Students address sexual violence

Town hall meeting examines survey results, barriers to sexual assault reporting

By MEG HANDELMAN
News Writer

Student government hosted a town hall discussion on sexual violence Wednesday to open up the on-campus discussion and instigate activism in students.

Monica Daegele, student government’s gender issues director, said Notre Dame students dedicate themselves to various causes to make the world a better place, but they have failed to connect this effort to sexual assault.

“When we do discuss sexual violence or actively work to put an end to it, it feels as though we are met with earth-shattering amounts of pressure to keep quiet, to focus on how victims prevented it and to not question the existing systems that allow sexual violence to occur,” Daegele said.

It is easy to delete the crime alert emails and to think sexual violence does not occur at Notre Dame, but the right thing to do is almost never easy, Daegele said.

“Silence: it surrounds every situation of sexual violence,” she said. “It keeps survivors from telling their stories. It makes us pretend that nothing is wrong. It propagates sexual violence as it alienates those who have experienced it.

“It is the invisible force field that smother’s the sexual violence movement.”

Student body president Nancy Joyce shared statistics from a survey given to Notre Dame students in 2012. According to the survey, 41 percent of students stated they did not know how to report incidents of sexual assault or sexual violence, she said.

The survey also found 64 percent of respondents believed sexual violence prevention Wednesday in the Coleman-Morse Center.

Off-campus houses robbed

Observer Staff Report

An email sent Wednesday from Notre Dame Off-Campus Council notified students of a burglary and attempted burglary that took place last weekend.

A burglary to a student residence took place Sunday between 12 a.m. and 9 a.m. on the 700 block of Notre Dame Ave., the email stated. Entry was gained by raising a screen then opening an unlocked window, and an Apple laptop was taken.

The email also stated someone broke into a car at that site.

Buddhist monk muses on true nature of compassion

By GRACE MCCORMACK
News Writer

Growing up in a Tibetan monastery, Arjia Rinpoche lived through the political oppression and forced labor camps of the Cultural Revolution, escaped to the United States in 1998 and now works as the director of Tibetan Mongolian Buddhist Cultural Center in Bloomington, Ind.

Rinpoche gave a talk titled “The Power and Practice of Compassion” to an overflowing crowd Wednesday in DeBartolo Hall. In the talk, sponsored by the Hillebrand Center for Compassionate Care in Medicine, Rinpoche discussed some of his own experiences and shared insights on the cultivation of compassion.

“There are three things I want you to take from this talk,” he said. “One: what is compassion. Two and three are how to practice it. … Everyone has a seed of compassion, which is love.”

Although the seed of compassion is prevalent, Rinpoche said we often re-serve compassion for friends and family. “We must think of the

Physicist analyzes ice skating

By HENRY GENS
News Writer

While Charlotte Elster’s day job is researching at the forefront of theoretical nuclear physics, her self-described “early day” job is figure skating. A physics professor at Ohio University, Elster gave a lecture Wednesday about the intersection of her two passions: the physics of ice skating.

As a physicist, Elster began with the most fundamental aspect of ice skating: the ice itself. Specifically, she addressed some common misconceptions about the reason ice is slippery, the exact cause of which was not confirmed until the early 2000s with Scanning Tunneling Microscopy (STM).

“In 1839 Michael Faraday postulated that a thin film of liquid covers the surface of the ice, even at temperatures well below freezing,” Elster said. “Michael Faraday had no STM, and no high-tech equipment, so it’s amazing what he said. All of this was neglected.”

One of the reasons people believe liquid exists on the surface of the ice is because the pressure caused by the weight of a person concentrated on the skate blade causes the ice to melt, which turns out not to be the case, Elster said. The effect of this pressure on the temperature on the ice for a 50-kilogram person is only roughly 0.2 degrees Celsius.

Elster said frictional melting could be a potential explanation, but found that rough calculations could only produce a 2.1 degree Celsius change in temperature of the ice, not enough to melt ice in rinks that are generally kept between minus-seven and minus-eight degrees Celsius.

The real cause of ice’s low frictional coefficient is the
What food are you most looking forward to at Thanksgiving?

James McQuade
Freshman
Fishier Hall
“Turkey and stuffing.”

Andrè Smith
Junior
Duncan Hall
“Pecan pie with ice cream.”

Priscilla Quaye
Freshman
McGlinn Hall
“Sweet potatoes.”

Jen Szotek
Senior
Lyons Hall
“Mashed potatoes.”

Gracie Baez-Chavez
Sophomore
Welsh Family Hall
“Apple pie.”

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

The Observer goes behind the scenes of Irish Insider with senior receiver T.J. Jones in preparation for Senior Day, where the Irish will face BYU in the last home game of the year with snow and marshmallows in the forecast. The Insider feature will run in Friday’s paper.

The Observer | Thursday, November 21, 2013 | ndsmcobserver.com

THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

Want your event included here?
Email obsnews.nd@gmail.com

Thursday

Closing Ceremony for Peace Sand Mandala
Jordan Hall of Science
4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
See the sweeping of the colored sands.

Film: “Oh, Boy”
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
7 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Director Jan Dieckler to appear.

Friday

Blood Drive Benefiting Relay for Life
Grace Hall
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
All donors receive a free T-shirt.

Stress Buster Friday
St. Liam Hall
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Laughter yoga in the third-floor conference room.

Saturday

Discussion: “Mitt Romney’s Mormonism”
Snite Museum of Art
12 p.m. – 1 p.m.
On politics and religion.

Presentation: “Solar Power at Long Last”
Jordan Hall of Science
12 p.m. – 1 p.m.
Part of the Science Exploration Series.

Sunday

Men’s Basketball
Joyce Center
2 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Tickets $15 to $40 to see the game against Army.

Men’s Soccer
Alumni Stadium
7 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Support the Irish in their second-round game in the NCAA tournament.

Monday

ACMS Colloquium
127 Hayes-Healy
4 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Dr. Kuznetsov on regulatory genetic oscillators.

John Ochsendorf
Lecture
104 Blond Hall
4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Professor at MIT, author of the book "Tall."
Alumnae promote benefits of study abroad

By KELLY KONYA
Associate Saint Mary's Editor

Three Saint Mary’s alumnae took part in a panel discussion Wednesday to highlight the impact of study abroad experiences on careers.

Class of 2006 alumna Molly Monceaux, manager of ideation at Just Marketing International, began the presentation by discussing her yearlong experience in Ireland and the effect it had on her career in marketing.

“When I came to Saint Mary’s, I definitely wasn’t prepared to be at school on my own yet,” Monceaux said. “So my first semester abroad was a lot of getting acclimated and meeting people, and then second semester was a blast because I was comfortable and could really enjoy the experiences much more.”

When she returned, she was a completely different person from when she left for Ireland, Monceaux said.

“I fell into an internship with a marketing agency in Indianapolis, and [after graduation] I worked on a Chevrolet racing team. This skyrocketed my career because I made a ton of connections,” Monceaux said. “I now feel a deeper connection to the larger world.”

