Te‘o denies involvement in girlfriend hoax

By ANDREW OWENS
Assistant Managing Editor

Editor’s note: A version of this story appeared on ndsmcobserver.com early Saturday morning. It has been updated with facts that have emerged since then.

A tumultuous 48 hours of questions, rumors and speculation temporarily halted early Saturday morning when former Irish linebacker Manti Te‘o ended his silence and denied any involvement in concocting the fake life of Lennay Kekua in an interview with ESPN’s Jeremy Schaap.

“No, never,” Te‘o told Schaap when asked if he was involved in the hoax. “Never, not ever.”

In fact, Te‘o told Schaap he was not fully convinced he had been hoaxed until Roniah Tuiasosopo, the man accused of perpetrating the scheme, contacted him to admit his involvement in the scheme.

Former Irish linebacker Manti Te‘o speaks at BCS National Championship Game Media Day on Jan. 5. Te‘o spoke to ESPN’s Jeremy Schaap this weekend about the recent controversy over a hoax involving a fake girlfriend.

Students experience D.C.

By MEGAN DOYLE
Managing Editor

WASHINGTON — Junior Mia Courts got a new ID card this semester — not from Card Services on campus, but for the Pentagon Building in Washington D.C.

Courts is one of 10 Notre Dame students participating in the Washington Program, a semester-long experience working, studying and living in Washington D.C.

The alternative study abroad program is designed for students with specific interest in politics or journalism, and it plunges them into the heart of current affairs in the capital.

“The Washington Program definitely thrusts you right into the middle of everything,” Courts said. “We’re not in the ‘Notre Dame bubble’, and you can really tell because everything is in the city. It’s a good experience.”

Each student in the program splits his or her time between an internship and coursework. Courts works more than 25 hours each week in the Pentagon with the AFRAK Hands program, a counter insurgency initiative run by the Joint Chiefs of Staff that works to build diplomatic relations in the Middle East.

“I’m definitely getting a different perspective on what the media tells you on what is going on over there,” she said.

On Sunday night, Courts sat in one of the apartments that house Notre Dame students near Woodley Park with some of the other students in the program. They cooked dinner, watched football and talked about the presidential inauguration to happen the next day outside the U.S. Capitol.

USCCB director lectures on abuse

By JOHN CAMERON
News Editor

Leadership and protecting children from sexual abuse will be the focus of a pair of lectures presented this week by Dr. Kathleen McChesney, former executive director of the Office of Child Protection in the Catholic Church.

The first presentation in the “Assessment of the Nature and Scope of the Problem of Sexual Abuse Over Time in the U.S.” will take place Monday night in McKenna Hall.

For McChesney, the importance of the problem is three-fold.

“There’s no doubt that the — if you want to call it — sexual abuse...
QUESTION OF THE DAY:
What is your favorite class this semester?

Connor Barth
junior
Dillon Hall
“Foresight.”

Diana Vazquez
freshman
Pangborn Hall
“Introduction to Philosophy.”

Nathan Trosinski
freshman
Morrissey Manor
“Chinese.”

Erin Richards
freshman
Pangborn Hall
“Underwater Basket Weaving.”

Tommy Schneeman
freshman
Morrissey Manor
“Microeconomics.”

Kristin Hillgamyer
sophomore
Pangborn Hall
“Irish in Us.”

Irish dancers perform in the annual Notre Dame/Saint Mary's College Irish dance team showcase titled “Shaking Down the Thunder” this weekend. The event, which took place in Washington Hall on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, displayed the dancing talents of team members, who hail from both schools.
The first installment of the semester in the Professors for Lunch series, “Roe at 40: The Supreme Court, Abortion and the Culture War that Followed,” drew an audience that filled the Oak Room of South Dining Hall on Jan. 18.

During the lunch event, Law professor Amy Barrett discussed the legacy of the landmark Supreme Court case Roe v. Wade that was decided on Jan. 22, 1973.

Barrett, a 1997 graduate of Notre Dame Law School and a former clerk for associate justice Antonin Scalia of the Supreme Court of the United States, said it was important to look at the case and its legacy in light of its coming 40th anniversary.

Barrett said an important question surrounding the issue of abortion is what part of the government should ultimately decide abortion policy. It makes a difference whether the issue is addressed at a state or national level, and whether it is addressed by popularly elected legislators or appointed judges, she said.

“It brings up an issue of judicial review. Does the Court have the capacity to decide that women have the right to obtain an abortion or should it be a matter for state legislatures?” she said. “Would it be better to have this battle in the state legislatures and Congress rather than the Supreme Court?”

Barrett said one problem with the Supreme Court having ruled on the issue is the effect Roe v. Wade has had on the confirmation process of newly appointed Supreme Court justices.

“Republicans are heavily invested in getting judges who will overturn Roe v. Wade, and Democrats are heavily invested in getting judges who will preserve the central holding of Roe v. Wade,” Barrett said. “As a result, there have been divisive confirmation battles of a sort not seen before.”

The 1992 case of Planned Parenthood v. Casey modified Roe v. Wade and included the requirement that the central holding of Roe v. Wade, she said. “As of the [Planned Parenthood v. Casey] ruling, before viability the state policy may not pose a substantial obstacle to a woman’s obtaining an abortion, but the state can regulate in the interest of the health of the fetus. [Planned Parenthood v.] Casey also stated that after viability the state can regulate with an exception for the health of the mother.”

After 40 years, the Court is unlikely to overturn Roe v. Wade, she said. The political opposition to the case has for the most part changed tactics from fighting to overturn it to preventing public funding of abortions.

“I think it is very unlikely at this point that the court is going to overturn Roe v. Wade, or Roe v. Wade as curbed by [Planned Parenthood v.] Casey. The fundamental element, that the woman has a right to choose abortion, will probably stand,” she said.

“The controversy right now is about funding. It’s a question of whether abortions will be publicly or privately funded.”

Barrett said it is important to recognize the emotional and physical difficulty of carrying an unwanted pregnancy to term.

“Motherhood is a privilege, but it comes at a price,” she said. “A woman who wants to become pregnant accepts this price, but in an unplanned pregnancy the woman faces the difficulties of pregnancy unwillingly.”

Many women who choose to abort an unwanted pregnancy are both poor and single, Barrett said, and therefore do not have the means to raise a child properly.

After 40 years, the Court is unlikely to overturn Roe v. Wade, she said. The political opposition to the case has for the most part changed tactics from fighting to overturn it to preventing public funding of abortions.

“I think supporting poor, single mothers would be the best way to reduce the number of abortions in the U.S.,” Barrett said.

Barrett also outlined the history of the Roe v. Wade decision and associated cases in the Supreme Court. At the time of the case, most states prohibited abortion, except in cases wherein it protected the life of the mother, she said. But there was a trend of states liberalizing their abortion laws to permit exceptions for incest, rape and the mother’s health.

Roe v. Wade came before the Supreme Court after a woman filed suit against a Texas statute, one of the states with stricter abortion laws, Barrett said. The decision took the abortion issue to the “national stage” and that it marked a dramatic change in public policy about abortion.


The decision led to a political backlash that legal scholars have termed “Roe rage.”

Barrett said some individuals on the “pro-choice” side of the abortion issue believe the Court overstepped in Roe v. Wade and should have instead allowed more time for states to trend toward more permissive laws. She said these people point to “Roe rage” and its political consequences as evidence.

The 1973 case Doe v. Bolton upheld Roe v. Wade and struck down a Georgia law’s restrictions on abortion, Barrett said, including the requirement that a hospital committee approve abortion procedures. A few states maintain restrictions that the Supreme Court has yet to rule on, Barrett said, including the requirement that the mother view an ultrasound that shows the fetus’ heartbeat.

Contact Christian Myers at cmyers8@nd.edu
Band joins with Ugandan choir

By ADAM LLORENS

When 2012 graduates Brian Powers and Nick Guntz traveled to Kkindu, Uganda, last summer, the pair gained much more than expected from their experience.

Powers and Guntz, who comprise the band Frances Luke Accord, spent 18 days recording an album with the community’s Barefoot Truth Children’s Choir to raise money for members of the group.

“During our stay, we were touched by the many people we met living in rural poverty, who at the same time abound in human potential and an unparalleled spiritual wealth,” Powers said. “This year heritage week is our main goal would be making sure there is a smooth transition for new students and raising funds for the college.”

Although student government elections are still months away, Casey said she and Parsons are already planning for new leaders and figuring out how to ensure a successful transition for new student leaders.

“The main goal would be making sure there is a smooth transition for turnover [when the new leaders assume their positions],” Casey said. “We want to make sure that the new members of SGA feel prepared for next year.”

