‘Life without preconceived expectations’

Professor reflects on connections between philosophy, cognitive disabilities in annual lecture at SMC

By EMILIE KEFALAS
News Writer

Eva Feder Kittay, distin-
guished professor of philoso-
phy at Stony Brook University in New York, addressed the Saint Mary's community in the Student Center's Rice Commons Wednesday evening with a lec-

The presentation was part of the College's annual McMahon lecture and speaker series, which values the qualities of sincere questioning and truth wherever it can be found.

Kittay, the first lecturer in the series who is an alumnus of a women's college, Sarah Lawrence College, Waddell said. “I do think there is an enor-
mous value in a women's col-
lege,” Kittay said. “By the end of a couple of years, we are able to think without all the craziness that goes on in co-ed situations.”

Her work has encompassed the ideas of feminist philosophy and history, and she has authored numerous books in her field. Waddell said. Her contributions have earned her nationwide rec-
novation of the main building and the expansion of Notre Dame Stadium,” the press re-
lease stated.

Mason, who took the po-
sition in 1976, came to the Notre Dame after working at the University of Michigan for 10 years. In 1993, the Notre Dame Alumni Association named him an honorary alumnus, and the facilities services building on campus bears his name.

“Much of higher education in recent years has been char-
tchered by fiscal crisis and retrenchment,” University

By ALEX WINEGAR
News Writer

With the upcoming holi-
days, many families will gather around a table and enjoy a feast together, but some fami-
lies will have little to no food on their tables.

The 10th annual Hunger Banquet was held at Saint Mary’s on Tuesday evening to raise awareness about hunger and poverty.

see BANQUET PAGE 5

Conference to address gender and childhood

By SELENA PONIO
News Writer

“Fun with Dick and Jane: Gender and Childhood,” an international conference spon-
sored primarily by the Gender Studies Program, will bring together undergraduate stu-
dents, graduate students and professors Thursday through Saturday to address society’s interest in gender and child-
hood using interdisciplinary approaches.

“This conference in particular is important be-
cause it is a conference about childhood and gender ex-
erience,” senior Marcilena Shaneff, a presenter in one of two undergraduate panels, said. “I think it is important to stop and reflect on what forces were at play during those key years in our development and how other people’s assump-
tions on how we should be ended up having an effect on us.”

see GENDER PAGE 5

Hunger Banquet raises awareness of poverty

By ALEX WINEGAR
News Writer

A documentary wins award

By SELENA PONIO
News Writer

CoLE SWINDELL

MEN'S BASKETBALL PAGE 16

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL PAGE 16

NEWS PAGE 3

VIEWPOINT PAGE 7

SCENE PAGE 9
QUESTION OF THE DAY:
What is the last picture you took with your phone?

Ellen Coticchia
sophomore
“a picture of my roommate sleeping in class.”

Michelle Bohrt
sophomore
Pasquella East Hall
“I took a picture of the dorm on my way to class this morning.”

Jeffrey Wang
junior
off-campus
“A picture of my family at Thanksgiving.”

Rachel Broghammer
junior
Ryan Hall
“Family picture from Thanksgiving.”

Katie Flynn
senior
off-campus
“A picture of my younger cousin and I at Thanksgiving.”

Victor Roh
junior
off-campus
“Beef.”

Students sell candy grams for $1 in LaFortune Student Center. All proceeds donated by the community will be given to charity.

THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

Thursday
South Bend Youth Symphony Orchestra
Merris Inn
4 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Holiday entertainment.

Friday
Christmas Cookie Decorating
LaFortune Student Center
10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Student worship.

Saturday
Women’s Basketball
Purcell Pavilion
ND vs. Connecticut.

Sunday
Classic Film: “It’s a Wonderful Life”
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
8 p.m.  - 10 p.m.
Open to all.

Monday
Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Basils of the Sacred Heart
5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.
Open to the public.

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Student documentary honored at film festival

By ALYSSA LYON
News Writer

Katie Mattie, Vincent Moore and William Neal — 2014 Notre Dame graduates — won “Best Short Documentary” at the 2014 Sunset International Film Festival in May in Los Angeles for their film “The Suicide Disease.”

“The Suicide Disease” tells the story of Frances Shavers, former Notre Dame chief-of-staff, who suffers from Trigeminal Neuralgia (TN), a neurological disease that causes extreme facial pain, according to a Notre Dame press release.

Our film is about Frances Shavers’ struggle with the disease and her extraordinary story of hope and courage,” Mattie said, describing Shavers as “remarkable” and “larger than life” despite her disease. In the spring of 2013, Professor Ted Mandell, associate professional specialist for the FTT department, inspired the three filmmakers to tell Shavers’ story after showing them footage of Shavers suffering from a pain attack as a result of her condition.

Upon seeing the footage, the trio of students teamed up to tell Shavers’ important story, Mattie said. “Frances suffers from 100-150 pain attacks daily, which can last anywhere from 20 seconds to two minutes,” she said. “My heart breaks when I think of Frances’ battle ... and the amount of pain she endures because of it.”

The three filmmakers spent three months gathering footage for the documentary, even traveling to the Cleveland Clinic to meet with Shavers’ doctors. “It was during that filming session [in the Cleveland Clinic] that we learned how severe her condition is, and saw what the emotional toll that TN has taken on Frances,” Mattie said. Despite the severity of the disease, Shavers was a joy to work with, Mattie said. “She really embraced the process of making the film and was fearless in sharing her vulnerability to the world,” Mattie said. But it was Shavers’ sense of humor amongst the seriousness of the filming process that was most memorable for Mattie.

“One part of the film that I wish we could show more is Frances’ sense of humor and all of the moments when she would crack a joke, or just be adorable.”

Mattie said showing “The Suicide Disease” at the Sunset Film Festival and the trio’s experience was “incredible” and “a whirlwind.”

“We were in awe of the diversity of the films we saw at the festival, and the level of support from the directors of the event,” Mattie said. The overall production of “The Suicide Disease” had a profound impact on the three filmmakers, Mattie said.

What I took away ... is the incredible capacity Frances has to love, hold onto faith, be vulnerable and courageous,” she said. “(Frances and her husband, George) have shown me a new level of love and support that I’ve never seen before.”

Mattie said that she hopes the film will provide hope to those with TN, as well as inspire others to help.

Our goals [with this film] were to raise awareness [for] the disease, share Frances’ incredible faith and strength, connect with others living with chronic pain and if at all possible, be a call for someone to help Frances,” Mattie said.

Contact Alyssa Lyon at aylon@nd.edu

Sociologist analyzes KKK impact on modern politics

By ALEX CAO
News Writer

Professor Rory McVeigh, chair of sociology at Notre Dame, co-authored an upcoming article to be published in the American Sociological Review with professors David Cunningham from Brandeis University and Justin Farrell from Yale University.

The article, titled, “Political Polarization as a Social Movement Outcome: 1960s Klan Activism and its Enduring Impact on Political Realignment in Southern Counties, 1960 to 2000,” discusses the activities of the Ku Klux Klan (KKK) in its heyday, its influence in modern politics and the motivations behind actions from a near half-century ago that are still felt in the world today.

“There are really two different core puzzles,” McVeigh said. “One is kind of a substantive puzzle ... how has the South, which used to be solidly Democratic and supportive of white supremacy ... how has it transformed into a Republican stronghold? ... Historians have looked at that but not really paid attention to the role of extremist movements like the Ku Klux Klan.”

“It kind of fits in with a general academic question about whether or not social movements make a difference,” McVeigh said. “For many, many years, sociologists were studying how the KKK emerged in the first place. It’s only been in recent years that people have been turning that question around and asking, ‘do they make a difference?’”

McVeigh, Cunningham and Farrell worked with nearly half a century of voting data since one of the peaks in Klan activity during the 1960s. The trio observed changes in voting habits in counties across 10 states in the South that have and haven’t experienced Klan influence, McVeigh said. “We have a measure of Republican voting in 1960 before the emergence of the Klan, and we look at measures of Republican voting through various elections after the emergence of the Klan going all the way to 2000 and we look at Klan activism as something that intervenes within that time period,” McVeigh said. “Here we are in the 1960s after the Klan has dissolved ... and we found that people who hold conservative attitudes towards integration ... are more likely to vote Republican. But here’s the important part: that was only true in counties where the Klan were active.”

McVeigh said the longest-lasting influences of the KKK were sustained through smaller, more mundane means, rather than emphasizing disparity between races. The KKK’s actions brought to light the unwillingness of the general public to discuss and resolve race-related issues, he said.

