Judicial council launches voter plan

"Vote Today" campaign aims to increase voter turnout by 20 percent

By ABI HOVERMAN
NEWS WRITER

The Judicial Council has developed a campaign designed to better advertise and simplify the voting process for next week’s Student Government primary elections, Junior Kathryn Peruski, vice president of elections said. The Council hopes to use this plan to increase voter turnout, she said.

A seven-member Election Committee appointed by the Judicial Council has been working on the “Vote Today” campaign since last spring, which incorporates new strategies for reaching student voters and encouraging them to vote, senior Michael Masi said.

“If there’s not enough publicity, people won’t know about the election,” Peruski said.

Masi, President of Judicial Council, said “Vote Today” focuses on advertising elections through redesigned posters, banners in LaFortune Student Center and both dining halls and communication through email, Twitter and Facebook.

“The big push is ‘Vote Today’ because we are actually encouraging people to turn out on Tuesday,” Peruski said.

Student government works to prevent assault

By ELYSE HIGHT
News Writer

With an announcement made last Wednesday, Jan. 22, President Obama launched a new White House Task Force for protecting students nationwide against sexual assault, Obama is giving the task force, comprised of U.S. Government administrative officials, 90 days to come up with sexual assault prevention and response suggestions for colleges. The group is also tasked with proposing ways to increase public awareness and possibly creating a reinforce system of federal agencies for schools that do not confront this rising problem.

Prompted by a report made by the White House Council on Women and Girls, the President’s announcement states that one in five women are sexually assaulted at college, with only 12 percent of assaults reported. The report said issues of sexual assault on college campuses related to drug and alcohol use should be especially examined because these substances have been found to have incapacitated many victims of sexual assault.

Obama said he sees a need for college to be a safe place that harbors individual growth and that “it’s not just these individuals and their families who suffer ... our communities - our whole country — is held back.”

Notre Dame has already made strides independent of the federal government’s efforts, attempting to see TASK FORCE PAGE 4

University reopens

Observer Staff Report

Notre Dame reopened on a limited basis Tuesday afternoon and will resume regular scheduling Wednesday, following the shutdown forced by inclement weather Monday.

The city of South Bend and St. Joseph County lifted the state of emergency at noon on Tuesday, and an email from the University stated that classes will resume at their regularly scheduled times for Wednesday.

The email asked all University staff to report to work at their next regularly scheduled starting time. The dining halls and LaFortune Student Center will resume normal hours Wednesday.

Although the travel ban has ended, all students, faculty, staff and others were urged in the email to keep road and weather conditions in mind, dress warmly in the cold temperatures and use caution when traveling to, from and on campus.

All students, faculty, staff, fans and others are urged to keep road and weather conditions in mind, dress appropriately and use caution when traveling to, from and on campus for athletic events.

Three students intervene in University lawsuit

By MARISA IATI
Assistant Managing Editor

Three students who want the University’s health care plans to cover birth control are intervening in Notre Dame’s lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit ruled Jan. 14 that the female students, who remain anonymous, can participate in the lawsuit, according to a report by the Associated Press.

The lawsuit challenges an HHS mandate that required nonprofit religious organizations to start to cover contraceptive services Jan. 1. Paul Browne, the University’s vice president for public affairs and communications, said Jan. 2 that Notre Dame is providing this coverage through its third-party insurance administrator.

Americans United for Separation of Church and State is representing the students, according to the
QUESTION OF THE DAY:
How will you conquer the second coming of the polar vortex?

Anna Baumboer
freshman
"Don’t go outside for three days straight."

Courtney Wright
freshman
Farley Hall
"Watch lots of movies and eat popcorn."

Annie McGarrigle
sophomore
Holy Cross Hall
"Friday Night Lights re-runs on Netflix, obviously."

Madeline Harris
sophomore
Holy Cross Hall
"Watching movies with friends."

Colleen Barry
sophomore
Holy Cross Hall
"Him I’m staying snuggled up and watching movies."

Melange Galvan
freshman
Balin Hall
"Retreat into my bed and never come out."

Students at Saint Mary’s built a snowman at the end of the Avenue on Tuesday afternoon instead of attending classes. Saint Mary’s and Notre Dame cancelled classes and closed their campuses in response to the weather emergency and driving ban enacted by St. Joseph County and South Bend officials.

How will you conquer the second coming of the polar vortex?
Health services warns students about cold

By KATIE McCARTY
News Writer

With temperatures plunging into the negatives this week, University Health Services advised students to protect their health against the risks posed by adverse conditions.

Dr. Kevin McAward of University Health Services said the most basic preventative measure students should take is to dress warmly and in layers.

“Cover your skin and dress in layers,” McAward said. “Avoid your clothes or socks getting wet.”

In such extreme cold temperatures, it does not take long for the body to be at risk for frostbite or hypothermia. McAward said it is important for students to be aware of the symptoms of these serious health problems.

“Pale, painful, burning skin is a sign of frostbite,” McAward said. “Skin that doesn’t pink [or] red up after going inside is concerning. Hypothermia is a state of full body cooling. Mild hypothermia presents with lethargy, confusion, shivering and then worsens to delirium and finally coma and respiratory depression.”

McAward said the key to preventing frostbite is warming the affected areas in the right way.

“To avoid damage from frostbite, run under warm water. Do not rub them to try to keep them warm. That will do more harm,” he said. “Also it is very important to keep an area of potential frostbite warm after it has been exposed. If it’s not go back out into the cold.”

According to McAward, the amount of exposure to cold is an important factor for the onset of health conditions like frostbite and hypothermia.

“More important than the amount of time, is the amount of exposure [to the cold]. It depends on how cold the temperature falls. At zero degrees F, you will only take five to 10 minutes before exposed skin is subject to frostbite,” he said.

McAward also advised caution with regard to exercising outside in dangerously low temperature conditions.

“Staying covered again remains the most important consideration when exercising in the cold,” McAward said. “While exercise will keep your core temperature up, it will not help your skin to stay warm and may [make] you at greater risk if sweat accumulates in clothing.”

McAward also said it was important to be in the know of potential cold-related injury falling due to slippery conditions.

“Notre Dame does a fantastic job clearing sidewalks and parking lots, but there are still plenty of slippery spots. Being aware of your footing is extremely important,” he said.

Contact Katie McCarty at kmccar16@nd.edu

Initiatives seek to improve global health

By ALEX CAO
News Writer

Michael Sweikar, head of the Notre Dame Initiative for Global Development (NDIGD), was recently awarded a contract from Project Concern International (PCI) to evaluate one of their projects in Indonesia.

The Child Health Opportunities Integrated with Community Empowerment (CHOICE) project, which Sweikar and others at Notre Dame will be working to evaluate, is centered on improving the health of local children through wells and other water-related interventions.

“We were to measure the impact of the CHOICE project … Project Concern International implemented...” Sweikar said. “[Project CHOICE] is basically a U.S. Agency for International Development funded project that was primarily in Indonesia. It was a four-year project from 2003 to 2007 and one of the primary goals of the project was to try to improve or help the health in these communities for children.

