Film festival to screen student projects

By CAROLYN HUTRYA
News Writer

In celebration of the 26th annual Notre Dame Student Film Festival, the Delbartolo Performing Arts Center will screen undergraduate films created this past year in courses conducted through the department of film, television and theatre (FTT).

Professor Ted Mandell, who organized the inaugural film festival in 1990 and has coordinated all 26 screenings since, said the event is an entertaining experience.

“I’m pretty certain the audience will be impressed with the quality of the films ... and they’ll get a chance to voice their opinion by voting for the Audience Choice Award,” he said.

Senior Eric O’Donnell and junior Maureen Gavin created a documentary for the festival, titled “Curry & Erin,” which follows the story of Nashville artist and ALS patient Erin Brady Worsham and her husband, Curry.

“Eric and I traveled to Nashville for fall break and shot our documentary over four days,” Gavin said. “We edited it over the next month and a half, meeting almost everyday for hours at a time. It was very much a partner process.”

Before traveling to Nashville, Gavin said she and O’Donnell anticipated their film would focus on Erin Worsham’s unique and intriguing artwork.

“That changed when we spoke with Curry the first night and began to watch them interact with the audience,” said the event is an entertaining experience.

Group reflects on human dignity

By RACHEL O’GRADY
News Writer

Wednesday evening, the Kellogg Institute of International Studies hosted “Understanding Human Dignity,” the inaugural event in a semester-long discussion on human dignity and human development, utilizing lessons learned at Kellogg’s “2014 Human Dignity and Human Development Conference” on Oct. 22-24 in Rome, Italy.

“We invited 14 terrific faculty members and divided them into four interdisciplinary groups: global health, business and economics, conflict and policy, and community development,” senior Sean Long, a host of the event, said.

“Many students from each of Notre Dame’s five colleges, we hope one hour becomes one semester of sustained dialogue on what human dignity means in our career and in our lives.”

Director of the Kellogg Institute, Steve Reifenberg, introduced the event and invited attendees to choose one of the discussions hosted by the Kellogg Institute of International Studies.

Career Center hosts fair

By KAYLA MULLEN
News Writer

The Career Center will be hosting its annual Winter Career and Internship Fair tonight in the Joyce Center from 4-8 p.m., Hilary Flanagan, director of the Career Center, said.

“A wide range of industries will be at the Fair representing 133 employers, with a mix of full-time and internship opportunities available for students from all majors, Flanagan said.

“Our team begins planning the next career fair right after the current one is complete — the events are ever evolving based on student and employer feedback and needs.”

SMC club inspires Catholic dialogue

By OLIVIA JACKSON
News Writer

Four Saint Mary’s students introduced a new club last semester, called Christ Lights. Junior club president Sofia Piecuch said she started the club with fellow juniors Clare Lambert, vice president, Olivia Beck, treasurer, and Brianna Noll, secretary, with hopes to strengthen her Catholic faith during her time as an undergraduate.

“The idea for the club originated when I found myself wanting to go much deeper into my faith and strengthen my Catholic identity.” Piecuch said, “Quite often, I would turn to Notre Dame to find spaces to cultivate my faith, as they have a plethora of extremely wonderful clubs and worship groups to choose from. I quickly found my niche, but wished that Saint Mary’s could offer similar student groups.”

Piecuch said she found that other students shared her desire to learn more about Catholicism and share their personal faith struggles with one another.

“I think college is a critical time in the lives of many students, especially in their faith development, and the club is a way to help with that.”

The club meets twice a week, every Tuesday and Thursday at 7:30 p.m. to discuss faith and film, and plan events throughout the semester.

See Career Center hosts fair for more information.
If you could choose a pet for your dorm, what would it be?
Schwarz earns prestigious ND architecture award

By CLARE KOSSLER
News Writer

Architect David M. Schwarz was selected as the recipient of the 2015 Richard H. Driehaus Prize at Notre Dame. The $200,000 award, which will be presented at a ceremony in Chicago on March 21, recognizes an architect whose work demonstrates classical and sustainable architecture in modern urban society.

“My goal in establishing the prize was to recognize excellence in architecture that communicates enduring humanist values,” founder and chief investment officer of Driehaus Capital Management LLC Richard H. Driehaus said.

Michael Lykoudis, Driehaus Prize jury chair and Francis and Kathleen Rooney Dean of Notre Dame's School of Architecture, said the award fosters the classical and sustainable qualities in the practice of architecture.

This year’s recipient, environmental health expert Dr. Richard J. Jackson, said architecture is closely related to the wellbeing of society and has enormous influence on people’s health and happiness.

“When we build, when we create places, we should put people in the center of what we build,” he said.

Schwarz said his firm always considers the impact of its designs on people and the community as a whole, both regarding sustainability and beauty.

“We are very interested in having our design promote community,” Schwarz said. “Architecture can divide people or bring them closer together.”

Some of Schwarz’s more notable designs include the American Airlines Center in Dallas, the Nancy Lee & Perry R. Bass Performance Hall in Fort Worth and the Palladium at the Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel, Indiana. Lykoudis said.

Lykoudis said the value of classical architecture and the work of Schwarz and previous recipients of the award lies in its public appeal.

“If a building is loved it remains,” Lykoudis said. “That’s the best kind of sustainability you can have.”

Driehaus said that in recognizing Schwarz and previous laureates, the award complements the principles of the Notre Dame School of Architecture.

“The prize rewards the same qualities in the practice of architecture that Notre Dame emphasizes in architectural training,” Schwarz said. “Educating young architects to build for long-term values, and recognizing those values where they appear in the work of mature architects, are two sides of the same coin.”

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SAO seeks senate input on new first year course

By EMILY McCONVILLE
News Writer

Wednesday evening, representatives from the design team for the new first year course that will replace the physical education requirement delivered a presentation to Student Senate.

Executive assistant to the Office of the President Mirella Riley said the primary goal of the new first year course is to give students a way to transition to college life.

“It will be an opportunity to have the integration of the residential life, the academic life and it will provide a holistic approach to the education of first year students as they come in,” Riley said. “It will provide a number of methods to deliver content.”

“But really the idea is that there will be discussions of those sections that will be facilitated by an instructor, and that it will also build a sense of community for the students.”

Riley said while the course is a certain thing, planning is still in the early stages and the design team is therefore looking for student input to help shape the course.

In response to questions from some of the senators in attendance, Maureen Dawson, assistant dean in First Year of Studies, said the course would expand on the resources students receive during orientation weekend.

“These courses are really common throughout the country,” Dawson said. “Ours will be different in that it’s not to help students meet academic standards; it’s really to give students the opportunity to discover themselves, see how they fit in at the University and take a very holistic approach to developing mind, body and spirit.”

Dawson said students in the course will have one professor per semester, and the class’s format will include online modules.

Riley said the design team is still in the early stages of deciding the name of the course, its grading system and the campus organizations that will be involved in its design. Riley asked Senators for their input over the next several weeks.

Student Activities Office (SAO) program director Paul Manrique said while there are not many undergraduate students on the design team, because the team is small, student representatives will still have a say in the course’s formation.

Sophomore Jake Wittenberg was elected to be the Senate’s representative to the design team, which also includes faculty and administrators.

The Senate also unanimously passed a resolution amend ing the Student Government Constitution, moving the start date for class councils from April 1 to May 1. In his introduction of the resolution, junior class president Zach Waterston said changing the date would allow class council members more time to plan events.

“In the second semester, April is the best month to plan events for your respective classes,” Waterston said. “It’s right before finals, and also you have the whole year to figure out what kinds of events work for your class.”

But unfortunately right now, the term ends on April 1 and a whole new council begins on April 1, so we don’t really have the opportunity to take advantage of that. This amendment pushes the transition back a month to May 1 to give the class council the academic year to finish planning those events.”

