University forms connections in Asia

Partnerships announced with St. Stephen's College, St. Xavier's College, IITs

By CATHERINE OWERS
News Writer

University President Fr. John Jenkins signed a formal agreement with St. Xavier’s College in Mumbai, India, that includes plans for study abroad programs, summer research programs, faculty exchange and research collaboration, according to a Feb. 6 press release.

“Fr. Jenkins also signed similar Memorandums of Understanding with St. Stephen’s College in Delhi and the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, earlier this week during a trip to India and Bangladesh that aims to strengthen Notre Dame’s academic engagement with South Asia,” the statement said.

Kenneth Henderson, senior assistant provost for internationalization, said the University wants to form more connections with international universities.

“What we’re interested in is partnering with the very best universities around the planet, both for undergraduate exchange programs as well as research exchange programs,” he said. “Currently we don’t have a very strong connection in South Asia, we do have significant connections in China, but in India and elsewhere in Asia not as much.”

The relationships with St. Stephen’s College and St. Xavier’s College will primarily focus on undergraduate and faculty exchanges, while the relationships with the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) at Bombay and Gandhinagar will center on research, Henderson said.

“The two private institutions, St. Stephen’s and St. Xavier’s, are somewhat similar to Notre Dame in that they are private and religious-based schools, and with excellent undergraduate reputations,” he said. “Those

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Lecturer examines Soviet poetry

By ALEX CAO
News Writer

Professor Donald Loewen, department chair and associate professor of Russian at Binghamton University in New York, spoke Thursday night about the politically-charged and controversial history of Soviet poetry in the 1960s.

“Let’s just take a minute to remind ourselves to some of the things that was going on in those years,” Loewen said. “In the Soviet Union, it was a time of unsettled change in many ways. Joseph Stalin had died a few years earlier and after his death many of

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Junior class welcomes parents to campus

By MEG HANDELMAN
News Writer

Mothers and fathers of members of the junior class are traveling from all around the country for Notre Dame’s annual Junior Parents Weekend (JPW).

“I want this weekend to be really special, and I want parents to have a magical experience at Notre Dame,” JPW chairperson and junior Shannon Hagedorn said.

“This is one of the three big events for parents and students, and I have been trying to do everything I can to make sure it is fabulously wonderful.”

Junior Christian Knight said JPW offers a rare opportunity to bring families together on campus.

“With there only being three events on campus — Frosh-O, graduation and JPW — that bring all the parents on campus, it will be cool to have them here one last time before graduation,” Knight

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Event brings sonnets to life

By JACK ROONEY
News Writer

For the fifth straight year, Shakespeare at Notre Dame will throw its unique Valentine’s Day celebration, SonnetFest, which features public readings of all 154 of Shakespeare’s sonnets.

Scott Jackson, executive director of Shakespeare at Notre Dame, said SonnetFest, which runs from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, offers a fun and engaging way to celebrate Valentine’s Day and experience the Bard’s work.

“It’s just a way to commemorate Valentine’s Day with some of Shakespeare’s best-known poetry and also to engage the campus population with Shakespeare, lifting it up off the page and bringing it into the air, which I think is really important with Shakespeare,” Jackson said.

Peter Holland, associate dean for the arts in the College of Arts and Letters and one of the event’s founders, said SonnetFest provides a fresh, yet

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QUESTION OF THE DAY:
Who would be your celebrity Valentine?

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

Daniel Tamaru
junior
Carroll Hall
“Jennifer Aniston.”

Katie Haimes
sophomore
Pasquerilla West Hall
“Ryan Reynolds.”

Veronica McDowell
sophomore
Regina Hall
“Dylan O’Brian.”

Maddy Danz
freshman
Regina Hall
“Ed Westick as Chuck Bass.”

Ning Zhou
sophomore
off campus
“Jennifer Lawrence.”

Sarah Robinson
sophomore
Pasquerilla West Hall
“Liam Hemsworth.”

Manuel Paul López performs a poetry reading in the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore on Wednesday night. López received the 2013 Ernest Sandeen Prize in Poetry for his second book, “The Yearning Feed,” published by the University of Notre Dame Press.
Professor compares religion and biology

By KATHRYN MARSHALL
News Writer

Saint Mary’s students and faculty discussed the connections of spirituality and biology over lunch Thursday afternoon as part of the “Spirituality Mondays” series. The Saint Mary’s Center for Spirituality sponsors the series, which is designed to give attendees a chance to analyze the interface of faith and reason.

Professor of biology Tom Fogle said biology and religion each search for “wholeness” in their own way.

Fogle said the historical eugenics movement, which worked to apply genetics to improve social welfare but also earned significant criticism demonstrated social concern. This element reflected an effort to consciously control the effects of ever-growing scientific knowledge and protect the rights and dignity of an individual.

Fogle said after the popularity of eugenics waned, scientists developed the idea that genetics are the blueprint of life. “The blueprint model is ... the belief that the heart of the formative process stems with genetics,” Fogle said. “Genetics is the lead actor in a play with the environment serving as its supporting cast.”

Fogle said he believes the blueprint model is flawed. Areas of study like ethnogenetics, which looks at how environmental influences impact future genetics, support the idea that genetics may seem linear but is actually contains multiple layers and structures, Fogle said.

“The scientific community has long moved past simple nature-nurture dichotomy,” Fogle said. “The real action lies in the intersection of the two. Contemporary genetics not only highlights that point, but suggests that it is messy and difficult to untangle.”

Fogle said the network model of biology views humanness as an ever-changing series of causes and connections between internal and external forces. The idea of personhood in Christianity is very similar, he said.

“We are each unique, changing, responsive and complex in our relationship with a timeless and omnipresent God,” Fogle said. “Biology is moving towards a vision of humanness that is constructed from a broader vision more similar to what religion has understood for thousands of years. In other words, biology is discovering what religion has known all along.”

Religion provides wholeness through biblical stories that try to craft and understand humanity, while biology focuses on the gears behind humanness, Foge said.

“We don’t see convergence yet. We’re so busy studying science right now, there’s mountains of information, but seeing interconnections is the key to the future. ... There are so many points to link together.”

Fogle said it’s hard to step back and see broad connections because it takes a narrow framework to be a successful scientist. A scientist can spend his whole life studying one type of cell, resulting in immense amounts of literature, but the public does not understand that even this work is only a small part of the vast amounts of scientific knowledge and research, he said.

“If there is a convergence, it will be in recognizing that the deepest understanding, the core truths, whether it’s through faith or reason, will only come from a search for wholeness, the connectedness between our inner and our outer selves,” Fogle said.

The final installment of the “Spirituality Monday” series will feature Fras Kominkiewicz, chair of the Social Work Department, discussing the relationship between spirituality and social work on Monday, Feb. 17.

Contact Kathryn Marshall at kmarsh02@saintmarys.edu
Writer blends poetry, activism in book

By REBECCA O’NEIL
News Writer

Saint Mary’s welcomed Ekere Tallie, a poet whose work focuses on the values of an activist, to Carroll Auditorium on Thursday for a reading.

She said her book, “Karma’s Footsteps,” is filled with the songs of a black, poor and resilient woman.

Tallie said she lives by writer and civil rights activist Audre Lord’s quote, “your silence will not protect you.” In one of her poems, Tallie said she wrote, “wounded eyes will tell it, even though we don’t.”

Tallie said her poetry revealed her personal experience of being sexually abused. She said she learned as hard as it was for her to reveal herself as a victim, sharing her story helps other people.

“Poetry for me is not art for art’s sake; it’s art for our sake,” Tallie said. “I will share my poetry with anybody who is open.”

Tallie said she draws inspiration from sources all around her, including race, love and the blues. Her book “Continuum,” which will be published this September, features a series of 12 letters to Tallie’s imaginary friend, Continuum.

