By JACK ROONEY
Associate News Editor

For months, the Islamic State group commonly referred to as ISIS has made shockwaves in the Middle East and around the world with its swift, merciless and religiously-motivated violence. On a recent trip to the Middle East, Notre Dame professor of theology Fr. Dan Groody witnessed the human face of the victims of the Islamic State group’s brutality so he could share their story with Catholics in the United States and the Notre Dame community.

‘Christ gives me peace’

“When we were in a Bulgarian refugee camp, this guy came up to me and said ‘I’m a Christian.’ … I didn’t have my clerics on, but he said ‘I’m a Christian,’ and so I said, ‘Tell me more,’” Groody said. “And he said ISIS asked him if he was a Christian and he said yes, and they asked him why he was a Christian and he said, ‘I don’t find peace in Islam. I want to find peace. I’m tired of the fighting. I’m tired of the violence, I’m tired of all the hatred. I want to find peace and Christ gives me peace.’

“He said he came back later than evening and (ISIS) killed his mother, his father, his sister and his two brothers. He said ‘I have no one else left in the world.’ He was very much alone in the midst than evening and [ISIS] killed his mother, his father, his sister and his two brothers. He said ‘I have no one else left in the world.’ He was very much alone in the midst...

‘These are our brothers and sisters’

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Exchange students flourish at Notre Dame

By EMILY McCONVILLE
News Writer

As Notre Dame students scatter across the globe to study at foreign universities, many of those universities send their own students to Notre Dame. According to the Notre Dame International (NDI) website, the University has student exchange partnerships with 12 colleges and universities in Europe and Asia. David Younger, associate director of NDI, said each university typically sends one to three students to Notre Dame per semester.

Younger said the exchange programs are similar to Notre Dame’s study abroad programs: students apply and are accepted through their home universities, though Notre Dame makes the final application decision. He said each exchange partner typically sends one to three students per semester.

Younger said the appeal of studying abroad at Notre Dame often stems both from the University’s academic reputation and its conventional college setting.

Saint Mary’s to host teen writing conference

By TABITHA RICKETTS
News Writer

The Department of Education at Saint Mary’s College and the Michiana Writers’ Center are teaming up to host a teen writing conference Saturday called Get Inked on Saturday in the Carroll Auditorium of Madeleva Hall.

The conference, open to students in grades 8 to 12 and held on the Saint Mary’s campus, will run from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The event will feature keynote speaker Tracy Bilen, author of the young adult novel “What She Left Behind.” Kathy Higgins-Coulthard, director of the Michiana Writers’ Center and education professor at Saint Mary’s, said the conference hopes to strengthen teens’ writing skills with engaging workshops and guest speakers.

“The Get Inked Teen Writing Conference is designed to provide teen writers with the same types of experiences adult writers get at their writing conferences,” Higgins-Coulthard said. “Our guest author, Tracy Bilen, is a huge draw.”

The teens attending the conference will not only get to hear Bilen speak, Higgins-Coulthard said, but they will also have the opportunity to see them write to learn what it’s like to be a working writer.

Journalist analyzes Russia-Ukraine conflict

By GABRIELLA MALESPIN
News Writer

Journalist Lawrence Sheets delivered a lecture on tensions in Russian and Ukraine in Carey Auditorium on Thursday evening.

Sheets, who served as the National Public Radio’s Moscow correspondent, gave on the political and historical nuances of Russia-Ukraine conflict.

“We are in a very different place right now,” Sheets said. “Russia and Ukraine, these are two places that are not so far away politically.”

Sheets also spoke about the “non-existent” Russian-Zionist connection in the conflict, saying it is a “myth” that Russia and Ukraine are united in their disdain for Israel.

Sheets discussed the current situation in Ukraine in a lecture titled “Russia and Ukraine: A View from the Ground,” the third in a three-part series of lectures Sheet gave on the political and historical nuances of Russia-Ukraine conflict.

Sheets, who served as the National Public Radio’s Moscow correspondent, analyzed the political and historical nuances of Russia-Ukraine conflict.
The Observer regrets this error.
Chorale to perform sacred, patriotic works in concert

By BIANCA ALMADA
News Writer

The Notre Dame Chorale, the University’s official concert choir, will perform its annual fall concert at 8 p.m. Friday in DeBartolo Performing Arts Center’s Leighton Concert Hall. The theme of the concert is “God, Country, Notre Dame.”

“The concert will feature sacred works (God), patriotic songs (country) and school songs (Notre Dame) in addition to Irish airs and the Scottish song ‘Loch Lomond,’” Chorale director Alexander Blachly said. “There will also be a special feature of the program with the participation of the newly-formed Notre Dame Children’s Choir.”

Blachly said the repertoire of the group ranges from Gregorian chants, Renaissance motets and classical pieces to more contemporary works. Staff pianist Paivi Ektroh will accompany the choir’s vocals. The show, which will last approximately one hour with no intermission, celebrates the 40th anniversary of the Chorale and kicks off a weekend-long Chorale alumni reunion.

“This is a celebration of the past members of the Chorale,” Blachly said. “The reunion will continue the next day after the concert with singing activities in Leighton Concert Hall and a visit to the DPAC organ hall.”

Senior Mimi Michuda, Chorale president, said she appreciates the emotion and excitement surrounding the reunion.

“Chorale is more than just close friendships, we are a family,” she said.

Junior Erin Bishop, Chorale treasurer, said the concert will feature many changes from the past performances.

“The officers and myself have worked really hard with Alex (Blachly) to revamp our concerts and to hopefully increase attendance,” she said. “This concert, we’re singing a much greater variety of pieces, especially with the more modern patriotic and school songs.”

Blachly said the Chorale has about 50 members, both male and female, most of whom are undergraduate students representing every college. Besides the fall concert, the Chorale also performs Handel’s Messiah with the Notre Dame Festival Orchestra each December, embarks on a winter tour each January and travels for an international tour every three or four years. The Chorale has also performed with the South Bend Symphony Orchestra, and the group will participate in a performance of Mendelssohn’s Elijah next March.

“Many students do not know about Chorale because there are many other choirs on campus that sing much more modern music,” Bishop said. “We want people to know that we’re here as well and just as great of a group.”

Tickets for the fall concert are free for students and $10 for the general public. They can be purchased at the DPAC box office or online at performingarts.nd.edu.

Contact Bianca Almada at balmada@nd.edu

SMC concludes supply drive for Ebola patients

By RONI DARLING
News Writer

Saint Mary’s associate professor of nursing Ellia Harmeyer, the Sisters of Neretitii and Belles for Africa concluded their supply drive for the Ebola outbreak Wednesday. They placed bins in Spes Unica Hall to collect supplies to send to African countries that would help prevent the spread of the virus, including hand sanitizers, thermometers, gloves, surface wipes and masks.

Harmeyer said she encourages people to stay calm and approach the Ebola virus in a sensible manner.

“Ebola has been around for over 30 years,” she said. “Currently the numbers in western African, in a small number of countries, have risen significantly. We should not ignore it, but we should also not become hysterical.”

She said it is important to donate items because many affected countries have populations that live in rural areas without access to the resources they need. Due to poor healthcare, any illnesses impoverished people in Africa face have the potential to be life-threatening, Harmeyer said.

“Already, of the seven cases treated in the US, only one person has died,” she said. “That is a much lower level of mortality than the disease has in western Africa.”