Contact Bridget Feeney at bfeene01@saintmarys.edu

Group plans unifying projects

By BRIDGET FEENEY

While students ease back into a routine of classes, studying and meetings as the semester gets underway, the Student Government Association (SGA) is preparing for the busy weeks ahead.

Senior student body vice president Meghan Casey said the upcoming weeks are full of various events and programs for the campus. She named Love Your Body Week, Heritage Week and Women Honoring Women Week as SGA’s larger events.

“We are most looking forward to Heritage week because it gives us a chance to appreciate the opportunities we have at Saint Mary’s and learn about the heritage of the College and what past students have done while they were here,” she said.

In addition to celebrating the rich tradition of the College, Heritage Week will also allow students, alumni, parents and friends of Saint Mary’s to contribute to the Capital Campaign.

“The Capital Campaign is a project to raise money for various things at the Saint Mary’s,” Casey said. “This year Heritage Week is coinciding with the start of the Capital Campaign. They are raising money to renovate Angela, for scholarships and to renovate the science building.”

Casey said having the Capital Campaign and Heritage Week at the same time will be beneficial for both the students and the College.

“We are having the Capital Campaign launch and Heritage Week the same week because the launch is raising money for the future,” she said. “During Heritage Week, we learn about people who have invested in Saint Mary’s in the past and the Capital Campaign is a way for us to invest for the future.”

In addition to Heritage Week and raising funds for the College, SGA will also focus on anti-bullying initiatives throughout the semester to foster positive attitudes amongst students. Senior student body president Maureen Parsons said this initiative resulted from students who were harassed through letters.

“SGA is going to start a Tumble that encourages positive messages to students,” she said. “Also, we want to work with the Resident Advisors to do something in the dorms with random acts of kindness.”

The elections for student body president and vice president will occur at the end of February. The Residence Hall Association, Student Activities Board, Student Diversity Board and the Class Boards will elect new leaders the first week of March. Turnover is scheduled for April 1.

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“All the money from the sale of this CD is going directly toward paying these school fees.”

Brian Powers 2012 graduate

a year. But with an average annual income in Uganda of only 511 dollars per capita, many cannot afford even this modest amount.

To raise funds for the children to advance grade levels, the choir and Frances Luke Accord collaborated to record an album entitled “Kandote,” a Lugandan word meaning “I dream.”

“All money from the sale of this CD is going directly towards paying these school fees,” Powers said.

Kevin Dungan, an operations assistant for Notre Dame men’s lacrosse and the former manager of Youth and Community Programs for Notre Dame Athletics, developed the idea for the project. Dungan is also the founder and director of Fields of Growth International, an organization that uses athletics as a community and human development tool in rural villages in Uganda.

“The project was also funded in large part through grants from Notre Dame’s Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts and the Center for Undergraduate Scholarly Engagement as well as some private donations,” Powers said. “Thanks to these generous grants, we had the unique opportunity to spend 18 days in the wonderful country of Uganda doing what we love: listening to, writing, performing and recording music—and bridging a wide cultural divide along the way.”

Powers said the band sent the choir a CD before the trip so the children could learn the songs. Approximately 40 takes of each song were recorded before Frances Luke Accord selected the best one for the album.

Kandote can be purchased at any online music store or at the band’s website, FrancesLukeAccord.com/music. For fans to gain further access to the production of the album, the band uploaded a YouTube video entitled “Kandote” that details the group’s trip to Kkindu and its interaction with the Barefoot Truth Children’s Choir.

In Dialogue

Marcos Raya, Opportunistic Diagnosis

Snite Museum of Art
January 20–March 17, 2013

We’ve heard from a scientist, a poet, a writer, a film scholar, and a curator. Come see what they have to say and then add your thoughts to the dialogue.

What Do You Think?

Marcos Raya, Opportunistic Diagnosis

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What Do You Think?
By JILLIAN BARWICK
Saint Mary’s Editor

The entrepreneur said the aprons marked her first large, popular collection. Although she now focuses more on children’s apparel again, she continues to form her collections around the niche populations.

Schultz, whose younger sister currently attends Saint Mary’s, is now launching a collegiate line that focuses on everyday apparel and monograms. She polled college girls to discover what they were looking for in clothes.

Monogrammed items have become a huge trend across the nation, which Schultz said intrigued her when she was researching.

“Monogramming has been so huge in the South forever and it’s making an appearance now in the North,” she said. “I wanted to be one of the first in the area to really jump onto that and put my own spin on it.”

While she can make any type of school pride item, Saint Mary’s products have always been a huge piece of Schultz’s lines.

“I love doing the Saint Mary’s College products. It holds such a special place in my heart because I went here and it’s in my hometown. I love this place,” Schultz said. “I would love to kind of have a partnership with Saint Mary’s as far as apparel with them and having events here.”

Schultz said she is also looking to branch out to sororities and other organizations with a three-letter monogram.

Schultz said her Saint Mary’s education provided her with the confidence to begin her own company at such a young age, she said.

“The fact that I come from a family where my mom, a Saint Mary’s grad, was also an entrepreneur and there is just this empowerment where if you want to do it, then go do it” Schultz said. “I do feel very well equipped to ask all of the right questions, be a business owner, be running my own successful brand and I don’t know if I would have had that confidence had I not gone to a women’s college where they really instill that kind of confidence into their students.”

Using the code SMCND15, customers can take 15 percent off of any item on www.courtneybockdesigns.com now through Friday, Jan. 25.

For more information about Courtney Bock Designs, visit http://facebook.com/ Courtneybockdesigns/

Contact Jillian Barwick at jbarwi01@ saintmarys.edu
Abuse
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Senior Day feature published in the Nov. 16 Irish Insider focusing on Manti Te’o’s relationship with the student body, identified Kekua’s name, or identified her as a student at Stanford. Three gave a passing mention to Te’o losing his grandmother and girlfriend in the same week, while one described her death as Te’o’s motivation to reach out to the family of a young and terminally ill Irish fan.

We should have checked if Kekua in fact attended Stanford. However, the story had been so widely reported in the months prior to that article that we mistakenly took her attendance at Stanford to be common knowledge. We should have cited reports of Kekua’s death, rather than again citing it as common knowledge. As we all know now, we got those facts wrong. For that, I take responsibility and sincerely apologize. We always strive to live up to the mission statement listed on the front page of every paper and bring the truth to our readers.

But after reading through every word of our coverage mentioning Kekua, I feel safe standing by all of it. We never made that story a focal point of our coverage. We covered the community’s response to the Te’o pain in the form of the lies against Michigan. We covered how Te’o responded to difficult days by playing some of his best football. And we covered how the football program and larger community supported Te’o in those days — and how that strengthened the bond between the linebacker and his classmates. None of those things changed when the hoax was revealed, which is why I’m still proud of the exceptional coverage we produced. As a student newspaper, we always felt the story should be about Te’o and the support he received from fellow students, and thus Kekua was only a minor detail. That mindset helped us cover the story that mattered to our readers, and helped us maintain accuracy too.

However, the lessons we learned from re-examining the Te’o story can help us as we move forward in covering the many incredible stories of the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s communities. Every article we publish goes through at least two rounds of copy editing, and our copy editors fact check on an ad hoc basis. We will be more vigilant in checking verifiable facts, and will be more comfortable in acknowledging and correcting mistakes again.

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Washington  
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Capitol Building just a few Metro stops from their home. “The inauguration is something that only happens every four years. I just think it’s an incredible opportunity when you’re studying this. It’s history in the making,” Courts said.

Sophomore Matt Mleczko will be among the crowd on the National Mall today. “It’ll be really neat because I remember where I was four years ago, the last inauguration,” he said. “The 2008 campaign was when I started getting into politics and to think how far I’ve come in four years — I was in algebra II class the last inauguration, and now I’m here.”

Mleczko said he hopes to see President Barack Obama deliver an inaugural address that acknowledges the need to overcome bipartisanship.

Political speeches like this [are] breeding grounds for overly idealistic language, and we all celebrate speeches like that, and the next day we go back to bashing each other in Congress … I hope we can make some change after this,” he said.

As a new Congress begins its work after an election, Vogt said he found the influence of voters’ opinions and fundraising to be striking on the Hill.

“I think everyone for the most part on Capitol Hill has good intentions and wants to do good things,” he said. “But the issue is sometimes, they really influence their everyday life in an unbelievable extent.”

The Washington Program attracted Vogt, a finance major, despite his lack of interest in a political career. “I actually thought the Washington Program would be a good opportunity to see what you’re going to be up against if you run your own company or if you’re on Wall Street,” Vogt said.