“Your looking at impact in the terms of fine health improvements in children.”

Sweikar said this work is part of a worldwide effort to help evaluate the impact of government-funded projects such as Project CHOICE.

“Our main focus is to look at global government projects and look at what impacts those projects are actually having,” Sweikar said. “What we do is we find a number of projects, followed and measuring outputs, such as whether a well is built. Not only where the project is implemented, but what exactly are the impacts it has for community members in terms of better health or education.

“We’re doing a project in Ghana where we’re measuring the impact of water points — wells and other water systems in villages. We’re also doing an investigation in Burkina Faso, which is nearby Ghana. We’ve done a number of evaluations as well in Uganda.”

Sweikar said all the information from those aid programs will help to tailor or to redesign aid for better efficiency and effectiveness.

“We are able to view our final reports at any location, our goal is to work with the organization … and we provide, the impact of outcomes in the case of PCI, they may be able to use that information for a redesign for a new project or look for what works and what doesn’t work for a new project proposal … and ideally look at some lessons learned from our work.”

Sweikar said his work with other researchers from the University will begin in the spring.

“The data collection will actually occur this spring,” said Sweikar. “The data we’re going to collect will be collected in April 2014. So Notre Dame researchers, including Michael, Juan Carlos Guzman and Lila Khatiwada, are going to work with Project Concern International and go to Indonesia and that’s where we are going to look at the sample size, investigate the households and conduct the survey to see what the benefits the program had.”

Contact Alex Cao at acao@nd.edu

Vote

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

By ALEX CAO
News Writer

Wednesday, Feb. 5.

The final element of the “Vote Today” campaign includes direct outreach to student organizations in small councils to communicate election details, Masi said.

“We’ve been trying to rebrand Judicial Council,” he said. “It’s been about increasing [student] awareness of elections.”

Peruski said for the first time, in addition to the digital ballot, a physical voting booth would also be in LaFortune on Election Day.

Peruski said he would like to see a campus council with a student president similar to the national council of the American College Health Association.

“Young people need the right to vote,” Peruski said. “It gives them greater participation in the decision-making process.”

Peruski said the goal is to work on a greater scale.

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“Seniors, it’s like leaving a legacy,” he said. “If you care about the future of Notre Dame, it’s important to vote.”

Beyond a general apathy with Student Government, Peruski said dwindling membership on the Judicial Council Listentrv makes it hard to distribute the voting link during the election, which only lasts from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Primary elections for Student Government representatives will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 5. If no candidate receives a majority of votes, a runoff election will take place on March 3. Students who wish to receive the highest numbers of votes will occur Monday, Feb. 10.

Contact Kathy Peruski at kmccar16@nd.edu

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Vote

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Electoral Day, Peruski said. Judicial Council is also working with the Office of Information Technology to advertise the elections on Sakai homepages and on screen backgrounds of University computers, Masi said.

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Task Force CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

address this serious concern. Student body president Alex Coccia said Student Government’s “One is Too Many” campaign has been put in place “to bring the topic of sexual violence into mainstream consciousness and conversation and to develop an attitudinal shift that leads to a culture that understands sexual violence and actively works to prevent it.”

Coccia spoke on this topic before the National Campus Leaders Council, where he said Notre Dame can stand as an example for other schools and the task force to turn to when looking for solutions.

“The discussion nationally is crucial to our efforts on campus. It shows that our efforts here at Notre Dame have the backing of the national conversation, and that no one is alone in their efforts to respond to and prevent sexual violence,” said Coccia.

The University administration has taken similar steps, creating the Committee on Sexual Assault Prevention and working directly with student government to develop policies directed toward preventing sexual assault, student body vice president Nancy Joyce said.

Joyce said she has worked on the sexual assault issue in the past and is in favor of this new initiative from the White House. Joyce said she believes the new task force will work in tandem with the system that Notre Dame has in place, bringing about increased awareness not just on campus but across the entire United States.

“The timing of President Obama’s announcement both enhances and supports our ‘One is Too Many’ campaign,” Joyce said.

The approach Obama indicated is similar to that taken thus far by the University and Student Government, with some adjustments to the unique aspects of Notre Dame, Joyce said.

“President Obama mentioned that he hopes a stronger sense of peer pressure on college campuses will help to prevent sexual assault,” she said. “To some degree, this is the approach we are taking here at Notre Dame, but I think Alex and I are more focused on the idea that Notre Dame’s sense of community is what will enable us to take better care of each other.”

Coccia said he hopes the White House initiative will finally bring due attention to this increasing problem from the rest of the country.

Coccia also said he is optimistic this announcement will stand as an important commitment by the White House to preventing sexual assault.

“Our goals nationally and on campus are to break that silence and ensure that men take responsibility in these efforts,” Coccia said. “This is so important in the residential structure at Notre Dame, where leaders in male dorms have the unique opportunity to set the standard of behavior for all classes within the dorm.”

As for the future of Notre Dame and the White House task force, Coccia said he believes promoting active bystander intervention, speaking out against trivializing sexual assault language and supporting the healing of survivors will be the main responsibilities of all those involved.

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Lawsuit CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

organization’s director of communications, Rob Boston.

“They felt that, in this case, the voices of the parties who would be most affected by a loss of contraceptive access, largely women, were not being heard, and it was a possibility that their perspective might not be represented,” Boston said. “We filed this motion to intervene on behalf of these students, specifically so that their perspective would be heard by the court.”

For “we believe that if Notre Dame is allowed to deny contraceptives, it could negatively affect students, faculty and staff at the institution, so we feel that the courts should hear from them.”

Americans United’s legal director, Ayesha Khan, who is representing the women, said the result of the lawsuit will have important implications for the students.

“They will get funded contraception, or they will continue to have to pay for it out of pocket, and that’s of great importance to them because all three of them would like access to contraception, which they can’t afford right now,” Khan said.

Boston said Americans United’s intervention in the lawsuit is about people “losing important medical services.”

“The students are really looking at this more as an issue of their access to needed medication, more than they’re looking at it as a religious liberty question. And I think that’s what this is going to come down to in the courts.

“Is it religious liberty matter, or is it a matter of people getting access to medication that they need?…” Once those questions are settled, we’ll have some sort of a clearer understanding of how this is going to shake out.”

Browne said the lawsuit “is fundamentally about religious liberty, and only incidentally about contraceptive services.”

Khan said the students chose to be anonymous because they did not want to release information about intimate aspects of their lives.

“They were concerned about retaliation, both from the University and from the larger community,” she said.

Contact Marisa Iati at miati@nd.edu

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4
Obama pledges several modest, important goals

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Count 2014 as the year President Barack Obama's agenda went from bold to bite-sized.

The president's State of the Union address Tuesday was an amalgam of modest proposals designed to chip away at some of the same problems he's been working on all along: persistent unemployment, middle-class insecurity, lagging schools and more.

"Let's make this a year of action," Obama exhorted members of Congress arrayed before him. "That's what most Americans want — for all of us in this chamber to focus on their lives, their hopes, their aspirations.