Kara Kelly, a member of the class of 1996 and director of communications for the City of South Bend, said she also studied abroad in Ireland during her time at Saint Mary’s.

“Kelly said she experienced a different community atmosphere while abroad.

“Through study abroad, I experienced a sense of community that I never felt, even in my hometown,” Kelly said. “I now feel a deeper connection to the larger world.”

Kelly said her study abroad experience helped her realize the power of communication across cultural boundaries and the importance of spreting from our personal, familiar worlds.

Class of 1992 alumna Catherine Singleton, an attorney for Gresk and Singleton, said she came to Saint Mary’s simply to study other languages, especially Spanish.

“Not all programs are the same, and you don’t need to know what you’re going abroad,” Singleton said. “For me, I think it’s important to know what I was trying to accomplish, [which was] proficiency in foreign languages. I wanted to see how I would feel speaking that language and trying to blend into that country. I believe that cultural acclimation is a skill that you can learn.”

Singleton said now as an attorney she is able to speak Spanish on a regular basis with her clients. She also currently works in a building that she helped design both interiorly and exteriorly based on inspiration from the beauty of France and the architecture of Italy.

The panel concluded after students were able to ask questions about the particulars of each alumna’s experiences and careers.

Freshman Emily Sullivan said she enjoyed the panel and learned many helpful tips.

“From planning to go abroad in the spring of 2015, so this panel reassured me that going abroad is not only good for the experience but also for my future after college,” Sullivan said.

Junior Emily Scanlon, who studied abroad in Rome in the fall of 2012, said the alumnae made her consider how she would use her experience in Italy to further her career goals.

“I am always thinking about my time in Rome, but I never knew how to put the consequences of my experience into a context that will help me in the workforce,” Scanlon said. “The panel made me reflect on the long term impacts that studying overseas will have and already has on me, which is great, since I know it will always be one of my favorite memories in my life.”

Contact Kelly Konya at kkonya01@saintmarys.edu

Group passes recommendations on inclusion

By KAYLA MULLEN
News Writer

Student Senate passed a resolution concerning diversity on campus, introduced a sexual violence prevention initiative and discussed upcoming events at Wednesday’s meeting.

The resolution contained a series of recommendations for promoting a more inclusive atmosphere for students submitted by the Diversity Council that will be reviewed by the offices of Student Affairs, Auxiliary Affairs and the Provost.

The resolution had originally been proposed at Senate’s Nov. 6 meeting, but failed to pass. At the Nov. 13 meeting, its final clause was amended, but again the resolution was voted down, according to a Nov 14 article in The Observer.

Student body president Alex Coccia said student government plans to launch a student engagement campaign next semester focused on preventing sexual violence on campus and strengthening bonds between student government and Notre Dame students.

“For student government to be effective in leading, there must be direct communication between students and student government,” he said.

Coccia said student government is proud of the success of the new coffee cart in DeBartolo Hall, a triumph of student government listening to its constituents, and announced more plans to collaborate with to Food Services.

Coccia also said senators should promote the upcoming TEDx ND talks set to take place Jan. 21, 2014.

“[TEDxND] presents bold ideas and gives a forum for students to inspire other students,” he said.

Carroll Hall senator Joe Kelly announced Carroll Christmas, the dorm’s annual Christmas celebration that will take place Dec. 6, at 5:30 p.m. Kelly said the event would feature a Christmas tree lighting, a cookie contest and free hot chocolate.

Badin Hall senator Emma Herlihy also announced a hall Christmas event. Herlihy said Badin would host Conscious Christmas, a sale of free-trade items benefitting people in Nepal that will take place Dec. 6 from 12 to 5 p.m.

Contact Kayla Mullen at kmullen2@nd.edu
SMC students express concerns over food services

By ALAINA ANDERSON
News Writer

It’s food week at Saint Mary’s, a time for students to learn about the foods they’re eating and ways to eat healthier. As a part of food week, students had the opportunity Wednesday to bring their questions and concerns to Barry Bowles, general manager of Sodexo dining services, which operates the Saint Mary’s dining hall.

Junior Katie Stare, food services co-chair for the student Government Association, said it is important for students to have a dialogue with Bowles.

“A lot of students don’t realize they can raise their questions and concerns to Barry and he will help out, so it’s a way to talk to him one on one and have their questions addressed,” Stare said.

During the discussion, Bowles addressed students’ desire to have eggs served longer so they can eat a healthy breakfast. Another alternative would be having an induction cooker installed to have a make-your-own eggs bar, he said.

“I don’t know if we can do the induction cooker, and doing an open flame is hard,” Bowles said. “The induction cooker takes a special power supply, which I’d have to ask the College to install. But I’m not going to say no, I kind of like that.”

Bowles said students who want the dining hall to be open later than 8 p.m. can find plenty of options to eat at other times, including co-exchange with Notre Dame.

“What students need to understand is it costs dining services in the College for every half-hour increment we’re open,” he said. “Who honestly pays that cost? Students. If students are willing to pay to have the dining hall stay open late, we can do that. But from what I hear, we’re already too costly.”

Bowles said the best part of his day is when he gets to be student driven program to increase the dining hall’s usage and serve the students.

“We trust Saint Mary’s students. If they need a co-exchange, then they’ll get a co-exchange,” he said. “It just takes setting up an appointment with me and we’ll work through it.”

Bowles said Saint Mary’s has partnered with Real Foods, a student driven program to increase the dining hall’s usage of local, organic and sustainable foods.

“Saint Mary’s has signed with Real Foods that we will be 20 percent local, organic and sustainable by 2020,” he said. “Last year in February, we were at 18.6 percent, so we’re really close. Our new goal in dining services is to be 25 percent by 2020, because we can hit it.”

Bowles said students who pay that cost? Students. If students are willing to pay to have Notre Dame’s dining hall, they could easily get one to accommodate her needs.

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Bowles said the best part of his day is when he gets to be in the dining hall and actually serve the students.

“My favorite part about food week is working with the students and listening to their ideas of what they want to do,” he said. “If the student population thinks we don’t listen to them? We do. And we act on what we can act on.”

Contact Alaina Anderson at aander02@stmarys.edu

Discussion

percent of students agreed the Notre Dame community does not tolerate sexual assault or misconduct, Joyce said.

“I would think that that number would be higher,” she said.

“For some reason, Notre Dame is a little bit different, and we don’t think those national statistics will apply here to us.”

Nancy Joyce
Student body vice president

Joyce said sexual assaults could go unreported for a variety of reasons. According to the same survey, 35 percent of students believe people do not report sexual violence because they fear others will not believe them. Another 38 percent feel fear of retaliation hinders reporting, and 40 percent believe the fear that other people will blame them for the sexual assault stops victims from reporting the act, Joyce said.

Joyce said she finds these numbers problematic because so many students at Notre Dame strive for a 90 percent grade in our classes, but the same effort does not translate into fighting sexual violence.

“We don’t feel like sexual violence is personal to us here at Notre Dame,” she said.

“For some reason, Notre Dame is a little bit different, and we don’t think those national statistics will apply here to us.”

