Pope Francis celebrates first Easter at Vatican

Notre Dame students present for iconic Mass, describe a “phenomenal experience.”

By MEGHAN THOMASSEN
Managing Editor

ROME — This Sunday, more than 100 Notre Dame study abroad students joined the thousands packed into St. Peter’s Square to attend the first Easter Mass presided over by Pope Francis.

Bobby Weltner, a junior studying abroad in London, said he loved attending this very special Italian Mass. “Getting to see the Pope up close and to celebrate communion with people from around the world is pretty special. It’s been a phenomenal experience,” Weltner said.

After the Mass, Pope Francis boarded the “pope-mobile” and shook hands with the people in the square, kissed several babies and embraced attendees confined to wheelchairs lined up along the road. Weltner said Pope Francis’s special attention to some of society’s most vulnerable awed onlookers.

“There were some really touching moments when he was driving around,” Weltner said. “He was hugging a special needs kid, and he really held that hug for a long time.”

Amanda Bambury, a junior studying abroad in Paris this year, said she appreciated how much time Pope Francis held that hug for a long time.

Parents rank ND as No. 4

By ANN MARIE JAKUBOWSKI
News Editor

Parents listed Notre Dame as the No. 4 “dream school” for their children in the Princeton Review’s annual “College Hopes and Worries” survey, marking the second consecutive year the University has held that place.

The Princeton Review website states “dream colleges” are schools parents wish their child could attend if cost and admission were not contributing factors, and the 2013 list ranks Notre Dame behind Stanford University, Harvard University and Princeton University.

Students ranked their own top-10 dream colleges in a different list, and Notre Dame was not included in that set.

SMC ends varsity swim program

By KAITLYN RABACH
Saint Mary’s Editor

Karen Johnson, vice president of Student Affairs at Saint Mary’s, informed students March 19 of the plan to end the varsity swimming program, a decision made by College President Carol Ann Mooney and her cabinet in collaboration with director of athletics Julie Schnieden Biek.

The varsity swimming program began in 1975 and since then, five students have received a total of 12 all-conference individual awards.

“The elimination of swimming as a varsity sport was a difficult decision and one that was not taken lightly,” Johnson said. “However, waning interest in participation, the lack of appropriate on-campus facilities and the recent resignation of current coach Mark Benishek led the leadership of the College to this conclusion.”

Parents listed Notre Dame as the No. 4 “dream school” for their children in the Princeton Review’s annual “College Hopes and Worries” survey, marking the second consecutive year the University has held that place.

The Princeton Review website states “dream colleges” are schools parents wish their child could attend if cost and admission were not contributing factors, and the 2013 list ranks Notre Dame behind Stanford University, Harvard University and Princeton University.

Students ranked their own top-10 dream colleges in a different list, and Notre Dame was not included in that set.

SMC ends varsity swim program

By KAITLYN RABACH
Saint Mary’s Editor

Karen Johnson, vice president of Student Affairs at Saint Mary’s, informed students March 19 of the plan to end the varsity swimming program, a decision made by College President Carol Ann Mooney and her cabinet in collaboration with director of athletics Julie Schnieden Biek.

The varsity swimming program began in 1975 and since then, five students have received a total of 12 all-conference individual awards.

“The elimination of swimming as a varsity sport was a difficult decision and one that was not taken lightly,” Johnson said. “However, waning interest in participation, the lack of appropriate on-campus facilities and the recent resignation of current coach Mark Benishek led the leadership of the College to this conclusion.”

Parents listed Notre Dame as the No. 4 “dream school” for their children in the Princeton Review’s annual “College Hopes and Worries” survey, marking the second consecutive year the University has held that place.

The Princeton Review website states “dream colleges” are schools parents wish their child could attend if cost and admission were not contributing factors, and the 2013 list ranks Notre Dame behind Stanford University, Harvard University and Princeton University.

Students ranked their own top-10 dream colleges in a different list, and Notre Dame was not included in that set.
QUESTION OF THE DAY:
Where did you meet your best friend?

Bridget Callaghan: Howard Hall
“At the golf course.”

Allison McKown: Lyons Hall
“Frosh-O.”

Max Lachowcki: O’Neill Hall
“On the playground in kindergarten.”

Nick Besler: O’Neill Hall
“Baltimore, Md.”

Noelle Langmack: McGlinn Hall
“Sixth grade.”

Ted Cogan: O’Neill Hall
“Pre-K.”

Students play frisbee on South Quad on Tuesday. Although the temperature barely reached the mid-30s, students spent time outside in celebration of a rare glimpse of the sun.
Faculty studies concussions

By LESLEY STEVENSON
News Writer

Baraka Bouts and Bengal Bouts may be two of the most anticipated annual athletic events at Notre Dame, but for computer science faculty members Dr. Christian Poellabauer and Dr. Patrick Flynn, the fights offered a chance to put two years’ worth of concussion diagnostics research to the test.

“Impacted brain function can cause slurred speech,”Poellabauer said. “Specifically, we isolate vowels in the words spoken by the athlete into a microphone and look at the different frequencies that are presented in [his] speech and see how they deviate from the norm.”

The program analyzes a boxer’s voice recording after his or her match and compares it to a baseline vocal sample recorded during a pre-fight physical examination, Poellabauer said. The algorithm then “spits out a score representing the possibility of a concussion.

If the score is above a certain threshold, then we would refer the athlete to a doctor for examination,”Poellabauer said.

For Bengal and Baraka Bouts, boxers could opt into the test, which required them to speak certain words into an iPad microphone, Poellabauer said.

“We looked just a little deeper into the actual composition of the voice to see if there’s any kind of ... change in the frequencies or the amplitudes,” she said. “We were focusing on the vowels because they’re the easiest to examine, to find changes. And luckily we were able to find such changes.”

Poellabauer and Flynn said these indicators of a potential concussion include distorted vowels, hypernasality and imprecise consonants, but they agreed the biggest challenge for the team is collecting enough data to support effective analysis.

“It turns out that a boxing tournament is almost ideal in terms of data collection,” Flynn said. “We don’t want anyone to get concussed, but they’re guaranteed to happen in a large-scale boxing tournament.”

The program does not guarantee an accurate final diagnosis of potential concussions, nor is it meant to do so, Flynn said.

“The idea is to make this a rapid screening tool that basically anyone can perform, and it’s intended to characterize the risk,”Flynn said. “It’s not diagnosing per se, but it is providing this score that if it has any kind of elevated level, you would probably suggest to a coach that a follow-up medical visit is necessary.”

The application has the potential to be applied toward other types of brain damage, including diseases like Parkinson’s and Alzheimer’s,Flynn said. There are also plans to team with the Cleveland Clinic to expand the test’s use to other sports and potentially prepare it for the commercial market.

“The goal of the app is to be fairly conservative,”Flynn said. “Any commercial or widely-used version of the app would need to guard against false negatives.”

The project began nearly two years ago in the fall of 2011 when Poellabauer and his team, which includes additional faculty and students, contacted University physician James Moriarty about applying their diagnostic test to athletes in danger of concussions.

“We actually had some students doing a class project on using tablets for detecting brain injuries,” Poellabauer said.

“After that project was over, we had the idea of trying to reach out to Dr. Moriarty ... to see if we could use such a test on campus, and he offered for us to test for the boxing competitions.”

With the support of Notre Dame’s student and community members, Poellabauer and Flynn said they hope the app will be more widely tested.

“It’s very preliminary, but there’s definitely interest in our work,”Flynn said.

Contact Lesley Stevenson at lsteenven@nd.edu

Service unites campus, city

By CAROLINA WILSON
News Writer

Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s will join the South Bend community for their fifth annual CommUniversity Day on Saturday.

This annual day of service unites local college students and community members in an effort to complete various volunteering projects around the city. Freshman Adam Henderson, one of the event planners, said CommUniversity Day fosters a positive relationship between Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s and South Bend.

“CommUniversity Day provides a unique opportunity for students to get off campus and volunteer, encouraging many students to go into South Bend for a good cause,” Henderson said. “It shows that we are committed to making the area a better place.”

The annual CommUniversity tradition began in 2009, Henderson said. The Robinson Community Learning Center, the City of South Bend and the directors of community relations and social concerns in Notre Dame’s student government decided involving students and community members in volunteering projects would increase the positive contact between the campus and the broader community.

The day-long event at first involved only a few hundred people, but last year participation reached approximately 750 volunteers, Henderson said.

Senior Kelsey Eckenrode, a member of the CommUniversity Day planning team, said the group hopes the event will extend to a larger variety of participants this year.

“Although Notre Dame students make up the majority of student volunteers, we are putting a large emphasis on getting students from other area colleges to participate as well,” she said. “Students from Saint Mary’s College, Ivy Tech and [Indiana University South Bend] are all expected to participate this year. We also expect more community members to take part this year than in years past.”

There are 35 different projects lined up this year, including painting fire hydrants, preparing gardens, cleaning up parks, marking storm drains to discourage pollution, and repainting crosswalks, Eckenrode said.

“The day will begin with a Homeward Bound Walk/SK for at the Robinson Community Learning Center, which benefits local agencies that help the homeless,” she said. “There will also be a bus tour of the Notre Dame campus for interested community members.”

Volunteer projects will span the late morning and afternoon, Eckenrode said. The day will culminate in a picnic at 3 p.m. at the Robinson Community Learning Center for those involved.

Although the city government suggests most of the projects, Eckenrode said other community and university groups are encouraged to submit specific project proposals. The ideal volunteer projects pair certain jobs with organizations expressing interest in those areas, Henderson said.

“This [partnering] is a good way to get people to participate in the CommUniversity Day,” he said. “People are more likely to participate and have a better time if they work with an organization they are familiar with and that their friends are a part of, one of the goals of the service projects is to promote increased student participation in the South Bend community, Henderson said.

“Eckenrode said CommUniversity Day enables students to give back to South Bend.

“It is intended to be a celebration of our community,” she said.

Contact Carolina Wilson at cwilsni@nd.edu
Easter
continued from page 1

took to greet the crowd. 
“He went around a lot try-
ing to see as many pilgrims
as he could. We were running
around trying to catch the
pope,” Bambury said. “It’s amaz-
ing that so many people
tried to get to the square, just
to go to Mass with the pope.
It was great to hear people
cheer, ‘Viva la Papa!’ There’s
just so much love for our
pope.”

Regina Gilmour, a junior
studying in London, said
the students who partici-
pated in Campus Ministry’s
Easter pilgrimage “track” in
Rome over the weekend said
they felt honored and lucky
to participate in the special
day.
“It was intense,” Gilmour
said. “It’s an experience
you can’t have on any other
trips. Notre Dame just has
that connection that you
wouldn’t have been able to
have on your own.”

Gilmour said doing the pil-
grimage for her first visit to
Rome infused the trip with a
more religious spirit.
“What struck me the most
was you would see all these
ancient Roman ruins and
then also talk about how
Christians had been mar-
tyred there,” Gilmour said.

Junior Mary Coghlin, who
is also studying in London
this semester, said the Easter
Sunday Mass gave her goose
bumps.
“It was like a dorm Mass, but
in St. Peter’s Square,” Coghlin
said. “It was beautiful.

Jack Trunzo, a junior study-
ing abroad in London, said
he sat in the aisles closest to
the pope. He said his family
received tickets from Cardinal
James Michael Harvey, who
is from their hometown of
Milwaukee.
“My archbishop connect-
ed me to the cardinal and
I was able to meet him for
dinner one night,” Trunzo
said. “He was fantastic, he’s
just kind of a normal guy.
He was fluent in Italian and
ordered everything for the
table.”

Trunzo said Cardinal
Harvey spoke about his ex-
pperience in the conclave
that elected Pope Francis.

“Every time we talked
about conclave he would
use the words, ‘when I was
locked up.’ He said that
jokingly — it was pretty
funny,” he said. “He also
talked about home and
about Milwaukee.”

Trunzo said his family sat
five or six rows back from
the cardinals and the altar.

“We had a really unique
vantage point in the shade
of Saint Peter’s Basilica,” he
said. “It was fantastic.”

Contact Meghan Thomassen
at mthomass@nd.edu

Dream
continued from page 1

University spokesman
Dennis Brown said the ad-
missions department takes
such rankings “with a grain
of salt” due to differences in
methodology, but this one
reflects Notre Dame’s unique
appeal to parents.

“I think that [the ranking]
reflects the basic tenets of
the University: a commit-
tment to undergraduate edu-
cation, a sense of community
and an ongoing commitment
to faith and religious iden-
tity,” Brown said. “The com-
bination of things that Notre
Dame offers … is unusual in
a lot of different ways, and
some parents take comfort in
that.”

Notre Dame is the only re-
ligiously-affiliated school
on either list, and Brown said
the University’s dual empha-
sis on faith and academics
is ideal for many interested
families.

