of Indiana.”
Thank you to the real men of Notre Dame who took the pledge to end sexual violence. Please do your part to stop sexual violence.

Nick Acampora
Anthony Acuna
Zachary Adans
Jeff Agee
Jackson Agraz
Bobby Alvarez
Genaro Andazola
Dan Anderson
Chris Andrews
Devin Ames
Devotee Applewhite
Ming Archbold
Jacob Armsg
Chris Ayala
Dan Babika
Elliott Badar
Ethan Bailey
Tyler Bartlow
Brett Beatle
Kurt Beaty
Joseph Bedell
Luke Berning
Will Beverly
Rachel Bilson
Eric Biro
Enrique Blair
Ryan Boccabella
Pat Boudch
Matt Boomer
Andrew Borchert
Michael Bradley
Conor Brant
Tim Brazelton
John Britsch
Ben Brockman
Michael Brown
Emmanuel Brucelas
Jeff Bruns
Geff Burdell
Dominic Bush
Brian Calcutt
Patrick Caldoner
Chris Cali
Rob Callus
Colin Campbell
Duncan Campbell
Kevin Casey
Jeff Chapa
Stephen Chamley
Alex Chau
William Cheely
Justin Chen
Jimmy Clark
Richard Clark
John Clark
Chris Clarke
Caleb Cobbin
Jacob Coleman
Coll Collins
John Columbus
Matthias Conaghan
Cj Condon
Dillon Connolly
Brian Connor
Matthew Cook
Patrick Corry
Nord Cortez
Owen Cox
Austin Crehan
Dan Curran
Andrew Cusator
Juan Dabou
Jake Daily
Andre De Janor
Chris Dearolf
Vincent Del Duca
Patrick Dever
Chris Dibernardo
Usher travels from Canada for football games

By NICOLE MICHELS

While even Midwestern Irish fans might come for a few home games each year, usher Paul Matthew journeyed 15 hours from Ottawa to South Bend for each and every one of Notre Dame’s home games this season.

A volunteer usher since 2002, Matthew recently signed on as a full-time usher. He said he has seen a positive progression on the field and in the stands in recent years.

“The team’s come so far — if we don’t do it this year, the future looks very bright,” Matthew said. “I think this year I’ve noticed the crowd’s been louder more often, but the odd thing about Notre Dame is the stadium is always successful years but then during the unsuccessful years the crowds don’t come — not so at Notre Dame. The smiles just don’t start because the official times aren’t what they are at other schools. Notre Dame is a pretty special place.”

Matthew makes a significant trek to see those smiles throughout the season. After a three-hour drive to Syracuse, N.Y., he boards a 12-hour, overnight Amtrak train ride to South Bend, arriving early Friday morning.

“While he maintains a full-time job at home, working as a statistical analyst for the Canadian government, Matthew said his trips to Notre Dame do not complicate his working life. “From a work standpoint, it doesn’t affect working for the government),” Matthew said. “I get five weeks of vacation each year, and I’m there for seven games — that’s fourteen days. I still have three weeks of vacation time, and because it’s only two days at a time I still have three work days in between.”

Matthew said his interest in American college football is not the norm for Canadians.

“To the Canadians this is all a foreign concept, college football,” Matthew said. “When I first started doing this it was a true culture shock, and then I realized it was a pretty cool gig.”

Despite his usual Friday-morning arrival, Matthew said his responsibilities typically don’t begin until early Saturday.

“We have a meeting [Saturday morning] to find out what’s going on that day, how many people to expect on the sidelines, who is coming, who will help with the players’ entrance: What’s happening in the stadium that day,” Matthew said. Matthew is usually stationed near the north end zone by the tunnel until just after the Irish football team enters the game.

“Some people have field passes and are allowed on the field for the entire game in a different area,” Matthew said. “You also have to separate recruits … they go on the side with the Irish and get to hang there during the game.”

While he does not have much direct communication with those on the field, Matthew said he has gained a new appreciation for all the people working behind the scenes for the football program.

“They have a job to do, so I’m an observer,” Matthew said. “There’s some minimal dialogue, very minor small talk … but I have developed a perception of the network behind the team: the trainers, coaches, doctors, the people who tape and retape the players when they get hurt.”

Matthews said he has been awestruck by some of the people who have passed through the tunnel.

“(Basketball legend) David Robinson was coming down the tunnel because his son was coming to Notre Dame … I made sure I was the person who said ‘Welcome to Notre Dame, Mr. Robinson,’” Matthews said. “He stopped, turned around and stepped towards me, offering me his hand to shake … I had to calm down after that; that was a personal highlight.”

Matthews said he was thrilled to meet the Canadian Olympians during the tribute to the Notre Dame Olympians earlier this season.

“I knew about the women’s basketball player [Natalie Achonwa], but I didn’t know about the two women on our soccer team (Melissa Tancredi and Candace Chapman),” Matthew said. “They stopped and introduced themselves to me — famous Canadians introducing themselves to me, an unfamiliar Canadian.”

Matthews said the unpredictability is one of his favorite parts of the job.

“That’s the beauty of the job: you never know who’s going to show up that day,” he said. “All I can do is to try to take it in stride and do my best … I have a job to do.”

Contact Nicole Michels at nmichels@nd.edu

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International Studies

Below is a list of the Summer Programs and the Application Instructions for each Program. The deadline for most summer programs is February 6, 2013.

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<th>Program</th>
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<td>Summer Paris Program (Deadline 2/1/2013)</td>
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http://international.nd.edu/international-studies/
Saint Mary’s recognizes exceptional students

By JILLIAN BARWICK
Saint Mary’s Editor

A number of Saint Mary’s finest students were honored at last night’s Belles Honoring Belles dinner, an event recognizing students dedicated to pursuing a life of intellectual, aesthetic appreciation, religious sensibility and social responsibility.

Student body vice president Meghan Casey coordinated the reception for students nominated for the Belle of the Year as well as their peer nominators.

“The Belles Honoring Belles Award strives to honor students at Saint Mary’s who are passionate about their education and who strive to make a difference,” Casey said. “Each of the women nominated tonight, are examples of just this.”

For senior Silvia Cuevas, nominated senior social work major Adrienna Perales for the award was not a hard decision. She attributed the nomination to Perales’s dedication to social concerns and involvement on campus as president of the Social Work Club and a member of the Class Board.

Cuevas, who has known Perales since coming to Saint Mary’s, said recognizing her friend’s achievement was important to her.

“I just feel like this says a lot about who we are as Saint Mary’s women and what we are here for, to just be with each other,” Perales said.

“I feel that Adrienna is a prime example of all things as well as all the other nominees in this room. I have no doubt in my mind that Adrienna will show the world what Saint Mary’s women are all about.”

Perales said she was surprised to be recognized for her campus engagement by a peer so involved herself.

“I was genuinely surprised when Silvia nominated me for this, I did not expect it,” Perales said. “I feel really blessed, especially having a nomination coming from Silvia, who is the Class Board president. I am really appreciative that she sees me in this way and I am honored to be nominated.”

Nominating fellow junior Alexandra del Pilar was also an easy choice to make for junior Christine Boesler.

“I feel that Alex is the perfect example of a Belle who has embraced the community of Saint Mary’s and has challenged herself and her fears to make a difference in the world,” Boesler said.

“Alex is one of my close friends who has been there for everything that has happened at school and has helped me overcome it,” Boesler said.

Del Pilar said she did not expect the nomination.

“1 was extremely flattered when I heard I was nominated,” del Pilar said. “It just makes me happy that someone thinks this highly of me and is willing to honor my work in this way.”

Senior Maggie Galvin did not have to look far for the person she believed should be nominated.

“I nominated Amy Tiberi for this award. She is a recent friend to me this year, but I always knew who she was since freshman year at Saint Mary’s. She has been one of the most impactful friends I have had in my life,” Galvin said. “Amy can always put a smile on my face. She is so hardworking.”

Tiberi, who is an elementary education major as well as the president of Dance Marathon, is currently student teaching. Galvin noted how Tiberi is always caring for others and putting other people first.

Senior Liz Kraig, who works with Tiberi on the Dance Marathon committee, also nominated her co-worker and friend for the award.

“I think Amy really embodies what it means to be a Saint Mary’s Belle. She is always willing to help someone out and I really admire that about her,” Kraig said. “She is always planning ahead and is very organized which allows her to conquer everything she wants to do on campus and in her life.”

Other students nominated include senior Clara Ward, sophomore Megan Steron, first-year Carrie DuBee, senior Liz Kraig, senior Monica Murphy and junior Allison Gerths.

Prior to presenting the Belle of the Year Award, Casey praised all the nominees gathered.

“You all serve as a testament to the dedication and commitment that Saint Mary’s women have. The Belle of the Year always goes above and beyond the call of duty, lending a hand wherever she can,” Casey said.

Tiberi was named the 2012-2013 Belle of the Year.

“I was honored to be nominated by two of my good friends, it means a lot,” Tiberi said. “I think you spend so much time with people that you don’t realize your actions are affecting people in that way. It means a lot for them to reach out and speak about me in such kind words.”

As for receiving the Belle of the Year Award, Tiberi said she felt flattered to be recognized for all she has done at Saint Mary’s and outside of the College.

“It’s exciting, I mean people shared so many great stories of amazing women and it is a little surreal to me that I was chosen,” Tiberi said.

“There are so many people standing in such great company with me. I am happy to be the inaugural Belle of the Year.”