Mleczko, however, said his semester in the district is “a test run” for the kind of career he might pursue in advocacy or policy work. He is currently interning with a small advocacy group that deals with low-income programs, and his internship work will closely monitor the debates on budget and spending cuts.

“Speaking from someone that’s really interested and passionate about politics, you’re right in the middle of everything going on,” Mleczko said. “What you’re reading in the papers is happening just blocks away from you, and that’s something really cool.”

The day before the presidential inauguration, junior Wendy Hatch was indeed standing just blocks away from the site of today’s events. She sat at a table in front of the National Mall, passing out buttons and flyers for C-SPAN to promote the network’s Inauguration Day election coverage.

As an intern in the international division of C-SPAN, Hatch said she is hoping to build experience for a future career in global politics and government work.

“It’s a great way to learn a different side of politics,” she said. “You learn things [at C-SPAN] … that you wouldn’t necessarily learn in the classroom or interning on the Hill.”

On her way to work, Hatch walks past the Capitol. Today, she and her friends in the Washington Program will stand in front of that same building to see Obama publicly swear his oath of office.

“It’s cool to live through it and not have to watch it on the news,” Courts said. “To actually be right in the middle of it.”

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It’s time to change some futures.
ACE Application deadline is Jan. 22.

Te’o CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Wednesday, the same day a report from Deadspin.com broke the story.

Schaap said Te’o showed him Twitter messages from Tuiasosopo from two days ago in which he apologized. While the tweets include his full innocence in the interview, Te’o did admit he made mistakes along the way, including sharing his parents’ meetings with Tuiasosopo.

When the story of Kekua’s death unfolded in the midst of an undefeated Notre Dame season and Heisman Trophy campaign for Te’o, the linebacker said he “kind of tailored my stories to have people thinking what I met her before she passed away.”

“That goes back to what I did with my dad,” Te’o said. “I knew that — I even knew that it was crazy that I was with somebody I never met.”

When [Te’o] described her as the love of his life, he meant it 100 percent, although they had never met,” Schaap said. “I did mislead people by saying he met her. He did so because he knew how crazy it would sound that he felt this deeply about someone he had never met.”

Te’o told Schaap the relationship allegedly started on Facebook during Te’o’s sophomore year at Notre Dame, but that it was not until around the Oct. 1, 2011 car accident.

The relationship started to become more intense in late April 2012, when Te’o was told Kekua was in a car accident.

Te’o told Schaap that he began to sleep with the phone on the line with whom he believed to be Kekua once she was in the hospital recovering from the fake car accident and leukemia.

ESPN also reported Te’o supposedly had attempted to video-chat with Kekua multiple times before he purportedly passed, but each time had been unable to see her face in the chat.

Additionally, Te’o told Schaa p about a four-hour face-to-face message conversation before Kekua’s death involving Scripture messages between himself, his parents and the person he believed to have been Kekua. Schaap reported Te’o even showed him the messages during their interview.

Te’o said he never doubt ed Kekua’s existence or death until early December, nearly three months after he believed she had died.

Corroborating the statements made by Notre Dame Director of Athletics Jack Swarbrick on Wednesday, Te’o said he received communication from the woman whom he believed to be Kekua on Dec. 6, but was initially convinced it was a hoax.

“After he gets this phone call on Dec. 6, he’s utterly confused,” Schaap said. “He doesn’t know whether to believe this person or not. She tells some story about how she’s been hiding from drug dealers.”

Te’o told Schaap he asked the person purporting to be Kekua to provide a photo with a date stamp, but even after receiving that, continued to be suspicious of the version. In addition, Te’o said people associated with Tuiasosopo showed up at Notre Dame’s team hotel during preparations for the Jan. 7 BCS National Championship Game. Te’o said Kekua did not arrive in South Florida until Jan. 2.

Schaap said Te’o “wanted to get his story out there because he did know what people say to some extent” after a 48-hour period dur ing which he was criticized for his silence.

Te’o disputed the theory out there that he was completely naive about romantic relationships, Schaap said. “He said he got sucked into this because he thought he was talking to some one who he shared a lot with.”

According to Te’o, he was “uncomfortable” with the arrangement, which was at the linebacker’s request.

On Friday, ESPN’s Shelley Smith published a report in which an unidentified woman close to Ronahial Tuiasosopo, the alleged mastermind of the operation, claimed Tuiasosopo told her that Te’o is a victim of the hoax.

In the report, Smith talked to two California residents who claim Tuiasosopo duped their cousin in 2008. The two claim Tuiasosopo supposedly used the same name and photos in that hoax.

Late Friday, USA Today reported that three elements of Kekua’s story parallel that of the Tuiasosopo family: a case of leukemia, a car accident and a quote from Tuiasosopo’s father’s Facebook page that Te’o told the team Kekua died prior to the faked death.

The two-and-a-half-hour off-camera interview with Schaap took place in Bradenton, Fla., where Te’o is currently training in anticipation for the NFL Draft.

This week, Katie Couric will conduct the first on-camera interview of Te’o, who will be accompanied by his parents. Segments will be shown during Couric’s syndicated television show Thursday.

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The drive-by friend

Rebecca O’Neill
News Writer

As a moderately-awkward human being, I revel in the rare moments when I befriended someone new. In the conversations are more than just socially mandated, the connection becomes real and the person, special — to put it in the cheesiest terms possible.

In high school, I found sustenance in meeting new people. I lived off of it. Strangers offered a view into a life I had never been exposed to before, and that was exciting. They knew nothing about me, therefore every new person marked a fresh page, free to create whatever imprint I desired. I wasn’t keeping track of the number, or even the names, usually, only of the last time I had talked with someone I didn’t know. My short attention span engaged whole-heatedly in the "friendships" for a day — maybe a week — at a time before I never spoke with them again.

I had cooled down by the time I graduated. While my world at home still had so much left to explore, I was trying to solidify the friendships I already had. Faced with endless opportunities to meet new people and armed with a phone in college, I thought friendships would be easy to come by and a cinch to keep. By the end of my first semester, I was unable to identify at least a third of the new contacts in my phone as friends for longer than a night, if I could identify them at all.

This didn’t bother me until certain people I had the privilege of meeting started to make indelible impressions. I still wonder about my (seemingly brilliant) engineering partners’ lives long after that group disbanded. I still reminisce on the conversation I had with an MIT student/professional gamer on my flight to O’Hare in August. My mind is currently fixating on a musician from Chicago I met just yesterday. These are the people who in spite of the fluid world in which I live, I never wanted to become an untexted or un-called contact. Although we exchange numbers or Facebooks or whatever the trendiest form of technological communication is at the time, our interactions are never the same.

That’s what I hate: the drive-by friendships. It’s one thing if it’s a casual wave or head nod from a transient acquaintance as they mosey on down the road that is life. But the beautiful but crazy friend who waves erratically, body half-out of the moving vehicle’s window, screaming my name — that gets me. The ones I grin dumbly at as I let them drive by.

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The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

A call for leadership

John Sandberg
Fisherman’s Musings

In Washington, D.C., some things are clearer than others. In the midst of red-tape tangles, soft money streams and ubiquitous questions of constitutional authority, other events and actions in the nation’s capital remain strikingly distinct.

The inaugural address is one of them.

Today the entire nation will have an unobstructed view of its figurehead. As President Barack Obama stands alone, high above the throngs of seated witnesses waiting to hear his message, there will be no doubt as to who bears the most responsibility for the successes and failures of America. Unreasonable as it may be to assign the successes and failures of a nation to one individual, such is the reality of the presidency.

It’s no secret national leaders have failed to create comprehensive plans on much of anything in the last four years. But as Steven Pearlstein accurately wrote in the Washington Post on Wednesday, the problem is not the debt ceiling, economic growth nor entitlements.

America is suffering from a crisis in leadership.

“What [the Obama administration] misunderstand[s],” Pearlstein writes, “is what real leaders do when confronted with stubborn and unyielding opponents. You don’t say ‘I won’t negotiate with myself,’ as Obama is fond of saying when criticized for his refusal to put forward his own version of a grand bargain. You find other, more reasonable people to negotiate with who might be enticed to throw off the bonds of party loyalty and embrace a genuine bipartisan compromise.”

Though it’s true Obama has faced an uncooperative Congress, any second-rate politician can dig his heels in further or simply blame the opposition. Obama has been as guilty as this of anyone, and stubbornness and excuses will do nothing to benefit the country.

The man Americans elected in 2008 with the hope of bringing a new attitude and fresh ideas to government has too often appeared unwilling to compromise, leaving much to be desired from the president in his first term.

What we need on this Inauguration Day is a better leader. This, too, we see with unquestionable clarity.

