Vidal-Devine ticket wins election
Judicial Council announces student body presidential election results amidst campaign accusations
By LESLEY STEVENSON

Juniors Lauren Vidal and Matthew Devine won the student body presidential run-off election by 276 votes over junior Olivia LaMagnna and sophomore Bahan Andresen, the Judicial Council announced Tuesday morning.
Vidal and Devine secured 1,935 votes and 53.84 percent of the total, while LaMagnna and Andresen earned 1,659 votes and 46.16 percent.

"We will like to extend the open-door policy of the current administration to ensure that all students feel welcomed and informed," Vidal said. "We will represent student interests to the best of our ability, and will do so by maintaining open and honest lines of communication."
She said they plan to “begin on day one” to work on the initiatives on their platform.

"Devine, the vice president-elect, thanked his and Vidal’s supporters as well as LaMagnna and Andresen “for a very competitive race” in a statement issued on Facebook. He said he was grateful to everyone who voted in the election. "Lauren and I will work tirelessly to ensure that we represent our peers with all that we have, and we look forward to a great year here with all of you,” he said.

Andresen said he and LaMagnna were thankful for their supporters despite their loss and proud of their “amazing campaign that was both strong and fun.”

"Olivia and I are glad that seeing results reference the colorful ground running.”

Lauren Vidal

Siegfried shivers for homeless
By LESLEY STEVENSON

Siegfried Hall’s 6th annual “Day of Man” will give hall residents a chance to shiver for a cause Wednesday as they brave the cold in shorts, T-shirts and flip-flops while collecting donations for the South Bend Homeless Center for the Homeless, Day of Man co-commissioner and junior Thomas Ridella said.

“It’s one of the largest community service events that I’ve participated in,” Ridella said.

"It’s really cool doing it with all your friends and doing something that’s really different and unique. ... We’re just doing our part by taking a day, not even a day, out of our time, which is something small, to make a big contribution.”

Siegfried Hall president and sophomore Drew Vista said the event encourages hall residents “to stand in solidarity with other people and bring the cause to the attention of the other students at Notre Dame.”

“The most important part of the event is that even though it’s a fun thing to do for a day and even though it’s cold, it’s for a really good cause,” Vista said.

"Once we hear from the people from the homeless shelter, it makes us feel that what we did was that much more special.”

Peter Lombardo, director of community involvement at the South Bend Center for the Homeless, spoke to students gathered for Mass in Siegfried on Sunday. He said funds from Day of Man support academic and enrichment programs at the Center for the Homeless and will help kickstart a nutrition program initiated this year by juniors Kathleen Anthony and Sienna Durbin.

"Thank you for risking a trip to the student health center for the Center for the Homeless,” Lombardo said. "The work we do is pretty much aimed at reconnecting (residents), reconnecting them to the sources of support that we all have. "We’re lucky we have family and friends that we can depend on, and they don’t have them. Some of them don’t have them because they’ve broken themselves, yes, that’s true, but the Center for the Homeless wants to reconnect them, and

Moreau exhibits artwork
By REBECCA O’NEILL

"Andresen earned 1,659 votes of the total, while LaMagnna and Devine earned 1,935 votes and 53.84 percent of art at Grinnell College, and by Matthew Kluber, professor of art at Macalester College.

"Tiffany Bidler, director of Hammes Gallery, said. “What I enjoy about Kluber’s watercolors is that they give the impression of being something produced in multiples by a machine, like a digital print, and yet they are each hand-painted.”

Kluber’s exhibit features a combination of painting and digital technology and is available for viewing in the Hammes Gallery, Bidler said.

The linear, geometric elements featured in his paintings reference the colorful horizontal bands of data one finds on a piece of compromised technology, Kluber said.

"The thin horizontal stripes refer to that imploding data, while the picture plane alludes to the computer screen, resulting in a carefully edited version of a visual phenomenon associated with the breakdown of a system,” Kluber said.

By manipulating the timing and fades of the projector while simultaneously playing multiple different layers of video and motion graphics on the pre-painted canvas, Kluber said he is trying to...

Admin. discusses leadership
By GABRIELA MAESPIN

Drew Buscarenno, Assistant Vice President for University Relations, gave a lecture titled “Servant Leadership” from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. at the Mendoza College of Business Tuesday. Buscarenno’s was one in a series of lectures for Mendoza’s “Ethics in Business week.”

"Servant leadership is a...

See LEADERSHIP PAGE 5

See SIEGFRIED PAGE 4

See ELECTION PAGE 3

See ART PAGE 4

Assistant Vice President for University Relations Drew Buscarenno delivers a lecture titled “Servant Leadership” as part of Mendoza’s Ethics Week 2014.

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devin aberasturi
freshman
o’neill hall
“girls.”

jim corcoran
freshman
old college
“since my leg is injured, an elevator.”

john scanolan
freshman
sorin college
“basketball court.”

kelly mcgee
senior
lyons hall
“free diet coke all the time.”

may stewart
senior
lyons hall
“A toaster.”

ralph price
senior
sorin college
“an ac unit.”

Today’s Staff

News

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jack romney
ralph hines

Sports

katie rent
recent muller
alex carson

Graphics

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Photo

michael kramm

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tahlia heitkemp

Corrections

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By CHARLIE DUCEY
News Writer

Dr. David Jenkins, Librarian for Classic, Hellenistic Studies and Linguistics at Princeton University, made the case for Byzantine Literature in his lecture in McKenna Hall Tuesday. Jenkins’ lecture was given as part of a series on classical studies to honor the legacy of the late Sabine MacCormack, a Notre Dame historian and classicist. During his time as a librarian at Notre Dame, Jenkins said he collaborated with MacCormack to purchase books for the Byzantine collection.

Jenkins’ lecture was centered on Michael Psellos, a number of Byzantine emperors: great deeds require great philosophy,” Jenkins said. “In other words, Psellos would be the one to instruct the emperors on how to achieve great deeds through his philosophy.”

Jenkins said Psellos was born to a prominent family, likely around 1018, in Constantinople. He worked for a number of Byzantine emperors and was known for his oratory abilities.

“He excelled in orations and was reported to have recited the entire ‘Iliad’ while still in his youth,” he said. Since much of the information about Psellos comes from his own autobiographies, Jenkins said Psellos likely exaggerated the influence he acquired through political patronage.

“As a philosopher, Psellos taught the emperors two things: Great deeds require great praises and great deeds require great philosophy,” Jenkins said. “In other words, Psellos wrote the one to instruct the emperors on how to achieve great deeds through his philosophy.”

Jenkins concentrated on Psellos’ philosophical interests in saying Byzantine literature ought to be encountered on its own terms and as more than a list of facts. Jenkins said literature of the Byzantine Empire has often been cast aside for its perceived lack of originality and its dependence on more highly-esteemed classical sources.

“The literature these Byzantine emperors produced has been regarded as unoriginal narrative written in a dead language largely for sycophantic purposes,” he said. “But this assumes that the works they produced ought to be compared to their classical forefathers.”

Encountering Byzantine literature on its own terms involves a certain paradox, Jenkins said. Normally, researchers try not to project their biases onto the past and stay close to primary sources, but encountering history on its own terms makes it difficult for researchers to avoid bias.

Jenkins said Psellos operated in a similar frame of contradictions in the 11th century, focusing on the duality of Christ’s human and divine nature and devising a sophisticated treat- ment of the liar’s paradox.