She said influenza will be more of a problem for Americans over the next few months or so.

“Real influenza, not the common cold which is sometimes referred to as ‘the flu,’ will cause death in a number of people over the next four months,” she said. “But we ‘know’ the flu, and therefore we don’t panic.”

She said Ebola transmission is not airborne and requires contact with body fluids.

“Sitting next to someone on a plane is not going to transmit this virus,” she said.

Harmeyer said there are only three countries in Africa that are experiencing this epidemic, not the whole continent of 58 countries.

“We tend to fear those things that are new and different,” she said. “We do need to make sensible decisions based on the facts.”

Assistant professor of nursing Juliana Mwose said although Ebola is not a new disease, this happens to be the largest and most complex Ebola outbreak since 1976 when it was first discovered.

“This time around, Ebola has claimed more lives and spread across land borders and abroad,” Mwose said. “I think the best way to deal with this disease right now is to try and slow it down and restrict its spread while the scientific world figures out a vaccine.

“We have eradicated many other serious diseases, and I think this is not an exception. But in the meantime, we need to do all we can to get education about the disease and keep it contained. That is why I think the simple method of using hygiene will go along way into fighting the disease.”

She said as a country, it is important for Americans to keep up with news to know what is happening, and also to get the truth about the disease and educate families and communities on how to prevent the spread of the virus.

As a college community, Mwose said the most important contribution students and faculty can have on helping the Ebola crisis is donating basic necessities on how to prevent the disease.

Sophomore Mairead Zigulich said in the Saint Mary’s community, it may not seem like students are making a major impact just by donating supplies because Ebola is such a huge problem, but every little bit counts.

“If everyone gave just a little, that has the power to make a major difference,” she said.

Students interested in donating money or supplies can contact Diane Fox at dfox@saintmarys.edu.

Contact Roni Darling at vdarli02@saintmarys.edu

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Conference
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said, but will also be able to write with her in small group sessions. Saint Mary’s junior Teresa Guerrero will co-chair some of the workshops.

“As an English major and Secondary Education minor, my involvement in the conference is to help teach a brief lesson about the workshops I am helping to conduct and help students with anything they may need,” Guerrero said.

According to a list provided upon registration, students can choose from workshops covering a variety of topics including how to find inspiration, write body language, establish effective communication, and more. The workshops are to be led by and on topics of particular interest to the students. Guerrero said she is excited to work with the students who are willing to devote their Saturdays to writing.

“I was motivated to get involved with the conference because of the students who are coming,” she said. “Hopefully I can incorporate some of the ideas presented at the conference into my own teaching one day.” The conference is also going to be helpful for writing teachers, Higgs-Coulthard said.

“Area teachers are invited to attend the morning session for free in order to learn more about teaching writing,” she said. “Mary Nicolini, the site director for our area’s National Writing Project, will be on hand to answer questions.” Additionally, most presenters are not just teachers, but writers themselves, Higgs-Coulthard said. This gives the presenters an increased understanding of the struggles the teen writers are facing, she said, which will help make them more able to help the teens.

She said this is the second year for what she hopes will become an established annual conference.

“The conference exists to celebrate and support teen writers,” Higgs-Coulthard said. “While sporting events showcase athletes and other events like band concerts and theater plays showcase performers, there is nothing else around to showcase the talents of Michiana’s young writers.”

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Conflict
continued from page 1
Bureau chief and currently works for the International Crisis Group (ICG), focused his talk on the political instability that characterizes Ukraine.

What we face is a very, very serious challenge to all of Europe and to the international order,” he said.

According to Sheets, the current situation in Russia is a product of Russia’s imperialist attitudes, which translates to serious consequences in Ukraine. Sheets said while Ukrainians have a unique perspective on their identity with regards to Russia, they characterize their country as more than an extension of the Russian federation.

Sheets said Russia’s ethnic makeup and its variety in language usage make it so difficult to categorize.

“If you ask me which country is most difficult to model in terms of stability, I would say it’s Ukraine,” Sheets said. “Ukraine is a very divided country.” Sheets said it was problematic that many American citizens don’t know what is going on in Ukraine and attributed this to the fact that around 1992-1993, there was serious discourage-ment to learn Russian culture or the history of the Soviet Union.

“There’s very little expertise on the country,” he said. “It has to do with the fact that there is a decreasing expertise on the former Soviet Union. There seems to be a conscious effort to avoid discussing what is happening in Ukraine.”

Sheets said the nation of Georgia also currently faces problems because its government joining of politicians with different ideologies, agendas and political strategies, which leads to destabilization within the country.

“If you’ve been noticing what’s been happening in Georgia, there’s a very serious political unraveling in that country, and it’s been predicted for a long time,” Sheets said.

According to Sheets, this political unraveling, along with economic destabilization in Ukraine could potentially spell problems for Russia.

“This brings up the question of serious destabilization within Russia itself,” Sheets said.

Sheets said Ukraine also currently faces severe problems with its economy.

“It reflects deep divisions within Ukrainian society and issues of Ukrainian identity,” he said. “This history of Ukraine, militarily, is not a classical military history; it’s a history of partisanship.”

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Groody

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of Bulgaria. He couldn’t go back to his homeland, and he really could not go forward at this point, either.”

Groody travelled to Bulgaria, Turkey and Greece from Sept. 21 to 23 with a delegation of six people from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) that focuses on migrant and refugee ministry.

As Christians visiting the region, Groody said the delegation faced some of the same threats the refugees they encountered did, but nothing compared to their reality.

“Sure there’s always a risk. Life’s a risk,” he said. “I didn’t feel threatened at any time, but we were aware that some of the towns we were in, ISIS was there, and even some of the houses we were in it wasn’t clear who we were dealing with.

“I think the job was not to play it safe. Our job was to find out what was happening, and unless we were able to hear the stories of those people where they work, we really couldn’t of fer anything substantial. But whatever risks we took, we were not going to compare what we people were talking to us going through. … Anything we faced was just so miniscule in comparison.”

Groody said members of this committee travel to different parts of the world with pressing migrant and refugee issues each year. In the past two years, they have been to central america and other parts of the world.

“First of all, don’t forget about us, but secondly, what we really ask, ‘what more can notre dame do, and what can we do as catholics,’” Groody said.

When he visited a school on the border of Turkey and Syria, overflown with 3,000 refugees, Groody said a classroom full of young girls told him what they would want to tell the U.N.

“They looked at me and said, ‘First of all, don’t forget about us, but secondly, what we really want is an education, and we want to have a future with hope. We want to have someone to help us and not just to look at the numbers of students,’ she said. ‘What I heard again and again is they want an education. I ask what can we do to contribute to that.’

Groody said he could envision Notre Dame playing a role in estab lishing satellite learning op portunities for refugees. He also said he thought the Alliance for Catholic Education could help give migrant and refugee chil dren an education in the United States.

Overall, Groody said the ref ugee crises in the Middle East, Central America and other parts of the world call Catholic com munities such as Notre Dame to examine their role as advocates for the marginalized.

“It’s a risk and it’s very significant right now,” he said. “We live in an age of migration and we live at a time when there are pressing human needs. And I think it’s a time when our government is doing something — it’s trying to respond to some of these issues — but it raises the question of how much of a responsibility is upon us not to be indifferent and to really rise up to the humani tarian challenge that’s there, and I think even more so for those of us who have a more global perspective, to see how central that is to our own life of faith.”

