Ricketts-Ruelas to serve as president, VP
Large number of abstentions result in winning ticket garnering only 51 percent of the vote

Heritage Dinner celebrates SMC

Film festival promotes peace

Expert considers dark matter
QUESTION OF THE DAY:

Have you ever been skiing or snowboarding, and, if so, which is your favorite?

Austin Hickman
Junior
Dylan Hall
“Both, but I like skiing better.”

Hana Jenks
Freshman
Pasquerrilla East
“Yes both, but I like skiing better.”

Kristen Lombardo
Sophomore
Lyons Hall
“Both, but I like skiing better.”

Matt Bayer
Sophomore
Duncan Hall
“I like skiing better.”

Meg Hunt
Freshman
Pasquerrilla East
“I like snowboarding better.”

Shannon Noonan
Senior
Off-campus
“I have been skiing and like skiing more.”

Irish skier Mikala Chambell competes in the 400 meters during the Notre Dame Invitational on Jan. 24. Notre Dame hosted the invitational at the Loftus Sports Center.

THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

Thursday

“When Will We Find Extraterrestrial Life?”
Jordan Hall of Science
12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Lecture with Dr. Seth Shostak.

Friday

Labor Cafe
Snte Museum of Art
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Artistic representations of work and workers.

Tennis Match
Eck Tennis Pavilion
5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Women’s tennis takes on Stanford.

Saturday

Men’s and Women’s Swimming and Diving
Roll’s Aquatic Center
12 p.m. - 2 p.m.
Both teams compete against Cleveland State.

Saturday Vigil Mass
Basilica of the Sacred Heart
5 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Worship service.

Sunday

Tennis Match
Eck Tennis Pavilion
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Men’s tennis takes on Ball State.

Mass in Spanish
Dillon Hall Chapel
1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Worship Service.

Monday

Chilli Cook-Off
Harper Hall
3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
$10/person. Proceeds to Benefit ND Relay for Life.

“The University, Theology, and the Curriculum”
Geddes Hall
7 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Lecture.

Have a question you want answered? Email photo@ndsmcobserver.com
Want your event included here? Email news@ndsmcobserver.com

THE OBSERVER | THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2015 | NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

Today’s Staff

News
Carolyn Butry
Kayla Mullen
JP Carter

Sports
Zach Kuminski
Christine Maruyama

Graphics
Mary McGraw
Viewpoint

Photo
Viet Linh

Corrections

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

Today’s Staff

News
Carolyn Butry
Kayla Mullen
JP Carter

Sports
Zach Kuminski
Christine Maruyama

Graphics
Mary McGraw
Viewpoint

Photo
Viet Linh

Corrections

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

Today’s Staff

News
Carolyn Butry
Kayla Mullen
JP Carter

Sports
Zach Kuminski
Christine Maruyama

Graphics
Mary McGraw
Viewpoint

Photo
Viet Linh

Corrections

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at (574) 631-4541 so we can correct our error.
The motto of Special Olympics Notre Dame reads, “Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt,” a phrase club vice president and senior Andrew Hosbein said describes the club’s mission well.

“You hear the Vince Lombardi quote, ‘Winning isn’t everything, it’s the only thing,’ and from that you take sports to be ultra-competitive, which they are — who doesn’t want to win?” Hosbein said. “Yet, at the same time, one must be comfortable that they tried their best, and that’s what we try encourage through the club at Notre Dame.”

Special Olympics Notre Dame, founded in 2010, connects students with members of the South Bend community with intellectual disabilities. Club co-president and senior Molly Reidy said relationships between students and Special Olympic athletes develop through participation in sports. Pick-up basketball, swimming and ice-skating are some of the largest events the club plans throughout the year, she said.

“One of the biggest things I think is important to know about our club is that we’re not an event on campus, but we’re a club that plans events year around,” Reidy said. The club also plans a Special Olympics soccer program, Unified Soccer, each spring. Reidy said Hosbein said Unified Soccer provides students and athletes with an opportunity to play on a team together.

“What I think is really unique about Unified is the participation on the part of the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s students,” Reidy said. “They are able to get involved just being instructed on how to get better. While that’s certainly a goal, the camaraderie that the students and athletes develop is special.”

Unified Soccer didn’t have any local teams like it to play against when it began, but club co-president and senior Laura Gardner said the popularity of the program has since grown to include away games in Michigan. The involvement between club members and athletes provides students with a sense of pride as they see athletes improve and develop, Gardner said.

“Volunteers learn to be adaptable to the kids, and in the end, after a whole season of soccer practices, it’s amazing to see children that you work with actually develop day by day in terms of skills and maturity,” Gardner said. “We had our first Unified Soccer practice today, and one of the kids from last year was directing a new kid this year and saying, ‘This is what I learned last year; this is how you should incorporate it.’ … So that was really cool.”

The connection between the city of South Bend and Special Olympics Notre Dame benefits those with disabilities and their families while also popping the “Notre Dame bubble,” Reidy said.

[Image: Photo courtesy of Special Olympics Notre Dame]

By MADISON JAROS
News Writer

The connection between the city of South Bend and Special Olympics Notre Dame has shown athletes and their families and the ways the athletes and their families find joy. And they find opportunity through our club through the events that we hold, which I think is really rewarding.”

This spring, Special Olympics Notre Dame will also participate in ‘Spread the Word to End the Word’ a national campaign to end the casual use of the word “retarded,” Reidy said.

“It’s important to take time away from school, which can become all-consuming with work, friends and social life, finding a job — and return the favor,” Hosbein said. “It’s grounding and has engendered a sense of humility, and to me, there’s nothing better than seeing how excited an athlete gets after hitting a three or scoring a goal.

“At the core, sports are about competition, but Special Olympics has shown me that making others happy by playing and teaching them skills can be just as satisfying as winning.”

Contact Madison Jaros at mjaros@nd.edu

---

**Club supports Special Olympic athletes**

By MADISON JAROS
News Writer

Not only bridging the gap between the Notre Dame community and the South Bend community, but also bridging the gap between those with and without disabilities.

Molly Reidy
co-president
Special Olympics Notre Dame

The connection between the city of South Bend and Special Olympics Notre Dame benefits those with disabilities and their families while also popping the “Notre Dame bubble,” Reidy said.

... We are not only bridging the gap between the Notre Dame community and the South Bend community, but also bridging the gap between those with and without disabilities.

Molly Reidy
co-president
Special Olympics Notre Dame

rather than just standing on the sideline and giving pointers. And I think that’s really valuable not only for the students, but also the athletes. They feel like they’re a part of an actual team and aren’t just being instructed on how to get better. While that’s certainly a goal, the camaraderie that the students and athletes develop is special.”

Unified Soccer didn’t have any local teams like it to play against when it began, but club co-president and senior Laura Gardner said the popularity of the program has since grown to include away games in Michigan. The involvement between club members and athletes provides students with a sense of pride as they see athletes improve and develop, Gardner said.