While class council positions now start May 1, other student government positions will still begin April 1.

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Flanagan, the Career Center and other organizations host a variety of events in preparation for the Fair, Flanagan said. “Many clubs and organizations host events around the Career Fair, and there have been numerous prep sessions for students to get ready,” Flanagan said. “[The] day of the event, we have the Diversity and Inclusion opportunity to grow in your faith, which is also a good opportunity to meet with other Catholics on campus to share teachings and beliefs within their faiths and help each other better understand the teachings and beliefs within Catholicism,” Prieuch said. “Prieuch defined Christ Lights as a student-run Catholic initiative, which seeks to bring students together in community and fellowship as well as help students grow in their understanding of faith. Prieuch said the patron saint of Christ Lights is Blessed Chiara Luce Badano. “Christ Lights is a place to ask questions, to pray, as well as seek emotional and spiritual support over a cup of coffee,” Prieuch said. “We also wish to respond to Pope Francis’ call to all Catholics to evangelize by providing resources to train Catholics to be loving explainers and defenders of the faith.” Christ Lights hopes to both host faith-building events at Saint Mary’s as well as go on trips to Catholic conferences, Prieuch said.

“Whether students are exploring what options they have to gain experience while here at ND or preparing for their first opportunity after graduation, we are excited to have so many organizations send representatives to interact with our students live,” Flanagan said. “The event serves to kick off the year in a person’s life: your parents aren’t there to make you go to mass so it is easy to let that slide and neglect things,” Lambert said. “It is also a good opportunity to grow in your faith, and I think that’s really important.” Noll said starting Christ Lights was a good opportunity to meet with other Catholics on campus to share in their faiths and help each other better understand the teachings and beliefs within Catholicism.

“Our two long-term goals are to host a retreat in the fall with the theme of ‘Catholic Apologetics,’ as well as to apply for a grant to fund travel and registration for the Catholic Answers National Apologetics Conference in San Diego in September,” Prieuch said. Prieuch said Christ Lights is open to students from Saint Mary’s, Notre Dame and Holy Cross. “I wanted to start something that could also be attractive to Notre Dame and Holy Cross student, encouraging them to visit our campus and thus foster greater tri-campus friendship,” Prieuch said. “We seek to take this knowledge [of our faith] and put it into action in order to unify our tri-university community with respect and love.” Prieuch said Christ Lights plans to hold weekly meetings on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. in Dallaways Clubhouse at Saint Mary’s. Between discussion weeks, Prieuch said the club hopes to host speakers who will talk about subjects pertaining to being Catholic in a modern world. “Every other week, the meeting will serve as a faith-sharing group in which people can raise questions they have about the Catholic faith, share situations where their beliefs were challenged, ask for prayer intentions, and so on,” Prieuch said. “Turning to resources, such as the catechism of the Catholic Church, we will seek to collectively find answers and support one another.”

“Student's will meet with business representatives from 133 employers tonight in hopes of professional experience, whether it may be a job after graduation or a summer internship.”

Christ Lights will be hosting a snowman building contest on Wednesday, February 4th, open to all members of the tri-campus community.
Lecture
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of the four panels to attend and participate in an hour-long discussion, followed by a post-panel reception.

“While each panel zeroes in on a specific discipline, the post-panel reception offers an opportunity for students and faculty to share ideas and professional experience,” said Maureen Gavin, a visiting fellow at the Kellogg Institute.

The panelists came from diverse backgrounds and discussed a wide array of topics throughout the evening.

“I hope that my personal and professional experience can help students, who may be going to the field and work on related topics, to get some sense of how to deal with some issues that come associated with the study of violence in developing countries,” Ley Gutiérrez said.

Senior and event host, Emily Mediate, hopes the human dignity panels will bring about discussion in the Notre Dame community.

“We hear ‘human dignity’ tossed around, but we hope that in holding an event centered around the idea, we can start to uncover what these means to people and how to apply it to what we are learning and what we are doing on this campus,” Mediate said. “We have always been proud of how Notre Dame is instilled with a sense of purpose, a certain interest in upholding the dignity of others through our lives and our classes.”

After attending the “Human Dignity and Human Development” conference in Rome in October, Long, Mediate and senior Amanda Pena, another event host, felt compelled to create this sort of dialogue on campus.

“At the end of the day, we are hoping those participating in the event will walk away with a sense of purpose and can find meaning in their studies and work,” Pena said. “By illuminating the dignity of the person as it is understood across various academic disciplines, this event seeks to enrich the ways in which students and faculty build sustainable relationships and contribute to human development in all its forms.”

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Film
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“Don’t think I’ve ever put so much time and energy into something before, and I love that something tangible came out of it,” she said. “We both learned how important it is to stay open-minded when creating a film, particularly a documentary.”

Other films, such as “Cold Open,” created by juniors Lesley Stevenson and Brian Lach, enrolled the assistance of other students in the filmmaking process.

Editor’s note: Stevenson is the News Editor and Lach is the Multimedia Editor at The Observer.

Junior FTT major Jacob Schrimpf acted in the film, which he said tells the story of an ambitious actor who finds an unfinished script.

“It’s all about this actor’s struggle with finding work, how to become a successful actor again and coming to terms with his own struggles,” he said.

Although Schrimpf’s focus in FTT is acting, he said this was his first endeavor in film.

“I didn’t realize before how time consuming making a film is,” he said. “I knew it was a difficult process, but just the intricacy that has to go into every single detail of a film is remarkable ... I was just there for a fraction of the process.”

Of the 11 films scheduled to run Thursday through Saturday, FTT do and also to see that students here can produce very professional work that’s interesting and engaging,” he said. “I think the work of the filmmaker is often underappreciated, but it really is a detail-oriented, time-consuming process.”

Through his role in “Cold Open,” Schrimpf said his respect for the filming process has increased immensely. He added that the film festival is also a unique opportunity to bring student work to the big screen.

Randell said, “I’m hopeful, as in past years, that some of these films will be selected to be screened at other film festivals around the country.”

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At the “Understanding Human Dignity” discussion, panelists debate issues within four interdisciplinary groups: global health, business and economics, conflict and policy and community development.

Image by Jake Wessels | The Observer

“Don’t think I’ve ever put so much time and energy into something before, and I love that something tangible came out of it.”

Maureen Gavin
Junior

“It’s all about this actor’s struggle with finding work, how to become a successful actor again and coming to terms with his own struggles.”

Jacob Schrimpf
Junior

Schrimpf said the genres range from documentaries to dramas to comedies. “(The film festival) is a cool way to see what do people in FTT do and also to see that students here can produce very professional work that’s interesting and engaging,” he said. “I think the work of the filmmaker is often underappreciated, but it really is a detail-oriented, time-consuming process.”

Through his role in “Cold Open,” Schrimpf said his respect for the filming process has increased immensely. He added that the film festival is also a unique opportunity to bring student work to the big screen.

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Image by Jake Wessels | The Observer

The Observer.

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I made it, you made it

Emilie Kefalas
News Writer

I would like to thank you for being here. It is truly an honor and accomplishment that you, in fact, are here. Think about that for a moment.

If you are reading this, you are alive, which means you survived thousands of hurdles in your existence, including but not limited to variations of sickness or injury. In order for you to be here at all, your ancestors needed to be healthy and attractive enough to mate and pass along a genetic code, the key to your identity.

Author Bill Bryson describes this concept with much more witty eloquence than I, in his brilliant and brief science book, "A Short History of Nearly Everything." I first heard his opening comments about the miracle of being when I was in 7th grade and my dad continuously played the audiobook. Of all the phenomenal writing in Bryson's piece, his idea that each individual's existence is an achievement generations in the making moved me.

I have since reflected and researched moments in my family history leading up to my birth during which my leaf on the family tree could very well have never endured. In an ode to tribute and my blessed life, I recount two specific points on my ancestral timeline my existence hung in the balance of decision and destiny.