“Our personal networks are more diverse in attitudes than we think they are,” McVeigh said. “Let’s say ... we don’t agree on some issue. I could drop you as a friend but more commonly we change the topic that we’re talking about — something we have in common like music or sports.”

Then sometimes there’s such an issue that could be a ‘hot topic’ of discussion ... and we argue in our paper the Klan was like that. They were so controversial ... it became such a hot topic of discussion that you couldn’t just avoid it. In the process people started to choose sides and the Klan played a role in bringing the race issue out into the open and aligning racial attitudes with party platforms. ... In other words, this kind of radical action can disrupt social networks and place people in different networks that are sustained for so long through social interaction,” he said.

Contact Alex Cao at acao@nd.edu
Alumnae visit Rwanda, present art gallery

By EMILIE KEFALAS
News Writer

Two Saint Mary’s alumnae, Malea Schulte and Elizabeth Palmer, will share the transformational experiences they had during a research trip in Rwanda at the Moreau gallery opening, “Project Rwanda,” on December 8.

While in Rwanda this past year, 2013 graduate Palmer and 2014 graduate Schulte, as part of their project, approached different Rwandans and asked them how they wanted to be remembered, Palmer said. “Face of Christ, change-maker and servant were some of the answers that flowed from their souls,” Palmer said. “We had them write their answer on a white board and took a picture for our exhibit.”

“Project Rwanda” will also feature the photography of Jonathan Bell, a passionate photographer from Asia, who will be joining Palmer and Schulte opening night. Palmer said. Prayer flags will be displayed and the artists’ reflections will be depicted.

The idea to create the art exhibit came after Schulte’s recent completion of her senior comprehensive titled “Storybank,” which included individual paintings of different members of the Saint Mary’s community.

One of Schulte’s interviewees was a woman from Rwanda, whose story inspired Palmer and Schulte to travel to Rwanda in recognition of the 20-year anniversary of the Rwandan genocides. The duo hoped to build connections with people and promote peace through relationships, Palmer said.

“Rwandans are still healing from the genocide and trying to find solutions. We realized that we’ve been simply tolerating the prevalent issues with the DARTing system and tried to find some solutions,” Palmer said.

“Two of the resolutions,” she said. “We dropped the voting requirement and the term ‘treasurer’ for consistency across the board in regards to the election of chair persons,” Wajda said. “Beyond that, we are an information disseminating body and these changes reflect on the different nature of HPC.”

Both of the resolutions were passed by the Senate. Phil Gilroy, a student senator, presented findings from a recent study regarding DARTing procedures. Gilroy’s committee looked at prevalent issues with the DARTing system and tried to find some solutions.

“We realized that we’ve been simply tolerating the current DARTing system and class search options for a while now,” Gilroy said. “It quickly became clear to us that a change was necessary.” According to Gilroy, common problems that students face include difficulties comparing classes side by side, difficulty finding specific college and university requirements and time constraints.

“To modernize the DARTing system as well as increase ease of use, the committee came up with the idea to enable the program to have a mock schedule planner such as Schedulizer,” Gilroy said.

Other ideas include a wait-list system to notify students when a class has an open spot, as well as more time between DARTing sections. These preliminary ideas will work to help students in the process of registering for classes, and the Senate plans to discuss the ideas further.

Contact Emilie Kefalas at ekefa01@smailmarys.edu

Report
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

president emeritus Fr. Edward A. "Monk" Malloy said upon Mason’s retirement in 1986, according to the press release. "The fact that this has never been the case at Notre Dame is due in large measure to the financial and managerial acumen of Tom Mason. His legacy to the University is a fiscal planning and budget making model that should ensure our financial strength for years to come."

Mason earned a bachelor’s degree and a master’s of business administration from the University of Detroit in 1959 and 1963, respectively, and served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War, according to the press release. A visitation will take place at 8:30 a.m., Saturday in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. A funeral Mass will follow at 9:30 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family requested that donations be made in Mason’s memory to the University of Detroit Mercy at 4001 W. McNichols Road, Detroit, MI 48221-3038; or to St. Agnes Parish, 777 Vanderbilt Beach Road, Naples, FL 34102.

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A Notre Dame Advent pilgrimage to Nativity scenes from around the world, on loan from THE MARIAN LIBRARY INTERNATIONAL CRÈCHE COLLECTION

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Begins at the Eck Visitors Center at 2:30 p.m. and concludes at the Main Building by 4:30 p.m. Pilgrims will visit Nativity scenes in various campus locations along Notre Dame Avenue.


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INSTITUTE FOR CHURCH LIFE

SENATE

Senate discusses DART changes

By JESSICA MERDES
News Writer

Student Senate met on Wednesday evening to discuss two resolutions presented by the Judicial Council and Hall President’s Council (HPC).

Kathryn Peruski, president of the Judicial Council, presented a resolution that defines social media rules for campaigning for student government. According to Peruski, candidates are allowed to make social media accounts and pages as part of their campaign, but the amendment will require that everything, every post, tweet and video, has to be specifically approved by the Judicial Council.

This amendment tightens the procedure for campaigns from what used to be a “blanket approval” that lacked “specific rules and regulations,” Peruski said.

“This change is very necessary as there was no clear cut way to deal with questions of ethics in social media previously,” she said.

Michael Wajda, chairperson for the Judicial Council, presented a resolution that will change the name of the “treasurer” on HPC to “finance chair.” The resolution also changes the election process for the finance chair, who will now be nominated by the co-chairs at the beginning of the term.

“We dropped the voting requirement and the term ‘treasurer’ for consistency across the board in regards to the election of chair persons,” Wajda said. “Beyond that, we are an information disseminating body and these changes reflect on the different nature of HPC.”

Both of the resolutions were passed by the Senate. Phil Gilroy, a student senator, presented findings from a recent study regarding DARTing procedures. Gilroy’s committee looked at prevalent issues with the DARTing system and tried to find some solutions.

“We realized that we’ve been simply tolerating the current DARTing system and class search options for a while now,” Gilroy said. “It has been the case at Notre Dame ‘the fact that this has never been the case at Notre Dame is due in large measure to the financial and managerial acumen of Tom Mason. His legacy to the University is a fiscal planning and budget making model that should ensure our financial strength for years to come.’”

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News writer
By JESSICA MERDES

"We realized that we’ve been simply tolerating the current DARTing system and class search options for a while now."

Phil Gilroy student senator
Kitty referred to her lecture as a story and an argument from the perspective of a parent who has experienced first-hand, life as a parent raising a disabled child.

Many who watch from the sidelines are a disabled child, and they see a familiar condemned to struggle, Kitty said. Her goal was to convey how these families and these children can experience a good life without the element of ‘normal.’

Kitty said: ‘They experience a range of human possibilities only partially available to or not salient for others. They have a greater degree of dependence on the care of others.’

Kitty posed the question to her audience as to if these people with disabilities could live a good life. She quoted Aristotle in saying, ‘The activity of the disabled child, who surpasses all others in bliss must be a contemplative activity… happiness is coextensive with study.’

The philosophers, of course, have much to say about the good life,’ Kitty said. ‘A more contemporary view is held by Martha Nussbaum. Normal is normal for ‘a truly human life’ include play, closeness to the animal world, must include the ability to be autonomous and to act rationally and reasonably. These are presumed to be at the core of conception of moral personhood.’

Kitty quoted Socrates’s famous statement, ‘The unexamined life is not worth living,’ before addressing how she applied this philosophy during the birth of her daughter.

‘By the time I had given birth to my daughter, and yet once I became her parent, there was no question in my mind that her life was worth living,’ Kitty said. ‘I would love her as the child of mine she is. This was foundational, the love of reason. The capacity to act rationally [was] not at the center of a life of high value.’

‘How can one argue that moral worth [is] predicated on the ability to reason,’ she said. ‘One can imagine the life itself is of estimable value.’

In speaking about her daughter, Kitty emphasized that she did not presume to be at the core of conception of ‘normalcy.’

This conception of a good life may mean they do not have a life they desire. Kitty said: ‘We need not engage in disputes if the aim is to see a good life, nor do I want to speak of a minimally acceptable. A good life should be much more than minimally acceptable.’

‘There are cognitive behavioral problems can often cause high levels of pain, which may make life harder to endure. In the case of autistic children, this may make children more socially acceptable. A good life should be much more than minimally acceptable.’

Kitty said: ‘The unexamined life is not worth living.’

Kitty referred to her lecture as an opening experience. The banquet was an eye-opening experience.