Contact Jillian Barwick at jjbrw01@stmarys.edu

Reactions

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

for Notre Dame.

After the first half, Edwards went over to a friend to watch the rest of the game. Edwards is from Ann Arbor, Mich., and watched the rest of the game at one of the fraternity houses on the University of Michigan’s campus with friends.

“I went over there (the fraternity house) and there were about 10 people there and no one wanted Notre Dame to win,” she said. “I was that obnoxious fan the whole time.”

At the end of the game, Edwards said she wanted to celebrate, but immediately focused on the next hurdle — getting tickets to the championship game.

“As soon as they won, I pulled out my phone to buy [national championship] tickets,” she said. “But they were $1,000, so I didn’t pull the trigger on that one.

Whether she manages to get tickets or not, Tiberi said she will probably make it to Miami to support the Irish.

“I’ll go with both family and friends,” she said. “I really hope I get tickets, but I probably will be there either way.”

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“Ever since I was born, I was destined to go here,” Wilush said. “I think he [expected Notre Dame to get to the championship] but I don’t think he knew when it would happen so he’s just as excited as I am.”

While the Irish began the season unranked and facing one of the toughest schedules in the nation, the team is undefeated for the first time since 1988, when Notre Dame took the title.

Sophomore Joseph Abbamonte confessed he did not expect Notre Dame to have a perfect season initially.

“Not at the beginning of the season, no,” he said.

The Irish will face either No. 2 Alabama or No. 3 Georgia in the BCS National Championship Game. The two teams play Saturday in the SEC Championship Game.

The Irish are 5-1 all-time against Miami for the game but fears tickets or not, Tiberi said she will probably make it to Miami to support the Irish.

“I’ll go with both family and friends,” she said. “I really hope I get tickets, but I probably will be there either way.”

Contact Anna Bourini at aab01@stmarys.edu

Reactions

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

for Notre Dame.

After the first half, Edwards went over to a friend to watch the rest of the game. Edwards is from Ann Arbor, Mich., and watched the rest of the game at one of the fraternity houses on the University of Michigan’s campus with friends.

“I went over there (the fraternity house) and there were about 10 people there and no one wanted Notre Dame to win,” she said. “I was that obnoxious fan the whole time.”

At the end of the game, Edwards said she wanted to celebrate, but immediately focused on the next hurdle — getting tickets to the championship game.

“As soon as they won, I pulled out my phone to buy [national championship] tickets,” she said. “But they were $1,000, so I did not pull the trigger on that one.”

Whether she manages to get tickets or not, Tiberi said she will probably make it to Miami to support the Irish.

“I’ll go with both family and friends,” she said. “I really hope I get tickets, but I probably will be there either way.”

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Return

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Crosswalk

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

indicate with a hand signal that they should remain on the curb.

"I think going forward if we look to say, 'How do we best address this?', we have to readily admit it's a shared responsibility amongst all people and all parties," Sexton said. "We cannot expect that one of those entities yields all the burden of this." Tim Sexton, associate vice president of State and Local Affairs, said the HAWK system is over 95 percent effective in managing crosswalks and preventing accidents. The University will fund the installation of the system, for which Sexton said he does not yet know an estimated cost.

Sexton said the project is a collaboration between the University administration, student government and St. Joseph County.

"When you look at all those different players that are touching this too, everyone is passionate," Sexton said. The HAWK system will be the first of its kind in the county, but the University would plan to install two further systems in a proposed realignment of the parking lot at the eastern edge of campus. Sexton said the project would be subject to vote by the County Council on Dec. 4, Sexton said.

"I think one of the things that this Douglas Road rerouting and this issue down at Twyckenham and Vannes is giving us opportunity to do in to put in some very, very effective pedestrian crossings," he said. "It could have been a lot worse." This intersection, located on the eastern edge of campus, has been a particular point of concern in recent weeks. Two students, both crossing Twyckenham on bikes, were involved in accidents within one week of each other. Neither student suffered severe injuries.

On Nov. 1, senior Ramon Yip was biking across the street around 9:30 p.m. in darkness when a bus hit him in the crosswalk.

"It was kind of my fault because I didn't see the bus until I was crossing the intersection already," he said. "As soon as I saw the bus, I slammed on the brakes as hard as I could and the bus driver swerved, so that helped...it could have been a lot worse." A police officer stopped to help Yip, and he was treated for a minor injury to his elbow at the hospital.

Less than a week later on Nov. 7, a car hit sophomore Monica O'Hearn as she cycled across the same crosswalk. She also suffered only minor injuries from the crash, but her roommate, senior Karen Allen, began to circulate a petition to install a stoplight at the intersection.

Yip signed the petition when he found a link to it on Facebook.

"I didn't know that multiple accidents have nearly happened or have happened there," he said. "I didn't know until I saw the petition." While Yip said the HAWK system seems to be an improvement, he hopes to see better lighting on the road in the future as well.

Seanos said incidents are more serious than the most recent incidents as sparks for the University's concern.

In October 2011, a female student suffered injuries from a car crash on campus near the A15 parking lot as she jogged across the road. Just over one month ago, Saint Mary's sophomore Zig Zhang was killed in a car accident as she biked across State Road 103 near the entrance of the College. While the intersection at Vannes and Twyckenham will be the location of the new HAWK system, Seanos said pedestrian safety on an around campus continues to be a priority for the administration.

"This is an issue that's always been there," Seanos said. "It's not new, but it seems like we have a new focus and resolve because there's just a lot of incidents that are happening so we're trying to put everyone together to say, 'Let's strategize on how best to address this.'"

County engineer Jessica Clark said in an email interview Monday this particular intersection proposed a number of challenges for pedestrians and vehicles alike as its surrounding neighborhood continues to grow.

One particular challenge at this location is sight distance, or the ability for a driver or pedestrian to sufficiently see one another and other vehicles in order to react, both looking from Vannes and when traveling on Douglas Road from Bulla Road, she said.

"The roadway profile elevation and curvature play a part in evaluating intersection at Vannes," Clark said.

The U.S. Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration have found the HAWK system and other similar systems to be "statistically significant" in reducing crashes, Clark said, and the new system was the next logical step up from the marked crosswalk and refuge islands currently at the intersection.

"The pedestrian-activated flash beacons and additional warning signage installed a few years back were installed to enhance safety," she said. "With the increase in pedestrian traffic at this location, the HAWK system provides a more protected environment for pedestrians to cross the road.

Senior Michael Masi, director of the department of University affairs in student government, said students have come to him since the start of his term in May to complain about the intersection. Student government will look to educate students and drivers about this new system in the months before its installation.

"I thought it up to [student body president Brett Bocheleau and student body vice president Kate Rose], and they've been totally on board with this idea," he said. "We're trying to figure out a way that we can also communicate this information to students, so we're more open about the process." Masi echoed the administration’s call to both drivers and students to work together to improve safety on and around campus.

"It is a shared responsibility," he said. "Students have to use what is there and resolve because there's just a lot of incidents that are happening so we're trying to put everyone together to say, 'Let's strategize on how best to address this.'"

Contact Megan Doyle at mdoyelei1@nd.edu
INSIDE COLUMN

Surreal

Sarah O'Connor
Multimedia Editor

LOS ANGELES — Surreal. That is seriously the only word I can use to describe the feeling of standing on the field in the middle of our team celebrating a victory over USC. A victory that concluded an undefeated season and a victory that clinched our spot in the national championship game.

I’ve been imagining this my entire life. I grew up in a state without any professional sports teams, and coming from a Notre Dame family, Notre Dame has always been my team. I’ve watched every single game since I can remember and I’ve had to deal with all the basing and negative comments about the irrelevance of the Notre Dame program and negative comments about the Irish ahead. Some of the challenges are there, motionless, to be surpassed. Some will actively resist, but progress only results in confronting the specter with the full knowledge of its reality. It is a message for everyone, and ultimately, it is the reason I am an Africana Studies major.

In Africana Studies, an important symbol is the Sankofa bird. Sankofa literally means, “to go back and get it” and is associated with the Akan proverb, “It is not wrong to go back for that which you have forgotten.” The symbolic bird is portrayed as reaching back into its feathers with its beak, while thrusting its chest forward, indicating the direction of its forward motion. The protrusion of the chest exposes the most vital part of the bird. It signifies that the bird is vulnerable in the present, but that the quest for truth is still necessary. The bird’s feathers represent that truth, a source of self-criticism and analysis. The talons of the bird are gripping the earth firmly, signifying that this quest is rooted in history. Inferred from the symbol of the bird is the concept that the past influences the present, in order to move forward and think about the future.

The last five minutes was the most nerve-wracking experience in my life. I just kept watching seconds fall off the clock, every second, one step closer to the final 15 seconds on the clock, every second, one step closer to the final 15 seconds on the clock. The last 15 seconds, after a Senior Day shutout, watching both as Oregon and Colorado State fell to put us No. 1 in the country.

Finally, we were only one game away from clinching our spot in the national championship game. Standing on the sidelines for the entire game, my heart was pounding. I had to use all of my power not to cheer since as a photographer, I’m supposed to remain an impartial member of the media.

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Why Africana Studies?