“Literature that aspires to something deeper than a group acting as it does not necessarily need philosophical arguments in its defense, but it cannot do without the experience of a contradictory spark that drives its creation,” he said.

Contact Charlie Ducey at
ducey@nd.edu

Nomination’s for the Sheedy Excellence in Teaching Award

Students and Faculty are invited to submit nomination letters to:

James Brockmole
Acting Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies
104 O’Shaughnessey Hall

This award honors one member of the Arts and Letters teaching and research faculty for outstanding teaching.

Deadline:
Monday, February 24, 2014

LaMagna said she and Andersen still hope to engage in dialogue within the Notre Dame community. “We intend to continue to work as advocates on behalf of students here,” LaMagna said. “We’ve learned so much through this process. … We’re not going to be able to help out as elected officials, but we will never stop having those discussions and providing support in any way we can as humans who care deeply about our classmates.”

The Council said 46 percent of eligible undergraduates voted, a one percent increase from the initial election on Feb. 5. They announced the re-sults Tuesday morning, instead of Monday night, because of pending allegations of election misconduct. The Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Body states, " Notre Dame du Lac states the elec-tion results cannot be released while any allegations and ap-pellations are pending.

Contact Lesley Stevenson at
lstevensi@nd.edu
Saint Mary’s students launched the Lend An Ear initiative to establish a way for Belles to provide companionship to the local homeless population, Lend An Ear club president and senior Fernanda Amado said.

The initiative specifically connects Saint Mary’s students with the residents of Center for the Homeless, Amado said.

Amado said fellow senior Christina Porter sparked the idea for the club and the initiative.

“In our senior year we both took Professor [Terr] Russ’s public communication course,” Amado said. “Every Thursday, we would go to the Center and teach our residents about communication. While there, we found that most of the residents wanted to share their experiences with us. That is when Christina came up with the idea.”

Porter said she first became interested in Russ’s course when she learned she could teach communication concepts to residents of the Center for the Homeless, building on her experiences working with impoverished individuals during high school. She said her time in the class inspired her to create a student group.

“We noticed that the guests would sometimes use a lot of class time describing their experiences and the paths they have taken to end up at the Center. It was apparent to us that they enjoyed us visiting and wanted to talk more,” Porter said. “We also realized that sometimes it can be hard for the guests to see how their personal challenges and hardships with other guests because others may not want to listen, but they are burdened with problems.”

Porter said she and her classmates developed this volunteering initiative out of a desire to continue the companionship among Saint Mary’s students and Center residents fostered by her public communications course.

Rus said she is proud of her students and their work.

“This program provides a wonderful opportunity for students to provide meaningful service to the Center for the Homeless, while also learning that those who are homeless are more similar to us than dissimilar,” Rus said.

Amado said she feels an important take-away from her time volunteering at the Center is the realization that anyone can find themselves in a situation of poverty.

“It doesn’t just happen to those with addictions, most of them led ordinary lives,” Amado said. “But the really important thing to take away is that these are good people. As a society we tend to stigmatize the homeless. We don’t like to go near them or we think poorly of them because we have been conditioned to be weathy of them.”

The structure of the initiative is centered on communication between the volunteers and the guests, Porter said.

“The initiative ... is a way for us to be a secure outlet to talk about their lives and their daily struggles. Our job is to ‘lend our ear’ and to be a friend to them. It’s important to acknowledge that homelessness does not discriminate and people of all backgrounds can end up in a facility like the Center for the Homeless,” Porter said.

Amado said Lend An Ear volunteers must volunteer for at least one hour per week at South Bend’s Center for the Homeless, though more substantial time commitments are encouraged.

“Students may sign up to participate on the Lend An Ear OrgSync page, Amado said.

Contact Emilie Kefalas at ekefal01@ saintmarys.edu

Contact Rebecca O’Neill at ronen01@ saintmarys.edu

Siegfried

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

any help that you can give goes to that.

Sophomore Jack Szigety said the event also provides a way for emotional disengagement, formal rigor and anonymity of authorship in order to escape the art that had reached its height of influence in the form of Abstract Expressionism.”

Vossler’s drawings, located in the Little Theatre and Sister Rosaire galleries, are less colorful and the borders are more defined. Bidler said she first saw Vossler’s work in an exhibition in Minneapolis.

“We have two drawing courses in the art department and I thought students would enjoy the work of a contemporary artist working in a traditional medium,” Bidler said. “However, it uses the medium in a contemporary way.

The drawings are somewhat minimalistic, making interesting use of negative space and dealing with contemporary subject matter.”

Vossler said she meant for her graphite drawings to explore the relationship between human beings and the natural world. The exhibit features two bodies of work, one created in 2010 and the other in 2013, which Vossler said reveals how she has begun to hone her focus on the small details. The Macalaster professor usually depicts northern landscapes dotted with human figures and caribou, shaded by images of trees and hovering helicopters.

“(The subjects) all are negotiating their positions within an environment that has been indelibly changed,” Vossler said. “The landscape through which these figures move is vast and overpowering, a silent backdrop to a host of migrations.”

Her more recent pieces zoom in on the effects of human engineering, modification and control, she said. Octodrone I and II depict an octopus whose tentacles’ suction cups look more like loud speakers. Other graphite drawings depict loud speakers coming out of a dying tree’s trunk. “The songs of the puna are affected by the interplay between natural process and human desires,” Vossler said.

Bidler said that artists may find the relationship between humans and their ecosystems pertinent in order to explore their own medium of art.

“Students in the art department are very interested in exploring questions relating to the environment by way of their artistic practice,” Bidler said. “We have, for example, a sustainable fibers course taught by Professor Julie Tourtillette.”

Bidler said the exhibit will be open until March 14, 2014.

Contact Rebecca O’Neill at ronen01@ saintmarys.edu

The Observer | Wednesday, February 12, 2014 | ndsmcobserver.com

News

By EMILIE KEFALAS

Siegfried residents strengthened their own community while reaching out to South Bend.

“The best part of the event for me anyway is the solidarity of it,” Szigety said. “You don’t stand only with the homeless people who don’t have as fortunate a situation as we do, but you also stand with your dorm, your fellow men, to get together for a cause.”

Jack Szigety sophomore

Siegfried residents to strengthen their own community while reaching out to South Bend.

“You don’t stand only with the homeless people who don’t have as fortunate a situation as we do, but you also stand with your dorm, your fellow men, to get together for a cause.”

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News Writer

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The initiative specifically connects Saint Mary’s students with the residents of Center for the Homeless, Amado said.

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Contact Emilie Kefalas at ekefal01@ saintmarys.edu

Contact Rebecca O’Neill at ronen01@ saintmarys.edu

Art

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

facilitate a seamless intersection between traditional media and new media. Although the Grinnell professor uses custom software written in C++ and OpenGL, Kluber said he draws inspiration from the age of psychedelics.

“Reference points for this work come from interest in the historic changes brought about in art by the social and cultural upheavals and rapid developments in science and technology in the 1960s and 1970s,” Kluber said. “These changes compelled a new generation of artists to address
Leadership

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

leadership philosophy developed by Robert Greenleaf which centers on the idea that leaders need to serve others rather than allow full growth of the organization and its constituents.

Buscaren said servant leadership can be practiced by anyone, including people in positions that are not traditionally considered leadership positions.

“One of the insights I have had on servant leadership is that those who practice it can really transcend any kind of organizational hierarchy their formal position or role on them,” Buscaren said. “Servant leaders aren’t really bound to an organizational structure.” Servant leadership allows people to become more involved with their organization as a whole and enables a congenial atmosphere that helps the work ideas within as well as outside their current department, Buscaren said.