“Volunteers learn to be adaptable to the kids, and in the end, after a whole season of soccer practices, it’s amazing to see children that you work with actually develop day by day in terms of skills and maturity,” Gardner said. “We had our first Unified Soccer practice today, and one of the kids from last year was directing a new kid this year and saying, ‘This is what I learned last year; this is how you should incorporate it.’ … So that was really cool.”

The connection between the city of South Bend and Special Olympics Notre Dame benefits those with disabilities and their families while also popping the “Notre Dame bubble,” Reidy said.

“We’re not only being exposed to these athletes and what they’re capable of, but we’re being exposed to their families and the ways the athletes and their families find joy. And they find opportunity through our club through the events that we hold, which I think is really rewarding.”

This spring, Special Olympics Notre Dame will also participate in ‘Spread the Word to End the Word,’ a national campaign to end the casual use of the word “retarded,” Reidy said.

“It’s important to take time away from school, which can become all-consuming with work, friends and social life, finding a job — and return the favor,” Hosbein said. “It’s grounding and has engendered a sense of humility, and to me, there’s nothing better than seeing how excited an athlete gets after hitting a three or scoring a goal.

“At the core, sports are about competition, but Special Olympics has shown me that making others happy by playing and teaching them skills can be just as satisfying as winning.”

Contact Madison Jaros at mjaros@nd.edu

---

**Student government weekly update**

---

**StudGov**

[Image: Photo courtesy of Special Olympics Notre Dame]

**29 for 29**

Town Hall Meeting

Students can discuss current University topics of interest with Notre Dame’s top leaders in an upcoming town hall meeting. University President John Jenkins, Provost Thomas Burish and Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves will attend the event Feb. 16 at 6 p.m. in DeBartolo 101.

Campus Safety Video

Student government will unveil its video on campus safety by email in the coming days.

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD! COME TO STUDENT SENATE ON WEDNESDAYS AT 6 P.M. IN THE NOTRE DAME ROOM

@NBSGnotrd studgov@nd.edu

**SparkNotes**

**For the Reader**

**The Word to End the Word** campaign in South Dining Hall last year.

Maureen Connelly (left) and Molly Reidy promote the annual “Spread the Word to End the Word” campaign in South Dining Hall last year.

---

**Elegance. Glamour. Charm.**

A ballroom like no other, the Palais Royale is your ideal wedding reception venue. Historic charm. Modern elegance. A perfect combination of old and new await you.

Making fairy tales come true since 1922.

574-235-5612
www.PalaisRoyale.org

---

**The Observer**

KIER D’MARA & MARY McGRAW | The Observer

---

**Student government weekly update**

---

**StudGov**

**29 for 29**

Town Hall Meeting

Students can discuss current University topics of interest with Notre Dame’s top leaders in an upcoming town hall meeting. University President John Jenkins, Provost Thomas Burish and Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves will attend the event Feb. 16 at 6 p.m. in DeBartolo 101.

Campus Safety Video

Student government will unveil its video on campus safety by email in the coming days.

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD! COME TO STUDENT SENATE ON WEDNESDAYS AT 6 P.M. IN THE NOTRE DAME ROOM

@NBSGnotrd studgov@nd.edu

---

**SparkNotes**

**For the Reader**

---

**Elegance. Glamour. Charm.**

A ballroom like no other, the Palais Royale is your ideal wedding reception venue. Historic charm. Modern elegance. A perfect combination of old and new await you.

Making fairy tales come true since 1922.

574-235-5612
www.PalaisRoyale.org

---

**The Observer**

KIER D’MARA & MARY McGRAW | The Observer

---

**Student government weekly update**

---

**StudGov**

**29 for 29**

Town Hall Meeting

Students can discuss current University topics of interest with Notre Dame’s top leaders in an upcoming town hall meeting. University President John Jenkins, Provost Thomas Burish and Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves will attend the event Feb. 16 at 6 p.m. in DeBartolo 101.

Campus Safety Video

Student government will unveil its video on campus safety by email in the coming days.

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD! COME TO STUDENT SENATE ON WEDNESDAYS AT 6 P.M. IN THE NOTRE DAME ROOM

@NBSGnotrd studgov@nd.edu

---

**SparkNotes**

**For the Reader**

---

**Elegance. Glamour. Charm.**

A ballroom like no other, the Palais Royale is your ideal wedding reception venue. Historic charm. Modern elegance. A perfect combination of old and new await you.

Making fairy tales come true since 1922.

574-235-5612
www.PalaisRoyale.org

---

**The Observer**

KIER D’MARA & MARY McGRAW | The Observer

---
**Conferences highlight undergraduate research**

**By ANNETTE SAYRE**  
News Writer

Norte Dame's Center for Undergraduate Scholarly Engagement (CUSE) will ac-
cept applications for the 2015-2016 Undergraduate Conference. The College of Science Joint Annual Meeting (COS-JAM). The conferences, scheduled for May 1 in DeBartolo Hall, are open to students from Norte Dame, Holy Cross and Saint Mary’s. All undergraduates are invited to participate in research presentations, critical analyses and creative endeavors on topics ranging from science to humanities to business.

Senior Dan Courtney, civil engineering major and two-
time conference participant, said the conferences provide opportunities for under-
graduate students to expand their experiences outside the classroom.

“I feel like this event is a real strong point for Norte Dame as a whole. I think it’s one of the reasons I decided to come here. Norte Dame puts substantial resources into its undergraduate education, and a lot of professors take on several undergrads. “At a lot of other schools, students are just watching for four years and taking it all in. Norte Dame offers the unique opportunity of allowing un-
dergraduate students to jump in and start their research early.”

According to the CUSE website, the conference is an chance to share research and hear both constructive feed-
back and insightful questions. Research allows students to use the critical skills they’ve developed in the classroom to ask new questions, make discoveries and contribute to global conversations that can have a real-world impact.

“That’s one cool seeing your friends in that setting,” he said. “You know your friends in one environment, and they have to talk about their research and be amazingly complex is fascinating.”

More information about the USC and COS-JAM can be found on the CUSE website at cuse.nd.edu/USC/

Contact Annette Sayre at assayre@nd.edu

---

**SMC alumnae give advice at business panel discussion**

**By KIERA JOHNSON**  
News Writer

Saint Mary’s College alum-
nae shared their stories of business education and career success during the Alumni Women in Business panel dis-
cussion Wednesday in Spes Unica. The panel offered ad-
vise to students interested in or majoring in accounting, business or management information systems on potential career paths available to them after graduation.

Director of finance at LOGAN Community Resources Allison James (’08) said students who are looking to pick a major should consider participating in a variety of core classes and activities. “Get involved in absolutely everything you have time to do,” she said. “Don’t overload your classes but you will learn a lot about what you are good at and you will learn different skills in different kinds of activities.”

Colleen Timms, co-owner of 1st Source Bank, Bethany Panting (’12), said first years should not feel rushed to de-
cide their major. “Take your time in choosing your major as a first year, you don’t have to come in thinking I’m going to do this or that. Find what you really like because you work for the rest of your life. Find something you really enjoy.”

