NDFS provides new food options

By BIANCA ALMADA
News Writer

Say goodbye to Greenfields and Irish Ink and welcome Au Bon Pain Express, Einstein Bros. Bagels, Starbucks Coffee and a new catering service offered by Notre Dame Food Services this school year.

Greenfields, the cafe formerly located in the Hesburgh Center for International Studies, ceased operations Aug. 22, associate director of Retail Food Service Operations Mark King said. An Au Bon Pain (ABP) Express will take over the location at the end of this month, following minor renovations. The location will offer many of the same pre-packaged sandwiches, salads and fresh pastries available in the Hesburgh library branch and the hours — 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on weekdays — will remain the same.

“The Greenfields change was in response to continuing declining customer transactions and a change in patron dining patterns over a number of years,” director of Notre Dame Food Services, Chris Abayasinghe said.

Some students were excited about the expansion of ABP but voiced their disappointment at the loss of Greenfields.

“Greenfields offered diversity in food to campus, and although I like ABP, Greenfields will be sorely missed,” junior Laura LeBruns said.

“The best grilled cheese on campus is now gone,” junior Lisa Wuertz added.

The space that served as Greenfields’ kitchen area for 23 years will be converted for ABP catering, which will make a new catering menu available for campus events. Box lunches for events will be replaced by ABP bag lunches, Abayasinghe said. This change is in conjunction with the University’s launching of the Center for Culinary Excellence (CCE), which is set to release new catering menus on Monday.

“We serve over 8,000 events per year, and a majority of these events were coming out of our kitchen at North Dining Hall,” Abayasinghe said. “The catering program outgrew the infrastructure at NDH, and we made the investment at CCE after careful thought and review.”

Food service changes also are underway at two locations of the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore. Einstein Bros. Bagels will replace Irish Ink in the campus bookstore with an expected opening date of Nov. 10, Abayasinghe said. Renovation of the space is scheduled to begin Oct. 20. When completed, the branch will offer a full menu, and its hours will align with those of the bookstore. David Werda,

University updates academic policies

Professors granted discretion over excused absences

By JACK ROONEY
Associate News Editor

This semester, the University initiated a new excused absence policy to include religious holy days, official military duties and mandatory off-campus legal proceedings and to exclude mild illness, such as a headache or cold, Cathy Pieronek, assistant dean for undergraduate studies, said. A new excused absence policy was initiated at Notre Dame in response to continuing declining student attendance.

“we serve over 8,000 events per year, and a majority of these events were coming out of our kitchen at North Dining Hall,” Abayasinghe said. “The

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QUESTION OF THE DAY:
Which Super Smash Bros. character do you play as?

**Erin Bishop**
Junior
Walsh Hall
“100 percent Captain Falcon.”

**Ryan Busk**
Sophomore
Dillon Hall
“Ike.”

**Douglas Ansel**
Graduate Student
“Kirby.”

**Maggie Blake**
Sophomore
Walsh Hall
“Jigglypuff. She/he’s so underrated.”

**Josh Dempsey**
Junior
Duncan Hall
“Pikachu.”

**Erin Reilly**
Sophomore
Welsh Family Hall
“Yoshi.”

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The news is reported accurately and objectively as possible. Opinions expressed represent the opinions of the majority of the editor-in-Chief, Managing Editor, Assistant Managing Editors and department editors. Comments, editorials, letters and columns present the views of the authors and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Viewpoint space is available to all readers. The free expression of all opinions through letters is encouraged. Letters to the editor must be signed and must include contact information.

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**Thursday:**
Second Annual Fro-Yo Social
LaFortune Student Center
1 p.m.
Open to the public.
Mindful Meditation
Coleman - Morse Center
6:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.
All faith traditions are welcome.

**Friday:**
ND Band: Trumpets under the Dome
Main Building
4:40 p.m. - 4:40 p.m.
Kick off for home football weekend.
Football Pep Rally
To Be Announced
6 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Cheer on the Irish as they prepare to face Michigan.

**Saturday:**
Notre Dame Football
Notre Dame Stadium
7:30 p.m. - 11 p.m.
Final matchup between storied rivals.
Saturday Vigil Mass
Basics of the Sacred Heart
4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Mass preceding football game.

**Sunday:**
La Misa en Espanol
Dillon Hall Chapel
1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Mass is celebrated in Spanish. Mass will be followed by a lunch.
Film: The Great Gatsby
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
3 p.m. - 5 p.m.
$4 entry for students.

**Today's Staff**

**Correction:**
The Observer regrets itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at (574) 631-4541 so we can correct our error.
NDSP arrests four, Excise issues tickets

By LESLEY STEVENSON
News Editor

Notre Dame Security Police (NDSP) arrested four individuals Saturday in the midst of festivities surrounding the Notre Dame football team’s season opener against Rice, Police Chief Phil Johnson said.

“Police made three custodial arrests Saturday at or near the stadium,” Johnson said. “One man was arrested for theft and public intoxication, the other two for public intoxication. Postgame, a man was arrested for shoplifting, [or] theft.”

Johnson said NDSP saw no traffic-related incidents.

“Traffic ran smoothly and there were no reported crashes,” he said.

Despite “challenging weather” throughout the weekend, the University welcomed thousands of fans to campus starting Friday, according to Mike Seamon, associate vice president for campus safety.

“It was great home opener weekend capped off by a big victory for the Irish,” Seamon said. “...The weather on Saturday continued to be challenge as rain and storms continued to just miss campus all afternoon.”

“We felt that Our Lady on the Dome was watching out for us as we were able to get the game in without incident,” Seamon said.

NDSP reported more than 8,000 people gathered in front of the Rockne Memorial for the season’s first pep rally, which was held despite rain showers in the hours immediately before the event.

“The first rally of the season has been held in front of the Rock for the past several years and it was great to see another strong student turnout to cheer on their classmates,” he said.

Other football-related special events enjoyed similarly high attendance, Seamon said.

“Despite the persistent rain on Friday afternoon we had over 3,600 fans and visitors go down to the turf to catch a first glimpse of the new FieldTurf,” he said. “The traditional Friday football luncheon held in the North Dome of the Joyce [Athletic and Convocation] Center and over 600 people in attendance.”

“Overall it was a very successful first home game weekend and we are eagerly looking forward to this upcoming weekend and the game against Michigan,” Seamon said.

Contact Lesley Stevenson at lsteven1@nd.edu

Power outage darkens campus

By LESLEY STEVENSON
News Editor

A power outage across campus left several dorms and classrooms in the dark Wednesday morning, but campus officials have not yet determined the cause, according to an email sent from Paul Kempf, director of utilities and maintenance.

The email was sent to building managers and rectors Wednesday afternoon.

While performing a minor maintenance activity this morning at our electrical substation an unexpected and currently unexplained anomaly resulted in a power outage across campus all afternoon.

“If you’re doing something and you don’t necessarily need to have it on after nine o’clock, you can turn it off,” he said.

Brown said the outage was not related to the Aug. 20 partial collapse of a cooling cell in the University’s steam generation system, which provides cool water for campus air conditioning.

Contact Lesley Stevenson at lsteven1@nd.edu
The BEST OF LaFortune

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Thursday, September 4, 2014
9:00PM - 12:00AM

3 Grand Prizes
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STUDENT ACTIVITIES FACILITIES
lafortune.nd.edu
The Moreau Art Galleries of Saint Mary’s launched a new exhibit Wednesday featuring four distinct art pieces by collaborating artists Ryan Griffis and Sarah Ross. The art pieces are inspired by globalization and industrialization of rural towns, Griffis said. Ross and Griffis agreed the exhibit takes a “poetic” angle on metropolitan, cosmopolitan, urban landscapes.

The largest installation, “Global Cities, Model Worlds” is located in Little Theater and Sister Rosaire Gallery. Ross said the multidimensional and interactive piece focuses on “the spatial and social impacts of mega-events, specifically Olympic games.”


“The artists write that the host cities of these international spectacles seek to transform themselves into ‘global cities’ serving tourism, architecture and ideology,” Tiffany Johnson Bidler, the director of the galleries, said. “Locally, these events pave the way for redevelopment projects that can create new public spaces, such as parks, stadiums or transportation infrastructure but often result in significant displacement of tributaries and urban core, reinforcing existing inequalities.”

According to Ross’s website, the video trilogy is an experimental take on a rural Midwestern town of 6,000 people, “a place of global exchange and international mobility.”

Small Midwestern cities are a hub for industries hoping to avoid urban regulations and immigrants seeking employment, Ross said. This exhibit is evident in Beavestown, Ill. The city’s major industry, a slaughterhouse, hired migrants from Mexico before turning to immigrants from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Togo, Senegal, Puerto Rico and other Caribbean locales for new workers, Ross said.

“The exhibit is a result of time and effort on the parts of Griffis and Ross, Bidler said. ‘The artists installed their own show for the most part in this case, and it took them two days,’ Bidler said. ‘They drove in from Chicago. The gallery assistant and I were responsible for wall labels, text and promotion of the event.’

This exhibition is free and open to the public until Oct. 31.

Contact Macaila DeMario at mdemario001@saintmarys.edu

**Professor analyzes Brazil’s political climate**

As Brazil prepares for its Oct. 5 presidential election, the Kellogg Institute welcomed Marcus Melo, professor of political science at the Federal University of Pernambuco in Brazil, to discuss his preliminary analysis of the country’s increasingly visible popular political discontent.

“My point is that Brazil is at the verge of something important — there’s something big going on here,” Melo said. “There’s this massive extractive capacity in the political system here, and this has generated all sorts of reactions.”