The banquet is an opportunity for students to get a feel for the life of those less fortunate, especially when it comes to issues of poverty and justice,” Maitland said. "The banquet provides a concrete background we feel for the life of those less fortunate. Kitty said she experienced a great amount of anxiety for her daughter in that she knew she would not live a normal life and always be very vulnerable to the world around her. Though her daughter, Sesha, is now grown, some concern continues for her wellbeing and safety, Kitty said.

Contact Emilie Kefalas at ekefal01@saintmarys.edu

Brown said the Hunger Banquet was a powerful event and she hopes that Saint Mary’s students will contact the Office of Civil and Social Concerns if they have any questions about or interest in getting involved in this annual event.

“Beyond giving a few presentations covering topics including transgender identity, fairytales, toys and Disney princesses, as well as two undergraduate panels with students from Notre Dame and other universities.

Professor Pamela Wojcik, director of the Gender Studies Program at Notre Dame, played a crucial role in planning the banquet and brought together speakers to address what Kitty said: ‘A good life is of estimable value.’

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INSIDE COLUMN

Host more discussions

Allie Tollaksen
Scene Editor

This year, an anthology of essays called “Should I Go To Grad School?” came out through Bloombury Publishing, featuring takes on the question from authors, artists, and other creative-types. While the book’s title question has become increasingly representative of my own postgraduate anxieties, the reason I bring it up is because its author, Sheila Heti, not only shares her insightful opinions on graduate school education but also stories about meeting and learning from other people as an adult.

Part way through, Heti mentions the importance of having regular, planned gatherings and events as a young adult. She emphasizes that bringing people together to learn and collaborate was foundational to her education as a young adult. In a world where “partying” means blasting music in dimly lit houses or dorm rooms while “education” conjures up images of late-night study sessions in the library, I was excited as I read the article. But as she and her interviewer, Jessica Loudis, chatted about parties in which young people could converse and connect, the idea that important conversations on topics ranging from best-selling novels to neighborhood abuse of its most marginalized citizens. This must include resistance — economic, political, and finally military — to the effects of suffering and violence in one part of the world affect every other part.

Few, if any, were able to have conversations on topics ranging from best-selling novels to neighborhood development in our own homes, and we’re only getting started — we have a long list of brainstormed topics and anticipated guest speakers ahead of us.

Though we’re often able to engage in debate or talk seriously to each other in classes, I’ve really come to believe that having a time for students to discuss topics relevant to their lives and environment in their own spaces and on their own terms — is invaluable to the college experience. To speak candidly with our peers creates opportunities, forms friendships and allows us to build communities within the larger Notre Dame and South Bend communities. Already, the project has been eye-opening.

Fortunately, I had a good friend with a similar vision, so he and I collaborated to schedule regular talks, salons and gatherings for students and friends in South Bend. With a mailing list, a ban on cell-phones (a rule heavily-contested and reluctantly obeyed by guests) and a new topic each week, we kicked off the project this semester. Starting small, we’ve been able to host gatherings. Invite interesting people to have conversations on topics ranging from best-selling novels to neighborhood abuse of its most marginalized citizens. This must include resistance — economic, political, and finally military — to the effects of suffering and violence in one part of the world affect every other part.

One of the highlights of my break, apart from a Black Friday mall-crawl and an initiation into the world of “go,” was the afternoon I spent with my brother watching the film adaptation of “The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers.” It’s a wonderful film, and while much of J. R. R. Tolkien’s great prose has made the transition to silver screen, I reserve a special fondness for a scene original to the Peter Jackson film. (Spoilers ahoy!)

After careful consideration, the Ents of Fangorn Forest have decided to remain neutral in the war between the evil Saruman and the men of Rohan. The hobbit Pippin opines that perhaps he and his friend Merry should do likewise, as “It’s too big for us. What can we do in the end? We’ve got the Shire. Maybe we should go home.” Merry angrily prophesies if they do so and Saruman is not stopped, “all that was once green and good in this world will be gone. There won’t be a Shire, Pippin.” Jolted from his complacency, Pippin cunningly convinces the Ents to march on Isengard and vanquish Saruman.

Much like Pippin, many of these days don’t want America to get involved in the affairs of other nations. Rather than proudly wear slogans like “America’s Navy — A Global Force for Good,” these isolationists cynically turn a blind eye to suffering abroad. After all, they insist, we don’t have a dog in the fight or that one. What has such intervention brought us in the past but dead men, lost money and retributory terrorism? Far better that we should hunker down and let the Third World blow itself to bits.

In the past, such logic made sense. Our crises had to be part way through, Heti mentions the importance of having regular, planned gatherings and events as a young adult. She emphasizes that bringing people together to learn and collaborate was foundational to her education as a young adult. In a world where “partying” means blasting music in dimly lit houses or dorm rooms while “education” conjures up images of late-night study sessions in the library, I was excited as I read the article. But as she and her interviewer, Jessica Loudis, chatted about parties in which young people could converse and connect, the idea that important conversations on topics ranging from best-selling novels to neighborhood abuse of its most marginalized citizens. This must include resistance — economic, political, and finally military — to the effects of suffering and violence in one part of the world affect every other part.

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A beautiful, receptive joy in education

Dan Sehlhorst
We've Lost Our Quorum

“It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it.” Aristotle wrote these words many centuries ago, and to this day I believe they hold great wisdom. My educative experience in the United States, however, has raised questions about our commitment to an intellectual, social and moral self-cultivation of our philosophy of education. Education in the United States today is a confusing bundle of paradoxes. At first glance, there is a tremendous priority on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), a set of fields in many ways synonymous with progress in the national conversation. Legislators, media outlets, counselors and parents are calling for more STEM courses in high schools and strongly encouraging students to enter STEM majors in college. The message is strong and clear: your best chance at success is studying STEM.

Unfortunately, American high schools are falling behind in STEM performance. A number of prevailing methodological failures are cited as the cause for this problem, but my question is more fundamental: Why are we treating education as such a utilitarian mechanism? The end of education should not be the accumulation of facts or cookie-cutter problem-solving techniques. Neither should it be economic output, prestigious employment or high rankings on some report. Education should be much more personal and much more relational. Some of the most important benefits of education are the development of critical thinking that opens the door to knowledge and the communication skills to convey that knowledge. In these ways, students both grow as individuals and in their capacity to relate to their community.

To combat poor academic performance, we need understanding how to educate. We need engaged parents and communities, and we need teachers empowered with resources and curricular freedom. We need a balanced approach between technical ability in STEM and critical analysis of classic literature that has stood and will stand the test of time. While building a strong capacity to reason from evidence and apply knowledge to a wide array of situations, it is paramount to hone the ability to communicate, both in speech and in writing — in a way that is marred, clear and comprehensive.

With this said, we must seek a much deeper and more profound understanding of education. Knowledge is intrinsically a body of work that grows with time, as our minds grasps the many interconnected relationships between people, places, ideas, events, worldviews and ways of life. But knowledge is more than having sufficient development to comprehend concepts studied and observed and the relationships between them. It is something we must seek and be ready to receive.

In “Teachers as Cultural Workers,” education philosopher Paolo Freire points out that “Studying is a preparation for knowledge.” I believe Aristotle would agree, because students’ nearly involve pondering thoughts without necessarily immediately determining their veracity or their relationship to the rest of the world. Knowledge, in this sense, is a realization of personal growth, expanding the horizons of the student, discerning truth among competing claims and, ultimately, fulfilling their potential as an independent thinker.

I find that the most profound understanding of knowledge development comes to the ethic of caring, as developed by another education philosopher, Nel Noddings. As knowledge is relational phenomenon — with an object and subject — and even other interconnected objects and subjects, it requires the ability for it to be received. In her book, “Caring: A Relational Approach to Ethics and Moral Education,” Noddings wrote: “The relational mode is at the heart of human existence.” Applying this notion to education, we should consider if our conception of education is rooted in its relational nature. This holds true for both the student, receiving from the teacher, and the teacher, who receives from the student in order to better orient himself or herself toward giving well to the student.

Beyond empirical evidence and logical frameworks is the truth in understanding, a true immersion and embrace of knowledge. Noddings describes a concept of receptivity, “which occurs when we are engaging as though possessed — when we are caught up in a feeling… Whereas explanation is controlled, contrived and constructed, understanding — like joy — comes unpredictably.” She compares this feeling to a light dawning, drawing a parallel to when C.S. Lewis famously wrote of being “surprised by joy.” In this case, though, we are surprised by understanding.

An educator, through ethical caring, plants the seeds of knowledge and waters the ground for this moment. Not only is the educator facilitating a growth in knowledge, but also including her students with a message about the nature of society. A teacher plays a crucial role in developing a student’s understanding of his or her relationship with humanity, transcending the use of education as a utilitarian tool and fashioning a relational existence rooted in fully and genuinely orienting oneself toward others through a beautiful receptive joy.