“This model is absolutely a relationship-centric model,” Buscaren said. “I think there is an incredible humility combined with a fierce drive to create a better system.”

In President Barack Obama’s example Buscaren pointed to was the leadership of Pope Francis. Buscaren said Pope Francis’ efforts to ground the mission of the Church in the reality faced by the people the Church intends to serve exemplifies the principal values of servant leadership. “[The example of Pope Francis] gives us an insight on the definition of servant leadership,” he said.

Buscaren said the principles of servant leadership rely on a model of “walking with, listening to, speaking truth and breaking bread.”

“It describes us a good framework of how we can practice servant leadership,” Buscaren said. “In the examples that I’ve brought, there is this intense focus to ‘walk with.’ Service of practice servant leadership, no matter what the role, the onus of leaders to be grounded in whoever we serve.”

Those who want to practice servant leadership should identify mentors in their lives who embody principles of servant leadership, recognize the importance of teamwork and “be content to be a beginner,” Buscaren said.

“There is a passion for mission among servant leaders. We all have a mission and all about those who are part of that mission,” he said. “Service orientation can help influence our team performance. That’s the right orientation that often comes with leadership, when leaders see that opportunity to connect and remove this barrier of ideas together.”

Contact Gabriela Malespin at gmalespi@nd.edu

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Michelle and Barack Obama found just the right spot to seat a gent going stag to Tuesday’s state dinner: the French President Francois Hollande down right between them in a giant party tent, and put the phrase “la joie de vivre” macrocosm of a solo trip to the U.S. after a very public breakup from his first lady.

The first lady, clad in a black and white house north portico.

The streets and highways in Atlanta were gridlocked for hours due to the intense cold, snow plague Atlanta. A helicopter was dispatched to rescue the survivors but couldn’t get closer than 1.5 miles from the skiers. The Idaho Army National Guard also sent a reconnaissance heli.

The skiers were among six people and two guides on a five-day trip organized by Wallowa Alpine Huts of Joseph, Ore., company owner Connelly Brown said. Brown said the clients and guides were all fit, proficient downhill skiers.

The Colorado skier was identified as Kevin Kuybus, 46, of Highlands Ranch, just south of Denver.

He and another person were caught in an avalanche Monday near the Keystone Ski Resort, but the other skier managed to pull himself out and go for help. Members of the Summit County Rescue Group searched for Kuybus on Monday and Tuesday.

Another avalanche near them was deliberately sparing with chairs. The forecast drew comparisons to a tornado in Moore, Okla. Forecasters called it a “tornado emergency” to make sure the public knew it was not a typical tornado.

“I think three-quarters of an inch of ice anywhere would be catastrophic,” Jacks said.

Another avalanche near Atlanta area and other parts of the South are particularly vulnerable because there are so many trees and power lines hanging over power lines. When the ice builds up on them, limbs snap and fall, knocking out power to thousands of homes.

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Inside Column

Cold, dumb and boring

Kevin Noonan
Scene Editor

The Winter Olympics bore me. They are the sports world's equivalent of high school black-box theatre compared to the Summer Olympics. Don't try to tell me they're as exciting as the Summer Olympics, or the second quarter in your average regular-season NBA game for that matter.

You know how you know they're not as exciting as the Summer Olympics? They brought in “stars” from the Summer Olympics to shoot little promos where they say things like “Wow, this sport is challenging! How truly unbelievable.” You know how many Winter Olympics stars shot promos to hype up the Summer Olympics? None. And if they did, I didn’t notice, because I don’t know a single Winter Olympics star.

My least favorite mainstream sport is NASCAR. I assume 90 percent of people are watching the races to see crashes. Cool, fine, whatever, but it’s not for me. Compare that with the Winter Olympics, where 90 percent of the sports are only interesting when people crash.

“Figure skating, how can you not like figure skating?” they ask, as I roll back over on the couch and go back to my nap. I don’t like figure skating because everything looks the same to me, every jump and turn or whatever. The only interesting thing is when they fall. I take that back — the only interesting thing is when one of them conspires to have another beaten with a pipe.

The biathlon seems fun, if you wanted to learn how to shoot someone and then get caught immediately. It’s tough enough watching marathons in the Summer Olympics, but cross-country skiing is like watching people run marathons in ankle weights through two feet of water.

Oh hockey, how could I forget about hockey? The miracle on ice! 1980! We beat the USSR! The drama! The pageantry! The pride and passion!

Don’t care. You want drama go see a play. Support your local arts. Or don’t, doesn’t matter to me.

But surely, you must respect the unbelievable athletic ability of these Olympians? It’s not like you could do a triple twist flip into a 12-gun salute off the ski jump, through a pit of fire and into a pit of alligators! No, I couldn’t. But if you asked me to show love for everything I couldn’t do, I’d be spending a lot of time loving kindergartners for being able to color inside the lines, and that just sounds weird doesn’t it.

I’ll go watch “Miracle” again and get my fill.

The drama! The pageantry! The pride and the passion!

Don’t care. You want drama go see a play. Support your local arts. Or don’t, doesn’t matter to me.

The University’s Academic Code allows only graduating students to audit classes, the completion of which would earn them a grade of ‘V’. Undergraduates may not audit classes.

Hypothetically, though, what if I was not interested in auditing a class per se, since auditing still shows up on permanent academic records? What if I were suggesting instead to simply sit in a class — with the professor’s blessing, of course — with no permanent records to be found?

Well, that is not allowed either.

I know what you are thinking. Why not just register for the class in the beginning? Do we not have enough on our plates already?

As for registering, popular classes often fill before the registration deadline. Sometimes, spots open up when people drop, but red tape exists for those of us trying to register for these spots post-deadline. I guess deadlines are non-negotiable after all.

As for dealing with too much work already, should we not encourage those really wanting to learn something in addition to their required classes to explore? We have access to these wonderful professors for only four years. Moreover, if people really want to spend an extra three hours in class and six studying every week, more power to them.

So what is the big deal? It certainly cannot be tuition, given our flat — and fat — tuition bill. Credits? Nope, we will not be getting those. Paperwork? Not on the administrative side. Trouble for professors? Oh please, professors becoming offended at interest in their life’s work?

If driven students want to sit in a class out of interest, and the professor does not object, the registrar’s office should leave them to their own devices.

Letter to the Editor

What if I just wanted to learn?

Overall, I believe during their time here, most students at Notre Dame want to learn, realize the amazing resources at their disposal and take advantage of at least some of those opportunities.

That being said, I question whether the registrar’s office — and sometimes, our advisors — realize that not all people here are content with merely going through the motions of college, picking up credits for their transcripts and focusing on graduating.

Kristina Flathers
junior
Lewis Hall
Feb. 9

Contact Kevin Noonan at knoonan2@nd.edu

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

Quote of the Day

“It has never been my object to record my dreams, just to realize them.”

Man Ray
American modernist artist (1890-1976)
Robert Alvarez
Man on a Nog

Let’s do a little thought experiment. The following ideas have no basis in reality, they are merely players in a play I have made up. This play takes place on a planet in an alternate universe populated by intelligent humanoid creatures. The founding principle of their society is justice, and they believe they have achieved it. To their eyes, their world is an idyllic place of perfect justice: The slackers get paid their worth and the industrious get paid their worth. Furthermore, because of this absolute faith in justice, this place also believes in equality, for how can there be justice without equality? Let’s call this hypothetical place America.