The first involves my great-grandfather, my dad's Papou (Greek for grandfather). He proudly served his beloved country of Greece in World War I. During his service, he lost his left leg, and nearly bled to death. If not for a passing British soldier, he would have remained and eventually become another casualty count. "This man is alive," the British soldier exclaimed, surprised to find my great-grandfather visibly conscious. Had my great-grandfather died in the Great War, my Yiayia (Greek for grandmother) would not have been born. Without Yiayia, my dad would not have been conceived. My mom would never have met him, and I would probably have blue eyes and no interest in world history.

My mom is adopted, and that is the extent of how much I know about her true roots. She has neither searched nor cared to learn about her birth parents. I have since been engaged in a continued guessing game of her lineage. What I do know is she was adopted in 1960's South Side Chicago, a predominantly Irish Catholic neighborhood. Regardless of if I ever pursue the discovery of my mom's ancestry, I will always be thankful to her birth parents, whoever they are, for giving her life.

And that’s all I need to know for now. I know it took nothing less than a couple miracles to get me here. But I made it. I made it. You made it. You are here, reading this. Never forget how good and great it is you are here.

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

The couples of dorm dances

Matthew Miklavic
The Maine Idea

Diversity. It’s a pretty big topic around campus. And given that Notre Dame apparently thinks it is diverse enough to have classes on Martin Luther King Day, we must be a pretty diverse group. And so, of course, there are many great things about the unmatched diversity of this vaunted melting pot of Irish Catholicism. And among this diversity is that diversity which is easily observable on only a select few nights throughout the school year. I am referring to the various couples who appear at dorm dances. What follows is a group sure to be present at your next dorm function.

Practically Married: Attending their 19th dance as a couple, these two long-time lovebirds have settled nicely into a calmer lifestyle as they watch from afar the energetic chug of fellow students in the middle of the dance floor. Noting the occasion as a “nice evening,” they’ll explain it pales in comparison to prom, which, they’ll remind you, is when they knew they were “meant to be.” They depart the dance early for a night of hot chocolate and Netflix, but not before reminding their friends to have fun and be responsible. Thanks, mom!

Power (Hour) Couple: Learning the tough lesson that not all fits are friends, this couple tried to keep the Fever train rolling right through Friday. Despite a courageous battle against the undefeated forces of alcohol, they eventually succumb to their inhibiting. Spotting dawdling wobbling to the dance from their dorm, they’re intercepted by hall staff for the return trip back to their respective beds.

The Elaborate Costumes: This couple is slowly learning that despite their investment in an elaborate costume, dances are not always the best place for artistic expression. Either they’re costumes are shielded by the sweaty, body-bumping masses of the crowd, or they simply discover that it is insanely difficult to dance while dressed as a giant cereal box.

Social Media Couple: You’re pretty sure they’re only here to see how many upvotes, likes and favorites their assorted documentation of the evening will bring in. You can see them skirting the sides of the room with their cameras, and getting far too close to That Couple in pursuit of the perfect Campus Story Snapchat of their friends making out in the corner.

The Seniors: Despite attending out of nostalgia for simpler, more innocent times of days gone past, the surrounding sweaty crowd quickly drives them to the edge of the crowd. Texts are quickly sent to any who will listen as they seek a group to head to Finny’s with.

The Prisoners: These two were dragged kicking and screaming by their friends, who set them up. Their friends promised it would be fun. Their friends lied. They now sit commiserating about the fact that they’re stuck together for the night over a brownie or four at the dessert table, where they’re joined by the guy whose date ran off like Forrest Gump from a group of rowdy bullies.

Holy Spirit Couple: Straight off four years at their single-sex Catholic high school, they’re ready to break out the swing dance moves they learned during Sunday school socials. They quickly stop in their tracks as their eyes see the frothing mass of carnal sin known as the dance floor. They starting doing the mental math on how many can scales at the grutto it’s going to take to cleanse this abomination from their record.

The Couple-No Longer: Despite thinking that maybe a night out would help them through their rough patch, their relationship awkwardly comes to a close with an emotionally heated argument beneath the din of “We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together,” which the social media couple will document nicely and later post with #awkward. The broken hearts will go their separate ways as one is brought back to the dorm with her friends while the other makes a beeline to Tara Bell.

That Couple: Beginning the night with inexpressible, offbeat grinding to ‘Jesus Take the Wheel,’ the couple proceeds to a game of tonsil hockey, scoring more than any hockey game these eyes have seen. To the chagrin of who made the Campus Ministry t-shirts, room for the Holy Spirit is lacking.

Tinder Couple: The 21st century’s version of Romeo and Juliet, they swiped each other’s heart only a couple days ago. They tear up the dance floor, putting "they swiped each other’s heart only a couple days ago. They tear up the dance floor, putting..." to shame. They’ll document nicely and later post with #awkward. The broken hearts will go their separate ways as one is brought back to the dorm with her friends while the other makes a beeline to Tara Bell.

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON

Hammered...
Curriculum problems are faculty problems

Christopher Damian
Ideas of a University

In the midst of discussions over curricular developments at Notre Dame, I am mindful of a remark made by Otto Bird, the founder of the Program of Liberal Studies: “In the 1950s I was a member of the Faculty Hiring Committee; a body appointed by the administration to put pressure upon the department heads to seek for and hire the best candidates they could find for positions that became open. As it turned out, I became the one member of the committee who asked the candidate, when he was not a Catholic, about his ability and willingness to live and function in a Catholic university.”

These remarks came out in his 1990 memoir “Seeking a Center: My Life as a Great Bookie,” in which he noted that Notre Dame is a better university than it was in 1950 “measured by the secular standards of non-Catholic universities … Yet it certainly is not as manifestly Catholic as it was.” One might argue about the merits of a less manifest Catholicism — like arguing over the merits of a less incarnate God — but he also writes of PLS: “I do not think that the program today is as good as it was in its first years. In theology and philosophy it has been watered down … There is … less in the way of discipline and rigor … As a whole the program is less ‘intellectualistic’ than it was in the beginning.” I suspect that these remarks could also be applied to the “core curriculum” offered at Notre Dame as a whole.

Mission-oriented hiring and a coherent core-curriculum curriculum is deeply interrelated. Dennis Quinn once remarked, “You teach what you are.” If this is so, then students’ reactions to the core curriculum and their very limited appreciation and understanding of its purposes and goals may only be a reflection of who has been hired to teach them. Indeed, the breadth and integration of a true core curriculum can only be attained through a faculty of broad knowledge and commitment to integration. Such a focus departs from contemporary academic standards that praise highly specialized depth in research and writing. Further, contemporary standards imply prejudices reinforcing the divides between science and religion, literature and mathematics and philosophy and theology. Therefore it may be, as philosophy professor Curtis Franks noted, that “Notre Dame stands to gain much more by further distinguishing itself from other universities than by striving to ‘keep up’ with them.”

One mode of distinguishing might be a reframing of questions concerning Notre Dame’s “core.” Indeed, the first place to start may be recognizing that “curriculum problems” might actually be masks covering faculty problems. I don’t mean to suggest that our faculty members are under-qualified or unable to perform the tasks they were hired to do, rather, the problem might be the tasks they are hired — or not hired — to do. When Otto Bird retired, he noted that he was the only member of the hiring committee who considered it a priority to ensure that faculty members were both willing and able to live and function in a Catholic university. Presumably this has changed as Notre Dame has recently placed great efforts in seeking out “mission hires,” but these efforts underscore that such hiring is not the norm. Nor do I expect that hiring committees prioritize faculty who have been educated with a coherent core and maintain a relationship to core studies that can be passed down in teaching core classes.