When I look at myself in the mirror in the morning, I’m not disgusted. I’ve come to terms with the features of my face that society might find less than optimal. My acne scars and I all right; my nose is just fine as it is. I find nothing wrong with embracing the natural beauty of every single person on this campus. I think it should be encouraged! Urging people to not “wear ANY makeup” and to “have confidence in your natural beauty!” tells me that if I wear makeup, it’s the result of a lack of confidence. The “Be Fine: 1 day without makeup” event that Farley hall is putting on this week has everyone’s best interests at heart, I have no doubt, but it sends the wrong message to this campus.

People who choose to wear makeup don’t necessarily have low self-esteem. People who choose not to wear makeup don’t necessarily have high self-esteem. I wear makeup because I enjoy having the ability to emphasize the features on my face I want to, and I can downplay other features. I can make my makeup match my mood, and have my face reflect how I feel on the inside — be it dramatic eyeliner or an understated “natural” look.

I recognize that using makeup because you are trying to meet societal expectations could present a problem. But shaming makeup users isn’t the answer. Think of makeup as a sort of less permanent tattoo; an art form which through which I can express myself every single day if I so choose. The only person you should wear makeup for is yourself. If someone says you’re prettier with or without makeup, you don’t need to listen to them. Do it because it feels right, or makes you feel more confident. I definitely don’t wear blue and gold lipstick because I think it’s more attractive than my natural face — I wear it because it’s game day. It’s how I want to look, and I’m fine with that.

I’ll be wearing makeup on Dec. 4, not because I feel that I need to hide, but because I want to be wearing it. That is the only reason anyone should be wearing makeup at all.

Dear Farley, I’m fine

When the Annual March for Life registration closing this Friday, our team wanted to remind the student body why we march for life. Take a moment to think about this fact Friday, our team wanted to remind the student body why we march for life. Take a moment to think about this fact.

As a student at the University of Notre Dame, I have the opportunity to peacefully march in honor of the innocent who have fallen victim to abortion and those in the future who will be given no choice. For only $35, you will join over 600 fellow Notre Dame peers and faculty on a trip to Washington, D.C. in order to march at the Annual March for Life. The University will extend excused absences for missed classes. Please sign up on studentshop.nd.edu or visit the Right to Life website for more information.

So gather a group of friends and join us in defending life this January. Be inspired by the hundreds of thousands of Americans who will be marching for life beside you. Take advantage of this opportunity to celebrate life, meet long-time friends and enjoy our nation’s capital. Although life may have no guarantees, abortion offers no chances. Don’t you think it is time for everyone to be given a chance?

Noreen Fischer
junior
head commissioner
Notre Dame March for Life

Why we march for life

With the Annual March for Life registration closing this Friday, our team wanted to remind the student body why we march for life. Take a moment to think about this fact — there have been 56,983,399 abortions in the United States since the Roe vs. Wade Decision in 1973. That is roughly 57 million lives that, through no choice of their own, will never have the chance to enter this world. In order to put this into perspective, 1,110,365 soldiers have sacrificed their lives out of honor, duty and patriotism for our country in the Revolutionary War, Civil War, WWI, WWII, Korean War and Vietnam War — combined. The number of abortions that have occurred in the US is approximately 51 times this value. In the words of Mother Teresa, “The greatest destroyer of peace is abortion because if a mother can kill her own child, what is left for me to kill you and you to kill me? There is nothing between.” Our nation has been founded on the premise that each individual has the unalienable right of LIFE, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Life is the most basic right. All are entitled to it. This is what we strive to protect. Ultimately, abortion is by far the greatest injustice of our time. That is where it becomes our duty to shine light on this situation. Do not underestimate the impact that your voice can have. The media may turn a blind eye to it, but that does not mean millions of Americans are standing by.

Here at ND we thrive upon a culture of life and standing up for others. We believe that every human person has dignity and immeasurable value regardless of age, race or economic status. This upcoming Jan. 22, each student will have an opportunity to peacefully march in honor of the innocent who have fallen victim to abortion and those in the future who will be given no choice. For only $35, you will join over 600 fellow Notre Dame peers and faculty on a trip to Washington, D.C. in order to march at the Annual March for Life. The University will extend excused absences for missed classes. Please sign up on studentshop.nd.edu or visit the Right to Life website for more information.

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Dec. 3
Calling all music fans: upcoming artist Cole Swindell is coming to Legends this Friday, Dec. 5, for an intimate performance. Although he is still a little-known country artist, Legends has a way of host- ing artists right before their major breakthrough (ex: Macklemore circa 2011). For the real country fans, how- ever, this name might sound familiar.

He currently has two top hits on the radio, his break- out song “Chillin’ It” and the more recent “Hope You Get Lonely Tonight,” both of which are featured on his first self- titled album. “Chillin’ It” was named the number one single on Billboard’s Hot Country Songs list, and along with “Hope you get Lonely Tonight,” both have been playing on country radio stations nonstop. Cole Swindell is breaking into the country music industry, and this is your chance to catch him before he becomes untouchable.

Although he only has two songs that are well known, Swindell has been underhandedly involved in the country music industry for quite a while. He has been a faceless songwriter for some seriously popular country musicians; oftentimes the artist gets much more credit than the songwriters, even though the writing is the hardest part of making music, in my opinion. Swindell has a long list of songs he has written for famous artists: Craig Campbell’s “Outta My Head,” Thomas Rhett’s “Get Me Some of That,” and ten of Luke Bryan’s hits, includ- ing “Just a Sip” and “Beer in the Headlights.” He also co-wrote Florida Georgia Line’s “This Is How We Roll.”

Clearly Swindell has earned quite a few connections in the country music industry; it will come as no surprise when his own album becomes as famous as the albums he has written for.

Currently, Swindell is on tour around the country, and we are lucky to be one of his stops. He is sched- uled to perform several nights at the famous Joe’s Bar in Chicago — one of where many country singers had their start (so many that it has been named “Nashville North”). He’s also visiting other Midwestern states while in the area and, starting next year, he will be perform- ing with The Band Perry and touring with Jason Aldean.

By MADDIE DALY
Associate Scene Editor

ERIN McAULIFFE
Scene Writer

What to wear: finals and festivities

 Finals are coming (don’t shoot the messenger) and so are holiday parties (again, don’t shoot the messenger), which means you are going to have to get dressed for things you don’t want to go to some- time soon.

If you are one of those people who lives in a booth at Club Hes for finals week, and leaves Oreo crumbs, a blanket and your dignity heaped in a pile as you go to an exam or hopefully to clean yourself up — but more likely to get more Oreos — sit on your couch at home with a brand new box of Oreos and that blanket from the library. If you show up to an exam with greasy hair, a bodycon to see uncle don, but you do have to get to Goodwill where unfortunately all the ugliest/ best Christmas sweaters will already have been snapped up. If this happens, DO NOT go to Forever21 or Target or wherever else they sell new “ugly” sweat- ers. Your ugly sweater must have already been worn by another human to have any relevance at all. You are a poseur if your snowman embel- lished cardigan had a price tag over four dollars. Macklemore will steal all your Christmas presents for playing thrift shops — also, if your family plays “Thrift Shop” at this gathering you have permis- sion to feel ill and leave.

So, you leave Goodwill having felt no goodwill, as the only sweater left was snapped by a giggling tween before you could get to it.

You now have three options 1) go for the next best thing — the denim embroidered velvet-collar Christmas button-up 2) whip up that tree sweater DIY you saw on pinterest — it will be so easy and only require a trip to the craft store, the fabric store and insanity or 3) call up your grandma to bring an extra festive sweater to the party for you.

So Grandma Dee came to the rescue in your time of need, but now you have another party to attend that Grandma Dee’s duds won’t be able to cover — New Year’s Eve.

New Year’s Eve is all about the bling. It’s like ev- eryone is trying to show up the Swarovski crystal New Year’s Ball — which is not that hard to do con- sidering it is the most over-hyped event of the year and watching some friend inevitably fall down will be a more entertaining drop.

Anyway, channel your inner Kelis at the party: “diamonds on your neck, d-diamonds on your grill.” To stick to your college student budget grab some tinsel off the tree or get some paste (fake bling) to add sparkle to your ensemble.

Get ready to make a New Year’s Resolutions to delete the groutfit from your wardrobe when you get back to school.