Alex Coccia

Coming to Notre Dame, I had no idea that Africana Studies existed. I did not know until I met Dr. Richard Pierce, former chair of the department. He gave a talk that he gives to every group of athletes in the freshman class. In the midst of lectures on NCAA rules and procedures, Dr. Pierce spoke about what it means to be a student-athlete. But it was less a speech and more a poem, a charge, a call to action, a challenge. He told us, “Don’t fear the specter”—the daunting challenges that lie ahead. Some of the challenges are there, motionless, to be surpassed. Some will actively resist, but progress only results in confronting the specter with the full knowledge of its reality. It is a message for everyone, and ultimately, it is the reason I am an Africana Studies major.

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Isn’t this ultimately the challenge that education provides? Two prominent Africana Studies scholars state that education “dispels ignorance, bolsters courage and gives insight into the important social phenomena that shape human relationships.” The Sankofa bird is the embodiment of one who does not fear the challenges of a self-critical education. Africana Studies is a series of courses that act as a set of practical applications for discovering and addressing one’s own socializations. It forces students to tear down preconceived notions of Africa and the diaspora, providing the wisdom necessary to move forward in the pursuit of justice. It forces students to confront their own internal prejudices in examining African and African-American influence on multiple facets of society. Rather than simply administering course material that is the expansion of a body of knowledge about the world and the way it functions, the African and African-American experience as a course of study is an inherently socially and politically active experience. It is prophetic and a social corrective without being self-exculpatory.

Africana Studies is inherently prophetic as a basis to better understand the world, and one’s own socializations and how they impact perspective of this world. The combination of this understanding creates an indissoluble and formidable platform to move from the way the world is to the way the world should be. We have to go back for what we have forgotten, whether that is a previous relationship or mode of understanding. We have to be willing to see the world as it was, because our current environment is a product of that world. If we are truly going to make progress as a society, we must be agents moving forward in our pursuit of justice but always being ground in the realities of the past and present. Africana Studies focuses on agency in human history by creating the space for the voices of those silenced throughout the historical process and silenced by the dominant paradigms in which we are socialized, a study rewarding in and of itself. Africana Studies stresses respect for each individual and his or her diversity, addresses the lack of appreciation for and knowledge of other cultures within academia and the need for a social and corrective dimension within education and establishes multicultural education as a tool for one to learn to be comfortable in the midst of paradigm shifts.

Symbolically, the most important part of the Sankofa bird is its vulnerability, and its pursuit for truth nonetheless. One of the most frightening moments in our lives is when the pillars of our socializations upon which we rely for our bearings and paradigms are no longer veiled in a mythic past untouchable to the inquiry of the mind and crumble down until what is left is the foundation and soul of humanity. Upon that foundation we can build. This moment is the most frightening, but it is also the most liberating. Africana Studies begins this process. Africana Studies in and of itself is a call to action and a challenge of self-analysis. No matter how frightening, it is a task we must undertake. Indeed, we must not fear the specter.

Alex Coccia is a junior Africana and Peace Studies major and a Gender Studies minor. He appreciates classroom conversations in Black Politics in Multinational America. He can be reached at atocci@nd.edu.

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

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“Champions aren’t made in gyms. Champions are made from something they have deep inside them—a desire, a dream, a vision.”

Muhammad Ali
professional boxer and social activist

Submit a Letter to the Editor | Email obsviewpoint@gmail.com
Where there is life, there is hope

Elliott Pearce
The Human Interest

Like most of my Viewpoint columns this year, I drew the inspiration for this one from a conversation I had. I was discussing abortion (big subject) with someone who did not share my opinion on the subject (another big surprise).

This conversation went much better than they usually do, which I attribute to the honesty and open-mindedness of my interlocutor. At one point, she made an interesting and unusual argument by supposing that the fetus is a human person, but that it would still be better for that person to be aborted than to be born into the situation that the children of parents considering abortion find themselves in.

Her argument went something like this: A child’s parent or parents consider abortion because they are not prepared to take care of the child and/or because they do not want to at that time. Therefore, if that child was born instead of aborted, its parents would not love it adequately, causing it lasting emotional and psychological harm. Because of their difficult financial and other circumstances, they would also not be able to provide it adequate education, health care, nutrition and enrichment activities like music, art and sports. All in all, the child would grow up unfulfilled and unhappy. Therefore, it would be better if that child had not lived in the first place.

There are a few obvious responses to this argument. One could say that it is presumptuous and wrong to claim that people born into difficult situations cannot overcome the circumstances of their birth to lead happy and successful lives. Raising from rags to riches is what America is all about. I am not equating happiness with financial success, either.

Those who are born poor and remain poor can still achieve more meaningful fulfillment than they could find in money. I also believe that the same holds true for sickness. Today, when doctors identify an irreparable birth defect in the womb, they almost always advise the parents to abort.

If the asked the parents of these children who were not aborted whether they considered the birth of their child a blessing and a joy, however, I bet that the parents’ answers would not be unanimously “no.” I myself have made the take of arguing on these very pages that someone should be denied an opportunity because it would put him in too difficult of a situation. I would be easy for me to dismiss this line of reasoning as another instance of that. Anyone who believes in Christianity must take this argument seriously, however, because the Bible does.

In the book of Job, God’s faithful servant endures the day he was born. Job suffers so terribly that it makes all the good things he has experienced in life seem insignificant by comparison. He wishes God had never given him a family, land, herds or even life itself because he got all from these things only served to heighten the pain he experienced when God took them away.

God restores Job’s happiness at the end of the book, but he doesn’t always do that in real life. For every example of a person who overcomes difficult circumstances to succeed, there is another example of a person who plunges from happiness into despair like Job. Should we grant the potential Jobs in society their wish by ensuring that those who are most likely to experience terrible suffering are never born?

I don’t think so. Job’s story makes one crucial point that I have not yet discussed: Anyone, perhaps especially those to whom God has given the most, can fall on hard times like Job. We cannot predict the outcomes of people’s lives with any kind of certainty. Even if we use our most sophisticated statistical methods to determine that a given person has a 99 percent chance of dying of multiple stab wounds in jail while experiencing heroin withdrawal, there is still a one percent chance that this person could live a happy life. Likewise, many of those who are born with every advantage end up suffering terrible misfortunes.

Just as we cannot predict the outcomes of other people’s lives, we cannot predict our own, either. Some of us may already have struggled with difficulties like those the children of parents considering abortion face. Even if we have avoided these challenges, we have no assurance that this will continue for the rest of our lives, or that the other difficulties we face will not bring us even more suffering (and more opportunity for triumph). By extending life into “life worth living” and “life not worth living,” Wherever there is life, there is hope, so if there is hope for us, there is hope for the unborn, too.

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The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Here are two fun facts about the “Now That’s What I Call Music!” series:

1. It’s been around since 1983 (it was released in the U.K. primarily until 1998). The Berlin Wall was still standing.
2. Not even counting the spinoff series (which includes separate U.S. releases, since this is a U.K. original), there are 83 of them. Eighty-three. That’s more albums than Lady Gaga and Ke$ha have combined!

This series has been around forever, and its long and storied history is rich with one-hit wonders, terrible songs and easy-to-make jokes. Too much for one column, for sure.


Cassette tapes were a thing once. Even better, vinyl.

The 1983 original, fondly known as “Now 1,” was released in vinyl land, in attempt to be ahead of the technological curve, cassette tape. It was released in the U.K. initially, and reached number one in the U.K. charts in 1983, on the back of 11 songs that reached number one on the U.K. singles chart.

That Duran Duran was SO hot back then.

Duran Duran is featured seven times in the first eight albums. Phil Collins, Peter Gabriel and Genesis are featured a collective eight times on the first eight, but it wasn’t all under one banner, so they don’t get their own “Zoolander” reference.

Send a thank you note, Aerosmith

The eighth installment, in 1986, featured a single from up and coming rap group Run-D.M.C., “Walk This Way.” The wildly popular single featured the rap trio of Run, D.M.C. and Jam-Master Jay (pour one out) rapping over one of Aerosmith’s early hits of the same name. In addition to adding to the popularity of Run-D.M.C., the single helped revitalize Aerosmith’s career. Far better or worse, I suppose.

There’s a band named Bananarama?

Apparently there’s a British female pop group by the name of Bananarama. Their music and name isn’t recognizable, but they made more than one appearance on “Now” in the ’80s.

Just realizing how British these things are.

The 15th edition, in 1985, included Gladys Knight’s James Bond theme song, “License to Kill.” That sounds like an awfully British thing to do, so checking down the other artists on the list, it becomes apparent just how much of a British influence there is on these albums. They weren’t released in the U.S. until 1998.

Let’s show England how good American music can be…give em Paula Abdul.

In the first ‘90s release, the Brits were treated to that cornerstone of American music tradition, Paula Abdul, in the form of her single, “Opposites Attract.” It also featured Tina Turner, but with one of her less popular tracks in “I Don’t Wanna Lose You.”

More like two-hit wonder, am I right?

Vanilla Ice.


Not exactly a trendsetter, are you?

By the end of 1992, “Now” had featured three MC Hammer songs, at least two songs popular in the early ‘90s and one song by the Monty Python crew. Nirvana and Pearl Jam, who at the time were revolutionizing rock music in America, are nowhere to be seen.

Posthumous poor taste.


Blur had more than one song.

Blur, most famous for “Song 2” in which they yell a bunch in the chorus, has a song, “Girls and Boys,” featured on the 28th edition in 1994. Who knew?

Duran Duran just won’t go away.

The band keeps popping up throughout the ‘90s, including the 31st edition in 1995 with “White Lines (Don’t Do It).” Somebody in that band’s uncle must’ve worked for the producers of the album.