But coming off a year in which his major legislative proposals largely fell flat, Obama already was introducing Plan B Tuesday.

Where Congress won't cooperate, Obama aims to find creative ways to act more frequently on his own, through executive orders, regulatory action, presidential cajoling and the like.

"Wherever and whenever I can take steps without legislation to expand opportunity for more American families, that's what I'm going to do," he declared.

There is plenty Obama can do on his own. But creativity is no substitute for clout.

And an executive order on job training, wages or retirement security doesn't have the ring of an $800 billion stimulus plan or a historic overhaul of the health care system.

Obama isn't closing off other congressional action. He renewed his calls for legislation on immigration reform, extending unemployment benefits, boosting the minimum wage for all workers and bolstering preschool programs. And he added new items to his congressional wish list, including a call to expand the earned income tax credit to workers without children.

But Obama knows congressional Republicans are even less likely to cooperate this year than they were in 2013, which has largely been written off as a lost year.

And that knowledge is giving him a new sense of urgency.

The White House said Obama's first new unilateral action — raising the minimum wage for newly hired federal contractors — even before he began speaking.

It quickly drew derision from Republicans. House Speaker John Boehner stressed that the change would affect only new contracts and predicted the number of workers affected would be "somewhere close to zero.'

Still, small steps may be a better fit for these times than grand legislative proposals that would likely stall.

The economy is better, even if not everyone's feeling it yet. The unemployment rate is lower, even if 6.7 percent still isn't great.

But Obama is determined to change the condition of the economy. Seventy percent think unemployment will stay high or get worse in the next year.

As for Obama himself, "both his supporters and his opponents are worried that he has lost his enthusiasm and his energy for the political contest," said Calvin Jillson, a presidential scholar at Southern Methodist University.

Jillson pointed to Obama's own comments in a recent interview that he's "overexposed" and that it's natural for people to want something new "after six, seven years of me being on the national stage.

The president had a fine line to walk in his speech: projecting the optimism and energy that voters yearned for during his party's ascendance last year, and the public at large, are hungry for without overpromising at a time when his influence is sure to wane.

"This can be a breakthrough year for America," he declared.

But Congress unlikely to deal on most issues, Obama must keep expectations low, without putting people into a false sense of hope.

If they're not already there, that is.

Polls show people are less satisfied with their jobs, and that's one missile officer out.

The Air Force announced on Tuesday how that affects the nuclear airmen.

The Air Force has 450 underground launch centers, with each center monitoring and controlling a group of 10 ICMBs. They work 24-hour shifts in the missile field and then return to their base. They generally do as many as eight of these shifts per month.

The nuclear airmen are launch control officers at Malmstrom Air Force Base, Montana, who have shared test questions with 16 other officers. It said another 17 admitted to knowing about this cheating but did not report it.

The 34 officers had their security clearances suspended and they were taken off missile launch duty.

Lt. Col. John Sheets, a spokesman for Air Force Global Strike Command said the Air Force's nuclear airmen, said he could not number the comment on the number of additional officers implicated in the cheating investigation since last week, but he said all are launch control officers at Malmstrom and all have been taken off missile launch duty pending the outcome of the investigation.

The Air Force has 450 intercontinental ballistic missiles, or ICBMs, on alert at all times, with a contingent of about 500 launch control officers, some of whom are deployed to Malmstrom, to be available on any given day due to illness or other reasons. So the number temporarily unavailable for duty because of the cheating scandal, at roughly 68, is substantial.

Each day, a total of 90 officers are on duty at the Malmstrom inter- ground launch control centers, with each center monitoring and controlling a group of 10 ICBMs. They work 24-hour shifts in the missile field and then return to their base. They generally do as many as eight of these shifts per month.
Grateful for salad

Robert Alvarez
Man on a Nag

I’m a huge fan of the North Dining Hall lunch’s salad of the Day. If you’d asked my mom, you’d know that this is a huge deal. Historically, I’ve despised salads. Really, I hated food in general. I thought pizza was nasty until age five. I irregularly drank sodas at family parties to fill me up, mostly because I didn’t like tamales until high school. My mom has tried to accomplish for years what NDH has accomplished with a simple fajita chicken salad. That salad line is now my daily lunch habit.

One day last week, I was overjoyed to find out that day’s salad was the Cobb salad with avocado ranch dressing. I shoulder-checked some poor girl to get that turkey-bacon-avocado goodness in my mouth. As I sat down, a friend of mine commented, “It looks like they tossed your salad well, huh?”

Confused, I glanced at my salad and replied, “Yeah, I guess.”

Another friend then chimed in, “Ah man, I hate when they don’t toss it well!”

“I know, right? It ruins my salad.”

“Employee X is the worst.”

By this time, I was already halfway done with my salad, but I was concerned about what my friends were saying. They eventually went on to give an evaluation of other dining hall employees: “He doesn’t smile.” “She’s so slow.” “He freaks out when...” all usually preceded by, “I hate.” I’ve heard these complaints before and I usually shrug them off, but for some reason I was annoyed this time. Is this really representative of how we view our workers? Usually, when I press my friends about these kinds of statements, they respond by reminding me how much we’ve paid for these services; we deserve better than this. How much, however, can we reasonably expect for the money we pay? We pay employees to carry out a service of some kind, and I’ve yet to encounter an ND employee who has not done their job when we paid them. The execution of a job is not the issue here. What is at issue is we seem to expect more; we expect “service with a smile.”

Money can only buy so much, though. To me, it seems unfair to expect more than the service rendered. We are not owed a view into the psyche of the people who wait on us; I don’t know who the person swapping my card is, I don’t know what their day has been like. Why should I expect more from them besides a well-swiped card?

That being said, however, I’ve yet to meet an ND employee who wouldn’t return a smile if I was persistent in ordering one. Even some of the “meaner” employees would eventually relent if I did something as simple as reading off their nametags. (This little tip is a game changer. Who knew, people respond positively when you recognize them as a person with a name). Regardless of whether I receive a smile in response, though, what does it say about me if I only view my smile or thanks as valid if I receive a “You’re welcome!” in return? Is my gratitude contingent on having my ego stroked? Am I only a friendly person when other people are friendly to me? This seems out of line with the spirit of gratitude, especially to us Notre Dame students who have already been given everything. Granted, gratitude is not something one should expect from anyone, no matter how much they have. It is something that is given freely and shouldn’t be something conceded when certain material thresholds are reached. If this is our standard, I doubt we will ever be grateful. Rather, gratitude comes from a sense of wonder at our lives. Luckily, we live in a wonderful world; gratitude should be our default, not contingent.

This brings me back to my favorite salad-tosser. She has special needs, and special needs employees don’t have a minimum wage, so in all probability she isn’t paid much. Many special needs people still work for a pitance, however, because they love working. Yet, we’re upset because this lady doesn’t toss our salads well enough? Frankly, if a poorly tossed salad upset me to the extent I’ve heard others express, I’d need to reevaluate some things in my life. Try saying hi to her. Learn her name. She gets a little flustered when the line is long enough, so don’t always expect a response if that is the case. But eventually you might catch her when things are slower and she’ll flash you a smile with a, “YOU’RE WELCOME!” She even wished me a good weekend once. The great thing about showing gratitude is that it is usually met with the same.