Melo focused his discussion on one particular reaction, “the rise of the citizen as a dissatisfied or disgruntled customer.”

Presidente hopefuls blame Brazil’s social unrest at least in part on current institutions, but other factors like public attitude contribute to the changing political landscape, Melo said.

“Political malaise in Brazil is not primarily a problem of dysfunctional institutions, although there is clearly some institutional sources of frustration,” he said. “There are also a number of non-institutional … [which] should require more attention than the literature on even the public discussions has recognized.”

“Civic cynicism is, at the bottom, a root cause of much of the discontent in Brazil,” Melo said. “These days, we find taxi drivers talking about taxes being very high, and how unfair is the way we have treated the poor of Brazil … and now, this is pretty common.”

Melo described how, in more than 800 cities across the country, illuminated signs outside of businesses show current levels of taxation, which has in a sense translates the issue of taxes into the language of the people.

“There is this thought that Brazil is not very highly taxed, everything has outrageous prices, so everybody talks about that — so they don’t talk about taxes, you know? But they talk about the prices being too high,” he said.

When taxes are interpreted as prices, they suddenly enter into everyday conversation, Melo said. The coalitions behind this growing public interest too — governmental corruption is second only to healthcare as a concern of the average citizen, although increased government spending has led to social improvement, he said.

“All the social spending categories have been growing at almost 3 percent a year,” Melo said. This has generated “very impressive outcomes in very specific areas,” he said.

“The poor have never had it so good in Brazil is witnessing the emergence of ‘a new fiscal, social contract where people would be prepared to tax themselves for services.’” Melo said, but the current exchange rate is highly unpalatable. Brazil already has “a tax burden higher than the U.S., closer to [that of] the U.K.,” but the government continues to raise taxes, he said.

“I personally predict that there will be, for the first time, massive low turnout (at the upcoming election),” Melo said. “I personally know people who have always voted, who have said, ‘This time, I will not vote.’”

Contact Elena Gacek at egacek@nd.edu

**Lab for Economic Opportunities receives grant**

The Wilson Sheehan Foundation has made a $15-million gift to the Wilson Sheehan Lab for Economic Opportunities (LEO), a new University initiative aimed at reducing poverty in the United States.

“The Wilson Sheehan Foundation is interested in empowering women, children, and families to permanently improve their quality of life, which is exactly what [LEO] hopes[es] to do for families most in need,” William Evans, Keough-Hessburg Professor of Economics and co-founder of LEO, said. “[LEO] could not ask for a better partner in this endeavor.”

LEO evaluates the effectiveness of programs focused on alleviating poverty, improves the ways that such services are provided and their respective policies, associate professor of economics and co-founder of LEO, James Sullivan, said.

“What we do is work differently with service providers to set up a rigorous evaluation of the programs and use that evidence to identify effective programs,” Sullivan said. “Once we’ve identified effective programs, we disseminate that information broadly across the network of service providers so that it has a broad national impact.”

LEO started out of a partnership with Catholic Charities USA, the largest private provider of anti-poverty programs in the United States, Sullivan said.

“Most of the money initially will be used to expand our staff,” Evans said. “We hope to add some PhD economists, a managing director, and some recent graduates as research associates.”

The money will also go toward tackling more projects, Sullivan said.

“With the support of the Wilson Sheehan Foundation, we will be able to considerably scale up the size of our staff, which will allow us to implement a lot more projects at the same time,” Sullivan said. “We will be able to scale up our operations, have a much broader impact, in terms of the size and diversity of our projects, and also do a much better job of disseminating this information to the research community and organizations.”

The endowment by the Wilson Sheehan Foundation will help LEO become a serious force in poverty reduction, John McGreevy, I.A. O’Shaughnessy dean of the College of Arts and Letters, said, according to a press release. “LEO exemplifies the University’s commitment to use research and scholarship to make real changes in the lives of the disadvantaged by improving the effectiveness of the programs that serve them.”

Contact Kayla Mullen at kmullen2@nd.edu
Senate meets to discuss PE changes

By JESSICA MERDES
News Writer

Senate met Wednesday night to discuss the new freshman requirements for physical education with Dean Hugh Page of the First Year of Studies Program.

It recently was announced that a class focusing on overall wellness will replace the physical education requirement for freshman.

"It is important that academic programs at every university undergo review every so often to make sure that you are on point with goals, able to serve evolving needs for students and that deep and sustained learning of all kinds is able to take place," Page said.

Page said the still-developing course will re-brand the University’s wellness initiative, an undertaking necessary because the landscape, challenges and stresses of being a student today are different than they were 10 years ago.

The group addressed Page with its questions and concerns about the new course. Jake Wittenberg, representative for St. Edward’s Hall, raised concerns regarding the level of student involvement in the decision-making process.

“As we move along with plans, we hope to continue and deepen student involvement and involve Student Government at a higher level,” Page said.

Contact Jessica Merdes at jmerdes@nd.edu

Policy

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

University-excused absences, planned absences and unplanned absences.

Pieronek said the most significant change for students is the process for obtaining an excused absence for personal illness.

“We have completely changed the way student personal illness is managed,” she said. “For non-acute illness such as a mild cold or stomachache or headache, students are expected to attend class. For acute or contagious illnesses, the absence must be excused if a treatment provider indicates that the student should not be in class.

“For chronic illnesses the Disability Services Office will determine the appropriate action. Also, rectors are no longer allowed to notify faculty of a student’s personal illness. Only a treatment provider may provide documentation of a personal illness.”

The new policy, which is part of the Undergraduate Academic Code, specifies that the University must provide professors with at least a week’s notice for a planned absence.

Pieronek said students who miss class for official University business will not see any change in procedure. The Office of Student Affairs still will handle all University-business absence requests, as well as excused absences for death or serious illness in the family.

The old policy included only death in a student’s immediate family but has been expanded to include a family member’s serious illness.

Pieronek said the new policy also formalizes the procedure for seniors missing class for job or graduate school interviews.

“We have formalized a policy to allow excused absences for seniors who are going for job or grad school interviews that the student is unable to reschedule,” she said. “This policy was in place informally for several years, but we have made it formal by including it in the Undergraduate Academic Code. It also restricts this particular excused absence to two class days per semester.”

Seniors are expected to minimize these types of absences and use fall, winter and spring breaks to schedule interviews.

Pieronek said the changes became necessary after professors and other faculty members observed a startling spike in student absences in recent years.

“We were noticing a major increase in the number of excused absences for illnesses,” she said. “In engineering, for example, the number of excused absences for illnesses tripled between 2011-12 and 2012-13. The number of students didn’t triple, but the number of absences did, and it caught our attention.

“I know Business experienced something similar. It was clear that excuses for personal illnesses were becoming an epidemic.”

Other professors, Pieronek said, said they did not need as many excused absence notifications from deans of affairs and Student Affairs.

“Professors who didn’t have absence policies were telling us that they didn’t need the excuses, so we were doing unnecessary work notifying them, but we didn’t know who did and who didn’t need the excuses, so we notified everyone,” she said.

Pieronek also said professors complained that students did not give them absence notifications in a timely manner, and therefore the time limits went into effect in the new policy.

In essence, Pieronek said the new rules aim to streamline the excused absence policy by focusing it on the relationship between professors and students.

“The new policy requires students and faculty to communicate directly about absences, rather than relying on an e-mail or memo from a dean to communicate an absence,” she said. “Faculty are in charge of classroom policies at all times, so it only made sense to have faculty directly involved in managing absences in their own classes.

“From an educational perspective, we want students to know that the sum total of any excused absence policy is the policy as written in the Undergraduate Academic Code, plus whatever the instructor puts on the syllabus.”

Contact Jack Rooney at jrooney1@nd.edu

Food

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

director of retail operations, hopes the brand’s popularity will bring new life to the store.

The bookstore location on Eddy Street now includes a Starbucks Coffee, which opened Aug. 18. The branch includes a new full-service cafe with Notre Dame-themed decor.

“We are looking at a retail study to review all of our restaurants on campus,” Abayasinghe said. “Stay tuned.”

Contact Bianca Almada at bianca.g.almada.1@nd.edu

PAID ADVERTISEMENT
Internships

Panel

I really wanted to understand the psyches behind that,” Spencer said. She examined how people are stereotyped in American society in order to understand why women reject feminism.

“As you can imagine, women who are considered feminists are often considered selfish, and a lot of women who are in this position tend to face penalties for being successful,” Spencer said. “Different people are going to reject this idea of feminism.”

Moore, an English literature and history major, brought to the table the perspective of a young, college-age woman living and learning in a world immersed in social media, Moore said.

“I am 21 and a feminist, yet I know many women my age who do not identify as a feminist,” Moore said. “I want to delve into the reasons as to why women my age tend to stay away from the ‘f-word.’ I also want to illustrate how much the media impacts young women in relation to feminism.”

Moore said her initial reaction to the campaign was one of horror and frustration. She was especially dismayed by her peers’ presence on social media.

“All the time, I look at these posts online, and I cannot help but be very frustrated,” Moore said. “I look at these posts and see such wrong, misguided information circulating around the web. It makes me wonder how and why it has come to this. Have we forgotten in 2014 what feminism has done and stands for?”

For Moore, feminism is collective and highly personal.

“The definition of feminism has evolved and will continue to evolve,” Moore said. “The one thing that stays constant is that feminism strives for equality. In today’s day and age, that equality means between all races, all gender identities, all races and all sexualities.”

Moore said the Tumblr page likely was created in part by women who believe feminists are man-haters “who like to paint women as victims.”