“I am interested in young writers interested in liberation,” Tallie said. “Continuum is interested in using art for liberation.”

Tallie said she “[has] so many poems on love gone wrong.” She read a poem titled “Medusa,” inspired by a former boyfriend who told her that her hair made her look like Medusa as she stepped out of the shower.

“As a woman I am unafraid to turn men to stone,” she said, concluding the poem.

Tallie revealed an unfinished poem she was in the process of editing called “Lady.”

“It’s a piece I am currently working on,” Tallie said. “It’s about a crazy woman, not accepting her crazy, but acknowledging it.”

Tallie also read pieces centered on the immigration of entire black communities. “There are two types that I cover,” Tallie said. “One is voluntary migration, like the Great Migration, and the other is forced, where people were literally forced out of the South in the early nineteenth century.”

The poetess also spoke about women accepting and loving their bodies, a topic considered in her poem dedicated to the beauty of gap-toothed women. Tallie said she encountered a cab driver in New York who spent their entire drive trying to convince her that her smile was beautiful.

Tallie said she began to fully appreciate her culture after reading “The Autobiography of Malcolm X” when she was 16 years old.

“Now people think ‘Malcolm X’ and make so many assumptions,” Tallie said. “He made many changes, but in the end he understood the brotherhood of men.”

Tallie said her family has a rich history in the South, involving themselves in the rights movement. “I also like hidden stories, getting beneath the surface,” Tallie said. “I have many stories of my own that I just sit in my room and write, but you need to separate wheat from chaff to find out what is meaningful to other people.”

Junior Dara Marquez looked up Tallie’s poetry after noticing the flyers around the College’s campus. “I found her spoken word to be empowering and wanted to be a part of her words in person,” Marquez said.

Marquez was invited to dinner by Tallie with Student Involvement and Multicultural Services (SIMS).

“[Tallie] is really easy going, relatable,” Marquez said. “A lot of the things she says, you relate as a woman. If you’re a creative person curious as to how other people express their values, she’s good at that.”

Contact Rebecca O’Neil at roneil01@saintmarys.edu

Lectures

CONTINUING FROM PAGE 1

the anchors of Soviet reality really started to come loose.”

Loewen said those changes affected the realm of Soviet lyrical poetry.

“So, tens of thousands of people who have been locked up in Soviet prison camps anti-Soviet behavior were suddenly released, and the author, Ilya Ehrenberg, provided a name for this changing world when his novel, ‘The Thaw,’ was published [in 1954],” Loewen said. Loewen said “The Thaw” inspired creativity and expression in an era of Soviet history when the government was set on instituting censorship and propaganda.

“The Thaw” also found its way into literature and in a particular way into lyric poetry,” he said. “For years, Soviet lyric poetry has been dominated by really an intense pressure to focus on the state and state priorities.

“In 1946, the Central Committee … decided to reestablish a policy that laid out fundamental principles that poets and prose-writers were expected to support. The decree stated fairly unequivocally that Soviet poets should not concern themselves with private or personal interests. … It was only in 1953 that open and explicit resistance to this decree started to attract notice.”

Loewen said that resistance manifested years later into a movement of impassioned, live performances with intense rhetoric, which Loewen demonstrated by showing his own performance and video recordings of poetic live performances from the 1950’s.

“It is an incredibly powerful story when told in the context of the 1950’s and the early 1960’s when all around [the performer] people were trying to rethinks, What if history could be different?” Loewen said. “One of the really amazing things that these clips show was how important these poetry readings were and the importance of these live performances, because live performances allowed [poets] a special opportunity to engage their listeners.”

Contact Alex Cao at acao@nd.edu

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SonnetFest continued from page 1
classic, take on Valentine’s Day. “I wanted to link it to Valentine’s Day, giving people a chance to listen to some of the greatest explorations of love, not just as joy but also as an experience of anger, despair, insecurity, anxiety,” Holland said. “This is a long way from the trite poetry in Valentine cards.”

Jackson said the diversity of the readings attempts to reflect the diversity of the Notre Dame community. He said in years past, people have read in languages ranging from the familiar to the fictional. “Every year is a little bit different,” Jackson said. “We try to make the readings as diverse as possible since we have so many different cultures here and so many people studying so many different languages, as well.

We watched it kind of progressively grow into this campus tradition. “We’ve had readings in English, obviously, French, German, Spanish, Russian, Filipino, Italian, Morse Code, Parseloungue and Klingon,” Jackson said. “I would say there have been twelve of fifteen different languages spoken during the readings.”

Jackson said the event takes place in the Great Hall of O’Shaughnessy Hall, which creates a constantly changing environment. “One of the great things about doing it in the Great Hall of O’Shag is that there’s so much traffic going through,” Jackson said. “We could go from having two people watching to having 100 people watching in five minutes, just based on the flow of people coming in and out of classes. It really fluctuates.”

While the event’s location in O’Shaughnessy Hall makes it easily accessible to students and faculty, Jackson said SonnetFest also makes Shakespeare’s words accessible to the entire Notre Dame community. “It’s a very non-intimidating way to approach Shakespeare in performance,” he said. “It’s a nice way to engage the student population in something that might intimidate them a little bit. What we’ve been able to do is create a very supportive, nurturing environment.”

Jackson said perhaps the most important aspect of the event, especially as a celebration of Valentine’s Day, is the unifying quality of Shakespeare’s work. “There’s something in Shakespeare for everyone, and with a relatively universal nature of his work draws people from all facets of life together,” he said.

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Connections continued from page 1
are places where we will in- vest in setting up exchange programs, more than likely at the undergraduate level.”

St. Stephen’s College is Anglican, Henderson said, while St. Xavier’s College is Catholic.

“The key element for the choice is that St. Xavier’s is the premier Catholic univers- ity in India, and therefore we’re interested in partnering with the best universities,” he said. “Obviously if they are religious-based institution, that makes it even more inter- esting to us because we have a shared connection.”

Henderson said the Indian Institute of Technology at Bombay also has an excellent reputation. “[II]T is well-established as one of the best technical universities in the world,” he said. “The II Ts are all elite in- stitutions, so they are more likely to be of interest to us in a research capacity, by setting up collaborative research. We certainly do exchanges, but it’s more likely to be at the undergraduate level.”

The II Ts have been chosen specifi- cally because they are the best research institutions in that area,” Henderson said. “Again, the idea is that Notre Dame is partnering with the very best institutions all over the world.”

Contact Catherine Owers at cowers@nd.edu

Weekend continued from page 1
said. The weekend will kick off with an opening gala Friday night, held in the Joyce Center, according to the IPW website. Each undergraduate college will host events throughout Saturday afternoon, and families can attend IPW Mass at 5:30 p.m. in Purcell Pavilion, followed by a President’s Dinner, the website stated. The weekend will conclude with a closing brunch Sunday morning.

Junior Shane O’Connor said she appreciates that the timing of IPW allows parents and students to enjoy the weekend together, while the juniors are still experiencing on-campus life. She said the special events would allow her family time to relax and explore Notre Dame together.

“I am excited for IPW so that I can have the chance to show my parents what life is like while I’m actually at Notre Dame, and not when we’ve had readings in English, obviously, French, German, Spanish, Russian, Filipino, Italian, Morse Code, Parseloungue and Klingon,” Jackson said. “I would say there have been twelve of fifteen different languages spoken during the readings.”

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Campaign law transparency is key

At 9:54 a.m. Tuesday, the Judicial Council announced in an email that juniors Lauren Vidal and Matthew Devine won the runoff election for student body president and vice president, beating junior Olivia LaMagna and sophomore Rohan Andresen by 276 votes.