Robert Alvarez is a senior studying in the Program of Liberal Studies. He is living in Zahm House. He welcomes all dialogue on the viewpoints he expresses. He can be reached at ralvare4@nd.edu

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

Last week, approximately 600 students, faculty, staff and alumni represented the University of Notre Dame at this year’s March for Life. Despite the typically cold and vast amounts of snow (by D.C. standards, at least), the Notre Dame community demonstrated its commitment to life as beginning at conception. Roughly two months ago, the University re-filed its lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Indiana for relief from the HHS Mandate. This is a case about religious liberties, but at the heart of the matter is Notre Dame’s commitment to the unborn and the teachings of the Church that celebrate life, whenever it comes and whatever its form.

In its November 13, 2013, “Special Message” on the HHS Mandate, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops reiterated their opposition to the mandate and celebrated the Church’s long-standing practice of providing and advocating for “accessible, life-affirming health care” (uscchc.org, U.S. Bishops’ Office ‘Special Message’ on HHS Mandate at Conclusion of General Assembly). They grounded their concerns in the Church’s commitments to “feed the poor, heal the sick, and educate the young.”

I have often heard criticisms of the “pro-life” movement by members of the “pro-choice” community that con- cern pro- life-ethics as only caring about life at conception and as stopping to care about life once it has been born. Such criticisms point to a perceived comparative lack of vigor about the rights of the elderly, disabled, homeless and orphaned. To the extent that this criticism is true, it is well-deserved, and a healthy respect-for-life ethic must be carried through to support and value life in all of its stages and forms, recognizing if life can be glamourous or harder because of social inequalities, racism and systematic poverty (to name just a few complicating factors).

At least at one time, it would have been harder to levy this criticism at Notre Dame. When I heard of the University Life Initiative called the “Pregnant and Parenting Student Assistance Fund,” I was thrilled. This fund, to me, was a demonstration that Notre Dame was interested in following through with its commitment to support life; it was a sign the University was interested in engaging with stu- dents facing their challenges with the ever-pressing and often- extensive task of raising the life that often can be so easy to create.

Simply put, the assistance fund exists to support undergraduate or graduate students who faced intentional and unintentional pregnancies. Recognizing “pregnancy and parent- ing present challenges for females as well as keeping up with academic demands,” in its mission statement on the University Life Initiatives website, the University Life Initiative is working with pregnant and parenting stu- dents to find ways for them to continue their education at the University.

For many students, this meant they re- ceived financial assistance for diapers, formula and childcare — costs that are not provided for in the typical financial aid or graduate student stipend. This fund was a blessing to many stu- dents, some of whom I know personally, the University and some of whom have graduated in recent years.

But this fund is no more — it has expired as last pregnant or parent- ing student. In the words of the fund administrator, “no funding remains,” and the University has “decided not to move forward with actively seeking donations for the fund at this time,” according to an email from Peter Horvath, student services program director of the Notre Dame Law School, to me dated Jan. 23, 2014. I learned the fund had been discontinued when I went to apply for assistance for myself, my spouse and our child.

At one time, the University saw this fund as deeply connected to its mis- sion as a Catholic university. It was a way to provide support for pregnant students and learning opportunities for those who became pregnant unintentionally. But due to financial constraints, the fund has been discontinued. The University is considering offering more assistance for students facing unplanned pregnancies.

The University Life Initiatives program currently offers financial assistance for diapers, formula and childcare — costs that are not provided for in the typical financial aid or graduate student stipend. This fund was a blessing to many students, some of whom I know personally, the University and some of whom have graduated in recent years.

The views expressed in this column are not necessarily those of The Observer.
By EMMA TERHAAR
Scene Writer

This evening, Notre Dame’s Creative Writing Program will have its first reading of the semester. Valerie Sayers, the celebrated author of six novels, will be sharing her work. Of Sayers’ six novels, two were named in the New York Times’ “Notable Books of the Year.” Her most recent novel, “The Powers,” a coming-of-age story about Yankees slugger Joe DiMaggio, was released last fall to much acclaim. Sayers’ five earlier novels have just been reissued by Northwestern University Press in a paperback set. Sayers, who is also a Notre Dame professor of English, spoke with Scene writer Emma Terhaar about her upcoming reading.

Emma Terhaar: What will you be reading from on Wednesday?
Valerie Sayers: Since this reading is to celebrate new uniform editions of five previously-published novels that Northwestern released in late 2013, I thought I’d read from the first of these, “Due East” (1987) and the last, “Brain Fever” (1996). My latest novel, “The Powers,” was published in April 2013, and I also celebrated that publication with a campus reading.

ET: “The Powers” is a novel told from the perspective of Joe DiMaggio, right? What sparked your interest in DiMaggio?
VS: The novel explores pacifism and acts of witness on the eve of World War II. Since Joe DiMaggio’s famous hitting streak took place in 1941, and since so many Americans seemed to regard DiMaggio as the kind of hero they were looking for as they debated entering the war, he was a great way to tie together the questions I was asking.

ET: It’s really interesting that you inhabited a very specific historical figure, not because you were overly interested in him, but because he was a way to answer some more socially important questions you had about that time period. About how much research went into writing about that historical era and Joe specifically?
VS: I researched a great deal — I read all the DiMaggio biographies to date, as well as books about pacifism and the Catholic Worker movement, and books about the early years of the Holocaust. Online, I followed the daily New York Times for 1941 (I was as interested in ads and the writing style as I was in the news, but the news was fascinating. I had no idea, for example, that accounts of Jewish residents being rounded up in Paris and Vienna were buried in the back pages of “the paper of record.”) I also read The Sporting News’ accounts of Joe Di’s streak games and looked up many baseball facts; I’m a fan, but I needed the knowledge of a fanatic. Finally, I looked at more photographs of the era than I could count.

ET: So is it correct to describe a book like “The Powers” as historical fiction?
VS: It’s certainly historical fiction, but it’s also an experiment in using two forms of narrative, prose and photographs, to tell two parallel stories.

ET: And how long does it normally take you to write a book, and “The Powers” in particular?
VS: The idea for it came when the U.S. was debating whether to invade Iraq and my sons were debating whether they considered themselves conscientious objectors. But I wasn’t able to start working on it in earnest until several years later, around 2004. It took a long time to write, but getting permissions for all the photographs I used took up a lot of time too. No book of mine has ever taken so long to make it to print!

ET: Does Notre Dame influence your novels?
VS: Notre Dame influences me on a daily basis, but certainly the presence of a Kroc Institute where the ideas for the book were studied seriously provided a kind of moral support. And working among sports fanatics also illuminated some ideas for me, especially how sports can transport us and call forth a kind of fidelity we may otherwise find hard to honor.

Sayers’ reading will be tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore. Attendance is free, and her newly reissued paperback books will also be available for purchase at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore.