“I think that this page serves as an outlet for these women to discuss their wrong but right in their eyes—facts about feminism,” Moore said. “Secondly, I believe that this page was formed and/or fueled by the men’s rights activists and their female supporters who relentlessly try to find new ways to tear down feminism. Of course, I’m only speculating.”

Moore said feminism must continue as long as gender inequality persists.

“All you have to do is look at history to see why,” Moore said. “Yet even more than that, in today’s age, we need feminism. Yes, things have gotten ‘better,’ but without the push of feminism, we will not achieve true equality.”

Despite improvements, much remains to be done for women’s rights, as well as for related equality movements, Moore said. Feminism can help motivate those working for such causes.

“Feminism empowers and inspires,” Moore said. “Some like to say that feminism isn’t important anymore since we can go to work and vote and so on, but to them I counter with, ‘What about violence against women? What about the wage gap? What about LGBTQ issues?’ I could go on and on with what is still wrong in this society. Until my list of what needs fixing has not one single item on it, to me, feminism is important and needed.”

Contact Emilie Kefalas at ekafala01@saintmarys.edu

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Christian Culture Lecture
Saint Mary’s College

We hope to see you on Tuesday, September 16.

Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth

You’ve heard the name Reza Aslan: Now hear his talk on how history has portrayed Jesus and how Jesus understood himself. A new voice among the scholars of Jesus, you don’t want to miss this opportunity to see Asia September 16. Get your tickets now at MoreauCenter.com or by phoning (574) 284-4626.

Tuesday, September 16, 2014 | 7:30 p.m.
Saint Mary’s College | O’Laughlin Auditorium | Moreau Center for the Arts
College is essentially the average student’s brush with academic and social freedom. No one tells you to go to bed at 11 or do your homework. Depending upon how students are raised, their habits tend to carry over into their newfound independence unless they feel oppressed, in which case they “rebel.” A close friend of mine, “Jane,” rebelled once she was left alone in her middle-of-nowhere campus, but not the way you’re probably imagining.

Enrolling in a tiny liberal arts college in the Midwest, Jane’s self-assurance ignited a philosophy that if she ate two small meals a day she could lose 15 pounds per week. By the time her parents came up for her birthday in six weeks, she was desperate to prove herself as an individual, but even more as a body. Unbeknownst to her, the behavior that began her slim body cost her much of her individuality in addition to her mental health and self-image. Jane lost her weight and much of her cheery disposition for testing for multiple days. After 20 pounds and her parents’ shock, she persevered for 25, 30, and 40 pounds more, dire to do anything and everything drastic for their daughter being thin by Christmas. These extremes were subtle to the outsider, but in hindsight, their presence was prevalent.

By second semester, Jane’s hair had dried and thinned, resembling the coarse hair of a horse’s tail. Her skin was an unhealthy pale white. Binging and purging isolated her, triggering terrible bouts of anxiety and depression. Her weight and her parents’ shock existed from four months worth of fasting. No one approached her or asked if she was genuinely well, for she had an uncanny ability to wear a fake face. Her breaking point came after Spring break when she begged her academic advisor to discuss the option of a health leave with her parents. After meeting with two counselors, Jane decided, on her own terms, to finish the semester and complete her courses.

When I first began, I briefly broached the topic of the freedom college offers for students. This freedom is an opportunity for character development. What all students should assess from Jane’s experience is that the true application of academic and social freedom involves self-improvement and growth. Jane thought her efforts would make her more popular, which she concluded in hindsight to be a petty and shallow goal. She was blind to the deterioration of her eating disorder. She saw it as a chance to redeem her confidence. What Jane didn’t understand when she first entered college, was that appearance is different from confidence. She never had to be anything but herself, but she believed she was defined by a size. Therefore, I encourage you, student, professor, citizen, to raise up fellow community members when you sense they feel degraded. We are all privileged to be here in this community. We have a responsibility to help our own.

Contact Emilie Kefalas at ekefalas01@saintmarys.edu.

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

The Lesson of “Jane”
Emilie Kefalas
News Writer

When students first read how Athens put Socrates to death they either balk at the injustice of the Athenians or at the uncancelling stubbornness of Socrates. Socrates was charged with corrupting Athens’ youth and refused to yield when faced with death. I myself sided with Socrates as my PLS Great Books seminar grappled with the story. My professor helped me to understand the other side: “If your children were abandoning their jobs and educations to follow an old man around, asking bothersome questions to strangers, what would you do? What would Notre Dame do if a professor convinced a bunch of students to stop attending class and, instead, sit out on the quad and talk about being all day?”

Of course, this is exactly what we were doing in that class, except the course’s department was careful to abide by contemporary academic and University policies. The revolutionary nature of the liberal arts education was masked by regular classroom meetings, hiring according to the standards of other departments, publishing according to common academic expectations and the students partying about as much as any other students (even though these parties often included sophisticated jesting and occasional poetry readings). But the philosopher’s secret can’t be kept forever.

In 1970, three professors at the University of Kansas started the Integrated Humanities Program, known as IHS. Students in the program were not allowed to take notes in class. Instead, they read great literature, learned the state song, and went stargazing with their professors. Students were asked questions that in polite company and contemporary curriculum are either avoided entirely or made so technical and complex as to be rendered practically meaningless. Questions such as: “What is truth? How do we cultivate wonder in our lives? Why are we here?” The professors learned their lesson: disturbing questions lead to disturbing lives. As the professors cultivated wonder, students began to convert to Catholicism (some say more than 200 students converted), with dozens entering the priesthood or religious life. No longer content with the middle class, would protest against their children spending the rest of their lives sitting on spiritual thrones contemplating “who is?” After decades of cultivating the life of the mind with these disturbing results, the program underwent, as one founding professor put it, a “discreet and slow euthanasia” by university officials. This, we have the odd position of the contemporary university. Should the University pursue the life of the intellect, or should it train us for material prosperity, leaving the more transcendent parts of our humanity untouched? What led the great John Henry Newman to proclaim that a university which “had no professors or examinations at all, but merely brought a number of young men together for three or four years, and then sent them away” was better than a “so-called university, which dispensed with residence and tutorial superintendence, and gave its degrees to any person who passed an examination in a wide range of subjects?” Can we really be fooled into believing, as did the disciples of Socrates and the IHS and Newman and Christ, that one thing is necessary, that to sit and listen at another’s feet is to choose the better part?

Most of us will never know. College leaves little time for the leisure of stargazing. Most of us are anxious and worried about many things, burdened with much studying, serving and extra-curricularing. We find no time to examine what so many claim is “the better part.” Perhaps we are betrayed by the threatening danger of the choice. Perhaps it is thedazzled madness of those we have seen choose it that deters us. Perhaps it is the small fortune our parents have spent to keep their children safe and employable, which keeps us from pursuing the better part.

But perhaps the greatest deterrent is the realization that, for those who have chosen “the better part,” life is lived as though death has already come, and we are not quite ready for death. Socrates taught his disciples that “true philosophers make dying their profession.” For many, college will be a time to eat, drink and be merry. Many hope this will be just a preparation for future food, drink and Merriment. But for those of you so daring as to choose the better part, a daily dying of self will prepare you for death, and death will be your profession.

Christopher Damian graduated from Notre Dame in 2013. He is currently pursuing a J.D. and an M.A. in Catholic Studies at the University of St. Thomas. He can be contacted through his blog at universityideas.wordpress.com.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
When our University's administration makes changes that nobody is going to like, they tend to announce them when the students' minds are elsewhere.

An August football weekend when ND's newest senior class was occupied with the existentially troublesome series of "last-firsts" was the perfect time for the Office of the Registrar to announce that due to the Campus Crossroads Project, Commencement 2015 is moving indoors to the Purcell Pavilion. This is obviously an inferior venue to Notre Dame Stadium, where the ceremony has been held since 2010.

The Office of the Registrar was careful in its email to frame the move as a "return to tradition," citing the fact that from 1969 to 2009 Commencement was held in the JACC. The email continues, saying "that the vast majority of Commencement weekend events are open to all guests, and all are welcome to fully participate in the many joyous experiences of the Notre Dame Commencement Weekend."

Nobody finds this argument persuasive despite its earnest tone. At least in the moment, much of the "pomp and circumstance" that makes graduation what it is occurs during the Commencement speech, the valedictory, and the mass conferral of degrees.

The primary advantage of moving Commencement to the stadium was to do away with the limited ticketing that comes with holding the event in the JACC. As The Observer reported on Friday, the Purcell Pavilion seats 9,149 people. Assuming 2,250 students receive diplomas and about half of the faculty attend the ceremony, there will be less than 7,000 seats for parents and family members – only about three tickets per student.

Serious questions arise when distributing a limited resource that every rational person wants. How should the University distribute the 7,000 tickets? I might argue that whoever becomes valedictorian should have unlimited tickets. Her whole family should be able to see her address the class in a once-in-a-lifetime moment. But what about the 15 or so runners-up who achieve astro-nomical GPAs and are interviewed for their prowess but aren't selected as valedictorians?

One might also persuasively argue that children of alumni or kids whose parents have donated great sums of money to the University should receive a greater number of tickets. Their contributions, both tangible and intangible, make this University tick and impart our trademark air of tradition. This surely wouldn't seem fair to the first-generation college students, students from working class backgrounds, or kids whose parents attended one of America's 4,000 other colleges.

More concretely, let's say I manage to get three tickets. Within my own family, who gets to go? My Mom and Dad seem like a lock for the first two tickets. I certainly could not be here without their emotional support. But then what? Do I give my third ticket to my Grandpa Ward who has called me at least once a month since I stepped on campus? Do I give it to my Grandma Mary who pushed me through flashcard after flashcard in Kindergarten and first grade to help me learn how to spell and read? Do I give it to my brother Jack to send him a message about the value of work? Or do I give it to my little sister to show her what lies on the other side of an academically up-and-down first year of college?