Contact Nancy Joyce at mjhandelm@nd.edu

Burglaries

and took a backpack. Subject information is not available.

An attempted burglary also occurred in the same block between Friday at 11:30 p.m. and Saturday at 1:30 a.m., the email stated. Entry was attempted by breaking a porch window, but nothing was taken. Subject information is unavailable for that incident as well, according to the email.

The email directed students to the crime prevention tips listed on the Notre Dame Security Police website and the live crime map of Notre Dame, South Bend and Mishawaka at www.crimereports.com.

Contact Meg Handelman at mhandelm@nd.edu

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Contact Meg Handelman at mhandelm@nd.edu
Skating

Continued from page 1

The interesting thing is that the mass of the skater never shows up. That means that the little girl or the little boy and the 200-pound hockey player with all the gear have the same rules going.

As with spinning, the success of the jump depends on the smallest of physical details. Often, ice skaters will know if a jump will end poorly before they’re even in the air, she said.

“There is no functional advantage to leverage,” Elster said. “It’s more about comfort.”

Mathematically, the mass of the skater does not enter into the calculations. One of the consequences of this is that the little boy and the little girl or the 200-pound hockey player with all the gear have the same rules going.

Charlotte Elster

Mathematical physics professor

University of Illinois

Fla. congressman pleads guilty to cocaine possession

Associated Press

CAPE CORAL, Fla. — Florida Republican Rep. Henry “Trey” Radel said Wednesday he was taking a leave of absence from Congress and donating his salary to charity after pleading guilty to a misdemeanor charge of cocaine possession and receiving a sentence of a year’s probation.

Radel made the announcement at a crowded news conference where he acknowledged that he had let down his country, his family and southwest Florida residents.

He said he takes responsibility for what he did, adding, “I want to be a better man.”

At a court hearing earlier Wednesday in Washington, Radel told a judge, “I’ve hit a bottom where I realize I need help” in acknowledging that he purchased 3.5 grams of cocaine from an undercover police officer.

As part of a plea agreement Radel admitted he agreed to buy the cocaine for $250 in a Washington neighborhood on Oct. 29. After the undercover officer gave Radel the drugs federal agents confronted him, court documents show. Radel agreed to talk with the agents and invited them to his apartment, where he also retrieved a vial of cocaine he had

in the house, the documents said.

At his news conference in Florida late Wednesday, Radel said he has been struggling with alcoholism and substance abuse “off and on for years.” He said that he will enter an in-patient treatment program and that he was confident he could overcome his disease.

“I’m not going to sit here and make any excuses for what I’ve done,” he said. “I have let down our country. I’ve let down our constituents. I’ll let down my family, including my wife. And even though he doesn’t know it, I’ve let down my 2-year-old son.”

Radel recalled the support he received from constituents when his career died. They made him feel like “Southwest Florida’s adopted son.”

I hope, like family, Southwest Florida can forgive me for this. I’ve let them down, but I do believe in faith, forgiveness and redemption, and I hope to come out of this a stronger, a better man for all of you.”

His office said that the leave of absence takes effect immediately and that the congressman had filed the necessary papers with the House clerk. In the meantime, he said constituent services would continue. He gave no indication he was going to resign.

Compassion

Continued from page 1

“True compassion is without exception. Although the temptation to seek rewards is strong, powerful compassion can protect you.”

Arija Rinpoche

Director

Tibetan Mongolian Buddhist Center

is not a relationship-dependent act.

“The pure compassion is an exceptional love, a love without limits.” Rinpoche said. “The mind, speech, and body have to hold that compassion.”

This understanding of the pure, unconditional nature of compassion is essential to its “mental and physical” practice, Rinpoche said. Meditation and mindfulness are means of leading more compassionate lives, he said.

“When you breathe in good things and breathe out bad, your body changes,” he said.

Rinpoche said people should channel this inner calm into outward displays of compassion, such as community volunteering and action, but they should not be motivated by external incentives.

“True compassion is without exception,” he said.

Although many meditators seek rewards is strong, Rinpoche said “powerful compassion can protect you.”

As the conclusion of his talk, Rinpoche led a meditation and traditional chant with seven fellow monks. The monks have spent the last seven months travelling the United States, giving lectures on compassion and raising money for the Children’s Cancer Care Treatment Center in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, Rinpoche said.

So far, they have spent two months at a hotel in Seattle and have been working on the intricate sand mandala currently on display in the Jordan Hall of Science. The sand mandala’s closing ceremony will take place Thursday in Jordan Hall at 4:30 p.m.

Contact Grace McCormack at gmccorma@nd.edu
I’m in the midst of a dilemma. I’ve always been one to give each holiday its respective month of celebration: October is all about Halloween, November is Thanksgiving, and once December rolls around, I become one of Santa’s elves. While radio stations, shopping malls and TV commercials seem to skip right over Thanksgiving, cranking the Christmas carols as soon as the clock strikes midnight on Nov. 1, I think the season is much more enjoyable taken one holiday at a time. It would be like going to a fancy restaurant and skipping appetizers and your meal because all you can think about is dessert. Yes, it’s tempting, but you miss so much as a result.

I was forced to reconsider this theory when my roommate’s college friends warned I would be so busy studying for final exams and writing papers that if I didn’t start thinking about Christmas before December, the entire Christmas season would pass me by. They argued that if I really loved Christmas, why force myself to postpone its celebration? Why does celebrating Christmas have to mean overshadowing Thanksgiving, they said, can’t they be celebrated together?

I had to admit, there was a point to their argument. After all, Black Friday has become a part of the Thanksgiving tradition for many, and isn’t this just a junior year of the Xmas shopping? Yet I got through those first two years of college holding fast to my one holiday at a time mantra. If I rushed to that dessert, I would end up eating too much and feeling sick.

Yes, the stress of finals made the season shorter yet, wasn’t that shorter Christmas season better enjoyed than racing past Thanksgiving as if it didn’t matter?

Returning to campus after Thanksgiving, I always put up my little desk-sized Christmas tree, turn on all of my favorite holiday music and buckle down for finals. Because I’m just starting to get ready for Christmas, I’m so much more excited than I would be if I had already been thinking about it for weeks. Nestled right between my two favorite holidays, even finals don’t seem as bad.

Fast forward to this year. I still intend to hold off on the Christmas music and decoration. Yet, junior year is more stressful than ever before. Like everyone on campus, I can’t wait for Thanksgiving break. With Thanksgiving later than usual, it seems like its never going to get here. Maybe that’s why I keep finding myself eyeing my favorite Christmas album. It might be time to get a headstart on that dessert.

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From park to parking lot

Recently, the University sacrificed one of the few remaining woodlots on campus to make way for 700 new parking spaces. The University decided it would be best to convert six acres of a working ecosystem into its higher purpose as a baked asphalt wasteland. Notre Dame promises us action on the environmental front, but all the Waste Free Wednesdays, promises of carbon emission reduction and windmills in the world will not help ecosystems from getting turned into parking lots. Notre Dame is truly serious about practical environmental action as it claims, it should commit to halting developmental sprawl and protecting even the smallest remaining natural areas on campus.