Perhaps Obama can start by taking a lesson from recent history. Both Ronald Reagan and Bill Clinton found themselves entrenched in partisan dogfights during their presidencies. Instead of shrinking away from their respective budget battles, however, these men thrived on them. They relished the back and forth with their respective opposition. They took the time to pay late-night visits to the Capitol, write a short letter or make an extra phone call here and there to ensure a deal got done. And the country was better off because of it.

Even if he doesn’t thrive on partisan battles in Reaganesque or Clintonian fashion, Obama still needs to find a way to practice the dying art of deal making. If Congressional leaders can’t do it, he must try.

No more speeches. No more barn-storming the country to muster support from the electorate.

I didn’t vote for the president and I know my views on the role and scope of the federal government are fundamentally different than his. Yet I maintain a dogged faith in the institution of the presidency. I believe it is an office in which the holder can do great things if he has, in equal parts, political fortitude and a willingness to hear the other side.

I’m hopeful productive compromises can be achieved during Obama’s second term and I do not deny that Congress has a job to do as well. But before anything else the president needs to realize he is not another cog in the machine that is Washington gridlock. He is the president, and he must act upon the opportunity his second term represents for him to show real leadership and not political posturing.

After all, the difference between the two could not be any clearer.

John Sandberg is a junior political science major from Littleton, Colo. He can be reached at jsandbe1@nd.edu

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

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“The reason why worry kills more people than work is that more people worry than work.”

Robert Frost
U.S. poet

Submit a Letter to the Editor | Email obsviewpoint@gmail.com
When Democrats and Republicans fight, we lose

Connor Roth
Think. It’s Not Illegal Yet.

Sadly, people of our age have not had the opportunity of seeing Martin Luther King Jr.’s impassioned speeches on the subject of segregation, and discrimination in person. We have not had the pleasure of seeing the Civil Rights movement come to fruition through this hero’s civil disobedience. Even more disappointing, for our entire lives we have not had any president that has truly acted on the ideology held by revolutionaries like MLK Jr. and Mahatma Gandhi — that is, the ideology of promoting freedom and upholding liberty. After the founding of this nation, society decided to ignore George Washington’s advice against political parties and has generally galvanized itself into two halves. For some reason, society in America continually polarizes itself into left versus right battles on the most important issues our country faces. Mark Twain once wrote, “It is easier to fool people than to convince them that they have been fooled,” and the truth is, this nation has been deceived for decades.

As Americans, we can all agree we have the same goals: to create a nation protected by freedom and equality under the law, to foster a society that continually increases the standard of living for its inhabitants and, most importantly, to protect each person’s right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. The main difference between political parties is the means of accomplishing that end. The issue with this dichotomy, though, is that American culture has chosen, through the “pro-Democrat” or “pro-Republican” rhetoric, to foster a society that has been fooled, and the truth is, this nation has been deceived for decades.

When Democrats and Republicans fight, we lose

Connor Roth
Senior Economics

My fascination with the sport of cycling began in the summer of 2003. One morning, and I can’t really recall how I came across the Outdoor Life Network, I ended up watching a stage of the Tour de France. Yes, I had heard of Lance Armstrong, who hadn’t? But never before had I seen him in action. An American who couldn’t lose, yellow jersey flying through broken fields of sunflowers, past ancient castles and over mountain passes. I was hooked. So in what became a ritual that filled many Julys to come, at 8 a.m. I would turn on our television, sit down and be amazed. Lance never let me down, and after he finished racing for the day, I would dust off my mom’s 20-year-old road bike and sprint out into the countryside, reliving my hero’s exploits from the stage that morning. It wasn’t long before I entered my first race. Wearing a lacrosse shirt, baggy shorts and a bright yellow helmet (Lance’s color), I took to the line. My dad held me up, I hadn’t yet figured out how to work the straps which held my feet to the pedals. A year, and countless mowed lawns, later, I went to 5th-6th grade with my parents on a brand new blue racing bike. Livestrong band on wrist, I advanced through the ranks and today, I’m preparing for my final season on Notre Dame’s cycling team. One change this year though: Now my wrist is bare.

There were always rumors Lance doped, and time and time again I disagreed, just as my hero did. “He never failed a test,” I’d say, confident science had my back. My confidence began to waver a few years ago, though, when a former teammate of Armstrong’s, Floyd Landis, gave a firsthand account of Lance’s doping regimen. But no, Floyd was a known liar. The guy raised millions of dollars and wrote a book to proclaim his innocence, and yet he was convicted for doping. And so, I continued to ride, wearing my custom-numbered idol culminated with a 1,000 page, fact-stuffed report, I finally threw in the towel.

It is difficult to put into words the myriad of thoughts that passed through my head after Armstrong’s public fall, but one in particular did seem to keep circling back. What does it mean that a huge portion of who I am, how I live, and what I choose to make great sacrifice preparing for seems to be founded on a lie? Had there been no Lance Armstrong, I would not be a cyclist. What does that mean for me?

As we all enter a new age, where through the ease of electronic communication our lives, and those of our idols, are placed under an ever-magnifying scope, perhaps a new perspective on those we call “heroes” is warranted. In a recent NFL “Play 60” commercial, a little boy innocently bids farewell to Carolina Panther’s quarterback Cam Newton as his exercise ends for the day. “Hey Cam, thanks a lot for coming to my school today ... I promise to exercise and eat right.” “Don’t forget your 60 minutes of play a day, right?” Cam playfully jests, before their dialogue takes a rather unexpected and comical turn. “And I’ll grow up to be big and strong like you!” the boy asks, “And play in the NFL? And be drafted No. 1? And become the starting quarterback of the Panthers? You can be my backup! And make Panthers’ fans forget about you! And become your mom’s favorite player!”

Laying in bed after Armstrong’s doping confession to Oprah Winfrey last night, I was surprised when this little Cam Newton impersonator coupled his way into my train of thought. For the boy, Cam Newton was a spark of inspiration. Clearly not a model the boy plans to emulate, on the contrary, he aims to take his place. But nonetheless, an important beginning to what may become a life long journey. And here is the lesson, why is it that the federal government’s position to be involved with healthcare? Should we legalize marijuana? What about same-sex marriage? What’s going to happen with our debt? Finally, what is with the American global policeman/hyper-interventionist complex?

As I previously mentioned, I will be addressing all of these issues in future articles, hoping to help rid the state of apathy that seems to be taking control of our country. While I do not claim to have all the answers, I am sick of the “Pepsi vs. Cola” false-choice society we live in and am tired of being told I have to support the lesser of two evils (which is still an evil, right?). If Martin Luther King Jr. were still alive today, I can promise you he would not have endorsed either of the two party’s presidential nominations; he would have supported the one candidate who would have voted on principle for freedom and fairness in society (we’re not talking Santorum or Newt here), but I’ll leave it to the readers to determine whom I am alluding to.

Connor Roth
A Sophomore Economics

The impact of a fallen legend

Steven Fisher
Senior
Morrissey Manor
Jan. 18

I am, how I live, and what I choose to make great sacrifice preparing for seems to be founded on a lie? Had there been no Lance Armstrong, I would not be a cyclist. What does that mean for me?

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Jan. 18
PHILLIP PHILLIPS comes ‘Home’ to Legends

By WILLIAM NEAL
Scence Writer

Phillip Phillips, the name so nice you have to say it twice (kind of), graced Notre Dame’s own Legends nightclub Saturday night to show a majority of the students that there’s more to his repertoire of songs than “Home.”

This Season 11 “American Idol” winner wowed the audience with his unique mix brand of folk and jazz, rock and rap, proving that he may just be the best thing to come out of “American Idol” since Taylor Hicks (just kidding).

But in all seriousness, Phillips may not be widely recognized outside of his triple platinum hit-single, but his Saturday concert demonstrated to everyone in attendance what a true talent he is.

Drawing songs from his debut album and Christmas present to mothers everywhere, “The world from the Side of the Moon,” the audience was able to see that this “Idol” star certainly has a style that strays from the pop scene. His songs may remind you in ways of artists like Mumford and Sons and John Mayer, but Phillips never seems like a rip-off of these performers who fall within this broad genre of music.

With every original song from “Man on the Moon” to “Gone, gone, gone” (sure to be his next radio hit), audiences would cheer for his talents both vocally and on the guitar. Soon, the students close enough in the crowd to pay attention would stop chanting for “Home” and instead just appreciate every song that followed.

The real treat before his finale was his occasional break out into guitar-infused rap hits. Girls and guys alike screamed with glee as Phillips transitioned into ten seconds of “Gangster’s Paradise” or played a mash-up of “Lose Yourself” and “All I Do Is Win.” Phillips is proof that in order to achieve success following an “American Idol” win, you don’t need the biggest voice, but instead a refreshing and entertaining style.