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Samantha Coughlin | THE OBSERVER

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Samantha Coughlin | THE OBSERVER
Unwrap some new Christmas music

I am a huge proponent of the holiday song classics — the first few notes of Mariah Carey’s “All I Want for Christmas” and I instantly channel my inner Buddy the Elf. Holiday music is an integral part of any merry season, yet there is no denying that come New Year’s, Bing Crosby begins to lose his appeal — fast. Now, don’t take this the wrong way, but one can only take so many different versions of the same songs before their ready to pull their hair out, just like eggnog and ginger bread.

Lucky for us though, there is hope. After prohbing the inner confines of my holiday psyche, I have compiled a short list of five original holiday songs sure to bring anyone a refreshing respite from the humdrum of the holiday monotony. I have compiled a short list of five original holiday songs sure to bring anyone a refreshing respite from the humdrum of the holiday monotony.

“Christmas Wrapping” — The Waitresses

Most of my life I thought of “Christmas Wrapping” as a classic, which is why it’s relative obscurity surprises me. Possibly the most fun and catchy holiday song around. “Christmas Wrapping” is dripping in 80’s new wave pop, with a saxophone solo to boot. Not only is the song completely original, but the Christmas message is too. The Waitresses hit calls to mind the chaotic rush of the season, a message that can never be understated. In a world filled with music convincing you of the pleasant wonders of Christmas, it’s a refreshing take.

“Christmas in Hollis” — Run DMC

“Christmas in Hollis” is just about as funky as Christmas gets. Produced in 1987 in the midst of the “golden age of hip hop,” “Christmas in Hollis” tells the compelling tale of young man’s dealings with Santa Claus. The fable is set in Hollis, Queens and is told through fresh rhymes, layered over Christmas tunes and flow as cold as the North Pole itself. Rap music is certainly underrepresented in the holiday genre, so “Christmas in Hollis” is sure to freshen up any holiday playlist.

“My Christmas List” — Simple Plan

“I want a car, and I want a life and I want a first class trip to ... Hawaii!” Nobody can deny the allure of gift giving so embedded in the holiday season — especially broke college students. “My Christmas List” found me when I was tasked to complete my family’s annual Christmas party holiday playlist back in the days of the iPod Nano. “My Christmas List” is now a refreshing reminder of the early 2000’s pop punk, we all have to admit we loved.

“The Chanukah Song” — Adam Sandler

No holiday playlist is complete without covering the season’s other biggest holiday, Chanukah, yet “Spin the Dreidel” and “Light the Menorah” only go so far. Adam Sandler’s “The Chanukah Song” will always get a sing-a-long going with classic lines like, “Chanukah is the festival of lights/ Instead of one day of presents, we have eight crazy nights.” Adam Sandler produces one of the funniest holiday songs with “The Chanukah Song,” and it is always a smart idea to cycle it into the sea of holiday music.

“My Christmas (I Don’t Wanna Fight Tonight)” — The Ramones

Leave it to the forebears of punk rock to bring a Christmas song with the word “fight” in the title. Yet, by mixing the chaos of the season, big families, cramped quarters and the rest of the jolly mess that is the season — fights are bound to occur. Maybe the Ramones’ message of peace is just what every playlist needs, not only for it’s originality, but its reminder of tranquility.

Contact: Adam Ramos at aramos6@nd.edu

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

Samantha Coughlin | THE OBSERVER

THE OBSERVER | THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2014 | NDSMOBSERVER.COM
The University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) football program was killed Tuesday. It was 23-23-1.

Perhaps saying the program died would be incorrect — the Blazers went 6-6 this season to become bowl eligible for the first time in the 1980s. The players will have the final say if the team is invited to a bowl game — whether or not they go. So technically, the program is not dead yet; rather, it has been placed in a coma it will never recover from, simply being kept alive so that all its family can gather for one final time before the plug is pulled.

UAB is a victim of a new age, one in which college sports care more about dollars and cents, rather than players and coaches; an age when conference realignment and a new league — a stadium that is paramount and one where the Power-Five conference’s autonomy continues to grow. When will this come to this? Was it when the NCAA v. Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma ruled that schools could control their own television contracts? Was it when the Bowl Championship Series was formed in the late 1990s? Was it when conference realignment uprooted teams like Nebraska and Maryland or Missouri and Texas A&M from their traditional homes and placed them into new leagues, simply in search of more television money?

Regardless of when it happened, at some point in time it did.

But from the financial side of things, UAB’s program was never given a chance to succeed. For every year of their existence, the Blazers played at Birmingham’s Legion Field. In the early 1990s when the program began, the stadium was more than adequate, Alabama played at least three home games a season in Birmingham for most of the 20th century, rather than on-campus in Tuscaloosa — including Iron Bowls — and the stadium was the site of the first two SEC championship games in 1992 and 1993.

But after the Tide started moving all of their games back to Tuscaloosa, Legion Field fell into disrepair. A stadium that was always far too big for the Blazers was now crumbling — and it is an easier sell of the “South” disintegrated in front of their very eyes.

And then there was the fact that the University of Alabama Board of Trustees never allowed the Blazers to play the team from its Tuscaloosa campus. The Tide’s history of playing in Birmingham did not matter. The trustees would have the final say — that the Blazers could never rival the Crimson Tide — a proposition that is as absurd as it is unlikely. An annual series between the two? It would have provided Alabama with an opportunity to play at Legion Field every other year. A stadium that has given the Blazers a fighting chance at the ticket gate. Of course, like any good tale, this one has a villain, a man by the name of Paul Bryant, Jr.

Now you might have heard of his dad, though most called him “Bear,” the man that built Crimson Tide football into the behemoth that it is. But his son — “Little Bear” — more than anybody, has put the life out of UAB’s program. A take it back to 2006. The Blazers were on the cusp of hiring Jimbo Fisher — now a national-championship-winning head coach at Florida State — to take over the reins of the program, salary that would be partially funded by outside donors was agreed upon between the two parties, and all that remained was approval from the Board of Trustees.

Except the trustees, led by “Little Bear,” blocked the move. Instead, the Blazers hired Neil Callaway, the then-Georgia offensive coordinator that was sought after by nobody. He went 18-42 in Birmingham.

And now, “Little Bear” has successfully killed off the Blazers program. Many think that the Tide would have come and gone, at least briefly. Others speculate that he wanted to ensure the team in Tuscaloosa remained at the top of the food chain for eternity. But most agree that it’s no coincidence this decision came down right before Bryant will retire from the Board of Trustees.

Saturday, the Crimson Tide will play for a spot in the inaugural College Football Playoff, the richest prize ever in college sports. At the same time, the Blazers will decide whether to play one more game as a family or if they would rather just simply pull the plug move on.

It is unfortunate they were never given a chance to truly determine their own fate.

Associated Press

BEREA, Ohio — Brian Hoyer came dangerously close to losing his dream job for good.

But after getting them into playoff contention, the Browns decided that despite his imperfections and recent mistakes, Hoyer is still their starting quarterback over rookie Johnny Manziel, who may be their future but isn’t ready to handle the present.

The Browns are Hoyer’s team for at least one more Sunday. “I want to see this thing through,” Hoyer said. “I want to finish this strong.”

Cleveland’s struggling weapon will start again this week against Indianapolis after first-year coach Mike Pettine and his staff decided Hoyer would be the better option down the stretch than Manziel, who flashed some Johnny Football magic last week in a loss at Buffalo.

Hoyer’s poor performance against the Bills — he was pulled for Manziel with 12 minutes left in a 26-10 loss — raised the possibility that Cleveland (7-5) would make another switch at the position. The Browns have had 29 starting quarterbacks since 1999.

Hoyer spent an anxious 48 hours trying to save his job.

“They weren’t the easiest days of my life, that’s for sure,” he said. “I’ve been through a lot, a lot of things. More than I thought. Maybe handle some adversity and it makes you stronger. It’s back to business as usual.”

Pettine described the decision as difficult because of Hoyer’s performance, but said coaches put more value on his experience and success.

“It wasn’t perfect and he’s made his share of mistakes, but he’s gotten the lion’s share of reps in practice and virtually all of him in games and has us in the thick of a playoff hunt.” Pettine said. “That, to me, was probably the biggest determining factor.”

Pettine said he told both quarterbacks his decision on Wednesday. Manziel’s reaction to being benched after a “short leash” and Pettine is confident the five-year veteran and the rest of Cleveland’s offense can bounce back after a rough stretch.

Before finalizing his decision, Pettine spoke with several generals, but offered their support of Hoyer.

“He’s a resilient competitor,” Pro Bowl tackle Joe Thomas said. “He understands you don’t have to like everything you need to know about him because he’s not the type of guy that will feel sorry for himself. He’s not going to lay down. He’s going to prepare harder.”