“For people whose faith is
important to them, the fact
that you can come to a place
like Notre Dame and practice
your faith, … yet still at the
same time get a world-class
education, is crucial,” Brown
said. “You can be a part of
a broader University commu-
nity that will pay dividends
throughout your life in terms
of the alumni network and
the bonds created in the resi-
dence halls.”

Robert Mundy, director of
admissions, said it is “hard
to predict” whether the rank-
ing will affect Notre Dame’s
future applicant pools, but
trends in the past decade
have shown parents are be-
coming more involved in
their children’s college selec-
tion processes.
Students are ultimately
making the decisions, but
the influence of the parents
has increased,” Mundy said.

“Whether it’s generational
or financial or due to another
factor, parents are getting
more actively involved in
where their children apply
and actually attend.”

Mundy said comparing
the parents’ impressions
of a university to those of their
children can be an interest-
ing and informative way to
interpret such a ranking.

“You parents’ impres-
sions or expectations about
your college experience are a
little different than your own
impressions, and I saw that
clearly as I looked through
the rest of the Princeton Review
survey results,” he said. “It’s
all about looking for differ-
ent things, which depends on
which role you’re speaking
from. … There’s no disputing
that parents have a different
view [than students].”

Notre Dame’s policies on
aspects such as dorm life
and parietals are seen dif-
ferently by parents and stu-
dents, Mundy said, and this
may have contributed to the
discrepancies on the two
Princeton Review lists.

“I really do believe that
the nature of the Notre Dame
family strikes a chord with
the parents, and that’s clearly
tied to our mission,” Mundy
said. “Things like that ap-
pel to parents in a differ-
ent way than they appeal to
students.”

While he said there is no
way to determine what the
ranking will mean for Notre
Dame’s popular perception
and future applicant pools,
the parents’ increased in-
fluence on their students’
college decisions make this
“good news all around.”

Obviously, the students
are the ones who sit down for
dinner every night with their
parents, and if they have a
positive impression [of Notre
Dame] in their minds, that
can affect them either ap-
parently or subliminally,”
Mundy said.

Brown said such rank-
ings serve as “good starting
points” for prospective par-
ents and their students but
are not weighted heavily in
the admissions office.

“College surveys are of
some use, but people who
are serious about their col-
lege choice are going to dig in
deeper,” he said. “While we’d
rather be ranked than not, at
the same time we recognize
that they’re … just a starting
point.”

Contact Ann Marie Jakubowski
at ajakubo1@nd.edu

Pope Francis appears before the crowds at St. Peter’s Square to deliver his first “Urbi et Orbi” blessing from the balcony. The Pope celebrated his first Easter at the Vatican on Sunday.
Speaker reviews spirituality

By REBECCA O'NEIL
News Writer

Professor Emerita Mary Jo Weaver of Indiana University offered an in-depth account of Catholic spirituality throughout the ages on Tuesday.

Members of the Saint Mary's community gathered in Stapleton Lounge for her lecture on the "Evolutionary adventure of Catholic Spirituality," the last in a series of the 2013 Endowed Spring Lectures sponsored by the college's Center for Spirituality.

The former professor — and daughter of a Saint Mary's alumna of 1937 — received her doctorate degree in theology in 1973 from Notre Dame. Since then, she has written several pieces on the politics of Christianity and women's roles in the Catholic Church.

"Sixty years ago I would have never been invited to give a talk like this," Weaver said.

There was a time when Catholicism confined humans' spiritual freedom to heaven and hell, she said.

"You had to choose between the transitory, earthly pleasures and the immortality offered in the afterlife," Weaver said. "Spiritual life was fearful and cautious."

This sort of ethos is known as "trial spirituality," she said. Catholic clergy members took vows meant to withdraw them from everyday life. Weaver said she believes the vocations the Church offered were "meant to attract a few brave souls."

The excessive time spent in solitude was an attempt to achieve perfection and embody Jesus to the greatest extent possible, she said. The second Vatican Council adjusted the religion's attitude in 1964.

"It opened up new possibilities to the dogmatic constitution of the Church and held a universal call to holiness," Weaver said.

Along with initiating interreligious dialogue and mandating liturgical change, she said "it defined revelation as dynamic, alive and personal."

This change nourished pluralist thinkers like Thomas Merton, a monk who combined Western monastic traditions to Buddhism. "Modern and post-modern spirituality offer alternatives to trial spirituality," Weaver said.

Trials spirituality is the main factor leading to the elimination of the varsity sport, Johnson said. For the past four years, the team has used Notre Dame's facilities for both practice and competitions.

"Because of his position at Notre Dame, Coach Benishek was able to assure our team had practice time at the Rolfs Aquatic Center," Johnson said. "Prior to that, our swimmers practiced as late as 10 p.m. or at a local high school. Facing the uncertainty of practice facilities and the potential hardship on our swimmers and our concern for their safety was a key consideration in this decision."

Benishek said he is disappointed that the program was the lack of students interested in swimming next season, Johnson said. This deficiency was due to various events such as study abroad, senior graduations and an uncertain number of incoming swimmers, she said.

Benishek and Liz Palmer, a senior swimmer, said the college may have underestimated the number of walk-ons it receives every year.

"I was never recruited," Palmer said. "I just walked on. A lot of girls did that."

The College has received "very little feedback from the community" about the end of the swimming program and does not anticipate the decision will deter future applicants, Johnson said.

"I think that this decision will discourage very few from applying to and coming to Saint Mary's," she said. "Our swim program is small and we haven't met with many possible recruits this year."

A number of current swimmers said they wished they knew the program was going to be eliminated because this decision may have affected their decision to attend the College.

"Had I known that Saint Mary's would not have a swim team for all four years I would … be here, I would not have come," first-year Carolyn Neville said. "Swimming was a huge part of my college search. I do not want to transfer schools now because I have made great friends and enjoy being here, but I definitely want to find a way to keep swimming competitively."

Benishek said he is disappoint ed other Saint Mary's girls will not be able to experience being on the team.

"It is not just a sport," Benishek said. "It is an opportunity to form relationships that go beyond the four years on campus. My heart especially goes out to the juniors, sophomores and freshman that will not be able to finish out their careers at Saint Mary's. It really is a shame."

Despite the College's decision to end the swim team, Johnson said every intercollegiate sport is an asset to the school.

"Athletes become leaders and build strong communities," she said. "We are proud of all of athletes. Additionally, on our campus, athletes have strong academic careers."

Johnson said the College will not sponsor a swim team until the College has a pool on site and "at this time there are no plans to build one."

Contact Kaitlyn Rabach at krbac01@saintmarys.edu

Swim

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The lack of an on-campus pool was the main factor leading to the elimination of the varsity sport, Johnson said. For the past four years, the team has used Notre Dame's facilities for both practice and competitions.

"Because of his position at Notre Dame, Coach Benishek was able to assure our team had practice time at the Rolfs Aquatic Center," Johnson said. "Prior to that, our swimmers practiced as late as 10 p.m. or at a local high school. Facing the uncertainty of practice facilities and the potential hardship on our swimmers and our concern for their safety was a key consideration in this decision."

Benishek said he is disappointed that the program was the lack of students interested in swimming next season, Johnson said. This deficiency was due to various events such as study abroad, senior graduations and an uncertain number of incoming swimmers, she said.

Benishek and Liz Palmer, a senior swimmer, said the college may have underestimated the number of walk-ons it receives every year.

"I was never recruited," Palmer said. "I just walked on. A lot of girls did that."

The College has received "very little feedback from the community" about the end of the swimming program and does not anticipate the decision will deter future applicants, Johnson said.

"I think that this decision will discourage very few from applying to and coming to Saint Mary's," she said. "Our swim program is small and we haven't met with many possible recruits this year."

A number of current swimmers said they wished they knew the program was going to be eliminated because this decision may have affected their decision to attend the College.

"Had I known that Saint Mary's would not have a swim team for all four years I would … be here, I would not have come," first-year Carolyn Neville said. "Swimming was a huge part of my college search. I do not want to transfer schools now because I have made great friends and enjoy being here, but I definitely want to find a way to keep swimming competitively."

Benishek said he is disappointed other Saint Mary's girls will not be able to experience being on the team.

"It is not just a sport," Benishek said. "It is an opportunity to form relationships that go beyond the four years on campus. My heart especially goes out to the juniors, sophomores and freshman that will not be able to finish out their careers at Saint Mary's. It really is a shame."

Despite the College's decision to end the swim team, Johnson said every intercollegiate sport is an asset to the school.

"Athletes become leaders and build strong communities," she said. "We are proud of all of athletes. Additionally, on our campus, athletes have strong academic careers."

Johnson said the College will not sponsor a swim team until the College has a pool on site and "at this time there are no plans to build one."
Writing a senior thesis or doing a class project that uses statistics?

Consider submitting it to the

Bernoulli Award Competition

First Prize: $5,000
Second Prize: $2,500
Honorable Mention: $1,000

All ND undergraduates are eligible

Deadline: April 19, 2013

In the last five years, 29 students have won $60,500

See the web site of the Department of Economics for details: http://economics.nd.edu/undergraduate-program/bernoulli-awards/
Government
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and Twitter to reach students where they are,” Coccia said. “We shouldn’t expect students to go out of their way to take a look at our website, we should come to them.”

Coccia said “internally efficient” communication among executive cabinet members will also help the administration serve the student body.

“We’ve definitely got a great team this year in our cabinet, and they’re bringing a lot of new ideas and passion,” he said. “We want to make sure that we’re comfortable using the resources and the connections that the others have with administrators and the background and knowledge that people bring to the table.”

While only one cabinet member, sophomore Max Brown, director of the Department of Academic Affairs, will remain from the outgoing group, Joyce said the administration is working to achieve “a sense of continuity.”

“We are very fortunate that the outgoing administration did a great job of transitioning us, putting together really thorough transition materials to outline their initiatives throughout the year and those that are still ongoing,” Joyce said. “Some of these things will continue, but we’ll leave it up to the new department directors to take it as they see fit, however it works with our mission and our platform.”

Coccia said the campus immigration reform is a long-term goal for the administration, and they have started conversations already to move it forward.

“We’re already talking with administrators and various groups about [immigration reform] and working to get an undocumented students allowed on campus,” Coccia said. “It’s a conversation that has been going on with a lot of Catholic schools, and Notre Dame is one of the few Catholic schools where this is not a reality yet.

“We’re working with people in the theology department, people at the Center for Social Concerns and other student groups to bring this conversation to the forefront and do what we can with it from our positions in student government.”

Joyce said the administration plans to begin a town hall initiative as early as next month to address potential changes to Food Services.

“We’d really like to know what kind of changes students would like to see with the meal plan or Grab ‘n Go, and this would be a good public forum for people to talk about it,” she said.

The pair has already begun to discuss the addition of a coffee cart in DeBartolo Hall, Coccia said, and it has proven to be “a feasible idea.”

“We have had some initial conversations [about the coffee cart], and now we want to follow through with some of those to gauge what the realistic first steps would be with that,” he said. “It’s definitely something on our horizon.”

Joyce said she and Coccia have added to their platform since the elections and have met with Saint Mary’s student body president and vice president to collaborate on plans for an event similar to “Support a Belle, Love a Bell” in the fall. Support a Belle, Love a Belle is a Saint Mary’s Student Government Association-sponsored event that raises awareness of anxiety, depression and suicide on campus.

“I think there are a couple of groups on campus that would be interested in collaborating on something like [Support a Belle, Love a Belle] on Notre Dame’s campus,” Joyce said.

Coccia said they will continue to co-sponsor StaND Against Hate Week with Notre Dame’s Core Council and fully support the Call to Action movement on campus.

“In the last few weeks, we’ve definitely become clear on what our role in Call to Action might be,” he said. “We support the celebration of diversity within our office and now we have a clear sense of the direction that’s headed. I’m excited to move forward on this with the other student groups.”

The two have already addressed the incoming class of 2017 at three prospective student events, and Coccia said they hope to do all in their power to help them “hit the ground running” in the fall.

“We want to reach out to the freshmen a bit earlier in the summer, just to invite them into student government and give them our names as a resource for anything that might come up during their freshman year,” he said. “It’s something simple, but we want to work on it.”

Joyce said the energy in the cabinet is the most exciting part of their term so far.

“I know it’s sometimes hard to sustain this kind of energy over a whole year, but we’ve got a really great group, and I’m very happy with the way it’s come together so far,” she said. “I think if we can harness that energy and make sure [the cabinet members] stay empowered and energized, we can do what needs to be done.”

Coccia said he and Joyce “couldn’t be more confident” in the cabinet selections they made, and he said he hopes their passion for service will facilitate more interaction between student government and the student body.

“I’m excited just to have a very busy office upstairs [in LaFortune], with people in and out all the time,” he said. “That’s something we definitely want to stress … because it’s your office as a student, there’s even an area for studying, and people should feel free to be there.”