Contact Emma Terhaar at eterhaar@nd.edu

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Matt McMahon
Scene Writer

T-Pain produced his Top Ten, certified platinum single “I’m ‘n Luv (Wit a Stripper)” in a mere two hours. This is pretty shocking, considering it sounds like the product took less than an hour of work to put together. Using only the GarageBand software from Apple — and his affinity for radio-penetrating earworms — the rapper and singer created the hit single, his third most popular to-date. The song combines, in my opinion, the per and singer created the hit single, his third most popular to-date. The song combines, in my opinion, the worst elements of pop hip-hop and the non-confrontational scene, to tell two parallel stories.

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I should preface this article by explaining that I am not a Justin Bieber fan. I don’t know any of his music, to the extent that when I came to Notre Dame as a freshman and my dorm’s Frosh-O “serenade” used the melody of a Justin Bieber song, I fumbled over the tune all week as apparently only the living person on planet earth who hadn’t heard “Baby” before. What do I know about Bieber is that he’s a Canadian teenager, whose parents made him famous and, apparently since then, he’s stirred up plenty of trouble.

I first heard about Bieber’s issues long ago in 2013 when his birthday clubbing incident hit the news. After reading Justin’s rants about the London club that denied him and his friends entry, I dismissed the story as nonsense, thought of Bieber as kind of a jerk and didn’t think of it again. It wasn’t until last week that news of the star popped back into my usually Bieber-less life. News about the singer’s “sizzurp” problem hit hard, and in reading the reports, I learned of the 19-year-old’s history of close calls with drugs and alcohol — he was found with marijuana and a stun gun last April, had several run-ins with club goers and owners throughout last year and was even detained in Australia for drug possession.

It was this January, however, that Bieber’s “close-call” streak ended. In continuing his habit of bad behavior, Bieber was accused of egging a neighbor’s house. The accusations led to a full-fledged police raid, which exposed fully the teenager’s involvement with drugs — allegedly, cups of “sizzurp,” a drink made with codeine, as well as marijuana and ecstasy were found in the house during the raid. Somehow, the events managed to take an even worse turn when Bieber was arrested for drag racing a rented Lamborghini while drunk and high and charged with a DUI.

With this rapid-fire series of events leading to Bieber’s arrest, “Bieber Fever” turned into some serious Bieber hate. As Bieber was put in and subsequently bailed out of jail, trends on Twitter indicated that most of the country was not pleased with the singer’s actions, with hashtags like #deportbieber trending worldwide. An online petition to deport the Canadian star has gained over 500,000 signatures from “concerned” Americans.

It’s clear that Justin Bieber has his fair share of problems. It’s even clearer that the country has turned on the once-beloved pop star as he transitioned from baby-faced teen heartthrob to tattooed bad boy. But what I still don’t understand is why our collective reaction to this news is shock and dismay.

While I certainly don’t believe there’s any excuse for Bieber’s behavior, let’s take a step back and think about the star’s up-bringing: He was discovered at age 13 and was quickly ushered (no pun intended) from living with his single mother in Canada into a life of world tours, paparazzi and magazine covers. Along the way, Bieber obviously became involved in some very adult activity, but at an age that most kids spend worrying about detention or their ACT scores, Bieber was surrounded by millions of dollars and group of managers and an entourage who never told him “no.” Incident after incident, the singer’s managers and label dealt with his problems privately, likely with no repercussions for the star. And the public is actually surprised and angered by his recent actions?

Like so many child stars, Justin Bieber’s upbringing in the limelight has put him in situations far past his maturity level, and if his recent home raid is any indication, Bieber isn’t dealing with it well. But while his erratic, aggressive and irresponsible behavior is reprehensible; the knee-jerk reaction to deport the star due to his recent arrest seems bafflingly inappropriate to me. Rather than respond with any sort of compassion or concern for a clearly troubled teenager, America has decided to declare Bieber a “danger to society” and dispose of him. I’m still not sure why we as the public care so much about this kid, but if we’re going to care, maybe it should be about his health rather than his impact on the fabric of American society. Just a suggestion.

Since Justin Bieber faces felony charges, there is actually a possibility that he could legally be deported. The star also allegedly is on the receiving end of an intervention from his label and will be encouraged to go to rehab. It seems that finally, the people around the 19-year-old are giving his problems the attention they need. But if the reaction of the public is to shame, abandon or literally deport a likely drug-addicted teenager who was so obviously headed in this felonious direction, I’m just glad I’m not a pop star.

Contact Allie Tollaksen at atollaks@nd.edu

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

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Allie Tollaksen
Associate Scene Editor

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John Darr
Scene Writer

Yesterday, I asked one of my more strongly-opinionated friends if he had heard of some relatively obscure rock band. “I don’t listen to that hipster bull****” he responded with deriding seriousness. I laughed it off, but it made me sad. I wasn’t insulted; us musical hipsters experience a lot of this sort of thing. Instead, I was again reminded of a misconception commonly held about indie music.

Many indie bands make songs very similar to those on the radio with catchy chorus and friendly production. Such “indie-pop” bands are often the music heard at trendy clothing stores and during television commercials; not surprisingly, they carve out irresistible harmonies and easy melodies that lull a listener into humming along.

That’s why I’m starting this column. After countless hours of exploring Spotify, iTunes and the like, I’ve tracked down amazing indie-pop artists whose music screams to be played on the radio. Every week, Top 40 A.U.E. will showcase an indie-pop artist whose music is friendly, catchy and just plain great. If anyone finds themselves hungry for more, I’ll have done my job.

Will let’s get started, shall we?

Snowmine
Snowmine makes warm, airy music with gorgeously layered guitars and soft orchestral atmospheres; think hot chocolate on a softly snowy day. Frontman/songwriter Grayson Sanders has a voice that effortlessly slips in and out of falsetto, allowing songs to have original vocal melodies that never stray into awkward territory. This is showcased in incredibly catchy singles “Penny” and “Let Me In” from their debut album “Laminate Pet Animal.”

You will try to hit “those notes.” You will not hit those notes. “Laminate Pet Animal” is currently downloadable on their Bandcamp page for whatever price you want to pay. They also have a new album, “Dialects,” coming out within the next month. That album is streaming on Spotify as of yesterday.

Washed Out
Known best forPortlandia theme song “Feel It All Around,” producer Ernest Greene makes chilled out, reverb-laden pop songs under the name Washed Out. Rich drumbeats that flirt between world music and hip hop pin down gauzy synths atmospheres. While the vocals are often difficult to understand, they carve out irresistible harmonies and easy melodies that pull a listener into humming along.

Washed Out stretches out pop music’s fast-pumping chord progressions into soft, pillow-y backdrops. It’s the perfect music for shutting one’s eyes on a car drive through the countryside, or simply sinking into the comfort chair in the common room. Check out Washed Out’s excellent debut "Within or Without" to hear trademark singles "Eyes Be Closed" and "Amor Fatii," and if you’re thirsting for more, his 2013 offering "Paracosm" for more flowery, tropical sound.