I hope nobody has to make these decisions, and with a little creativity and the right weather, the University can ensure that we do not have to. I propose two alternative sites, either of which would eliminate or at least mitigate the seating problem and therefore be a better choice than the JACC. Converting these sites over would almost certainly cost more than holding the event inside, but the $400 million construction project which prompted this move indoors would seem to suggest that money is not an issue.

First, we could hold Commencement on South Quad facing the Main Building or O'Shaughnessy Hall. The section of South Quad between the south door of Hurley Hall and the south door of Coleman-Morse is approximately 151,000 square feet (I estimated this with the mobile app MapMyRun). With appropriately-placed bleacher seating and screens, we could graduate on a historic quad within view of the Main Building and, more importantly, within view of all of our families.

I'm even more excited about the prospect of holding the event on Library Quad, where every student can see the $400 million construction project which would eliminate or at least mitigate the seating problem and therefore be a better choice than the JACC. Commencement at a crossroads

Alex Caton
Modest Proposals

The printing predicament

Environmental printing is by printing two pages per one side. This can easily be done for PDF documents on either a Mac or PC. A way to not be penalized for single-sided printing is by printing two pages per one side. This policy seems to be ludicrously as it charges students twice the points for less printing.

In typical printing, the paper costs less than a penny per sheet, while the ink costs about one to two cents per page. These prices do not even account for bulk-purchase discounts or contracts with suppliers. According to Notre Dame's OIT page, the main goal of the dubbed "Duplex Printing Initiative" is to reduce printing for environmental reasons. That said, if students want to print, they are going to print.

Justin McCurdy
freshman
Dillon
Sep. 3

With the new print system at Notre Dame, many students may be unsure how to print correctly.

In 2015, the University began charging double for single-sided sheets will not be treated as a non-renewable one. In addition, there are recycling bins located in every building across campus, allowing for even more environmental consciousness and the reuse of paper:

- Every day the forest products industry cuts down as much if not more trees than they take down. Wood is a renewable resource and should not be treated as a non-renewable one. In addition, there are recycling bins located in every building across campus, allowing for even more environmental consciousness and the reuse of paper.

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Follow us on Twitter.
@ObserverViewPoint
By Jimmy Kemper
Scene Writer

Festival season may be over, but the music scene in South Bend still is going strong. This Friday, the Gridiron, at the old location of the College Football Hall of Fame, will host a Student Expo featuring local and student bands. The event is put on by The Bridge Project, who organized the South By South Bend music festival this past May, as well as the Downtown South Bend, The State of South Bend and The Music Village festivals.

Dan Courtney and Will Murray founded the Bridge Project last semester to “address a need to connect area colleges with the city of South Bend through the creation and promotion of cultural events.” Dan also said, “the Gridiron Show will be a great way for South Bend residents to interact with students from Notre Dame and other area colleges in a fun and welcoming environment.”

This is absolutely the event to be at Friday night – it provides Notre Dame students an awesome opportunity to interact with and experience the greater community at its finest. What better way to get hyped up for the Michigan game than rocking out in a venue that looks like a football field?

The lineup for the show is solid, featuring a number of genres and representatives from South Bend, Indiana University South Bend and Notre Dame. The concert kicks off with Joshua Schleer, an acoustic musician from Indiana University South Bend. Following this will be Notre Dame group Jon Schommer and the Town Cuties, a folk band reminiscent of Of Monsters and Men or John Mayer, infusing acoustic and electric guitars, ukuleles, harmonicas and coolly-harmonized vocals. If you haven’t checked out their Bandcamp site yet, you should.

Also featured in the lineup is The Tides, a jamming indie-pop, surf-rock group also based out of Indiana University South Bend. Inspired by the likes of Modest Mouse and Warves, The Tides put the indie in Indiana. Further down the lineup is Simple Twist, a jazz/blues group based out of South Bend, and Ratboys, a group that the event’s Facebook page describes simply as “incredible.” Carp rock band The Rutabega and hard rock/progressive metal band Half Fiction also are set to play.

Wrapping up this one-of-a-kind show is Sober Sinners, an awesome punk rock band based out of Notre Dame. Garrity McOsker, lead singer for the band, is thrilled about the event.

“It’s the first show for Sober Sinners since we’ve been back for the school year, so I’m just excited to get on the mic and lose it again,” McOsker said. “I like to get active with the crowd when I perform, and the fact that I’ll be doing it in front of some new faces this time makes it all the better. I hope we can convert a few people in the audience and, through viewing the audacity of this band, they’ll realize they can start a band too. That’s always been my goal since I started Sober Sinners.”

Contact Jimmy Kemper at jkemper2@nd.edu

By Kevin Salat
Scene Writer

Ever since HBO’s game-changing drama, “The Sopranos,” ended with a famous cut to black in 2007, the Internet has debated ceaselessly the fate of Tony and the Sopranos, “ended with a famous cut to black in 2007, the fate of Tony Soprano is alive or dead is not the point. ... the final scene raises a spiritual question that has no right or wrong answer.”

All of this news coincidentally came just a few weeks after I decided to finally cross “The Sopranos” off my own season 6) over the course of this 86-episode saga, but what I found in the finale was easily the greatest ending to a television drama I’ve ever watched. This is absolutely the event to be at Friday night – it provides Notre Dame students an awesome opportunity to interact with and experience the greater community at its finest.

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Contact Jimmy Kemper at jkemper2@nd.edu

However, Chase’s publicist since has cleared up what now appears to be an inaccurate misinterpretation: “David has said numerous times on the record, ‘Whether Tony Soprano is alive or dead is not the point... The final scene raises a spiritual question that has no right or wrong answer.’”

All of this news coincidentally came just a few weeks after I decided to finally cross “The Sopranos” off my own television bucket list. I was very aware of the finale debate before I began, but I had to see for myself and form my own thoughts (and in turn entertain myself my own train commutes to work). There were highs (“College”, “Pine Barrens”, “Long Term Parking”) and lows (“Christopher”, the first half of Season 6) over the course of this 86-episode saga, but what I found in the finale was easily the greatest ending to a television drama I’ve ever watched. Despite my desire for closure, it’s clear Chase executed exactly the abstract ending he wanted.

Thanks to commercial television, our brains have become wired to play detective and crack the case that’s presented to us on screen. There always has to be a tidy answer – one absolute ending to Tony’s journey as a mob boss. But that’s not what great art is about; the answer is whatever you want it to be. Chase himself recently told the Associated Press he created the finale “not to make you think, but to make you feel.”

Sure, there are many ways to interpret the events at Holsten’s Diner; some theories have more supporting evidence than others. But those who have spent the past seven years obsessing over unraveling such a purposefully ambiguous show like “The Sopranos” are watching it wrong. They’re trying to solve the mystery of a show that embraced the mysteries of life all along. Believe whatever you want, as long as you admit your interpretation isn’t the only true and correct one.

Don’t watch The Sopranos to solve the puzzle. Watch it because it’s one of the most influential achievements in television. Watch it because James Gandolfini was one of the greatest actors of our lifetime. And like Chase said, watch it to feel.

So, ignore the Internet headlines you saw this week and dive in to see for yourself. If you start now and watch an episode a day, you’ll have your own final theory to discuss by Thanksgiving dinner.

Contact Kevin Salat at ksatal@nd.edu
I am lucky to have a dad Ezra Koenig would consider cool. In typical “cool dad” fashion, he never types out vowels but makes awesome meatloaf and – speaking of Meatloaf – exposed me to good music at a time in my life when my friends were bumin’ Britney and hummin’ High School Musical.

I would sit on the bed in our guest room while he would sort through music, old and new, on our family’s desktop computer. He would open my ears to The White Stripes and Talking Heads but never would insult my juvenile taste – even agreeing “Hollaback Girl” was a great jam. He taught me the value of music, comparing the price of albums and songs to the candy I could buy with my limited sixth-grade income.

Eventually it all started to sink in, and I began to identify my tastes – founding a Modest Mouse club in sixth grade.

One of the first songs I remember gravitating to during one of our listening sessions was “Naive” by The Kooks. The sunny pop rhythms and Luke Pritchard’s voice charmed me. I delved into the rest of the album and discovered other hits that would define my tastes – founding a Modest Mouse club in sixth grade.

For those of you who unfortunately do not have a “cool dad” to give you music advice, I offer my own: Give “Listen” a listen.

By Erin McAuliffe
Scene Writer

Contact Erin McAuliffe at emcauliffe@nd.edu

“Listen”
The Kooks

Label: Virgin EMI
Tracks: “Down,” “Around Town”
If you like: Arctic Monkeys, The Black Keys

ANDROGYNOUS is the New Black

By Jared Clemmensen
Scene Writer

Navigating the convoluted realm of the fashion world can be exhausting. Keeping up with the latest trends is often an exercise in futility. But one lasting trend has taken over the fashion industry. It’s not a particular print, style of pant or accessory, but rather the concept of androgyny. While this more conceptual trend does have a number of specific manifestations, it’s less about wearing specific garments and more about a general approach to dressing. While androgyny has been an element in high fashion for a while, more accessible retailers such as H&M, Forever 21, American Apparel and Zara have been embracing the progressive aesthetic as well.