Breghan Boeskoel (’02), in-
vestment operations special-
ist at the University of Notre Dame, said networking is es-
tential when progressing in any career. “Saint Mary’s has a great network,” Boeskoel said. “If you get to go to the happy hours, any sort of event that has pro-
essionals from the area or any-
thing you think you might be interested in, don’t be afraid to just go up, introduce yourself and talk to them and make that connection. . . . that process of networking that’s what helped get my feet on the ground.”

James said joining clubs and going to events is a great way to build a network. “When I was in school, I had no idea that pretty much every club I was involved in or activ-
ity I went to was networking,” she said. “Six years, seven years down the line I am still talking to those people, and all those people are in business too. Its amazing the connections you make just talking to people.”

---

**Peace**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

will be interested in that also address peace and con-
ict issues from around the world.”

This year’s ScreenPeace Festival features five docu-
mentaries that utilize a va-
riety of filmic techniques to con-
vey themes of peace and nonviolence. Faculty mem-
bers will lead discussions immediately following each film. “Our opening film, ‘The Missing Picture’, mixes to-
gether fi le footage of the Cambodian genocide, of which there is very little, with clay fi gures to cap-
ture the filmmakers’ mem-
ories,” Culbertson said. “It was up for an Academy Award last year and provides an interesting look at the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia.”

Both Culbertson and Baranov are also excited to show “The Man Who Saved the World,” a hybrid documentary that recounts the life of an unof 
cial credited with helping avert a third world war.

“The Man Who Saved the World” is a documentary, but it uses a lot of narrative reenactments of the origi-
nal event to create an inter-
esting effect,” Culbertson said. “We’re very pleased to be hosting the producers of the film, Mark Romeo and Christian film, who will introduce their piece.”

“The Missing Picture” will be shown Thursday night at 7 p.m. The festival contin-
ues Friday at 6:30 p.m. with “Return to Homs,” the story of a teenager’s fight to protect the city of Homs, Syria. Then, at 9:30 p.m. on Friday, ScreenPeace will show “The Baum watched a political thriller detailing the story of the family of Nigeria’s 1993 president, M.K.O. Abiola.”

Saturday’s screenings be-
in with “The Man Who Saved the World” at 6:30 p.m. followed by “The Last Day in the Desert,” a film chronicling the final days of U.S. involve-
ment in the Vietnam War, at 9:30 p.m.

The festival augments students’ classroom experi-
ences by providing additional and perspectives on historical and modern events related to peace studies, Culbertson said. Ofentimes, professors with the Kroc Institute inte-
grate the documentaries into their courses.

“I think the main purpose of the film festival is to en-
hance classroom learning with films that bring reali-
ties from around the world to our students and faculty,” Culbertson said. “It’s an en-
hancement to learning from books. Films have the ability to transcend the classroom and provide a window to the rest of the world.”

Although tickets to ScreenPeace are free, Culbertson said students should reserve seats ahead of time to ensure admittance. “We have received over-
whelmingly positive reac-
tions to the festival,” Barron said. “Students are hungry to learn about ways that they can make a difference in the world. The films we present provide an avenue for them to better understand the world at large.”

Tickets can be reserved at the box office or online at performingarts.nd.edu.

Contact Kacie Galioto at kgalito@nd.edu
Plane crashes in Taiwan river

Associated Press

TAIPER, Taiwan — A pilot of Taiwanese airline EVA Air said “mayday, mayday, engine flameout” moments before the procket banked sharply and crashed into a river, an aviation official said Thursday, but declined to comment on a possible cause for the accident. 

Engine flameout refers to flames being extinguished in the combustion chamber of the engine, so that it shits down and no longer drives the propeller. Causes of a flameout could include a lack of fuel or being struck by volcanic ash, a bird or something else. “Mayday” is an international emergency call.

Video images of the plane’s final moments that were captured on car dashboard camaras appear to show the left engine’s propeller at standstill as the aircraft turned sharply over Taipeii, with its wings going vertical and clipping a highway bridge before plunging into the Keelung River on Wednesday.

At least 31 people on board were killed, and 15 people were injured, including a toddler and his father. The search continued for 12 people still missing.

News

Election

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

more votes than the Joseph- Ventilla ticket, had Ricketts and Ruelas failed to meet the requirement of a 50 percent majority, this year’s election would have proceeded to a runoff.

Reflecting on the week, Ruelas, the vice-president elect, said she had most enjoyed speaking to potential constituents and friends who had helped on the campaign. “There’s been a lot of hard work that has been hampered by this whole experience,” Ruelas said. “I’ve met some of the most incredible people on campus throughout this whole time, and it’s reinforced some of the best friendships I’ve made in my entire life. Thank you to everyone who came out. Every single vote counted, and it was — there’s no words.”

Ricketts, who will serve as president, described his and Ruelas’s campaign as a group effort. Like Ruelas, he also described meeting with students as a high point of the campaign experience.

“We definitely want to thank our friends and supporters who worked so hard for this, it definitely wouldn’t have happened without them,” Ricketts said. “It’s been great, over the past week, meeting with so many people on campus and already getting to start sharing their vision. We’ve had so many good conversations about the items on our platform and about things that aren’t even on there.”

When asked, Joseph said he and Ventilla, Sophomore Class Council treasurer and president, respectively, would not pursue offices in the Junior Class Council for the upcoming school year, but he said they hope to find ways to implement the ideas from their platform in other ways.

“We’re still really passionate about our ideas and the things we set out to do, and we think these things will be beneficial for all students,” Joseph said. “We’re not thinking about next year or anything like that, but we really want to get these things done. We’re going to try — we don’t know how at this point — right now we’re just processing things and looking forward.”

Moving forward, Ricketts said in the next few weeks he and Ruelas will focus on putting together a staff and cabinet.

“That is definitely the priority,” he said. “Finding people who are just as passionate as we are would be vital to making sure we can be effective next year.”

Ricketts and Ruelas officially take office April 1.

Contact Margaret Hyndts at mhyndts@u.edu

Physics

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

more than you or I, but more importantly, they don’t feel the effects of photons,” he said. “Light does not reflect off them, and dark matter and photons do not interact.”

Although dark matter certainly exists, Fox said modern physicists still have questions to answer.

“We know that everyone in this room is made out of matter and not anti-matter, but the laws that govern the standard model are symmetric,” he said. “If you replaced everything in this room with anti-matter, it would behave in exactly the same way. We don’t know why there’s only matter inside us and zero anti-matter.”

The evidence for and against explanations of dark matter can be confusing, and Fox said this means it’s time to start working to make the evidence more consistent.

“Dark matter is one thing we know for sure that is not explained by the standard model, but we know for sure it’s out there,” he said. “We don’t know more than that, but we have some good ideas that we are working on to try and squeeze all the information out of all the avenues of attack that we have.”

“There have been a lot of recent advances both on the theoretical front and the experimental front. The coming decade will be a very exciting time for particle physics.”