Joyce echoed the invitation to students and said the easiest way to start will be reaching out to students on Facebook and Twitter.

“The biggest thing is that we are here for the students, there won’t be no need for that office upstairs if the student body didn’t have concerns that needed to be addressed,” she said. “Come up to the office with ideas or send them to us. We want students to know that there will be action as a result of their ideas.”

Contact Ann Marie Jakubowski at ajakubo1@nd.edu

**NEW THIS SEASON:**
Free Transportation to the Cove on Thirsty Thursdays

Bus times and pick-up locations:
5:50 & 7:00 - Holy Cross - Main Circle Drive
6:00 & 7:10 - St. Mary’s - O’Laughlin Auditorium
6:10 & 7:20 - Notre Dame - Library
6:20 & 7:30 - Legends at Notre Dame

*Return drop-offs start in beginning of 7th inning*

**Tickets on Sale Now**
Call Today! 574-235-9988
“Where Everyone Comes to Play”

**PAID ADVERTISEMENT**
NEW YORK — To see what Facebook has become, look no further than the Hutzel 571 Banana Slicer.

Sometime last year, people began sharing tongue-in-cheek online reviews of the banana-slicer — stuffed plastic with their Facebook friends. Then those friends shared with their friends. Soon, after Amazon paid to promote it, posts featuring the $3.49 utensil were appearing in even more Facebook feeds.

At some point, though, the joke got old. But there it was, again and again, the banana slicer had become a Facebook version of that old knock-knock joke your weird uncle has been telling for years.

The Hutzel 571 phenomenon is a real-time occurrence on the world’s biggest online social network, which begs the question: Has Facebook become less fun?

That’s something many users, especially those in their teens and early 20s, are asking themselves as they wade through endless posts, photos “liked” by people they barely know and spur-of-the-moment friend requests. Has it all become too much of a chore? Are the important life events of your closest loved ones drowning in a sea of banana slicer jokes?

When I first got Facebook I literally thought it was the coolest thing to have. If you had a Facebook you kind of fit in better, because other people had one,” says Rachel Fernandez, 18, who first signed on to the site four or five years ago.

And now “Facebook got kind of boring,” she says.

Chatter about Facebook’s demise never seems to die down, whether it’s talk of “Facebook fatigue,” or grousing about how the social network lost its cool once grandma joined. The Pew Research Center’s Internet and American Life Project recently found that some 61 percent of Facebook users had taken a hiatus from the site for reasons that range from “too much gossip and drama” to “boredom.” Some respondents said there simply isn’t enough time in their day for Facebook.

If Facebook Inc.’s users leave, or even check in less frequently, its revenue growth would suffer. The company, which depends on targeted advertising for most of the money it makes, booked revenue in billions in 2012, up from $3.7 billion a year earlier.

But so far, for every person who has left permanently, several new people have joined Facebook. It has more than 1 billion users around the world. Of these, 68 million sign in every day.

Indeed, Fernandez hasn’t abandoned Facebook. Though the Traverse City, Mich., high school senior doesn’t look at her News Feed, the constant cascade of posts, photos and viral videos from her nearly 1,800 friends, she still uses Facebook’s messaging feature to reach out to people she knows, such as a German foreign exchange student she met two years ago.

Fernandez uses Facebook in a Facebook post.

“Saints and visionaries continue to stand out,” she said. “They have been taught the solitude of the spirit and are able to grasp the divinity of God.”

Mary Jo Weaver
professor emerita
Indiana University

“This ‘God-as-the-protector’ image is clearly active in the Hebrew Scriptures, while the New Testament focuses on the reality and urgency of manifesting God’s kingdom,” she said.

The plurality of her belief is centered on unconditional love, Weaver said.

“God will show you the beauty of your own self,” she said. Weaver said if people can see beauty, they are capable of love.

Los Angeles teenager Daniel Singer browses through Facebook, an activity he considers part of a daily routine.

“I was just going through my daily email routine, reflecting on the fact that it feels like batting down a wall of locusts,” Bogost says.

Although email has gone from after-school treat to a dull routine in the space of 20 years, no one is ready to ring its death knell just yet. And similarly, Facebook’s lost luster doesn’t necessarily foreshadow its obsolescence.

“I don’t see teenagers leaving in droves,” boyd says. “I just don’t see it being their site of passion.”

In early March, Facebook unveiled a big redesign to address some of its users’ most pressing gripes. The retooling, which is already available to some people, is intended to get rid of the clutter that’s been a complaint among Facebook users for some time.

Facebook surveys its users regularly about their thoughts on the site. Jane Lebrock, whose title at Facebook is user experience researcher, says it was about a year ago that she noticed people were complaining about “clutter” in their feeds. Lebrock asked them what they meant. It turns out that the different types of content flowing through people’s News Feeds, links, ads, photos, status updates, things people “liked” or commented on, were “making it difficult to focus on any one thing,” she says. “It might have even been discouraging them from finding new content.”
Atlanta teachers falsify test scores

Associated Press

ATLANTA — When Beverly Hall first arrived in Atlanta as superintendent of the city’s public school system, she cautioned she wouldn’t be riding in on a white horse and that it would take time to fix the problems of low student performance.

But test scores dramatically improved during her 12-year tenure in the mostly poor, urban district, earning her bonuses and accolades as the nation’s top superintendent. Now she’s fighting to clear her name after being indicted in what prosecutors say was a broad conspiracy to achieve those results by cheating.

“She’s fighting for her name,” said Jerome Harris, Hall’s friend and former boss when the two worked together in Brooklyn, N.Y. “The job, they’ve taken that away, but that’s not important. She’s not looking for a job. She’s fighting for her name.”

Tuesday was the deadline for Hall and the other 34 educators indicted last week to surrender to authorities. Hall arrived at the Fulton County jail about 7:30 p.m., and her attorney, J. Tom Morgan, a former DeKalb County District Attorney, said he planned to have her out of jail before the end of the night.

Other educators turned themselves in throughout the day. Harris, who has known Hall for three decades, was out of jail before the end of the night. Other educators turned themselves in throughout the day. Harris, who has known Hall for three decades, was outside the jail Tuesday among a crowd criticizing the high bond rates. He said he would have to have her out of jail before the end of the night.

Harris recalled asking Hall to take over as principal of a troubled elementary school in Brooklyn. She cried, he said, because she didn’t want to leave her beloved students at the magnet school where she had been assigned at the time.

“People don’t have integrity like that,” said Harris, who was then superintendent of Brooklyn Community School District 13. “I honestly believe Dr. Hall wouldn’t tolerate cheating. She has that integrity. She wouldn’t tolerate it.”

Hall garnered a reputation as a fixer who could turn things around. After beginning her career as a classroom teacher in Brooklyn in 1970, Hall worked her way up to the No. 2 position in the New York city schools system.

In 1985, Hall was called in to take over as superintendent of the Newark, N.J., school district, which had been seized by the state because of low test scores, questionable spending practices and high dropout rates.

Almost immediately, she set about cleaning up school buildings, even declaring a health and safety emergency to speed up repairs in time for full classes.

She criticized the old school board for losing its way and making it difficult for educators to concentrate on what was important, something Hall’s supporters say happened to her years later in Atlanta.

“Somehow along the way, this system focused more on the adults than on the children,” Hall said in September 1995, during her time in Newark.

In Newark, Hall made changes that drew the ire of some employees and others in the community. Within a year, nearly a quarter of the district’s 82 schools had new principals and hundreds of workers were laid off, including custodians, bus drivers and cafeteria workers. Hall said the cuts were designed to free up money for full-day kindergarten, but critics complained she should have sought more input before making the decisions.

It was her work raising student attendance and modest test gains in Newark that made her an attractive candidate for Atlanta, and she was hired in 1999. From the beginning, her salary included a big financial incentive, 30 percent of her annual salary, for meeting certain performance objectives that included test scores and attendance.

Her contract was renewed a few years later, and Hall was credited with making sweeping changes to the system’s academic and business operations.

In recent years, however, her achievements crumbled. A state audit suggested tests were altered, and then-Gov. Sonny Perdue said “any reasonable person can see that cheating occurred and children were harmed.” Detractors criticized her use of a driver who shuttled her around the district, while others said she was unapproachable and ignored cheating allegations.

District officials challenged the audit and defended the district’s dramatic turnaround, saying there was no concrete evidence of cheating.

“People want to believe sometimes that poor minority children cannot achieve at high levels,” Hall told reporters at the time. “When you begin to see the kind of change we’ve seen in Atlanta Public Schools, you have to constantly prove the progress is real.”

Further investigations revealed more anomalies in test scores, and calls for Hall’s resignation mounted. A 2011 state investigative report said administrators under pressure to maintain high scores under the federal No Child Left Behind law created a culture of “fear, intimidation and retaliation.”

Hall resigned that year.

Hall has consistently denied being involved in or having knowledge of any cheating. However, after the state’s investigation was made public, she said: “If I did anything that gave teachers the impression that I was unapproachable and unresponsive to their concerns, I also apologize for that.”
**INSIDE COLUMN**

**Mealtime serenades**

Lesley Stevenson

*News Writer*

South Dining Hall is well-known for a lot of things, but one of its best features often goes tragically overlooked by the typical Notre Dame gastronomist.

I’m talking, of course, about the music that sweetly serenades all who enter the hubbub of South Dining Hall. Famous for such hits as “Baby Got Back,” “Don’t Stop Believing” and occasionally songs from “The Lion King,” South Dining Hall’s playlist never fails to set my mood for a fulfilling eating experience.

Lest I provoke the great North versus South debate, let me be clear: As a North Quad resident and an all-too-frequent takes of pasta stir-fry, I stand by NDH. But SDH has the advantage for music—and it’s a big advantage.

Imagine my ecstasy when, the day “Les Miserables”’ debut on the SB1 movie, I heard the glorious sound of Hugh Jackman and company belting “One Day More” as I prepared my usual salad. Suddenly, reaching for spinach became an epic battle of right and wrong, of justice and retribution.

Or take for example the days when House of Pain’s smash hit “Jump Around” blasts over SDH’s speakers. The vast majority of eaters begin bouncing to the beat rather than ambivalently strolling from station to station.

After observing the dynamic effects of what seemed to be a carefully crafted playlist, I decided to dig a little deeper into how SDH manages to please its wide range of music preferences in SDH.

General manager Marc Poklinkowski informed me the lineup comes from whatever XM radio station the managers on duty happen to choose that day.

“We generally like to keep it upbeat and music most students can relate to,” Poklinkowski said.

Poklinkowski told me SDH’s music selection garners compliments from patrons, particularly when the stations “80’s on 8” and “The Pulse” are chosen.

I’m not alone in my love for SDH music. Freshmen Jay LaFave, James Elliot and I once spent a good part of lunch discussing our favorite SDH hits.

I’m also not the only one with a particular dining hall jam. Freshman Paige Affinito lit up when I asked her about her music preferences in SDH.

“Linger,” by the Cranberries, “Affinito pushed. “Every time it comes on, I feel so much better.”

From this highly informal sampling of three of my friends, I will confidently state most of the Notre Dame student body greatly appreciates SDH’s efforts to make the lunch and dinner rush that much more enjoyable. At least the four of us stand by Poklinkowski and South Dining Hall. Encore, sir. Encore.

Contact Lesley Stevenson at lsteven1@nd.edu

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

The Bubble

Our generation has redefined the limits of partying by engaging prematurely in the excessive binge-drinking and sexual activity of the college atmosphere. Because it is seen as “the norm” to drink heavily and have random hookups, other students, friends and peers may find themselves on opposite sides of the fence when it comes to issues of sexual assault and rape.

“The Notre Dame Security Police Department is investigating a report...of forcible fondling...” we all know those emails. Many of us dismiss them once they reach our inboxes. Some even crack a few jokes about how ridiculous “forcible fondling” sounds. But behind every email we receive from NDSP regarding sexual assault and rape, there is a victim and an assailant walking around campus with us. You’ve probably brushed by a rape suspect the other day, but how many of us can honestly say we have witnessed or dealt with sexual assault and rape, because those cases deserve the same attention and importance as any other. However, it is a more common situation for women to be in, thus making it easier to pass this issue by and not putting it on the line.

At Notre Dame, I have overheard guys complain the women here claim they were “raped” or “sexually assaulted” because of their Catholic conscience, and instead of dealing with the common argument against victims, especially women, of sexual assault. But all too often, defendants and their supporters make this claim, which can prompt victims to blame themselves for the assault and succumb to feelings of shame, embarrassment, depression and trauma.

Before I proceed, I am not claiming men aren’t, or haven’t been, victims of sexual assault and rape, because those cases deserve the same attention and importance as any other. However, it is a more common situation for women to be in, thus making it easier to pass this issue by and not putting it on the line.