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the North Dallas office, 8035 Scotch Oak Blvd. Deadline for the classifieds is 2 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is $5.00 per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without releasing refunds.

**Diva** — Beyonce: “A diva is a female version of a hustla, of a hustla, of a hustla.”

Stop the track, lemme state facts: I told you, gimme a minute and I’ll be right back. Fifteen million round the world and they say that I couldn’t get it; I done get so sick and filthy with Benjamins, I can’t even say it.”

**Diva** — Beyonce: “A diva is a female version of a hustla, of a hustla, of a hustla.”

Stop the track, lemme state facts: I told you, gimme a minute and I’ll be right back. Fifteen million round the world and they say that I couldn’t get...
Dragic, Bledsoe lead Suns to win over Indiana

Associated Press

PHOENIX — The Phoenix double-point guard combination of Goran Dragic and Eric Bledsoe reminded everyone just how good they can be together.

Dragic scored 34 points, Bledsoe had 27 and the Suns beat Indiana 116-99 on Tuesday night for their fourth straight victory over the Pacers.

“Two electrifying guards playing together. That’s a tough matchup,” Indiana coach Frank Vogel said. “They have incredible speed. If you don’t take care of the basket-ball they will expose you for 38 fast-break points, which is what happened tonight.”

The Suns’ guards, who are getting more time together on the court with Isaiah Thomas out with an injury, combined for 22-for-35 shooting. Dragic and Bledsoe had 27 points and 10 rebounds.

Phoenix put together a 17-3 run spanning halftime that erased a nine-point Indiana lead and lifted the Suns to a 64-59 advantage on Dragic’s 13-footer with 8:01 left in the third quarter.

Miles scored 17 for Indiana, and Roy Hibbert had 15 points and 10 rebounds.

Phoenix is playing five games in eight days. Indiana took a 42-33 lead on a 9-0 run. Indiana shot 59 percent from the field in the first half, 37 percent in the second.

Suns: Hornacek said an MRI of Thomas’ injured ankle was negative and the guard might play Friday night at Dallas. Thomas has missed four games. Phoenix has won eight of the last 10 against Indiana and 15 of the last 19.

PACERS

Pacers: Set a season high for points in first quarter (28) and in first half (56). After three days off, Indiana is playing five games in eight days. Indiana took a 42-33 lead on a 9-0 run. Indiana shot 59 percent from the field in the first half, 37 percent in the second.

Suns: Hornacek said an MRI of Thomas’ injured ankle was negative and the guard might play Friday night at Dallas. Thomas has missed four games. Phoenix has won eight of the last 10 against Indiana and 15 of the last 19.

DRAGIC

Entering the fourth, Phoenix stretched it to 10 before Indiana closed to 94-88 on Donald Sloan’s layup with 7:24 left. But the Pacers’ Solomon Hill missed two free throws, Dragic hit a 3 and Bledsoe stole the ball for a breakaway dunk and Phoenix was off on a 12-0 run.

Vogel liked the play of his bench, which outscores the Suns’ reserves 57-30. But Phoenix outscored the Indiana starters by a startling 86-42.

“That’s something we’ve got to look at,” he said.

NBA Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Trent Richardson remembers the day he walked through the front doors of Cleveland’s training facility for the first time.

He was wearing the suit he had on when the Browns called his name with the third pick in the 2012 draft.

Pat Shurmur, the head coach of the Browns at the time, met him at the door with a big smile on his face, Richardson recalled.

“It was one of those feelings that I didn’t think I would ever be playing with another team,” he said. “I thought I would always be there and it would be the last team I ever played for. But it happened like it happened.”

The Colts acquired the running back from the Browns on Sept. 18, 2013, for a first-round draft pick — a move that Richardson said he was “shocked” by. Now he and three other Colts players are headed to Cleveland this Sunday for a game against a team, and franchise, they know well.

Return specialist Josh Cribbs, who joined the Colts last month as a free agent, signed with the Browns as an undrafted free agent in 2005. Safety Mike Adams played for the Browns for five seasons and D’Qwell Jackson was drafted by the team in 2006 before he suffered two season-ending injuries.

Heck, Colts coach Chuck Pagano’s first four years in the league as an assistant were in Cleveland.

Cribbs left Cleveland after the 2012 season with a handful of records, including the all-time franchise leader in kickoff returns, kickoff return yards, and return touchdowns.

Jackson is looking forward to the opportunity to face his former team, but says there won’t be any time to spend with friends and former teammates.

“I’m not going to change what I do,” Jackson said. “In the offseason, if I go back, I’ll have dinner with some guys, but right now it’s a business trip and that’s the only thing that’s on my mind.”

For Richardson, it’s different.

What he thought would be a long and successful career in Cleveland has been everything but what he expected. Things haven’t been the same since the Colts acquired him last year and now Richardson is looking for a breakout game this week against the team that drafted him — and traded him.

“They gave up on me,” Richardson said in a conference call with Browns media on Wednesday. “I’m going to go into this game like it’s my last.”

Richardson has struggled to move the ball in Indy, and the Colts have been criticized for the move and questioned for sticking with the former Alabama star.

Pagano made it clear the Colts plan to rely on Richardson as their starter.

“We’re going to be good days and there’s going to be bad days,” Pagano said. “He’s had some days that have been very, very productive and some tough days.”

Richardson totaled 12 yards on eight carries against Washington last week. He had 42 yards against Jacksonville the week before, and finished with zero yards on six carries against New England on Nov. 16.

Lack of productivity? Richardson sees it more as defenses focused on him so much that he can’t get into a groove.

“You know what? People have just been stacking the box,” he said. “I haven’t been getting the looks that I was getting earlier in the season. Now that Ahmad (Bradshaw) is down, people are counting on me running the ball. I haven’t been getting all of the same looks as everybody else.”

Richardson says that some- times defenses are thrown off when they think he’s going to run the ball, but Andrew Luck decides to pass instead.

“When it comes down to it, I want to say that I’ve been doing my job,” Richardson said. “Anytime I go in with play-action, somebody’s wide open. If they’re trying to stop by and Andrew Luck’s having a good day (or Daniel Herron) is having a good day, I’m doing good because they’re distracted by me.”
Irish travel to Texas without Reaney

By ZACH KLONSKIN
Sports Writer

After a three-week hiatus from competition, Notre Dame heads southwest to Austin, Texas, today through Saturday to participate in the Texas Invitational.

The Irish previously swam four events in the first two weeks of November before breaking for practice and the Thanksgiving holiday, Irish interim coach Tim Welsh said. “We had two and a half really good weeks of practice,” Welsh said. “We trained as well as we have the entire fall. We got some sleep over Thanksgiving, so it was a good period of preparation for us.”

Welsh said this invitational would give him his first look at how his team has improved with all that preparation, especially as the end of the semester approaches and their academic workload increases.

“Obviously we’re about to find out,” Welsh said. “The challenge of being both a student and an athlete is pretty intense, and the fact that people are able to do it all just continues to baffle me. But our team has done a great job of handling both halves.”

Notre Dame will be without the services of its best swimmer, senior Emma Reaney, who is overseas competing in the FINA Short Course World Championships in Doha, Qatar. Reaney is competing for Team USA in the 50-, 100-, and 200-yard breaststroke events. The championships began yesterday, where Reaney was the second-youngest qualifier for the 50-yard breaststroke finals, which will be held today.

Reaney has been one of the four mainstays in Notre Dame’s 200-yard medley relay team along with sophomore Catherine Mulquin, junior Catherine Galletti and senior Courtney Whyte. The absence of Reaney will certainly be felt, Welsh said, but the Irish plan on filling her spot by committee.

“We’ll plug in the next fastest breaststroke,” Welsh said. “We don’t know who that is yet. The way the meet is set up, we’ll have a chance to see everybody swim before we have to declare our relay for the night, and we’ll just try to go with the four people who look like they’re swimming the fastest.”

“We’re all behind Emma and hope she does a great job over there.”

Welsh said he is keeping the team’s goals for this meet extremely simple.

“Be faster than we’ve been all year,” Welsh said. “The name of the game is to keep improving, so that’s our emphasis going down there. If we had a couple of giant steps forward that would be great, but we just want to keep improving. … Catherine Mulquin has been swimming real well. [Catherine] Galletti has been swimming real well. [Freshman] Katie Miller has as well of late. [Senior] Bridget Casey has been doing real well. ”

“We aren’t real focused on one event, but we hope there are a lot that turn out real well.”