Contact Matthew McKenna at mmcken12@nd.edu

Heritage

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Relations Shay Jolly, Director of Campus Ministry Judy Fear, Vice President for Student Affairs Management Mona Rowe and Assistant Director of Phonathia Kelly Courington, Prezrek said. “There were a number of sisters from the Congregation of Holy Cross, including professor of English Sr. Eva Hooker and Sr. Veronique Wiedower, current president of the Congregation, who delivered the keynote address, Prezrek said. After a three-course meal, Sr. Wiedower gave a presentation called “Belle’s Then and Now” on the history of the College. Prezrek said the presentation included a slideshow of photos from past students and places on campus that have changed drastically through the years.

Senior Madison Maidment said this was favorite part of the event, as she learned more about the College than she knew before.

“My favorite picture shown during Sister’s presentation was of an equestrian competition in front of Le Mans Hall,” Maidment said. “Sister said the green field in front of the building that we know as ‘alamunue green’ used to be used for horseback-riding by the students back in day.”

After the presentation, students mingled with other guests and were encouraged to share in their “Saint Mary’s heritage” from the past and into the future.”

Prezrek said.

“I think one of the most successful parts of the dinner was that students were able to just sit with sisters at their tables and get to know them,” Prezrek said. “It’s so important for current students to realize how much the sisters do and have done for the College through the years, and having that solidarity with them is one of the best parts of attending Saint Mary’s.”

Senior Nora Clougherty said she was also thankful for the opportunity to socialize with the sisters.

“I love getting the chance to talk to some of the sisters because they are such wonderful women,” Clougherty said. “Sharing stories with them was so great, and the presentation of Belle’s Then and Now was awesome to see how much Saint Mary’s has grown and to see how much it still remains the same.”

There more events scheduled this week will further showcase Saint Mary’s heritage and traditions. A poetry reading is scheduled for Thursday at 6 p.m. in Cusworth- Leighton Library, where Prezrek said students and professors will read poems that address the theme of Saint Mary’s. Some poems date as far back as 1892 from the College’s earliest publications, she said.

At 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Thursday, there will be tours of the Heritage Room in the convent.

“The tour is a great way for students to learn more about the sisters — the people who founded the College and made it into the place it is today,” Prezrek said. The week’s events conclude Friday with a trivia game during lunch in Noble Family Dining Hall, where students can win a variety of prizes based on heritage and history questions about Saint Mary’s.

Contact Kelly Konya at kkonya01@stmarys.edu

Patrick Fox, a theoretical particle physicist from Jerusalem, speaks on dark matter Wednesday in Nieuwland Science Hall.
Microsoft’s HoloLens

Lucy Du
News Writer

Along with the release of updates to Windows 10 last month, Microsoft also announced the release of HoloLens later this year. For those unaware of this exciting new technology, HoloLens is essentially a step up from Google Glass. It is a pair of glasses that uses the holographic computing platform of Windows 10 to integrate reality with digital content. This means that the HoloLens can translate the 2-D blueprint of a building into a 3-D holographic model, and the user can use hand gestures to interact with the hologram. If this reminds you of Tony Stark working on his Iron Man armor, then you are thinking in the right direction. It is important to note the HoloLens cannot project holograms into the physical world, only onto the display in the device.

If you have stayed up late with the rollout of Google Glass, you’ll know it was a flop. Not only was the technology not ready for the public, the infrastructure required for the glasses to function was not ready as well. Just take a walk around any public place and see if you would ever have a chance to talk with each other.

Further, I developed a great ability to hold many strands of information in my head, all at the same time.

But these questions also give great insight into why this crush was such a struggle for me. When I led with my heart, anything was possible. Unfortunately, my head gave me no such reinforcement. Around Natalie, the gift of speech, a usually faithful friend, proved to be unreliable. These questions, unfortunately, tilted the soil for doubt. Around Natalie, the gift of speech, a usually faithful friend, proved to be unreliable. Somehow, when I needed coherent sentences most, they always seemed to find better things to do.

To top it all off, it was hard to concentrate. In Natalie’s presence, my heart would be thumping so loudly that I had no chance to talk with her. In any sense, was probably no short of a miracle.

Although I didn’t know it then, my crush was giving me my first taste of what it was like to, in a small sense, face the unknown.

The observer |

I don’t know how many people remember their first crush, but I remember mine like it was yesterday. Her name was Natalie and I liked her for all of my eighth grade year. Maybe I’m just odd, but crushes, for me, have been some of the most confusing and difficult times in my life. Let me explain, using Natalie as an example.

I don’t think it would be an exaggeration to say that, on one hand, the “crush” gave me superpowers. I had enormous amounts of energy when I woke up in the morning to go to school. Of course, I was pumped not for classes, but for the opportunity to see Natalie. This excitement for school, in any sense, was probably no short of a miracle for an eighth-grade boy.

Also, my body developed an amazing sense of radar location and peripheral vision. Once Natalie had entered a room, there was no losing her. Needless to say, I didn’t want to appear creepy, so I spent a lot of time looking out of the corners of my eyes, mostly to see if I would ever have a chance to talk with her.

In the faith of Christ, we’re given a certainty that can light even the darkest of unknown paths. That is to say, it’s the certainty that God not only knows what we’re going through, but offers us himself, fully and completely, as a stabilizing force. Every Eucharist is a reminder not only of Christ’s sacrifice, but of his real presence with us. It is the best reminder we have that resurrection triumphs over death and that life will, in some form or another, always win.

This, of course, cannot completely take away our uncertainty. Faith does not always promise an answer that alleviates all of our ills.

But our faith is a guarantee of a relationship with a God who promises we will never be rejected or abandoned. No matter our sin, or our illness, no matter what evil may befall us, we never truly walk alone.

Scott Boyle graduated in May of 2012 with a degree in theology and a minor in medieval studies. He currently lives and works as a Campus and Youth Minister in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis as a member of Notre Dame’s Echo Program. Contact him at bushley20@nd.edu

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

Contact Lucy Du at ydu5@nd.edu

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
There is too much work to do

Social change is a slow and sometimes grueling process. It is never easy to change long-held attitudes or to create institutional reform. Look at past justice movements: the Civil Rights Movement, the Women’s Movement, the American Indian Movement and many more. These all took decades to create lasting change. The leaders of these movements fought long and hard uphill battles to make a difference.

Dorothy Day led a movement as well — the Catholic Worker Movement. She left us with some important words about slow, incremental change. “People say, what is the sense of our small effort? They cannot see that we must lay one brick at a time, take one step at a time. A pebble cast into a pond causes ripples that spread in all directions. Each one of our thoughts, words and deeds is like that. No one has a right to sit down and feel hopeless. There is too much work to do.”

Day was right; there is much work to be done. Today, we see so many things that can be improved and so many places where justice is needed. Here at Notre Dame, pride ourselves on being a beacon of social justice and good will. That is part of what attracted me to this school. I am surrounded by people setting the world on fire, fighting for life, for rights and for justice in every scope. The University as a whole has an amazing track record of standing for what is right. Just look to figures like Fr. Hesburgh or programs like Alliance for Catholic Education. It is clear that this University is more than just a place to learn; this University is an instrument of change.