Finally, one where I recognize the songs.

The 34th edition, in 1998, features the Spice Girls with “Wannabe,” 2pac with “California Love” and Oasis with “Wonderwall.” This is my favorite one so far. Also, Blur has even more songs. Color me blown away.

CHUMBAWUMBA

In the last edition before they started releasing in the U.S. they start it off right with “Tubthumping,” by Chumbawumba. In the first track. That’s what’s up.

British Invasion of “Now Music” isn’t quite as cool as the Beatles, but it’s okay.

The first exclusive U.S. release is in 1998, featuring some classic ‘90s tracks. “Flagpole Sitta,” “Sex and Candy” and “Mmmbop” are all a part of the action.

1999 is the peak.

Two of the U.S. releases in 1999 have some of the best tracks on any of the releases to that point, including singles from Smashmouth, Jay-Z, Blink 182, Britney Spears, Enrique Iglesias, Faithful Slim and the Backstreet Boys. Going out on top. Hike it.

Contact Kevin Noonan at knoonan2@nd.edu

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

Listen to the playlist online at ndsmcobserver.com/scene

‘Now!’ playlist

01 “99 Red Balloons”
Nena

02 “Livin’ on a Prayer”
Bon Jovi

03 “In the Air Tonight”
Phil Collins

04 “Walk This Way”
Run-D.M.C.

05 “Bohemian Rhapsody”
Queen

06 “Creep”
Radiohead

07 “The Way”
Fastball

08 “…Baby One More Time”
Britney Spears

09 “What I Got”
Sublime

10 “Mmmbop”
Hanson
good bread. The salads are not for the faint of heart, es in more of a e uropean style with fresh veggies, For those on the run, there are colorful sandwich-chowder, even macaroni and cheese) with bread-soups you know and love (broccoli and cheese, clam there's some favorite choices from the dining hall thing to hit the spot. For those looking to warm up, there is now the promise of a cheerful escape for the cold to make it over to laFortune, you can feed without having to leave the library or brave the scene writer

By KEVIN NOONAN

“Au Bon Pain’s greatest asset is that it usually doesn’t out leaving the building — and the choices are far better than vending machine snacks. Perhaps its greatest asset is that Au Bon Pain usually doesn’t close until 10 p.m., much later than some cafes on campus that close around dinnertime. And if you’re looking for a place to meet up or take a break, there are booths inside and a few tables right below Touchdown Jesus for warmer weather days. Along with the Taco Bell/Pizza Hut, Au Bon Pain is a much-needed new food addition to campus that will be well used and appreciated by students.

Contact Claire Stephens at cstephe4@nd.edu

By CLAIRE STEPHENS

In what was once an empty and dreary little corner near to Carey Auditorium in the Hesburgh Library is now the bright, sunny addition of Au Bon Pain. Though it may seem like other cafes on campus, the choices it has to offer fills the gaps be tween other eateries on campus. If you’re looking for a fresh and fast meal or just a snack, Au Bon Pain is the right place. Finals are looming over us, but there is now the promise of a cheerful escape for food during the long hours of studying/procrasti nating. Without having to leave the library or brave the cold to make it over to LaFortune, you can feed that craving for something delicious.

While many campus cafes and eateries offer the same grab-and-go choices, Au Bon Pain offers fresh and unique options that are hearty enough to be a small meal. The small space holds a surprising se lection of sandwiches, soups, salads and pastries. The best part about Au Bon Pain’s food? Everything is good. There’s nothing in the place that doesn’t look fresh and there’s sure to be some thing to hit the spot. For those looking to warm up, there’s some favorite choices from the dining hall soups you know and love (broccoli and cheese, clam chowder, even macaroni and cheese) with bread stick choices to go with them, from cheesy to spicy. For those on the run, there are colorful sandwich es in more of a European style with fresh veggies, fresh cheese, and as the name of the place suggests, good bread. The salads are not for the faint of heart, freedom to slaves, concerned that an influx of freed slaves will lead to job losses and other social destruction in the North. Republicans in Congress are split into two camps: those who think the amend ment doesn’t do enough and would like to see enfranchisement and other rights included, and those who believe the war can be ended more peacefully by negoti ating with the rebels rather than passing the amendment.

Lincoln focuses his entire energy on the amendment, neglecting his wife and fami ly, leading to internal strife in the White House that only adds to his stress. The film sprints through its elements, giving the audience little time to process each individual event and leading to some confusions. At the same time, however, each scene feels like it’s taken straight out of a textbook, with more emphasis on historical accuracy than engrossing narrative. While this is an admirable trait and a tes tament to Spielberg’s dedication to mak ing historical films with true integrity, it does not always lead to the most exciting storylines.

The movie is based on the 2005 non-fiction tome “Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln” by Doris Kearns Goodwin. The book is 944 pages long, which probably leads to the feeling that there was more depth to this story than was told on screen.

For all its shortcomings, however, the film is impeccably acted. Daniel Day Lewis as Lincoln delivers a performance unlike any in recent history. It was impos sible to see Day Lewis on the screen under the makeup and lines there was simply Lincoln.

The performance is without a doubt the saving grace and defining monument of this film, taking it from a film about Lincoln to the definitive Lincoln film.

The rest of the ensemble delivers strong performances all around. Sally Field as Sally Field shines as Lincoln’s troubled and neglected wife Mary Todd, and their anxiety-filled relationship gives both vulner ability and humanity to the otherwise immortal figure that is Lincoln. James Spader and Tommy Lee Jones, as political swindler William Bilbo and cantankerous radical Republican Congressional leader Thaddeus Stevens, respectively, give the film much needed comic relief. Lee Jones particularly gives one of the better “cranky old man” displays of his career, and proves that he still has some fire left.

The sets and visuals of the film are also impressive. The film is believably set in the Civil War times, and seems completely organic instead of forced or silly. The film is well made, and Day-Lewis will almost certainly be a top contender for a Best Actor Academy Award, but the story itself is less than exciting.
Kent State, NIU could bust BCS

Sam Gans
Sports Writer

Three weeks ago, it looked like absolute chaos was about to reign in the BCS world. Four undefeated teams, two spots in the championship game.

Of course, things changed quickly and controversy was averted. Baylor destroyed Kansas State in the Big 12 championship game and Stanford, even Alabama couldn’t stop Johnny Football, though that loss proves meaningless now.

So we ended up with undefeated Notre Dame versus a one-loss SEC champion for all the marbles with seemingly no complaints. Everything is okay now, right?

Well, as far as only Jan. 7 in Miami is concerned, probably. But an interesting situation is brewing far down the BCS standings that could have a ripple effect on the BCS bowls, and due to that, other bowl match-ups, as well.

BCS rules stipulate that a non-BCS conference champion that both finishes in the top 16 of the final BCS standings and finishes ahead of any BCS conference champion receive a berth in a BCS game.

Currently, MAC member Kent State sits at No. 17 in the BCS standings with a record of 11-1. The Golden Flashes will face fellow 11-1 opponent No. 21 Northern Illinois in the MAC Championship Game on Saturday.

If the season ended today, neither would qualify. However, there is one more week. Right now, if the No. 17 Huskies and the No. 18 Bruins face Stanford on Friday in the Pac-12 Championship and if the Cardinal win—which seems likely based on both Stanford’s shellacking of UCLA last week and the two teams’ seasons—a win by the Golden Flashes will almost certainly move them into the top 16, as long as No. 18 Texas also loses to Kansas State.

The road appears to be a little tougher for the Huskies. They would also need Texas and UCLA to lose, and hope their victory over the Golden Flashes would be enough to vault them over No. 19 Michigan and No. 20 Boise State. Should that happen, they would also finish in the top 16.

Of course, that’s only half the battle. As mentioned, not only does a non-BCS conference champion have to be in the top 16, it has to be ranked ahead of a BCS conference champion, as well. But it seems all but assured the MAC champion will.

The Rutgers-Louisville game Thursday night is the de facto Big East championship game, and neither of those teams are in the current top 25 in the BCS.

Some people would be thrilled to have the little guy make a BCS game, especially one with a loss and one that doesn’t play on blue turf. It would also remove a nice payday for the MAC.

But if Kent State or Northern Illinois qualify for a BCS game, it would result in another non-exciting matchup.

The national championship will be Notre Dame against the Georgia-Alabama winner. The Rose will get the Big Ten and Pac-12 winners—likely Nebraska and Stanford, respectively. One of the spots in the Fiesta will go to the Big 12 champion—probably Kansas State—and one of the spots in the Orange will go to the ACC champion—probably Florida State. The Sugar would then get a pick to fill one of its slots to replace the SEC champion who made the national championship and will almost certainly take Florida of the SEC, and then take the second at-large selection and will take Oregon to play Kansas State.

This leaves two spots remaining, one in the Sugar and one in the Orange, with the Sugar selecting first. Should the Golden Flashes or the Huskies not qualify for a BCS game, the choice for the Sugar to play the Gators seems easy: Oklahoma. The Orange would be forced to take the Big East champion, either Louisville or Rutgers.

This would unfortunately leave one mediocre game—Florida State versus Rutgers or Louisville in the Orange—but the other four would be at worst intriguing and potentially extremely competitive.

But if the MAC champion does make it, the Sugar would likely be Florida against the Big East champion and the Orange would be Florida State versus the MAC champion, two pathetic contests. The Sooners would be out of a BCS game, a tough break for football fans.