Phillips’ group featured a few talented musicians including a guitarist making creepy faces and one awesome cellist. When the time finally came for him to perform “Home,” the audience erupted into massive applause as a sea of recording cell phones emerged from the crowd.

It’s easy to see why this feel-good song was extensively featured in the Olympics, motion pictures and beyond: It’s enjoyable, unique and has a universal message (despite a lack of lyrical variety). This may have not been a high-energy concert (or one that had the confetti storm like Friday’s show), but it was by all means an enjoyable experience from start to finish.

Unless this isn’t your preferred style of music, the only issue I could mention was that Phillips never really made an effort to address and connect with the audience between songs. Maybe it’s just not Phillips’ strong point, but it’s one aspect that could have possibly improved the experience further.

In the end though, it’s all about the music, and he and his band certainly succeeded. I’ve listened to a few songs from his album, but they were far more enjoyable performed live.

Phillips is an artist who doesn’t blend in with the other performers of the pop scene but still has a style of music that can be appreciated just as widely. I’m confident from his performance that Phillips will continue to make an impact on the music scene and will certainly exceed beyond the status of a one-hit wonder.

Phillip Phillips is an outstanding musician, and for those of you who didn’t have the opportunity to see him perform live on Saturday, listen to his new album. You will be pleasantly surprised.

Contact William Neal at wneal@nd.edu
By LIZZY SCHROFF
Scene Writer

On Friday, Walk off the Earth came to Legends of Notre Dame to play a high-energy concert for a packed house. The show began with a short opening act by local guitarist and singer Steve Asiala. He came out armed solely with his acoustic guitar to play a five-song set.

He played several crowd favorites including George Michael’s “Faith,” Nelly’s “Ride Wit Me” and Hanson’s “MMMBop.” He also showcased a couple of his original songs to which the crowd responded with enthusiasm. He actively engaged the crowd with witty and funny banter between songs, garnering plenty of laughs.

After some set up time (there was an incredible amount of instruments on stage), Walk off the Earth came on stage donning black hoodies. The intro to their opening song, “Revolution in My Head,” began with a heart-pumping drum solo by Joel Cassidy, flashing lights and building guitar riff. All of the band members belted out the lyrics and continuously jumped up and down, making for an exciting show opening.

“Don’t be shy, we want to see you move around,” band member Sarah Blackwood exclaimed, leading right into “Magic” and “Corner of Queen.” During the songs, the band handed off instruments among each other, switching off electric guitars, bass guitars, ukuleles and a number of quirky percussion instruments. They kept making use of the confetti by entertainingly kicking confetti-laden cymbals on the edge of the stage.

Next up was a string of songs from their new record, “REVO.” “Red Hands”amped up the crowd and everyone was singing and clapping during the catchy chorus line. “Love Sponge” was introduced by a “tiny guitar battle” between Blackwood and Gianni Luminati — mandolin vs. ukulele. The song had a reggae feel in which the ukulele and bass guitars were prominently featured. One of my favorites of the night, “Speechez,” followed right after, highlighted by a passionately sung chorus, trumpets and fast tempo.

Blackwood premised the next song, “Julie,” by saying, “We’re going to play a dancing number now. We like the singers here, but we also like the dancers.” Singer and guitarist Ryan Marshall made an impressive guitar switch halfway through, swapping his electric guitar for an acoustic.

“100 Proof Life,” characterized by a beachy rock feel and upbeat rumba instrumental section, followed. One of the most unique instrumental parts of the show came during “These Times.” Luminati had a self-proclaimed “rock out moment” by playing on Marshall’s electric guitar strings with drumsticks and the two followed with a duet by playing on the same guitar.

Another crowd favorite, “Gang of Rhythm,” came next with guitars being flung across the stage, and the lyrically questionable “Dirty Picture.” Other highlights of the night were a rocking and harmonious cover of The Beatles’ “Eleanor Rigby” and a cover of fun.’s “Some Nights,” which had everyone in the audience belting the lyrics (including two of the band members who raised their Foster’s beers on high for the occasion).

“Back Up” (about “an old lady and her love of coffee,” declared Luminati) was a definite crowd pleaser with an interpretive dance portion complete with butt slapping and members of the band jumping up and down interchangeably in a “black hoodie” and a “white hoodie.”

The band concluded their regular set by leading into “Summer Vibe” with a soulful keyboard solo by Mike Taylor and highlighting the number with a sea of balloons and audience cue cards with the lyrics “Eh-oh, bob bop away-o.”

Walk off the Earth didn’t disappoint the audience’s cries for an encore, playing four songs in response. They began with “Little Boxes” (complete with cigar box guitar) before performing their legendary five-people, one-guitar version of Gotye’s “Somebody That I Used To Know.” Everyone cheered enthusiastically during “Beard Man’s” solo on the headstock strings, but he kept his famous serious facial expression through it all.

The band then engaged the crowd for a rendition of “Happy Birthday,” as it was drummer Cassidy’s 24th, and Luminati emphatically poured a can of beer on Cassidy’s head on the song’s last note. They concluded the night with “Man Down” and “Broke,” ending with a blast of confetti, flashing lights and sirens.

All in all, the show was electric and thrilling. The band’s diversity — from Luminati’s rapping lyrics to the members’ incredible multi-instrumental abilities to the use of lights, confetti cannons and quirky moves — made the performance a definite success.

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By ALLIE TOLLAKSEN
Scene Writer

Now that 2012 has come to a close, we can look back fondly on the top tracks of last year. We had the rise of “Royals” and with it countless parodies, of last year. we had the rise of “Call Me Maybe” and with it countless parodies, of last year. we had the rise of “Call Me Maybe” and with it countless parodies, and we heard of banks, you may have heard her debut album, “ii,” which will be released on Jan. 22.

David Bowie: It’s hard to think of David Bowie when previewing new music, but the seasoned musician has recorded an all-new album to be released in March. Bowie shocked fans this month by coming out of a 10-year hiatus with the online release of a new song, then surprised everyone even more by finally announcing the full-length album, titled “The Next Day.”

“Not much needs to be said about David Bowie — he is a legend — so check out “The Next Day” this year and be happy that Bowie is still releasing music, even if he’ll never top his performance in the movie “Labyrinth.”

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**SPORTS AUTHORITY**

Two teams, too much hassle

Vicky Jacobsen  
Sports Writer

Dear readers: Assuming I one day become ridiculously, disgustingly rich, please remind me that I can only purchase one of my favorite sports teams.

Let’s just say I’ve learned from John Henry’s mistakes. It now seems obvious that owning one dysfunctional organization full of needy young millionaires is more than enough to keep any middle-aged billionaire busy, but in 2010 I was overjoyed at the prospect of Henry and Red Sox co-owner Tom Werner taking the reigns at Liverpool. I’d grown to love Boston cross-sport promotion (yes, I’m one of those people who reads the article about Wes Welker being spotted at a Celtics game.) I had realized my reasons for supporting Liverpool were tenuous at best — as a nine-year-old living in England, I had decided that Reds star Michael Owen was way cuter than Manchester United’s David Beckham — but now Fenway Sports Group was bringing two of my favorite teams together.

As if it couldn’t get worse, watching horrifying forced interactions between the Red Sox and the Reds is not nearly as fun as it is between the Red Sox and the Yankees.

While both teams have histories that had sputtered by the time I started following the team (the Sox, of course, had a legendary 86-year title drought, while Liverpool has won league titles, but none in the last 23 years.) Both have legions of working class supporters with Irish heritage.

“I don’t know why supporters think their owners are skimping on the time and money spent on each organization. For both teams, the problem wasn’t so much an unwillingness to pay for star players, but rather splurges who weren’t worth their paycheck.”

I feel certain that all of the Fenway Faithful will one day grow to love “Sweet Caroline” in the same way Anfield loves “You’ll Never Walk Alone.” (As far as I’m concerned, the Neil Diamond holdsouts belong to a special population of New Englanders who despise fun.) And one last thing they have in common: their troubles stretch far beyond the reach of the owners.

Contact Vicky Jacobsen at vjacobse@nd.edu  
The views expressed in this Sports Authority are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

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**SMC SWIMMING**  
**CALVIN 186, SMC 54; KALAMAZOO 169, SMC 61**

Calvin 186-54 and Kalamazoo 169-61. Calvin and Kalamazoo also competed in the meet. Freshman Emily Brown set a personal best in the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 5:39.87. Sophomore Anna Nolan and freshmen Carolyn Neville, Megan Knoblock and senior Ellie Watson finished the 200-yard freestyle relay in 1:43.30, a top-five time in St. Mary’s program history.