Dorothy Day would agree that all change is slow. But just because it is slow or our efforts seem small, the ripples extending forth from our actions go further than we can ever know. Right now, Notre Dame students are fighting for a greener and brighter tomorrow. More than 1,000 of you backed the fossil fuel divestment movement on this campus. Some may say that this effort is small. How much change will be caused by Notre Dame dropping its shares in fossil fuel corporations? No one can say for sure, but this action makes a statement that we care about the wellbeing of our earth. Climate change is harming us today, and will continue to affect future generations. How can we stand not to take action? As stewards of the earth and as Catholics, we are called to take care of creation.

We, as a university, cannot sit back and passively condemn climate change. Global climate change is a pressing challenge and one that should not be taken lightly. Sometimes, this issue can make me feel a little bit hopeless. But I do not have the right to sit down and mope. Neither do you, and neither does this University. There is too much work to do.

Kathleen Rocks
freshman
Cavanaugh Hall
Feb. 4
It’s a new year, sort of. The thrill of a new digit at the end of the day’s date has worn off, no one’s talking about how crazy New Year’s Eve was anymore, the best-of 2014 lists have dropped out of conversation and with little more than a fantastic Björk record to talk about, music nerds are finding themselves less sociable every day as they impatiently wait next month’s new releases.

But this year has already heard some truly killer beats. While the record is indeed a mere collection of beats, Rabit Junk may not be huge yet, but their music is undoubtedly some of the most epic stuff out there. Coming off last year’s relentlessly intense and catchy “Pop That Pretty Thirty” EP, producer JP Anderson dropped the “Invasion” EP just days ago. Instead of the focused dancefloor-destroying brand of electro-rock that defined “Pretty Thirty,” the style of “Invasion” falls closer to badass film score, with lyrics. Shredding guitar, atmospheric backing vocals and cinematic crescendos echo throughout the record.

“Radical Acceptance,” however, is the pinnacle of the record because it employs several of the elements that gave “Pop That Pretty Thirty” so much life. A signature Rabbit Junk vocal chant kicks the song off, demanding the listener to sing along. A mere minute into the track, a suspenseful drum beat explodes into a heart-pounding drum & bass throwdown.

What follows is sure to bring the house down: death-defying lyrics, a guitar solo, a false and real ‘drop’ and a chattering outro. If you’re having trouble getting up in the morning, set “Radical Acceptance” as your alarm. You will start fist-pumping before you even know you’re awake.

Contact John Darr at jdarr@nd.edu

Hey Girl, I Want To See The Way You Write.

Write for Scene. Email us at scene@ndsmobserver.com

By JOHN DARR Scene Writer

It’s a new year, sort of. The thrill of a new digit at the end of the day’s date has worn off, no one’s talking about how crazy New Year’s Eve was anymore, the best-of-2014 lists have dropped out of conversation and with little more than a fantastic Björk record to talk about, music nerds are finding themselves less sociable every day as they impatiently wait next month’s new releases.

But this year has already heard some truly killer beats. With the release of an instrumental Death Grips record, a Burial EP, and a Rabbit Junk EP, 2015 has already yielded a handful of excellent tracks.

So if you’re looking for new music to get you going before the year’s anticipated releases drop, look no further. Prepare to jam.

Death Grips: “Runway H (Track 10)”

We’ve put a ban on writing about Death Grips at Scene, so of course I had to work them in somehow. “Fashion Week,” as a collection of instrumentals from the dubstep/electro/rap trio, caused less excitement than usual when it was released suddenly and for free, in classic Death Grips fashion.

While the record is indeed a mere collection of beats, “Fashion Week” holds its fair share of gems. Of such gems, the first “Runway H” (there are two on the record) is the most fabulous. The track’s bass lurches its way forward like a thousand-ton slug while the acoustic drums stomp around in the background. It’s a recklessly heavy track that hunches from loud to louder, from slow to breakneck and from awesome to even more awesome. Perhaps the most in-your-face track Death Grips has released (and that’s certainly saying something), “Runway H” is a must-download for fans of music that sounds loud even at its lowest volume.

Burial: “Temple Sleeper”

When will he stop? Future garage wunderkind William Bevan, a.k.a. “Burial,” has essentially perfected his genre. His works crackle like vinyl records, filled with atmospheric synths that range from gritty to beautiful to both. His use of vocal samples manages to wring the purest, most aching emotions from their sources. His last string of EP’s, “Kindred,” “Truant” and “Rival Dealer,” received rave reviews despite never veering away from his past work.

New single “Temple Sleeper,” the latest release from the producer, deserves similar accolades. Strikingly close to the arpeggio grooves of “Loner” from the EP “Kindred,” “Temple Sleeper” is one of the most danceable Burial tracks in the catalog. The four-on-the-floor beat is accented with Bevan’s classic cracking production and unexpected structural twists. An addictive groove without a dull moment, “Temple Sleeper” peaks during its second half.

A voice that raps “about to go into another dimension” speeds over a ridiculously catchy synth riff, hinting at an acceleration towards even more accessible, danceable music for the producer. Hopefully, the track is an indication of even more universal Burial music in the years to come.

Rabbit Junk: “Radical Acceptance”

Rabbit Junk may not be huge yet, but their music is undoubtedly some of the most epic stuff out there. Coming off last year’s relentlessly intense and catchy “Pop That Pretty Thirty” EP, producer JP Anderson dropped the “Invasion” EP just days ago. Instead of the focused dancefloor-destroying brand of electro-rock that defined “Pretty Thirty,” the style of “Invasion” falls closer to badass film score, with lyrics. Shredding guitar, atmospheric backing vocals and cinematic crescendos echo throughout the record.

“Radical Acceptance,” however, is the pinnacle of the record because it employs several of the elements that gave “Pop That Pretty Thirty” so much life. A signature Rabbit Junk vocal chant kicks the song off, demanding the listener to sing along. A mere minute into the track, a suspenseful drum beat explodes into a heart-pounding drum & bass throwdown.

What follows is sure to bring the house down: death-defying lyrics, a guitar solo, a false and real ‘drop’ and a chattering outro. If you’re having trouble getting up in the morning, set “Radical Acceptance” as your alarm. You will start fist-pumping before you even know you’re awake.

Contact John Darr at jdarr@nd.edu

Hey Girl, I Want To See The Way You Write.

Write for Scene. Email us at scene@ndsmobserver.com
THE FIRST STEP
National Signing Day

Photo Illustration by Wei Lin and Mary McGraw
NSD about more than football

By MIKE MONACO
Senior Sports Writer

Often a time of suspense and intrigue, National Signing Day proved relatively uneventful for Notre Dame’s recruiting efforts, as the Irish inked all 24 expected signees.

Irish head coach Brian Kelly introduced the 24-member class of 2015, including the four early enrollees already taking classes and working out with the team in South Bend, on Wednesday afternoon.

The Irish had already compiled 22 public pledges entering Wednesday, and Notre Dame rounded out the class with the additions of running back Dexter Williams and receiver Quinnunnen St. Brown on Wednesday.