People may say I’m being unfair, but it is hard to be excited about either Kent State or Northern Illinois, and not just because of their names. Kent State was the only FBS opponent to lose to Kentucky last season, and by a whopping 33 points. Northern Illinois lost to 4-8 Iowa.

There are the teams that could quite possibly make a BCS game (either Rutgers or Louisville making it is also ridiculous, but that’s for a different column). Be prepared and willing to accept it now.

Contact Sam Gans at sgans@nd.edu

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

NCAA FOOTBALL

Teams cheer for rivals

Associated Press

NORMAN, Okla. — Casey Walker looked squarely into a television camera, clapped his hands and uttered words no Oklahoma player is accustomed to saying: “Let’s go Texas!”

Archival for decades, the No. 12 Sooners (9-2, 7-1 Big 12) are pulling for the 23rd-ranked Longhorns to upset No. 7 Kansas State this week with their only chance to win an outright conference title riding on it.

So, Casey, how about flashing a Hook’em Horns — right side up instead of upside down this time?

“That’s too far,” he said.

Like clockwork, Bob Stoops his team in position to contend for a Big 12 championship just in time for December.

If history holds, the Sooners will win at TCU (7-4, 4-4) on Saturday and get the help they need from Texas to claim the conference crown outright.

After all, Oklahoma has won the Big 12 championship in every even-numbered year since Stoops has been the coach.

Is cheering for the Longhorns uncomfortable? Sure. But in this case, it’s whatever it takes.

“I guess now I’m OK with it because we need them to handle business, so then that puts us in a better spot,” Walker said. “So, that’s all right.”

If that scenario doesn’t materialize, the Sooners’ BCS chances could be in jeopardy, and rest in the unlikely hands of the Orange, with the Sugar set next.

So, that’s all right.

“I don’t know anything about all of that other stuff. You guys probably know way more than I do,” he just know we’ve got to play TCU.

That’s all that Oklahoma can control at this point. With the Big 12 membership falling to 10 teams, there’s no longer a championship game to decide it all. The closest to that came in September, when Kansas State won on the Sooners’ home field.

That would be the tiebreaker if both teams win — or lose — on Saturday.

“That’s why every game is so important now in the regular season. Once you get into conference, every game is important. Typically to be the conference champion, you have to not lose a game in conference,” quarterback Landry Jones said.

“It’s an ideal world, we all want the championship game to have another redemption and big storybook ending, but that’s not the way it is,” he said.

“We have to play the hand that we’ve been dealt and really just go after it, win this game and then see what happens in the end.”

A year ago, the Sooners had more control of their own destiny in the season finale. With a win at Oklahoma State, Oklahoma could have tied for first place and claimed the tiebreaker in the process. At that point, Stoops was emphasizing the Big 12’s “One True Champion” campaign and dismissing the thought of co-champions.

Now, he’s changed his tune and said he’d have no problem accepting a split conference championship.

“I brought that up in our Big 12 meetings but they haven’t changed anything,” Stoops said. “You play the hand you have.”

“That’s what the rules are,” he added. “I don’t make them.”


“It’s difficult and challenging with all the excellence there is in the Big 12,” he said. “I think this is 11 of the last 13 years we’ve been in the last game with championship implications,” Stoops said. “It’s all always tough. It’s hard to do. This game will be equally tough to go down and give ourselves an opportunity to win.”

Oklahoma players Bronson Irwin, left, and Jalen Saunders celebrate during the Sooners’ 51-48 win over Oklahoma State on Saturday.

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Notre Dame office, 304 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

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SPORTS AUTHORITY
Longoria, Rays reach 10-year deal

Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Evan Longoria wants to be with the Tampa Bay Rays for his entire big league career.

The slugging third baseman got his wish Monday when they Rays agreed to a $136.6 million, 10-year contract that adds six guaranteed seasons and $100 million.

“I always wanted to be kind of a benchmark player … the guy that you could think about or associate with the organization,” Longoria said. “My goal from Day One was to be the first player that played their whole career here, to be the first guy that came into the organization and went out in the organization, and played all the years in between. There’s no better place for me.”

The agreement with the three-time All-Star incorporates the remainder of the 27-year-old’s existing contract, which called for him to earn $36.6 million over the next four seasons. The new deal includes a team option for 2023 that could make the deal worth $144.6 million over 11 years.

“It’s a very exciting day for us,” Rays principal owner Stuart Sternberg said. “For Evan to have the confidence in us, and I know the confidence that we have in him, to re-up so to speak for the long haul. This is just an enormous commitment for us.”

Longoria said a no-trade provision is not included in the deal, although after 2017 he would have a right to block trades as a 10-year veteran who spent his last five years with the same team.

Just six games into his major league career, Longoria agreed in April 2008 to a $17.5 million, six-year contract that included club options potentially making the deal worth $44 million over nine seasons.

“The significance of this is not lost on anybody,” Rays executive vice president of baseball operations Andrew Friedman said. “We’re extending that commitment now.”

His new deal calls for a $5,000,180 signing bonus — the $180 is for good luck. Of the signing bonus, $1,000,180 is new money payable Dec. 15 and the rest is pair of $2 million payments on Feb. 15 and June 14. His 2013 salary is reduced from $6 million to $2 million.


Tampa Bay holds a $13 million option for 2023 with a $5 million buyout, and escalators could raise the option price to $18 million.

Longoria became just the seventh player with a contract guaranteed through 2020. Milwaukee outfielder Ryan Braun, Detroit first baseman Prince Fielder, Chicago Cubs outfielder Jorge Soler and Colorado shortstop Troy Tulowitzki have deals covering the next eight years, with Los Angeles Angels first baseman Albert Pujols’ contract running through 2024. Albert Pujols’ contract running through 2024.

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A two-time American League MVP, the Rays’ third baseman Evan Longoria celebrates his home run during the sixth inning of Tampa Bay’s 4-1 victory over Baltimore on Oct. 3. Longoria agreed to a 10-year, $136.6 million contract with the Rays.

Ray’s third baseman Evan Longoria celebrates his home run during the sixth inning of Tampa Bay’s 4-1 victory over Baltimore on Oct. 3. Longoria agreed to a 10-year, $136.6 million contract with the Rays.

The Rays were at 92-70 during the winter and will not participate in next year’s World Baseball Classic. Tampa Bay was 41-44 during Longoria’s absence, and 47-27 with him in the starting lineup. The two-time AL Gold Glove winner and 2008 AL Rookie of the Year ranks second on the Rays career list with 130 home runs, third with 456 RBIs and fourth with 161 doubles.

Longoria is one of 11 active players to average at least 25 homers and 90 RBIs during his first five seasons.

Longoria will donate more than $1 million during the contract to the Rays Baseball Foundation, the team’s charitable foundation.

Sternberg said this deal does not rule out the possibility of signing other Tampa Bay players to multiyear contracts, such as AL Cy Young Award winner David Price. The Rays were at the bottom of the big leagues in home attendance this year.

“Of the challenges we’ll have is figuring out how to take the next step for our organization,” Sternberg said.

Tampa Bay and Longoria had brief, preliminary contract talks before the season began and resumed discussions after the season ended.

“We kind of tried to find a middle ground to where we would able to do some things to be able to afford some players to put ourselves in a position to win every year,” Longoria said. “And I told them from the beginning that I didn’t want to be the one sucking up all the payroll so we can’t afford anybody else.”
Belles struggle to win at Thanksgiving Classic

Saint Mary’s had a challenging Thanksgiving break, as the Belles (2-3, 0-0 MAIA) fell in both games of the Saint Mary’s College Thanksgiving Classic at their home court.

“This past weekend played two veteran teams,” Belles coach Jennifer Henley said. “Despite both losses, we saw some great moments of basketball from our young squad.”

On Saturday Saint Mary’s faced Otterbein in the first game of the tournament. The Belles fell behind the Cardinals (3-1), early on, and by the midway point of the first half, the Belles had fallen behind by nine points. Saint Mary’s freshman forward Krista Knape helped keep the Belles in the game, though, as she hit a pair of jumpers along with two free throws to bring the score within six points. Knape continued to score and had a team-high 13 points in the game, but it was not enough for the Belles, as the Cardinals were able to pull away and gain a 14-point advantage by halftime. Knape, along with a number of other freshmen, have helped provide offense for the team this year. Coach Henley said the younger players have provided a spark to the team.

“Last year we graduated five seniors and knew this season we would be very young,” Henley said. “This year’s squad is highly energetic and very passionate about the game. They play hard each and every day and continue to get better.”

Saint Mary’s had a quick turnaround from its Saturday contest, as they played Ohio Northern on Sunday afternoon, but fell again. The Belles were tied with the Polar Bears (4-1) by the score of 13-13, before Ohio Northern tallied 11 straight points in a four-minute run to bring the score within six points.

By BRENDAN BELL
Sports Writer

Sophomore forward Ariana Paul runs to retrieve the ball in last year’s season opener against Wheaton on Nov. 15, 2011. St. Mary’s won 66-63 in that game, but lost a pair of games this weekend.

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Grant, Martin lead Irish to top Chicago State

By MATTHEW DEFRANKS
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame used blistering shooting and timely runs to romp over Chicago State 92-65 Monday night in its final tune-up before a prime-time matchup with Kentucky on Thursday.

Junior guard Jerian Grant scored 22 points on 9-of-11 shooting while graduate student guard Scott Martin returned to the lineup with 11 points — all in the first half. Grant also added a career-high 10 assists.