According to the Judicial Council’s email, 3,862 students voted, 46 percent of eligible undergraduate students. In the first election, LaMagna and Andresen earned 15 votes more than Vidal and Devine, and neither had a majority, which led to Monday’s runoff vote.

It’s impossible to say what precisely influenced one student to vote or not to vote, to support Vidal and Devine or LaMagna and Andresen. What we do know is that this election was marred by a violation of the campaigning rules set down in the candidate’s guide, based on the Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Body. And both violations occurred on Facebook.

According to a press release sent at 12:28 a.m. Monday, the Election Committee “found the Vidal-Devine ticket in the Student Body Presidential/VICE Presidential Election in violation of Section 17.2(j)(4) of the Constitution.” The release states, “The ticket exceeded their campaign spending limit by paying for advertising on Facebook for specific posts.” The “appropriate sanction” determined by the Election Committee was for the Vidal-Devine campaign to “completely delete from Facebook the three advertised posts that caused them to exceed their campaign spending limit.”

According to a second press release, sent at 9:28 p.m. Monday to campus media, the Election Committee “found the Vidal-Devine ticket in the Student Body Presidential/VICE Presidential Election in violation of Section 17.1(b) of the Constitution.”

“The ticket violated the clause by insulting the opposing ticket in a Facebook post by a supporter,” the release states. The “appropriate sanction” devised by the Committee was for the LaMagna-Andresen ticket to remove the post on Facebook.

We commend the Election Committee for acting in a timely manner to resolve both allegations, and we appreciate that both tickets gracefully complied with the sanctions.

“Ideally, all candidates would act in a way that no allegation would have to come up,” LaMagna said in a statement to The Observer. “That’s how it should be, and it shouldn’t have to come up for Judicial Council to act on an allegation. But, if there were more clarity in the Constitution, that might make their job easier.”

Vidal and Devine declined to comment.

We don’t know exactly what happened. Vice President of Elections Kathryn Peruski said in an email to The Observer that the Election Committee found a “presumption of evidence” in both cases. Peruski said the process is “completely confidential besides the press releases that are made to campus media outlets,” in order “to protect the privacy of the accusing party and accused ticket.”

By all accounts, the Election Committee devised fair judgments based on the available laws. However, we question these laws.

We saw that candidates who violate a campaign law will not necessarily receive a significant punishment. We believe deleting the Facebook posts hardly constitutes a substantial sanction for a violation on this social media outlet, especially when the violation was not based on the content of the post — like an overstretched budget.

We also learned that candidates are expected to control the way in which their supporters exercise their right to free speech on social media outlets so as not to violate a substantive standard of inappropriate content.

We believe the laws underlying campaign regulation should be reexamined. Only 46 percent of students voted in this election, suggesting widespread apathy among the other 54 percent. Current campaign laws regulate the actions of the students who otherwise might choose to actively involve themselves with the election of their leaders, but the same students don’t understand these rules. We see this as a major problem, and we hope that student government and the Judicial Council can work together to make these regulations more widely known and understood.

Human doings

Seeing as it’s Valentine’s Day and all, I could write something generically quirky and self-deprecating about being single, but I’m not going to do that. I’m not going to do that because Valentine’s Day is dumb and I can eat all the chocolate that flex points can buy whether I’m in a relationship or not. That’s because I’m an adult and adults can do that.

Instead, I’m going to finally try to come to terms with something one of my professors said last semester. Right before finals, he said college students are so busy and erratically scheduled that we are human doings, not human beings. He was right, and his words resonate with me.

I would probably be one of those who people who tried to schedule every minute of their day, but I know I would get so hopelessly behind schedule that wouldn’t even be worth it. Instead, I rely on my trusty assignment notebook to let me know when and where I need to do something. Yes, I still have a physical assignment notebook. In fact I rely on it so heavily that when I lost it once for 15 minutes, it was enough to make me seriously consider dropping all my classes and just starting over again next semester.

So, armed with little more than my planner, a cheap black pen, a yellow highlighter and a to-do list more accurately described as overwhelming than achievable, I go out and I do. There is remarkably little time for me — or any college student — to just be, which is fine because we would probably waste it mindlessly scrolling through our newsfeeds anyway. I figure I have a limited number of years left in my life in which I can run on little sleep and lots of caffeine and still be tolerable to be around, so I might as well take advantage of them.

I enjoy being busy. I enjoy having a schedule that changes by the day (and oftentimes by the minute) because it keeps things interesting and makes me chase my passions. But I also enjoy the rare chance to cease all of the doing and to relax in the being. I’m talking about the late night dorm discussions with no phones or computers, the spontaneous trips to the Grotto and jogs around the lakes. When we leave our responsibilities and schedules behind for a bit, we get to find ourselves and just be. And being is especially important in a world of doing.

So happy Valentine’s Day, human doings. Single or taken, enjoy your chocolate. It’s like a mansion built upon sand.
Last February, this column was published the morning after Valentine’s Day. It offered tips on how to overcome romantic cluelessness for the forlorn who, along with their fractured friends, remained alone and single the morning after. Today, as my column publishes, we find ourselves happily and squarely planted with a significant other midstream on Cupid’s glorious day — that is, unless you are one of the many from last year who still are single, sporting an empty mailbox and an iTunes library planted with a significant other mid-year. The syllabus offers a secular and moral option for both the public and private student body. It further provides electronic as well as real-life face-to-face interpersonal skills some suggest have succeeded since ancient Egyptians first pondered how to build a pyramid.

We usually, forlorn status-conscious singles with a single-minded objective force ourselves to first and foremost turn to an app for help. Seeking an outlet through electronic means is as ancient as … the iPhone. The purpose of apps spans the spectrum of society, ranging from Christian singles’ dating on the right to no-string college hookups on the left. Depending on who you are and what you believe, you can snag a Valentine in an afternoon’s time using various approaches.

For example, at the Sochi Olympic competition this week, slopestyle gold-medal snowboarder Jamie Anderson confessed that she and other female athletes checked out “a lot of cuties” at the Olympic Village with the dating app Tinder. Tinder alerts you about people in your proximity that you can anonymously like or pass by. However, when both people like each other, a match begins. Yet, the 23-year-old from Lake Tahoe, Calif. warns that a preoccupation with Tinder can be “way too distracting,” so much so that she deleted her account.

At campuses like Oral Roberts, Liberty University and Notre Dame where morbidly obese permafaces the lifeblood of the institution and hangs like a raincloud over any serious relationship interest, mutual interests sections theoretically steers students away from sheer superficiality, thus leaving room for romance. The app OKCupid is the second most used, even if it is on a more intense level. Even apps like Grindr, apps that use “420 friendship” code and that religious colleges many profess to move away from, do not overtly promote themselves as a place purely for physical intimacy. All Valentine-seekers may apply here too.

But students on most secular college campuses do not need Valentine’s Day as an excuse to delve into all manner of matchmaking apps. They can be stereotyped into neat packages of hedonistic pleasure-seeking youths from a past, so let’s stick with that bias here. These students embrace apps that interact with robots, like Her — the most recent release showcased last week at a New York Tech Meetup demonstrated a creepy romance with a robot. For those determined to remain celibate, consider another animated fantasy that debuted at the Tech Meetup — a take on Her called, “Him.”

Secular students with little free time on their hands might be more likely to use a Tinder-like based app called “DOWN” that allows them to suggest to the friends in their social networks that they are interested in spending with them. No pressure here, just a “poke” if you will. A stroke of the finger to swipe them, and it lets them know of a secular interest in spending the night together. The app is quite possibly a more animated version of Craigslist. DOWN reduces the need to speak, wine and dine or date much on Valentine’s Day.