I understand that six acres of midwestern woods isn’t exactly a national park. At the same time, our lakes and woods on campus provide recreational, educational, aesthetic and biodiversity services that improve quality of life. The University is destroying six acres of quality-of-life, to be replaced with an eyesore. Notre Dame promises us action on the environmental front, but I fear by the time the soul is dyed the color of its thoughts. Think only on those things that can bear the light of day. The content of your character is your only on those things that can bear the light of day.

The soul is dyed the color of its thoughts. Think only on those things that can bear the light of day. The content of your character is your Heraclitus Greek philosopher

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

Gabe Griggs
Softening, Reconnecting and Forgiving

Imagine, for a moment, that you are having a heartfelt conversation with someone whom you love deeply, perhaps a friend or a family member. You believe his actions have become detrimental. Maybe his weekend habits have gotten out of hand, he picked up an addiction or his priorities have shifted for the worst.

These are all difficult topics to address because of the corrective or even chastising nature of the conversation. What can make these conversations easier, though, is that individuals often recognize their own detrimental habits. When they recognize their own negative behavior, engaging in conversation about it has a higher chance of producing positive results.

Notice, that in this conversation there is a universally understood right and wrong. The conversation is not between two people who disagree on a fundamental level, but between two people who both know the correct path.

Notice, too, that I describe this as “conversation” to describe this scenario instead of “dialogue.” Dialogue, unlike conversation, implies the two people talking disagree on the correct path to follow in solving the problem or in living correctly. We are often encouraged to partake in dialogue rather than conversation, and this being the case, the nature of dialogue is something to consider in order to understand more fully what the fruits of dialogue might be.

A dialogue, by its nature, is going to involve multiple opposing viewpoints — often two opposing worldviews that have been shaped by years of experience and reasoning. Furthermore, the majority of dialogues involve good-willed interlocutors.

The problem, of course, has to do with the principle of non-contradiction: If these worldviews are at odds (mutually exclusive), then, in most situations, one worldview will be correct or more correct in the aggregate sum than the other.

This fact brings us back to our initial hypothetical conversation in which there is an element of correction. Our dialogue, then, will have two good-willed interlocutors who are trying to correct each other and who both believe that their worldview is the correct one. How, then, are we to bear fruit from dialogue? And, furthermore, what is a true dialogue going to look like?

Regarding the first question, the answer seems to be pretty clear: Dialogue must be carried on with honesty, diligence and charity.

Without regard for the truth, a dialogue loses its means of operation and its entire purpose. Without diligence on the part of the interlocutors, no one will be properly informed such that the discussion will be fruitful. Without charity, the dialogue will be stifled by the limitations of language to express meaning and the futility of reason to hold itself to the highest standards of logical coherence.

To determine what true dialogue looks like, I turn to Pope Benedict’s “Introduction to Christianity”: “No real dialogue yet takes place where men are still only talking about something. The conversation between two men comes into its own only when they are trying, no longer to express something, but to express themselves, when dialogue becomes communication.” For Benedict, dialogue is not merely an intellectual endeavor or a skirmish of reason; it is the expression of oneself through communication. This means the value of the dialogue is not necessarily judged by the ability to convert one side or the other, but by the ability to truly communicate oneself to another.

Ultimately, we see true dialogue is communication and expression of oneself. As frustrating as it can be to enter into dialogue and not want to “convert” the other side, we can take solace in knowing that true dialogue is a worthwhile endeavor in and of itself. It does not need to be a means to an end. This may frustrate the logical mind that seeks unity and coherence. We must hope, however, that through the course of true expression of ourselves to others, we may eventually come to agree on the truth of the matter.

Gabe Griggs is a senior in the Program of Liberal Studies. He can be reached at ggriggs@nd.edu

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1990s

PLAYLIST

“Shady Lane”
“Glass Museum”
“King of Carrot Flowers Pt. 1”
“Sunny Meadowz”
“Swing Lo Magellan”
“Distopian Dream Girl”
“Taking People”
“Angeles”
“The Lie and How We Told It”
“Never Bought It”
“Oh My God”
“Swing Lo Magellan”
“Dramamine”
“Don’t Think You Wanna”
“Novocaine For the Soul”
“Shady Lane”

Contact Miko Malabute at mmalabute@nd.edu

By MIKO MALABUTE
Scene Writer

The Dance Company of Notre Dame is returning for its first major production of the year tonight, as the annual Winter Showcase show seeks to outdo their impressive and beautiful performance last year.

After months of preparation and constant rehearsal and attention to detail, the Dance Company has assembled a new cast of artists, performers who bring to the Dance Company a new energy and passion for each of the dancers to emphatically express themselves — often without even having to say a word. The year is the Dance Company’s means for its performers to transcend daily living and truly make art on stage, an opportunity for each of the dancers to collectively express themselves — often without even saying a thing.

The Dance Company of Notre Dame’s Winter Showcase will run tonight and tomorrow night at 7:30 p.m. in Washington Hall. Tickets are $5 and can be purchased at the door.

Contact Miko Malabute at mmalabute@nd.edu

Probably a few things that can be crudely summed up with this: the late 90s felt awesome to us. We were young and carefree. The economy was pretty cool. We didn’t understand the news, and even if we did, the biggest political scandal of the time had little to nothing to do with politics. People rooked overalls. Overall! So even if they aren’t our distinct memories, the love of the decade, the longing for our childhood and the world wide web on which we were raised has made 90s nostalgia a fun and ever-so-distracting hobby for us college kids. Never mind that we hardly had a grasp of the language back in ’97 — we’re going to post those BuzzFeed articles on Facebook all we want.

Now that that’s established, I hope we agree that there’s nothing wrong with looking back on the 90s fondly. Still, just because we were fans of certain musicians when we were four-year-olds doesn’t mean we have to half-ironically, half-nostalgically listen to them all the time.

The decade also had some pretty awesome music that we never appreciated as tiny, tiny humans — especially “Daria,” because I found out later that “Daria” was awesome.

So what is it that keeps us returning to 90s reflections even if we were just toddlers that decade?
### WEEKEND EVENTS CALENDAR

#### THURSDAY

**What:** "Oh Boy"  
**Where:** DPAC  
**When:** 7 p.m.  
**How Much:** $4

German director Jan Ole Gerster will be on hand to introduce his 2012 deadpan comedy film, "Oh Boy." The film follows Niko, a deadbeat dropout, as he aimlessly drifts through a day in Berlin. The movie won the 2012 German Film Award, the most prestigious award in German film.

#### FRIDAY

**What:** "Jobs"  
**Where:** 101 DeBartolo  
**When:** 8 and 10:30 p.m.  
**How Much:** $3

Ashton Kutcher portrays the tech giant Steve Jobs from his time at Reed College in the 1980s through the release of the iPod in 2001 in this week’s SUR movie. It sees Jobs develop Apple with friend and colleague Steve Wozniak, the introduction of the successful Apple II in 1977, Jobs being forced out of Apple and his eventual return to the computer company and his work to reinvent it.