The meet will feature preliminary and finals of a third of the events today and will be similarly broken down over the next two days. The action at the Lee & Joe Jamall Texas Swimming Center in Austin, Texas, is scheduled to begin at 11 a.m.

Contact Zach KIonskni at zkIonski@nd.edu

ND begins indoor season with home invitational

By MANNY DE JESUS
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will kick off its indoor season tomorrow as it hosts Marquette, DePaul, Bethel, Detroit-Mercy, Loyola-Chicago and Northern Illinois in the 10th annual Blue and Gold Invitational.

Irish coach Matt Sparks said the Blue and Gold Invitational is primarily a time for the newer Irish competitors to get a feel for what it is like to participate in collegiate meets.

“The track and field team has been practicing since early September,” Sparks said. “The Blue and Gold meet is an opportunity for those athletes to see the progress they have made since the track season ended last spring. It will also be an opportunity for the freshmen to see where they stand for the first time against collegiate competition. Also, with a new coaching staff, it will give several of the coaches a first look at how individuals compete.”

In particular, Irish coach Pristina Jones joined the staff to assist in the development of sprinters, hurdlers and jumpers. For the past three years, Jones was the head coach for Jackson State’s women’s track and field and cross country squad. Last season, Jones led the Jackson State cross country team to third place in the SWAC, which was the program’s best spot since 2009. Sparks said he believes that her experience will make an immediate impact on Notre Dame’s program.

“Pristina Jones has head coaching experience at Jackson State University, and that leadership will benefit the entire program,” Sparks said. “She will especially contribute to our sprinters, hurdlers and jumpers. With our head coach, Alan Turner, working with the sprinters and jumpers but also overseeing the entire program, she will be another set of eyes on that group as Coach Turner has a watchful eye on the entire track and field program.”

While Notre Dame is welcoming several new athletes to the program, it is also returning a few key contributors. Junior distance runner Molly Seidel just finished up her cross country season with All-American honors. Sparks said that Seidel will be relied on to push the team to a successful season.

“Molly’s confidence is high right now,” Sparks said. “We have need to keep her fitness progressing and most importantly with her is to keep her healthy and injury-free. If we can do those things, she will have a productive track season.”

Last season, the men’s team finished 17th in the NCAA indoor national championships and the women’s squad finished in 29th place. Four Irish individuals earned All-American status, including returning senior hurdlers Jada Barber for the women, and senior sprinter Chris Giesting for men. Both men’s and women’s distance medley relay squads grabbed top-five finishes, but each team will return only one relay member.

Notre Dame will begin the Blue and Gold Invitational tomorrow, with the field events beginning at 5 p.m. and the running events following at 6 p.m., in Loftus Sports Center.

Contact Manny De Jesus at mdejesus@nd.edu

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Still, Notre Dame stayed alive. The Irish forced overtime with some key defensive stops, then won it in the extra stanza with more of the same — and a healthy dose of senior guard Jerian Grant and sophomore guard Demetrius Jackson. Grant (27 points) and Jackson (22) their first marquee win.

Irish.

Valentine dribbled off his backcourt, plus 12 points from both se- niors forward Pat Connaughton and sophomore guard Steve Vasturia and constant energy from sophomore forward Austin Torres, drove the Irish to their first marquee win.

For the most part we ex- ecuted at key times, which we didn’t see much of last year,” Connaughton said.

Valentine held the ball in the final five seconds of regulation with the score tied 67-67. He drove right, but Grant stood him up. Valentine dribbled off his back, and it went back to the Irish.

It was definitely some- thing I needed — mano y mano — I knew it was going to be one-on-one,” Grant said.

At the other end with two seconds left, Grant got a look at the basket but fumbled it on the way up after a nudge from Valentine.

“It’s a play I should have made,” Grant said.

Brey trotted out the same five for overtime, as Torres took — and won — the opening tap. The sophomore from Granger, Indiana, whose previous career-high in minutes was 11, played the final 13:08, including overtime, as ju- nior forward Zach Auguste rode the bench after tal- lying four points and four rebounds in 19 minutes. Torres was tasked with de- fending Dawson and limit- ed the athletic specimen to two points over those last 13 minutes.

“[Torres] was fabulous,” Brey said. “And that’s the way he’s been practicing. He gives us that athletic frontline guy.”

Torres’ only basket — an overtime tip-in — slid the Irish ahead 71-69. Then Jackson delivered a filthy crossover and finished an and-one to push the lead to 74-69.

“It used to be just Jerian, because that wasn’t real- ly Eric Atkins,” Brey said.

“We’ve got two guys.”

Notre Dame’s defense fin- ished the job.

“I think it gives us con- fidence,” Brey said. “It’s a nice step for this group.”

The lead changed hands 11 times and the score was tied on nine occasions. Despite Michigan State’s commanding 43-26 advan- tage on the glass, Notre Dame’s offensive efficiency (just four turnovers) and overall defense, especial- ly in the paint and adding a tip- in, proved enough for the Irish.

“I knew they’d be able to play volleyball with us,” Brey said of the rebounding disparity. “I didn’t know it was going to be that bad. At least it didn’t beat us.”

After a high-octane and energized first half that featured three ties and nine lead changes, Notre Dame trotted into the locker room with a 37-35 edge. The Spartans broke open a sev- en-point lead with 11:16 to go in the final half, a surge highlighted by a one-hand- ed slam by Dawson, but the Irish kept battling.

“It became like a play- ground, man, and you want- ed to win the game and stay next instead of lose and you don’t play the rest of the af- ternoon,” Brey said. “There was not much semblance of defensive balance. Just go and get the ball.”

Before the game, Notre Dame announced sopho- more forward V.J. Beacham is out for a month with a right foot injury (plantar fasciitis) suffered in prac- tice Tuesday. Brey said 3-pointers and nimble

Beacham would likely miss the next month with plantar fasciitis.

These struggles, particularly the frontcourt issues, certain- ly need to be addressed before an ACC schedule that includes five teams currently ranked in the top 15 of both major polls. But in spite of these ob- stacles, Notre Dame managed to hold serve down the stretch and control overtime to earn a win over a team that looks to once again finish toward the top of the Big Ten, if recent history is any indication.

And Notre Dame’s backcourt provided enough reasons to believe that the Irish will be a tough out for the rest of their oppo- nents it has remaining on the schedule.

But referred to his one- two guard duo of sophomore Demetrius Jackson and senior Jerian Grant as the best backcourt in the NCAA after the victory, and his as- sertion didn’t sound too far-fetched, at least strictly based off Wednesday night’s performances.

Grant, who Michigan State head coach Tom Izzo referred to “the best guard in the country,” as he’s seen thus far — and the Spartans have already played Duke and Kansas — posted a career-high 22 points, as well as six assists, four rebounds and three steals Wednesday night.

Jackson added a career-high of his own with 22 points.

More importantly for Notre Dame, the sophomore made plays during the final half of the team’s 12 overtime points.

While Grant and Jackson combined for 44 of Notre Dame’s 79 points, there was more to the team’s effort than just the two guards. Despite struggles from senior forward Pat Connaughton finished with six points and eight rebounds, while sophomore guard Steve Vasturia added a dozen points of his own, marking the eighth straight game Notre Dame had for at least one double-figure in points.

This continued offensive balance will be a key for Notre Dame moving forward. But equally important will be the efforts the Irish receive down low and on the bench. With Austin Torres being more than half the game, Austin Torres filled both of those needs, slowing down Dawson in the paint and adding a tip- in when the Irish needed it most. Torres still only averages 8.2 minutes per game, but his presence, along with that of senior forward Austin Burgett and freshman forwards Martinas Geben and Bonnie Colson, will be needed to continually provide the depth about which Brey has raved.

These three “b’s” — backcourt, balance and bench play — all combined to create a lively atmosphere and step- ping-stone victory for Notre Dame on Wednesday night. And given the half-dozen defeats that occurred on the Irish home court last season, it was well-earned.

But the real test will be whether the Irish can give those packed into the 9,149- seat arena reasons to maintain that atmosphere for the vari- ous challenges that lie ahead.

Contact Brian Hartnett at bhartnett@nd.edu

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
the week awards this season and has been Notre Dame’s second-leading scorer after Loyd, averaging 13.4 points per game. Turner has also averaged 6.1 rebounds per game entering Wednesday night and has started all eight of Notre Dame’s games.

Even without Turner, once the Irish took a 6-4 lead over the Terrapins less than three minutes into the first half, they had the lead for good. Notre Dame held the lead for 38:42 of the game’s 40 minutes.

Up 9-6, the Irish went on a 12-0 tear that swelled its lead to 21-6, and they continued making runs throughout the first half.