Nonetheless, Notre Dame does have many an outstanding faculty, including many Catholics and non-Catholics striving to provide a coherent education to their students that both comes out of and aids Notre Dame’s unique mission as a Catholic university. To this end, I would suggest placing an emphasis on aiding faculty in continual formation consistent with this mission. Formation efforts could include encouraging faculty to attend core courses, increasing course offerings joint-taught by professors from different disciplines, hosting regular forums where professors can speak on how their teaching and research relates to Notre Dame’s mission, recreating a university club, encouraging non-Catholic faculty to engage and constructively challenge their Catholic students and colleagues and constantly seeking to bridge gaps between seemingly disparate disciplines.

Most importantly, I would like to reframe Otto Bird’s question. Students, faculty, and staff should not only ask whether we are willing and able to live and function in a Catholic university. Rather, we should ask: “Are we, as members of this community, willing and able to live and function as a Catholic university?” If we teach what we are, then what are we?

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

Celebrating Catholic Schools Week

It’s that time of year again. As schoolwork picks up pace after Christmas break and the winter drags on into February, the last week of January signals for Catholic school students nationwide a weeklong celebration of all the things that make Catholic schools unique. Back in my Catholic grade school days, Catholic Schools Week meant 50-cent Jeans Days (a welcome break from my much-loved and oft-worn plaid skirt), school-wide talent shows in our “Calvetorium” (named for its ability to shift from lunchroom to auditorium to gymnasium at a moment’s notice), and a highly competitive “Best Classroom Decoration” contest (which once involved painting the Amazon River on the floor of the 8th grade classroom. In permanent paint. Sorry about that, Mrs. Jennings!). Catholic Schools Week nowadays, as an intern with the Alliance for Catholic Education and a soon-to-be ACE Teacher with the ACE Teaching Fellows, holds even more meaning as I’ve grown to appreciate the unique opportunities and advantages that Catholic schools offer to students of every race, class and ability.

There may not be any zany “spirit” days in the ACE office to celebrate Catholic Schools Week (unless you count “Hawaiian Shirt Fridays” which are a ready a year-long staple), but there is a constant dedication to the mission of Catholic education and a contagious enthusiasm for the good work of Catholic school teachers, leaders and students nationwide who, I believe, deserve our recognition this week.

Catholic grade schools and high schools throughout the country maintain an impressive record of success in the midst of the often negative narrative of education in the United States. Catholic schools diminish the achievement gap and lessen the effects of social class on school success. Latino and African American students from underserved communities enrolled in Catholic school are 42 percent more likely to graduate from high school and college. Catholic school graduates are on average more likely to vote, more tolerant and more involved in community service. An amazing 99 percent of Catholic schools students graduate high school on time and 85 percent go on to attend college.

Despite what you might have heard about some schools closing, there is a sense of renewal and transformation in today’s Catholic schools, which continue decades worth of service to the nation’s most vulnerable populations. These schools are not only sacred centers of faith, but also centers of civic engagement and opportunity often missing from the disadvantaged neighborhoods that they serve.

Many of you attended Catholic schools before arriving at Notre Dame; certainly all of us currently enjoy an education centered around a Catholic ethos and dedicated to the education of the whole person: body, mind and spirit. In celebration of Catholic Schools Week this year, I invite you to celebrate with me by thanking a teacher from your past, finding out how you can get involved in supporting Catholic schools by visiting the ACE building (behind the Basilica) or just saying a quick prayer of thanks to those who make the University what it is for all of us.

Notre Dame is a great Catholic school, and it should be celebrated this Catholic Schools Week.

Ashley Currey
senior
Ryan Hall
Jan. 28
"Our love is a long goodbye," Natalie Prass sings over and over again towards the end of "My Baby Don’t Understand Me," the stunning opening track of her self-titled debut album. This statement serves as the thesis not only for the eight tracks that follow — which chronicle the drawn-out end of a relationship — but for the album’s lengthy journey from inception to release.

Prass, a Nashville-based singer/songwriter, began writing these songs as early as 2009, and she finished recording the album back in February 2012. At the time, Spacebomb Records, her small independent label in Richmond, Virginia, was devoting all of its energy to promoting Matthew E. White’s album “Big Love,” which meant the release of her album had to be delayed. During that period, Prass played keyboard in Jenny Lewis’ touring band, continued writing music and opened a clothing store for dogs (yes, really).

Three years later, Prass’ record has finally been released; it’s a self-assured debut full of breakup tracks that play out against a sunny sound. Produced by White and backed by Spacebomb’s house band, Prass’ songwriting is accented with horns and string sections that give the record a lush, full sound. As a whole, “Natalie Prass” feels timeless, not sounding dated despite the three-year delay in its release. The album certainly draws inspiration from American music of the 1960s and 70s, cherrypicking sounds from country, soul, folk and jazz. Yet, Prass creates something more than mere pastiche. The album calls to mind the lush instrumentation of Joni Mitchell’s “Court and Spark” or the blue-eyed soul of Dusty Springfield, just as much as it does the emotional honesty of Joanna Newsom or the melodic talent of Lewis. Prass expertly synthesizes all these influences, both past and present, into something distinctly her own.

A large amount of the album’s success lies in Prass’ beguiling voice. She sings with such control, her voice often rising no louder than a whisper, and the result is extremely effective. "What do you when that happens / Where do you go when the only home that you know is with a stranger?" she asks on "My Baby Don’t Understand Me," her voice pleading with vulnerability. On "Christy," which plays like a modern take on Dolly Parton’s "Jolene," Prass pleads with the other woman not to steal her man. Her voice takes on a frail falsetto that mirrors her desperation.

Elsewhere, the bright "Bird of Prey," is Prass at her most confident. It’s a kiss-off buried by jaunty piano chords and emotive flutes. "Oh you, you don’t leave me no choice / But to run away," she sings on the infectious chorus, "You are a bird of prey." It’s the rare glimpse of Prass as a heartbreaker, and it’s a welcome change of pace. The album closes with "Is It You," which sounds like a ballad off an early Disney soundtrack, with its swell of cinematic strings and fairy-tale lyrics. "And each day as my life goes on / It has all been a ruin without you," Prass sings, juxtaposing the desperation of the lyrics again the song’s cheery sound. This blend of seemingly dissonant elements is at the heart of what makes this record so emotionally affecting.

“You think about all these different memories or places that you’ve played [this song] in the past, and think, Wow, I’m still here playing this one song,” Prass told Grantland last week. “We’re gonna go on this journey together, old song. Because my life has changed.”

These songs have already been through a journey stretching back almost a half-decade, and with the re-release of the album, they will continue to resonate in new ways with listeners. “Natalie Prass” may follow a long goodbye, but its release is an excellent introduction to Prass. It is a gorgeous debut that is at once both past and present, despondent and hopeful, embracing the messy contradiction that is life and love.

Contact Matthew Munhall at mmunhall@nd.edu

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Natalie Prass

Label: Spacebomb Records
Tracks: "My Baby Don’t Understand Me," "Bird of Prey," "Violently"

If you like: Jenny Lewis, Joanna Newsom, Joni Mitchell

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Lupe Fiasco

Label: Atlantic/First & Fifteenth
Tracks: "Dots & Lines," "Chopper," "Adoration of the Magi"

If you like: Kanye West, B.o.B., Ty Dolla $ign

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On Lupe Fiasco’s early album centerpiece “Murals,” the Chicago rapper talks a lot, but doesn’t say much. Across its repetitive, hookless, one-verse, eight-and-a-half minutes of a recycling piano line, Fiasco at one point plays a game of word association that comes across like an amateur improvising a freestyle, scrambling to string together just enough syllables to justify passing the mic off elsewhere, the empty sonic gestures are even more noticeable. Typically, the most welcomed sections of the album are the shortest: the instrumental interludes depicting the changing of seasons throughout the album. These short wordless compositions are much more varied and beautiful than anything else on the album and offer short respites to gather oneself before having to embark on another single-minded, five-plus minute track. Still, by the time “Winter” rolls around 16 songs in, Fiasco might have done better condensing the album rather than including the now necessary interludes.