#### SATURDAY

**What:** Notre Dame vs. BYU  
**Where:** Notre Dame Stadium  
**When:** 3:30 p.m.  
**How Much:** Free (with a ticket)

Saturday is the last home football game of the year for the Irish, and senior football players will be recognized for their contributions to the program. It currently looks like the weather will be freezing and snowing, so dress warm.

#### SUNDAY

**What:** "Casablanca"  
**Where:** 101 DeBartolo  
**When:** 1 p.m.  
**How Much:** $3

SUB presents one of the classic films in American cinema, Michael Curtiz’s 1942 "Casablanca." Even 70 years later, the twisting, turning, tension-filmed World War II drama continues to entertain at the highest level.

#### PLEASE GO AWAY, CHRISTMAS MUSIC

“I really don’t want to hear any Christmas music yet, but it’s not for the reasons you might think. It’s not that I don’t love turtle doves and partridges in pear trees as much as the next person (trust me, I do). It’s not because most of the songs these days just remind me of how commercialized the season has become (even though it has). It’s not even because Christmas music makes me anxious about everything I need to do before the holiday (although it does).

Every other year of my life that I can remember, I’ve listened to Christmas music before Thanksgiving. Way before Thanksgiving. Sometimes even before Halloween.

I never worried much about beckoning the holiday season too soon. How could it be too early for Christmas? But this year, I’m more hesitant to crank up the carols. Although I’m still itching to create an iTunes playlist consisting entirely of Josh Groban, Michael Bublé and Mannheim Steamroller, I’m doing my best to hold off for another week.

It’s hard, especially when my Pandora account insists on playing holiday-themed ads and I’ve already heard Mariah Carey’s “All I Want for Christmas Is You” blasting from a North Quad residence hall on a Friday afternoon. Christmas lights hang in the window of my friend’s dorm room, and the University has been sneakily decorating trees around campus for weeks. I’m not even going to pretend I don’t feel a slight twinge of joy every time I walk into Starbucks and see vibrant red bags of coffee grounds lining the shelves.

The truth is, I’m a sucker for Christmas. I live and breathe for the holiday season. I find myself wishing in June that it were already Christmastime, and I count down the months until it arrives. My obsession with all things even marginally related to Christmas is almost embarrassing.

This year, though, I’m not going to listen to Christmas music before Thanksgiving. I just won’t. And here’s why: I’m trying to learn to recognize what’s wonderful about the average days. You know which days I mean — the ones when it’s too cold and maybe raining, and the dining hall isn’t serving anything good, and you have a paper due tomorrow, and you still haven’t gathered up the courage to ask that person to the syrup and now that you think about it, nothing particularly exciting at all has happened for a while.

In other words, the days that don’t belong to Christmastime.

During Christmastime, maybe it’s too cold and it’s raining and you’re hungry and stressed and wishing there were more hours in the day — but there are twin-killing white lights and nativity scenes and peppermint hot chocolates and Christmas music. And those things make everything just swell, regardless of whatever else is going on in your life.

But I think we should be able to convince ourselves that everything is just swell on any given day, not just on the ones that fall between Thanksgiving and New Year’s. There is something oddly beautiful about those standard, run-of-the-mill days that have nothing particularly special about them. They’re completely blank slates on which joys and heartbreaks write themselves in unpredictable ways.

The uncertainty of what will come from average days is humbling, and I’m attempting to appreciate them for what they are. On regular days, there is no Christmas music to automatically make the world brighter, which forces us to look a little deeper to find what makes each day meaningful.

For me, holding off on Christmas music until Thanksgiving is a reminder to find beauty in ordinariness. I’m not going to tell you to follow my lead by stowing away your Andrea Bocelli Christmas album for the next week. I’m just suggesting we enjoy the present moment, instead of always jumping ahead to the next exciting thing.

But when that next exciting thing arrives and Santa Claus’s sleigh rolls into Herald Square at the end of the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade, you’d better believe I’ll be turning up — the Christmas tunes. So, to the Christmas music playlist to which I haven’t been showing any love, hang in there. I’m almost ready for you.

Contact Marisa Iati at miati@nd.edu

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
On Sunday, the Chicago Bears and Baltimore Ravens experienced a 113-minute delay as severe weather conditions turned rain, thunder and torrenting rain, thunder and tor-
zano warnings descended on Soldier Field. Even after the de-
lay, the Bears and Ravens couldn’t influence the game. The players were battered by the wind and play-
ers struggled to stay on their feet, tearing up divots with ev-
ery step.

This was not the first time the weather affected a football game, and it surely won’t be the last.

In 2007, the Browns hosted the Bills in a flash flooding condi-
tions. With no visible turf and a thick layer of snow, the Browns pulled out a decisive 8-0 victory.

In 2001, the Patriots topped the Raiders and advanced to the Super Bowl. It’s just another example of the in-
terior, weather and the game of football.

Finally, it’s getting to be that time of year again. The north-
er part of our nation is starting to get a taste of the fluffy white precipitation that our hearts hold so dear. As we sit on the curb and wait for the snow to fall and the sor-
t of the month by the last month of the year, football conditions change.

Frankly, when the weather outside is frightful, football is just delightful.

It’s an entirely different game. Teams knock the dust off of their ground-and-pound running and games running back to start earn their paychecks. The tough guys on the other side of the ball seem to be worth twice as much as the flashy players split out wider in earlier in the sea-
on. The game gets back to its snow, terrapling winds, and even hail.

As you can imagine, I’m of the belief that playing this year’s Super Bowl in MetLife Stadium is a good thing. In the arctic conditions of East Rutherford N.J., two of the best teams in professional football will square off. Sure, it will be controversial when one of the teams is from a southern locale and the talking heads analyze (and over ana-
lyze) its ability to adapt to cold weather. Sorry guys, but that’s just football.

In a game where the oddly shaped ball doesn’t bounce straight, weather adds even another intangible element. In a football, the oddity is the 148-square-mile Super Bowl Stadium is a good thing. In the arctic conditions of East Rutherford N.J., two of the best teams in professional football will square off. Sure, it will be controversial when one of the teams is from a southern locale and the talking heads analyze (and over analyze) its ability to adapt to cold weather. Sorry guys, but that’s just football.

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Irish Women’s Ultimate Frisbee returns as champions

Golf finishes 18th; Men’s Ultimate Frisbee finishes 5th, 6th and 7th; Squash struggles; Field Hockey wins 1-0

Special to The Observer

Notre Dame traveled to Grandville, Ohio, last weekend for Disc Throw Inferno, hosted by Denison. The Irish divided their squad into two teams, X and Y, for the tournament, which featured six women’s teams from across the Midwest. Both Notre Dame teams featured an equal mix of rook-ies and returners, in the hopes of maximizing playing time before the league season begins in the spring.

Notre Dame X, led by senior captains Kelsey Fink and Molly Carmona, opened the weekend against Ohio State B. The Irish came out strong, securing a lead in the first half that they did not let go, ending the game with a 13-2 victory. Notre Dame X played their second game against Western Kentucky, winning 15-3. The team carried momentum into its third game of the day against Western Michigan, securing a 13-4 win. Pool play continued for one game on Sunday against Denison as the Irish secured a spot in the champion-ship bracket with a victory.