You may wish to take this article with a grain of salt — it comes from a man who recently bought two pairs of women’s pants and a pair of women’s shoes within a 72-hour span. So here are some high fashion names to back up my ramblings: Fairly-new label Baja East has gone so far as to offer only one line of clothing, selling the exact same loose-fitting styles to both men and women. Other high fashion labels such as J.W. Anderson, who recently sent male models down the runway wearing platform heels in their spring/summer 2014 show, have been gender-bending for a while. Corollary trends, such as boyfriend jeans for women and skinny jeans for men, also come to mind. However, the androgyny trend takes this even further into a realm of clothing designed as unisex, rather than women adopting traditional menswear items as their own or vice versa. It’s also definitely not exclusive to the high fashion world. One of the disciples of the androgynous movement, street-wear brand Hood By Air, is favored by hip hop musicians such as Drake, LeF, Kanye West, Rihanna and ASAP Rocky.

So what exactly is “androgynous fashion,” especially to a college student? It’s whatever you want it to be, and therein lies the beauty. Subscribing to a conceptual trend such as this allows room for significantly more liberty and personal expression. For me, the androgynous movement means loose fits, lighter-weight fabrics, neutral colors and simple sneakers. It’s definitely a comfort-and-convenience-driven approach to dressing, as self-proclaimed “loose luxury” label Baja East proclaims. Think elastic-waist jersey harem pants instead of straight-jacket skinny jeans. Can I get an “amen” for high fashion sweatpants, anybody?

Additionally, the benefits of the prevalence of neutral colors need not be mentioned — emphasis on the all-black outfit. When it comes time for you to do laundry, ask not what dark colors can do for you, but what you can do for dark colors.

As someone who has long been frustrated by strict delineations between men’s and women’s clothing, a fashionable scarf is a fashionable scarf. I find this new direction a lot of designers and retailers are taking refreshing; it’s right in line with our generation’s changing ideas of gender equality and the move away from traditional gender roles and values. It’s hard not to appreciate the prospect of wearing looser-fitting, exponentially more comfortable clothing while being fashionable. So go buy some baggy, neutral, wide-neck t-shirts and start celebrating.

By Jared Clemmensen at j Clemmenesr@nd.edu

Contact Jared Clemmensen at j Clemmenesr@nd.edu
This is the year when all those BCS flaws are eliminated and college football has a season finale it was meant to have. Four teams, chosen from the five power conferences...

Wait. Four … and five … Uh oh.

The eight. Four play-off spots, but, as has been in the news for the last few months, every one has decided there are five power conferences. Five conferences, competing for four spots.

I can tell already this year will bring all the headlines the BCS has provided at the end of every year. Except this time, instead of computers and algorithms taking all the flak for what did and did not make it into title contention, it will be a special “selection committee” who has to decide who has, and has not, earned a shot at one of those last spots. I already feel sorry for them.

Take a quick look at what the situation would have been last year. The top four schools in the rankings at the end of the year were Florida State, Auburn, Alabama and Ohio State. Three conference champions, another a fluke-play-of-the-century from being one. Left just outside were two-loss, Pac-12 champion Stanford and one-loss, Big 12 champion Baylor. No. Who would the committee handle. Anyone who had they have left? Better yet, why?

Throw in wrinkles like Oklahoma smashing Alabama and taking the Big 12 one-loss season with a win over Baylor, and suddenly four spots are not enough to decide a national champion. Here’s how to fix it:

Eight teams make the playoffs. Yes, eight. Automatic qualifiers for the champions of the power-five conferences. “But wait,” you say, “that leaves three at-large”— nope. Throw in an automatic qualifier for the highest-ranked team from a non-power-five conference. That’s it. No new areas of vegetation course could continue, but a forest engineer with the local Olympic organizing committee, tried to find an upside.

“We are happy the construction on the course has been plagued by ground delays on the course faces an uncertain future after a court proposed Wednesday that the under-construction layout should be modified to meet environmental concerns. Judge Eduardo Klauser, hearing a lawsuit brought against the city of Rio de Janeiro and the course developer, said the defendants had to return on Sept. 17 to say if they could accept the proposal. Klauser said work on the course could continue, but no new areas of vegetation could be plowed under. In recent months, golf architect have been putting down grass on the course, hoping to finish by the end of the year and avoid delays. That would give the grass two growing seasons to mature—in a raucous, at times chaotic two-hour-long hearing, Klauser heard the concerns of environmentalists, biologists and Rio city hall’s top environmental official, as well as attorneys from both sides.”

“i think we match up well,” Mariner manager Lloyd McClendon said. “We’ve got a few bullets to throw at them that the rubber. We like our chances.”

McClendon and the Mariners were in a little heart-earned mood after the victory. The manager pointed out that Hernandez looked well rested despite his much-maligned move to push his ace back a day before his last start against the Washington Nationals — which was Hernandez’s worst outing of the season — by referencing a profanity-laced quote from former Indiana basketball coach Bobby Knight.

McClendon could crack jokes mostly because of the homers that erased an otherwise brilliant performance by Lester (13-10) and helped Hernandez (14-5) win for the first time in four outings.

Adam Dunn’s homer in the fourth accounted for the only run Hernandez allowed in eight innings. The right-hander gave up three hits, struck out four and walked two to outdue Lester in a matchup of two of the AL’s best pitchers.

The Mariners tagged Lester for seven hits in eight innings. Fernando Rodney pitched a perfect ninth for his 41st save in 44 games.

“it was special,” said Hernandez, adding that he promised his wife a win for her birthday. “We came here to win the series and that’s what we did.”

Hernandez improved to 19-7 against Oakland, including 6-0 in five starts this season. He said he’s just happy to finally be pitching in a playoff race.

“It feels great. It feels really good. It’s fun to do that,” he said.

The A’s have lost seven of nine, including a four-game series at the AL West-leading Los Angeles Angels before dropping two of three to Seattle at the Coliseum. The Mariners remain right behind Detroit and Oakland in the chase for the AL’s two wild cards.

And for most of the sun-splashed afternoon, it looked like a possible preview for this year.

Olympic golf course faces another complication

Rio de Janeiro’s Olympic golf course faces an uncertain future after a court proposed Wednesday that the under-construction layout should be modified to meet environmental concerns. Judge Eduardo Klauser, hearing a lawsuit brought against the city of Rio de Janeiro and the course developer, said the defendants had to return on Sept. 17 to say if they could accept the proposal. Klauser said work on the course could continue, but no new areas of vegetation could be plowed under.

In recent months, golf architects have been putting down grass on the course, hoping to finish by the end of the year and avoid delays. That would give the grass two growing seasons to mature—in a raucous, at times chaotic two-hour-long hearing, Klauser heard the concerns of environmentalists, biologists and Rio city hall’s top environmental official, as well as attorneys from both sides.

Klauser played the role of mediator, nudging the public prosecutors, who brought the suit, to offer a proposal that a local golf club would use much of the Atlantic rainforest area as possible while allowing the golf course to continue.

“It is in society’s interests that the Olympics take place and it’s also in society’s interests that the environment be preserved,” he said. “What has to be observed is legality, and in legality is respect for the accused.”

A forest engineer with the state environment secretariat, Isabelobatodasilva, who visited the forested area before construction on the golf course began, said that while some forested areas have already been destroyed, the damage was not irreversible. She proposed the creation of a 400 meter-(yard) wide corridor to allow for the circulation of animals between the wooded areas on either side of the golf course.

Lawyers for the defendants repeatedly stated that because land was broken on the golf course about a year and a half before Rio was chosen to host the 2016 Olympics, the project was sure to be held up.

“The Observer accepts subscriptions every business day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 1186 South Main Street, South Bend, 57965. For subscription information, call 1-888-459-2000. For change of address, call 1-888-459-2000. The Observer reserves the right to edit all contributions for content without asking refunds.”
By Manny De Jesus
Sports Writer

As the Irish continue to prepare for their first match of the season, the upperclassmen — including junior Eric Schnurrenberger — are looking to make leadership a focal point this year.

Notre Dame finished last season No. 13 in the country, which is its highest national ranking since it finished No. 6 in 2007. Schnurrenberger said the Irish want to be a better team this year than last season, and he wants become a role model for the younger players on the team.

Schnurrenberger, who is the lone international athlete on the squad, finished last season with an overall record of 25-17. Schnurrenberger was also able to participate in the Round of 16 for Notre Dame before the team was eliminated by Virginia. Throughout his life in Switzerland, Schnurrenberger said he has been influenced by tennis and the opportunities it has given him. His entire family played tennis, and for as long as he can remember, he said he has always had a tennis racquet in his hand.

“I’ve never played in any other sport competitively,” Schnurrenberger said. “I always knew I was leaning towards my academics, so I never really looked to it make it a profession, but I’ve played in tournaments all my life sacrificing time and money to make it a passion.”

“My whole family has played tennis,” he said. “Through it, I have had so many opportunities. I wouldn’t have been here at Notre Dame without being a tennis player.”

Schnurrenberger also said tennis has helped him whenever he struggled off the tennis court.

“The lessons I’ve learned through the game,” Schnurrenberger said. “You can compare it to life. You have your bad moments and your good moments, so it prepares you very well for what life sort of shows.”

Schnurrenberger said he believes that being an international athlete has helped him bring a different perspective of playing the game to the rest of his teammates here.

“There’s a big difference in terms of tennis in Switzerland and college tennis,” Schnurrenberger said. “Here, you’re encouraged to be rowdy, energetic, and enthusiastic. In Switzerland, I played in a couple of tournaments over the summer, and it isn’t the same feel as being in a college environment, but having both experiences helps me be a more well-rounded player. Here, you’re really proud of being a part of the University, and that’s something I want the other players to recognize.”