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Exchange

Continued from Page 1

“They were nothing compared to what we were dealing with. … anything we were dealing with.

What appealed to me was the volunteer experience, the fact that everyone seemed to be so nice to each other. … I think the depth of relationships.

Nadège Lejeune, a second-year Master’s student at Université Paris Diderot who is completing the final year of her English degree at Notre Dame, said classes at Notre Dame are smaller and more discussion-based than in France.

“Classes are very different,” she said. “At home you have a very large number of students, and you just sit down and write everything down and we don’t talk, whereas here, I’m in classes with seven people and the class is basically conversational. I was quite taken aback; it was quite difficult for me, but I’ve gotten used to it. It’s interesting to see the different ways of learning.”

Michelin said one of the biggest differences she found between Notre Dame and Sciences Po was the depth of relationships.

“It is complex to have profound relationships and to be true friends with people,” she said. “It starts at the ‘what’s up’ stage. I call it the ‘what’s up’ relationship. … At first, when I heard ‘what’s up’, my French reflex is to say, ‘Oh my God, I’m so tired. I have so many things to do’ — to actually talk about things that really matter. And they’re like, ‘oh yeah. Well, see you.’ … Now I understand it’s another way to say hello.”

Despite this, Michelin said she liked how friendly people were both in academic in social settings.

“It’s quite difficult to make close friends here, but the fact is, it is really pleasant to be able to talk to everybody and never be disregarded for something,” she said.

Lejeune said she was considering applying to Notre Dame for her Ph.D. and studying abroad affected her career plans.

“It’s changed a lot of the things that I’ve been thinking over the past few years,” she said. “I didn’t want to teach, and now I’m considering it.”

Michelin said her time at Notre Dame helped her improve her English proficiency as well as her knowledge of other cultures.

“I will become much more open-minded to each person,” she said. “I will be able to speak with people really different from who I am much more easily. It’s easier now to speak to someone who is from another culture, another nationality.”

Contact Emily McConville at emconv1@nd.edu
I have recently accepted an internship of-\er with a consulting firm in Chicago. After the lengthy process of first round inter-\eviews, followed by second round interviews, followed by office visits at multiple firms, it is very satisfying to look back on the experi-\ence and reflect. For some, interviewing with companies for internships or full-time positions is fun. For others, it is a nerve-filled experience that is dreaded. Thankfully, I think intern-\eving is fun and also a great opportunity to get to know someone new sitting across the table. It was like every interview I had was a new potential life path based on the type of work or part of the country I would be venturing to. Personally, I think this outlook on interviewing is what made me successful in getting internship offers and creating personal connections with various profes-\sionals in the industry.

So many people go into interviews hav-\ing their resume studied, their answers to the generic questions memorized and their posture in perfect form. Personally, I think this classic approach is overrated and creates a line of candidates that are cookie cutter in nature. Cookie-cutter candidates are ready to draw attention to the accolades and skills on their resumes with polished delivery just like they practiced. In my opinion, these candidates are missing the most important aspect of interviewing: the human connection. Sure, a high GPA and an extensive skill set are wonderful and something necessary, but they just get your foot in the door.

From there, it is all about the connection you can make with the interviewer. That person may never want to hire you, but more importantly, that person is judging whether or not they want to work with you. Things as simple as similar hobby in-\terests or making them laugh immediately forms a human connection that will always be more powerful than the cookie-cutter answers. In one of my best interviews, we spent 20 out of 30 minutes talking about our interest in photography and sharing photos with each other. In another great interview, we spent 15 minutes talking about how we both play the saxophone and about my involvement in band.

The purpose of writing this column is to encourage everyone interviewing to set aside the cookie-cutter approach and let the human side shine through. Interviewers know that as Notre Dame students, we are all very gifted intellectually. They are interested in our skills, but more impor-\tantly, they are interested in us as people. Therefore, I encourage everyone to ap-\proach interviewing as an opportunity to explore new and exciting paths in life and to really get to know the person sitting across from you. They may just turn into a lifelong colleague and friend.

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Interview season

Michael Kramm
Photographer

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Dare to DART

You know it when you saw that fateful email arrive in your inbox at 10:14 a.m. Oct. 31. You knew the blissful, carefree portion of your semester had to come to an end when that subject line – “Spring 2015 Registration (DART)” – graced your screen, along with all other ND-\SELECTED-STUDENTS@lists.nd.edu.

Until now, DARTing days were the low point of the semester. They were filled with anxiety as you tried to fit in every class perfectly, stress when the spots in those courses were snapped before your eyes and fatigue as you had to wake up at the crack of dawn to sign up for classes you didn’t want in the first place.

But that’s all about to change. As you begin to plan your schedule and plot your DART, the following list is the Essential and Authoritative Official Observer Guide to Your Perfect DART. On behalf of the entire Editorial Board, you’re welcome.

Rule No. 1

Your dart time is 7:40 a.m.? You’ll need to wake up at 5 a.m. and check Class Search every 10 minutes to make sure all the slots in your desired classes didn’t fill up during the last DART time. You’ll want to give yourself ample time to panic and post between 7-7:40 a.m. rolls around. Understand that if you don’t get the exact schedule you envisioned, there are no solutions, so you should be unhappy all day and complain to your friends as much as possible. Be pre-\pared for this – drink plenty of water in anticipation of a lot of indignant speeches about how Notre Dame is trying to sabotage your academic career. If you are a business major, make sure you have a non-business friend around so you can make him or her understand there is nothing more challenging or stressful than life in Mendoza.

Rule No. 2

Do everything in your power to win a precious DART time on the first day of your year — vigilantly wish on every 11:11 and shooting star you see, and avoid black cats at all costs. If you fail, forget about coordinating a good schedule. Your chances of getting a spot in that 11 a.m. seminar with Notre Dame’s best professor are over. Welcome to the 8:30 a.m. lecture lifestyle. In fact, if you’re on the second day, you might as well not at all, after all, you wouldn’t rather have no class than have to wake up before 9 a.m.

Rule No. 3

The best way to assure the best possible chances of maybe getting into a class where the average is at least a C, at best a C+, is to become an athlete. Start each day with 20 reps of 100 push-ups, 25 reps of 150 sit-ups, and run a mara-\thon as cool-down. You can also hire a professional trainer for a couple of thousands of dollars each day and hope he or she can get you in tip-top shape. Find a sport that allows you to do everything in your power if you don’t learn from one of the top scholars that knowledge is power? Well, you’re never going to hold any power if you don’t learn from one of the top scholars in your field or take that cool elective about “Cutting-edge technology in Biology/Aerospace Engineering/Finance/ [insert major here].” Therefore, use the brain that got you into Notre Dame to devise any method — hacking into the DART system, creating an algorithm that alerts you when precious class spaces open or even resorting to good ol’ fashioned bribery — to get into that class you absolutely need to land that job you absolutely have to have. And when you don’t land said job after graduation, don’t say I didn’t warn you.

Rule No. 4

Since this is happening in November, make sure you wear layers — this isn’t bro tanks and Chubbies season. You never know how the weather will be in South Bend, so you might want to lug that warm winter coat around with you just in case. Besides dressing for the elements, the other big rule is to pace yourself. You don’t want to be that kid who has to jog back to campus well before the day is over because he is a lightweight and tried too hard to keep up with his heavyweight friends. Be sure to eat plenty of carbs throughout the morning and afternoon to absorb all that meat — oh, you want to know about DARTing, not darrting? Sorry, can’t help you with that one.