Sophomore Anna Nolan posted one of the most impressive performances of the night by finishing third overall in both the 50-yard freestyle and the 100-yard backstroke.

Senior Ellie Watson showcased her ability at longer distances, finishing third in both the 200 and 500-yard freestyle events.

Despite the pair of losses, the Belles have plenty to take away from the meet heading into next Saturday’s regular season finale against Olivet at Notre Dame.

“We are right on pace, especially out of the long layover,” Benishek said. “We are setting ourselves up for conference play well. We need to continue our training to make that big push and fine tune to cut down on hardships of seconds.”

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**SMC BASKETBALL**  
**OLIVET 87, SMC 63**

Belles lose Olivet rematch

Observer Staff Report

After losing a 79-75 nail-biter to Olivet back in early December, Saint Mary’s was looking for revenge Saturday in a road conference match-up against the Comets. Unfortunately for the Belles, this one was not nearly as close, with Olivet winning comfortably 87-63 at the Cutler Event Center in Olivet, Mich.

The Belles (2-13, 3-6 MIAA) fell behind early, with the Comets (12-6, 7-2) coming out on fire from behind the arc. Oliver made three consecutive three-pointers to give them a 12-point lead just eight minutes into the game.

The Belles clawed back into the game with a 10-0 run of their own, but Olivet’s dry spell was short-lived. A 13-1 run gave the Comets a 46-26 lead with two minutes left in the first half, putting the game almost out of reach. The Comets would keep at least a twenty-point lead for the rest of the game, coasting to the victory.

Junior forward Katherine Walher and freshman forward Krista Knapke were the only Belles in double figures, scoring 13 points apiece on combined 10-of-21 shooting. The 13 points were a career high for Walher, and she also added six rebounds.

For the second time in as many games, the Belles gave up 67 points to an opponent and turnovers and defense again showed themselves as the inexperienced Belles main weaknesses, with the Comets scoring 27 points off of 22 Belles turnovers. Saint Mary’s forced 26 turnovers, but only managed 20 points off of those created chances.

The Belles are now 2-8 in their last ten games, and in those eight losses they have been outscored by nearly 17 points per game.

Saint Mary’s will look to pick up a win when they return home to face MIAA for Adrian on Wednesday. Tip-off for that game is set for 7:30 p.m.
Freshman fencers compete

Observer Staff Report

A select group of fencers from Notre Dame traveled as individuals in connection with their club teams to compete in the Junior North American Cup. The four-day event consists of different age groups and levels of competition, but so far the Irish fencers have had a great impact in the tournament.

The highlight of the event so far was freshman epee Catherine Lee winning the Junior Women’s Epee tournament Saturday afternoon. There were 175 fencers in the field, and Lee methodically defeated her opponents. In the pool play, Lee placed second in her group, going 5-1 and earning 28 points. As the number of fencers dwindled down, Lee continued to pick up momentum up to the final bout, where she defeated Audrey Yun in the championship 15-10.

Catherine Lee winning the tournament.

The Irish were also represented in Louisville by two male fencers with the epee weapon. Freshmen epee John Poremski and Garrett McGrath placed in the top fourth of the field for the Junior Men’s event on Saturday. Poremski was able to place 53rd out of more than 250 competitors. Not far behind was McGrath, who placed in 65th. Overall, the men and women have gained valuable experience that will be useful when they begin to compete in school tournaments against top programs.

Monday morning at 8 a.m., freshman saber John Hallsten will compete in the Junior Men’s Saber tournament. Hallsten is the last of the Notre Dame fencers to compete before getting back to prepare for the upcoming Saint John’s and New York University Invitational on January 26 and January 27, respectively.

Irish remain undefeated

By MEGAN FINNERAN
Sports Writer

The Irish jump-started the season Friday by defeating Cleveland State 131-112 in the first dual meet of the spring season. Notre Dame (6-0) increased its record against Cleveland State to 28-10, continuing its longstanding competition against the school that first came to Rolfs Aquatics Center in 1985.

The Vikings won first place in seven of the 13 events, but the Irish gathered points in other areas to take the overall win.

“This meet first and foremost is a great example of our depth,” senior Chris Johnson said. “In the events that we didn’t win, we had guys still placing high, and a bunch of them. That helps us make up the point difference between first and second or third.”

Senior Bill Bass guided the Irish through the afternoon, winning two individual events. He finished the 200-yard individual medley in 1:56.59, joined by junior teammates Colin Babcock and Berrie Nel in second and third with times of 1:51.39 and 1:56.32, respectively.

Bass also took first in the 100-yard butterfly in 50.58. Sophomore teammates John Williamson and Broderick Kelley came close behind, finishing the race in 51.25 and 51.66, respectively to secure the top three for Notre Dame.

Other top finishes for the squad came in the 200-yard medley relay, where freshman Bogar Ayhan, Johnson, Bass and senior Kevin Overholt edged out the Vikings quartet. Freshman Michael Hudspith took the top spot in the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 1:40.29, closely followed by sophomore teammate Kevin Hughes who took second in 1:40.64.

Hughes then earned his own top finish in the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 4:33.04. Babcock earned the sixth top finish for the Irish, winning the 100-yard breaststroke at 36.11.

A deep roster enabled Notre Dame to overpower Vikings seniors Berry Thompson and Mark De Swardt, who both gathered four first-place finishes.

Sophomore Brennan Jacobsen added a second place in the 1650-yard freestyle and a third place in the 500-yard freestyle, while Overholt notched a second place in the 100-yard freestyle and Ayhan and Nel took two and three in the 100-yard backstroke.

On the diving side, Cleveland State won both the one-meter and three-meter dive, but Notre Dame’s second and third places in both events sealed the Irish victory.

The one-meter dive highlighted senior Ryan Koter in second with 307.04 points and sophomore Ted Wagner in third with 288.82 points. The three-meter saw sophomore John Andrade in second with 284.55 points and Wagner in third with 278.25 points.

This was a great last dual meet of the season as we start looking forward to our final invites and conference because it shows we don’t need to win every event to win overall,” Johnson said.

The Irish next welcome Harvard and Towson Jan. 25 and 26 for the Shamrock Invitational in the Rolfs Aquatic Center.

Contact Megan Finneran at mfinnera@nd.edu
REV. JOHN I. JENKINS, C.S.C., INVITES ALL STUDENTS, FACULTY, STAFF, AND THEIR FAMILIES TO PARTICIPATE IN A

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To honor the legacy of DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

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“TO BE A CHRISTIAN WITHOUT PRAYER IS NO MORE POSSIBLE THAN TO BE ALIVE WITHOUT BREATHING.”
—DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.
By RICH HIDY
Sports Writer

The Irish had a field day in the Notre Dame Invitational on Saturday at the Loftus Center, as the men’s team finished second in the tournament and the women won the event.

The Irish competed against three other teams: South Florida, DePaul and Michigan State. The main purpose of the meet was to identify qualifiers for the Big East Championships, as Notre Dame’s top athletes looked to beat the standards needed to secure a spot in next month’s title meet.

The Irish women scored 193 points, outscoring the second-month’s title meet. Senior Michelle Brown won the season as they advance into next month’s title meet.

Junior Jennifer Kellner was ninth in the tournament and the Irish won. She also placed fifth in the third set, 6-3, 6-4, 6-2, securing the Irish win.

The Irish will take on Georgia Tech at the Nebraska Tennis Center at 3 p.m. on Jan. 26.

Contact Rich Hidy at rhidy@nd.edu

Irish win 12 events at home

By VICKY JACOBSEN
Sports Writer

Squad holds off late Illini surge

Junior Britney Sanders, who is No. 58 in the nation and played in the No. 1 spot, defeated Bowling Green junior Emily Reiland 6-7, 7-6 (7-5) on Friday but fell to sophomore Melissa Kopinski 6-3, 6-3.

“I was sick this weekend, so I didn’t play my best,” Sanders said.

Despite feeling under the weather, Sanders said she was glad to get back to competing as a team.

“It was exciting to finally get back into the dual season,” Sanders said. “The fall season was fun, but it was all individual stuff. Having teammates playing beside you and competing as a team is much more exciting.”

Gleason and Sabacinski also picked up singles wins against the Falcons, beating seniors Madison Bush,wash and Jade Johnson, respectively.

Next weekend the Irish head to Lincoln, Neb., for the ITA Kick-Off Weekend, where the Cornhuskers will host Notre Dame, Georgia Tech and Tennessee.

“I want to work on my aggressive game,” Sanders said. “Next weekend we’ll be playing tough teams so we have to work hard this week.”