Schnurrenberger is now an upperclassman as a junior, and he said he’s ready to step into the leadership role to push his team to the next tier of elite college teams.

“As a leader, I want to always go to practice with high energy and ideal attitude,” Schnurrenberger said. “It’s the most direct effect to your teammates. If you have good energy that helps electrify your teammates, if you really buy into your game and be the best player you can be, it helps push your teammates to want to be the best as well. By helping yourself, you’ll also end up helping your teammates.”

The tone in Schnurrenberger’s voice quickly changed from enthusiastic to seriously determined as he gave the final and most important part of his outlook as a leader.

“It’s important to not be too result-oriented,” Schnurrenberger said. “It’s better to be process-oriented. When you focus on doing the right things in practice with a strong drive, and focus on the process of improving your game, the consequence of it all will be winning.”

Contact Manny De Jesus at mdejesus@nd.edu.

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Men's Tennis
Schnurrenberger takes on leadership role

Junior Eric Schnurrenberger prepares to volley during Notre Dame's 4-2 loss to Ohio State on Feb. 22 at the Eck Tennis Center.

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Contact Manny De Jesus at mdejesus@nd.edu.
Hudson wins in return from injury

Associated Press
SAN DIEGO — Daniel Hudson returned from two reconstructive elbow operations to pitch in the big leagues for the first time in more than two years, and David Peralta dove in two runs to help the Arizona Diamondbacks beat the San Diego Padres 6-1 Wednesday night.

Hudson became the fourth pitcher to undergo Tommy John surgery in consecutive years and returned to the majors. Hudson, who won 16 games for Arizona in 2011, retired the side in the eighth on 13 pitches and was warmly greeted by his teammates when he reached the dugout.

Hudson hadn’t pitched since June 26, 2012, when he originally tore his ulnar collateral ligament. He underwent surgery 15 days later, performed by the late Dr. Lewis Yacovem. Hudson tore the ligament again during a rehab start with Double-A Mobile on June 4, 2013, and was operated on two weeks later by Dr. James Andrews.

Josh Collmenter (10-7) won his third straight start, holding San Diego to one run and five hits in seven innings. He struck out three and walked two.

Diamondbacks scored three runs, two of them unearned, against Andrew Cashner (2-7) in an eventful fifth inning that included two hits, a walk, two fielder’s choices, a call at the plate that stood after a 2 1/2-minute review, a botched rundown and a runner called out on interference.

Collmenter gave up runners on second and third and one out and hit a grounder to rookie second baseman Corey Spangenberg, whose late throw to the plate was just enough to allow Alfredo Marte to score. Padres manager Bud Black challenged, but the call was confirmed.

That put runners on first and third. Ender Inciarte grounded to first baseman Yasmani Grandal, who threw home to catch Didi Gregorius in a rundown. But third baseman Yangervis Solarte appeared to be going for a quick tag and missed the throw from catcher Rene Rivera. The ball rolled into left field for an error, allowing Gregorius to score.

With Inciarte on second and Collmenter on third and the infield in, Chris Owings hit a grounder to shortstop Alexi Amarista, and Inciarte was called for interference. The umpires got the call right, but instead of sending Inciarte off the field, he was sent to first and Owings headed to the dugout.

Peralta then singled to center to bring in Collmenter. Peralta tripled in Owings in the first. Cashner allowed four runs, two earned, and five hits in seven innings.

Carter leads Astros to 4-1 win over Angels

Associated Press
HOUSTON — Chris Carter homered twice and drove in four runs, collecting his seventh multihomer game this season as the Astros beat the Los Angeles Angels 4-1 on Wednesday night.

The first-place Angels lost both games in the series after sweeping the A’s in a four-game set before arriving in Houston.

It was the second straight win for the Astros since Carter put Houston on top 1-0 with his homer to the Crawford Boxes in left field in the second inning. His two-run, opposite-field shot made it 4-1 in the eighth.

McHugh (8-9) yielded four hits and a run with eight strikeouts in 7 2/3 innings for his fourth straight win, extending a career high. Chad Qualls pitched a perfect ninth for his 17th save.

Angels starter Jered Weaver (15-8) allowed five hits and two runs in six-plus innings for just his second loss since June 16. Dexter Fowler walked with one out in the fourth and stole second with two outs. Jason Castro’s single scored Fowler to put Houston up 2-1.

The Angels tied it at 1 in the third when Efren Navarro scored on an error by shortstop Jonathan Villar that allowed Mike Trout to reach. The play pushed Trout’s RBI total to a career-high 98.

McHugh retired the next 10 batters, with the next hit by Los Angeles coming on a single by Josh Hamilton with two outs in the sixth. Howie Kendrick grounded out to end the inning.

That was the first of six in a row put down by McHugh before he was replaced by Jose Veras.

Jose Altuve, who had four hits in each of his previous two games, doubled in the eighth to extend his hitting streak to 11 games. He has a major league-leading 194 hits this season.

Soler continues hot streak

Associated Press
CHICAGO — Rookie Jorge Soler had a two-run double to become the second player in Cubs history with as many as 10 RBIs in his first seven games as Chicago beat Milwaukee 6-2 on Wednesday night.

Soler joined Manny Ramirez, who had 12 RBIs in 1995, as the only Chicago players to accomplish that feat.

Kyle Hendricks pitched five-plus innings to hear his fifth straight win. Hendricks (6-1) allowed two runs on nine hits in 5 2/3 innings. The right-hander did not walk or strike out a batter.

With five rookies in the lineup, the Cubs completed their first three-game sweep of the Brewers since Aug. 23-25, 2004.

Milwaukee concluded a 1-8 road trip with its eighth straight loss to fall three games behind St. Louis in the NL Central race.

Chicago never trailed after Chris Valaika hit a two-run homer off ex-Cub Matt Garza to put it ahead 2-1 in the second. The blast to deep left field followed Logan Watkins’ two-out single.

In his first start in 31 days, Garza (7-8) failed to get past the third inning. The right-hander allowed six runs on eight hits and one walk. He had been on the disabled list since Aug. 4 because of a strained left oblique.

The Cubs batted around in the third, when they scored four times to take a 6-1 lead.

Soler began the onslaught with a two-run double, his ninth and 10th RBIs of the season. Welington Castillo followed with a run-scoring ground out, and one out later, Watkins hit an RBI single to cap the rally.

Milwaukee took an early lead in the second, when Kris Davis singled, advanced on a groundout and scored on Logan Schafer’s two-out base hit.

Milwaukee was missing Ryan Braun, who was with his wife Larisa in Milwaukee, where she was expecting their first child.
Canada wins team tournament

Associated Press

KARUIZAWA, Japan — Teen star Brooke Henderson shot a 6-under 66 on Wednesday to help Canada take the first-round lead in the Women’s World Amateur Team Championship.

The 16-year-old Henderson, the low amateur at the U.S. Women’s Open and U.S. Women’s Amateur runner-up, had six birdies in her bogey-free round on Kariuzawa 72 Golf East’sOSHitate course.

“It was a great day today,” said Henderson, No. 2 in the world amateur ranking. “I hit the ball really well and had a lot of opportunities to make birdies and I capitalized on a lot of them. It’s good to get a run on the first day and I’m really excited to play the next couple days.”

Augusta James added a 69 to give Canada a 9-under 135 total, the lowest first-round score in the history of the event.

Two-time defending champion South Korea was second at 7 under. So-Young Lee opened with a 67, Bye-Jin Choi shot 70, and Gyeol Park had a 75.

The United States was tied for eighth at 2 under. Alison Lee opened with a 68, U.S. Women’s Amateur champion Kristen Gillman shot 74, and Emma Talley had a 77.

ROYALS SWEEP RANGERS BEHIND VARGAS, GORDON

Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Alex Gordon hit a two-run homer, Jason Vargas pitched into the seventh inning and the Kansas City Royals beat the Texas Rangers 4-1 on Wednesday night to finish off a three-game sweep.

Vargas (11-7) stranded four runners in scoring position before turning over a two-on, two-out mess to Kelvin Herrera, who escaped the jam. Louis Coleman gave up a run in the eighth before Wade Davis finished off the inning, and Greg Holland worked a perfect ninth for his 42nd save.

The victory along with Detroit’s 7-0 loss to Cleveland allowed the Royals to extend their lead to 1 1/2 games over the Tigers in the AL Central. They are off Thursday before a crucial trip that takes them through the wild card-chasing Yankees and into a three-game set in Detroit.

Nick Tepesch (4-9) allowed all four runs over 6 2/3 innings for Texas. The Royals grabbed the lead in the fourth when Omar Infante led off with a single and Gordon homered to deep center. In the seventh, Salvador Perez and Billy Butler doubled to provide a bit of cushion, and pinch runner Terrance Gore scored on a stolen base and a throwing error.

That was more than enough to doom Texas to its fifth straight loss.

The biggest problem for the injury-plagued Rangers lately has been situational hitting, and it manifested itself again in three close losses to Kansas City. They were 1 for 15 with runners in scoring position Wednesday night, making them 3 for 28 over the course of the series.

The sweep of Texas was the first at home for the Royals in seven seasons.

Tepesch, who grew up in nearby Blue Springs, Missouri, kept giving the Rangers a chance. He re-tired his first eight batters and then bounced back from Gordon’s homer to retire eight of nine.

Vargas proved to be just a little bit better.

The veteran left-hander, wireless in his last six starts against Texas left runners on the corners in the first inning, and somehow navigated leadoff doubles in the third, fourth and sixth.

By the time he trudged off the mound on a humid night at Kauffman Stadium, a small but festive crowd of 15,771 had risen to its feet to give him a parting ovation.