At Notre Dame, I have overheard guys complain the women here claim they were “raped” or “sexually assaulted” because of their Catholic conscience, and instead of dealing with their regret, they rectify the situation by reporting it as a crime. Many also believe it is the victim’s fault for putting themselves in that situation because of how they dress, their level of intoxication or that they have a history of physical intimacy with the assailant or others. But how a person dresses cannot be taken as an invitation for sexual activity. Intoxication does not, and by definition cannot, give permission for engaging in sexual behaviors. Yes, it is difficult to grapple with the idea that a person’s tendency to drink is always suggestive of their intentions, but it’s true! For starters, clothes for women nowadays are made shorter and skimpier — I challenge you to find a trendy pair of shorts that are longer than the length of your fingertips by your sides. Most shirts are now designed to be sheerer and shorter in the front and longer in the back. And unless you would like to see a girl dressed in knee-length skirts and cardigans from the “Misses” section of a department store, it is nearly impossible to find clothing that is suitable to go out in on the weekend that doesn’t suggest going to visit your grandmother the next day. And if that isn’t reason enough, sometimes the way a girl dresses is merely a confidence-booster. Women want to feel beautiful or sexy about themselves, and if they have found confidence in a skirt and heels, then more power to them! But that CANNOT be taken as an open invitation for sex unless she soberly consents to it. Sexual assault and rape are grave crimes committed both on and off our campus, and our community needs increased levels of awareness, resources and support for our Notre Dame family members. The University needs to react more quickly to reported cases of assault and rape because the trauma a victim experiences affects them faster than a five-day follow-up on a claim. A friend of mine had left Notre Dame after being raped at a party. More students are speaking up about their stories involving rape and sexual assault on Irishbreakingsilence.wordpress.com. These issues are raw, explicit and traumatizing. They take away a part of their victims and force them to move on with their lives. Drinking and sex will always be a part of the college environment, but I encourage you to be vigilant, smart and protective over yourself and those you care about to prevent finding out how destructive these crimes are firsthand.

Amanda Pena is a sophomore sustainable development studies major with a poverty studies minor. She can be contacted at apena4@nd.edu

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

---

**Conor Durkin**

Out of Right Field

When it comes to our public sphere, I’ve always tried to be an optimizer. But looking at what’s going on today, I think that the kind of optimism I’ve always tried to employ is just about over. It’s time for outrage.

It’s been almost five months since the election and almost 27 months since the Bowles-Simpson commission released its debt reduction plan, yet our government still hasn’t gotten its act together on the national debt. We tried to use a “supercommittee” to outline a plan — and it failed. We tried to impose a “fiscal cliff” — and we came right up to the edge of it, before kicking it down the road a little further. We tried the threat of a sequester — and instead of dealing with the deficit, we simply had the sequester take effect. But the specifics of his approach need to be worked out. According to a study from the non-partisan, millennial-driven grass-roots organization pushing for a comprehensive debt solution, it is a way to do just that.

The Can Kicks Back campaign, a non-partisan, millenial-driven grass-roots organization pushing for a comprehensive debt solution, is a way to do just that. The Can Kicks Back campaign is working to raise awareness among students and young adults about the tremendous threat our debt poses — and we should listen.

The national debt, which stands at more than $16 trillion according to the non-partisan, millennial-driven grass-roots organization pushing for a comprehensive debt solution, is a way to do just that. The Can Kicks Back campaign is working to raise awareness among students and young adults about the tremendous threat our debt poses — and we should listen.

The national debt, which stands at more than $16 trillion according to the non-partisan, millennial-driven grass-roots organization pushing for a comprehensive debt solution, is a way to do just that. The Can Kicks Back campaign is working to raise awareness among students and young adults about the tremendous threat our debt poses — and we should listen.

The national debt, which stands at more than $16 trillion according to the non-partisan, millennial-driven grass-roots organization pushing for a comprehensive debt solution, is a way to do just that. The Can Kicks Back campaign is working to raise awareness among students and young adults about the tremendous threat our debt poses — and we should listen.

It’s the time for outrage, and it’s time for action.

Conor Durkin is a junior studying economics and political science. He can be reached at cdknkn@nd.edu

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
CAN’T GET ENOUGH OF ND CONFESSIONS

All right, Notre Dame. This is about to get personal. Because of the new Facebook and Twitter pages, I can’t go a single hour without hearing someone laughing over the most recent post or trying to guess who confession #346 is. Our campus has been taken over by “ND Confessions,” a social media outlet for all those dirty little secrets we are too embarrassed to ever say out loud, much less attach our names to.

We have allowed this website to take over our conversations and reveal things about each other we probably never needed to know. The site exploded last week, getting more than 9,000 messages and only being able to post less than 400 — because of the lack of time, I’m assuming. I mean, whoever you are running this page, you have dug yourself into a very deep hole. This is a full-time job, and the entire campus is watching you. It’s like our own Gossip Girl. Am I the only one who wants to know who’s behind it all?

If you’re unfamiliar with the Facebook page, it works like an anonymous diary where anyone can submit posts that are then weeded through and reposted if they make the cut. To keep everything completely anonymous, instead of messaging ND Confessions through an inbox, you submit your post to a Google Drive survey. If you’re lucky, your confession will be juicy enough to be reposted for the entirety of Facebook to see. As mentioned earlier, there is also a Twitter account, but it has been widely overshadowed by the later yet more active Facebook page. With only 169 tweets and approximately 1,200 followers, @NDConfessions covers in comparison to the nearly 400 posts and 3,800 subscribers to the Facebook account. But don’t worry, Twitter ND Confessions, I still follow you. Keep posting, you know we can’t get enough.

Minus the April Fool’s Day joke the anonymous Facebook master posted Monday morning, the site has been posting nonstop basically all week straight. How you decide which confessions to post is beyond me, but there is an even mix of funny and serious posts. On the one hand, you have students confessing their biggest fears, hidden problems and true thoughts about the school and certain students. The comments for the most part remind me how caring and responsible students here are. Several comments include help lines and groups on campus that address whatever problem was confessed. I am proud of my school when I see those honest, heart-breaking posts with hundreds of likes and comments showing genuine support and concern.

On the complete other end of the spectrum you have the ridiculous and almost unbelievable posts about dirty, ridiculous, crazy, embarrassing and mostly hilarious things that happen to people here. There is basically no filter when it comes to what goes posted on this page. In my opinion, it’s a judge-free zone where we can get everything off our chests without anyone ever knowing it was us. Go ahead, post it. No one will ever know it was you, and you get that feeling of satisfaction when you hear people laughing at your post (well, as long as you are ready to laugh at yourself for whatever you did).

However, the comments have proven otherwise. Scathing remarks have been made about some of the posts. In my opinion these remarks are completely undeserved. We all mess up and do stupid things, and the whole point of the page is to get them out and maybe make a few people laugh along the way. Name-calling is simply not necessary. And also, some of the comments are coming from people who either aren’t college students at all or from people who don’t even go here. Seriously, we should at least be able to freely express our embarrassing experiences with our classmates without worrying about outside intervention.

Now, Notre Dame is not the only school that has succumbed to this college fad. My friends at schools all across the country, both public and private, have similar sites which, according to them, are “so much more popular than ND.” According to them, the comments include help lines and groups on campus concerning social media. The characters on the show have placed all their trust and focus on this one site, Gossip Girl, which posts anonymous comments about the popular kids of the Upper East Side, some of which are true and some of which are completely made up. Most of the posts are negative, degrading and pure rumors, but they all have the capability to destroy the lives of their subjects.

This show and the hype surrounding ND Confessions demonstrate just how powerful social media can be. Clearly the series is exaggerated and overdramatic, but the same theme remains: Our generation is so connected to the internet that we will allow something as little as an anonymous Facebook page to rule our conversations and consume an absurd amount of our time. What do we find so intriguing about reading secrets from other people’s lives? Why do we laugh at stories involving injuries, drunken mishaps and lying? I think the answer has something to do with the fact that we are living vicariously through this page. Have you ever read a post and thought to yourself, “Why have I never done that?” or “Man, I wish I could get away with doing that?” I’m just as guilty as the rest. I like to pretend I do things as crazy and carefree as (some of) the people posting in that page, but I know that’s simply not realistic. If there is one good thing to take away from this page, it’s to be yourself. Don’t worry about what other people think, and more importantly, don’t try to be someone you’re not. And if you make it onto the page, you deserve a round of applause. I’m up there with you — but which one am I? That’s one secret I’ll never tell. You know you love me, xoxo…

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Maddie Daly at mdaly6@nd.edu.
By MADDIE DALY
Scene Editor

Last spring semester, every single Tuesday night, my friends and I would gather around someone’s 10-inch laptop and wait for the video to be uploaded. The second it was up, we would all go silent, entranced by the video before our eyes. Two guys in their early twenties take up the screen, with unbelievable freestyle coming from the mouth of the taller brunette, Cal Shapiro, while the original background music is mixed and produced by Rob “Rez” Resnick. The result: complete musical genius wrapped up in this duo otherwise known as “Timeflies.” And the best part is, we all have the chance to see them live tonight at St. Mary’s College for the annual Tostal concert, presented by the Student Activities Board (SAB).

Starting in the spring of 2011, the guys started posting these weekly Timeflies Tuesday videos, building an enormous virtual audience with views reaching higher than half a million. Fame was never the goal for these guys who just had a passion for music and decided to post it online. Graduates of Tufts University, the two have been friends since college and clearly just want to have a good time. Their videos show the two of them doing anything, ranging from drinking in their apartment to taking pictures with fans to playing video games on the couch. The fact that they are so real, like any other college kids, makes them even more appealing. Their good looks don’t hurt their image, either. There is hardly a video that doesn’t show mobs of girls (and guys) with their hands up, screaming just to get a high-five from Cal or Rez.

Timeflies performs original songs as well as covers. However, even their covers have original elements, including freestyle rap and original beats. The most impressive videos of Cal are those in which he draws random words out of hats and fits them perfectly into his own verses of each song. I am amazed as he glances at the word, then rhymes it with a line just a few seconds later. In interviews, he says while rapping he has to completely clear his mind and just be in the moment, not to mention he is usually holding a bottle of scotch in one hand, which helps the words flow. Their first album, appropriately titled “The Scotch Tape,” features 11 irresistible original songs and is available on iTunes. My favorite tracks, however, are the ones featured in their weekly YouTube videos. With remixed versions of both classic and top 40 songs, the duo has created quite the party playlist. One of their most popular songs is “Under the Sea,” a mix-up of the beloved Disney song with a Jamaican steel drum played by Rez in the background. The fact that they even came up with the idea to add rap to a song from Ariel proves their creativity. Their ideas are all original and never-ending.

A close second favorite of mine right below “Under the Sea” is their Taylor Swift-themed video. After getting a new Taylor guitar, Rez and Cal decided to create a mash-up of all of Swift’s most popular songs. Using an acoustic version of “We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together” for the base layer, Cal sings lyrics from several different songs, including “Both of Us” and “You Belong With Me.” The result is a chilled-out version of the pop songs, arguably better than Taylor’s original tracks (coming from a T. Swift fan, that’s saying something). If you haven’t already heard of them, now’s the time to YouTube “Timeflies” and start listening to their original songs before tonight’s concert. Grab your tickets by calling the Moreau Center Box Office at (574) 284-4626 — that is, if there are any left. The doors open at 7 p.m. I’ll be the one camped out in front of O’Laughlin Theater, ready to storm in and snag my front row seats. See you there!

Contact Maddie Daly at mdaly2@nd.edu

Photo courtesy of mtvpress.com
Photo courtesy of soundisstyle.com

PHOTOS COURTESY OF MADDIE DALY
Secure our amateur athletes

The NCAA has decimated athletes who leave school early and have passed policies to keep them in school — and making money for their colleges — as long as possible. But with the incentives they’ve left on the table, it’s hard to argue with “student-athletes” who choose to forgo their four-year degrees in favor of financial security for them and their families.

The NCAA’s amateur system could be under its biggest threat ever though, as a group of former athletes has sued the NCAA for using its members’ likenesses in EA Sports video games. The trial won’t take place for another 14 months, though, and there’s still the strong possibility it will fail, just like every other attempt to provide additional compensation for athletes. But if it succeeds, it could shake the structure of college athletics to its core.

That system may be safe for now, but it’s likely just a matter of time. The NCAA and its $4 billion annual athletic revenues is stronger than ever. I believe in amateur athletics and the value of a college degree, but the NCAA is no longer a mom-and-pop operation, and asking players to risk their futures “above the game” might not be enough to keep them around anymore.

Kevin Ware is no Marcus Lattimore, but he’s a star player on an elite team, a guy who would be a longshot to ever make an NBA roster. But he broke his leg — and potentially ended the career of the game — might not be enough to keep them around anymore.

The calls will undoubtedly pick up given what the Shockers have done this year, but the long-term coaching of Winthrop has said repeatedly that it would take the perfect opportunity to pry him away.