But the pièce de résistance of all Satan-based college social networking apps is Higher Ed Hookups, which differs from other dating or meet-up avenues. As the name suggests, it promotes people looking for an experience with absolutely no strings attached. Launched early this year, Higher Ed Hookups is described as a site that “colle­ge and university students turn to when they just want to hook up.” It even asks for GPAs for discriminating seekers.

Finally, you can hook your Valentine the old fashioned way, an approach that probably takes an afternoon’s worth of time spread out over a 12-hour pe­riod. Use a friend to 411 your potential Valentine. Cross paths by actually at­tending class, by speaking with your potential new bestie or by simply text something silly about the weather. Better yet, be silly and give a tacky card out just before dinner or happy hour. Preferably follow happy hour by going out together to a bar or club, and then let the spirits of St. Valentine’s Day past run their course.

Should your romantic luck be less than that of the Irish, remember three things. First, starting tomorrow, all heart-shaped candy boxes are reduced by 50 percent or better. Secondly, bet­ter luck next year, as they say. Finally, beware that this column publishes next year on Friday the Thirteenth.

Scott Boyle
The Sincere Seeker

Growing up, it would be no exaggera­tion for me to say that I liked to build. As the self-appointed chair of the Boy Scouts brothers’ playtime schedule, I would not only dictate what games we would play to fill our summer days, but also the rules of this aforementioned recreation time.

Although I was always the self-ap­pointed scorekeeper, referee and rule­book maker, I was particularly serious when it came to my rulebook responsibil­ities. Any game we played had to proceed according to my guidelines. In my head, all of my rules were excellent, completely fair and totally faithful to the spirit of the games we played.

Ask anyone in my family, though, and they would no doubt tell you a differ­ent story. For some reason, there was a large chasm between the way these rules sounded in my head and the way I chose to unroll them. The same rules I thought I had unrolled at the beginning of these games never seemed to manifest themselves except at the times I most needed them. To make a long story short, it usually wasn’t long before tempers flared and the game that had looked so wonderful in my head actually ended in tears.

Deep down I dreamed of so much more. I longed to make others happy. I wanted to design a game that we could play over and over something that just the kids could come back to and say, “That was really great!”

And nothing has really changed since I was little. I continue to long for the grat­ification that comes from designing or building. Truth be told, I’ve long wished I had the skills to be an architect or a craftsman, someone who could build great structures or bring intricate pieces of handwork into existence. Friends of mine in this line of work often relay the great satisfaction that comes from seeing the fruits of their labors reach completion.

Unfortunately, I’m not particularly handy. But I’ve never stopped trying to dream of ways to make others happy. Now, the words of the Bible have become the materials and the world my canvas. But it’s all too easy to compare my work in ministry and teaching with the work of those architects or craftsmen.

More often than not, I have to fight the urge and frustration that comes when I think about the fact that most times, I will never get to see the “finished product” of my work. Most times, I’ll never know — in the present — whether my conversations or work with students will make an impact, whether it will help build them up into the people God has destined them to be.

And chances are that — regardless of profession — many of us have shared these sentiments at one moment or an­other. We long to see the results of our labor. We want to see the fruits of our accomplish­ments.

But Henri Nouwen once said, “The art of living is to enjoy what we can see and not complain about what remains in the dark. When we are able to take the next step with the trust that we will have enough light for the step that follows, we can walk through life with joy and be surprised at how far we go. Let’s rejoice in the little light we carry and not ask for the great beam that would throw all shadows away.”

And perhaps that’s precisely it. The shadows, the doubting and the ques­tioning is to whether a future accomplish­ment will always be there. We cannot take those away. But here, the words of Mother Teresa strike me: “God does not call us to be successful, only faithful.”

God is the only light that can ulti­mately take these shadows away. But we, as Mother Teresa reminds us, are called to be the “way, the Truth and the life.”

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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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The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
When listing favorite teen movies, you can’t forget “Mean Girls.” In fact, it’s hard to miss “Mean Girls” at any given moment because the film is referenced almost incessantly. Now, 10 years after the film’s release, “Mean Girls” has not only become part of our collective shorthand of high-school comedies, but a part of our everyday vocabulary. This film truly was a turning point in teen comedy.

At first glance, it doesn’t appear as though “Mean Girls” is anything special. Released amidst a string of successful Lindsay Lohan comedies during the rise of her career, the movie was a hit, well received by audiences and critics but it didn’t necessarily make a stir. It was deemed an unassuming hit of her career, the movie was a hit, well received amid a string of successful teen comedies, but a part of our everyday vocabulary. This film truly was a turning point in teen comedy.

When other teen comedies starring female leads played out the lovable star’s quest to find a boy and beat the mean girl enemy (“Princess Diaries,” “What a Girl Wants”), “Mean Girls” turned the format on its head, showing lead Cady Heron’s vulnerabilities and her transformation into a real mean girl herself. Based off of bestselling nonfiction book “Queen Bees and Wannabes,” Fey wrote the film to be as realistic as possible to the kinds of interactions young girls have, and while I can’t say I’ve ever heard of any teen girls pushing someone in front of a bus, Fey hits the mark for most of the movie. But while “Mean Girls” stays true, representing the good, bad and ugly parts of teen girl behavior, sparing no drama, Fey didn’t worry about writing the film specifically for a young female audience the way other teen filmmakers did. In watching the movie, we in no way wanted to be Heron — we couldn’t relate to her, we didn’t want her clothes and we even grew to dislike her. Instead, Heron brought us an anthropological study of everything wrong with high school, highlighting things we, teenagers not long ago, were well aware of.

No did Fey tailor her humor for a young or more naive audience. She kept it smart and trusted that her audience would keep up. Other movies showed smart girls with broken glasses and a dream of an Ivy League school, but Fey gave her characters smart, quick dialogue and rapid-fire jokes that keeps the film interesting (and hilarious) even 10 years later. “Mean Girls” managed to meld the genres of high-school movie, biting satire and insanely quotable bro-comedy (like “Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy”) of the same year into one glorious film. Though its cultural criticism in attempt to get girls to stop calling each other names didn’t quite pan out (I mean, it’s hard to not use the term “army of skanks” once Joni introduces it), the movie surpasses any of its early 2000s counterparts by doing more than show the girl getting the guy or defeating the mean girls and appealing to a remarkably broad audience.

Thanks to “Mean Girls” and its popularity, I think smart humor for young people — especially young women — managed to hit the mainstream in some small way. Shows like “Glee” and films like “Easy A” undoubtedly have “Mean Girls” to thank for their popularity. And, of course, we have Fey to thank for the hundreds of times we were at a loss for words in the last decade and looked to “Mean Girls” to find them. Four for you, Tina Fey. You go, Tina Fey.

Contact Allie Tollaksen at atollaks@nd.edu
Here’s a playlist for Valentine’s Day. Spoiler Alert — it’s depressing. Happy Valentine’s Day.

01 “I’m All Out of Love”
   Air Supply

02 “Hurt”
   Johnny Cash

03 “Everybody Hurts”
   R.E.M.

04 “I Knew You Were Trouble”
   Taylor Swift

05 “How Come U Don’t Call Me Anymore”
   Creed

06 “I Got You Babe”
   Sonny and Cher

07 “I’m Not Crying”
   Flight of the Conchords

08 “With Arms Wide Open”
   Creed

09 “Cry Me a River”
   Justin Timberlake

10 “Irreplaceable”
   Beyoncé

11 “I Got You”
   Beyoncé

12 “Roses”
   Outkast

By PATRICK McMANUS
   Scene Writer

Look, it’s not that I’m desperate to meet someone. I know people. I’d say everything is going fine for me right now. But Valentine’s Day was coming up and asked myself, “What if I did want to meet someone? How would I even do that?”

It isn’t that easy for me to meet people here. I don’t know, maybe it is for some of you. Good for you. I don’t know what a conventional way to meet a new person is. So I thought it would be interesting to try some ways of meeting people that I’m pretty sure are not conventional. You know, just to see how it went.