Williams is slotted as the No. 12 running back in the country, according to Rivals. The Orlando, Florida, native joins signee Josh Adams in the Notre Dame class of 2015.

“We were looking to get a second back in this class, and we felt like Dexter gave us that breakaway back that we wanted,” Kelly said. “His second-level speed, his quickness into the hole and then his acceleration were the things that separated him from the other backs that we recruited.”

St. Brown, like Williams, is another four-star offensive skill-position prospect. The Anaheim, California, product is the No. 15 receiver in the nation.

“He’s just a great kid,” Kelly said. “He’s got great range, 6’5”, another rangy wide receiver who can run. He can get in and out of his breaks. Another matchup guy that I think you’re gonna have problems with now.”

The Irish are expected to return 19 of 22 starters from the 2014 team, which finished 8-5 following a 31-28 victory over LSU in the Music City Bowl.

“These are guys that we believe can help us win a championship, and that’s how we recruit,” Kelly said. “And they’re guys that fit here at Notre Dame. So that’s the lens that we recruit through.”

Notre Dame’s class ranks around the edges of the top 10 nationally, according to various recruiting services. In addition to Adams, Williams and St. Brown, the Irish hauled in three more recruits — Miles Boykin, Jalen Guyton and C.J. Sanders — tight end Alizé Jones and quar­terback Brandin Wimbush.

Wimbush is pegged as the No. 60 player in the country. The former Penn State commitment flipped to the Irish in October.

“We were gonna be okay if we didn’t take a quarterback until I saw Brandon on film in his first couple games, and that changed my mind,” Kelly said. “He just did so many of the things that I think a complete quarterback needs to do. And as we went to work in the recruiting process, I just thought we had to take a quarterback.”

On the defensive side of the ball, three four-star linebackers highlight the Irish class. Indiana natives Josh Barajas (No. 180) and Asmar Bilal (No. 246) and Florida product and early enrollee Te’von Coney (No. 118) all cracked the Rivals 250.

Kelly said cornerbacks Shaun Crawford, Nick Coleman and Ashton White offer Notre Dame “crucial” flexibility in sub-pack­ages. Kicker Justin Yoon filled Notre Dame’s other “must-need,” per Kelly. The Irish hosted multiple safety prospects on of­ficial visits during the past few weeks, but Nathan Meadowls (UCLA), Arrington Farrar (Wisconsin) and Justin Reid (Stanford) all chose to sign else­where Wednesday.

“We think when it all plays out, we’re gonna be all right at safety,” Kelly said. “But we needed the three in-and-out corners, and we needed the kicker.”

Notre Dame begins spring practice March 2.

Contact Mike Monaco at jmonaco@nd.edu
JOSH BARAJAS  
LINEBACKER  
6’3” • 212  
Andrean High School  
Valparaiso, Indiana  

Ranked as the top player in Indiana and the No. 137 player overall in 247 Sports’ composite rankings, Josh Barajas chose Notre Dame over a host of top schools, including national championship game participants Oregon and Ohio State. Originally committed to Penn State, he decommitted from the Nittany Lions and committed to Notre Dame on May 30.

Barajas has been listed as both an inside and outside linebacker, depending on the recruiting service. At 6-foot-3, 212 pounds, his frame is a little small for that of a linebacker, but it permits him to use his speed and get out in coverage.

Barajas doesn’t figure to be a great pass rusher, but he pursues and tackles well, which should give him a shot at quick playmaking ability.

Andrean High School  

SHAWN CRAWFORD  
CORNERBACK  
5’9” • 170  
St. Edward High School  
Lakevood, Ohio  

Shawn Crawford is a four-star recruit from St. Edward High School, one of the premier high school football programs in Ohio. Crawford gave a verbal commitment to Michigan in August 2013 but later decommitted and verbally committed to Notre Dame in June 2014. At St. Edward’s, Crawford lined up at cornerback, receiver and kick/punt returner. During his senior year, Crawford registered 91 tackles, seven interceptions and 17 pass breakups on defense. He also accumulated 824 receiving yards on 54 receptions, nine of them for touchdowns, on the offensive side of the ball. Crawford is a versatile athlete who shows great playmaking ability. His knack for the game and athleticism make him an elite recruit in this year’s class.

St. Edward High School  

TRISTEN HOGE  
OFFENSIVE LINEMAN  
6’4” • 290  
Highland High School  
Pocatello, Idaho  

One of the biggest areas to stock Talent for continued success is the offensive line, and the Irish are looking to do that with their signing of early enrollee Tristen Hoge. The 6-foot-4, 290-pound Pocatello, Idaho, native will be part of the Irish recruiting class of 2015. Hoge, who primarily played center for Highland High School, helped lead his team to an undefeated 12-0 record and an Idaho 5A state football championship. For his performance on the line, Hoge was named the Gatorade Player of the Year for Idaho and an Army All-American. In addition to these accolades, Hoge was also one of 25 players from across the country to be named a Parade All-American, earning the national honor from Parade Magazine.

Highland High School  

ALIZ’E JONES  
TIGHT END  
6’5” • 220  
Bishop Gorman High School  
Las Vegas  

One of the top-ranked players in the Irish recruiting class, Jones is the next in line to continue Notre Dame’s tradition of successful tight ends. A four-star recruit from Bishop Gorman High School in Las Vegas, he is the top-ranked tight end in the nation according to both ESPN and 247Sports. With a 40-yard dash time of 4.67 seconds, Jones offers an impressive size and speed combination that should make him a major asset in the passing game. His 13 receiving touchdowns in his senior season also indicate his potential to become a go-to player in the red zone for the Irish. He hauled in 41 passes for 930 yards in 15 games in 2014. He also recorded 22.7 yards per catch average, including a career-long catch of 86 yards, which suggests that Jones is capable of outrunning coverage downfield despite his size.

Bishop Gorman High School  

JOSHD JIMMIE  
RECEIVER  
6’5” • 205  
Servite High School  
Anaheim, California  

From Servite High School in Anaheim, California, 6-foot-5 Anunikeamus St. Brown is a four-star wide receiver who adds size to Notre Dame’s receiving corps, which now has two receivers who stand at least 6-foot-4.

Because Servite struggled during St. Brown’s senior year, his numbers weren’t as impressive as his junior year stats. In his final two seasons, St. Brown compiled 74 receptions along with 1,210 yards and 10 touchdown catches.

Along with having ideal size, St. Brown has great hands and runs crisp routes, which helps him separate from even the biggest defensive backs. With St. Brown and 6-foot-4 sophomore Corey Robinson manning the wide out positions, sophomore Will Fuller and future Irish receiver CJ Sanders could thrive in the slot.