“I’m just playing my game, kind of like I was last year, not putting a lot of pressure on myself, just going out there and playing like I usually do,” Grant said.

Notre Dame (6-1) shot 61 percent and knocked down 12 3-pointers, including 10 in the first half. Between the two teams, there was only one two-point basket in the first 6:59 of play and Notre Dame did not score inside the arc until 11:42 was left in the first half.

“I thought our offensive rhythm was good tonight and that’s something we’ll need not only Thursday but also down the road,” Irish coach Mike Brey said. “Our offensive identity and flow has gotten better here in the last seven or eight days and not a moment too soon with what’s coming Thursday.”

The Cougars (1-6) went nearly four minutes in the first half without scoring a field goal, allowing the Irish lead to balloon from three to 11. The Irish used separate 10-3, 12-2 and 12-3 runs to build a 51-32 halftime lead.

“When we’re knocking down shots and running up and down the floor, coach just lets us go,” Grant said. “That’s the good thing about Coach, he lets us play and when we play like that, we’re hard to beat.”

Notre Dame’s 51 first-half points were the most it scored in a half this season. The Irish scored 49 points in the second half against Monmouth on Nov. 12. Notre Dame’s 26 assists were also a season-high.

The Irish topped their previous season high for points with almost five minutes to go in the game. Notre Dame had six players score in double-figures for the first time this season and also had five players hit at least two 3-pointers.

After scoring 30 points from behind the arc in the first half, the Irish pounded the Cougars inside after halftime, scoring 30 of their 42 points in the paint in the second half.

“They weren’t really guarding us on the perimeter and in the second half, they switched it and over-exaggerated the perimeter so we could just drive by,” Irish senior forward Jack Cooley said. “So we played how the game dictated.”

The Irish turned a blowout into a rout by scoring 18 consecutive points over nearly six minutes in the second half, highlighted by six from senior center Garrick Sherman. Sherman finished the contest with 12 points.

Chicago State hit three of its first four shots but cooled down after that, shooting 36 percent for the game. Sophomore guard Clarke Rosenberg led the Cougars with 16 points.

The Irish will welcome defending national champion and No. 8 Kentucky to Purcell Pavilion on Thursday night for Notre Dame’s biggest non-conference test of the season. Tip-off is set for 7 p.m.

“[I thought our offensive rhythm was good tonight and that’s something we’ll need not only Thursday but also down the road].”

Mike Brey
Irish coach

Junior guard Jerian Grant goes up for a layup during a game against Chicago State on Nov. 26. The Irish won 92-65 and Grant contributed 22 points to the victory. Six members of the squad scored double-digits for the first time this season.

“[I’m just playing my game, kind of like I was last year, not putting a lot of pressure on myself, just going out there and playing like I usually do].”

Jerian Grant
Junior guard

Contact Matthew DeFranks at mdefrank@nd.edu

SARAH O’CONNOR | The Observer

junior guard Jerian Grant

junior guard

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Mike Brey
Irish coach
Irish reach milestone with pair of wins

By BRIAN HARTNETT
Sports Writer

No. 5 Notre Dame made the most of its Thanksgiving trip to California, as the Irish beat No. 19 UCLA 76-64 on Friday at Pauley Pavilion in Los Angeles.

“It was a huge win for us,” Irish coach Muffet McGraw said of the victory. “[UCLA] is a really good team, a top 20 team, that just got a really good road win against Oklahoma and was feeling really confident heading into the game.”

The Irish (4-0) struggled out of the gate against the Bruins (2-1), falling behind 10-3 early and burning a timeout four minutes into the game. Notre Dame responded with a 15-2 run, which allowed the Irish to carry a 36-29 lead into halftime.

Notre Dame came out strong in the second half, going on an 8-2 run to open the lead to 44-31. UCLA closed the deficit to eight after a layup by Bruins senior forward Markel Walker with 13:42 left in the game, but the Bruins would never come any closer, as the Irish rebounded with another 8-2 burst to help seal the victory.

Although the Irish held UCLA to 39 percent shooting, McGraw said she was disappointed with her team’s transition defense against the Bruins.

“In the UCLA game, we gave up way too many transition baskets, and we didn’t do a good job of matching up in transition,” she said. “I think we can rotate a little bit better, and we can rebound much better than we did.”

Freshman guard Jewell Loyd led the Irish with 19 points, while junior guard Kayla McBride chipped in with 18 points. Junior forward Natalie Achonwa logged her third double-double of the season, as she racked up 10 points and 10 rebounds.

The victory over UCLA came three days after the Irish exploded offensively in a 93-36 rout of Mercer in Purcell Pavilion.

Notre Dame jumped out to a 12-0 lead over the Bears (3-1) and never looked back, as it took a 48-12 lead at halftime. The Irish shot nearly 54 percent from the field and outscored the Bears 60-12 in the paint.

“I think we have a lot of good offensive players and a lot of people that can score,” McGraw said. “We’re very comfortable sharing the ball, and we’re a very unselfish team. We were executing the offense pretty well, setting good screens and using these screens a lot in transition.”

Achonwa recorded a double-double in just 18 minutes of action, scoring a career-high 22 points and grabbing 10 rebounds. Loyd contributed 19 points on 8-of-10 shooting in 19 minutes against the Bears.

For her efforts against Mercer and UCLA, Loyd was named Big East Freshman of the Week on Monday, becoming the sixth Notre Dame rookie in the past five seasons to receive the award.

McGraw said Loyd has become a major force on the boards for the Irish and can contribute in multiple ways offensively.

“[Loyd] is somebody that can rebound, which is a big need we have,” McGraw said. “She’s able to come out and give us a big person on the boards that can really compete with a lot of the athletes we’re facing. She can score in a lot of different ways. With the way the offense is running right now, she’s got an opportunity to go backdoor, but she can also come off ball screens.”

Notre Dame also made its 100th consecutive appearance in the Associated Press poll on Monday, becoming one of just six schools in the country to achieve that milestone.

Notre Dame will return to the court Thursday when the Irish travel to McGuirk Arena in Mount Pleasant, Mich., to face Central Michigan.

Contact Brian Hartnett at bhartnet@nd.edu

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Irish receive at-large bid to NCAA despite loss

By CONOR KELLY
Sports Writer

Just a day after spending Thanksgiving as a team at the home of Irish coach Debbie Brown, the Irish traveled to Athens, Ohio, for their final regular season game against the Bobcats on Friday, unsure of whether their season would be continuing after the game.

Though Notre Dame (20-9) fell to Ohio (16-11), the team received the good news it had been awaiting when the NCAA selection committee awarded the Irish an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament Sunday.

Scheduled as a tune-up with the hope and expectation of NCAA play, the match against Ohio proved to expose Notre Dame’s propensity for slow starts as the Bobcats raced out to a 2-0 lead before the Irish could claw their way back into the match. Behind sophomore outside hitter Chelsea Bilger’s 18 kills, Ohio frustrated Notre Dame in the first two games, winning each by a score of 25-23. The Irish pulled even with wins in the third and fourth games and had the score tied at 11 in the fifth, but the Bobcats rolled off the last four points of the decisive game for the victory.

“We definitely fell short of our expectation,” Irish coach Debbie Brown said. “We had a sluggish start and got down early when we were really playing high-error and not executing the way that we have to. I thought we played well in sets three and four, but it’s disappointing that we dug ourselves a hole like that.”

Sophomore outside hitters Jeni Houser and Toni Alhagbe led the offensive effort for the Irish, registering 16 and 13 kills respectively. Junior Maggie Brindock notched 48 assists in the loss.

The defeat was the third in a row for the Irish, dating back to Notre Dame’s loss against Marquette. Despite the cold streak, Brown said the confidence of her team in its ability to execute has not ebbed.

“I think it’s hard to tell whether confidence is lacking, but I don’t think that it is,” Brown said. “We know what we’re capable of doing, and in the matches where we weren’t successful I think we can identify how we played poorly. I think we can address those problems and be in a good place to compete going forward.”

Even after the match, the Irish still did not know their NCAA fate until it was announced during the tournament selection show Sunday. Despite a disappointing first-round defeat to South Florida in the Big East tournament, a 13-2 conference record and a challenging non-conference schedule, the tournament committee awarded the Irish the at-large bid.

Despite the loss to Ohio, Notre Dame hopes that the match will help bridge the gap between the regular season and the postseason.

“It’s really important to have played in this time period, with the hope and knowledge that we are going to keep playing,” Brown said. “They’re a very talented, senior-heavy group that is quite experienced.”

The Irish will take on the Buckeyes on Friday at 5 p.m. at Memorial Coliseum in Lexington, Ky.

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middle part of that period which caused the whole thing to happen. Just too much emotion. We’re going to have to learn how to deal with that because that’ll cost us when in matters most.” Some of that emotion may have stemmed from a frustrating 2-1 loss the night before that saw Saunders turn away 35 Notre Dame shots and an official prematurely blow a play dead in the crease just before Lee poked the puck over the goal line in the game’s final minute. Both Lee and Jackson expressed their disapproval to the officials, but to no avail. The Irish outshot North Dakota 36-17 in Friday’s contest but were unable to crack Saunders for most of the night. North Dakota opened up a 2-0 in the second period lead that the Irish were never able to overcome, despite a power play tally by Lee off a feed from freshman forward Mario Lucia. The Irish poured 22 shots on Saunders in the second and third periods, but the junior netminder turned aside all but one.