In the semifinal game, the team played Western Kentucky once more, moving into the fi-nals with a 12-3 win. In the final against Western Michigan, the team worked together more than they had all weekend to earn a 6-1 victory and the title of Disc Throw Inferno champions. Fink, Carmona and sophomore Heather Fredrickson led the team with ex-cellent throws all weekend while sophomores Mara Jurkovic and Emily Dowling and freshman cutter Julia Butterfield had beautiful in-cuts and deep looks both days. Freshmen Mary Kate Andersen and Rachel Francis played great defense, and freshman Anastacia Taylor played well on the offensive side.

The Notre Dame Y team, led by senior captain Eliza Herrero, opened the weekend against Western Michigan. Though the game ended in a loss, the team gained experience and the player-ers created chemistry that would serve them well later in the week-end. Notre Dame Y was unable to secure a win in its next two games, losing to Deniso 10-4 and to Western Kentucky on universe point by an 8-7 score. On Sunday, the team struggled out of the gate with a loss to Ohio State B but came out strong in the second game against Western Kentucky, jumping out to a first half lead that it would not relinquish on its way to an 11-6 victory. The team suf-fered a 1-2 loss to an experienced Western Michigan team in its final game.

Fifth-year student Kelly Gilmour, senior Mara Stokey and sophomore Brianna Becker led the team handling, cutters and eran handlers. Junior Eliza Herrero, freshman Mary Hermann and fifth-year Erin Cobb ran the field with great vision in and deep. Sophomore Allyson Straley and freshman Kendall Burgert played great wing offense all weekend. Junior Collorifen showed great improvement and confidence while handling, espe-cially against a zone defense.

Golf

The Irish traveled to the Barefoot Resort in Myrtle Beach, S.C., last weekend to compete in the fall national tournament of the NCCGA (National Collegiate Club Golf Association). Seniors Sean Flanagan, Dan McCarthy and Joe Cuff, junior Greg Bondron, sophomores Phil Krebs and Brian Miller and freshmen Jordan Milo and Luke DeTrempe traveled for the Irish. The team came into the tournament ranked 18th in the country and left the tournament with an 18th-place finish out of 24 teams. Miller and DeTrempe, both of whom finished 26th overall out of 200 golfers, led the Irish on the weekend. The trip marked Notre Dame’s first NCCGA tour-nament appearance as this fall has been the team’s first full sea-son of competition.

Men’s Ultimate Frisbee

The Notre Dame men’s ultimate team joined the women’s squad in traveling to Granville, Ohio, last weekend for Disc Throw Inferno. The men’s tournament featured eight men’s teams from around the Midwest. Notre Dame split into three teams—Notre Dame X, Y and Z—which were joined by teams from Denison, Akron, Michigan and alumni teams from Denison and Grand Valley State. Each of the teams played three games Saturday in two pools of four teams, and three games Sunday in a double elimination bracket.

Denison’s alumni team nar-rowly defeated Notre Dame X its first game Saturday, despite strong cut-ting from veterans sophomore Matt Farrell and junior David Terry. The team regrouped for its second game, however, and de-feated Akron decisively thanks in part to an outstanding defensive effort from senior Jordan Lange.

Notre Dame X’s third game Saturday was against Denison’s undergraduate team. Fatigue led to a slow start, with Denison tak-ing a halftime lead of 8-1, but the Irish were able to rally under the leadership of junior Peter Hall and match Denison point for point in the second half, making the final score a 15-10 loss. The first game of bracket play on rainy and windy Sunday was a rematch with Denison in which the Irish fell 13-11. Notre Dame X’s next two games were against Notre Dame Y and Notre Dame Z—a chance to play competitively against teammates. Sophomore handler Joe Norby was dominant in both games, sending backhands from end zone to end zone with precision. A key win against Notre Dame Y and a vic-tory over Notre Dame Z gave Notre Dame X a sixth-place finish in the tournament.

Notre Dame Y began the week-end with a loss to Notre Dame Z, but sophomore handler Jeremy Doyle was very effective, frequently find-ing key throws to dismantle the opponent’s defense. The team lost its second and third games of the day as well. On a weekend when all three Irish teams looked to get all players time on the field, freshmen Dan Verzuh, Andrew DeSantis, Ben Israel and Pat McMahon looked composed on the field and made significant contributions to the team. Sunday’s inclement weather had no visible effect on the practice efforts of freshmen Erich and Danny Kerekes, who controlled the play downfield in all of their games. Notre Dame Y finished fifth in the tournament and battled valiantly with a victory over Akron in its fi-nal game Sunday.

Notre Dame Z played much of the weekend shorthanded due to injuries and finished 0-3 Saturday but received a number of strong performances. A shortage of vet-eran handlers required freshman Jacob Scobey to step up to fill in, and Scobey looked comfortable and patient with the disc, a rare trait for freshmen handlers. The team started off Sunday winning big over Akron, with juniors Steven Zarzovski and Jason Wessel con-necting multiple times for scores as the junior pair was consistently dominant the whole weekend. Experienced play from sopho-more Jonathan Cernacev and ju-nior Billy Schell kept Notre Dame Z close in all its games, but the team ultimately finished seventh in the tournament.

Disc Throw Inferno was the Notre Dame Men’s second and final fall tournament before split-ting into A and B teams before winter break.

Squash

Notre Dame traveled to Minneapolis for its final tourna-ment of the semester and played twice each against Minnesota and Southern California due to last-minute withdrawals from Northwestern and Purdue. The Irish lost 7-2 twice against the Gophers and 6-3 to the Trojans. Notre Dame was without four of its top nine players forcing the Irish to play a freshmen-heavy lineup in a competitive ladder.

Field Hockey

The Irish traveled to Dayton, Ohio, for a matchup with the Flyers and emerged with a 1-0 vic-tory. The game was scoreless until freshman Emmet Farnan found the net for the Irish, giving them the victory.
Irish coach Jeff Jackson, pictured against Alaska in 2011, said junior walk-on Joe Aiken is a “Rudy” story.

Hockey
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

of injuries to the Irish lineup has pushed the winger into the spotlight, where he’ll be asked to make his college debut this Friday night against No. 13 Massachusetts-Lowell.

“It’s a dream come true,” Aiken said. “Obviously with the injuries you can’t replace the skill level and talent level of those guys, but you have to have a ‘next man in’ philosophy. So if I get asked to take a couple shifts, I’ll be ready to go.”

With Notre Dame’s current predicament, he better be. When Irish coach Jeff Jackson brought Aiken onto the team, he anticipated the soft-spoken walk-on would contribute solely as a practice player. But with four forwards out with injuries, Aiken dressed for the Irish on Saturday night against Merrimack to fill out the lineup.

Jackson said that Aiken looked nervous in warm-ups in front of the crowd on Saturday, and he decided to skate three lines to avoid throwing Aiken into the fray. But when the Irish travel to the Tsongas Center this weekend, an even shorter bench and a lack of TV timeouts will force the Irish to roll Aiken into the rotation and onto the ice.