Contact Matt McMahon at mmcmahon@nd.edu

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The most appealing elements of the album lie in the consistencies. When Fiasco employs acoustic instrumentation on “Little Death,” the track gains energy and soul, like in the Jazzy horns on “Adoration of the Magi,” which actually stick around past the intro. Unfortunately he strays from this aesthetic too often.

Otherwise, the most welcomed sections of the album are the shortest: the instrumental interludes depicting the changing of seasons throughout the album. These short wordless compositions are much more varied and beautiful than anything else on the album and offer short respites to gather oneself before having to embark on another single-minded, five-plus minute track. Still, by the time “Winter” rolls around 16 songs in, Fiasco might have done better condensing the album rather than including the now necessary interludes.

Contact Matt McMahon at mmcmahon@nd.edu

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Lupe Fiasco

Label: Atlantic/First & Fifteenth
Tracks: “Dots & Lines,” “Chopper,” “Adoration of the Magi”
In his quest for greatness, a promising young talent encounters a relentless teacher who pushes him to his utmost limit. Bloodied by contest, the competitor’s hunger is only sharpened by adversity. This sounds like the perfect formula for a sports movie, so what’s the difference if the sport is drumming? Transcending genre to earn nicknames such as Full Metal Jacket at Julliard, “Whiplash” achieves a level of intensity not expected from a movie about music.

“Whiplash” has returned to theaters and is now playing in South Bend and across the country, a full year after its January 2014 Sundance release. It was released in theaters in October to a mild reception, but has drawn greater attention after substantial critical acclaim.

The storyline centers on Andrew Neimann, a passionate young drummer (Miles Teller) enrolled at an elite music conservatory who is discovered by the director of the top collegiate jazz band in the nation. This teacher (J.K. Simmons), who will stop at nothing to see his students’ potential realized, elicits a ravenous desire from his student (Miles Teller) to prove himself to his unrelenting teacher, who constantly crushes his talented students’ self-worth.

Despite his cruel methods, the overzealous teacher, Fletcher, wins his students’ trust through his success, wringing everything he can from each of his students, leaving them no time or energy for relationships or other frivolous things. His bullying resembles a drill sergeant at boot camp, breaking the students down with racist and homophobic slurs. To most of us, no passion or talent seems to justify the abandonment of all the people in our lives and subjection to such abuse, but how many of us have really grasped at true greatness? The sheer possibility of the being the best at anything is enough to drive a person insane, to make them obsessed, self-centered and arrogant, yet still feel inadequate.

The majority of its drumming scenes portrayed as endur- ance tests, “Whiplash” has been criticized for missing the art of music. Andrew is never seen discussing theory with his classmates or comparing musical styles. Instead hard physical drilling is emphasized, with the goal of speed and endurance. The style of music featured in the movie is frenetic and violent, but creativity and fun are entirely absent. It has been criticized by musicians for portraying a distorted and unrealistic image of jazz, but director/writer Damien Chazelle claims to have drawn from his own experience as a student of music.

Unlikable as his character is, Miles Teller portrays a man that is genuinely disturbed. Despite his egotism, we can’t help but feel sorry for him in his suffering. But perhaps the more notable and seemingly more vocal character is J.K. Simmons’s Fletcher. Ferocious and violent, driving the protagonist to greatness and madness, Fletcher is the primary agent in the film. In such a powerful supporting role, his multiple awards, which include a Golden Globe, come as no surprise.

Whether or not you’re a music fan, you’ll swing along with Andrew Neimann as he struggles to keep tempo in his last ascent to greatness.

Contact Kelly McGarry at kmcgarry@nd.edu

“Whiplash”
Production Company: Bold Films, Blumhouse Productions, Right of Way Films
Director: Damien Chazelle
Starring: Miles Teller, J.K. Simmons

Weekly Watch is a series in which a scene writer picks a movie or show available on instant streaming service, then writes a review.

“Waking Sleeping Beauty” is the Disney animation documentary you’ve been waiting for. If you’ve ever been curious about the renaissance Disney experienced from 1984 to 1994, this movie is for you. Learn about the animators who brought us all the movies we now know and love. Check back Monday for Emille Kefala’s review!

By KELLY MCGARRY
Scene Writer

WEEKEND AT A GLANCE

THURSDAY

What: 26th annual Notre Dame Student Film Festival
When: 7:00 p.m.
Where: DPAC
How Much: $4 for students, $6 for faculty/staff

Check out what your friends in the FTT department have been up to at the 26th annual Student Film Festival. In the past, the festival has featured two Sundance Film Jury Award Winners. Be sure to bring your cell phone to vote for the Audience Choice Award.

FRIDAY

What: Cool as Ice
When: 10:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.
Where: Fieldhouse Mall
How Much: Free

Come out to Fieldhouse Mall to see blocks of ice transform into Notre Dame icons and works of art. Free hot chocolate, heat lamps and “icy” desserts provided!

SATURDAY

What: Live Band Karaoke!
When: 10:00 p.m.
Where: Legends
How Much: Free

If you’ve been dying to treat all your friends to a vocal performance but don’t have time to be in an official choir, go down to Legends Saturday night for its first ever karaoke night. Legends is bringing in a live band to accompany you. Stick around after for a blacklight party.

WAKING SLEEPING BEAUTY

Weekly Watch is a series in which a scene writer picks a movie or show available on instant streaming service, then writes a review.

“Waking Sleeping Beauty” is the Disney animation documentary you’ve been waiting for. If you’ve ever been curious about the renaissance Disney experienced from 1984 to 1994, this movie is for you. Learn about the animators who brought us all the movies we now know and love. Check back Monday for Emille Kefala’s review!
FA Cup embodies essence of sports

The Football Association Challenge Cup (FA Cup) is one of my favorite things in sports. It’s the greatest cup competition in the world. Encompassing teams from 10 different tiers of the English football league system — 736 teams entered this season — the competition often pits the top teams in the Premier League with clubs from the third, fourth and sometimes even fifth tiers of the system. And sometimes those small clubs win; last year saw then-fifth-tier Luton Town knock out then-Premier League side Norwich City. It’s fun. The speculation of who might do the “gi- ant killer” story this year’s tournament draws great intrigue — and this year, we’ve seen it.

Making it to the finals of the Indiana basketball roots that give way to my love of the FA Cup. My state’s tradition of college basketball, single class high school state basketball tournament encompassed much of the same spirit, and when little Milan took down Muncie Central in the 1954 title game, the tournament earned a banner that continues to this day. They made a movie about it, too.

Or maybe it’s the spirit of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, the idea that anyone can show up at the Brickyard with a car and have a shot to qualify for the field of 33 to take the green flag. Memorial Day weekend.

The FA Cup provides a perfect chance for the Davids to have their days against the Goliaths of the world. And when they win? It’s a grand occasion.

Take last weekend for example. Third-tier Bradford City traveled to Chelsea to take on the Premier League’s table-toppers. The “Bantams” — as Bradford is affectionately known in the UK — and then they scored four unanswered goals to slay Goliath.

It’s a magical moment many will remember for forever. The tournament’s progressed to the Fifth Round proper — we’d call it the “Sweet Sixteen” more than likely — and you won’t find Chelsea in the running for the crown. And they’re not the only high-profile team missing out. Tottenham Hotspur and Manchester City were both knocked out last season as the Premier League’s two-time champions faced United facing a replay with fourth-tier Cambridge United to just stay in the competition.

Instead, the FA Cup is littered with lower-tier sides. Third-tier Bradford City will play a fellow League Two side — either Preston North End or Sheffield United — and be alongside a host of second-division teams. Each and every one of them — not to mention Cambridge — will be dreaming of getting to arguably the greatest stage in the sport, Wembley Stadium, with a chance to show how arguably the world’s most storied trophy.