Speaking Saturday of Friday’s game, Jackson noted that tough calls and hot goaltenders were just some of the things a resilient team must face. “That’s a real downer the way we didn’t win that game or tie that game last night,” Jackson said. “Everyone goes through those games where you have bad breaks. You have to have the ability to respond to it which our guys did tonight.”

The Irish are now 5-4 in November as they look ahead to a home series against Lake Superior State this weekend. Coming out of series against top teams in Michigan, Western Michigan and Boston College, Jackson expressed satisfaction in his team’s play. “We got through it over .500 which is really important,” Jackson said. “It helps us confidence-wise and that’s why we play the tough games.” Notre Dame will face Lake Superior State at 7:35 p.m. on Friday at the Compton Family Ice Arena.

Contact Conor Kelly at ckkelly17@nd.edu

Richard

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

senior goalkeeper Luis Soffner. However, just 56 seconds later, the Hoosiers tied the game when Kotlov finished a cross inside the 6-yard box from junior midfielder A.J. Corrado.

“That’s disappointing,” Clark said. “The next five minutes is a very important time (to hold the lead after scoring a goal) and we didn’t do that so that was disappointing. I think if we had held it, then you frustrate them and then you get into the game, but that was the way it came today.”

The match was the second meeting between the two squads this season. Both were decided by one goal, as the Irish defeated the Hoosiers 1-0 in Bloomington, Ind., on Sept. 26.

The Hoosiers dominated most of the first half Sunday, recording eight shots to Notre Dame’s two in the first 45 minutes. But the second half was more even, with Indiana holding a 9-8 advantage.

“I think any time Notre Dame plays Indiana it’s always going to be a great game, and it was a great game,” Clark said. “It ebbed and flowed. We had periods where we played very well; they had periods where they played very well. I thought they brought a lot of intensity. They opened the game well and maybe had the better of the early stages of the game, certainly the first half. But I thought we defended superbly in that time.

“I don’t think we gave many chances and I thought as the game wore on, we came into the game, found a bit of space and maybe could have got a little bit more out of it. But it was a great game, somebody’s always going to be heartbroken and I’m afraid in this case, it was us.”

The Irish were missing two starting defenders in Sunday’s match with junior Andrew O’Malley out to injury and junior Luke Mishu suspended after receiving a red card in Notre Dame’s 3-0 second round win over Michigan State. Miller and O’Leary — usually a midfielder — started in their place. In addition, sophomore midfielder Brendan Lesch started his first game of the season.

“I thought Danny came in — Danny’s usually a wide midfielder player — we’re obviously starting to hurt a little bit in the back line, and Danny did well,” Clark said. “It’s a little bit strange; it’s not his usual position, but he did well. And Lesch opened up some space. I thought Brendan played very well. He’s a very dynamic player. And he was a boy that actually had broken his ankle in the summer time, so he’s really just getting back to full fitness.”

Despite a disappointing end to the season, the team earned the No. 1 seed in the NCAA Championship for the first time in program history and won the Big East title for the first time since 2003 and third time overall.

“It’s a great tribute to this group of young men that they had a tremendous season and as I told them in (the locker room), they’ve got nothing to hang their heads and they should hold their heads high,” Clark said. “But it’s also set a standard and now for those that follow, we’ve got to go further. The NCAA tournament is the ultimate and that’s where we’ve fallen short in recent years.

Contact Sam Gans at sgans@nd.edu

Lind

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

Junior Kerin Lind warms up before the second game in the series against North Dakota. The Irish won 5-2 after a 2-1 loss.

So we’re very disappointed but also very proud of what we’ve accomplished this year.

Contact Sam Gans at sgans@nd.edu
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MEN’S SOCCER | INDIANA 2, ND 1

No. 16 Hoosiers top No. 1 Irish in double overtime

By SAM GANS
Sports Writer

No. 1 Notre Dame fell to No. 16 Indiana 2-1 in double overtime Sunday in the third round of the NCAA Championship in front of a crowd of 1,242 in Alumni Stadium.

Indiana sophomore forward Eriq Zavaleta sent a header past Notre Dame senior goalkeeper Will Walsh with 8:54 remaining in the second overtime session to place Indiana (13-5-3) in the second overtime sessions and send the Hoosiers celebrating with the large contingent of Indiana supporters who made the trip to South Bend.

“It seemed to be a ball that somehow got in between [junior defender] Connor Miller and [senior defender] Danny O’Leary and [Zavaleta] just got in the seams between them and got a header on the ball,” Irish coach Bobby Clark said. “It was put well away from Will Walsh. I don’t think our goalkeeper had any chance. It was a good header.”

The Irish got on the board first when senior midfielder Kyle Richard slotted home a shot in the lower corner in the 45th minute past Indiana redshirt-freshman goalkeeper Connor O’Leary and [Zavaleta] just got in the seams between them and got a header on the ball,” Irish coach Bobby Clark said. “It was put well away from Will Walsh. I don’t think our goalkeeper had any chance. It was a good header.”

Lee noted that a desire to finish the business started on Friday was a motivating force for the Irish on Saturday.

“For a good hour after the game last night, a lot of us were mentally into the game that had just ended,” Lee said. “I think the biggest thing was to try and continue that fire and that aggression and bring it into tonight.”

After the frustration of seeing a would-be goal waved off, Lee turned in a banner performance Saturday, opening the scoring for the Irish and also burying the eventual game-winner to finish with two goals and an assist on the night. Fellow junior forward Jeff Costello also scored twice. Lee broke a scoreless tie in the first period off of a senior defender Sam Calabrese, putting a backhander past Saunders and later scored to put the Irish up 3-1, beating Saunders with a wrister from the left circle.

In the second period, junior defender Kevin Walski scored with 2:22 left and then scored again with 1:09 remaining, breaking a 1-1 tie with his first goal of the season, a slap shot from the left point with assists to sophomore defender Robbie Russo and junior forward TJ. Tynan. Costello finished the scoring for the Irish in the third with two goals, one a tally off a rush with an assist to Lee and the second an empty-netter at 19:41 of the third.

“For the most part it was kind of a crazy game, especially in the first period,” Jackson said. “This time we scored the first goal, which made big difference and gave us a little more confidence.”

The Irish penalty-killers came up big once again, stopping North Dakota on all five of its power play opportunities, including a stretch of five-on-three in the second period just after Lind scored to put the Irish up 2-1.

“Lind’s goal and then killing off the five-on-three was a huge turning point,” Jackson said. “We got overly emotional in the

ND WOMEN’S SOCCER | FSU 1, ND 0

Young squad falls to Florida State in Elite Eight

By MATTHEW ROBISON
Sports Writer

Notre Dame’s unlikely NCAA tournament run came to a halt Friday in Tallahassee, Fla., when the “baby” Irish dropped a 1-0 game to No. 7 Florida St.

Early in the year, Irish coach Randy Waldrum noted the nationwide field did not have one dominant team like it had in years past. But he did mention the Seminoles (20-3) as a program that turned heads.

“I can see after playing them why they certainly spent a number of weeks at the No. 1 ranking,” Waldrum said.

The Seminoles’ three losses came in the last week of the regular season and in the ACC tournament semifinal.

“They’re pretty solid all across the field,” Waldrum said. “Having said that, I still would go back to what I was saying. I still don’t think there’s been a dominant, dominant team this year.”

But even faced with a balanced, experienced opponent, Waldrum believed his team was competitive and very easily could have won.

“Even with the youth and things that we had with our team, we still could have walked away with a win,” Waldrum said.

Seminole redshirt senior forward Tiffany McCarty scored the game’s lone goal after a big throw-in from redshirt senior forward Jessica Price and a redirection by sophomore midfielder Dagny Brynjarsdottir.

Waldrum felt his team played much better in the second period, yet McCarty’s goal came just as Notre Dame was rallying.

“We played very well in the second half,” Waldrum said. “We didn’t play well in the first half. They could have been up maybe two or three in the first half just because [freshman goalten- der] Elyse Hight played so well for us. But the second half, we could have done the same thing.”

Hight made four saves on the day, two in the first half and two in the second. Freshman forward had three shots on goal, all of which were turned away by redshirt junior goalkeeper

HOKEY | NORTH DAKOTA 2, ND 1; ND 5, NORTH DAKOTA 2

ND wins Saturday to split weekend

By CONOR KELLY
Sports Writer

On Friday night, the Irish felt they had been shorted by an official’s judgment call that led to a 2-1 loss to No. 7 North Dakota. Saturday, the team left no room for similar doubts.

No. 6 Notre Dame (9-4-0) rebounded with a 5-2 victory Saturday. Officials waved off an apparent goal by junior captain Andres Lee in the final minutes of Friday’s game, preserving the one-goal victory for North Dakota. The Irish peppered North Dakota goalkeeper Clarke Saunders with 41 shots in the second contest and junior goalkeeper Steven Summerhayes stopped all but two pucks sent his way as the team salvaged the weekend split.

Lee noted that a desire to finish the business started on Friday was a motivating force for the Irish on Saturday.

“For a good hour after the game last night, a lot of us were mentally into the game that had just ended,” Lee said. “I think the biggest thing was to try and continue that fire and that aggression and bring it into tonight.”

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In the second period, junior defender Kevin Walski scored with 2:22 left and then scored again with 1:09 remaining, breaking a 1-1 tie with his first goal of the season, a slap shot from the left point with assists to sophomore defender Robbie Russo and junior forward TJ. Tynan. Costello finished the scoring for the Irish in the third with two goals, one a tally off a rush with an assist to Lee and the second an empty-netter at 19:41 of the third.