Rule No. 5

You can’t DART without your hands. You have to type in those precious PINs somehow. Stop using them. Now. No more shaking hands for networking or for interviews. You’re not going to get a good job anyway if you aren’t able to DART. No more holding hands with your significant other. No one will love you if you don’t have the 11 a.m. class which will be the gateway to your future career. Do not take notes in your current class. Everyone knows your future classes are more important than the classes you are taking now. Simply do not take your hands out of your pockets, ever. A tree branch might fall on them, a crazed biker could zip by and take them clean off, and a high five may leave you permanently crippled. Don’t take such a risk when DARTing is on the line. If you have to take them out of your pockets, do so only in a safe, empty and locked room for strength and dexterity exercises. On second thought, don’t do that either. You may pull or tear a muscle. Put down this paper, immediately.
Building God’s house

Scott Boyle
The linux broker

“I thought Sunday was a day of rest!” This is the question I ask myself every two weeks as I arise at 6 a.m. to begin preparations for the Confirmation sessions I coordinate through my Indianapolis parish.

On this particular day, like most days, there’s silence at this hour. I am the only one that’s stirring, save for the fog that has pitched camp in the grass just beneath my window. Past the fog, though, I can only see one thing—darkness.

Soon, however, my morning routine fills the day with light and activity. I shower, dress and grab my smiley face mug to fill it with coffee. It doesn’t take long before my own morning fog has begun to lift.

It lifts just in time for me to be able to drive to work. After the short drive to the parish, the fog greets me again. It has apparently decided to camp here too. Through it, however, I catch a glimpse of the sanctuary lamp through the windows of the church. It casts a small light, and I smile to myself as I remember the big truth it signifies: Jesus is really there.

And you know what? I can’t stop smiling. The reality of the darkness that I awoke to is no more. In its place, I encounter the reality of a light that is so much greater. It is the light of Christ, one whose love shines no matter the weather of our lives.

Of course, this is the same Jesus that had to make work a lot himself. This is the same Jesus that was beaten and spit upon, the same Jesus that was crucified, the same Jesus that was nailed to a cross and left to die. That Jesus is really there in that sanctuary lamp.

Right in front of me is the most awesome reminder that no matter the weather, no matter what we do to Him, God never turns his back on us.

I get to the office and I have a stack of e-mails waiting for me. “Sorry, Scott, my son can’t be at Confirmation due to a homework group meeting.” “Scott, my daughter has a soccer tournament.” “Scott, my son can’t be at Confirmation due to a homework group meeting.”

I read more of these, I have to admit that I get a little bit deflated.

After such a good start to the day, I can’t help but think to myself now: Why do so many things take precedence over spending time with God? We put so much ahead of Him. And, as I’ve experienced, spending time with God is never convenient, especially when there’s homework or soccer to worry about. Fortunately for us, God’s promises to us transcend convenience.

C.S. Lewis once wrote in this manner in his book, “Mere Christianity.”

“Imagine your house as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house. At first, perhaps, you can understand what He is doing. He is getting the drains right and stopping the leaks in the roof and so on. That makes sense. But then there are jobs needing doing and so you are not surprised. But presently He starts knocking the house about in a way that hurts abominably and does not seem to make any sense. What on earth is he up to? The explanation is that He is building quite a different house from the one you thought of—throwing out a new wing here, putting on an extra floor there, running up towers, making courtyards. You thought you were being made into a decent little cottage, but He is building a palace. He intends to come and live in it Himself.

Why do we live within the constraints of our own agenda when God promises us so much more? He wants to make our hearts so big, so “palatial” that they will be able to absorb and be filled with as much of his love as possible.

But, of course, it costs our hearts something to be fashioned in this way. As Lewis observed further, “We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with infinite joy offered us— we are far too easily pleased.” We fool about with worldly things we think will satisfy us, only to realize they weren’t the things we really desire.

The view of Lewis remarked, “If we find ourselves with a desire that nothing in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that we were made for another world.”

Want to know the exciting thing? That world is not completely beyond our grasp. We can build God’s kingdom now; our hearts can become the palaces of the Most High. We just have the take the time to open our hearts to God’s will. He can do the rest.

Scott Boyle graduated in May of 2012 with a degree in theology and a minor in medieval studies. He currently lives and works as a Campus and Youth Minister in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis as a member of Notre Dame’s Echo Program. Contact him at sboyle2@nd.edu

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

Michael and the whale

Michael Fliotsos

Center for the Biological Regulation of Natural Resources

“Sleeping Humpback Whale,” with self-explanatory subject matter, was recorded by a researcher by the name of Kieran Brown in an ocean research section of General Biology B, but apparently lives a lot himself. This is the same Jesus that had to make work a lot himself. This is the same Jesus that was crucified, the same Jesus that was nailed to a cross and left to die. That Jesus is really there in that sanctuary lamp.

Right in front of me is the most awesome reminder that no matter the weather, no matter what we do to Him, God never turns his back on us.

I get to the office and I have a stack of e-mails waiting for me. “Sorry, Scott, my son can’t be at Confirmation due to a homework group meeting.” “Scott, my daughter has a soccer tournament.” “Scott, my son can’t be at Confirmation due to a homework group meeting.”

I read more of these, I have to admit that I get a little bit deflated.

After such a good start to the day, I can’t help but think to myself now: Why do so many things take precedence over spending time with God? We put so much ahead of Him. And, as I’ve experienced, spending time with God is never convenient, especially when there’s homework or soccer to worry about. Fortunately for us, God’s promises to us transcend convenience.

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As the weather gets colder and all the colorful autumn leaves are swept away, many students are left yearning for warmer climates. In an effort to keep early winter’s sting away, many turn to hot seasonal foods such as soups and stews to keep them warm. For students seeking something more tropical, Mango Café provides the South Bend community with authentic Venezuelan food at low prices.

Although Mango Café is located at 1740 South Bend Ave., patrons will be just as likely to think they are next to the beach somewhere in the Caribbean nation of Venezuela. “Mango is a very popular fruit in Venezuela, because it grows over there,” said owner Guillermo Mendez on the naming of the restaurant. “You think of a mango and you think ‘exotic.’ I was trying to be tropical and Caribbean, make you think of South America.” With brightly colored orange walls lined by numerous plants, the restaurant certainly evokes images of a tropical paradise. Run by the five members of the Mendez family, Mango Café represents a connection to home for a family that chose to leave their native country.

With the rise to power of Hugo Chávez, Guillermo Mendez and his family sought political refuge in the United States when they left Venezuela in 1999. “We left right before Chavez took over in 2000. We knew it was going to go downhill. Right before that, we got everything ready and met up with family that had been living here,” Mendez said about the decision to leave his native country. Despite the political situation in the country that forced the family to move to the United States, Mendez describes the local Venezuelan community as very supportive of the restaurant. “There really is a huge Venezuelan population in the area, I was surprised,” said Rene Mendez, Guillermo’s wife.

“I know a lot of people, but there have still been a lot of people I’ve never seen in my life. They all say good things about the food though,” Guillermo Mendez said.