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Over the past week and a half, on the off chance that you had read the Washington Post and seen some arguments for the greatest rivalry in all of sports. You’ve read about the illustrious competition in the Iron Bowl, the tradition of the Army-Navy match-up, Frazier and Ali’s epic battles, the Cold War competition between America and the USSR, and more. There are several more worthy rivalries that will get their day in the sun this week, as well.

But none of those are in the same ballpark — the same uncharted region of the greatest rivalry in all of sports.

The rivalry may not be a pro-life one, as the teams played each other only 20 years ago. But the game has not been forgotten by dedicated fans, and the highlights, even now, rank it as an instant classic.

The year was 1996. On the one side, the best player in the game, in his prime, along with legends his parents had grown up watching. Team chemistry could be an issue at times as there were many egos and clashes, and arguments among teammates could get pretty animated — in a burly way. But when the game was on the line, this lineup knew how to put on a show and get the job done.

However, the crowd favorites were underseized and the obvious underdogs compared to their opponents, a team filled with loads of foreign talent and a huge frontcourt. Many of their players had come from lowly beginnings, but their no-holds-barred coach and some highly controversial training methods had whipped them into shape just in time for this crucial matchup on the Ultimate Road.

The contest was billed as “The Ultimate Game,” and the stakes of this one time rivalry couldn’t have been higher. The animosity between the squads was evident from the opening tip, as things got physical in a hurry. But the referees were determined not to let the athletes decide the game, and let the players have it at even, as the untold courthouse violence began to escalate and the experimental violence prevailed.

This early style of game clearly favored the visitors, and the self-out home crowd was quickly taken out of the game. Things only got worse for the home team, as a pathetic effort sent them into the locker room down 48. After all the build-up and hype, the game seemed to be over before it started.

But then, halftime happened. Historians and fans have debated what exactly happened behind the scenes in that locker room for decades. While the players maintain that the team’s leaders gave a series of motivational speeches and came out with new life after the water break, some cynics allege that a mysterious and secret performance enhancing substance was passed around at halftime.

Regardless of what you choose to believe, the results were sweeping and immediate. The home team came out on fire, focusing in on their own brand of aggressive defense and putting together a huge run from the start. With the crowd finding its way back into the game, the home squad used its superior bench depth to run up an incredible 26-point lead, even as injuries began to rack up. Unheralded players stepped into contributing roles, and the game seemed to be a formality.

Another feature of the peak of the league’s logo, with the word “SUPER BOWL.” It is for mari-juana’s active compound — replacing “NFL.”

From weed-themed Super Bowl tickets to a Denver company’s “Stoner Bowl” tours of recreational pot shops, this year’s Super Bowl offers a twist on a sporting event better known for its beer commercials. Thanks to the rec- reational marijuana movement, passes by voters in 2012, sales of taxed pot to adults over 21 began at Colorado pot shops a week before the game is due to begin in Washington later this year.

There have been a slew of predictable, ready-made puns, most of which have to do with “bowl” being the part of the pipe where pot goes. Some fans have issued not-quite-serious calls for a cannabis-friendly “Super Bowl” party favor, including the offering of “holding”: “When the vio- lator takes, two, three, maybe the game is over before passing the joint.”

On Twitter, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals promoted its recipe for vegan “Colorado catnip brownies,” with ca- verts: “No one is thicker than a Super Bowl.”

A reporter for the Associated Press notes: This recipe is for le- gally obtained marijuana. PET does not condone the purchase or sale of illegal drugs.

At the sports bar, Weinman, 35, and his friends scribbled down their T-shirt ideas — first and foremost, “Let’s Get Away From It All,” and moved the ball up the floor.

Watching the highlights, even all these years later, these 10 passes, the underdogs finally prove they’re ready to compete.

On the other side, the San Francisco 49ers, a team filled with Hollywood scriptwriting, as the scrap- ers, the underdogs, the superstars, the ultimate game,” and the stakes of this sporting event better known for its beer commercials.

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Belles set sights on rematch with Adrian

By KIT LOUGHRAN
Sports Writer

The Belles open up their second round of conference play Thursday with a home matchup against Adrian at Angela Athletic Facility at 7:30.

Saint Mary’s (5-12, 3-5 MIAA) faces Adrian (8-9, 4-5) for the second time this season. Adrian won 80-70 when the two teams met Jan. 29 and the Belles will look to avenge that loss with a second look at the Bulldogs.

“The last time we played Adrian we did not show up to play in the first half,” Belles coach Jennifer Henley said. “We had a great second half effort, but we need to put 40 minutes together.”

Rebounding from a tough 70-68 loss to Olivet on Jan. 22., the Belles have concentrated their efforts on their defense.

“Our focus continues to be defense,” Henley said. “We had a heartbreaking loss at Olivet last week as that game came down to a last-second shot.”

Sophomore guard Maddie Kohler tied the game against Olivet (16-2, 8-1) with a three-pointer in the last ten seconds, but the Belles’ defense could not stop Olivet from scoring a last-second layup to win the game. Henley said the Belles will try to adjust their defense to Adrian’s style of play.

“Adrian looks to run a lot,” Henley said. “We have to find a way to slow down their transition game.”

Like the Belles, Adrian recently lost to Olivet. The Bulldogs fell 71-59 to the Comets on Saturday. Senior guard Casey Fougerousse, who averages 7.1 points per game, led Adrian with sixteen points, while senior forward Amy Van Gessel scored thirteen points and had eight rebounds.

Though they lost to Adrian earlier this season, the Belles face the Bulldogs with more game-time experience this second time around. The loss to Olivet and the 67-64 overtime win against Albion on Jan. 18 were both strong tests for the Belles, Henley said.

“My team has certainly been tested the last couple of games,” Henley said. “I know those situations will certainly help us down the road.”

Lately, Kohler and two forwards, sophomore Krista Knapke, and junior Ariana Paul, have spurred the Belles’ scoring. Knapke led the Belles with 23 points against Olivet to bring her season average to 10.8 points per game. Paul added 12 points against Olivet and averages 13.9 points per game.

The Belles take on Adrian on Thursday at Angela Athletic Facility at 7:30 p.m.

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ACE invites all students of Notre Dame, the greatest Catholic school community in the country, to celebrate

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

MONDAY, JAN. 27
Enjoy free hot chocolate and cookies
9 AM, OUTSIDE DEBARTOLO

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 29
Celebrate Mass with refreshments to follow
10 PM, REMICK COMMONS (ACE BUILDING)

THURSDAY, JAN. 30
Show your smarts and represent your dorm at the ACE Spelling Bee
7 PM, REMICK COMMONS (ACE BUILDING)
Ryan reflects on Notre Dame career

By ALEX WILCOX
Sports Writer

With Senior Night and the end of her swimming career fast approaching, senior backstroker Kelly Ryan is using her final moments with the Irish to leave behind a legacy.

Ryan has swum in the Olympic trials, been named an All-American, and captained Notre Dame during her junior year, accomplishments she will carry with her after graduation.

“It was a turning point in my career because it made me realize that I could swim with the top girls in the country. From a confidence standpoint, that was huge.”

That turning point propelled Ryan toward her best season yet, as she earned Honorable Mention All-America honors in two events, All-Big East honors in six events, and was named a team captain.