The Irish will take on Georgia Tech at the Nebraska Tennis Center at 3 p.m. on Jan. 26.

Contact Vicky Jacobsen at vjacobse@nd.edu

MBL

Cardinals fans remember Musial

Associated Press

St. Louis — Stan the Man was the dominant topic at the St. Louis Cardinals’ annual fan festival. Outside Busch Stadium, it was totally about paying tribute, too.

All day Sunday, fans ignored near-freezing temperatures and gathered around the larger of the two Musial statues at the ballpark, remembering the Hall of Famer and franchise icon who died Saturday at 92. Team flags were at half-staff.

Among the tributes was a statement from President Barack Obama saying he was “saddened to learn of the passing of baseball legend Stan Musial.”

Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon called Musial’s family on arrangements for the “a great American hero who — with the utmost humility — inspired us all to aim high and dream big. The world is emptier today without him, but far better to have known him.”

The team was awaiting word from Musial’s family on arrangements for a formal tribute. Weather could preclude a home-plate ceremony and cardent viewing for fans such as was done when broadcaster Jack Buck died in 2002.

“It’s the end of an incredible era,” team chairman Bill DeWitt Jr. said. “We’ve told them whatever they would like to do, we would certainly be there for them.”

“Stan epitomized everything that’s great about Cardinal baseball in every way.”

Despite the weather there was a game-day feel at the ballpark. Demons at a time congregated around the statue, often blocking a lane of traffic to get the perfect photo. Many fans dropped off memorials, including miniature bats, balls inscribed with messages, hats, flowers and flags at the base.

A tear rolling down one eye, 65-year-old Gene Sandroski of St. Louis remembered attending a 1954 doubleheader when Musial hit five homers against the New York Giants at Sportsman’s Park.
Irish drop just one set during the weekend

By PETER STEINER
Sports Writer

The Irish began their spring season in dominating fashion, sweeping both Big East opponent Marquette and Western Illinois 7-0. In its first match against Marquette (0-1), Notre Dame (2-0) took little time to grab a commanding lead, dropping just one closely contested first set in the six singles matches.

“We were all really excited,” Irish senior Blas Moros said. “We came back a little bit early from Christmas break for two-a-days and put in the hard work, and I think it’s paying off. We started off really well today.”

Moros was the first Irish player off the courts, defeating sophomore Vukasin Teofanovic 6-2, 6-2. Junior Greg Andrews and freshman Quentin Monaghan quickly followed suit, defeating their opponents at No. 1 and No. 3 singles, respectively.

“I think I played pretty well today,” Moros said. “There are always areas to improve, but it’s a good start. And I think the team is closer than it’s ever been before while I’ve been here and we are playing at a really high level.”

With the 7-0 victory over the Golden Eagles, the Irish notched their first win over a Big East foe this season. Notre Dame has now defeated Marquette in each of its last three seasons.

“Marquette is a good school, and they always have a good lineup and we expected a tough battle, and they gave that to us,” Moros said. “It’s nice to get the victory and a conference victory is always good.”

After defeating the Golden Eagles, the Irish moved onto to face Western Illinois, whose coach Chris Kane served as a senior captain for the Notre Dame tennis team in 1975.

While the Irish rearranged its lineup for the Leathernecks, the result remained the same. Notre Dame took the doubles point with victories from the No. 1 and No. 3 doubles teams, composed of senior Spencer Talmadge and sophomore Dougie Barnard, and freshmen Kenneth Sabacinski and Nicolas Montoya, respectively. The Irish then swept the six singles matches without dropping a set.

Moros and the Irish were especially pleased to finish Saturday with two convincing victories as he says the team is now on the right track.

“First matches are about getting the jitters out and getting your feel for the court,” Moros said. “Matches are always different than practice so especially for our freshmen, just getting out there and getting a win is big for confidence. We have a lot of tough matches going forward. We have Northwestern in three days already so we are into it.”

The Irish will host the Wildcats on Tuesday night at the Eck Tennis Pavilion at 6 p.m.

Contact Peter Steiner at psteiner@nd.edu

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PAID ADVERTISEMENT
Hoosiers win nine of 16 events against Irish

By ALEX WILCOX
Sports Writer

Notre Dame fell to Indiana, 175-125 Saturday at the Counsilman-Billingsley Aquatic Center in Bloomington, Ind.

Indiana won nine of 16 events, including both relays. Sophomore Emma Reaney was a bright spot as a triple-winner for the Irish, winning the 100 and 200 breaststroke and the 200 IM. Senior Jenny Chiang swept the diving competition, winning both the one- and three-meter dives. Other Irish victors were senior Kim Holden and sophomore Bridget Casey, winners of the 100 and 200 fly, respectively.

En route to victory, the Hoosiers swept the relays, and recorded victories in every discipline of freestyle and backstroke.

Despite the loss, Reaney was impressed with the way her teammates stepped up when asked.

“We had a couple girls sick or injured, and others stepped up and swam events, so it showed how were gaining depth and becoming more versatile as we head into the championship season.”

Indiana was able to jump out on the Irish in several events, sweeping the top two spots in the 1,000 free, 200 free, and 50 free. Reaney said that the Irish had to not only contend with the Hoosier swimmers, but also a quick turnaround coming back from winter break.

“I think it was hard having a meet right after a first week back to school. Everyone was tired, it was kind of a shock,” Reaney said, “I forgot we were there for a meet until after the first event. We swam as well as we could have under the circumstances.”

Despite the loss, Reaney is still confident in her team and doesn’t believe they are in need of any major changes as they prepare for the postseason, even with just two meets remaining before next month’s Big East championships in Indianapolis.

“If we just stick with what we’re doing and stay focused we’ll be good,” she said. “As the practices become shorter and easier, it’s easy for the girls to lose focus, so we just need to stay on track.”

On an individual level, Reaney continued her impressive season with three more wins. While she has been dominating the pool all season long, she credits her success to sheer enjoyment.

“I’ve never taken swimming too seriously, the most important thing is just to make sure I’m having fun,” Reaney said. “I really love my team and sometimes swimming can be really hard but I just try to stay lose, goof around, and have a good time.”

The Irish will look to rebound this weekend, when they’ll finish out their home season against Towson in the Shamrock Invitational.

Contact Alex Wilcox at awilcox1@nd.edu
to the Irish with just two sec-

onds remaining. Junior guard
Eric Atkins drained both free
throws to give Notre Dame the
69-66 lead.
“I figured that they were going
to try to get to the rim,” Martin
said. “My man was just stand-
ing in the corner, I hope. That is
where he was the last time I saw
him. I tried to get to the spot.
I was a little bit too late just in
time. I knew that was a charge. I
have taken a lot of them in my day.”
Cooley said that’s exactly what
the sixth-year man does for the
Irish.
“Scott is the best at getting in
there and taking charges,” Cooley
said. “He is going to do that as a
charge. It was just a great play,
and it won us the game.”
Notre Dame held a 38-1 lead
at halftime and quickly sped out
at a 13-point advantage to start
the second half. But the Scarlet
Knights stormed back and cut
the lead to three with 2:47 remain-
ing in the second half. Rutgers deployed full-court pressure
that forced four Notre Dame turn-
overs and started outscoring Stein-
in the first half.
The Irish led 66-58 with 2:48 to
play after a bucket from Cooley,
but Carter, Rutgers’ leading scor-
er, willowed the Scarlet Knights back
with six of the next eight Rutgers
points to cut the Irish lead 67-66
before Martin took the charge.
“You always needed to win one
like that tonight,” Bray said.
“I thought we really defended
well and defended at key times. It
was great to see Jack Cooley back
in gear, Scott Martin taking that
charge, Martin scoring just four
points but picked up the likes
of Cooley. After playing just 18
minutes — none of which came
down the stretch — against the
Red Storm, Cooley rebounded to
power the Irish with 19 points
and 10 rebounds.
“It was all about focusing,”
Cooley said of his improved per-
formance. “I needed just to get
back out there and keep doing
what I do. I watched some film
from last year. Last year I had a
pretty good game against these
guys, so I wanted to see how I
could improve from that.”
Sophomore guard-forward
Pat Connaughton added 17
points on four three-pointers
while defending Carter, Junior
guards Eric Atkins and Jerian
Grant scored a combined 23
points, while Grant dished out
10 assists.
The Irish will look to make it
back-to-back wins when they
square off with Georgetown
tonight. The Hoyas started the
season 10-4 and are ranked as
high as No. 15 in the nation. But
since the calendars have flipped
to 2013, Georgetown is 2-3, in-
cluding Saturday’s 61-58 loss to
South Florida.
Despite their recent struggles,
Bray said he is not taking any
Big East opponent lightly.
“When you have 14 [Big East]
teams in the top 100 of the RPI,
there’s no easy one,” Bray said.
“Everybody can play. … Other
than [Louisville and Syracuse]
the rest of us are fighting for our
lives.”
Notre Dame battles another
Big East foe when it tips off
against the Hoyas tonight at 7:30
p.m. at Purcell Pavilion.
Contact Mike Monaco at
mmonoac@nd.edu