“It’s kind of an interesting situation we’re in now, but he definitely deserves to be wearing the Irish jersey,” Irish senior captain Jeff Costello said. “He comes to the rink every day ready to work, and he’s only gotten better since he started to train with us in the summer. He’s stronger. He’s faster. And he’s starting to get more comfortable, which is allowing him to make plays he probably wouldn’t have tried to make when he was newer to the team.”

Aiken played high school hockey in the Milwaukee area, then came to Notre Dame to major in finance. He tried out for the team as a freshman but was cut, and was left to play for Alumni Hall’s interhall team instead. Aiken came back bigger and stronger as a sophomore but failed to make the varsity again, and helped the club team come into its own and finish its inaugural season on a seven-game win streak.

This summer, Aiken continued to build on his progress, and entered the tryout period with a new sense of confidence.

“From the start of the summer, there was no doubt in my mind that I could hang with these guys,” Aiken said. “I don’t think I would’ve made the team if I didn’t have that belief. But there are no guarantees, so during the preseason I tried to do everything I could to give myself the best shot.”

All Aiken’s work finally paid off this time around, as Jackson called him into his office a week before the team’s first game to let Joe know that he’d made the squad. An excited Aiken called his parents, some friends back home, then went back to his dorm to celebrate with his friends and former teammates.

“He came in, tried out a couple of times; he’s a bit of the ‘Rudy’ story,” Jackson said. “He’s worked hard, he’s been a great kid… he made the team for a reason.”

After three years and focusing on every step along the way, Aiken’s reason for making the team will present itself this weekend. And while the experience may be a dream three years in the making, Aiken can’t afford to think about anything but the play in front of him come Friday.

“You can’t be thinking about all the milestones along the way,” he said. “I’m really just going to focus in on what I’m supposed to be doing out there, doing my job, and being ready to go when I’m asked to do so.”

Contact Jack Hefferon at wheffero@nd.edu

GAME DAY
FINISH STRONG

SENIOR WEEKEND PEP RALLY
COMPTON FAMILY ICE ARENA
DOORS open at 4:15 PM
CONCERT featuring ND ALUM PAT MCKILLEN starts at 4:30 PM
RALLY begins at 5:45 PM
Speakers include captains B. Jackson, T.J. Jones, and Z. Martin

COME OUT AND SUPPORT THE FIGHTING IRISH AS THEY CELEBRATE THE SENIORS AND PREPARE TO TAKE ON BYU!

#NDGAME DAY
SHOW US GAME DAY THROUGH YOUR EYES
Simonne Collins said the Irish struggled against Virginia Tech’s outside hitters in the first set.

“They have really powerful outsides,” Collins said. “I think they teed us a couple of times out there so we had to get our heads right and make sure we keyed in on what we needed to do. Our coaches were on us, telling us what shots we needed to hit, who to commit on in the block and I think that really helped just got it together when we needed to.”

The Hokies and the Irish went back and forth in the second set. Though there were only two lead changes, the Irish were never more than three points ahead of Virginia Tech until the set was at 21-17. Despite eight ties, the Irish battled through and took the final two points on a service error and missed ball by the Hokies, winning the set 25-21.

The two teams spent most of the third set within one point of one another. The Hokies took the biggest lead of the set at 23-20 then scored once more to get themselves to set point.

Four straight points from the Irish turned the tide and knotted the game at 24. The Hokies managed to pull ahead once more, but Notre Dame tied the game at 25 and went up 26-25 on the next point. An error by the Hokies gave the Irish the win. The game had 13 ties and three lead changes.

Brown said the win in the third set gave the Irish the drive they needed to close out the game.

“Going into the break at 1-1 after dropping the first set is huge,” Brown said. “Obviously the key connection between me and senior setter Maggie Brindock a lot,” Collins said. “The passing was phenomenal and without that I wouldn’t have been able to do what I did for my teammates tonight so I owe it all to the passers.”

Brindock had 42 assists in the game, making her the seventh player in Notre Dame history to reach 3,000 assists in their career.

“Obviously the key to the match, the turning point, was coming back and winning that third [set] when we were down 24-23. That’s a hard run to have and to come back and get that. That momentum we kept going into game four. You could see the look in the players eyes that we were going to win, that it was happening.”

The Irish controlled most of the final set. Tied at four, Notre Dame pulled ahead and never looked back. Down by seven with the game at 19-12, Virginia Tech fought back and managed to bring the game within two at 22-20. Both teams were able to score two more times before a kill by junior outside hitter Toni Alugbue gave the Irish the 25-22 win and the victory.

Collins had one of her best games of her college career, notching six kills, and said the passing game was key to her success on offense.

“We’ve been practicing the connection between me and [senior setter Maggie Brindock] a lot,” Collins said. “The passing was phenomenal and without that I wouldn’t have been able to do what I did for my teammates tonight so I owe it all to the passers.”

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Debbie Brown
Irish coach
Belles travel to Beth Baker Classic

Observer Staff Report

The Belles will travel this weekend to Wheaton, Ill., for the Beth Baker Classic, where they will first square off against Buena Vista.

The Beavers (0-3) are coming off a rough stretch from last weekend, where they dropped both of their games in the Cornell Classic.

For the Belles (1-1) to have success against Buena Vista, they must find a way to slow down the Beavers’ senior center Malaria Gilley, who averaged 16 points per game and nine rebounds over the course of the team’s three games at the Cornell Classic.

Senior forward Maris Hovee leads the team in points with 12 average over .500 in field goal percentage. The Belles need continued production per game. The Thunder rely on a balanced attack, as four players lead the team in 3-point percentage.

For the Belles (1-1) to have success against Buena Vista, they must find a way to slow them down.

Page CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

enough and whatever comes along with it doesn’t make it any worse.”

During his career, which spanned 15 years, Page was also involved in National Football League Players’ Association (NFLPA) as a players’ representative. Page said his time with the NFLPA helped him experience first-hand what a lawyer’s life was like.

“That was certainly a way for me to see a practical side of what lawyers did,” he said. “When I was players’ representative, the association was involved in a number of lawsuits and so I got the opportunity to see lawyers in action and hear how they think, see what they did. I got, in some respects, a practical view of what the law is all about.”

While some of the lawsuits involving the NFLPA during Page’s time focused on antitrust laws, today’s NFL is focused on dealing with head injuries.

Page said he could not comment on the current concussion suit against the NFL, but said it was “hard to say” if today’s game is safer than it was before.

“It is a dangerous and violent game, if you will,” Page said. “People get hurt. People have gotten hurt from the inception of the game. Whether it’s more or less now, I can’t really tell.”

Despite being enshrined in two football Hall of Fames and playing the game for nearly 20 consecutive years, Page said he does not pay much attention to the sport now.

“Watching it is not playing,” he said. “My interest was in playing it and not watching it. That hasn’t changed from the beginning.

“I follow scores and that sort of thing. I don’t watch a lot of football.”