For one thing, he has it pretty good at Wichita State.

Wichita State. St. succeeds with a marginal budget

The school’s robust aerospace engineering program, along with the National Institute for Aviation Research right on campus, means Marshall has plenty of private planes at his disposal — no flying in coach for this mid-major team. And that extends to recruiting, where Marshall’s able to cover more ground than most coaches by dictating when and where the wheels go up.

"That is a great benefit," he said. "Our players don’t understand how good they have it, to go from bus to private plane to bus and in a couple hours be in our hotel."

Then there’s the fact that the Shockers no longer have a football team — it was disbanded in the mid-1980s. The money that the Missouri Valley school once funneled into a losing program is spent on the more successful basketball team.

"That’s why Marshall has reaped every ounce of leverage to,"

The calls will undoubtedly pick up given what the Shockers have done this year, but the long-term coaching of Winthrop has said repeatedly that it would take the perfect opportunity to pry him away.

For one thing, he has it pretty good at Wichita State.

The school has a chance to bolster his bank account with a number of incentives. He’s already earned an additional $380,000 for making the Final Four, and can pick up another $30,000 by making the title game and $200,000 for winning the school’s first national title.

So far, the Shockers have been as good as anybody. They’ve already won a school-record 30 games, and reached their first Final Four since the 1985 season. Along the way, the Shockers roughed up Pittsburgh, upset top-seeded Gonzaga, beat up La Salle and then knocked off second-seeded Ohio State — another big-budget school in the regional finals.

They’ve proven that a 6-foot-8 forward is just as tall at Wichita State as anywhere else, and a post guard who shots 40 percent from beyond the 3-point line can do regardless of the setting.

"Are there financial benefits to making the Final Four? Sure, we can go into that ad nauseum," Wichita State athletic director Eric Sexton told The Associated Press in a phone interview. "But what this really represents is a great chance for our school to be seen on a national stage.”

"People have always doubted whether I was good enough to play this game at this level. I thought, and I thought I could be. What other people thought was nay at all, and I thought, 'Well, I’m good enough, I’m strong enough, I’m quick enough,'” Steve Nash said.

"People started saying, 'Oh you know, he’s quicker than he looks,' and I’m like, 'What does that mean? Do I look slow, or I’m not really sure what that means. People need to look me at equally.'" Jeremy Lin

We just want to win. That’s the bottom line. I think a lot of times people may become contento-wit-with one championship or a little bit of success, but we don’t really reflect on what we’ve done in the past. - Derek Jeter

"This is what I believe. Your habit creates who you are. If you’re not willing to change your habits, you aren’t going to change as a person." -Hern Edwards

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 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 refusing ads.
Gonzalez, Tulowitzki power Colorado

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Carlos Gonzalez is happy to see Troy Tulowitzki back in the Colorado Rockies’ lineup.

Gonzalez homered for the second straight game and drove in two runs to lead the Rockies over the Milwaukee Brewers 8-4 Tuesday night, giving Walt Weiss his first win as a major league manager.

Tulowitzki also homered for the second straight game and drove in two runs, giving him four RBIs for the season.

Tulowitzki is off to a quick start after missing the last four months of the 2012 season with an injured left groin that required surgery. The All-Star shortstop went 2 for 5 with a homer and two RBIs in Monday’s loss on opening day.

“it’s great to have him out there,” Gonzalez said. “Any team would want him on their side. He is one of those players that can win games all by himself.”

Weiss, who posted his first victory, a year after managing his son’s high school team, had a lot of praise for Tulowitzki and Gonzalez after the game.

“Tulowitzki looks great,” Weiss said. “Having him and Carlos in the three and four hole is very nice. Those two guys are going to have to be the ones if we are going to make a push this year.”

Gonzalez said he is seeing the ball well early in the season.

“i am not trying to hit home runs, but when pitchers make mistakes in this league, you have to make them pay,” he said. “So far, i feel really good at the plate and it is paying off.”

While the home runs were important, both Weiss and Gonzalez talked about the importance of the Rockies’ three-run seventh inning that features four singles, a walk and a sacrifice fly.

“We really had some good at-bats tonight,” Weiss said. “We did a little bit of everything out there. I know that if the game is close, our offense will do something.”

Edgmer Escalona (1-0) pitched 1 2-3 innings of scoreless relief for the victory.

Jorge de la Rosa started for Colorado and pitched 4 1-3 innings, giving up four runs and five hits. Rafael Betancourt got the last out to record his first save.

Marco Estrada started and went five innings for Milwaukee. He gave up four runs and nine hits and struck out eight.

Tulowitzki hit a solo homer in the third to make it 2-all. Gonzalez’s two-run homer in the fifth tied it at 4.

The Rockies broke it open in the seventh off Brewers relievers Michael Gonzalez (0-1) and Burke Badenhop.

Dexter Fowler had a leadoff walk, Josh Rutledge bunted for a hit and Gonzalez singled to load the base. Tulowitzki’s sacrifice fly put Colorado ahead, and Michael Cuddyer and Todd Helton added RBI singles.

Brewers manager Ron Roenicke was disappointed about the seventh inning.

“What do you do about an inning like that?” he said. “That’s weird. You don’t see too many innings that could go bad with really pretty good pitches. A bunt that maybe we should make a play on. The broken bat, I don’t know what you do about that thing. It just didn’t go well.”

Roenicke said Estrada struggled with his command.

“His off-speed pitches, which he usually can get command of as the game goes along, he didn’t get command of,” he said.
Anthony scores 50 to defeat depleted Heat

Associated Press

MIAMI — Carmelo Anthony released his final shot of the night then skipped backward, already knowing the outcome.

The shot was good.

For Anthony and the New York Knicks, the outcome was even better.

Relying entirely on jumpers, Anthony tied his career high with 50 points and the Knicks won their ninth straight game, topping the injury-depleted Miami Heat 102-90 on Wednesday night.

"I felt good tonight," Anthony said.

There was no arguing that.

Anthony finished 18 of 26 from the field, taking two dribbles to free himself from Shane Battier and make his last shot with 16.9 seconds remaining to get to 50 and send the Knicks’ bench into hysterics. It was Miami’s LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Mario Chalmers, but Anthony on Sunday without James, Wade and Chalmers.

"I think just from the start of the game, it’s a feeling that you just have while you’re out there on the court," Anthony said. "Sometimes you get off to a good start and then you get cold the rest of the game, but tonight wasn’t one of those cases." No, it was not.

He made his first seven shots, and the fact that he had 17 points before noting any other statistic of note — no rebounds, assists, steals or blocked shots until the third quarter — let everyone in the building know that he was all about a scoring spree.

And the Heat had no answers.

"It’s an inopportune time to announce my candidacy for defensive player of the year," Battier said. "Carmelo had a hell of a night." He made a ton of shots. Made a ton of shots.

Miami’s magic number for clinching home-court throughout the NBA playoffs remained at five, and the Heat already have the No. 1 spot in the Eastern Conference.

"I don’t think that team will lack confidence against anybody," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "That’s just the nature of who they are."

Miami’s magic number for clinching home-court throughout the NBA playoffs remained at five, and the Heat already have the No. 1 spot in the Eastern Conference.

"I don’t think that team will lack confidence against anybody," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "That’s just the nature of who they are."

Anthony surely did not mind their absences.

He made three shots, a combined 65 feet of swished jumpers, in the game’s first 2:17 as the Knicks ran out to an 8-0 lead. Plenty of blue-and-orange shirts in the Miami crowd roared, and the early indications were that Anthony was on his way to a monster night and the Knicks were on their way to a blowout victory.

That assessment was half-right.

"Unbelievable," Knicks coach Mike Woodson said. "He just refused to let us lose."

Anthony came in averaging 27.5 points and was practically there by halftime with 27 on 9-for-12 shooting — a display the Knicks absolutely needed, since Miami more than held its own without James, Wade and Chalmers.

After trailing by as many as nine early, Miami actually roared back to lead 58-50 at the half. Miller and Cole combined for 30 at the break; Miller’s 18 were five more than he had scored in any game this season.

Anthony — who had one more field goal than every other Knick managed, combined, in the first 24 minutes — didn’t exactly cool off at halftime. By the time the third quarter was 4 minutes old, Anthony was up to 37 points.

"We actually played pretty good defense on him," Miller said.

Anthony’s first rebound came with 7:02 left in the third, and his first assist came as the clock was expiring to end the period, setting up Steve Novak for a three-pointer from the right corner that allowed New York to take a 78-76 lead into the final 12 minutes.

THE SISTERS OF LIFE IS A CONTEMPLATIVE AND ACTIVE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY OF WOMEN. ITS MEMBERS TAKE THE THREE TRADITIONAL VOWS OF POVERTY, CHASTITY AND OBEDIENCE, BUT ALSO A FOURTH VOW TO PROTECT AND ENHANCE THE SACREDNESS OF HUMAN LIFE. MOTHER AGNES MARY DONOVAN WAS AMONG THE FIRST EIGHT WOMEN TO JOIN THE COMMUNITY. BEFORE ENTERING RELIGIOUS LIFE, SHE WAS A LICENSED CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST. MOTHER AGNES OF THE SISTERS OF LIFE WILL BE AWARDED THE 2013 EVANGELIUM VITAE MEDAL, WHICH HONORS THOSE WHOSE OUTSTANDING EFFORTS TO PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL OF LIFEsteadfastly AFFIRM AND DEFEND THE SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE FROM ITS EARLIEST STAGES. SHE STATED THAT FOR THE SISTERS OF LIFE.

"The culture of life is not built on rules but on God’s amazing YES to us. And this yes needs to be experienced before one can understand the ways He guides us, warning us about some behaviors, encouraging us in others. Without knowing His love, it’s just too easy to settle for less than the glory for which we’re made. The sacrifices seem meaningless. So the Lord loves us first: He comes to meet us as a little baby, He comes to us in the Eucharist, personally. He comes to us in His Holy Spirit, to fill our hearts with his love. His way is the way the Lord asks us to share the charism of life — one heart at a time. Loving life into the world one heart at a time might seem an inefficient means of spreading an urgent message, but only when we forget that each human heart has an infinite horizon, expanding all the way to God. When hearts are freed in love, the power and mercy of the Lord are unleashed upon the world in a new way and the reach of that grace is immeasurable."
Rutgers responds to incriminating Rice video

Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. — Rutgers responds to incriminating video of basketball coach Mike Rice after a videotape aired showing him shoving, grabbing and throwing balls at players during practice and yelling gay slurs at them.

The videotape, broadcast Tuesday on ESPN, prompted an outcry and attracted the attention of Gov. Chris Christie and NBA star LeBron James. The head of the New Jersey Assembly called for Rice to be fired.

Athletic director Tim Pernetti said it would reconsider its decision to retain basketball coach Mike Rice after a videotape aired showing him shoving, grabbing and throwing balls at players during practice and yelling gay slurs at them. The videotape, broadcast Tuesday on ESPN, prompted an outcry, led by LeBron James. The head of the New Jersey Assembly called for Rice to be fired.

Pernetti said it would reconsider its decision to retain basketball coach Mike Rice after a videotape aired showing him shoving, grabbing and throwing balls at players during practice and yelling gay slurs at them. The videotape, broadcast Tuesday on ESPN, prompted an outcry, led by LeBron James. The head of the New Jersey Assembly called for Rice to be fired.

Athletic director Tim Pernetti said a copy of the video in late November by a former employee. He suspended Rice for three games a month later, fined him $50,000 and ordered him to attend anger management classes.

In an interview with WFAN Radio in New York on Tuesday, Pernetti said the video was given a copy of the video in late November by a former employee. He suspended Rice for three games a month later, fined him $50,000 and ordered him to attend anger management classes.

In an interview with WFAN Radio in New York on Tuesday, Pernetti said he was cautious about public reaction, because the reaction the public is having is the same I had when I saw it (the film)," Pernetti told the radio station. "I am factoring everything into what we do going forward. The most important thing I am factoring in is trying to make sure that we don't do harm to Rutgers University, because we are a small slice of the pie here at this great place. I don't want to put any negatively on the university that we were a lot of real good things going on.

Pernetti said he understands why many are asking why Rice wasn’t fired after the initial investigation. "I spent more time with that option on whether we should fire Mike or not than any other option," he said. "At the same the results of the investigation where we ended up, the determination was made to suspend him. My biggest concern as the AD is that I am always trying to protect the interests and reputation of the university and that’s what makes this one so difficult.

There is a lot of hindsight, 20-20, ... that there will be no other option than to terminate. Mike I made that decision. I am accountable for it. I have to live with it." Rice was Pernetti’s first major hire after getting the AD’s job.

Assemblyman Reed Gusciora (D-Mercer/Hunterdon) called Rice’s conduct indefensible, and said he should have been fired in December, after the tape was given to Pernetti.