In America, their centennial census just came out with some shocking new revelations (Why do they only have a census every 100 years? I don’t know). The census revealed an individual’s wealth in America is directly correlated with the wealth of his or her parents. This revelation put them at an impasse: Which of their principles were true, that of justice, or that of equality? If their world was equal, then this new data revealed their world wasn’t just; if their world was just, then this new data revealed their world wasn’t equal.

After much public debate, America concluded it was more apparent its world was just rather than equal. This meant there were some portions of the population who were simply better and more industrious than other parts. The rich celebrated their natural superiority, while the poor didn’t care much about that, since the effect was minimal. Because, well, they were too lazy to care much about anything.

In this same alternate universe however, this quaint America is completely ignorant of another planet directly opposite of them, orbiting the same sun. This other planet follows an orbit exactly opposed to the orbit of America, which forever obscures this planet from the view of America and vice-versa. Let’s call this mysterious planet Anti-Amercia.

Anti-Amercia is eerily similar to America. Through some astounding chance of mathematical probability, Anti-Amercia is actually filled with characters of the same upbringing, similar personalities, same everything. Anti-america does differ from America in one crucial aspect, however, their founding principle is equality. Based on this principle of equality, they also believe their society is perfectly just, for how can injustice exist amongst equal people and places; same names, same looks, same personalities, same everything. Anti-america does differ from America in one crucial aspect, however, their founding principle is equality. Based on this principle of equality, they also believe their society is perfectly just, for how can injustice exist amongst equal people and places; same names, same looks, same personalities, same everything. Anti-merica therefore decided to institute reforms to combat the ill effects of poverty and create a more just Anti-Amercia.

There is one other principle that has hitherto gone unmentioned in this explanation of America and Anti-Amercia. This is the principle of freedom. Which one of these two societies believes in freedom? It should be apparent Anti-Amercia believes in freedom, not America. America believes people are inherently bound by their nature to specific circumstances; Anti-Amercia recognizes people are bound by specific circumstances, but these circumstances are changeable rather than inherent. It is the classic nature vs. nurture debate: America believes in nature, Anti-Amercia believes in nurture.

I hope you enjoyed this little thought experiment. Rest assured America is nothing like America, nor Anti-Amercia. In fact, one could say we have the best of both worlds. Despite the fact research has shown a clear correlation between parent’s wealth and a child’s future wealth, in America we believe in the perfect justice of America while simultaneously claiming belief in the perfect equality and freedom of Anti-Amercia. By doing this, we get to live in the happy freedom-filled world of Anti-Amercia without any of the social responsibility. This freedom, of course, is not valid for certain segments of the population, but our society and economic system is perfectly fair and just, so they are irrelevant. Isn’t that grand?

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

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

Why Asia needs America

Robert Alvarez
Man on a Nog

In his 1909 book “The great illusion,” Sir Norman Angell argued that war be-

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“Kroll Show” carefully and cleverly sets itself aside from these possible issues through the show's structure. Somewhat like the running threads through “Mr. Show” episodes, ideas and sketch progressions come about organically. Still, “Kroll Show” takes this conceit further by compiling its show and generally each episode with multiple sketches from the same fake show. Characters are allowed space to develop and become familiar, meaning that the comedy does not only come out of concept. The characters can then continue to appear in future sketches, whether in the same parody or even in a new one. There is no sense of reliance on old hat bits or gags, yet the show does not have to abandon an idea once the immediate impression wears off. Clearly, Nick Kroll and company have taken into consideration the sketch series that came before them — from classic “Kids in the Hall” to contemporary “Key and Peele” — putting their show in a position to not only succeed in the short run, but last if they so desire it to. And Kroll is no stranger to sketch based comedy, either. He also wrote for “Human Giant” — with fellow comedians Aziz Ansari, Rob Huebel and Paul Scheer — which lasted two seasons on MTV and gave him visible experience on navigating within the medium.

“Kroll Show” airs Tuesday nights at 10:30 p.m. on Comedy Central.

Contact Matt McMahon at mmcaho7@nd.edu
Someone in this section today, Scene Writer John Darr is (hopefully) reviewing “Benji,” the latest album from Sun Kil Moon. As is standard practice in this section, I’d never heard of the band. But another Scene writer quickly informed me of its sound and style.

“They’re folky. And they sing about death a lot,” the Scene writer said. “Yeah, all of their songs are pretty much about death.”

Usually, this kind of description would only serve to re-mind me why I’ve never heard of most any of the bands we review in Scene, and why I let the more knowledgeable and talented writers handle music reviews.

On this particular day however, I was struck by another thought ¾ that sounded a lot like “Inside Llewyn Davis,” the latest film from the Coen Brothers. The movie depicts the world of Llewyn Davis, a semi-fictional singer-songwriter in 1961 who specializes in acoustic folk songs, almost all of which are about death.

Granted, based on my taste in music, I wouldn’t normally be drawn to a movie that boasts of following a week in the life of a folk singer in 1961, but as a fan of Coen Brothers movies (“The Big Lebowski,” “No Country for Old Men,” “Fargo”), I decided to give it a shot.

As it turns out, it instantly became one of my favorite movies of the last year, and yet even now as I attempt to relate my reaction to the film, I’m not sure why I enjoyed it or even really watched it.

First of all, it’s not really a movie. There isn’t a real plot through g oethe’s “Faust,” wandering around with the broken-hearted sibyl vane and star- ing around a promise to make her name known. “Jim

The raw honesty of the lyrics and intimacy of the sto- ries’ settings are echoed in the music. Each song is built around Kozalek’s softly beautiful guitar lines which mirror the rural and intimate spirit. A couple of tracks dedicated to Kozalek’s family members also allows for breaks in the theme, allowing Kozalek to give thanks for that which is here in the midst of those who have gone. The mastery of Kozalek’s songwriting and poetry is enough by itself to make the album worth listening to. However, it’s the stories themselves that truly make “Benji” the modern masterpiece it is, an album that dives into the dark only to find a great light.

Contact John Darr at jdar@nd.edu

By KEVIN NOONAN
Scene Editor

This week has been rough. Diving into the bleak world of “Dorian Gray,” I spent the wee hours of the Sunday night crying with the broken-hearted sibyl Vane and star- ing at that hideous portrait. Monday found me crawling through Goethe’s “Faust,” wandering around with the devil sneering at my shoulder. Oh, and this was after a month of reading Flath for my literature class. Suffice it to say I was not living the literary high life.

It seemed only appropriate that Sun Kil Moon’s “Benji” would catch my eye on Metacritic’s new album release list this week. An amalgam of deeply personal tales circling the theme of death, grief and remembrance, “Benji” looks upon life with an unflinching eye. However, the album is written and performed in such a way that the weight of the topic is very much present without being overwhelming Mark Kozelek, the singer and songwriter at the heart of Sun Kil Moon, had an unerring talent for grappling with pain in a way that is at once highly emo- tional yet lacking unnecessary drama. It’s this balance between lyrical honesty and restraint that makes Sun Kil Moon’s music both approachable and urgent. In this way, “Benji” navigates highs and lows with grace and ease, in- viting the listener into its intensely familiar world.

The dark subject matter of “Benji” is kept very for folk music, and he isn’t really a nice guy. In fact, there are no real likeable characters in the mov- ie, and not in the contemporary anti-hero, bad but you- still-root-for them kind of unlikeable. It’s more of, “These people are actually kind of awful and I don’t really care if they succeed or fail but I kind of hope they get punched in the face” kind of unlikeable. Oscar Isaac as Llewyn Davis is one part tormented artist, battling demons through his music and four parts irascible and irritating jerk.