Irish sophomore right wing Garrett Peterson tries to stow the puck
past an Alaska defenseman in Alaska’s 5-4 win on Friday.
Injuries kept junior right
and left wings Mike Voran
and Jeff Costello out of both games. When DiPauli received the
game misconduct in Saturday’s game,
the Irish were left without any
other available forwards. The
Irish felt the impact on their penal-
ty-killung unit, whose members
were fatigued by the third period,
Jackson said.
“The tough thing is when you
got those guys, because of the
short-handedness of our penal-
ty kill, and you got [Tynan, Lee
and junior right winger Bryan Rust] and trying to find that chemistry
of something going again.”
NEXT UP: Notre Dame will
look to make it three back-to-back
wins against Georgetown on
Saturday when the Hoyas come
to battle the Irish.
Contact Peter Steiner at
psteiner@nd.edu

forward) Markisha Wright got
double-teamed and kicked it out,
so they did the hard part. I was
just open and shot it.
Overall, the Irish were sev-
en-for-11 from the three-point
range, a mark well above their
season average.
“Seven-for-11 is just phenom-
enal,” McGraw said. “I think the
guards got us great looks; the
drive was there. When that
makes us really hard to guard.
If you think about trying to double
team inside on [Achorwua], you
have to worry about the shooters
on the perimeter.”
Notre Dame received strong
play from the Irish, especially to one of our top pen-
alty killers … was a little bit too
much,” Jackson said. “That’s how
a lot of our games have gone in re-
cent games. Something happens, it
changes the momentum of the game
and [Saturday night] it was
the five-minute major and it was
hand for us to get back.
Alaska took advantage of the
opportunity and scored two
quick back-to-back goals in the
first minute of the first period.
Down 2-1 at the end of the first
period, the Irish were never able
to regain momentum. Notre
Dame had four power play op-
portunities after losing the lead,
including a nearly four-minute
one-man advantage, but the Irish
were unable to score.
“Our power play hasn’t had the
same chemistry since we lost two
guys from our top two units, one
from each unit,” Jackson said.
“We’re trying to reunite Tynan
and Lee (and… ) and [Tynan, Lee
and junior right winger Bryan
together] and try to find that chemistry
of something going again.”
NEXT UP: Notre Dame will
look to make it three of four games
in the CCHA with 33 points.
The Irish will finally have a
full week of practice and a nor-
mal routine after finishing its
sixth game in 12 days.
“We have a good week of
practice,” Jackson said. “Rest,
back into a normal routine with
school and practice. Then we
just have to wait until we get
some guys healthy and hopeiful-
ly we get that chemistry back.”
The Irish will face Ferris State
this upcoming weekend at the
Compton Family Ice Arena.

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Crossword | Will Shortz

Horoscope | Eugenia Last

Celebrities born on this day: Tracee Ellis Ross, 44; Rainer Wilson, 47; Bill Maher, 57; David Lynch, 67.

Happy Birthday:

Make lifestyle or home improvement alterations that will set you in a positive direction for the upcoming year. You mustn’t waste time mulling over the past when recognizing what works for you and what works against you is all that’s required. Get moving in a positive direction, not one that brings you into a state of confusion and disarray.

Your numbers are 6, 12, 23, 31, 37, 48.

New rules will be required to succeed.

Arbitrary: (March 21-April 19): A helping hand and you will get something in return. A greater interest in a cause you come across will open doors to new adventures and people you enjoy keeping company with. Since you are more confident and respectful, you are ready to expand your horizons.

L Mom’s April 24: Make travel plans. Enjoy a quiet day with someone you think is special. Do your best to enhance an important relationship. Listen to what’s being said and you will discover something that will help you in a project.

Gemini: (May 21-June 20): Don’t share too much information. You will be misunderstood if you aren’t careful, causing uncertainty that can harm your relationships. For very direct and don’t make promises unless you plan to honor your word. Good sense will be required to succeed.

Leo: (July 23-Aug. 22): Keep your emotions in check when dealing with personal matters or people you feel responsible for. Don’t let demands be put on you or agree to something you feel may damage your reputation. A change of scenery will do you good.

Virgo: (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Make travel plans. Enjoy a quiet day with someone you think is special. Do your best to enhance an important relationship. Listen to what’s being said and you will discover something that will help you in a project.

Peaceful: (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Make sure your actions don’t interfere with anyone’s privacy or space. Getting the go-ahead from family or a neighbor will result in additional help you didn’t expect. Get the job done fast and enjoy downtime with friends.

Aquarius: (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Entertain friends or move things around to make room for a hobby you want to start. Spending time at home will help you conceptualize ideas that will ensure your happiness and comfort. Discipline will be needed.

Pisces: (Feb. 19-March 20): Let your intuition help determine what you should or shouldn’t do. Set a budget that will allow you to live more comfortably in the near future. An idea will spark interest, and help and suggestions will be offered.

Birthday Baby: You are adventurous, experimental and unpredictable. You are emotional and supportive.

The Observer apologizes for the absence of

Lower Your Expectations
The Irish snapped their two-game losing streak with the victory over the Scarlet Knights.

Junior guard Eric Atkins reaches for a layup during Notre Dame’s 69-66 win over Rutgers on Saturday.

Irish drop pair of games at home

In a weekend marked as an opportunity to return to form, Notre Dame fell further into its slump, losing a 5-4 heartbreaker Friday followed by a 2-1 defeat Saturday at the hands of Alaska. The Irish returned to the Compton Family Ice Arena this weekend hopeful after losing three games on their four-game road trip. But playing at home didn’t cure the Irish struggles as they finished the weekend stuck in a four-game losing streak.

Friday’s game particularly stung for the Irish as they fought back twice in the third period, only to allow two Alaska goals soon after. Down 3-2 midway through the third period and facing a penalty kill situation, the Irish tied the game when senior defenseman Sam Calabrese connected with streaking junior center T.J. Tyran, who finished the breakaway against Nanook freshman goalie John Keeney. But Alaska countered less than a minute later when senior left winger Jarret Granberg tipped in a pass from senior right winger Nik Varemchuk to retake the lead, 4-3.

“When T.J. scored that tying goal, we were flying,” Lee said. “Then they came back and popped one to take the lead again and it just kills you.”

“Ace [Achonwa] played only 23 minutes ... and is really capable of doing that often,” Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. “It’s so fun to watch her because she really dominates on the backboard. The guards help, but really Ace is the reason we are an outstanding team.”

Notre Dame also excelled on the defensive end, limiting St. John’s to 35 percent shooting from the field. The Irish held Red Storm senior guard Shenneka Smith, the team’s leading scorer, to only three points on one-of-15 shooting.

“I was really pleased with our defense,” McGraw said. “[Freshman guard] Jewell Loyd did a phenomenal job once again on their best player, holding Smith to her season low. [Junior guard] Kayla McBride also guarded her, and the two of them really did a great job.”

After St. John’s sophomore forward Amber Thompson scored the game’s first basket, Notre Dame went on a 17-2 run. Behind senior guard Skylar Diggins’ 12 first-half points and Achonwa’s 10 first-half points, the Irish went into halftime with a 39-25 lead. Although Notre Dame didn’t score its first points until the 16:14 mark of the second half, the Irish soon heated up, as they went on a 19-6 run to put the game away. Sophomore guard Madison Cable came off the bench to help spark the Irish in the second half, as she scored 13 points and was three-for-three from beyond the arc.

“I got some pretty open looks,” Cable said. “[Sophomore guard] Whitney Holloway found me a couple times, so I hoisted some shots.”

“Great game for us today,” Irish coach Mike Brey said of the bounce-back win. “I’m thrilled.”

“I told them, it’s going to be hard in this league. Things are going to be hard … but you have to fight [Rutgers] off after turning it over a little bit, missed some free throws, but we have to make some plays to steal a win.”

The Irish were forced to do just that. With Notre Dame leading 67-64 with 12 seconds remaining, Rutgers sophomore guard Elia Carro drove the length of the court and scored to cut the lead to one. Then the Scarlet Knights forced a jump ball on the ensuing inbounds pass. The possession arrow favored Rutgers.

Carter then drove the lane past his defender but Irish graduate student forward Scott Martin took a charge to give the ball back to Notre Dame.

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