Gusciora also said Pernetti’s decision deserved a full review. "If the university does not act, I will seek to add a provision to the state budget defunding Mr. Rice’s salary," Gusciora said. "Taxpayers should not be paying for this behavior." Pernetti said his decision to only suspend Rice was made in part because the coach was remorseful and admitted he made mistakes. Pernetti said Rice also worked hard to improve himself with the counseling.

Rice had a reputation as a fiery guy with an edge before coming to Rutgers and Pernetti said the two talked about it for five hours before he was hired. "He convinced me he understood his reputation, but he also understood where the line was," Pernetti said. "I made clear to him if he crossed the line he would be held accountable. In this case he did, and we held him accountable for it." That might not be enough in the wake of the video made by Eric Murdock, the former NBA player who was hired by Rice to be director of player development.

The two had a falling out over Murdock’s appearance as a camp, and Pernetti said Murdock’s contract was not renewed. Murdock, who said he was fired, then compiled the video, splicing together the practice highlights of Rice’s first three years as coach.

Pernetti said about 60 percent of the incidents happened in Rice’s first season. He also was upset with Rice using a certain gay slur at a university where student Tyler Clementi committed suicide after a roommate used a webcam to see him kissing a man.

"I would tell you that that word was at the core of the suspension," Pernetti said. "It absolutely concerns me. It’s not acceptable."
Crew wins eight races

By KIT LOUGHRAN
Sports Writer

The No. 14 Irish continued their spring-season success in their second regatta of the season, earning eight victories in a four-team competition against Iowa, Michigan and Michigan State on the Grand River in East Lansing, Mich., on Saturday.

The Notre Dame first varsity eight, second varsity eight, first varsity four and novice eight all finished as double winners Saturday.

Freshman coxswain Alex Techar said the Irish were proud of the hard work team members put in to record a high finish at such an early point in the season.

“All the team worked really hard,” Techar said. “For some people, it was their first race of the season, and for some people, it was their first race ever.”

The Irish opened the day with a victory from the novice eight launch. Techar headed the Irish ‘A’ crew as coxswain, and the boat finished in 8:26.00 to beat Iowa by five seconds.

The varsity four team posted a time of 8:03.20 to finish 15.30 seconds ahead of Iowa for the win. The second varsity eight launch logged the third victory of the day with a winning time of 7:83.70, edging the Hawkeyes again.

The first varsity eight launch recorded the second-fastest time of the day for the Irish with a winning time of 6:55.10 to beat Iowa in a two-team race.

The Irish maintained their focus as they transitioned to the afternoon races. The first novice eight launch finished with a time of 7:44.90 to defeat Michigan State in the third race of the afternoon.

The freshmen on the first novice eight launch saw significant improvement throughout the day, Techar said.

“For the freshmen, it was the morning race to the afternoon race,” Techar said. “It was a housing of experience that came from the freshman eight launch.”

The Irish varsity four launch earned its second victory of the day with a time of 8:14.80 in a two-boat race against Michigan State.

The second varsity eight beat Michigan State with a time of 7:24.20, and the first varsity eight finished the day with a winning time of 7:03.10, defeating Michigan State by 19 seconds.

Notre Dame’s successful performance at the regatta stemmed from the hard work the team has put into against some of the top technical improvements, Techar said.

“Since the last regatta, we’ve only been on the water a couple times,” Techar said. “So, we have focused on power improvements on land and took the time on the water to work on technical stuff.”

With another competition quickly approaching for the Irish, the team will look to improve its ability to compete, Techar said.

“The team has a lot of spirit and are willing to work hard and try and improve,” Techar said.

The Irish return to the water this weekend against Ohio State and Michigan on Saturday in Columbus, Ohio.

Contact Kit Loughran at kloughr1@nd.edu

Belles sweep Defiance

By CASEY KARNES
Sports Writer

The Belles earned their first sweep of the season, defeating Defiance in both games of a double header Thursday.

The Belles (8-6) came into the series with a 5-0 record but never trailed against the Yellow Jackets (7-7, 2-2 HCAC). Saint Mary’s won the opening game 5-1 and the second game 10-2 on mercy rule.

In the first game, junior pitcher Callie Selnor scored a double on a freshman outfielder Sarah Callis in the second inning after a bunt by freshman first baseman Jillian Busfeld moved Selnor into scoring position. In the third inning, the Belles used two sacrifice bunts by senior shortstop Elizabeth Brown and sophomore outfielder Victoria Connelly to move freshman outfielder Ashley Watkins into third base. Watkins later scored on a wild pitch. According to senior catcher and captain Morgan Bedan, the Belles have focused on using small ball to manufacture runs.

“We’ve realized that it’s something that could be a very crucial part of our game plan and it’s something that we’ve worked very hard on,” Bedan said.

“We needed to take advantage of chances to score and I think our strategy has given us a better opportunity to do so.”

The Belles held a 2-0 lead until the sixth inning, when Defiance was able to cut the lead in half. The Belles scored three more runs in the bottom of the sixth to quash any chance of a Yellow Jacket rally. The Belles’ confidence late in the game impressed Bedan, especially considering their experience in previous games.

“We’re focusing on maintaining composure during pressure situations,” Bedan said.

“It’s really interesting that we struggled with earlier in the season but also something that we’ve worked very hard on improving.”

The second game was never in doubt as Saint Mary’s quickly took a 5-0 lead after batting around in the first frame.

Freshman pitcher Sarah Burke allowed two runs in the fourth after striking out three perfect innings. The Belles never looked back, scoring five more en route to a 10-2 mercy-rule win.

Selnor, who played third base in the second game, went 2-for-3 with an RBI and three runs scored. Because of her performance in the circle in the first game, she was awarded the MIAA Pitcher of the Week award. Bedan said the value of a player like Selnor can’t be overstated.

“She’s awesome and always willing to support her team. Building off of her confidence has been big to her success,” Bedan said. “She’s very selfless and does everything for her team. She’s the kind of leader that holds teams together.”

The Belles hit the road again Thursday in a game against Adrian. The first pitch is scheduled for 3:30 p.m.

Contact Casey Karnes at wkarnes@nd.edu

Former Irish coaches pass away

The Observer Staff Report

A pair of former Irish coaching es passed away last weekend. Legendary former Irish fencing coach Michael “Mike” DeCicco, who led Notre Dame to five national championships and gave 41 years of service to the University, died Friday at the age of 85. Former Notre Dame assistant football coach Mal M. Moore, who coached from 1963 to 1985 under then-head coach Gerry Faust, died Saturday at the age of 73.

DeCicco was the head coach for 34 years and retired in 1995 with a remarkable 680-45 (.938) career coaching record. In addition to five national titles, DeCicco’s teams compiled 12 undefeated seasons and a 122-match winning streak over six seasons.

DeCicco was born in 1927 in Newark, N.J., and enrolled as a freshman at Notre Dame in 1945. He graduated in 1949 as a freshman at Notre Dame in Newark, N.J., and enrolled in the Master’s program. He earned an undergraduate degree in 1954 with a focus on physics. He entered the University of Alabama for his doctorate and, in 1962, in addition to his duties as a coaches assistant coach to Walter Langford, DeCicco became the head coach of the Irish. In 1964, DeCicco founded the academic advising program, the first of its kind, at the behest of then-executive vice president Fr. Edmund Joyce.

DeCicco developed the women’s team into one of Notre Dame’s first varsity sports for women in 1977 and coached the women’s contingent until 1986. DeCicco retired from coaching after the 1995 season. In 2009, he received the Moore Krause Distinguished Service Award, the highest honor given by the Monogram Club.

DeCicco died of congestive heart failure at Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame. He is survived by his wife, the former Polly Romeo, and his five children: Linda, Della, Nick, Michelle and Mike.

Moore was born in 1927 and entered the University of Massachusetts in 1948. He played on the football squad under legendary coach Paul W. “Bear” Bryant from 1958 to 1962 and earned an undergraduate degree in sociology. Moore then went on to serve as an assistant coach to Bryant. Moore coached for 31 years, 22 of them at Alabama. He later served as the director of athletics at Alabama from 1999 to 2013. Moore was a part of 18 national championship football teams as a player, coach and athletic director. In 2007, the University officially dedicated the facility formerly known as The Football Building as the Mal M. Moore Athletic Facility.

During his stint as director of athletics, Alabama also produced national titles in gymnastics, softball and women’s golf.

A native of Dozier, Ala., Moore was married to Charlotte Davis of Tuscaloosa for 41 years before she passed in 2010. He is survived by one daughter, Heather Cook of Scottsdale, Ariz., a granddaughter, Anna Lee, and a grandson, Charles Cannon.

ND rights ship against Eagles

By KATIE HEIT
Sports Writer

After big losses to No. 8 Michigan on March 27 and No. 25 Tulsa on Saturday, the No. 21 Irish got back in the win column with a 6-1 victory at Marquette on Tuesday.

Notre Dame (12-7) fell behind early at home against the rival Wolverines (13-4), dropping the doubles point with losses in the No. 1 and No. 2 spots. Junior Jennifer Kellner and senior O'koniewski sealed the victory for the Golden Hurricane.

McGaffigan said she chalked it up to inexperience in doubles. Irish freshman Alex Lawson and junior Billy Pecor took care of business at No. 2 doubles, winning 8-3. But No. 1 doubles and No. 3 doubles both lost their matches by one service break.

ND SOFTBALL | GREEN BAY 5, ND 4

By MEGAN FINNERAN
Sports Writer

The Irish fell 5-4 to Green Bay on Thursday after the Phoenix exploded for four runs in the top of the third. Notre Dame (22-8, 3-0 Big East) defeated the Golden Eagles at the Helfaer Tennis Stadium in Milwaukee.

"We were happy to pull out the match against Marquette," McGaffigan said. "We hadn't had the chance to practice as much as we would like outside." Shortly after their loss, the Irish hit the road for Marquette (13-20, 3-0) today, defeating the Golden Eagles at the Helfaer Tennis Stadium in Milwaukee.

"The Phoenix scored one run in the top of the third, but a diving catch by Lux stopped the momentum and ended the inning with a double play. Junior pitcher Laura Winter soared through the next three innings, stringing nine straight outs. A run by Lux in the sixth stretched the lead to 4-0 for the Irish."

Irish lose in final inning

By PETER STEINER
Sports Writer

"Given that they lost the doubles points, the top four guys came out and really took care of business and made it a non-match pretty quick," Bayliss said. "We were really in charge from the get-go on all seven courts."

Irish senior Michael Moore lost the only singles match for the Irish in a closely contested two-set match. The senior dropped the first set tiebreaker, 7-5, and was unable to overcome Cardinals sophomore Patrick Elliot in the second set, losing it 7-5.

"Michael Moore did lose, but it was 7-6, 7-5, and he had opportunities," Bayliss said. "He served for the first set twice. ... [He had some] bad luck, and a couple of shots there and there might have worked." While the Irish controlled the singles matches from start to finish, the same was not true in doubles. Irish freshman Alex Lawson and junior Billy Pecor took care of business at No. 2 doubles, winning 8-3. But No. 1 doubles and No. 3 doubles both lost their matches by one service break.

"Byan Bandy was a little bit iffy yesterday [against Ball State], but I think he'll be fine this weekend," Bayliss said. "Wyatt McCoy is back and he played and won in straight sets and he's been out for about three weeks. ... I anticipate being 100 percent and ready to go."

The Irish will showcase their recent offensive success this weekend.

Amy Buntin said the Irish will also look to continue their recent offensive success.

"Our team has settled into a good rhythm now at the plate and our bats have become more consistent," she said. "We've continued to work on our fundamentals and not overthinking things too much in the batter's box."

The Hoyas are coming off a program-record, eight-game winning streak and most recently beat George Mason 5-2 on March 27 and Towson 3-2 on March 28.

With this in mind, the Irish have plenty of motivation to come out of the series with a win. Despite the excitement, Notre Dame is still focusing on the basics.

"We have been working on situational thinking and practice, both offensively and defensively. The more we practice at game speed, the more we have become," Lux said.

The Irish and the Hoyas will square off today at noon and again at 2 p.m. at Guy Mason Field in Washington, D.C.

Contact Peter Steiner at pstein@nd.edu
Competing against some of the best athletes in the country, the Irish held their own and showed their depth this weekend at the Stanford Invitational in Palo Alto, Calif., and the Oliver Nolof Open in Cincinnati. Notre Dame athletes won a combined seven events between the two meets.

At Stanford, sophomore Chris Giesting, junior Patrick Feeney and senior Brendan Dougherty combined to dominate in the 400-meters, finishing first, second and fifth respectively. Giesting and Feeney’s times (46.31 and 46.38) currently rank second and third in the nation and Giesting was recognized as the Big East Men’s Track Athlete of the Week for his performance.