Carey Mulligan’s Jean, as Davis’ friend’s wife and one- time admirer, is a woman in a difficult position in a dif- ficult time for women, but it’s not hard to imagine her character being generally awful to be around in the best of times and places. The only two redeemable characters in the film are Justin Timberlake’s Jim, a fellow folk-singer, and an or- ange tabby cat that Davis accidentally loses throughout the film. Jim is the really only artist in the film that hits it big, but he’s kind of a doof and Llewyn makes fun of him throughout the film. The cat, which the Coen Brothers said they only included because they were worried there wasn’t enough plot in their script, is adorable and yet one of the saddest elements in an all around sad movie.

But even with all that, I loved it. The movie is less a sto- ry or an exploration of character as it is an illustration of time, place and environment. The film feels tangible and real, as if you can smell the nastiness of the dingy dive bars that Llewyn performs and get dirt under your fin- gernails from Greenwich Village side streets where Davis takes his beatings. The Coen brothers based Llewyn Davis off a few folk- singers from the 60s, but began with the idea of wonder- ing what might happen if real-life folk singer Dave Van Ronk outside of a bar in the Village. That’s the sort of feel this movie embodies ¾ it rambles a bit, punches a bit and explores the world of folk music, leading to depress- ing losses and failures for its main characters, but with a hopeful heart.

In the opening scene and again in one of the last scenes of the film, Llewyn performs a song called, “Hang Me, Oh Hang Me,” which is, as you might imagine, not quite in the same spirit of Pharrell’s “Happy.” The song’s lyrics are sad, but he performs with an intriguing acceptance of fate mixed with a morbid hopefulness that makes you think things might not always be this bad.

Davis never gets anywhere in his week long journey, but as the film ends, a young man with wild hair, a guitarist on his lap and a harmonica strapped to his chest takes the stage to begin his first set at Davis’ regular spot. Maybe the sad, cynical world of Llewyn Davis, which really is the sad, cynical world of folk music, has some hope after all. Maybe not, of course, since the film’s final moments are less than hopeful for Davis himself, but there’s a sense of hope hidden in there among all the death and sadness that makes for a fascinating film.

Contact Kevin Noonan a knoonan2@nd.edu

By JOHN DARR
Scene Writer

The dark subject matter of “Benji” is kept very

down-to-earth through a combination of vivid images of relatable scenes, sparse arrangements and intimate production. It’s essentially a set of beautifully-told stories that explore the lives of individuals up to their ends. The subjects of “Benji” die in freak fires, on hospital beds, in school shootings, motorcycle accidents. Yet while these final events create a setting and purpose for Kozelek’s narratives, the lives, not the deaths, are at the heart of the songs. Opener “Carissa” finds him searching for the childhood he and his second cousin once knew, centering around a promise to make her name known. “Jim Wise” tells the story of a man who mercy-killed his wife but couldn’t bring himself to join her, Jim’s character is outlined through the small pleasures he enjoys during his house arrest before his incarceration. “Truck Driver” centers around the joy of his uncle’s funeral, which is “just how he would have wanted it, I’m sure.”

The raw honesty of the lyrics and intimacy of the sto- ries’ settings are echoed in the music. Each song is built around Kozelek’s softly beautiful guitar lines which mir- rors the mood of each song in turn. “Benji” also features a wider instrumental palette with drums and even a couple of soft analog synthesizers the twist in and out of the album. However the greatest musical jewel to be found here is Kozelek’s voice, an evocative, earnest drawl that reams with a slight country twang through the stories he tells. Both musical and highly conversational, Kozelek’s vocals guide the songs into the golden personal sweet spot his lyrics guide us towards sharing with him.

Although so much death and darkness echo through the tales told in “Benji,” the human spirit that echoes through the album imbues it with a hopeful and comfort- ing spirit. A couple of tracks dedicated to Kozalek’s fam- ily members also allows for breaks in the theme, allowing Kozalek to give thanks for that which is here in the midst of those who have gone. The mastery of Kozalek’s songwriting and poetry is enough by itself to make the album worth listening to. However, it’s the stories themselves that truly make “Benji” the modern masterpiece it is, an album that dives into the dark only to find a great light.
The Olympics are different. Whereas most professional athletes we watch in the big four American sports leagues live their entire lives in the spotlight, for athletes in the Olympics are intense. With so many other adjectives better describing the Olympics as unpreparedness, an Everest-like pinnacle of four years of training. The Olympics are whimsical, as characters in lesser known sports take advantage of the spotlight to have some fun. This was on display from the opening ceremony, as skier Antonio Pardo, the lone representative from Venezuela, bounded through the arena, hamming it up and winning over the crowd. It could also be seen in American luger Kate Hansen, whose warm-up is an elaborately choreographed dance routine to “her girl” Beyoncé. #Dancing Hansen finished far from the podium, but her enthusiasm did win over a multitude of fans. All in all though, the Olympics never cease to be compelling. Especially in the Winter Games, the events are so foreign to us that it’s hard not to get caught up in the storylines, whether cheering a 40-year-old Norwegian biathlete on victory or yelling at the inept American curling squads (as I found myself doing at various points this week.)

It’s fun, it breaks up two boring weeks of February, and the coverage is wall-to-wall, so you might as well give in to the Olympics. The run ended any chance of a cowboys rally before it could even begin. Sharp-shooting guard Phil Forte, who was Smart’s high school teammate when they won a Texas state championship on the same court, was just 2-of-7 shooting and never got a chance to open up from long range. Forward Brian Williams was 0-8 and the Cowboys shot just 36 percent for the game. Oklahoma State was ranked No. 11 when these teams first met early in the Big 12 schedule. The Cowboys have fallen hard, as their early projections of conference title contenders and now lost five in a row. Texas has not set a timetableView for Holmes to return, but he is not expected to miss the rest of the season. Smart scored 24 points, making six 3-pointers and No. 19 Texas rolled to an 87-68 win over Oklahoma State, which played its first game Tuesday night without suspended star Marcus Smart. Smart sat out the first of a three-game suspension by the Big 12 for showing a Texas Tech fan. Without him, the Cowboys never had a chance.

Felix scored eight consecutive points that pushed Texas’ lead to 22 early in the first half. The Longhorns (19-5, 8-3) led 34-33 at halftime despite playing without leading scorer Jonathan Holmes, who sat out with a knee injury. Smart, who averages 18 points, will miss games against Oklahoma and Baylor before returning for the Cowboys’ rematch with Texas Tech.

Le’Bryan Nash led Oklahoma State (16-8, 4-7) with 23 points. Both teams played without their best all-around players. The Cowboys struggled mightily without Smart, the Longhorns didn’t miss a beat without Holmes as Felix scored seemingly at will. Felix was 6-of-8 shooting on 3-pointers and was just one point shy of his career high. He had plenty of help as Texas’ four other scorers scored double figures. Isaiah Taylor scored 16, Martez Walker scored 12 and Cameron Ridley had his sixth double-double of the season with 12 points and 13 rebounds. Texas’ outbreak came three days after the Longhorns scored just 18 points in the first half of a loss to Kansas State that ended a seven-game winning streak. Back home, Texas made eight 3-pointers and shot better than 50 percent for most of the first half. Conner Lammert, who got just second his start in the season in place of Holmes, made his four 3-pointers in the first half. Felix turned it into a rout with an 8-pointer burst — two 3-pointers and a layup — that pushed Texas’ lead to 36-14. Felix opened the second half with two more 3-pointers. He followed the first one with a steal that set up his second in transition. The run ended any chance of a Cowboys rally before it could even begin. Sharp-scored 24 points when Oklahoma State beat Kansas in early January. Without him for the rematch, Oklahoma State didn’t have an answer for anything Texas wanted to do.
Irish bounce back to claim their seventh win

By HENRY HILLIARD
Sports Writer

Coming off its first lost of the season, Notre Dame returned to its winning ways last night as it defeated Northwestern 4-1 in Evanston, Ill.