Beautiful. I mean, I think about it. We all remember that George Mason made a run to the Final Four in 2006 or how Minnesota made it to consecutive national championship games, but who else joined them on college basketball’s grandest stage?

I was at two of those Final Fours — 2006 and 2010 — and it took me forever to remember that LSU, yes, LSU, made it to the Final Four in 2006 with Glen “Big Baby” Davis. But it’s those moments that make us fall in love with sports. Show someone a solid March Bracket, make two top teams and, sure, they’ll probably find it interesting. But show them Appalachian State over Michigan or NC State over Houston, and you’ll have them hooked.

What makes sports great? That games aren’t played on paper. That on any day, any team has a chance of beating another, no matter the perceived strength of one over the other. It’s unscripted. That’s what we love them.

So when Arsenal meets second-tier Middlesbrough on Feb. 15 in the fifth round, even if one isn’t a soccer fan, try to tune in and follow the match. Who knows? Maybe you’ll see your next great FA Cup moment.

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

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NASCAR

Barnhart continues legacy of IndyCar race control

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — IndyCar on Wednesday returned Brian Barnhart to his former role as head of race control.

Barnhart had the same role from 1997 through 2011, but was removed after a controversial final season. He has been IndyCar’s vice president of competition in the three years since and was a key part of the system implemented last season that requires a two-thirds vote among three stewards for in-race penalties.

“We believe that based on his extensive experience in race control, combined with the three-steward system, Brian Barnhart is a good fit,” said Derrick Walker, president of competition and operations.

As vice president of competition, Barnhart already oversees the race control staff, the sporting regulations of the rulebook, the rules and medical, personnel, security and timing and scoring.

Barnhart has been a part of Indianapolis Motor Speedway and IndyCar since 1994.

“This is a position and a role that I’ve done for a number of years and I take a great deal of pride in being race director,” Barnhart said. “One of the things that excites me the most is the stewards system we implemented last year. That was a great advancement in how we review and make discretionary decisions, knowing that the assistance in making calls is a big improvement to the way we officiate IndyCar events.”

Barnhart was initially taken out of race control after a 2011 season that saw him publicly criticized for decisions that drivers found to be arbitrary.

Will Power was caught on live television making an obscene gesture toward the race control tower at New Hampshire, and Helio Castroneves called Barnhart a “cirkus clown” in a Twitter rant.

Power was furious when Barnhart decided to resuscitate at New Hampshire despite driver protests it was raining too hard. The slick conditions caused a crash on the restart that collected Power, who inauspiciously flashed his two middle fingers toward Barnhart.

About six weeks later, three-time Indianapolis 500 winner Castroneves took to Twitter to vent about Barnhart penalizing him for passing under yellow in Japan. He accused Barnhart of “bringing down an entire series.”

Both drivers were fined $30,000 by IndyCar, but both stood by their convictions.

Roger Penske, the team owner, said his team would consider the situation with Castroneves, lauded returning Barnhart to his former role.

“I think it’s good to bring someone in who knows the teams, all the antics with all of us,” Penske said. “I know his heart is in it. He moved aside to take on other roles and responsibilities, but he’s never distanced himself too far from that race director’s spot. I’m glad to see Brian back on his feet there. I don’t always agree with him, but he’ll be an asset.”

Penske team President Tim Cindric was also in favor of the move, adding he didn’t think IndyCar looked very far in its search for a new race director.

“The good thing is we have a known quantity and bringing someone in we didn’t know is a bigger question,” Cindric said. “Brian, somebody we understand, he understands us, and he’s the guy. I don’t see any other candidates out there who are any better.

Korda, Lewis, Munoz lead LPGA season opener

Associated Press

OCALA, Florida. — Jessica Korda pulled a hand warm-er out of each jacket pocket, showing just how cold she was during the opening round of the LPGA opener.

Her scorecard told a much different story.

The 21-year-old American shot a 6-under 66 in the opening round of the Coates Golf Championship on Wednesday morning and was in a three-way tie with fellow American Stacy Lewis and Azahara Munoz of Spain. All three tee ed wind in chilly conditions and finished in chilly temperatures just before dark.

“I can’t feel my fingers right now,” Korda said.

She might be in for more of the same Thursday morning, with temperatures expected to be in the low 40s for the early tee times.

Twenty players failed to complete the opening round at Golden Ocala Golf & Equestrian Club, which boasts eight of the 14 holes from famed courses around the world. They will finish up beginning at 7:30 a.m. Thursday, just before Korda, Lewis and Munoz tee off in the second round.

Only 26 of 120 players were under par when play was halted.

American Austin Ernst and Ha Na Jang of South Korea finished at 5 under, one stroke ahead of New Zealand’s Lydia Ko and South Korea’s Na Yeon Choi. Nine-time-year American Lexi Thompson and Mi Jung Hur of South Korea were 3 under.

Top-ranked Inbee Park was 1 under, one shot ahead of reigning U.S. Women’s Open champion Michelle Wie.

Cheyenne Woods, the niece of Tiger Woods, was 4 over through 17 holes.

Ernst was maybe the most surprising name on the leaderboard. She hit 16 of 18 greens and made just about every putt inside of 10 feet.

“Ye’ve had rounds in the past where you’ve hit it close and then you can’t get anything to go in,” Ernst said. “But today everything was going in so I was really confident with everything.”

Korda, Lewis and Munoz were feeling it, too.

Korda straightened out an errant driver on the front nine and birdied six of her final 11 holes. Considering she’s won two of the last three LPGA season openers — in Australia in 2012 and in the Bahamas last year — starting fast is nothing new.

“I just feel like I’m refreshed and ready to go,” she said. “I try and bring the mentality with me all the time, every time I try to play, for some reason it just shines brighter the first event of the season. Honestly, I don’t know what it is about it. I’m just happy to be back. It’s just so fun.”

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of fine-tuning their technique before the ACC championships.

“As we approach championship time, all of the details need polishing,” Welsh said. “Every start, every turn, every finish, every breath; all of it needs polishing.”

The Irish won the crown last year at the invitational and will look to do so again this weekend. Furthermore, the Shamrock Invitational serves as an end-of-season meet for some of the swimmers on the team, as well as senior day for Notre Dame’s eight seniors.

“For some of our girls on the team, it’s their end-of-the-season meet, so we definitely are focusing on them and helping them do (their) best times, hopefully,” Mulquin said. “Really, just a team atmosphere is most important to us. And senior day, that’s huge, too. We’ve got eight seniors on the team, and that’s really special for people. There will be some tears here and there, but it’s really special.”

The Shamrock Invitational will begin Friday at 5 p.m. and continue Saturday at 10 a.m. at Rolfs Aquatic Center.

Contact Ben Padanilam at bpadanil@nd.edu

Irish junior Genevieve Bradford takes a breath before finishing third in 100-yard breaststroke during Notre Dame’s meet against in-state rival Purdue on Nov. 1. The Irish dropped the dual meet at Rolfs Aquatic Center, 170-128.
W Basketball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

go out and get a double-double every game, which is exactly what we need her to do,”

The Hokies (10-10, 1-6), led by freshman forward Regan Magarity, have outrebounded their opponents by a 5.7 margin this season, compared to 8.5 for the Irish. Meanwhile, their assist-to-turnover ratio of 0.73 falls well short of Notre Dame’s 1.27.

Notre Dame’s leader in assists, sophomore guard Lindsay Allen, is coming off a rough stretch of games but has steadied herself recently, McGraw said.

“She had a couple games where she didn’t look to score enough, and after you establish yourself as one of the top three scorers, then we need to rely on that every game,” McGraw said. “She’s been a little sloppy with the ball, and I thought [her] seven assists [and] one turnover [against Clemson] was more like what she’s capable of. That’s the kind of game I expect from her … a lot of assists with just one turnover a game.”