There is an app called Tinder that shows you pictures of nearby people, perhaps a tagline and any mutual Facebook friends or interests that you have. You choose whether or not you like this person and if you like each other, you can chat. It sounds interesting, doesn’t it? But it is kind of awful. It is the height of superficiality. I don’t know how much information about a person you need to make a reasonable estimation of whether you’d get along, but I think it is more than Tinder gives you.

I started using the app and restricted the search to other users within one mile. Not to brag, but I matched with a couple of people. The conversations were not great, and I took full responsibility for that. Maybe I should have just suggested a lunch date or something? That is the traditional way to get to know someone and I do have confidence in it. But I couldn’t bring myself to do it, to suggest meeting up with anyone from Tinder. I’ve never met in person anyone that I first encountered on the Internet. I know that’s what online dating is, I just haven’t gotten out of the mindset of my youth that it is dangerous, or whatever.

Tinder shows the number of interests you have in common, based on what you have indicated on your Facebook page. Since the things I’ve liked on Facebook are a snapshot of what I was interested in during my junior year of high school, it was interesting to see what overlap I had with people. The movie “Where the Wild Things Are” is way more popular among girls than I would have guessed. And when did I ever go hiking? Why would I like that?

On Feb. 7, I attended Speed Dating at Legends. For two-and-a-half minutes, guys and girls got to know each other. We then marked ‘yes’ or ‘no’ on a sheet, handed the sheet in at the end of the event, and if both parties marked ‘yes’, we got each other’s email addresses. Though speed dating is the older art form, I conceived of it initially only as an in-person Tinder. But that in-person factor makes all the difference.

On the one hand, there is almost a desperation in going to such an event, where the process of meeting each other reduces people to almost cattle, but on the other hand, it is a fun, light-hearted event at which to expand one’s social horizons, all the while winking at the process because we are all cool and ironic.

It was nice to talk to people, to be able to get a sense of them. Of course, something feels wrong, crass almost, about reducing that sense to either a ‘yes’ or a ‘no’. What does that mean? How much should I have to like a person to merit getting to know them more? Is it one of those things where you “just know?”

While it was pleasant to speak to new people, one dilemma that arose was what exactly to say. Would you learn more about a person from their major or what they would bring to a deserted island? The third and final thing I tried to meet people was sitting in LaFortune with a sign that read “Interested in meeting new people.” Immediately after I set the sign up, a beautiful girl came over and we really hit it off. Haha, no, that didn’t happen. It was weird and did not work at all, but also kind of fun. A few strangers did briefly introduce themselves, but for every one of them, two people I already knew came over to demonstrate concern about my welfare. I think the majority of people walking by didn’t notice or care.

While it can be hard to meet people by more conventional methods, I don’t think any of these get-rich-quick schemes are the solution. I’m inclined to let organic interaction and happenstance dictate the formation of my future relationships. Well, for now, at least — there is no telling how long my patience will last.

Contact Patrick McManus at pmcmanus@nd.edu
Nothing beats buzzer-beaters

Kit Loughran  Sports Writer

No matter what teams are playing or who makes the actual shot, the buzzer-beater is arguably the most exciting play in sports. The pure awe and surprise prompted by a buzzer-beating shot make it a moment like no other.

With just seconds left on the clock, watching the ball leave the fingertips of the shooter and travel through the air makes breath stop and hearts skip a beat in anticipation of the swoosh of the net. It be at the end of the game, for the win, to send the game to overtime. Or, it might be just even the end of the quarter. The buzzer-beater never fails to make that temporary moment feel like hours. And the reaction after the ball goes through the hoop — priceless.

The buzzer beater didn’t fail to work its magic Wednesday night in the Syracuse-Pittsburgh game. Freshman guard Tyler Ennis nailed a three-pointer just as time expired to win the game for the Big Orange. Syracuse found itself down by one point with 4.4 seconds to go in the game. Ennis took the rebound pass, and with a split second to decide whether to pass or shoot, decided to shoot. The 35-foot basket kept Syracuse unbeaten on the season with a 58-56 win over Pitt. Wow.

Even if you’re a Pitt fan, you can’t deny how remarkable that buzzer beater was. Syracuse’s 10-2 running lead up to it, the comeback, the clock running down. The intensity made that shot at the buzzer that much better. As the Syracuse team cleared the bench in anticipation of the swoosh of the net, there was no denying the magic in that moment. Whether it’s the NBA Playoffs, the Big Dance, or even a high school game, it’s amazing that a single play can have such an effect on people. And these incredible shots aren’t just forgotten. No, they’re talked about for days, years — even decades to come.

One of the most memorable: Christian Laettner’s buzzer beater that shot at the buzzer that gave Duke a 2-1 win over Kentucky to make it to the 1992 Final Four. It’s overtime with 2.1 seconds left on the clock, Kentucky up 103-102. The odds of Duke getting the ball downtown and into the basket in that amount of time? Not high.

And yet, Hill gets the ball down court to Laettner at the foul line. He turns, dribbles, fakes right, spins, and shoots. Swish. And that’s the ballgame, ladies and gentlemen.

All of a sudden — the joy, awe, disbelief, and horror of the fans in the arena overwhelms the court. Laettner, with arms up, races to midcourt with a smile. The arena was on uproar — and all over a single shot. It really doesn’t matter if it’s top-ranked Duke vs. Kentucky, the team’s rookie, or even Michael Jordan — a buzzer-beater is a buzzer-beater. The awe and disbelief, the crowd’s reaction, the players’ tears of joy and pain — they’re all the same. A buzzer-beater makes the game just that much more exciting.

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

ACC competition begins with matchup against BC

By CHRISTINA KOCHANSKI

The No. 11 Irish make their ACC debut Saturday when they take on No. 20 Boston College. After a lopsided 25-1 win over Cincinnati on Wednesday, Notre Dame will face a talented Eagles squad. Both teams earned a spot in last year’s NCAA tournament but lost in the first round to their respective opponents. Irish junior defender Barbara Sullivan, Eagles junior midfielder Mikaela Rix and Eagles junior attacker Covie Stanwick earned spots on the preseason All-ACC team.

The head coaches of the ACC picked Boston College to finish sixth in the eight-team conference, one spot behind the Irish (1-0). After an exhibition contest against Michigan, the Irish already notched their first win of the regular season against Cincinnati in the season opener. Notre Dame scored 44 goals and conceded eight in the two games combined. Boston College has not played yet this season.

Strong defense and near-perfect goal-tending almost earned the Irish a spotless defensive record against Cincinnati, but the Bearcats snatched away the shutout with a goal in the last minute of the game.

Irish coach Christine Halfpenny said she hopes the victory over Cincinnati will fuel the team going into the rest of the season. "Our plan is to recover, re-focus, and then start off fast against BC on Saturday," Halfpenny said.

Halfpenny said her team will have to replicate the on-field communication she heard against Cincinnati in the upcoming game. "I saw so many players on the same page, talking from the low defenders to the high defenders, the middles behind the line talking to the defend- ers and giving them cues," she said.

"I’m really excited to see that consistent effort that we had today on Saturday against the Eagles.”

The Irish have not played the Eagles in recent years, so the game presents an opportunity for the Irish to make their mark on a new opponent. Boston College is the first ranked ACC team they will face, one of many that will come up against over the course of the season.

The matchup also provides another early test for the Irish freshmen. The roster features 10 freshmen, including attacker and midfielder Courtney Fortunato, who scored four goals and had three assists in the season-opener against Cincinnati. Fortunato tied with sophomore attacker Rachel Sexton in scoring to lead the team. Freshman midfielder Grace Muller also netted three tallies during the game.