Both the men and the women excelled in the 4x400-meter relay, finishing first and second, respectively. Their times rank in the national top 15 this season.

Senior thrower Madeline Casanova also had an outstanding meet, winning the discus and placing second in the hammer throw with a personal record. However, she wasn’t particularly pleased with her own effort.

“My performance this weekend was mediocre,” Casanova said. “But it was still nice to compete in front of my friends and family, and in the sun for once.”

The Stanford Invitational is known for producing impressive middle and long distance performances and the Irish followed the trend. Senior All-American Rebecca Tracy won the 800-meter in 2:05.31 and ran the third best time in the country (4:18:07) after placing second in the 1500-meter on Friday. Joining her in the top five of both events was freshman Danielle Aragon, whose 800-meter time (2:06.40) is the best in the nation by a freshman this year. Fellow freshman Molly Seidel added a first-place finish in her section of the 5000-meter, in the 10th best time of the country this year. For the men, senior Jeremy Rae ran the 5000-meter for the first time and dipped below 14 minutes (13:59.32), while freshman Michael Clevenger finished sixth in his section, setting his fourth straight personal record.

The Irish had 25 top-five finishers overall and showed they have the depth and talent to reach their lofty goals, Casanova said.

“This weekend’s great performances move us just one step closer to our goals,” Casanova said. “We want to win the Big East and have lots more athletes compete at regionals and place at nationals.”

In Ohio, the multi-eventers had a strong showing. On the men’s side, seniors Dean Odegard and Ted Glasnow finished third and fourth respectively, while freshman Brent Swanberg placed sixth in his first collegiate decathlon. Sophomore Carly Loeffel led the women’s heptathlon from start to finish and finished 294 points ahead of her closest competitor with a score of 5,113.

The Irish will next compete at the Michigan State Invitational in East Lansing, Mich., on April 5 and 6.

Contact Greg Hadley at ghadley@nd.edu
Irish senior midfielder Tyler Kimball tries to dodge at St. John’s defender in Notre Dame’s 12-10 loss to the Red Storm on Saturday.

**Men’s Lacrosse | St. John’s 12, ND 10; ND 17, Marquette 5**

**Scioscia leads offense in rout**

By SAM GANS

Junior attack John Scioscia scored a career-high six goals as No. 4 Notre Dame utilized a dominating second quarter to power itself to a 17-5 win over Marquette in the teams’ first-ever meeting Tuesday evening.

The Irish (7-2, 1-1 Big East) outscored the Golden Eagles (2-5) by a 6-0 margin in the second stanza to take over a game that saw Notre Dame only up 2-1 after 15 minutes.

The victory came on the heels of a 12-10 upset loss to them-No. 19 St. John’s (7-2, 2-1) on Saturday, which pushed the Irish from their No. 1 national ranking. Notre Dame fell behind the Red Storm 10-6 after three periods and couldn’t complete a late rally.

Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said Saturday’s game influenced Notre Dame’s slow start Tuesday before the Irish settled down in the second quarter.

“I think our guys were very anxious about the way that we played last game. I don’t think we played great, I don’t think they felt that about it and I think we were anxious to get back on the field and make up for it, and sometimes you’re trying too hard to make up for it and you force things a little bit,” Corrigan said. “When we settled down, we had a lot of different guys making plays and we just did a good job of playing well and together.”

Scioscia entered the game with two career goals but exploded for four in the first half, including a goal with one second left in the first quarter to break a 1-1 tie. The Summit, N.J., native also added an assist on the evening.

Corrigan said Scioscia’s strong performance will increase his role in Notre Dame’s offense.

“John has really done a great job,” Corrigan said. “He played great in the fall. He was part of our mix coming into the season and then really just hadn’t gotten much of an opportunity this spring. My decision, not anything he had done wrong. Just us feeling like we needed to limit the number of guys that were playing.

“And frankly he got a great opportunity today and he took advantage of it like you read about. He was terrific, and I couldn’t be happier for him, and I couldn’t be more proud of the way he handled not getting a chance before and now just and continuing to work and wait his turn and when he got it, he jumped on it.”

Junior midfielder and face-off specialist Liam O’Connor missed Tuesday’s game after suffering an injury Saturday. Corrigan did not describe the injury or give a specific timetable for O’Connor’s return but said he will be out the rest of the week and be evaluated week-to-week.

Corrigan said the win over Marquette was important to put them feeling like we needed to limit our opportunity today and he took advantage of it like you read about.

Irish senior midfielder Tyler Kimball tries to dodge at St. John’s defender in Notre Dame’s 12-10 loss to the Red Storm on Saturday.

**BASEBALL | ND 6, ILLINOIS-CHICAGO 2**

**Irish douse the Flames**

By JOHN SANDBERG

Sophomore right-hander Matt Ternowchek was outstanding in his first start of the season Tuesday, shutting down Illinois-Illinois-Chicago and leading No. 20 Notre Dame to a 6-2 win on a chilly opening day at Frank Eck Stadium.

Ternowchek, who entered Tuesday’s game with a 3-0 record and 1.86 ERA in eight relief appearances this season, made quick work of the Flames hitters throughout the early part of the game. After five innings, he had allowed one hit and walked none.

“The biggest thing you can do for your team as a pitcher in terms of keeping the pace of the game going is just throw strikes and get ahead,” Ternowchek said.

Notre Dame (16-9, 2-4 Big East) jumped out to a 1-0 lead in the first inning with some timely hitting out of the middle of their order. Junior first baseman Trey Mancini hit an RBI single and was followed by sophomore left fielder Ryan Bud, who added an RBI of his own. Sophomore designated hitter Blaise Lezynski followed suit, driving in Mancini and giving the Irish a 3-0 lead after one inning.

After adding runs in the third and fourth innings, Notre Dame led 5-0.

“It makes your job a lot easier when you can just go out there and let the guys hit it and just let your defense play behind you,” Ternowchek said about the easy early run support.

Illinois-Chicago (13-12, 3-3 Horizon League) strung some hits together to get on the board in the sixth inning. RBI doubles in the inning from Flames center fielder Ryan Shober and left fielder Tyler Detmer put two runs on the board, making the score 5-2 Notre Dame.

Ternowchek left the game after six innings pitched, having allowed two earned runs on four hits while walking none.

“It’s a little bit of a transition going from relief to starting, but I got a little bit of experience with that last year,” Ternowchek said. “I’ll do whatever my coaches ask me to do … whatever it takes to help my team win.”

Mancini added another RBI in the seventh inning, the 100th of his career, to make the game 6-2. He finished the day 4-for-4 with two RBIs.

Lezynski also wielded a hot bat for the Irish, going 2-for-3 with two RBIs and a double on the day.

Junior right hander Donnie Hisa provided three innings of solid relief for Notre Dame, giving up no runs on one hit and striking out one batter. Hisa recorded the save, his first this season.

Flames right hander Brian lvak took the loss, allowing nine hits and five runs while walking three Irish batters.

“It’s nice to get out here and get on our home field and get that first win,” Ternowchek said. “Hopefully we can keep this rolling.”

Notre Dame returns to action tonight at Frank Eck Stadium to take on Valparaiso at 5:35 p.m.

Contact John Sandberg at jsandbe1@nd.edu

**Men’s Swimming | NCAA Championships**

**ND earns All-America honors**

By MEGAN FINNERAN

Part of a record nine-man Notre Dame contingent, six Irish swimmers earned All-America honors and the team finished tied for 36th place with seven points as a team at the NCAA championships in Indianapolis, which were held March 21-23.

“Overall, the guys are happy,” senior Chris Johnson said. “We swam faster in the morning than we did at Big East, so that indicated great things.”

Senior Bill Bass and junior Frank Dyer returned to the ND 100-yard freestyle championships after competing last year. Joining them for the Irish were seniors Johnson and John McGinley, sophomore Kevin Hughes, Cameron Miller, Zach Stephens and John Williamson, and freshman Bogdan Ayhan. The squad also qualified in the 200-, 400- and 800-yard freestyle relay events, along with the 200- and 400-yard medley relays.

The seven points earned by Notre Dame marked the second highest point total in University history. The Irish earned All-America honors in three events, marking the first time in program history the team has earned more than one such honor.

On the second night of competition, the 800-yard freestyle relay team of Dyer, Hughes, McGinley and Bass placed 10th in 6:25.32, earning them All-America honor.

During the third and final day of competition, Williamson finished 13th in the 200-yard butterfly in 1:44.18, and Stephens took 16th in the 200-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:56.43. These finishes earned both swimmers All-America honors, and they became only the third and fourth individual swimmers in program history to do so.

While Irish swimmers advanced to the finals in three events, the nine Irish competitors performed well in multiple preliminary events.

Dyer competed in the 100-yard freestyle, 200-yard freestyle and 500-yard freestyle. Johnson swam in the 100-yard breaststroke and 200-yard breaststroke. Miller and Stephens swam in the 200-yard individual medley, 100-yard breaststroke and 200-yard breaststroke. Williamson participated in the 500-yard freestyle, 100-yard butterfly and 200-yard butterfly.

“NCAAs is just super fast and not many of us made it back for finals,” Johnson said. “[Finals] are the next step. [The Irish] are going to be great in the ACC, with a new place and new teams, but they can still get in and dominate.”

Contact Megan Finneran at mfinneran@nd.edu

**Contact Sam Gans at sgans@nd.edu**
Lee
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24
through the first period, but the Huskies blew the game open with three goals in the second frame. Summerhayes made just four saves on seven shots in the second, prompting Jackson to insert senior goaltender Mike Johnson in the third period.

The Irish hoped to spark a comeback in the final 20 minutes but hamstrung themselves with penalties, taking four minors over the course of the period to hurt their chances at a rally.

“We wanted to come out in the third with a lot of energy and stay out of the penalty box,” junior winger Mike Voran said. “Obviously, that didn’t happen. We knew that if we were going to win the game, we had to take some chances. The penalties didn’t help us. We were doing it to ourselves.”

The Irish scored a consolation goal shorthanded, as Voran hustled in behind the net to drive home a rebound. That was as close as Notre Dame would come though, as it was the Huskies who beat Johnson for the game’s last goal. The Irish converted 11 of 11 power-play opportunities this year and third-straight time in the Final Four.

Irish junior forward Natalie Achonwa blocks Duke freshman guard Alexis Jones’ shot in the first half of Notre Dame’s 87-76 victory over Duke on Tuesday at the Constant Center in Norfolk, Va.

McGraw
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24
more energy and intensity,” McGraw said. “We came out and made some shots. We got back in the offensive rhythm, moved the ball better and got some looks.”

A Loyd layup in transition pushed Notre Dame’s lead to double digits at 57-47. The Irish converted 11 Duke turnovers into 11 second-half points to gain control of the game.

Diggins credited McGraw for inspiring Notre Dame’s resurgence.

“Coach definitely lit a fire underneath us,” she said. Diggins scored 24 points and dished out nine assists to lead the Irish. She also won her individual matchup with Duke freshman guard Alexis Jones, who fouled out after scoring only nine points. Junior forward Haley Peters led the Blue Devils with 15 points and 10 rebounds.

Irish junior forward Natalie Achonwa lauded Diggins’s contributions to the victory.

“Skylar’s the best point guard in the country,” Achonwa said. “She changes the game, everything she does … She’s that much of an impact player.”

With its victory in the Elite Eight, Notre Dame moves on to the Final Four in New Orleans on Sunday. The Irish will face Big East foe Connecticut for the fourth time this year and third-straight time in the Final Four. The game tips off at 9 p.m.

Contact Sami Zuba at szuba@nd.edu

Kelly
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24
the specifics of it other than they’re no longer with us,” he said. “All I can tell you is when that we break to start stretch and they’re not out there they’re no longer on the roster.”

Blue & Gold Illustrated first reported the transfers of Neal and Ferguson.

Kelly also announced Wednesday that junior running back Amir Carlisle and junior defensive end Chase Hounshell sustained injuries during Saturday’s practice.

Carlisle, who missed all of last season with an ankle injury after transferring from USC, suffered a broken collarbone and had surgery Tuesday. Kelly said the injury is a “minor setback” for Carlisle, who will likely be out for four weeks.

“Amir has had a great spring,” Kelly said. “We’ve seen what we need to see out of him. He’ll be a very important player for us.”

Hounshell, who missed the 2012 season with a shoulder injury, reinjured the same shoulder and will miss the 2013 season. The defensive linemen had put on 20 pounds since last year, and Kelly said the Kirktland, Ohio, native had a great offseason.

“He’ll have to have surgery again,” Kelly said. “Certainly feel terrible for Chase because he’s worked so hard after a second injury. You can imagine how disappointing it is for him and for us, that he’s put in so much time and effort in getting back from that.”

Despite the roster changes, Kelly said the Irish will be ready come August 31 for the season opener against Temple.