The No. 16 Irish (7-1) handed the No. 30 Wildcats (7-3) their first home loss of the spring campaign.

"Obviously losing magnifies any shortcomings you have as a team," Irish coach Ryan Sachire said. "I thought we had a great week of prac-
tice coming off that Illinois loss and were able to really improve on a lot of things that held us back in that match. (Tuesday) against Northwestern we were compe-
itive from the top down."

In singles play, Notre Dame only needed four matches to put away the Wildcats as sophomore Quentin Monaghan, junior Vincent Schnurrenberger, and freshmen Eddy Cavalcasi, and Josh Haga’s matches went unfinished, while senior Greg Andrews lost the only Notre Dame singles match of the evening in the top spot against the Wildcats.

Monaghan’s victory for the Irish marked the first time he hit the court for competitive play during the spring season. His return from injury came in a match against Northwestern’s Sammy Shropshire in the second set. After winning the first set 6-4, Monahan was forced to come from behind in the second set. He faced set point three times before winning a tiebreaker that gave the Irish a 3-0 lead and set the stage for Cavalcasi to secure a victory on the evening.

"Quentin’s match was a huge turning point for us on the day. It really turned the doubles and pushed us to victory," Sachire said.

Victory in doubles play did not come as easy for the Irish as all three doubles matches went to tiebreakers. After se-
nior Bickey Pecor and Hagar won their match in the second set, Andrews and sophomore Alex Lawson lost in the top spot despite returning from a 5-2 deficit. The doubles point came down to the third set as the duo of Bandy and Schnurrenberger overcame their Wildcat opponents by a mark of 6-5(2), which gave Notre Dame the 1-0 advantage as the match proceeded to singles play.

"We didn’t play our best in doubles tonight," Sachire said. "The difference in tonight’s match from the Illinois loss is that we were able to hang in there down the stretch and win even as we didn’t play our best tennis. Winning the doubles points really sets a positive tone for the rest of the match."

As they enter the halfway point of their spring cam-
paign, the Irish continue a stretch in which four of five matches in a row are scheduled on the road. Notre Dame is slated to head to Houston, TX this weekend for the ITA National Indoor Championships, which they qualified for by beating Kentucky and Minnesota on Jan. 24-25.

"We are going to take a day off before heading to Houston," Sachire said. "I think our big focus when we get there will be on getting acclimated to the surface as much as we can before Friday’s match. I think a real point of emphasis for us will be to play aggressively, par-
ticularly in doubles play."

After the Indoor Championships, the Irish will return to their Elk Tennis Pavilion the following week for a set of matches against Ohio St. and Ball St. on Feb. 22.

Contact Henry Hilliard at rhillia1@nd.edu

SMC BASKETBALL

SMC looks forward to playing undefeated Hope

By KIT LOUGHRAN
Sports Writer

The Belles travel to Hope to take on the nationally-ranked and undefeated Flying Dutch this evening at 7:30 p.m.

The Belles (6-15, 4-8 MIAA) battled No. 2 Hope (21-0, 13-0) earlier this season on Jan. 9, but the Belles could not pull out the win and fell 93-53.

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For further details about the conference and a list of conference presenters:
http://theology.nd.edu/graduate-programs/graduate-student-conference/

Despite the loss, Belles coach Jennifer Henley said her team realizes the magnitude of taking on the unbeaten Flying Dutch.

“(Our) team looks forward to the challenges that Hope will present," Henley said. "They are the No. 2 team in the country right now. We certainly have our hands full, but what a great opportunity to compete against a team of that caliber.”

The Flying Dutch are undefeated on the season, maintaining a 21-game winning streak and averaging 84.1 points per game. Compared to the Belles, who have yet to maintain a consistent winning streak and average 66 points per game, Hope enters tonight’s matchup as the heavy favorite.

Despite the difference in team statistics on the season, the Belles are preparing to take on the Flying Dutch just as they would any other team. The Belles specifically look to sustain their defense against Hope, Henley said.

“Our biggest challenge is once again defense," Henley said. "They average 84.1 points a game, and they do a great job on the boards as well. We have to make sure we box out and not give up second chance points.”

The Flying Dutch moved within one game of claiming the MIAA conference title af-
ter their 83-73 win over Adrian on Saturday. A victory over the Belles would clinch that title.

Most recently, the Belles fell 71-66 to Kalamazoo on Saturday. Due to a lack of de-
fense, Saint Mary’s was unable to maintain a strong lead. From an offensive standpoint, Kalamazoo had the advan-
tage over the Belles, but individ-
ually the Belles generated strong performances on the court. Senior guard Shalynn Bias led the Belles with 18 points and junior forward Ariana Paul followed closely behind with 16 points.

While the Belles have Bias and Paul running their at-
tack, the Flying Dutch are led by sophomore forward Maura McAfee and senior guard Brittany Berry, who average of 14.6 and 8.2 points per game, respectively.

The Flying Dutch might be playing for the confer-
ence title, but Henley said she wants her players and team as a whole to grow in this game against Hope, even with the season coming to a close.

“I hope that the youth of my team continues to improve, especially against one of the best teams in the country,” Henley said. "I want them to battle and prepare to send our seniors off on a great note as our season starts to come to a close.”

The Belles battle undefeated Hope tonight at DeVos Fieldhouse in Holland, Mich. at 7:30 p.m.

Contact Kit Loughran at kloughr1@nd.edu

Please recycle The Observer.
Irish prepare for transition from Big East to ACC

By MATTHEW DeFRANKS
Assistant Managing Editor

Things may not be the same this year for the Irish, but they will still be familiar to Irish coach Mik Aoki.

Aoki and Notre Dame will move into the ACC this season after spending 18 years in the Big East. Aoki will be returning to a league he coached in during his time at Boston College.

“I think it helps from the standpoint that I’m not the one throwing pitches or trying to field a ground ball or field fly balls. I think our kids are going to have to adjust to it.”

The Irish, who finished 34-24 in 2013, were eliminated by North Carolina, Virginia, N.C. State, Miami, Florida State and Clemson.

“Without any question, there are good teams in the Big East but this is a different deal. ... I think it’s exciting for our student-athletes ... to be able to play against programs with the types of traditions those programs have, whether it’s Miami or North Carolina or Florida State or Clemson or whoever it happens to be.”

Notre Dame will have to replace three of its top four hitters from last season, including first-round pick third baseman Eric Jagielo and eighth-round pick first baseman Trey Mancini. Combined, the two players hit .388 with 16 home runs and 107 RBIs.

Aoki said the Irish would look toward a mix of players to replace their production.

“My mind is going to be great. They’re 我 don’t think there’s any one guy on our team that’s going to replace Trey Mancini or Eric Jagielo,” Aoki said. “We’ve just going to have to do it in a different style. Those guys could change the game with one swing of the bat. We don’t really have that in our lineup anymore.”