Halfpenny said the Irish are focusing on the opportunities and challenges of Saturday’s game, rather than looking ahead to the rest of the season. "With 16 games [in the season], we look at them one at a time," Halfpenny said. "I’m really excited about the potential that we knew we had." The Irish take on the Eagles on Saturday at 1 p.m. at the Loftus Sports Center.

WANTED

Summer nanny job, S. of Boston; ISO energetic, reliable, creative, car- ing ND/SMC student to become part of our family. 5 days a week, some evenings/weekends. 3 boys ages 1, 3, 9. May/June-Aug. Prefer local w/own transportation. DL VALID. Sense of humor required. Love of minivans a must. Interested respond with brief bio/experience to currentstudents@ndboston.com

"I am going to be Cupid. And I am going to shoot my arrow at unsus- pecting victims. And they are going to get hit and say ‘I’m in love! I was hit by Cupid’s arrow!’ Funny little bird but he gets the job done."— MGS

I'm a knock on the door and say: "Hello, I'm Cupid, the angel of love." People are shocked, amazed, and thrilled."— J.R. Epperly, Cupid's representative

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Notre Dame takes on Virginia in strong field

By RENEE GRIFFIN
Sports Writer

No. 16 Notre Dame, along with a host of the nation’s top teams, will travel to Houston, Texas this weekend for the ITA National Indoor Championship. The team’s first match will be against No. 1 Virginia on Friday afternoon.

The Irish (7-1) have faced a number of strong teams already this season, falling only to No. 22 Illinois. The Cavaliers (4-0, 1-0 ACC) will likely be Notre Dame’s most formidable opponents yet, but Irish coach Ryan Sachire said he has confidence in his team.

“Virginia is a really good team, as the defending national champions,” Sachire said. “They have a significant number of their players back. We are very familiar with Virginia, our coaching staff knows their coaching staff very well. Obviously they’re a great team. That being said, we also believe in ourselves quite a bit, and we know that when we get going we can beat anyone.”

Coming off of a win Tuesday at Northwestern, Notre Dame will have traveled from South Bend to Evanston to South Bend to Houston in one week. Mental preparation will be a vital part of the preparation with such a short turnaround, Sachire said.

“Our goals are to play our best tennis and more importantly to bring an identity of greatness,” he said. “We’re really emphasized with our team the process and focusing on what it takes to be the best. More importantly, we’re going to be ourselves and when we get on the court, we’ll exude confidence and show that we’re the greatest team there.”

In addition to developing a tough team mindset, Notre Dame’s experience this season lining up against some highly-ranked teams will give them an edge over their opponents, according to Sachire.

“I really believe that no one in the country has played as many competitive matches as we have,” Sachire said. “It seems like we’ve been in five or six dogfights already this year and for the most part we’ve succeeded. So that’s a big advantage we have over teams that haven’t played in such competitive environments. This group has experienced those moments.”

Leadership will be another contributor to success for the Irish. After the tough loss at Illinois, senior captain Greg Andrews experienced a slight slump, falling in both his singles and doubles matches against Northwestern. However, Sachire expressed complete faith in Andrews and his abilities to overcome the tough moments.

“I honestly believe that our senior captain Greg Andrews is going to step up and have a great weekend,” Sachire said.

“He’s struggled a little bit lately, his team has won some matches when maybe Greg hasn’t, but Greg is one of the very best players in the country and I’m expecting him to get back on track this weekend and play a key role in what we want to do.”

As the last seed in the 16-team tournament, Notre Dame may be considered the underdog, especially up against No. 1 Virginia. Yet Sachire was un-fazed and said “we’ve got as much a chance as anyone to win.”

“Every single team down there, including us, is really good,” Sachire said. “It’s a challenge for everybody to go against the top teams of the nation. But like I said, we have an advantage because of the high-quality teams we’ve already played.”

“Every Irish will face the Cavaliers at 3 p.m. on Friday with the potential of playing in the quarterfinals on Saturday, the semifinals on Sunday and the finals on Monday.

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Irish to play three in Fla.

By EVAN ANDERSON
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will travel to Florida for a trio of games over two days this weekend at the Jacksonville University Tournament.

The Irish (3-1) were originally scheduled to play a pair of games against Missouri, but inclement weather prevented the Tigers from making the trip. Instead, Notre Dame will play a pair of morning games against Louisville (3-2) with a Saturday afternoon match-up against host Jacksonville (3-2) sandwiched between.

No. 23 Louisville is plenty familiar to the Irish coach Deanna Gumpf and her team. Last season, the Irish took two out of three against the ninth-ranked Cardinals in the regular season’s final series, to clinch the Big East regular season crown in each team’s final year in the conference. The Irish finished 19-3 in the conference and just one game ahead of the Cardinals in the regular season’s third and final matchup. That win clinched a 13th Big East regular season title in eighteen years and bumped the Cardinals down to third place.

With so much history between the two teams, Gumpf said she is excited to face such a familiar opponent so early in the season.

“It’s just like old times,” Gumpf said. “We have played them consistently for the last (many) years now... it will be just like going back to conference last year.”

The Cardinals did drop a pair of games in their opening weekend at the Florida Atlantic University Kickoff Classic against Tulsa and host FAU, but redeemed their weekend with a 7-0 shutout victory over St. John’s and a gritty 5-4 eight-inning victory over Ohio State.

But regardless of Louisville’s early season results, Gumpf said she and her team are expecting a battle.

“We know them really well, and they know us really well,” Gumpf said. “For us, it’s just going to be a matter of getting it done.”

The Irish also play Saturday against Jacksonville, whose opening weekend included a pair of wins over another ACC team, Maryland. The Dolphins finished seventh in the Atlantic Sun last season at 11-15 and 30-22 overall and were tabbed by conference coaches to finish seventh again this year.

Gumpf said her staff did not have much of a scouting report on Jacksonville, who the Irish were not scheduled to play until the schedule had to be shaken up on Thursday.

“It’s tough to know what to expect, because they are only a week out and we weren’t planning to play them until today,” Gumpf said. “But we will be ready.”

The Irish entered the weekend having notched three victories and a loss of their own last weekend at the Plainsman Invitational in Auburn, Ala. The weekend included a pair of shutout wins for sophomore starter Allie Rhodes — including a no-hitter in a five-inning 9-0 victory over Morehead State — and wrapped up with a gritty 3-2 victory in eight innings over Auburn in the Tigers’ home park. The Irish got eight solid innings from the senior winter, and junior centerfielder and ESPNW preseason All-American Emilee Koerner spearheaded the comeback with a home run and two RBI in the game.

Gumpf said she was particularly encouraged by the effort against Auburn.

“There were two reasons I liked Sunday to finish off the weekend,” Gumpf said. “One, we came from behind. And two, we battled the entire game. Both of those are great signs for us, particularly early on.”

The Irish face Louisville at 9:30 a.m. Saturday and battle Jacksonville on their home turf at 5:00 p.m. before taking on the Cardinals again at 9:30 a.m. Sunday to wrap up the three-game set.

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Florida Atlantic to host Notre Dame’s opener

By AARON SANT-MILLER
Sports Writer

This weekend, Notre Dame will travel south toward warmer weather to kick off its 2014 season against Florida Atlantic. The Irish will play two games on Saturday followed by a third game on Sunday, all against the Owls. “We’re going to get into the warm weather and play games that count right away,” Irish coach Mik Aoki said. “It will be nice, though. It will be a nice respite from playing indoors at Loftus. We played a lot of scrimmages. I think it’s time for us to look at a different uniform and some sunshine while we’re playing, as opposed to fluorescent lighting.”

This will be Notre Dame’s first year competing in the ACC. Last season, the Irish finished 34-24 and their time in the Big East came to a close with a loss to Connecticut in the conference championship game.