Servite High School  

JERRY TILLERY  
DEFENSIVE LINEMAN  
6’6” • 310  
Evangel Christian Academy  
Shreveport, Louisiana  

At 6-foot-6 and 310 pounds, early enrollee Jeremy Tillery is a big recruit in more ways than one. An offensive lineman at Evangel Christian Academy in Shreveport, Louisiana, Tillery committed to Notre Dame on June 22, 2013 as a defensive tackle. Using his massive frame and strength to his advantage, Tillery displays an ability to drive opposing players with ease, which should translate to him being an effective, disruptive defensive tackle. What truly sets him apart in the minds of recruiters, however, is his athleticism. Despite his size, Tillery runs a 5.05 40-yard dash and displays impressive lateral quickness and first-step explosiveness, which should enable him to make the transition to defensive line with relative ease.

Evangel Christian Academy  

Dexter Williams  
RUNNING BACK  
6’2” • 200  
West Orange High School  
Winter Garden, Florida  

At 6-foot and 200 pounds, four-star running back Dexter Williams is not going to run through many defenses. Rather the Orlando, Florida, product uses excellent lateral movement and acceleration to evade defenders and hit holes with speed. While Williams, who decommitted from Miami (Fla.) in early January, doesn’t have elite speed, running a 4.53 40-yard dash, he possesses an elusiveness which helps him slip out of and away from arm tackles and avoid square hits. In considering the Irish backfield, Williams looks similar to Greg Bryant in running style but also shows glimpses of泰伦·福尔顿, working his way through a mess of players and using his acceleration to pull away for extra yardage. He will fit best as a change of pace back that runs circles around tired, beat-up defenders.

West Orange High School  

BRANDON WIMBUSH  
QUARTERBACK  
6’1” • 212  
St. Peter’s Prep  
Hackensack, New Jersey  

Brandon Wimbush is a 6-foot-1, 221-pound quarterback out of Jersey City, New Jersey, where he played for St. Peter’s Prep. The Marauders won a state title last season with Wimbush under center. The four-star recruit is a dual-threat quarterback who threw for 223.1 yards per game in eight games as a senior and racked up 22 touchdowns, while throwing just one interception.

St. Peter’s Prep  

INSIDER
Wimbush, Jones highlight Notre Dame flips

By SAMANTHA ZUBA
Assistant Managing Editor

Notre Dame signed on Wednesday several players formerly committed to other schools, including top quarterback prospect Brandon Wimbush.

Wimbush commited to the Irish on Oct. 7, 2014 after previously committing to Penn State. It was part of an overall successful recruiting process for Notre Dame, said Andrew Ivins, a recruiting analyst for Blue & Gold Illustrated and Rivals.com. The Irish signed 24 players.

“Notre Dame’s done a strong job addressing some needs and concerns in certain areas,” Ivins said. “They’ve made some pushes. They’ve got a lot of guys from solid high school programs who can win games and played for some championship programs, so they’ve gone out, and I think they’ve done a great job of getting high-caliber kids.”

Like Wimbush, tight end Alizé Jones of Las Vegas committed earlier to a different school. Jones committed to UCLA but flipped to Notre Dame on Dec. 12, 2014.

“Notre Dame’s just done a good job of sticking with these kids,” Ivins said. “They made Alizé feel like a priority despite his commitment.”

Flipping commitments has become somewhat of a “trend in the industry,” Ivins said, as recruits make earlier commitments, but securing a player like Wimbush was a bit different.

“It’s really impressive when you can do it with a guy like Brandon Wimbush because once the quarterback dominoes fall in the summer, no one really shuffles around, but Notre Dame stuck with him, they got him on campus, and they flipped him,” Ivins said. “They’re selling a product that these kids are buying into.”

Wimbush played for St. Peter’s Prep, a state champion in New Jersey last season. Jones and defensive back Nicco Fertitta, played for Bishop Gorman, a state champion from Las Vegas, Nevada.

“I’m a firm believer in that,” Ivins said of recruiting players from winning programs. “I believe that you want to get guys from strong programs who are quote, unquote ‘winners’ and know what it takes because those are the guys that are getting good coaching.”

Recruiting from a big-name high school can also create important relationships.

“I’ve had multiple coaches tell me that from (Bishop Gorman), that Notre Dame’s done a great job recruiting Bishop Gorman and that bodes well down the line because they have a lot of good players that are coming out of there,” Ivins said.

In terms of the best signings in the class, Ivins named defensive back Myckelti Williams from Warren Central in Indianapolis and linebackers Te’von Coney from Palm Beach Gardens High School in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida.

“What you like about Myckelti is he’s an explosive player with a really good frame,” Ivins said. “He’s a guy who could probably step on the field and play right now but has just loads of potential. He could play strong safety, free safety, corner-back, nickel, so he can be really versatile in the secondary, and obviously, as most Notre Dame fans know, depth is an issue there right now.”

Ivins said Coney, who is already enrolled, stood out at the high school All-American game.

“He was a late addition to the Under Armour All-American Game (but) looked like in my opinion the best linebacker out there, and I stood out there and watched practices for five days,” Ivins said.

Ivins said Jones, outside linebacker Tristan Hoge from Highland High School in Pocatello, Idaho, and defensive lineman Bo Wallace from John Curtis Christian High School in New Orleans have the potential to be impact players in a couple years.

Much of Notre Dame’s recruiting success has come from the type of players and students the Irish target, Ivins said.

“They seem to find this mold of kid who’s, whether it’s faith-based, whether it’s a champion, whether it’s someone who’s just drawn to the lure of Notre Dame and the tradition, they do a good job of locking them up early in the process.”

Although Notre Dame has done a good job selling “the academic side of things,” Ivins said, that same strength can present a recruiting challenge.

“Notre Dame shops in a different aisle,” Ivins said. “It’s clear that they have to find a different breed of kid. Test scores are obviously a big [challenge]. … You have to identify kids early in the process that, ‘Hey, this kid’s going to make the grades,’ and you have to identify kids, ‘Hey, this kid’s going to want to be able to move to Indiana.’ In some of those recruiting hot beds, that’s a hard sell to go after kids in Atlanta, Florida and Arizona.”

In addition, the Midwest recruiting scene will only grow more crowded as Jim Harbaugh settles in at Michigan and as Urban Meyer continues to work at Ohio State, Ivins said.

Despite these challenges, Ivins said, Notre Dame has succeeded in securing top-priority signees.

“I think this class clearly is a step in the right direction,” Ivins said. “Like I said, they locked a lot of these kids up early, got them to Notre Dame, which was really good, and they’ve been able to manage to hold on to a lot of kids. If you look around the country, that’s not the case. … They did an extremely good job getting their guys and holding on to them.”

For more on Notre Dame recruiting, check out BlueandGold.com. Email Andrew Owens at aozens@blueandgold.com and tell him The Observer sent you.

Contact Samantha Zuba at szuba@nd.edu

Quarterback Brandon Wimbush prepares to make a pass during a game for St. Peter’s Prep in Jersey City, New Jersey.
By BRIAN HARTNETT  
Managing Editor

Entering the offseason, Notre Dame’s secondary became an area of primary importance.

There of course were needs to address with a unit that surrendered 233 passing yards per game and 23 total touchdowns through the air last season, six of them coming in the team’s final regular-season game.