Allen has also grown into a leader for the young Irish squad as the season has progressed, McGraw said. “I think she’s talking more,” McGraw said. “I hear her talking more at practice. I can see her in the game, looks like she’s talking more to the team, so that’s where we need her to be. She has to be the voice of the huddle.”

Both Notre Dame and Virginia Tech feature young lineups, with the Hokies having only one senior, guard Kelsey Conyers, on their entire roster and the Irish starting none of their three seniors.

With Thursday’s matchup, the Hokies will wrap up a three-game homestand, while the Irish play the first game in a stretch of four over 11 days. Notre Dame plays nine total games in January, its most in any month during the regular season, and has relied on its depth to persevere through that stretch, McGraw said.

“I think [junior guard] Madison Cable and [freshman forward] Kathryn Westbeld have been playing well,” she said. “[Junior guard] Hannah Huffman gave us some really good minutes in the Clemson game, and she’s somebody that has had some good games for us this year …”

The game also marks the midway point in Notre Dame’s ACC schedule. Junior guard Jewell Loyd was named the midseason national player of the year by espnW on Monday, but McGraw said she thinks Loyd can continue to improve in the latter half of the year.

“She can get better,” McGraw said. “I think she’s having a fantastic year. She is really playing well. She’s shooting the ball well. She’s starting to rebound a little bit more now, which is something we need her to do, so I think that she is the best player in the country, and I’m happy that other people think so too. But I think for her, she just wants to win …”

Notre Dame and Virginia Tech square off tonight in Blacksburg, Virginia, at 7 p.m.

Contact Greg Hadley at ghadley@nd.edu

Irish sophomore guard Lindsay Allen races past a Georgia Tech defender in Notre Dame’s 89-76 win Jan. 22 at Purcell Pavilion. Allen registered six points and six assists in the game.

Irish junior guard Jewell Loyd drives to the hoop in a win against Georgia Tech last Thursday at Purcell Pavilion.
Notre Dame players celebrate after improving to 20-2 on the season following a 77-73 win over Duke at Purcell Pavilion on Wednesday.

Irish senior guard Jerian Grant is defended by Duke freshman center Jahlil Okafor during Notre Dame's 77-73 win at Purcell Pavilion on Wednesday. Both players recorded double-doubles.
Krzyszewski. “That was a heck of a bucket. A fortunate bucket, but a heck of a bucket.”

A pair of free throws by Cook cut the Irish lead to one, but again Grant came through as the shot clock wound down. The senior drove the lane and went airborne, but at the last second threw the ball to a wide-open Irish sophomore guard Steve Vasturia in the corner. Vasturia rose from beyond the 3-point arc and sank his first, and only, field goal of the game to increase the Notre Dame lead to four with 22 seconds left.

“I think [18 seconds] percent-age when they’re crunch time shots, big shots, it’s well over 50 percent,” Irish coach Mike Brey said. “That’s such a pro move, what [Grant] did there, backing down and then finding a shooter in the corner. But I think we have a lot of confidence in [Vasturia] rising up to take it.”

“We should not have left Vasturia,” Krzyzewski said. “You have to make Grant take a 2-point shot, which we were, and then we left [Vasturia] and the kid hit a huge shot.”

Junior guard Rasheed Sulaimon hit one of two free throws for the Blue Devils (17-3, 4-3 ACC) to make it a one possession game, but freshman forward Onzie Colon answered with his own free throw to seal the victory for Notre Dame. Grant finished the game with a double-double, netting 23 points and dishing out 12 assists while also collecting six rebounds in front of 17 NBA scouts.

“I’m never surprised by anything [Grant] does,” Irish sophomore guard Demetrius Jackson. “He’s a great player; in my opinion he is the best player in college basketball.”

After Duke went on a 9-0 run to cut the Irish lead to four with seven minutes into the second half, Irish sophomore forward V.J. Beachem threw down a two-handed slam to grab control of the crowd on its feet again.

That same crowd fell silent seconds later, when senior guard and team captain Pat Connaughton went airborne and landed hard on his head.

Senior coach Mike Brey exited the court for a minute before walking off under his own power. After being evaluated by the team doctor, he returned to action a few minutes later, missing 1-08 of game time.

“My head, hurts a little bit,” Connaughton said. “I joked that I can’t remember the last ten minutes of the game, I just remember us winning. … I was more confused about why a sev- en-footer [Duke junior center Marshall Plumlee] up-faked a five-guard, and at the end of the day I didn’t want to come out of that game.”

“When the training staff said, ‘Pat’ will need two more minutes,’ I’m thinking, ‘Well, then I should call two more timeouts until I can put him back in,’” Brey said after the game. “He took a heck of a spill, but what a warrior.”

Just over nine minutes into the second half, an inside bucket by Okaro pushed Duke’s lead to 10, the largest of the game for either team. Notre Dame responded with a 12-0 run over the next 4:35 to take the lead at 67-65.

“We just needed to play hard- er,” Jackson said of his team’s focus before going on the run. “Guys started playing harder, kept an edge an edge about themselves, and made shots.”

This was the fourth time in the last five games that Notre Dame trailed by double digits and then came back to win the game.

Brey said, “I told my team af- ter the game, ‘Down 10, you’ve got them right where you want them, don’t you fellas?’ Thanks a lot, thanks for doing that to me again.”

The early stages of the game saw the Blue Devils domi- nate inside. Duke junior for- ward Amile Jefferson blocked a Vasturia lay-up on the game’s first possession and then laid in one of his own on the other end. Duke scored 24 of its first half points in the paint while also pulling down six offensive re- bounds en route to a 39-36 lead at the break.

Irish junior forward Zach Auguste picked up his second foul with 6:46 left in the first half and was forced to sit for the rest of the half. In Auguste’s absence, freshman forward Jalil Okaro had his way with the smaller Irish defense, racking up what at times appeared to be an ef- fortless 11 points and nine re- bounds in the half.

The Irish defense played Okaro physically all night, something that drew the ire of Krzyzewski.

“What happens with [Okaro], it’s not just this game, is that they allow a lot of contact,” Krzyzewski said. “(Colon) played hard. He played really hard and did a really good job, and he had help, too.”

…”What you can do [in the post] and what you can’t do out on the perimeter are two totally different worlds. It’s a tough thing to officiate, but there’s no question that there’s a lot [of contact].”

Connaughton posted Notre Dame’s second double-double of the game with 13 points and 12 rebounds, while Auguste and Jackson recorded 14 and 14 points, respectively.

Though giving up six inches to Okaro, Colon, provided a first-half spark for Notre Dame. Manning the post while Auguste sat with foul trouble, Colon scored seven of his eight points in the first half and hauled in three rebounds, including one while sitting on the floor. He also fearless completed a 3-point play after taking the ball straight at Okaro in the paint.

When he exited for the first time, the Purcell Pavilion crowd gave him a standing ovation and while shooting free throws later in the first half, the student sec- tor began chanting his name. “One thing about (Colon), he is not afraid,” Brey said. “He loves the moment.”

The victory marked Notre Dame’s 600th win at Purcell Pavilion, which first hosted the team for the 1968-69 season. Notre Dame will be back in action Saturday when it travels to Pittsburgh. The game is slated to tip at noon.

Contact Zach Klonsinski at zkclonsin@nd.edu
When the health inspector found a fly in his unhinged un

Crossword | Will Shortz


Down 1. Fictional character who says he’s now prophesy I will dismantle my dismemberment 2. Domestic relationship 3. Protection for a mechanic, say 4. Opposite of mom 5. What Azn. and Hawaii are the only two states not to have 6. Clowns, e.g.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

A T E M 1 1 8 1 4 2 3 5 9 7 0
P L I 8 5 4 3 2 1 4 7 9 0
R O 3 6 9 2 1 0 7 8 7 5
O N 7 9 2 5 8 1 0 3 4 6
A R 6 4 1 0 7 2 5 3 9 8
F I 0 9 7 3 1 2 8 4 5 6
T H 2 1 8 4 3 0 6 7 5
L S 9 4 7 0 5 3 1 2 6
I N 0 3 9 1 6 4 7 5
E 8 0 5 6 1 2 4 3 7

Unscramble these four Jumbles, suggested by the above cartoon. Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoons.