Despite the large Venezuelan population in the area, the Mendez family claims the success of the restaurant crosses cultural lines. “There have been a lot of Hispanic students [from Notre Dame],” Guillermo said.

“I feel like it’s been more Americans though. We have had a lot of Venezuelans, but I feel absolutely way more Americans, especially around lunchtime,” Rene said.

A relative newcomer to Venezuelan food, I decided to try it for myself. After several minutes of wavering between various menu items, I finally decided on the Dominó arepa, a traditional Venezuelan dish made of ground corn dough and filled with assorted items, in this case beans and cheese. At $3, I was shocked with how much food I received and was forced to resist the urge to buy several more arepas. As delicious as the main course was, for me the real star of the show was one of the sides that I decided to order: the fried plantains. As a self-proclaimed connoisseur of the banana variant, I knew immediately that I had to try the fried plantains, and I was not disappointed. Covered in a delicious cream sauce and white Venezuelan cheese, this delicious dessert item had a distinctly Venezuelan twist to it.

“i know a lot of people, but there have you returning time and time again. Contact Marc Drake at mdrake@nd.edu
Promising Sitcoms to Watch

By MATTHEW MUNHALL
Scene Writer

It is a particularly dire time for the network sitcom. The broadcast network boast just two ultra-popular comedies — "The Big Bang Theory" and "Modern Family" — and neither are particularly fulfilling on a creative level. This season, NBC pulled its two-hour comedy block from Thursday nights, ending its iconic "Must See TV" lineup after 32 years. Of the nine comedies that have debated this fall, three have already been cancelled and the truly unfunny "Mulaney" seems headed toward a similar fate. The network sitcom still viable in an age dominated by football, CBS procedurals and four hours of "The Voice".

The network sitcom faces two major roadblocks. The first is the inclination for every comedy to feature an overly contrived concept. "Broadcasters have begun vetting sitcoms like blockbusters," TV critic Andy Greenwald wrote in a recent Grantland article. "Meaning: Premise is valued over character, hooks matter more than tone, and if the entire show can't be sold on a poster, it's not getting on the air." The deluge of rom-com sitcoms, which have their hook built into the premise, like "A to Z" and "Manhattan Love Story" (both of which have been cancelled) suggests as much. But ultimately, sitcoms hinge on well-written characters and chemistry between the actors. A "group of regulars hang out at a bar" is not a great tagline, but "Chasers" stayed on the air 11 seasons because of its great writing and charming cast.

Secondly, sitcoms need to be given time to find their footing. So much of the humor results from the dynamic between familiar characters, which takes time to develop. As The New Yorker critic Emily Nussbaum put it, "Panning a comedy's first six episodes is like complaining that a newborn has insufficient neck strength." Go back and watch the first few episodes of "Seinfeld" or "The Office" as proof that even the best comedies often have rocky beginnings. Judging a sitcom's potential from a 22-minute pilot is next-to-impossible, and in today's Twitter-driven conversation, shows are dismissed instantly before they have the opportunity to find their voice.

Luckily, two of this fall's new sitcoms, while not perfect by any means, have shown potential to emerge as truly enjoyable series. The first is ABC's "Black-ish," which is also the highest-rated of the new crop of comedies. The show follows an upper-middle-class black family, whose patriarch Andre Johnson (Anthony Anderson) feels his four children are out of touch with black culture. Tracee Ellis Ross holds the show together as Andrew's anesthesiologist wife Rainbow, while their four children are the best TV kids this side of Sally Draper.

With "Black-ish," showrunners Kenya Barris and Larry Wilmore have created a series that balances the reliable humor of family comedy with intelligent racial discourse. The show offers a relatively nuanced portrayal of race and what it means to be black in America in 2014. As their teenage son Andre Jr. (Marcus Scribner) tells his father at the end of the pilot, "You feel like I'm turning into a white boy. But I'm not. I'm just being me. But I don't know what that is yet."

The other is NBC's "Marry Me," the new show from "Happy Endings" creator David Caspe. Like the many other rom-com sitcoms that debuted this fall, its pilot focuses on a hokey premise. Jake (Ken Marino) and Annie (Casey Wilson) have been dating for six years, but everything goes wrong every time one tries to propose to the other. Luckily, the following episodes largely dispense with that high-concept narrative. Instead, it is slowly becoming a show about a group of friends hanging out in Chicago. Caspe pulled the same trick with the dead-"ly"-missed "Happy Endings" — whose pilot was equally uninspiring — and "Marry Me" is already adapting that show's zany, joke-a-second energy.

Both Marino and Wilson are hilarious and charming, and the couple has great chemistry, even if their characters are still caricatures. The supporting cast is equally strong, if not as fully developed yet. Especially great is Tymberlee Hill, who was also the stand-up in Hulu's hilarious "The Real Hotwives of Orlando," as Kay, Annie's next-door neighbor. Carnees from Upright Citizens Brigade alumni like Rob Huebel and Jessica Schneider round out the show, and I found myself laughing so hard I had to revind several times an episode.

Neither show is perfect — each rely heavily on sitcom plot tropes and need to take the time to develop their supporting characters. But they are a bright spot in an otherwise disappointing season for sitcoms and hopefully both are given the time to become confident, hilarious sitcoms worthy of their talented casts.

Contact Matthew Munhall at mmunhall@nd.edu

Theophilus London

By THOM BEHRENS
Scene Writer

On Nov. 4, Trinidad-born rapper Theophilus London released his second full-length album, "Vibes," on Warner Bros. Records. London's first album, "Timez Are Weird These Days," was released in 2011, gaining him startling notoriety and fame — the 27-year-old's list of friends, connections and material successes (he's bought Humphrey Bogart's old house, as he reported to Elle) are startling enough to give his music a listen. And with a musical attitude that got Kanye to where he is, and a bright spot in an otherwise disappointing season for sitcoms and hopefully both are given the time to become confident, hilarious sitcoms worthy of their talented casts.

Contact Thom Behrens at tbehren1@nd.edu

"Vibes"

Theophilus London

Label: Warner Bros Records
Tracks: "Tribal," "Heartbreaker"
If you like: Kanye West, J Cole

MARY McGRAW | The Observer
Big Ten rivals clash for division lead

Associated Press

Ohio State-Michigan State wins. But after that, there’s an elimination of game of sorts, too, in the West Division with Iowa visiting Minnesota, each 6-2 overall and atop the conference. The winner stays in the mix among the one-loss teams atop the West, while the loser essentially falls out of the race.

Going by the schedule alone, this is a must-win more for Minnesota, which hosts Ohio State next week. Then comes a daunting two-game road stretch to end November with games at Wisconsin and Nebraska.

Iowa hopes to build off its 48-7 victory last week over Northwestern. The Gophers will need to stop senior running back Mark Weisman, who has rushed for at least two touchdowns in each of the last five games.

The last time Minnesota start- ed 4-1 in the Big Ten was in 1990.

Inside the numbers:

Maryland’s Brad Craddock and Illinois’ Josh Ford are among the best kickers in the country. Craddock has hit all 14 of his attempts and has won three of four conference games. Ford is third in the country with 21.2 field goals per game. — Ficken last week became the first Penn State kicker since 1962 to make three field goals of at least 45 yards in a game. — Iowa RB Akrum Wadley ran for 106 yards last week against Northwestern, becoming the first Hawkeye to rush for more than 100 yards in a game since 2009.