Notre Dame secured a 34-28 total rebounding advantage and also outscored Maryland in the paint, 34-26.

For Maryland, sophomore guard Lexie Brown and redshirt senior guard Laurin Mincy led the scoring push with 20 points each. Freshman guard Kristen Confroy added 14 points to round out the Maryland’s top-three scorers.

“i thought the defense in the first half was very good,” mcgraw said. “it was not as good in the second half. i thought we could have played a little better defensively in the second half.”

Four Irish players scored in double figures: Loyd and Reimer, as well as junior guard Michaela Mabrey, who scored 11, including a trio of 3-pointers, and sophomore guard Lindsay Allen, who tallied 10. As a team, Notre Dame shot 58 percent from the field.

The Irish bench made contributions as well, as nine players scored for Notre Dame. Freshman forward Kathryn Westbeld and senior forward Markisha Wright scored nine points each off the bench, and Wright snagged eight rebounds, landing her in a tie with Loyd for the team high.

Although the bench committed several turnovers, McGraw said she was pleased overall with their play. Wright and Westbeld joined starters Reimer, Allen, Mabrey and Loyd in recording over 20 minutes of play.

“Thei played well,” McGraw said of the bench. “I was really happy with the post play.”

Notre Dame now sets its sights on another rematch on Saturday when they take on No. 3 Connecticut. The game will renew the extensive rivalry after a regular-season hiatus last year, although the teams met in the NCAA championship, a game Connecticut (5-1) won, 79-58.

The Irish take on the Huskies on Saturday at 3:15 p.m. at Purcell Pavilion.

Contact Samantha Zuba at szuba@nd.edu
**CROSSWORD | WILL SHORTZ**

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26— S 26— Whirling four-letter words
27— D 27— Whirling four-letter words
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**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**

1. JAWSET 2. ZEOLITH 3. KNOCK-OUT 4. XEROPEL 5. OYSTER 6. TOTALLY 7. CANOE

**SUDOKU | THE MEPHAM GROUP**

Level: 1 2 3 4

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

**DOME NUTS | ALEXANDRA BRAVEMAN**

On the third day of Christmas, a Spinal Cord gave to me:
- three pairs of scabs.
- two wriggling reds, and a thick knot in my toe.

**THE OBSERVER**

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**HOROSCOPE | EUGENIA LAST**

Happy Birthday: You’ve got plenty of choices, so think big while remaining realistic. The combination will help you reach your goals successfully. Alignment is in your favor, so chances of attracting love will be high, but be careful not to lose sight of your inner needs. Opportunities will present themselves, but you need to start planting the seeds. The coming year will be marked by the unexpected.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Get together with people you feel mentally stimulating. Enjoy sharing information and you will find a way to make positive changes in the way you live. Don’t let someone you work with bully you. Your unresolved issues can be summed up as an advantage.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The ups and downs. Financial gains can be made if you keep your cool and think. Ask for a raise at the right time and control and you will be able to apply for a better position. Talking with someone you respect will lead to a new opportunity.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21): Strive to reach personal goals. Self-improvement will result in a complement. Speak up to anyone who gets in your way. Your knowledge and expressive way of dealing with others will buy you time.

CANCER (June 22-July 22): Refuse to let your emotions take over. Listen carefully and take care of your responsibilities. Someone will take advantage of your weakness if you don’t clearly state what you will and won’t do. Pay yourself on the last day of the month.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Add a little excitement to your life. Plan a trip or indulge in something you’ve never done before. Open your mind to learning new skills that can be incorporated into your resume. Stop dreaming and start doing. Love is in the air.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Hold on to what you’ve got. Don’t give in to someone pressuring you to spend your money. You can make an investment, but stay within your means. Do what feels right and works for you. Personal problems will be based on false information.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Get out and meet new people. A partnership will lead to new possibilities. Sharing ideas and space with someone looks favorable, as long as you iron out any kinks at the very beginning.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Change can be good, if it’s built on solid ground. Don’t be a follower or you will have regrets. Take your own unique path and work what works best for you. Recognition is heading your way, along with new opportunities.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Improve your surroundings and start getting ready for the holiday season. You can make financial gains if you take care of unfinished business. Concentrate on new beginnings. Love and romance are on the cards.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Build on any suggestions without feeling the need to make hasty decisions. Don’t fall for the tactics used by someone who wants to manipulate you emotionally. It’s okay to waffle if the cost is high and may result in compliments. Stand up to anyone who gets in your way. Your intelligence to outsmart an aggressor.

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Irish upset No. 19 Michigan State in overtime

Backcourt, defense provide boost down stretch

By MIKE MONACO
Senior Sports Writer

Mike Brey knew it would be a great early-season test — and potential confidence boost — for his young team Wednesday night against No. 19 Michigan State. It was both for a Notre Dame squad that supplied answers all night en route to a 79-78 overtime win at a nearly sold-out Purcell Pavilion.

“I’ve experienced a lot of exciting nights in that building there, and that’s gotta be one of the tops ones,” the Irish head coach said after Notre Dame’s thrilling victory. “What a great college game. Just a great game. And I’m really proud of our group.”

Brey went on to praise Notre Dame’s physical and mental toughness — those which powered the Irish through 45 minutes of action.

Loyd’s 27 points helps ND to early 24-point lead; squad never trails despite injury to Turner

By SAMANATHA ZUBA
Assistant Managing Editor

Loyd contributed to every facet of the game, adding eight rebounds and six assists to her point total. Overall, she went 8-for-15 from the field, made three of her six 3-point attempts and sank eight-of-nine free throws for an average of just under one point per minute.

“Loyd certainly contributed to the win, and the team never trailed,” Irish head coach Muffet McGraw said of Loyd after the game. “She was really pleased with her rebounding.”

Irish senior guard Jerian Grant battles through traffic during Notre Dame’s 79-78 overtime win over No. 19 Michigan State on Wednesday night in Purcell Pavilion. Grant led all scorers with 27 points.

Wednesday night brought an atmosphere to Purcell Pavilion that was all too familiar for Notre Dame fans and ranked opponents, yet it had been conspicuously absent for much of the last year.

The atmosphere was part of the ACC/Big Ten Challenge, and marked the second win over a ranked opponent this season for the Irish (8-0), who also defeated then-No. 15 Michigan State, 71-63, on Nov. 19.

The Irish dominated the first half, outscoring the Terrapins (6-2), 47-27. Notre Dame and Maryland each tallied 45 points in the second half, however.

The Irish benefited from two 20-plus point performances from junior guard Jewell Loyd (27) and sophomore forward Taya Reimer (21). This season, Loyd is averaging 21.1 points per game, and Reimer is averaging 10.4 points per game, third on the team.

Despite a second-half push by Maryland, No. 2 Notre Dame held on to win, 92-72, Wednesday at Allen County War Memorial Coliseum in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

The matchup was part of the ACC/Big Ten Challenge, and marked the second win over a ranked opponent this season for the Irish (8-0), who also defeated then-No. 15 Michigan State, 71-63, on Nov. 19.

The Irish dominated the first half, outscoring the Terrapins (6-2), 47-27. Notre Dame and Maryland each tallied 45 points in the second half, however.

The Irish benefited from two 20-plus point performances from junior guard Jewell Loyd (27) and sophomore forward Taya Reimer (21). This season, Loyd is averaging 21.1 points per game, and Reimer is averaging 10.4 points per game, third on the team.

Loyd contributed to every facet of the game, adding eight rebounds and six assists to her point total. Overall, she went 8-for-15 from the field, made three of her six 3-point attempts and sank eight-of-nine free throws for an average of just under one point per minute.

“I was really pleased with her rebounding,” Irish coach Muffet McGraw said of Loyd after the game. “She took great shots. She got to the free throw line; she got six assists. Everything we could have asked, she did.”

Irish freshman forward Brianna Turner has had a stellar start to her collegiate career but did not score in just four minutes of play Wednesday night, limited by a shoulder injury suffered in the first half.

Turner will undergo an MRI today to evaluate the injury, McGraw said. Turner has earned consecutive ACC freshman of the week honors for her play so far this season.

Therefore, fans were left with a familiar feeling as the Irish dominated the first half and held off a second-half push by the Terrapins.

The Irish were led in scoring by senior guard Jewell Loyd, who scored 27 points, including eight rebounds and six assists.

Notre Dame freshman forward Kathryn Westbeld drives inside for a shot against Holy Cross in a 104-29 defeat of Holy Cross on Nov. 23. The Irish beat Maryland, 92-72, on Wednesday night.