SOLUTION TO WEDNESDAY’S PUZZLE

HIGHLY PUBLISHED | CHRISTOPHER BRUCKER

DOME NUTS | ALEXANDRA WELLMAN

If Notre Dame had Placed

IF NOTRE DAME HAD PLACED

Dominoes, Ices, and people do not mix well.

SUDOKU | THE MEPHAG GROUP

Level:

SOLUTION TO WEDNESDAY’S PUZZLE

Happy Birthday: Keep everything in perspective. Overreacting still lead to regret. Think carefully before you make a decision that will alter a partnership or change the way you live. Focus on work and incorporating innovative solutions that will offer you a more efficient way of doing things. Consider starting your own business, but remain cautious in personal matters. Your numbers are 8, 12, 24, 26, 30, 32, 35.

ARYS (March 21-April 19): Open up conversations with people you believe have something to contribute. Stretch your imagination and diversity your goals until you find common ground with the people you want to include in your plans. Do not make up to demands.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Concentrate on your responsibilities before someone else does it. Don’t be afraid to take a different approach toward a challenge. The solutions you come up with will still fascinate those of anyone comparing with you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You can make changes, but don’t expect everyone to follow you. Expand your living quarters or indulge in something that will make your personal life more fulfilling. Your goal is to make a nice and be of emotional blackness.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Do things differently. The more unique you are, the more unusual you will get. A partnership will undergo changes based on what you implement into your lifestyle and how you want to move forward. Do what you want, not what others demand.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Opportunities to travel, learn and interact with people you find fascinating are open. Do your best to avoid an emotional situation that is geared to disrupt your plans for success. Follow your heart and don’t look back.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Do not stay a relationship or your domestic desires. Your ability to work efficiently in the workplace will depend on how smoothly your life can be considered. A creative or entertaining event will spark an interesting alternative.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 22): Your hard work will bring excellent results as long as you stick to a budget and your plans are realistic. Don’t let someone trying to mastermind a grand plan persuade you into taking on more than you can handle.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You can make a difference at least in those you are in a partnership with if you are willing to compromise and look for a win-win situation. A creative or entertaining event will spark an interesting alternative.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19): A close watch over your possessions, important values or gain in demand may not be the best because you are immersed. Be careful not to let your emotions take over. Having reservations will save you from making a mistake.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): Watch and wait. Keep past experiences in mind and you will avoid missing a mistake that can affect your reputation or reveal personal information that you wish to keep a secret. Self-improvement is your best course of action.

Birthday Baby: You are dedicated, cautious and sensitive. You have a vivid imagination.

Jumble | David Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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

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Horoscope | Eugenia Last

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Exorcising the Devils

Grant’s double-double leads No. 8 Notre Dame to another come-from-behind victory

By ZACH KLONSINSKI
Sports Writer

Just when it appeared No. 4 Duke was ready to run away with the game, senior guard Jerian Grant and No. 8 Notre Dame pulled off yet another comeback to win 77-73 in front of a raucous, sold-out Purcell Pavilion last night.

With just over a minute remaining in regulation and Notre Dame (20-2, 8-1 ACC) up one, Grant tried to pull up for a 3-pointer with three seconds on the shot clock, only to have the ball knocked away by Duke senior guard Quinn Cook. Unfazed, Grant gathered the loose ball in the lane and hit a floater over Duke freshman center Jahil Okara as the shot clock buzzer sounded to put Notre Dame up 73-70 with 1:07 remaining.

“I was just trying to figure out if I wanted to step back or go past him,” Grant said. “I ended up losing the ball but I had time to gather it and get a shot off.”

“When the game got right down to the end, Grant made that bucket,” Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski said.

Irish senior guard Jerian Grant takes the ball to the basket during Notre Dame's 77-73 win over Duke on Wednesday at Purcell Pavilion. Grant finished with 23 points and a career-high 12 assists.

By GREG HADLEY
Assistant Sports Editor

No. 4 Notre Dame is coming off its longest break in a month, to face a 4-0 Virginia Tech squad in the bottom tier of the ACC on Thursday, on a floor in Blacksburg, Virginia, where the Hokies have lost three of their last four.

To Irish coach Mike Brey, all that means is another opportunity for the Irish (19-2, 6-1 ACC) to keep improving.

“We have to just continue with the defense,” McGraw said. “We’ve got to be able to mix up our defenses to figure out if our zone is going to be effective or not. Man-to-man, we’ve got to be a little more aware of who the good players are on the other team that we’re trying to stop. Play more team defense than individual defense.”

Defense, always a point of emphasis for McGraw’s, has been a particular area of concern for the Irish since last Thursday, when the team allowed Georgia Tech to shoot 50 percent from the field but still managed to hold on for the 69-76 win.

After the game, McGraw challenged her squad to improve its effort, and the players responded with a 74-36 win over Clemson on Saturday. The Tigers shot 28.6 percent from the field and turned the ball over 19 times. The Irish also dominated the boards, out-rebounding Clemson, 49-28.

Sophomore forward Taya Reimer chipped in eight rebounds in the game, matching her output against Georgia Tech. Since her return to the starting lineup three games ago, Reimer has displayed a newfound forceful attitude, McGraw said.

“She’s got a different mindset,” McGraw said. “I feel like she’s been really aggressive, looking to score, and she’s really attacking the backboard. I feel like she’s rebounding like it is something that she really wants to do. I think she’s trying to...”

Irish prepare for Shamrock Invite

By BEN PADANILAM Sports Writer

Notre Dame will host the annual Shamrock Invitational at Rolfs Aquatic Center this Friday and Saturday in its last invitational prior to the ACC championships.

The Irish (4-9) finished last in the pool behind both No. 15 Indiana and No. 24 Wisconsin at a double meet in Madison, Wisconsin, on Jan. 7. This weekend, however, the Irish will be at home, competing against the likes of No. 21 Iowa, Missouri State and Clemson.

“We love racing in our own pool,” Irish interim coach Tim Welsh said. “This has been a good meet year after year, and we’re glad we’re home this weekend. It’s going to be a great event.”

Heading into the event, Welsh said he believes the Shamrock Invitational provides the Irish with an opportunity to gain momentum before the ACC championships.

“arish senior guard Jerian Grant takes the ball to the basket during Notre Dame's 77-73 win over Duke on Wednesday at Purcell Pavilion. Grant finished with 23 points and a career-high 12 assists.

Irish sophomore forward Taya Reimer shoots a free throw in Notre Dame's 89-76 win against Georgia Tech on Jan. 22.

By GREG HADLEY Assistant Sports Editor

With the shot clock about to expire late in yet another one of his team’s games that came down-to-the-wire, Jerian Grant appeared unfazed.

He regained a lost dribble to calmly hit a floater that put Notre Dame up 73-70 with a little over a minutes left.

On Notre Dame’s next possession, he found Steve Vasturia in the corner for another st clock-heater, this one from beyond the arc.

Seconds later, he swatted away a shot from Quinn Cook to effectively seal No. 8 Notre Dame’s 77-73 victory over No. 4 Duke on Wednesday night at Purcell Pavilion.

Grant’s end-of-game heroics capped a 23-point, 12-assist, six-rebound, three-steal and two-block performance in which he displayed himself as the top player on the court, even with freshmen phenoms Jahil Okaro, Justise Winslow and Tyus Jones suited up for Duke.

In a game during which the