The defensive line is the most impressive unit on the Illinois defense. At least 50 percent of the team’s 50 tackles for loss have come from the defensive line. The Gophers are a respectable seventh in total offense (367.6 yards) in conference games. They also got within 38-31 of Minnesota in the fourth quarter, but the Gophers failed to convert on both of their two-point conversion attempts.

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Undefeated Manor to meet Knot in first round

By ALEX CARSON
Sports Writer

The interhall football playoffs get underway this weekend as eight men’s and eight women’s teams take to the field Sunday, standing two games away from the championship games in Notre Dame Stadium.

Two teams enter the women’s tournament unblemished, 6-0 records as division winners — Pasquerilla East and Welsh Family — but have done it by leading the regular season in opposite categories. The Pyros boast the highest-scoring offense in the competition, scoring 27:5 points per game, while the Whirlwinds defense has allowed just 24 points per game.

Pangborn holds the third seed after a 5-1 season — a 14-6 loss to Pasquerilla East last month could be avenged next weekend simply to move one round closer to Notre Dame Stadium; however, Rayno’s Manor team is not thinking about it.

“We just focused on this weekend,” Rayno said. “We’re gonna take it one game at a time, and we’re not looking ahead to the stadium at this time.”

Men’s games will take place early Sunday afternoon at Riehle Fields while women’s games will be played at the LaBar Practice Facility later in the day.

No. 1 Morrissey (4-0) vs. No. 8 Knot (2-2), 2:15 p.m.

The top-seeded Manor open the playoff campaign with a week-two rematch, playing the team that gave them their closest contest of the year. Morrissey won the 2-0 contest 23-21 over Knot before the Juggerknots — once 0-2 — won their final two games to sneak into the playoffs.

No. 2 Keenan (3-0-1) vs. No. 7 Sorin (2-2), 2:15 p.m.

The Knights enter Sunday having given up just six points all season long while the Otters enter the playoffs on a two-game losing streak. After starting 2-0, Sorin has lost back-to-back games against Fisher and previously-winless Zahm and will have to stop its skid to pull out an upset win.

No. 3 Carroll (3-1) vs. No. 6 Siegfried (2-2), 1 p.m.

The Vermis have a lone loss on the season to Sorin — an 8-0 defeat — but have outscored opponents 66-0 otherwise, while the Ramblers needed a win Sunday over Duncan to make the playoffs. Siegfried gave up 32 points in a midseason loss to Morrissey but scored 21 last week — 12 points more than its season total in the first three games this year.

No. 4 Fisher (3-1) vs. No. 5 Stanford (2-1), 1 p.m.

After a 21-0 opening-week defeat to Carroll, the Green Wave have run off three straight victories and enter the playoffs as one of the league’s highest-scaling teams, averaging upwards of 17 points per game since the week-one loss. Stanford, however, has not surrendered more than eight points in a single game all season and ground out a 6-6 tie with O’Neel last week to secure its spot in the field.

No. 1 Welsh Family (6-0) vs. No. 4 Fisher (3-1), 2:15 p.m.

The Whirlwinds hold the best defense and have been held under 20 points on just two occasions this season. They take on McGlinn, who needed a 12-12 tie Monday against Howard to clinch a playoff spot. The Shamrocks have lost just one game since September, however, and will look to pull the upset.

No. 2 Pasquerilla East (6-0) vs. No. 7 Walsh (3-3), 4 p.m.

The Pyros rode a high-scaling offense to an unbeaten regular season. Pasquerilla's Sunday game will mark their first contest in four weeks. After an 0-2 start, Walsh won three of four to make the playoffs. They take on McGlinn, who needed a 12-12 tie Monday against Howard to clinch a playoff spot. The Shamrocks have lost just one game since September, however, and will look to pull the upset.

No. 3 Pasquerilla West (5-0) vs. No. 6 Cavanaugh (3-3), 4 p.m.

Pasquerilla's defense surrendered just 27 points all season while its offense scored 23 per game, and the Phoxes’ lone loss came to second-seeded Pasquerilla East. The Chaos have not surrendered a point in a month and are riding a two-game winning streak entering the playoffs.

No. 4 Ryan (4-2) vs. No. 5 Pasquerilla West (4-2), 5 p.m.

In a rematch of last season’s championship game, which the Purple Weasels won, Ryan and Pasquerilla West will battle simply to move one round closer to Notre Dame Stadium. After starting the year 3-0, the Wildcats have lost two of three while the Purple Weasels two losses came by a combined eight points.

Irish to host Hokies, Panthers

By HENRY HILLIARD
Sports Writer

“We swim well last weekend, but we can always to better on the margins,” Tallman said. “I want every guy to come out of the water in these meets and be able to say they did everything they could in the pool. My goal is for us to be sharper from top to bottom.”

Pittsburgh (3-1) travels to Notre Dame on two weeks’ rest after beating Bucknell, 185.5-109.5, on Oct. 25. The Panthers’ showed off their depth in that meet, beating the Bison in 28 of 32 events in the meet.

The Hokies (3-1) also enter the meet coming off a victory, topping Duke on Sunday, 180-115. Unlike both Pittsburgh and Virginia Tech, the Irish have yet to face a confer- ence opponent.

“ACC is competition is valuable for us because it allows us to size up the competition for later in the season. It is good for our guys to swim against guys that they will face later,” Tallman said.

This weekend’s tri-meet will be the final time that Notre Dame hosts compe- tition in 2014. The team will travel to East Lansing, Michigan, next weekend for a dual meet against Michigan State, and it does not have a home meet until the Shamrock Invitational on Jan. 30.

“Swimming at home is definitely easier,” Tallman said. “I would not say that we necessarily swim better in this pool but having the crowd and not hav- ing to travel are obvious advantages.”

The Irish take on the Panthers and the Hokies tonight at 5 p.m. and to- morrow at 10 a.m. at Rolfs Aquatic Center.

Contact Henry Hilliard at rhilliard1@nd.edu

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Contact Alex Carson at acarson1@nd.edu

Irish senior Zach Stephens swims a breaststroke event against Purdue on Nov. 1 at Rolfs Aquatic Center. Purdue won 161-139.
By ZACH KLONSINSKI
Sports Writer