“Being a captain was such a huge honor,” Ryan said. “I wasn’t really expecting it because I was junior, so I was just really honored to be selected as a co-captain. It was fun to lead the team and we had a successful year.”

While she is not a captain this year, Ryan said she’s proud of the way her senior class has led the team.

“This year all the seniors have really stepped up and proven to be leaders even if they aren’t officially captains, so that’s really great to see,” Ryan said. “I try to lead by example but I am vocal too. I always work hard in the pool and I’m always the one that cheers in the pool and yells ‘Go Irish!’ all the time, although I don’t know if everyone always likes that, but I feel it helps.”

In addition to the leadership of the senior class, Ryan has also been pleased with the success sustained in the pool.

“I think as a team we’ve been really good this year,” Ryan said. “We’ve been working harder than we ever had before and its really paying off in dual meets and skill work. At conference we’ll really be able to see all the work we put in.”

While the Irish Invitational is the last home meet of the season, the team is far from done. In order to prepare for their first ever ACC Conference Championships in February and the NCAA championships in March, Ryan said she is focusing on two things.

“My two main goals are to stay focused and stay confident,” Ryan said. “It’s really important to focus on details and technique going into conference. Confidence is a big deal to me; I have to be confident in myself, in my coaches, and in my teammates.”

After graduating, the premed and Spanish double major hopes to take a year off from school volunteering and shadowing doctors in Spanish-speaking countries before eventually going to med school.

Before she does that, though, she has a legacy to pass on.

“I hope to leave the message that it doesn’t really matter where you start, you can still succeed if you work hard, have confidence, trust in your coaches and teammates, and just keep at it.”

Contact Alex Wilcox at awilcox1@nd.edu

Special to The Observer

The Fighting Irish Synchronized Skating team capped off their first place finish this weekend at the Midwest Sectional Synchronized Skating Championships in Hoffman Estates, Ill.

The team skated a nearly perfect program and performed difficult choreography to songs by The Temptations. They received a standing ovation at the end of the program and first place marks from four of the five judges.

This is the fourth year in a row that the Notre Dame team has won this competition, which is its most important competition of the season. The Irish skaters competed against nine other Midwest collegiate teams including North Dakota and Miami University, who came in second and third place, respectively. This was the team’s final competition of the season, but they will perform several times throughout the rest of the semester.

Synchronized skaters finish first at competition

Bowling Club finishes ninth at Blue and Gold Classic; Hockey takes third at Chicago tournament

Irish senior backstroker Kelly Ryan competes in the 400-yard medley relay on Jan. 25, 2013 at the Shamrock Invitational hosted by Notre Dame at Rolfs Aquatic Center.
Irish to celebrate diverse group of seniors

By MARY GREEN
Sports Writer

When Notre Dame celebrates its four seniors at the finals of the Shamrock Invitational on Saturday it will honor a group from all over the map that found its home in the pool at Rolfs Aquatic Center.

“When you look at the geographic spread for these guys, you put a star in New York (for freestyler Frank Dyer), a star in Louisiana (for breaststroker Colin Babcock), for (breaststroker) Josh Choi, you put a star in California and for (backstroker) Bertie Nel, you put a star in South Africa,” Irish coach Tim Welsh said. “It kind of exemplifies the international reach of Notre Dame.”

The seniors represent the smallest class on this season’s squad, but Welsh said their impact has been great nonetheless.

“Each guy brings something different to the class, but they’ve been very, very helpful to the program overall,” he said. “They’ve established a level of this program that lets us compete at a very high level.”

Three of them — Dyer, Babcock and Nel — have competed in their respective countries’ Olympic trials, and Dyer was the program’s for senior class very well, and they represent the team very well, but we’re all one team.”

While Welsh said he followed the “one-team” philosophy when creating his meet lineup, he said a seniors-only relay could post a competitive time.

“If you look at them, Bertie’s specialty is backstroke, Josh’s specialty is breaststroke, Frank just set a university record in the 100-yard butterfly and Colin is emerging as a sprint freestyler. So, if we were to put a 400-yard medley relay together, this senior class would have a very good relay.”

While that relay might not compete at the Shamrock Invitational, its theoretical members will be celebrated for their four years of work at the meet’s finals Saturday at 5 p.m. at Rolfs Aquatic Center.

Contact Mary Green at mgreen8@nd.edu

Lacrosse

Marlatt followed his super sophomore campaign with an equally, if not more impressive junior season, notching 32 points off of 20 goals and 12 assists en route to USILA third team All-American honors, as well as a second-straight first team All-Big East selection.

Despite the individual awards he’s racked up the past two seasons, Marlatt said the accolade he is most proud of is being named a captain this year.

“It’s an unbelievable honor, because it’s from my teammates and coaches,” Marlatt said. “It’s something I’ve always aspired to, and especially to be voted alongside one of my best friends, (senior defenseman) Stephen O’Hara, my roommate for three years, is really unique and a great experience.”

With team captain checked off now, only one goal remains on Marlatt’s check-list, something he hasn’t done since he helped lead River Hill High School to a Maryland state title his senior year of high school: win a postseason tournament.

“We were able to win a Big East regular season championship (in 2012) and that puts a better taste in your mouth, but we weren’t able to finish in back-to-back years in the Big East playoffs, so finishing strong and bringing home a championship, especially in our first year in the ACC, is something we really want to get done this year.”

That being said, Marlatt cautioned that he and the rest of team aren’t looking that far ahead just yet.

“The most important thing for us is that we try to get better every day.” Marlatt said. “Obviously you want to win every game and win championships, but if you focus on getting better each and every day those things tend to fall in place. That’s something I’ve been trying to do since I got here and something our team does really well.”

Marlatt said, in addition to bringing Notre Dame its first ACC and NCAA championship, he wants to be certain he imparts two simple lessons to the younger players on the Irish squad before he leaves.

“It’s cliché, but just have fun,” Marlatt said. “We’ve got a lot of players on this team and not everyone can see the field. Division I lacrosse can be a very stressful experience at a tough academic school, so just being thankful for the opportunity to play is important, too, because it goes by quick.”

Contact AJ. Godeaux at agodeaux@nd.edu
Irish freshman guard Demetrius Jackson plays defense during Notre Dame's 68-53 loss to Virginia on Tuesday at Purcell Pavilion. Jackson and sophomore forward Zach Auguste co-led the Irish with 10 points apiece.

Virginia rolled right on and boated open a 58-34 lead with 7:26 remaining in the second half. The Irish only got as close as 14 points the rest of the way.

Auguste and freshman guard Demetrius Jackson led the Irish with 10 points apiece, while senior center Garrick Sherman, senior point guard Eric Atkins and junior forward Pat Connaughton combined for 21 points on 8-for-23 shooting. "As far as offensively, to-night's an example of when your three old guys can't really find a very good rhythm," Brey said. "I don't know if we'll beat anybody that way," Brey said. The Cavaliers redshirt sophomore guard Malcolm Brogdon scored a game-high 16 points and sophomore center Mike Tobey added 14, as Virginia hit 54 percent of its shots from the field. Brogdon stuffed the stat sheet with seven rebounds, six assists and five steals.