When he was with the Vikings and their “Purple People Eaters” defense, Page became the first active NFL player to complete a marathon. But in the process of training for the race, Page’s weight dropped from 250 down to 225 pounds and Minnesota released the Notre Dame graduate. Chicago picked up Page and he spent the final three-plus seasons with the Bears before retiring in 1981.

Page said he still exercises every day and estimates he has run between eight and 10 marathons in his life.

But could Page and his smaller size survive in today’s NFL with bigger players?

“When I was playing, I played against players who were 260, 280 pounds and managed to hold my own,” he said. “Whether that’s possible today with everyone being as big as they are, I don’t know. Fortunately, I don’t have to find out.”

Page lives in Minneapolis with his wife, Diane.

Contact Matthew DeFranks at mdefrank@nd.edu

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CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:
Ashley Fink, 27; Dan Byrd, 28; Dierks Bentley, 38; Joel Mchale, 42.

Happy Birthday:
A creative approach to money, legal or medical issues will bring surprisingly excellent results. Focus on the unusual but refrain from feeling pressured to make impulsive moves this year. Methodical, thoughtful plans executed with precision and finesse will help you turn any negative you face into a positive outcome. Past relationships will influence your future. Your numbers are 2, 7, 13, 21, 29, 36, 49.

ARIES (March 21-April 19):
Don't let emotions push you over the top. The less said, the better. Channel your energy into work and getting ahead, not what someone else is doing to make your life difficult. Avoid expressing a reaction that will keep an assailant at arm's length.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20):
A travel destination that promotes cultural differences will be a learning experience. Educational pursuits will enable you to expand your interests as well as use what you have discovered to help you prosper. A property deal or joint venture looks promising.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20):
Embrace change; adaptability is what keeps you in the game. Your ability to multitask along with your unpredictable nature will make it difficult for any opponent you encounter to match your wit, versatility and unique blend of intellect and charm.

CANCER (June 21-July 22):
Easy does it. You need a creative outlet or a way to express your feelings. Impulsive moves based on an assumption must be avoided; however, sharing your intentions and showing affection will help to improve your love life.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):
Keep your intentions a secret until you have every detail worked out and you are ready to execute your plans. A premature disclosure will lead to conflict and a series of delays. Reach out to someone who has something to offer.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):
Communication will buy you an invitation to a function that will help you advance personally or professionally. The people you meet or share ideas with today will help contribute to your success. Love is in the stars and romance is highlighted.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):
Stop back from a situation that can lead to relationship problems. Listen to complaints but don't attempt to make sense out of what's going on until you have had time to gather the facts and consider your options.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):
Gatherings will lead to valuable information. Talk to people who can offer an inside view of a situation you don't understand. Romance will ease your stress and improve your personal life. An unusual change at home will turn out to be beneficial.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):
Treat relationships with tenderness, loving care. Anger or using force will get you nowhere. Back away from any situation that has the potential to explode. Focus on home, family and making your person environment friendly and inviting.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):
Sign on the dotted line. Whether you are making a personal or business proposal, you have the upper hand. Your insight, coupled with your ability to handle any situation you face, will make transactions easy. Romance is highly suggested.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):
Do what's expected of you and keep moving. It won't pay to get into an argument with someone. Whatever change you want to make, do so quickly and without drawing attention to your plans. Avoid an emotional force play.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):
Implement your ideas and you will receive compliments as well as enthusiasm and whatever assistance you need to complete what you are trying to do. Celebration will turn into a romantic realization that will improve an important relationship.

Birthday Baby: You are aggressive, secretive and productive. You are determined and progressive.
Irish dig out of early hole to top Hokies
Notre Dame recovers after dropping first set to top Virginia Tech, claims sixth ACC win
By KATIE HEIT
Sports Writer

After dropping the first set, the Irish rallied to defeat Virginia Tech 3-1 Thursday to win their sixth conference match of the season.

In the first set, the Irish (12-16, 6-11 ACC) struggled against the Hokies (21-10, 9-8). Down 21-17, Notre Dame was able to cut Virginia Tech's lead to two points, but with the game at 21-19, the Hokies took four of the next five points and closed out the game 25-20.

"Between games one and two we talked specifically about our blocking defense," Irish coach Debbie Brown said. "We weren't able to score any points on our serve and we knew we had to do that better so really in game two we kind of flip flopped and we did much better and slowed them down a little bit.

Freshman middle blocker

By JACK HEFFERON
Sports Writer

This time last year, junior Joe Aiken was a member of Notre Dame's club hockey team, which was trying to establish itself in its first year of existence. The club didn't have a permanent locker room at Compton Family Ice Arena, so Aiken would lug his gear to and from late-night practices at the rink, trudging across the huge expanse of snowy parking lots with a bulging bag of gear.

Now, Aiken is the newest member of Notre Dame's varsity squad, after walking on to the team this summer. His new roster spot finally brings him a locker at the arena to call his own — and a whole lot more.

In addition to the free gear and fancy hotels, a recent barrage of wins has brought Notre Dame's club hockey team into contention for a national championship.

"Walk-on Aiken chases dream
Notre Dame shakes hands with Guelph following the Irish 5-2 exhibition win Oct. 6. After a year on the club team, Irish junior Joe Aiken is now the newest member of Notre Dame's varsity team.

By MATTHEW DeFRANKS
Assistant Managing Editor

Alan Page was a fourth grader when he figured out the power of the law.

"The Canton Repository" ran a story about the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark decision in Brown v. Board of Education, which declared segregated schools unconstitutional. Page was simply a newspaper-reader that day, but the court's decision piqued his interest in the law.

"As an African-American male, clearly that had an impact on my life directly," Page said in a phone interview with The Observer. "Seeing the power that the law had was something that I found interesting."

But that was not all that led Page to the courtroom.

"That, coupled with the fact that I had watched too much 'Perry Mason' as a kid," he said.

Page, 68, is now a Minnesota Supreme Court justice. He was first elected in 1992 and is currently serving his final term on the bench.

Before he was a Supreme Court justice, though, Page was a consensus All-American defensive lineman, a national champion and a first-round draft pick at Notre Dame in the mid-60s. He also owns two honorary degrees from the University and was the commencement speaker in 2004.

As a member of the Minnesota Vikings, Page became the first defensive lineman to win the MVP award. He was named defensive player of the year twice and earned nine Pro Bowl appearances. He played in four Super Bowls and was inducted in both the Pro Football Hall of Fame and the College Football Hall of Fame.

He also went to law school at the University of Minnesota during his football career, which saw him play in 238 consecutive games. Page said going to school provided him with a unique test.

"It was challenging in terms of scheduling classes I needed at the times I could take them," he said. "Otherwise, I don't think it was that much different than anybody else who works and goes to law school or grad school or medical school or whatever else it might be."

"Law school by itself is hard clearly that had an impact on my life directly," Page said in a phone interview with The Observer. "Seeing the power that the law had was something that I found interesting."

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"Law school by itself is hard

Alum turns the page from football to law

By MATTHEW DeFRANKS
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