“The roster is going to shift and move,” he said. “We’re going to have some additions. We’re going to have some deletions. But when it’s time to kick off against Temple, we’ll have the football team that we need to go out and play for a championship.”

The next spring practice for the Irish is today.

Contact Mike Monaco at jmonaco@nd.edu

Follow us on Twitter.
@ObserverSports

Irish junior forward Natalie Achonwa blocks Duke freshman guard Alexis Jones’ shot in the first half of Notre Dame’s 87-76 victory over Duke on Tuesday at the Constant Center in Norfolk, Va.

Fact: Over 80% of high tech start-ups fail.

It’s not too late to learn how to be the other 20%.

Apply now at esteem.nd.edu.
CROSSWORD | WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS
1. Sing the praises of (6)
2. Online party reminder (11)
3. “The Family Circus” cartoonist (14)
4. Corral (15)
5. Surgeon’s org. (16)
6. Yellow-eyed birds of prey (17)
7. Apple products since 1998 (20)
8. Part of a fraternity ritual, perhaps (22)
9. energy.gov.gov- (25)
10. Sound of delight (26)
11. Spectrum start (28)
12. Traces of smoke (31)
13. Dr. Seuss’s surname (34)

DOWN
37. Decision reversal . . . or, literally, what can be found inside 17-, 22-, 49- and 58-Across (37)
38. Church laws (41)
39. Model’s asset (42)
40. Counselor org. (44)
41. It’s hot, then it’s not (45)
42. Web video gear (46)
43. Cybermannes (47)
44. Pants, slingly (50)
45. Hunter in the night sky (52)
46. How children should be, in a saying (53)
47. Eye, to a bard (54)
48. Apple products since 2001 (55)
49. Blast from the past (56)
50. Code-breaking org. (57)
51. Guitar accessories (58)

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE
1. Rock of the Rockies (6)
2. Napa (5)
3. Expedition (6)
4. Oklahoma (7)
5. Lake Tahoe (7)
6. Kansas City (6)
7. California Delta (9)
8. Nashville (7)
9. Lincoln (8)
10. People of South Dakota (9)
11. Maine (5)
12. Minnesota (5)
13. Montana (5)
14. Idaho (5)
15. Oregon (5)
16. Nevada (5)
17. Washington (6)
18. New Mexico (6)
19. Texas (5)
20. Arizona (5)
21. Missouri (5)
22. Nebraska (5)
23. Delaware (6)
24. Puerto Rico (6)
25. Virgin Islands (6)
26. Hawaii (5)
27. New York (5)
28. Dakota (5)
29. New Mexico (5)
30. Florida (5)
31. Washington (5)
32. Montana (5)
33. Alaska (5)
34. Oregon (5)

SUDOKU | THE MEMPHIS GROUP

For answers, call 1-900-285-5665, $1.49 a minute, or, with a credit card, 1-800-414-5554.
Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crossword puzzles from the last 50 years. 1-888-7-ACROSS.
Visit the site at nytimes.com/crosswords, or visit nytimes.com/mobilexword for more information.
Online subscriptions: Today’s puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords ($39.95 a year).
Share tips: nytimes.com/wordplay.
Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/kidspuzzles.

THE OBSEVER

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

THE OBSERVER

Horoscope | Eugenia Last

Celebrities born on this day:
Michael Fassbender, 36
Christopher Meloni, 52
Peyton Manning, 39
Evan Rachel Wood, 31
Linda Hunt, 60
Joey McIntyre, 43

Happy Birthday:
Your strategy will be well thought-out before you make a move. Positive action will allow you greater freedom. Refuse to let emotional matters slow you down or come between you and your goals. Secrets will be divulged that can cost you financially. Impeachment will be your enemy. Your timing will be crucial. Romance is high-profile. Your numbers are 4, 16, 20, 31, 34, 44.

Aries (March 21-April 19):
Keep an open mind. Refrain from making an impulsive move. Stick close to home and keep a close eye on who and what is more important to you. Romance is in the stars, but emotional problems will surface if precautions are not taken.

Taurus (April 20-May 20):
Pick up information and study your findings before you make a move or contact anyone in a position of authority. Running your plans by someone you are close to will help you make the right decision.

Gemini (May 21-June 20):
Take part in events that will increase your chances of making new acquaintances or business connections. Don’t be afraid to show off your skills, but refrain from making a financial decision. Do what you do best, and what will improve.

Cancer (June 21-July 22):
Follow through. Don’t let anyone stand in your way. Believe in who you are and what you are capable of accomplishing. Your memory and expertise will lift you to new heights. Refuse to let an emotional matter slow you down.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22):
Trust your instinct. Take any opportunity you get to show off your talent. Take care of personal responsibilities quickly so you don’t miss a chance to network and collaborate with people in your profession. Love and romance look promising.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):
Take a close look at your relationships with the people you deal with daily. Protect your money from anyone you feel may be in your life to take advantage of what you have to offer. Pay more attention to self-improvement.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):
Hard decisions regarding partnership matters will lead to regrets. Sit back and observe what everyone around you is doing. If you have your next move on part-time issues, you will expand your opportunities of the possibilities that are within reach.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):
Put your situation and make your next move with authority. A potential presence will result in a much brighter chance to re-form, evolve or implement what you see. Your vision will be crystal clear.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):
Stick close to home. Fixing up your place or getting to the bottom of any situation involving the people you live with will bring positive results. Don’t let an outsider upset what you are trying to achieve.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):
Emotional matters between you and a friend, sibling or neighbor will enable you to be a more positive force and concentrate on your responsibilities and job-related expectations.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):
Recall old ideas, friends and hobbies. Make advancement toward your goals in today’s world, technology driven world, and you will stand out in a crowd. Take any opportunity you get to show off your talent. Take care of personal responsibilities quickly so you don’t miss a chance to network and collaborate with people in your profession. Love and romance look promising.

Birthday Baby: You are passionate, expressive and energetic. You are emotional and impatient.

Jumble | David Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter each square to form four ordinary words.

KELTN
FUYWA
SNARY
DGAADEN

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter each square to form four ordinary words.

FAWUL
KHTELN
KNARCY
STIGMA

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.
Share tips: nytimes.com/wordplay.
Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/kidspuzzles.

In two ways you’ve cleaned your timables.

Yesterday’s Jumble: YIELD HITCH
Answer: After the thief was caught stealing the batteries, he was — CHARGED

1. Jumble: YIELD HITCH
Answer: After the thief was caught stealing the batteries, he was — CHARGED

Work Area

Make checks payable to and mail to:
The Observer
P.O. Box 779
Notre Dame, IN 46556

Enclosed is $130 for one academic year
Enclosed is $75 for one semester

Name
Address
City
Zip
Chloe Wells gave the Blue Devils a 37-31 lead heading into the locker room. Diggins sat out for several minutes in the half after racking up two fouls. She said Duke's quick play frustrated her initially. "I had two fouls early, and I had to go out," Diggins said during the postgame press conference. "They did a good job of drawing the fouls on me."

Notre Dame struggled to regain control early in the second half. The Irish traded points with Duke but failed to string together an extended scoring run. But then Diggins found her scoring touch. She hit a long three-pointer from a few steps beyond the arc with 5:16 remaining in the half. The Blue Devils lead. Notre Dame committed four turnovers to Duke's seven during that time span.

But the Blue Devils came charging back in the second half of the first frame. After forcing a turnover from Irish senior guard Skylar Diggins, Duke built a five-point lead with just under eight minutes remaining in the half. With 5:16 remaining in the half, the Blue Devils lead by nine points. The Irish cut the lead to one point with just one minute left until halftime, but a last-second three-pointer by Duke guard Jewell Loyd. McGraw said she saw a rise in her team's energy during the second half. "I thought we really came out of the locker room with a lot of energy," McGraw said. "I'm not going to get into a lot of details on the transfers."

By MIKE MONACO
Sports Editor

Irish sophomore receivers Davonte' Neal and Justin Ferguson leave team

Neal was ranked the No. 8 recruit in the nation by ESPN and committed to Notre Dame late in the recruiting process, on Feb. 21, 2012. The 5-foot-9, 171-pounder played immediately as a freshman last season, primarily as the punt returner. Neal returned 21 punts for 46 yards, rushed once for seven yards and caught one pass for a loss of five yards. ESPN ranked Ferguson as the 14th-best receiver in the class of 2012. The fourth-ranked recruit in the class, Cornerback Tee Shepard, left the Irish last March for undisclosed reasons after enrolling in January.

Neal and Ferguson leave Notre Dame

By Jack Hefferon
Sports Writer

The No. 4 Irish had an extremely successful run in the Central Collegiate Hockey Association’s final season, winning the last-ever conference championship at Joe Louis Arena in Detroit on March 24. Notre Dame’s magical run ended there though, as the top-seeded Irish (25-13-3, 17-8-3 CCHA) lost to No. 9 St. Cloud State 5-1 in the first round of the NCAA tournament Saturday at the Hutchinson Center in Toledo, Ohio. The Huskies (25-15-1, 18-9-1 WCHA) held the Irish to just 18 shots and scored the game’s first four goals to hand Notre Dame its first loss since Feb. 17. "We were disappointed with the outcome, but St. Cloud played a great game," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said in a postgame press conference.

St. Cloud State jumped on the Irish early, as senior forward Ben Hanowski beat Irish junior goaltender Steven Summerhays just 11 minutes in. The Irish seemed to tie the game less than 30 seconds later, but junior captain Anders Lee’s apparent equalizer was kicked into the net, and referee took it off the board. "It was clearly a kicking motion," Lee said. "I was trying to get it back to my stick and get it back to the net. It was a reaction play at that high speed."

Even without Lee’s tally, Notre Dame kept it close. Irish center Anders Lee looks for the puck in Notre Dame’s 3-1 victory over Michigan in the CCHA championship on March 24.

The regional final between No. 1 seed Notre Dame and No. 2 seed Duke promised to be a showdown. The Irish and Blue Devils delivered in an 87-76 win for Notre Dame, the school’s 30th-straight victory. Notre Dame (34-1, 16-0 Big East) and Duke (33-3, 17-1 ACC) were quick in transition. Defenders on both sides looked for steals and rebounces to convert into fast break opportunities. The Irish led for the first 10 minutes of the first half but could not widen a four-point lead. Notre Dame committed four turnovers to Duke’s seven during that time span.

But the Blue Devils came charging back in the second half of the first frame. After forcing a turnover from Irish senior guard Skylar Diggins, Duke built a five-point lead with just under eight minutes remaining in the half. With 5:16 remaining in the half, the Blue Devils lead by nine points. The Irish cut the lead to one point with just one minute left until halftime, but a last-second three-pointer by Duke guard Jewell Loyd.

The decision by the second-year receivers to leave the program comes on the heels of sophomore quarterback Gunner Kiel’s departure from the team, news that broke nearly three weeks ago. According to ESPN, Neal, Kiel and Ferguson were the top three recruits in Notre Dame’s class of 2012. The fourth-ranked recruit in the class,

Irish fall in first round

By Sami Zubia
Sports Writer

The regional final between No. 1 seed Notre Dame and No. 2 seed Duke promised to be a showdown. The Irish and Blue Devils delivered in an 87-76 win for Notre Dame, the school’s 30th-straight victory. Notre Dame (34-1, 16-0 Big East) and Duke (33-3, 17-1 ACC) were quick in transition. Defenders on both sides looked for steals and rebounces to convert into fast break opportunities. The Irish led for the first 10 minutes of the first half but could not widen a four-point lead. Notre Dame committed four turnovers to Duke’s seven during that time span.

But the Blue Devils came charging back in the second half of the first frame. After forcing a turnover from Irish senior guard Skylar Diggins, Duke built a five-point lead with just under than eight minutes remaining in the half. With 5:16 remaining in the half, the Blue Devils lead by nine points. The Irish cut the lead to one point with just one minute left until halftime, but a last-second three-pointer by Duke guard Jewell Loyd.

The decision by the second-year receivers to leave the program comes on the heels of sophomore quarterback Gunner Kiel’s departure from the team, news that broke nearly three weeks ago. According to ESPN, Neal, Kiel and Ferguson were the top three recruits in Notre Dame’s class of 2012. The fourth-ranked recruit in the class, Cornerback Tee Shepard, left the Irish last March for undisclosed reasons after enrolling in January.

Neal was ranked the No. 8 recruit in the nation by ESPN and committed to Notre Dame late in the recruiting process, on Feb. 21, 2012. The 5-foot-9, 171-pounder played immediately as a freshman last season, primarily as the punt returner. Neal returned 21 punts for 46 yards, rushed once for seven yards and caught one pass for a loss of five yards. ESPN ranked Ferguson as the 14th-best receiver in the class of 2012. The Pembroke Pines, Fla., native caught just one pass for nine yards as a freshman.

Kiel refused to delve into details for the transfers. "I’m not going to get into