Seeking to keep improving, Notre Dame returns to the pool this weekend as it hosts Pittsburgh and Virginia Tech for two days’ worth of ACC swimming Friday and Saturday. The Irish (2-4) fell to in-state rival No. 24 Purdue, 170-128, Saturday at Rolfs Aquatic Center, yet Irish interim coach Tim Welsh said he was very pleased with what he saw out of the team. "If you look at our times prior to the Purdue meet and then look at our times in the Purdue meet, we were faster, and we were faster pretty much every event," Welsh said. "And in most cases, significantly faster, so it was just a good, breakthrough week for us." One of the brightest spots of the day for Notre Dame was the diving of Lindsey Strepey. The junior took home the top spot on the podium in the 3-meter diving event with a score of 313.28. Welsh had said before the meet that Purdue diving was always good and that if he had to only watch a few events it would have been the diving ones, and Strepey backed up her coach’s words. She beat Boilermaker redshirt junior Mary Beth Dunnichay, a former Olympian in the 10-meter synchronized dive, to claim the victory. "Whatever she accomplishes, she does it the right way," Welsh said. "She works hard; she works conscientiously. She has a great attitude. You just love to see her succeed. But that was a major win for her last weekend. It’s allowed her to become the ACC diver of the week." The diving program in general has been a strength so far this season for the Irish. Strepey’s victory Saturday was the sixth for the team already. "We’ve had great diving here so far this year, and this coming weekend, Virginia Tech divers are great. Pittsburgh divers are great, our divers are great," Welsh said. "It’s going to be another great diving weekend." Another Irish strong suit has been the 200-yard medley relay of seniors Emma Reaney and Courtney Whyte, sophomore Catherine Mulquin and junior Cat Galletti. The quartet picked up its fourth victory in only six meets Saturday, beating the second-place team from Purdue by almost one-and-a-half seconds. "It was a great way to start off the meet," Welsh said. "We’ll keep trying to build that relay a little faster, but they’ve been doing a great job." Reaney and Mulquin have been top performers for the Irish all season, individually as well, and that trend continued against Purdue. Reaney, the reigning NCAA champion in the 200-yard breaststroke, swept the 100- and 200-yard breaststroke events against Purdue. Mulquin claimed a victory in the 100-yard backstroke while boosting the Irish to their highest ACC victory Friday, and then they will face Virginia Tech for two days’ worth of ACC swimming Friday and Saturday at Rolfs Aquatic Center. The teams will square off Friday and Saturday at Rolfs Aquatic Center. The teams will face off Saturday at 10 a.m. "The most important things about this weekend are first that these are ACC opponents. … That brings an excitement all by itself, so we’re looking forward to that. We are swimming back-to-back days, but the whole thing takes place in less than 24 hours, so it’s a very compact, competitive environment." The Irish will host their ACC foes Friday and Saturday at Rolfs Aquatic Center. The teams will get their feet wet starting at 5 p.m. Friday, and then they will dive right back in Saturday at 10 a.m.

Contact Zach Klonsinski at zkronsinski@nd.edu

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Notre Dame to welcome ACC rivals to campus

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managing the puck, but they created a lot more turnovers as the game progressed, too many extended shifts that led to bad changes and a lot of different things, so it’s just a matter of us making sure we get better as we play these high-tempo teams.” Once again against Minnesota, Lucia revives his rivalry with his father, former Irish player and current Gophers head coach Don Lucia. Mario may threaten his father’s 5-1-0 record as he enters the weekend the Hockey East leader in points and goals, with eight goals and two assists in eight games. He was recently named the Hockey East/ Warrior player of the month for October, and against his father’s team, the younger Lucia has netted two goals and one assist.

While Lucia continues to help the Irish offense to find its rhythm on the ice, Notre Dame also works toward building its defensive lines. During the season’s start, veteran defencemen junior Andy Ryan and senior Robbie Russo have worked to create chemistry with the underclassmen as the Irish continue to develop their lines. Russo is second behind Lucia with six goals and three assists for nine points, while Ryan has tallied three assists in eight games.

Andy and Russo both recorded assists against Vermont on Friday, and Ryan said they can apply what they learned defensively against Vermont, especially Saturday’s third period play, to Minnesota this weekend. “We were on our heels the whole period, (and) we played not to lose, which definitely isn’t a good thing,” Ryan said. “If we get a lead like that, we need to keep the pressure on them. They were obviously coming at us hard because they were down by two goals, but we need to make sure to make plays under pressure, so hopefully we can learn from that (going forward against Minnesota).” Senior forward Kyle Rau and sophomore forward Justin Kloos currently lead Minnesota’s scoring effort with three goals and five assists, respectively. Junior defenceman Ben Longo follows behind point-leader Ruso with eight points from eight assists, while senior forward Seth Ambroz nears his 50th career point with one goal and one assist on the season. The Irish defense will look to end Minnesota’s 15-game home unbeaten streak this weekend by shutting down the top-ranked Gophers’ offensive efforts.

“The biggest thing is their team speed and how fast they are at transitioning from defense to offense,” Ryan said. “If I remember from last time, all four lines had fours that could really skate and could put pressure on you when they had the puck. As a defenseman, you have to be conscious of guys getting behind you because some of their fours like to jump to offense.”

The Irish take on No. 1 Minnesota tonight at 8 p.m. and again Sunday at 5 p.m.
Irish senior forward Jeffery Farina guards the ball from a VCU defender Sept. 30 at Alumni Stadium. Notre Dame won the match 1-0 in double overtime. Farina has two goals and six assists this year.

Irish junior forward Zach Auguiste dunks over a Bulldog defender during Notre Dame's exhibition game Nov. 1 at Purcell Pavilion.

“Hodan is a penalty kick in the 65th minute. Hodan had been quiet for the Irish up to that point after netting 11 goals in the 2013 national championship campaign, second on the team behind former Irish forward Harry Shipp.

Hodan has been anything but quiet since: in Notre Dame’s last eight games, the junior has seven of his team-leading eight goals.

“Patrick is goal scorer. He’s a predator,” Clark said. “That’s part of who he is on the soccer field. But it’s so important, and I think this has been the great thing for us recently, is that we’ve been getting a lot of other people who have been starting to come into the scoring sheet.

The whole offense has picked up its scoring coming into the ACC tournament. Over Notre Dame’s last five games, the team has tallied 12 times (2.4 goals/game), after only registering 15 times in its first 10 matches (1.5 goals/game).

Graduate student forward Leon Brown scored twice last game in a 4-1 win over Pittsburgh while junior midfielder Evan Panken chipped in one as well. Brown and Panken are the second and third leading goal scorers, respectively, for the Irish, but the team has also benefited from the recent play of forwards Vince Cicciarelli, a senior, and two freshmen in Jon Gallagher and Jeffery Farina.

“Hodan’s partner in crime on the other side, Panken, has been getting some goals,” Clark said. “Then you’ve got the two young forwards. Jeffery Farina, he’s now at six or seven assists, which is unbelievably good for a freshman, and he’s certainly capable of scoring goals also.”

“Then Gallagher can score goals; Leon Brown can score goals. Leon could have easily had a hat trick last week against Pittsburgh.”

Still, the Irish felt like they let one slip away from them after the draw in Charlottesville, Clark said.

“I think the hardest thing was when they got a player sent off, and we felt going into the remainder of the half and into the two overtimes with being a man up, we were dis-appointed we didn’t take something out of that,” Clark said.

Cicciarelli was tackled hard inside the box by a Virginia defender, earning the Cavaliers a player a red card and putting Notre Dame a man up and then a goal up after Hodan converted his penalty kick. Yet only three minutes after taking the lead, the Irish gave it away on a shot by Cavalier senior midfielder Eric Bird.

While the recent offensive outburst has been nice, Clark also said the Irish have to improve on the defensive side of the ball.

“I want us to get some more shutouts,” Clark said. “I’m going to win a national championship, we’ve got to defend. And I’m not talking about the goalie; I’m not talking about the back four. I’m talking about defending as a team. The whole team, the defense, and the whole team attacks.”

“I’m talking about defending as a team. The whole team, the defense, and the whole team attacks.”

“I just feel like a year of maturity as well as getting closer to my teammates and coaches really helped me out,” Jackson said. “I feel like I can say anything, and so I just want to communicate, be a good leader and help the team.

“I know how hard we worked this summer, I know how hard we worked all off-season, so I’m very confident in the things we can do. We have a lot to improve on, but we’re just going to keep working hard and see where it goes.”