Likewise, Florida Atlantic will be competing in a new conference. After spending the last seven seasons in the Sun Belt Conference, the Owls will transition this year to Conference USA. Last season, the Owls went 42-22 and nearly advanced to a Super Regional before losing to North Carolina in their regional final to conclude the season.

“[Florida Atlantic] is a good team,” Aoki said. “They are a team that was one out away from eliminating a national seed in North Carolina to go to a Super Regional last year. I’m sure they’re looking at it as an opportunity missed.”

Though both teams are trying to make their own mark in their respective new conferences, Aoki said a non-conference game still holds significant value for the Irish. “I think for a team that has gone through some transition, this is good for us,” Aoki said. “I think it’s a good test to see where we are and see some of these things.”

With a significant number of returning players, the Owls are projected to finish second in Conference USA by the league coaches’ preseason poll. Additionally, the Owls’ junior pitcher Austin Gomber found a spot on the preseason All-Conference team.

“They return a decent chunk of that team and they’re older,” Aoki said. “They’ve got a lot of junior college guys who are playing in their second year. Those guys have played a lot of baseball and they’re a talented group. I don’t know if there are one or two guys that jump off the page at you, but they’ve got a bunch of guys who are good, solid Division-I, professional-prospect type players.”

Nonetheless, Notre Dame will welcome the challenge early in their season, as the Irish look to compete in a highly competitive conference this year.

“It doesn’t get any easier going into the ACC,” Aoki said. “This is the caliber of opponent we’re going to be facing week-in and week-out. We might as well go ahead and get used to it.”

With a three-game series in store, the Irish will begin their 2014 campaign at 1 p.m. on Saturday in Boca Raton, Fla., against Florida Atlantic.

Contact Aaron Sant-Miller at asantmil@nd.edu
Lacrosse
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15
had a good chance to not only get better but really see their own strengths and weaknesses, so that makes them more of a challenge to us.”

The Dolphins might have had the extra opportunity to evaluate themselves, but the Irish bring their own advantages to the match. Even with new underclassmen faces joining the squad, the Irish have substantial on-field experience. Notre Dame returns two prominent defensive starters, seniors Stephen O’Hara and Brian Buglione, and two starters on attack, sophomore Matt Kavanagh and junior Conor Doyle.

O’Hara, who helped head an Irish defense that ranked 10th nationally with an average of 0.31 goals against last season and was recently drafted to Major League Lacrosse, earned preseason first-team All-American honors at the end of January. Kavanagh’s exceptional rookie campaign included a team-high 32 goals and 16 assists and earned him third-team All-American honors for this preseason.

“Heading into this game against Jacksonville, we know that we need to start strong in the first game of the season because it will probably dictate how a lot of the rest of the season will go,” Glazener said.

“I really think we are going to be pretty good this year.”

With well-founded confidence, Notre Dame opens its season against Jacksonville on Sunday.

Contact Kit Loughran at kloughr1@nd.edu

Hockey
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16
said. “We know if we stick to our game and to the little things — getting pucks and bodies to the net — that’s how we’re going to win games.”

While Notre Dame had been languishing before Saturday, Providence (15-8-5, 7-6-1) also has run into its own cold stretch, losing three in a row and going just 2-6-2 in its last ten games.

Still, the Friars are a potent and dangerous squad backstopped by sophomore goaltender and first-team hockey east selection Jon Gillies, maintaining a top-ten ranking despite a lackluster last month.

“Obviously, they’ve shown that they’re a great team,” Tynan said. “They’ve struggled, and we have too. I think both teams will be really desperate, and the intensity level is going to be very high on Friday night. It’ll be a good weekend for both teams.”

Both squads will be fighting for byes and seeding in the hockey east tournament in this game, creating a playoff-like atmosphere, Tynan said.

“If guys aren’t feeling that way, somebody better tell them it’s playoff time because these games are just as important,” he said. “I think the older guys definitely realize what’s at stake, and the younger guys do too.”

With a tough month in the rearview mirror, the Irish will look to seize the momentum gathered in the final minutes of the third period against Maine and use it to propel them to a much-needed sweep of Providence before a final home series with Boston University and a season-ending visit to Boston College.

“I think for our team, we get confidence from that game,” Rust said. “We hadn’t been performing as well as we wanted, especially in hockey east games. So going on the road this weekend, confidence is huge for us because we’re 1-6 on the road in hockey east, which isn’t nearly where we want to be.”

“Like T.J., I think this is playoff time. We can’t afford to lose any more games.”

The Irish take the ice tonight at Schneider Arena in Providence, R.I., and will conclude the series Saturday night. Both games will begin at 7 p.m.

Contact Conor Kelly at ckelly17@nd.edu
Notre Dame shot 53.6 percent from the field, although Boston College (12-14, 3-9) was not far behind with a 51.0 percent mark. The Irish came into the game leading the country in field goal percentage with 51.8 percent shooting and leading the ACC in total offense with 87.7 points per game.

McGraw said she thought Notre Dame had good shot selection but could have done better from behind the three-point-line, where the Irish hit two of eight attempts. The Irish also lead the nation in three-point shooting percentage with a clip of 43.6 percent.

“1 though we shot the ball pretty well,” McGraw said. “[But] we didn’t shoot as well from the three-point-line ... We were a little out of our rhythm. It was a hard game for us to play because we had already beaten them by more than 40 at ND.”

Notre Dame defeated the Eagles, 95-53, on Jan. 9.

On Thursday, the largest discrepancy in scoring stats came in the free throw category. Notre Dame sank 20 free throws compared to just eight for the Eagles.

Irish junior guard Madison Cable dives for a loose ball during Notre Dame’s 101-64 win over Syracuse on Feb. 9. (Photo: The Observer)

Irish sophomore guard Jewell Loyd opened the second half with a steal from Eagles freshman guard Kelly Hughes, and Notre Dame struck first in the half on a layup from senior forward Natalie Achonwa to widen its lead to 43-20.

The Irish went on to outscore Boston College 41-35 in the second half, a margin largely propelled by McBride, Loyd and Achonwa.

All three scored in double digits, with McBride’s 19 points leading the way. Loyd deposited 18 points and Achonwa notched 13. Freshman forward Taya Reimer added nine points and has developed into a consistent producer for the Irish with 8.5 points per game, which puts her in the top five in total offense on the team.

McGraw said Reimer has made solid improvements this season and provides depth for the Irish.

“I was really happy with Taya tonight,” McGraw said. “She was really aggressive.”

McGrw added praise for McBride’s performance as well and for her consistent play over the course of the season.

For the Eagles, junior guard and forward Kat Cooper and senior forward/center Katie Zenevitch led in scoring with 13 and 12 points respectively.

The Irish return home for a conference contest against Georgia Tech on Monday at 7 p.m. at Purcell Pavilion.

Contact Samantha Zuba at szuba@nd.edu

M Basketball

scorer sophomore guard Olivier Hanlan to just five points on 2-for-5 shooting.

Hanlan averages 18.1 points per game after earning ACC Freshman of the Year honors a season ago.

In the first game against Boston College, Brey said the Irish defended the 3-point line well. The Eagles connected on 7 of 21 of their 3-pointers.

“We did a heck of a job here controlling the 3-point arc,” Brey said. “They didn’t crush us from there. They are the best 3-point shooting team in the league ... You have to guard the arc.”

Boston College is currently eighth in the ACC with a field-goal percentage of 35.0 from beyond the 3-point line. While the Irish will be searching for their first road win, they will also be looking for their first winning streak of 2014. Notre Dame has not won consecutive games since beating Canisius (Dec. 29) and Duke (Jan. 4). The Irish beat Clemson 68-64 in double-overtime Tuesday night.