Aoki said Notre Dame, who returns just eight of its 26 home runs from 2013, could move more toward a small-ball style of play.

“At times, maybe we had the luxury of waiting to see if one of those guys can run a ball out of the park or run a ball into the gap,” Aoki said. “I think we’ll play a lot more offense than we did last year.”

The Irish need more production from sophomore center fielder Kyle Richardson and sophomore shortstop Lane Richards at the plate, Aoki said.

“I’m not sure we can afford to have 200 years coming from three different guys in our lineup like we did last year,” Aoki said. “We were a good team last year and I think we ended up getting exposed by three or four spots in our lineup that were really not as productive as we needed them to be.”

The pitching staff will be without departed closer Dan Slania (13 saves, 1.21 ERA) and starter Adam Norton (10-5, 2.40 ERA) this season. Notre Dame will also be missing junior pitcher Pat Connaughton until basketball season ends.

Aoki said senior right-hander Sean Fitzgerald would top the rotation, followed by sophomore right-hander Nick McCarty and junior right-hander Scott Kerrigan. Aoki said the pitching situation was a fluid one, though.

“I think we have a lot of guys who have all of the right stuff, but I don’t think we have a lot of guys who have a lot of created a great deal of separation,” Aoki said.

In addition to the new conference, the Irish will debut a new field surface when Frank Eck Stadium shows off its new FieldTurf. Aoki said the entire field would be turf — including the pitching mound — and there would be no dirt.

Despite the unique mound, Aoki said the adjustment for pitchers would be a minimal one.

“Almost every kid, regardless of where they’re from, has pitched off of an artificial mound,” Aoki said. “I don’t think it’s going to be a huge transition. For our relievers, it’s going to be great. They’re going to come onto a mound in the seventh inning without the wear and tear, the holes, the dents, the scars that 200 pitches up until that point has worn on the mound.”

Construction on the field was delayed by the early onset of the South Bend winter and has since been pushed back into the season. Aoki said he hoped the field would be ready by mid-April.

The Irish open this weekend in Boca Raton, Fla., against Florida Atlantic.

Contact Matthew DeFranks at mdefrank@nd.edu
Reimer rises to lofty expectations

By VICKY JACOBSEN
Sports Writer

Junior forward Taya Reimer came to South Bend with high expectations. It comes with territory for McDonald’s All-American honors, especially those who, like Reimer, earn the Morgan Wosten Player of the Year Award.

But Irish coach Muffet McGraw said it wasn’t the accolades that first convinced her that Reimer belonged at Notre Dame.

“First was her personality; I thought was a great fit for us,” McGraw said. “I recruit a lot on first of all, talent, but how are we going to fit in the system, with the team, the chemistry of the team and she is just a great teammate. She is somebody that is really talented and just wants to help the team.

“I also saw her ability to rebound and run the floor. I think she can block shots, so a lot of great things she adds to our team.”

When Reimer was named a McDonald’s All-American, she and her family, former NBA forward Ben Davis, became the first father-daughter pair to both earn the honor. But Reimer says her mother, Brenda, also played a large role in her athletic success.

“It’s really always been me and my mom growing up. I lived with my mom and my aunt, so it’s really just been us three,” Reimer said. “My mom was really athletic and so was my aunt. Even though I wasn’t always with my dad I obvi-ously knew that he played basketball and he encouraged me a lot. It was just a really athletic family.

Reimer has had experience to experience a loss as a member of the Irish, and has played in each of Notre Dame’s 23 wins this season. She averages 8.6 points and breaking nearly 20 minutes played a game, McGraw calls her the best sixth-man in women’s college basketball.

“I think there has been a big improvement in terms of how she’s playing,” McGraw said. “She’s becoming more aggressive offen-sively, which is something we’ve wanted her to do. I think she’s playing with more confidence now ... she really understands her role and has figured out, here are some ways I can help. The team with scoring, and here are some ways I can help the team defensively, so I think she’s gotten comfortable and that’s the biggest thing.”

Reimer, who attended Hamilton Southeastern in Fishers, Ind., said the competition she played against in high school does not compare to what she faces nowadays.

“I really enjoyed [my high school team], my teammates and my coaches,” Reimer said. “College is a lot different. Obviously it’s just a higher level, the next level. Everybody’s stronger, quicker, smarter, just more athletic. I think that high school definitely helped me and got me prepared, but it’s nothing like the college game, es-

pecially playing at Notre Dame, one of the top programs in the country. We’re playing tough games every night, so it’s definite-ly a challenge, but it’s been really fun.”

McGraw said she anticipates even more improvement from Reimer as she spends more time in the college game.

“I think she’ll continue to get better in everything,” McGraw said. “I’d like her to score more. I think she’s a really good face-up player and she’s able to score right now doing that, but ... even more so next year, I think we’d like her to look to score more. I think she’s a little too unselfish now. It’s okay to be unselfish, but you also have to look to score more.”

But for now, Reimer is also ad-justing to life as a college student.

“Probably the biggest [adjust-ment] would be time manage-ment, just because when you’re in high school and living with your family and your parents it’s easy to rely on other people to help you out with things,” Reimer said. “This is the first time I’ve ever really been by myself or on my own, so that’s something I’ve definitely had to adjust to, mak-ing sure that I could get to prac-tice on time and still have time to do homework and get extra shots up or hang out with friends.”

Reimer, who considers herself a music junkie and has dabbled in both piano and trombone, said she hopes to work in sports media at some point.

“The planning on doing Film, Television and Theater as my major,” Reimer said. “I really want to get into sports broad-casting, so that’s hopefully the route I’m going to take. I’ve taken a few classes this year that are kind of in that realm, with the journalism and television and things like that; it’s always been very interesting to me.”

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ND WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Notre Dame forward Taya Reimer distributes the ball from the top of the key in Notre Dame’s win Saturday over Syracuse.

Gans
Continued from page 10

dangerous type – a tough squad with little hype. But with little to play for and one of their teammates separated from the program, the Irish still squeaked out a victory.

A year from now, Irish fans won’t care that Notre Dame beat Clemson, 68-64, in double over-time. It will be remembered as a relatively meaningless win in an otherwise disappointing season. And certainly not a game that will remain forever in Irish basketball lore like when Notre Dame bested LSU at Tulane University on February 1st.

But that’s for the fans. The play-ers? Maybe, just maybe, it’s a sign of things to come. Sophomore Zach Auguste put up his first ca-reer double-double (14 points and 12 rebounds) against the Tigers.

Freshman guard Steve Vasturia was all over the floor as he racked up 11 points, reaching double fig-ures for the second time this year.

Freshman V.J. Beachem, despite only tallying four points, did score what ended up being a critical jumper on the final possession of the first half and made his first career start.

It’s not hard for underclass-men like Vasturia, Beachem and Auguste to get up for any game. They should be hungry to prove their worth moving forward.

But it would be easy for senior guard Eric Atkins to mail it in. Last season, he was on the floor at the end of one of the best games in Big East history. The year before, he was part of the monumental Irish upset over Syracuse. And three years ago, he was starting for the best Irish squad in his lifetime.

Now? Instead of sulking, the captain maintained focus as he scored 16 points with six assists and a minute and a half of his finger in the first half, instead of playing 42 minutes. It would be easy for junior forward Pat Connaughton to mentally shift attention to basketball season, in stead of scoring 13 points to go with seven rebounds and seven assists.

Instead, these underclass- men have led by example not just Tuesday night, but throughout this treacherous journey. This team will make an impact on the minds of the program moving forward even after Sherman and Atkins depart next season and Connaughton two years from now.