"His stat line was terrific," Virginia coach Tony Bennett said of Brogdon. "He was very complete and he's showing that.

The Cavaliers led from wire to wire and held a double-digit lead for the final 29:36. "You look at one of those and you're amazed it only counts as one loss," Brey said. "We'll go back to work tomorrow and try to find out how to regroup and win a league game.

Notre Dame looks to snap its three-game losing streak when it hosts Boston College on Saturday at Purcell Pavilion.

Contact Mike Monaco at jmonaco@nd.edu
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.

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**CROSSWORD | WILL SHORTZ**

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**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**

**HIGHLY PUN LIKELY | CHRISTOPHER BRUCKER**

**SUDOKU | THE MEPHAM GROUP**

**CROSSWORD SOLUTION TO PUZZLE’S TUESDAY**

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

**HOROSCOPE | EUGENIA LAST**

Happy Birthday: Take a methodical approach to both professional and personal situations involving money, contracts, health and your future. Strive for predictability and security, and hang on to what you have. Building a strong base will ensure that you will be able to weather the storms ahead. The potential to stand between you and your goals. Your numbers are 4, 13, 22, 26, 35, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Wait to see what others do and say. Get promises in writing and don’t offer something you may not be able to honor. An unpredictable situation in love is left until you feel safe and secure regarding the outcome.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Take action and take control. Show how passionate you feel about the things you do and the people you care about, and you will receive greater opportunity to prove how valuable you are. Put your best foot forward.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take a project that is different from anything you have done in the past. Explore new avenues and meet new people. Your game and appeal to others, and your personal gain will increase.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Take on a project that is different from anything you have done in the past. Explore new avenues and meet new people. Your personal gain will increase.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Voice your opinion and make a difference. A change of scenery or hanging out with people from unusual backgrounds will open up a host of new opportunities. Expect someone to show disdain or jealousy. Don’t fuel the fire; manage the situation.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Enjoy people, places and hobbies that have brought you joy in the past. Interacting with someone you love will enhance your personal life. Children will play a role in a decision you must make. Be true to your word and your heart.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Try not to get caught up in inevitable personal situations. Go about your business and be as productive as possible with regard to research, educational pursuits and exploring new connections. Don’t give in to emotional blackmail or manipulative tactics.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You’ll accomplish more if you get out and do things outside your home base. Be as productive as possible with regard to research, educational pursuits and exploring new connections.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Keep your head clear and your communication honest and straightforward. Move quickly and precisely to get your point across and make your position clear. Avoid spending your own money. Preserve your heart and your reputation.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You are overdue for a change. A new source of income will buy you freedom to follow a dream. Don’t share too many of your ideas or someone is likely to pursue and take credit for a concept that is rightfully yours.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You are overdue for a change. A new source of income will buy you freedom to follow a dream. Don’t share too many of your ideas or someone is likely to pursue and take credit for a concept that is rightfully yours.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Show your willingness to get along and to be a contributor. What you offer will lead to a contract, settlement or investment that will help you out financially. A close relationship appears to have much more to offer than you anticipated.

**THE SHIPS LIFT THE PORT IN A ——**

Now unscramble the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoons.

**THE MEGHAN GROUP LEVEL:**

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**JUMBLE | DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK**

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

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it’s got to be the white-hot question on the minds of Notre Dame basketball fans. No, not “how many more days until Jerian Grant comes back?” or “is it too late to refund my student tickets?”

no, it’s a question that demands so much more attention and concern for the blue and gold.

where the h-e-double-hockey-sticks is the Mike Brey mock turtleneck?

laugh while you can, but it’s more than just pleasantly cozy hipster neckwear. It’s an identity. It’s low-scoring games. It’s shooting efficiency. It’s a methodical catch-and-shoot ideology. It’s the burn offense. It’s draining

MEN'S BASKETBALL | VIRGINIA 68, ND 53

Virginia keeps foot on the gas on way to victory

By MIKE MONACO
Sports Editor

On a frigid night, Virginia stayed hot while Notre Dame remained cold.

The Notre Dame students swarmed into Purcell Pavilion, but the Virginia defense swarmed the Irish all evening.

And it all added up to a 68-53 Virginia victory on Tuesday night at Purcell Pavilion.

“We just gotta give it to them,” Irish sophomore forward Zach Auguste said.

“They definitely gave us a beating.”

Notre Dame (11-10, 2-6 ACC) meanwhile, has lost six of its last seven games. Virginia (16-5, 7-1 ACC) is off to its best start in conference play since 1982-83, when star center Ralph Sampson and the Cavaliers were dominating.

JODI LO | The Observer
Irish senior guard Eric Atkins drives into the lane during Notre Dame’s 68-53 loss to Virginia on Tuesday. Atkins scored six points, and the two leaders on the night for the Irish netted 10 each.

“we just gotta give it to them,” Irish sophomore forward Zach Auguste said.

“They definitely gave us a beating.”

MEN'S LACROSSE

Marlatt overcomes injuries to excel

By A.J. GODEAUX
Sports Writer

Jim Marlatt has come a long way since he first stepped foot on the Notre Dame campus four years ago.

The All-American senior midfielder came to campus as a highly touted recruit, ranked 46th overall in the class of 2010 by Inside Lacrosse, but watched his entire freshman year from the bench after struggling with injuries and ultimately being redshirted.

“It was a little difficult not being on the field [freshman year],” Marlatt said.

“But one thing I was able to do is watch and observe two great all-American midfielders in David Earl and Zach Brenneman. They were really instrumental in helping me learn what it takes to be a leader and great player at this level.”

With the loss of Earl and Brenneman to graduation after Marlatt’s freshman year, it wasn’t long until Marlatt got his opportunity, as he was thrown into the starting lineup immediately by Irish coach Kevin Corrigan.

“Any time you don’t play that much, you have a chip on your shoulder,” Marlatt said.

“When you get on the field, you just want to prove why you’re here, and I just wanted to come in and show I could contribute.”

“Contribute” might not be the best way to describe Marlatt’s opening season for the Irish, though. “Dominate” may be better, as he scored 19 goals and dished a team-high 11 assists on his way to a first team all-Big East selection.

see M LACROSSE PAGE 13

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARD

Men's Basketball vs. Virginia

L 68-53

TODAY'S EVENTS

ND Women's Basketball vs. Virginia Tech

7 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Hockey at New Hampshire

Fri., 7 p.m.

ND Women’s Tennis vs. Illinois

Fri., 3:30 p.m.

Track and Field at Indiana Relays

Fri.-Sat.

Track and Field at New Mexico Invitational

Fri.-Sat.

Men's Swimming/Diving, Shamrock Invit.

Fri.-Sat.

Women's Swim./Diving, Shamrock Invit.

Fri.-Sat.

Hockey at New Hampshire

Fencing at Northwestern Duels

Sat.

Men's Basketball vs. Boston College

Sat., noon

ND Women's Basketball at Duke

Sun., 2 p.m.