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“Lind’s goal and then killing off the five-on-three was a huge turning point,” Jackson said. “We got overly emotional in the

see GOAL PAGE 17
Riddick leads the way

On the strength of senior running back Theo Riddick’s 146 yards on the ground, Notre Dame rushed for 222 yards in its regular-season finale, compared to just 95 for the Trojans. Notre Dame is 43-2 in its last 45 games in which it gains more yards rushing than its opponent, with the only losses in that run coming against Michigan and Florida State during the 2011 season. The Irish have now recorded 200 rushing yards or more seven times in 12 games this season.

Te’o records 100 tackles — again

Senior linebacker and Heisman Trophy candidate Manti Te’o upped his season total in tackles to 103 with five against the Trojans. Te’o is the first Notre Dame player since Bob Crable during the 1979-81 seasons to record three straight seasons of 100 tackles. Te’o also intercepted Trojan quarterback Max Wittek for his seventh interception of the season. The mark is the highest for a Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) linebacker in 13 seasons. Te’o is second in FBS this season in interceptions, trailing only Fresno State safety Phillip Thomas.

By CHRIS ALLEN
Sports Editor

Lucky number 13

The Irish completed an undefeated regular season Saturday, defeating USC 22-13 to improve their record to 12-0. The undefeated run marks the 13th time in the 125 seasons of Notre Dame football that the Irish have finished the regular season unbeaten and untied. The last time Notre Dame went undefeated in the regular season was in 1988, posting an 11-0 mark under then-coach Lou Holtz. The Irish then followed that up with a 34-21 victory over West Virginia in the Fiesta Bowl to clinch the national championship.

Third time’s the charm

Irish coach Brian Kelly can become the latest in a growing list of Notre Dame coaches to win the national championship in their third season leading the Irish. Predecessors Frank Leahy, Ara Parseghian, Dan Devine and Lou Holtz all won a national championship in the third year of their respective tenures as coach. The undefeated regular season also continues a personal trend for Kelly, who led Cincinnati to a 12-0 season in 2009, his third year as head coach of the Bearcats. Kelly was hired at Notre Dame before Cincinnati competed in the Sugar Bowl to close that season.

STATISTICS

RUSHING YARDS

PASSING YARDS

Time of Possession

PASSING

RUSHING

RECEIVING

TACKLES

Notre Dame finishes the regular season with an average of 10.3 points allowed per game, a mark second only to Alabama’s 9.3.

some opponents
an one offensive
the Irish defense
(YU, Pittsburgh).

33-yard field goal

0:31 remaining
Drive: 9 plays, 70 yards, 6:24 elapsed

7-92

5-77

13

10

10

8

8

Theo Riddick (6)—RB

Manti Te’o (5)—LB

10.3

10.3
Defense records another goal-line stand

By ALLAN JOSEPH
Editor-in-Chief

LOS ANGELES — Yet again, the game was on the line. Yet again, the opponents were at the goal line. Yet again, the Irish were defending a perfect season. And yet again, the Notre Dame defense came through.

“This was another clear indication of how we got to 12-0,” Irish coach Brian Kelly said. “Our guys have an incredible resolve regardless of the circumstances of coming up and finding ways to win. That’s all we talk about.”

No. 1 Notre Dame (12-0) had entered Saturday’s showdown at the Los Angeles Coliseum preparing for a pair of explosive receivers in USC’s Marqise Lee and Robert Woods. Yet through 54 minutes, the Irish had contained the USC passing attack, holding redshirt freshman quarterback Max Wittek to just 124 yards on 12-of-18 passing with two interceptions. But facing a 22-13 deficit with 1:15 left on the clock, the Irish were down to their last gasp. Yet again, the Notre Dame defense was up to the challenge.

“The Trojans immediately backed up five yards on a false-start penalty before running back Curtis McNeel pushed USC to the 4-yard line on first down. On second down, Wittek lofted a pass toward Lee in the corner of the end zone, but freshman cornerback KeiVarae Russell committed pass interference and gave the Irish a first down at the USC 14 for a new set of downs.

“Give you confidence that we have done it before, that it can be achieved,” senior running back Theo Riddick said. “We did it. It’s crazy, you know? No. 1 and keeping that No. 1 and being 12-0 and playing for a national championship, it’s something spectacular. It’s awesome. You just put the ball down and there’s time on the clock, we’re not going to give up. This team and this defense, we’ve got a lot of characters. We’ve got a lot of guys that play hard, and they play with heart. As long as you put the ball down and they’re not in the end zone we’re going to fight.”

Contact Allan Joseph at ajoseph2@nd.edu

Irish senior running back Theo Riddick makes a move in the open field after taking a handoff. Riddick paced the Notre Dame offense with 177 total yards and scored Notre Dame’s only touchdown of the game in the first quarter.

By CHRIS ALLEN
Sports Editor

LOS ANGELES — With one win left to clinch a national championship berth and facing a hostile road environment against its biggest rival, Notre Dame rode the legs of senior running back Theo Riddick to the BCS National Championship Game. Riddick, who has bounced between receiver and running back over the last three seasons, turned in the best game of his career as the Irish defeated USC 22-13. The senior rushed for 146 yards — a career high — and added 33 receiving yards while breaking countless tackles throughout the game.

“If you want to know about the Fighting Irish, you just need to look at Theo Riddick,” Irish coach Brian Kelly said. “Here’s a guy that was a wide receiver for me the first two years, we asked him to move back to running back, and in game 12 he managed 140 yards, but broke countless tackles and got us the tough yards that we needed today.”

Riddick’s versatility as a running back was on display all over the field through the Irish victory. The senior from Manville, N.J., kept sophomore quarterback Everett Golson from pressure with flawless pass blocking and caught three passes — including a crucial third-down conversion along the Notre Dame sideline.

But it was his bruising rushing performance that earned his coach’s votes of support. Many of Riddick’s 146 yards on the ground came after contact.

“You just look at his jersey after the game and you go, ‘There’s no wonder why this team has the toughness that it does,’ Kelly said.

Though the 5-foot-11, 200-pound back has gained a reputation for playing like a much larger back due to his bruising style, Riddick said his ability to run after contact is just his natural instinct.

“I was just running hard. That’s what I’m supposed to do,” he said of his performance. “The offensive line did a great job today. I was able to explore holes and make people miss.

“It was just great to see all the linemen doing their jobs up front, and moving those big guys to make great holes for us. Like I said, my hat goes to my offensive linemen. Without them, there’s no me.”

Riddick produced the offensive highlight of the game for Notre Dame as the Irish clung to a 19-13 lead with 7:47 left on 1st-and-10 from the USC 26-yard line. Riddick took a handoff as USC defensive lineman Morgan Breslin and safety Josh Shaw broke through the line and looked sure drop him for a loss. Riddick quickly spun away from the pursuing defenders and broke through a hole, driving through cornerback Nickell Robey downfield for a 15-yard gain into the red zone. The run set up a chip-shot field goal for sophomore kicker Kyle Brindza that proved to be the game’s final score.

“My will is the same throughout every game. I mean I never try to go down easy,” Riddick said. “I keep on fighting, I was lucky to get out of some tackles today.”

On a night Notre Dame fans will not soon forget, Riddick completed his season-long return from receiver to running back by taking 20 handoffs and running right into Notre Dame lore. For Riddick, it was the final regular-season game of a career played at multiple positions with his teammates ever since.

“What can I say? I play for my teammates. During those transitions, I didn’t really have a problem with it,” Riddick said. “Coach Kelly wanted me to play wide receiver, I played it. Getting back in the backfield, I did that too. I did it for my teammates. I’m a team guy. I have been my whole career. I’ll do anything for my teammates.”

Contact Chris Allen at callen10@nd.edu

Riddick earns tough yards to lead offense

Irish sophomore safety Matthias Farley and junior nose guard Louis Nix combine to stop USC running back Curtis McNeal at the goal-line.

SUZANNA PRATT | The Observer
THE ROAD TO 12-0

NOTRE DAME 50, NAVY 10

NOTRE DAME 20, MICHIGAN STATE 3

NOTRE DAME 41, MIAMI 3

NOTRE DAME 17, BYU 14

NOTRE DAME 29, PITTSBURGH 26 (3OT)

NOTRE DAME 38, WAKE FOREST 0

NOTRE DAME 20, PURDUE 17

NOTRE DAME 13, MICHIGAN 6

NOTRE DAME 20, STANFORD 13 (OT)

NOTRE DAME 30, OKLAHOMA 13

NOTRE DAME 21, BOSTON COLLEGE 6

NOTRE DAME 22, USC 13
Senior running back Theo Riddick crosses the goal line to score Notre Dame’s only touchdown of the game in its 22-13 win over USC. Sophomore kicker Kyle Brindza added five field goals as Notre Dame took the victory to go 12-0. Riddick rushed for 146 yards and added 33 yards receiving in the most productive game of his career.

The Irish completed a regular season for the ages under the lights in Los Angeles, defeating USC 22-13 to go 12-0. Senior running back Theo Riddick ran for a career-high 146 yards on 20 carries and senior linebacker Manti Te’o intercepted his seventh pass of the season. Notre Dame is likely to play either Alabama or Georgia in the BCS National Championship Game on Jan. 7.