STANTON HOMERS FOR THIRD STRAIGHT GAME

Associated Press

MIAMI — Travis d’Arnaud hit a go-ahead RBI double in the eighth inning to lift the New York Mets to a 4-3 win over the Miami Marlins on Wednesday night.

Kirk Nieuwenhuis hit a two-run home run, and Matt den Dekker had three hits for the Mets, who won two of three in the series with the Marlins.

Miami’s Giancarlo Stanton homered for the third consecutive game to give him 36 on the season and bring the Marlins within 4-3 in the eighth after the Mets took a two-run lead in the top half of the inning.

Carlos Torres (6-5) pitched 1 1-3 innings in relief to earn the victory. Jenrry Mejia got the final three outs in the ninth, following a leadoff walk, for his 23rd save in 26 opportunities.

Den Dekker led off the eighth with a single off Mike Dunn (10-6), who also allowed a hit to Lucas Duda. Dunn was replaced by Bryan Morris, who immediately allowed an RBI double to d’Arnaud to right field to give the Mets a 3-2 lead. Dilson Herrera’s groundout then scored Duda.

Jacob deGrom came in to face Christian Yelich, who singled to right to score Hechavarria.

The Marlins tied it 2-2 in the seventh inning. Adeiny Hechavarria doubled to deep center field off reliever Cody Carlyle, and lefty Dario Alvarez came in to face Christian Yelich, who singled to right to score Hechavarria.

Miami opened the scoring in the third with an RBI single by Casey McGehee. Nieuwenhuis’ third home run of the season gave the Mets a 2-1 lead in the fourth.

Juan Lagares led off the game with a single for the Mets, stretching his on-base streak to six consecutive plate appearances. He finished the game 2 for 5.

A day after Mets captain David Wright had three hits to break out of a 7-for-50 skid, he struck out four times and went 0 for 5.
After three seasons as a standout performer, senior captain Ashley Armstrong has fully assumed a veteran leadership position on the young Irish squad — and Irish coach Susan Holt has high expectations for the upcoming season, both for Armstrong and for the team.

“Ashley has been a leader on this team from day one her freshman year,” Holt said, speaking highly of Armstrong as an example for the younger golfers to follow.

Upon her arrival at Notre Dame in 2011, Armstrong found success on the course and made an immediate impact, achieving the Big East Championship Medalist honor, as well as being named the Big East Rookie of the Year with a 75.62 stroke average.

“Her work ethic is one of the best in my 25 years of coaching,” Holt said. “She is always looking to improve, which is the mark of a great competitor.”

Armstrong did, in fact, continue to improve. During her sophomore year, she cut down her stroke average to 74.64 strokes per round, which contributed to the Irish winning the Big East Championship and earning her a spot on the all-Big East team for the second year in a row.

Her performance last season as a junior, Armstrong said, was not her best, though by almost most standards she had a strong season, leading the team with a 75.59 stroke average and finishing in second place in the season-opening tournament.

However, Armstrong said she was not satisfied — she is constantly reevaluating her mental approach and practice routine.

“Last spring I was struggling, and my approach was to push and practice as hard as possible, pursuing a ‘perfect’ game,” she said. “I was spending more time on the practice range, [but this year] I am going to practice smarter by focusing on weaknesses and playing Warren Golf Course more often.”

To help achieve the team’s goal of qualifying for the NCAA national tournament, Armstrong said she has made an effort to create an environment where she and her teammates collaborate on mental and physical approaches to the game, but also on how they push each other and focus on their own performances, especially during competition.

“Of course, I want everyone to do well,” she said. “But I want to encourage all of my teammates to follow a similar mindset: that during tournaments, my teammates are my playing competitors and I am going to beat them ... because it will benefit the overall team score at the end of the day.”

“Ashley has assumed the role of leader on the team over the past year, and now that she is a senior she needs to really be comfortable in that role to make sure all her teammates [follow her lead],” Holt said.

Armstrong said she is confident that the team has a shot at reaching the NCAA Championship. She will begin her fourth and final season when the Irish begin their fall slate with the Mary Fossum Invitational on Sept. 13-14.

Contact Andrew Robinson at arobins6@nd.edu
Belles lose conference opener to Alma

By JOSH DULANY
Sports Writer

In their first MIAA game Tuesday, the Belles fell to Alma in a 3-1 loss.

Belles coach Toni Elyea said the Belles must improve across the board if they want to play at a level that can win conference games.

“We just have to play better to beat a team like Alma,” Elyea said. “They’re a very good team, and we just didn’t play well. We didn’t hit well, and we never found a rhythm offensively. We made too many offensive errors, and our passing has to be more consistent. It’s just got to get better.”

The Belles (1-4, 0-1 MIAA) kept the opening set close and held a late 21-20 lead. However, Alma (5-0, 1-0) closed the set out by winning five of the final six points to take the first set. The Scots never trailed on their way to a 25-17 second-set victory. Saint Mary’s fought hard in the third set to rally from five-point deficits on two separate occasions, but the Scots steadied themselves and closed out for a 25-20 win. From there, the Scots cruised to a 25-13 win in the fourth set to clinch the match.

Despite the disappointment of the loss, Elyea said she saw some positives in the performance, especially from a couple younger players.

“Our blocking has really looked good — it’s come a long way and [freshman middle hitter] Rachel Bonek has really done a nice job,” Elyea said. “[Sophomore setter] Clare McMillan has done a great job as well. She has really made good choices setting for us. We just have to get into a better rhythm to support her. We’re excited to hopefully see that come together this weekend.”

The weekend slate sees the first two matches of a five-match home stand, as Saint Mary’s will face Olivet and Albion.

Olivet (2-3, 1-0) is coming off a sweep of MIAA foe Kalamazoo, while Albion (0-5, 0-1) was swept in its last outing against Calvin, the No. 1 team in the AVCA coaches’ poll.

Elyea says she is confident in her team but is emphasizing a team-wide focus on staying focused and maintaining a top-flight effort throughout the course of a match.

“The main thing will be consistency,” Elyea said. “We have to play our game and be at the level we are capable of. The teams we’re playing are scrappy, and we have to stay focused and play the way we know we can.”

While a few Belles have posted solid stats in the season so far, Elyea said being back at home could be the biggest factor for Saint Mary’s this weekend.

“We’re very excited for this weekend,” Elyea said. “It will take some pressure off to be back home, and we can relax and just be energized to play back on our home court with our home fans, friends and family. We have a lot of people coming this weekend, and we definitely feel the excitement.”

The Belles face Olivet at home Friday at 7 p.m. before taking on Albion at noon on Saturday.

Contact Josh Dulany at jdulany@nd.edu

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Welsh

Continued from page 20

records in total. He coached 45 Big East individual and relay champions and 12 All-Americans.

In his final season, he was honored by the College Swimming Coaches Association of America (CSCAA) with its highest award, the National Collegiate and Scholastic Swimming Trophy. In 1983, he won the Richard E. Steadman Award from the CSCAA, given to a coach on the scholastic, club or collegiate level who has done the most to spread happiness in swimming.

At the time of his retirement, Welsh was the second-longest serving head coach at Notre Dame behind now-retired track and field coach Joe Piane.

The Irish are coming off a season in which they took sixth place in the ACC and 16th place in the NCAA championships, tied for their highest finish in 15 years. Senior Emma Reaney led the squad by capturing the first individual NCAA title in program history and breaking the American record in the 200-yard breaststroke.

Notre Dame’s season begins Oct. 3, with a dual meet against Michigan State.

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Bohaboy

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

2-1 decisions to No. 10 Texas Tech and USC and dropped in the rankings from 11th to 25th, Bohaboy recorded the team’s lone goal against USC and had another score waved off after a penalty.

The road ahead only gets tougher, as Notre Dame travels to No. 16 Santa Clara and No. 4 Stanford over the weekend. Bohaboy said she is confident, however, that the Irish can rebound.

“That’s great motivation for our games to come,” Bohaboy said. “This next weekend is going to be good for us, and we’ll respond well.”

On a Notre Dame squad with 11 freshmen and 19 underclassmen, Bohaboy is the sole senior on the attacking lineup with 11 freshmen and 19 underclassmen. Bohaboy’s high school classmate, midfielder Taylor Klawunder, and former Santa Margarita Catholic High School graduate Taylor Klawunder and forward Kaitlin Klawunder both attended Santa Margarita and also played for the SoCal Blues, Bohaboy’s high school club team.

“We went to the same high school, so I knew them before,” she said.

The Klauwunders’ arrival on campus coincided with the start of coach Theresa Romangolo’s first season at Notre Dame. Despite the departure of Bohaboy’s longtime coach Randy Waldrum and the introduction of a new staff, the turnover has been relatively smooth, Bohaboy said.

“Getting the new coaches has been awesome, and they’ve been great with the team,” she said. “Both [Waldrum and Romangolo] seem like they like to ... move the ball around, keep it on the ground [and] focus on possession.”

The Irish will try to snap a two-game losing streak this weekend when they travel to Santa Clara, Calif., to take on No. 16 Santa Clara on Friday, followed by No. 4 Stanford on Sunday.

Contact Greg Hadley at ghadley@nd.edu

Captains

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

the ice, he was one of our hardest workers, if not the hardest.”

Fogarty and Schneider bring prior leadership experience to their new posts. Fogarty captained Edina High School in Minnesota to the state semifinals during his senior year, and Schneider has been an alternate captain for Austria’s Under-18 and Under-20 teams in several international tournaments.