The Clemson win was ugly. It will not be memorable. And it will not change the trajectory of this season.

But in a season where little has gone Notre Dame’s way, fi-nally something did. And maybe, things will be different from here on. It will be a rallying point for the long haul.

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

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Basketball
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

basketball when those habits get consistent. So we’ll give him some time to get caught up. And if he’s caught up at the end of the week, we’ll get him back to practice and go from there. Just gotta get back to those good habits that I saw in the fall.”

With 15 starts under his belt this season, Jackson had been supplanted in Notre Dame’s starting lineup for the four games prior to Tuesday’s matchup.

“I think Demetrius Jackson is very committed to being at Notre Dame,” Brey said. “It’s a matter of just getting back into a good academic rhythm that I’ve seen before, and we’ll coach him into that. Sometimes as a parent and a teacher and a coach, some tough love is needed.”

“I just think he didn’t get off to as good a start as he did in the fall semester. So you do what you gotta do to help a guy grow up.”

Brey’s announcement regarding Jackson’s status comes after Irish senior guard Jerian Grant lost his eligibility for the remainder of the season on Dec. 21 due to an academic issue.

“I don’t think that’s ever affected [the rest of the team], when we lost personnel by injury, by whatever,” Brey said. “They come back and play and other guys have known they are going to get more of an opportunity.

I give a lot of credit to Atkins, Connaughton, Sherman and Knight. They’re old, they’ve seen a lot. They keep us pretty steady.”

Notre Dame will look to establish its first ACC winning streak when it travels to Chestnut Hill, Mass., to face Boston College on Sunday.

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Lacrosse
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

last season, respectively. After three different freshman scored in the exhibition, Halfpenny said she was excited to see how they performed against Cincinnati, particularly Fortunato and midfielder Casey Pearsall, who recently recovered from an ACL tear.

“We’re really excited about a number of players in the freshman class,” Halfpenny said. “Seeing Courtney Fortunato come out and do what she does so well [Saturday] … was really, really exciting. And then seeing Casey Pearsall going back to work, after missing an entire season with an ACL tear in high school last year. She’s a tough-nosed, incredibly athletic and strong midfielder for us, so it was really exciting to see Casey take the field.”

Trying to shut down the talented Irish freshmen will be the Bearcats’ sophomore goalie Meg Gulmi, who started all 16 games as a freshman and notched 142 saves. Cincinnati went 7-9 last season, but return Gulmi and top two scorers, senior midfielder Taylor Young and junior midfielder Megan Bell. Challenging Bell and Young will be Irish junior goalie Allie Murray, who will make her first career start Wednesday. Despite her inexperience, Halfpenny said Murray has handled the transition in impressive fashion.

“I think she’s doing a really great job,” Halfpenny said. “At the end of the day, she always had the mentality of ‘I’m ready whenever you need me’, and … she’s an incredible teammate. Her high IQ at this level … her understanding of our defense and her playing give us momentum, and I think that’s huge. She’s made a smooth transition to being our starting goaltender for [Wednesday],” we’re thrilled.”

Murray and the Irish will play host to the Bearcats at 5 p.m. today at the Loftus Center.

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Happy Birthday! Discover new possibilities by expanding your interests and developing new skills. Make changes for your benefit, not someone else’s. It’s important to get your priorities straight and head in a direction that will bring you the greatest return. Don’t be too passional about whatever you choose to do or take a pass. Strive for what makes you happiest. Your numbers are 4, 15, 22, 28, 35, 38.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You will face opposition if you aren’t willing to compromise. Don’t let a trivial situation turn into a major argument. Plan your personal change, not trying to change others. Plan your actions and choose your words wisely.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You shouldn’t have to go far to find a little excitement. Check out what’s going on in your community and take part in events that interest you. Your time you spend volunteering or helping others will lead to valuable opportunities.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You are best to take a pass if someone tries to interest you in spending, unless you feel the pressure is justified. Concentrate on completing your work and taking care of important responsibilities. Proving how valuable you are will garner you more stability.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Discuss your plans and get the ball rolling. Do your research and find out exactly what’s required of you in order to reach your goals. A friend you encounter will be interested in getting involved in a project you want to pursue.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don’t ignore what you can do. The possibilities are endless and you need to engage your mind. You can accomplish a lot and stay within your budget. Home or personal improvements will add value to your assets. Good fortune is within reach.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Make your mark by helping a cause you believe in or someone in need. Your ability to find solutions will make you something of a hero. A unique partnership will give you the boost you need to forge ahead and finish an important project.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don’t gossip or get involved in office politics. Focus on what you need to get done. Preserve your reputation and refrain from making unrealistic promises. It’s important to follow through with your plans to avoid looking wishy-washy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Choose whatever direction or project you feel will bring you the greatest creative space and the most adventure. If you enjoy what you are doing, it will be that much easier to go ahead. Give your personal life a boost with a little romance.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Take care of legal, contractual or financial matters swiftly. Leaving room to let a negative issue escalate will lead to undue stress. Make changes at home that better suit your likes and lifestyle. Stay within your budget.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Your intuition will help you decipher whom can be trusted and whom to avoid. A work matter or business partnership will reveal information that will contribute to a decision you need to make. A unique twist to the way you do things will pay off.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Productivity will determine how far you get and whom you impress. Push, present and promote your ideas. Procrastinating will cost you dearly when it comes to advancement. Take the initiative, especially when money is at stake.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Put money matters, contracts and settlements first. Once you’ve taken care of personal business, you will be free and clear to share your good fortune with the people you enjoy being with the most. Love is in the air.

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive and strong. You are passionate, caring and helpful.
Perseverance in Purcell

By JOSEPH MONARDO
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame squeaks by Clemson in double overtime despite Jackson’s absence

It took a pair of overtimes, but Notre Dame secured the win over Clemson it seemed to have wrapped up 10 minutes earlier. Behind a double-double from sophomore forward Zach Auguste, the Irish (13-12, 4-8 ACC) secured the 68-64 victory for their second win in the last seven outings.

“It felt like everybody was throwing blows the whole game,” Irish senior guard Eric Atkins said. “You know, we pulled it off.”

Atkins led the Irish with 16 points in the victory, while Auguste contributed 14 points and 12 rebounds.

With Clemson leading by one with 1:02 remaining, Irish freshman guard Pat Connaughton hit his second 3-pointer of the period to give Notre Dame a tenuous two-point lead. Two free throws by Irish junior guard/forward Pat Connaughton 44 seconds later helped seal the deal for the home team.

Tigers junior guard K.J. McDaniels put forth a stellar effort in the loss, finishing with 30 points and 14 rebounds.

“Just improved academic habits,” said Atkins. “Just academic habits. It’s been in the offseason so you attend the game due to academic reasons while sophomore forward Cam Biedscheid chose to transfer to Missouri. In the meantime, the Irish have stumbled to a 13-12 record and a mediocre 4-8 conference start in their first season in the ACC.

And that — the turmoil, the frustration, the “close, but not quite” nature of this season — is why Tuesday’s 68-64 double overtime win over Clemson means so much in the larger picture of getting Notre Dame’s program back on track.

To truly compete against a team like Clemson, a good team with one of the ACC’s top players in Jrue Holiday and that — the turmoil, the frustration, the “close, but not quite” nature of this season — is why Tuesday’s 68-64 double overtime win over Clemson means so much in the larger picture of getting Notre Dame’s program back on track.

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