Brey said Jackson’s development as a vocal leader started on the team’s trip to Italy this summer, Jackson and auguste being one of the most intriguing early-sea-son storylines flew under the radar for much of the game. Grant, who played for the first time since December when he took the court against Minnesota Duluth, got off to a cold start, managing only two points in the first half. In the first few minutes of the second half, he appeared visibly frustrated, shaking his head after failing to connect on a couple drives to the rim.

Yet the senior finished with 12 points, a team-high nine as-sists and a reestablishment of his presence on the court, some-thing Connaughton said would be imperative for the Irish to find success this year.

“If you look at last year, we had a bunch of games were we were in but couldn’t get that final stop or hit that final shot,” Connaughton said. “He brings that leadership and experience to both ends of the floor. He’s that guy that can do those two things.”

“I’m in, I shoot better because [Grant] was on the floor,” Brey said. “He’s able to break down the defense and gets guys looks and that’s a key for us. We have some shot-makers he can find when he breaks the de-fense down.”

Then there was Connaughton himself, who, for the first time in his Notre Dame career, is a single-sport athlete. The se-nior put up 15 points and 11 rebounds on his way to a qui-et double-double against the Bulldogs, and as a second year captain. Connaughton has be-come the voice of the team, Brey said.

“He is truly the main voice of our leadership,” Brey said. “He takes a lot of pride in setting the tone, bringing the young guys along.”

When the team takes to the court against Lewis, Brey said defensive rebounding will be something he really wants it to focus on.

“You’ll hear me say that throughout the season,” Brey said. “Team rebounding, team rebounding. Can we get our guards down there to help us? Can Zach be a eight, nine, 10 — can he join Pat as a double-figure guy? Who else helps us rebound? That is a thing that concerns me.”

Some of those questions may be answered some when Notre Dame meets up with Lewis on Friday at Purcell Pavilion. The opening tip is scheduled for 7 p.m.

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Dome Nuts | Alexandria Wellman

Happy Birthday: Stick to your game plan. Don’t let anyone talk you into spending or indulging more than necessary. Keeping your life in perspective will allow you greater freedom to do as you please. Don’t be afraid to take the road less traveled. Follow a dream that will bring you happiness and self-satisfaction. Focus instead on striving to improve. Your numbers are 7, 12, 19, 25, 31, 34, 48.

Aries (March 21-April 19): You’ve got a lot to deal with, but anger is not the answer. Take a step back and do your best to rethink what transpired before you take action. Say little and do what’s necessary to maintain peace.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Take a short trip. Make a visit to someone who can give you insights, knowledge or a helping hand. A partnership will help you secure your position and give you the clout you need to convince others to share your concern.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): You can make a difference if you offer suggestions and implement diverse ways to use your skills. Your ability to find solutions will increase your popularity. Cutting domestic expenses will help you get ahead financially.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Don’t let last-minute changes bother you. Do your own thing. Show everyone how innovative you are and you will build a support system that doesn’t depend on what others do. Romance is on the rise. Don’t be too quick to make a move. Do your research first before getting the best deal.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Get together with friends or sign up for a course. The experience you have and the knowledge you gain will be enriching. Getting back to basics and controlling your emotional response will help you bypass someone who is critical.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Getting involved in social events that are geared toward meeting new people and learning about opportunities in your chosen field will be enlightening. Don’t be too quick to make a move. Do your research first before getting the best deal.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don’t let personal matters slow you down or stand in the way of your professional advancement. Interact with people who have something to offer, not on those asking for something or putting demands on your time. A partnership can help expand your financial intake.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Make a concerted effort to get along with your peers. Overreacting or taking on more than you can handle will not work in your favor. Choose self-improvement over trying to change others. Taking an unusual approach will prove beneficial.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Listen, learn and put your findings into play. You can make positive changes that will benefit you at home and at work as long as you avoid making rash moves based on anger instead of fact.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Emphasis should be put on being productive at work where you can make a difference. Don’t waste time on emotional matters that are unpredictable and can only lead to upset and wasting valuable time.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Group endeavors will be costly and lead to arguments among members. Think twice before you investments and put your money where you feel it will bring the highest returns. Interest in yourself, not someone else. Follow your dreams and don’t look back.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Make financial, legal or medical decisions based on the information you discover, and you will improve your chances on all counts. Making your life fuller, richer and less stressful is born in the stars, and a promise can be made.

Birthday Baby: You are determined, dedicated and relentless. You are a strong contender.
ND WOMEN’S SOCCER

Postseason play to begin for ND

By BRIAN HARTNETT
Managing Editor

After a top-four finish in the ACC regular season, Notre Dame begins its second season Friday night when it travels to Greensboro, North Carolina, to face Florida State in the semifinals of the ACC championships.

The Irish (12-4-2, 7-2-1 ACC), seeded fourth, will face top-seeded Florida State (16-1-4, 9-0-1) in a game Irish coach Theresa Romagnolo characterized as both a prize for a strong season and a potential resume-booster for the upcoming NCAA tournament.

“I think the ACC tournament is kind of a nice reward for playing well over the course of the regular season,” Romagnolo said. “We’re going to go out there and try to get some results because we know all we can do is put us into an even better position heading into the NCAA tournament.”

The Irish will enter the tournament coming off a strong end to the regular season. Notre Dame has won five of its last six games and hasn’t lost since Oct. 5, when the Irish fell to Virginia.

Notre Dame also received good news Thursday, when it was announced that six players have received ACC accolades. Junior midfielder Cari Roccaro earned first-team all-ACC honors for the third consecutive season, while junior defender Katie Naughton and sophomore midfielder Morgan Andrews earned second-team all-conference honors. Senior forward Lauren Bobahoy and sophomore goalkeeper Kaela Little made the all-ACC third team, and freshman defender Sabrina Flores rounded out the selections on the ACC’s all-freshman squad.

The team’s recent successes are a testament to its improvement over the course of the season, Romagnolo said.

“I think we’ve improved a lot since the beginning of the year,” Romagnolo said.

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MEN’S BASKETBALL

Notre Dame finishes exhibition play Friday

By ZACH KLONSINSKI
Sports Writer

Mature. Vocal. Slowed down. These words, among others, were used by Irish coach Mike Brey when describing the development of two of his players, sophomore guard Demetrius Jackson and junior forward Zach Auguste, after Notre Dame defeated Minnesota Duluth, 88-71, in its first exhibition game of the year. The Irish meet Lewis and Clark when describing the development of two of his players, sophomore guard Demetrius Jackson and junior forward Zach Auguste.

Both players put up point totals that topped their best from any game last season — Jackson with 20 to lead the team and Auguste hot on his heels at 19.

Brey said the two would be instrumental in helping to turn the team around after last season.

“These two guys are getting to the point where they can be reliable day-to-day,” Brey said. “That was my focus in Italy — Jackson having the ball and knowing he’s our quarterback and Auguste knowing he’s our main low-post guy. They started every game over there, and I think they’ve do a good job with the puck, don’t put ourselves at risk on transition, and we are going to have to defend. We have to make sure that we get back because they are a very talented team.”

The Irish enter the series on an unbeaten streak. Notre Dame opened its 2014 Hockey East campaign last Friday against Vermont, with a 3-2 win and a 2-2 tie against the Catamounts.

Note: This story was updated on Nov. 1 during Notre Dame’s 88-71 win over Minnesota Duluth.