Fogarty said the best leadership strategy he knows is always giving 100 percent effort. “I’m more of a lead-by-example kind of guy,” Fogarty said. “I’ve always been kind of a quiet, quiet guy, but obviously now that I’m a captain, I’m going to need to get out of my comfort zone at times and speak up. I try to do things the right way ... and always be one of the hardest workers.”

All three players made significant contributions last year for the Irish. Fogarty notched three goals and eight assists in 33 games while also excelling on faceoffs. Herr had the third-most goals for the Irish, with 14 in 40 games and also added 13 assists. Schneider was a steady presence on the ice in 39 games and recorded eight goals and eight assists last year. He also was named to the Hockey East All-Academic team.

Fogarty said he is confident the three can work together to help this young Irish team start the season right.

“We all kind of complement each other well,” Fogarty said. “Peter [Schneider] is kind of that rah-rah guy, ... and Sam [Herr]’s a little bit of both, [rah-rah and lead by example]. It’s kind of a group thing — we’re not going to make any decisions without ... talking to each other.”

The first duty facing the captains is getting the Irish ready for Oct. 5 when Notre Dame faces Waterloo in an exhibition matchup at Compton Family Ice Arena.

Contact Casey Karnes at wkarnes@nd.edu

Robinson

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

of difficulties. The Irish compiled a 20-10 overall record and a 13-2 Big East record two seasons ago, but their overall record slipped to 13-18 last year, and the team went just 7-13 in the ACC.

The Irish were inconsistent and often out of sync, losing seven consecutive matches at one point, including five consecutive conference losses.

This year’s preseason poll lists the Irish as 11th out of 15 ACC teams, which is where they finished last season.

The team is relatively young and lacks experience — the six incoming freshmen make up the largest class on the team. There is no official captain. Notre Dame does not have as much star power as some of the top ACC teams.

Yet, there are signs of promise. The 3-0 loss to Minnesota was deceptive — the Irish played well and actually pushed the Golden Gophers to set point in each of the first two sets, though they were unable to close out a set.

The freshmen have already shown they can contribute. Middle Blocker Sam Fry had a team-high nine blocks against Minnesota, and she has tallied nine kills and 15.5 points to go along with it. Against Wisconsin, freshman libero Natalie Johnson led the team with eight digs, while outside hitter Sydney Kuhn added four kills, four digs and a block assist.

Graduate student outside hitter Nicole Smith, who has team-highs with 19 points and 33 kills, has been great with the younger players by example, working hard in practices (and) working hard in games.

The six incoming freshmen without ... talking to each other.

The first duty facing the captains is getting the Irish ready for Oct. 5 when Notre Dame faces Waterloo in an exhibition matchup at Compton Family Ice Arena.

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ARIES (March 21-April 19): Take action if something isn’t going right. Do whatever you can to bring about a better understanding and accord as an important partnership. Be willing to make changes if it will help the situation. Romance will enhance your love life. ****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Make sure that everything is in order at home. Clear any problems you face with friends, relatives or colleagues before the situation heats up. Being proactive will encourage others to help find workable solutions. Work as a team player. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 21): What you do to help others will bring you great satisfaction. Take action to good faith and you will receive the negative feedback you face from those who don’t like change. You can make a difference if you follow your heart. ****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Discuss private matters and you will get answers that will help you pursue new avenues. Don’t be too sure or try to change the impossible. Take the road less traveled and enjoy the ride. Make peace and keep moving. ****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Passion and making changes to your life will boost your confidence and bring favorable results. Opportunities that are within reach and a change of location or a trip will encourage you to explore new people, places and passions. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Apply what you know to a worthwhile cause. Your ability to act on behalf of others will enhance your reputation and your prospects for future opportunities. Don’t be shy when your talent can be put to good use. ****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Keep life simple and your plans modest. Don’t let the past discourange you or the future overwhelm you. Balance will be required to make the best choices. Don’t let anyone push you in a direction you don’t want to go. ****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don’t get angry; get even. Success is the best revenge, so get down to business and do whatever it takes to eliminate your competition. Your own love vision and ability to wend extra detail and you will excel masterfully. ****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don’t be swayed into thinking you can make more cash or turn something you have into a profit on the open market. Bring about changes that enhance your life and ensure that you connect with people you find exhilarating. ****

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Consider ways to add value to your home, your monuments or even a hobby you enjoy doing. Look at how you have structured the way you do things and you enjoy doing it will lead to a plan that has potential. ****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): If you have an idea to start a new company, the time is ripe to go. Your ability to impressed others will help you to form partnerships, and what you do to help others will bring you great satisfaction.****

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): If your career goals guide you, you will gain upon any manner of change, allowing you to move on as it is too hard to return. Enjoying and knowing you will play the game more fairly than ever before. ****

Birthday Baby: You are adaptable, curious and intelligent. You are impulsive and love to play the game to the max. Gains are within reach. ****

Happy Birthday! A change in how you handle your money or how much you have is heading your way. Keep personal finances a secret to avoid having others take advantage of your generosity. Focus on your skills and knowledge. This is a year to excel, and spending time and money on self-improvement will pay off. Your numbers are 4, 13, 17, 21, 29, 34, 40.
Bohaboy paces Irish attack

By Greg Hadley
Associate Sports Editor

She says it’s just pure luck, but there’s no denying it — August is Lauren Bohaboy’s month.

In the past three years, the senior forward has scored eight goals and notched two assists in just 10 games during that month. Last season, four of Bohaboy’s team-leading seven goals came in August. She also has three goals to start this year, leading the No. 25 Irish (2-2-0).

“I think it’s just a coincidence,” Bohaboy said. “I’m just focusing [so that] in games, when I get good chances, I’m putting them away.”

The Mission Viejo, Calif., native has been one of Notre Dame’s premier goal-scorers since she came to campus in 2011. In her first three seasons, she netted 20 goals, more than any of her classmates. She has ranked in the top two on the squad in goals as well as points.

“She’s a great goal-scorer,” Irish coach Theresa Romagnolo said. “She knows how to find herself in critical areas of the field to put herself in position to score. She’s got a great shot with either foot, and she brings a lot to the table.”

Now, the senior will serve as Notre Dame’s prime offensive threat as she tries to lead the Irish back to the College Cup for the first time since the program’s NCAA title in 2010.

“(I want to get to the College Cup) more than words can really say,” Bohaboy said. “Especially because we’ve never been in my three years here, I’d love to go there, and I know that we can do that.”

Notre Dame’s march to the NCAA tournament hit an early snare over the weekend at the Notre Dame Invitational. The Irish dropped a pair of matches, including a close loss to Virginia Tech in the season-opener.

“[We want to emulate] the way they went about their business,” Fogarty said. “I was fortunate enough to room with Jeff Costello, so I got to see how he carries himself or handles himself in different situations. Off the ice, he was a real smart guy; he was a good citizen, … and then on the ice.”

Jackson names captains

By Casey Karnes
Sports Writer

With the season quickly approaching, Notre Dame announced a brand new trio of captains Wednesday.

Irish coach Jeff Jackson named junior center Steven Fogarty as team captain, while senior right wing Peter Schneider and junior left wing Sam Herr will serve as alternate captains. They replace a quartet of graduated captains, Jeff Costello, Bryan Rust, T.J. Tynan and Stephen Johns, the last three of whom were alternate captains.

Fogarty said he plans to apply many of the lessons he learned from his former teammates and captains.

“We want to emulate the way they went about their business,” Fogarty said. “I was fortunate enough to room with Jeff Costello, so I got to see how he carries himself or handles himself in different situations. Off the ice, he was a real smart guy; he was a good citizen, … and then on the ice.”

Notre Dame prepares for crucial weekend

Andrew Robinson
Sports Writer

This weekend is huge for Notre Dame. The Irish are playing at home, with their reputation on the line. The result could greatly impact the direction of their season.

And no, I’m not talking about the historic matchup against Michigan on the gridiron this Saturday night — I’m talking about the importance for the Irish volleyball team to have a strong performance as it hosts the Golden Dome Invitational at Purcell Pavilion, Friday through Sunday.

After dropping its first two matches 3-0 against No. 18 Minnesota and No. 4 Wisconsin, we are left to wonder when the tide comes, will this Irish team be ready to match up with its high-level ACC opponents?

In its transition from the Big East to the ACC, Notre Dame encountered its share of tough opponents.

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Welsh takes over for Barnes

Observer Staff Report

Twenty-four hours after Brian Barnes suddenly resigned as head coach of the women’s swimming and diving team, Notre Dame announced Wednesday that former men’s team coach Tim Welsh will run the team on an interim basis.

Barnes, the women’s coach for the past six years, stepped down Tuesday, saying he needs to spend more time with his family. Barnes has two children, Jack, 7, and Caroline, 5, and his wife died two years ago after battling cancer, according to und.com.

His interim replacement, Welsh, retired as head coach of the men’s program at the end of the 2013-2014 season, his 29th year at Notre Dame. He served as head coach of both the men’s and women’s teams in his first 10 seasons with the Irish before switching over to lead only the men.

“In one sense I had been looking forward to stepping away from the day-to-day challenges of coaching, and yet I truly look forward to this assignment,” Welsh said in a press release. “I’ve obviously worked closely with Brian the last half-dozen years, so I have a familiarity with the team. The program has made great strides in recent years, and I hope I can help lead that group to continued success.”

Notre Dame Director of Athletics Jack Swabrick said in the press release he is confident Welsh will be able to continue the recent run of success the Irish swimmers have achieved but gave no indication of how long he expected Welsh to stay on as coach or how quickly he would name a permanent replacement.

In his 29 years with the Irish, Welsh took the team to new heights, winning 22 conference titles and setting over 200 program records.

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