“1-1 weeks ain’t bad for this team right now, but let’s try and be greedy and get a 2-0 week,” Brey said.

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**Horoscope**

Happy Birthday! Thread down the path of least resistance. Getting into the groove and feeling comfortable as you move along will be half the battle. Opportunities will encroach as long as you take care of business and secure your position. As long as you remain positive, your satisfaction’s been searching for you. Your numbers are 3, 5, 12, 26, 32, 39.

**Aries** (March 21–April 19): Complete unfinished business, then take a little time to do the things you enjoy so as to renew your strength. Make plans or find a way to build up your assets. Invest, make a move or set up a new business. ❄️

**Taurus** (April 20–May 20): Avoid meddlers trying to find out about your personal life. Settle into the things you do and find that you enjoy spending time with most. Make changes to your home, but ask for approvals if you will affect others. ☃️

**Gemini** (May 21–June 20): Talk will get you what you want. Your charm, coupled with your confident way of expressing your ideas, will draw attention and should result in offers. Be sure you don’t exaggerate or promise something you cannot deliver. 🎤

**Cancer** (June 21–July 22): Expect to experience changes regarding how you earn your living. Don’t let anything or anyone upset you or cause you to falter when you should be focused on doing the best job possible. Overreacting will be your downfall. 🌷

**Leo** (July 23–Aug. 22): Leave important decisions until you feel certain you are making the right choice. A change of scenery will help you clear your mind, giving you a fresh look at old problems. Be careful with money and possessions. Loss is likely. 🌟

**Virgo** (Aug. 23–Sept. 22): Take charge. Don’t be afraid to express what you want and your plan for making your dreams come true. Include the people you care about in your plans and you will find a way to get things done faster. Love is highlighted. 🎆

**Libra** (Sept. 23–Oct. 22): Take note of how others are reacting. Listen carefully, remain calm and look for reasonable solutions that will buy you the time and the freedom to do the things that interest you the most. Use your intuitive intelligence and you will get your way. 🎨

**Scorpio** (Oct. 23–Nov. 21): Learn from past mistakes. Don’t let emotions interfere with decisions that can influence how much you earn or the way you do business. Be creative and handle domestic matters unconventional, and you will bypass or put an end to any trouble you face. 🎠

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22–Dec. 21): Take care of medical, financial or legal problems before they escalate. It’s important to make necessary changes at home, where you are forced on one situation or the other. An investment plan will show you something good in return. 🎶

**Capricorn** (Dec. 22–Jan. 19): Do whatever needs to be done. Asking for help or depending on someone else will lead to disappointment. Your information regarding a financial matter is skewed. Do your research before you spend on something that can influence your assets. 🎉

**Aquarius** (Jan. 20–Feb. 18): Be confused by what others do or say. Rely on your own resources to find out exactly what you need to know in order to close a deal or invest in something of interest. Romance will improve your personal life. 🎉

**Pisces** (Feb. 19–March 20): Not be confused by what others do or say. Rely on your own resources to find out exactly what you need to know in order to close a deal or invest in something of interest. Romance will improve your personal life. 🎉

**Birthday Baby:** You are courageous, just and unpredictable. You learn from experience. 🎂

**Jumble!** David Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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

```
  KITION
  NYC
  WISE
  WML
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ANSWERS:

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**Crossword**

**Across**

1. Pets named for their British Isles origin
9. Anger
15. Question before and after “or”
16. Madrid-Banjulas Airport carrier
17. Fry cook’s concern
18. Symbols of impending trouble
19. “Right!”
21. Brooklyn pizza
22. Back covers
29. Wall St. Journal news subjects
36. Vegetable that’s often fried
37. Was short
38. A.A.A. courses
39. Something to chew on
40. Chip, say

**Down**

1. “No” ...
4. Souce (ring)
6. Concert memento
8. What you might do quite a bit reading on?
10. ... cheese
11. Gaunt
12. Madhouses
14. Several Rodin
17. 1978 and 1986 World Cup winner: Abbr.
18. Fearsome figure in Greek myth
20. Love it when for

**Sudoku**

The Mepham Group

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**Crypto**

**Happy Valentine’s Day**

“Encourage yourself, believe in yourself, and love yourself.”

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**Controll Chaos**

Hillary Mangiaforte

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**Horoscope I Eugenia Last**

**Crossword I Will Shortzt**

**Sudoku I The Mepham Group**

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**Daily**

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The observer

The No. 2 Irish rolled through yet another ACC matchup, setting a record for the best start to a season in program history with a definitive 82-61 win Thursday over Boston College in Chestnut Hill, Mass.

With its 24th win, Notre Dame (24-0, 11-0 ACC) bested the season-opening winning streak of the 2000-01 squad, which went on to win the NCAA Tournament.

The Irish have won their last 30 conference games.

Despite this accomplishment, Irish coach Muffet McGraw said her team has to keep pushing forward.

“It doesn’t mean a thing,” McGraw said. “Time will tell if this is the best team ever. We’ve got a lot of games left to play.”

Irish crush BC to move to 24-0 for best start in program history

By SAMANTHA ZUBA
Sports Writer

Irish head to R.I. for crucial series

By CONOR KELLY
Sports Writer

Coming off of a win over Maine on Saturday night in which senior forward Bryan Rust scored the tying and game-winning goals in the final two minutes, the No. 20 Irish travel to Providence for a crucial two-game series with the Friars beginning tonight.

Notre Dame (16-12-1, 5-9-1 Hockey East) currently sits tied for eighth place with Massachusetts, and, with just five conference games remaining, is rapidly running out of time to make an end-of-season push. Senior forward T.J. Tynan said that reality has created a sense of urgency on the team.

“I think we all know the importance of this weekend. We know that we need to get two wins against a very good Providence team,” Tynan said.

“I think it’s just carrying over that energy from the last two minutes on Saturday into this week. The guys have had a lot of energy and looked good in practice this week.”

Saturday’s win snapped a three-game losing streak for the Irish, including beating unranked New Hampshire on the road. Notre Dame has just three road wins this season and will look for crucial series against Compton Family Ice Arena.

“It feels like there’s a little bit of a monkey on our back that we have to shake off,” Rust said.

Irish sophomore forward Austin Burgett goes up for a shot during Notre Dame’s 70-63 win over Virginia Tech on Jan. 19.

Irish sophomore guard Jewell Loyd dribbles the ball during Notre Dame’s 101-64 win over Syracuse in Purcell Pavilion on Feb. 9.

“It doesn’t mean a thing,” McGraw said. “Time will tell if this is the best team ever. We’ve got a lot of games left to play.”

ND looks to sweep Eagles

By MATTHEW DeFRANKS
Assistant Managing Editor

Notre Dame will try again to earn its first road win of the season when it heads to Boston College on Sunday.

The Irish (13-12, 4-8 ACC) are 0-6 on the road and have only one win away from Purcell Pavilion — a December neutral-site win over Indiana in Indianapolis.

The Irish have been competitive in their road contests, though, losing their ACC road games by an average of 5.6 points. Notre Dame’s largest road loss was an eight-point loss to Maryland.

“Every one of them, we’ve had our chances on the road, which has been frustrating,” Irish coach Mike Brey said.

Notre Dame beat the Eagles (6-18, 2-9) less than two weeks ago behind senior guard Eric Atkins’ 24 points and game-winning 3-pointer with one second left in overtime. Atkins’ three lifted the Irish to a 76-73 win.

Irish junior guard/forward Pat Connaughton added 17 points while sophomore forward Zach Auguste and freshman forward V.J. Beachem each scored 10.

Eagles junior forward Ryan Anderson led Boston College with 21 points and six rebounds but the Irish held leading ND Women’s Basketball at Boston College

see HOCKEY PAGE 13

see M BASKETBALL PAGE 14