But there were also plenty of needs to address with the unit’s depth, given the losses of cornerback Cody Riggs and safety Austin Collinsworth to graduation and the recent departure of safety Eilar Hardy. With these losses, plus injuries to junior safety Nicky Baratti and freshman safety Drue Tranquill, the Irish are effectively down to two healthy scholarship safeties — junior Elijah Shumate and sophomore Max Redfield.

Notre Dame took a stab at filling these needs Wednesday the Irish announced the signing of five defensive backs — Nick Coleman, Shaun Crawford, Nicco Fertitta, Ashton White and Mykelti Williams.

With only two of those players — Fertitta and Williams — projected to play safety, the Irish didn’t quite end up with the depth they expected at the position, according to Andrew Ivins, a recruiting analyst for Blue & Gold Illustrated and Rivals.com.

“Given the depth, it was obviously a huge hole in the class,” Ivins said. “They really needed to address some concerns.”

Despite the limited numbers, the Irish picked up two players who should be able to contribute within their first two years, Ivins said.

“Thankfully, I think Mykelti Williams can play right away,” he said. “I think Nicco Fertitta is a guy who’s probably going to need a redshirt year or play some special teams. He’s a bit undersized.”

In his National Signing Day press conference, Irish head coach Brian Kelly said the team is exploring the possibility of having some current players switch into the safety slot, though he declined to mention specific names.

“I mean, we are going to look at the potential of moving some guys there, yes, that’s definitely in the conversation,” he said.

There’s a few more contributors returning at the corner-back position, but the Irish will have to replace a starter in Riggs. Sophomore corner-back Cole Luke, who started all 13 games last season, figures to be a fixture at one corner-back slot, while senior Matthias Farley, sophomore Dacian Jackson and his fellow incoming defensive backs, who he speaks to via group chat “literally every day, all day sometimes.”

“I think we can be the spark,” Crawford said. “We’re a group of energetic guys. Just watching film, you can see we all play with some emotion, so I just think we’ll wear it.

“If we’re put in there to play, I think we’ll make an impact.”

Devin Butler and freshman Nick Watkins are all possibilities to play opposite him.

Ivins praised the versatility of Notre Dame’s new corner-backs, noting their potential to play different roles in defensive coordinator Brian VanGorder’s scheme.

“I think the big word we’re going to hear is ‘cross-train,’” Ivins said. “I think they’re going to cross-train a lot of these guys.

“Ashton White, he might be a guy who could be in the nickel. … Shaun Crawford, who’s an exceptional stand-out cover corner, he played some safety in high school. He’s extremely undersized to be a safety at the collegiate level, but he could be an emergency option. … Nick Coleman, too, he could potentially be cross-trained in there.”

Crawford, an Under Armour All-American selection from Lakewood, Ohio, echoed Ivins’s thoughts on cross-training, as he recalled recruiting conversations with VanGorder.

“Coach VanGorder talked to me a lot about the nickel position, that it’s actually wide open, so I’ll definitely come in wanting to take that role over and play a little corner,” Crawford said.

Crawford and the other secondary recruits will have the additional challenge of adjusting to a new position coach. According to si.com, defensive backs coach Kerry Coombs has accepted the same position at Oklahoma. Coombs updated his Twitter profile biography Wednesday night to say, “Secondary Coach at the University of Oklahoma.”

“Coach Cooks had been hitting the Louisiana, Texas markets hard for the first time in a while for Notre Dame, so that could be a bit of a regression,” Ivins said.

Still, Crawford said last season’s struggles, worries about depth and adjustments to a potential replacement are things that don’t worry him and his fellow incoming defensive backs, who he speaks to via group chat “literally every day, all day sometimes.”

“I think we can be the spark,” Crawford said. “We’re a group of energetic guys. Just watching film, you can see we all play with some emotion, so I just think we’ll wear it. “If we’re put in there to play, I think we’ll make an impact.”

For more on Notre Dame recruiting, check out BlueandGold.com. Email Andrew Owens at aowens@blueandgold.com and tell him The Observer sent you.

Contact Brian Hartnett at bhartnet@nd.edu

---

I think we can be the spark. We're a group of energetic guys. If we're put in there to make a play, I think we'll make an impact.”

Shaun Crawford  
class of 2015 recruit

---

Leads. Serve. Teach.

Through a unique, paid internship, Notre Dame students have the opportunity to work with ACE leaders to strengthen under-resourced Catholic schools during their senior year. After graduation, these interns will serve the ACE Teaching Fellows while earning their cost-free M.Ed.

Contact Matt Gelchion at mgelchio@nd.edu  
Visit ace.nd.edu/internship to learn more.  
Applications are now open until March 27.
Indianapolis
6’3” • 210

BILAL
RUNNING BACK
JOSH
from 104 of them solo.
up a team-leading 155 tackles,
senior season in which he racked
outside.
and is seen by some analysts to be
linebacker at the next level, chose

even better instincts to the ball,
has a great motor to go along with
strength but quickness, speed
style is a mixture of not just
receiving touchdowns. Although
as 267 receiving yards and four
piling 1,618 rushing yards and
impressive senior season, com-
mitted to

Pennsylvania native Josh
Adams shunned his native Penn State for the Irish. The 6-foot-2, 210-pound running back com-
mitted to Notre Dame this past June. Adams put together an impressive senior season, comp-
piling 1,618 rushing yards and 27 rushing touchdowns, as well as 267 receiving yards and four
receiving touchdowns. Although classified by many scouts as a ‘power back,’ Adams’ running style is a mixture of not just
strength but quickness, speed and agility. Adams’s physicality and size could loom large for the
Irish in upcoming seasons, as he will provide a reliable running threat on crucial goal-line and
third-down situations.

JOSH ADAMS
RUNNING BACK
6’2” • 210
Central Bucks High School South
Warrrington, Pennsylvania

MILES BOYKIN
RECEIVER
6’3” • 225
Providence Catholic High School
Tinley Park, Illinois

Known for his agility and abil-
ity to play out wide, Boykin record-
ed 1,035 receiving yards and 19
touchdowns in his senior season. Boykin ranks 36th on ESPN’s list of
top receivers for 2015, as well as
21st on ESPN’s list of top Midwest
recruits. After receiving a slew of
offers from schools, including
Florida, Mississippi, Michigan and
Ohio State, Boykin committed to Notre Dame last July. Boykin has
shown his speed in the 40-yard

dash, clocking in at 4.51 seconds.
Originally pegged as a tight end, Boykin demonstrates much ver-
satility and could start his Notre
Dame career as the X-receiver.

MILES BOYKIN
RECEIVER
6’3” • 225
Photo courtesy of BlueAndGold.com, Rivals

TEVON CONEY
LINEBACKER
6’0” • 221
Palm Beach Gardens High School
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida

Weighing 221 pounds and measuring in at six feet tall, in-
side linebacker Tevon Coney ver-

bally committed to Notre Dame in
October and enrolled early at the
University in January. Coney was an Under Armour All-
American and made the Florida
All-State second team during his high school career, and he
to-
taled 308 tackles and 17 sacks in his junior and senior years com-
bined. Coney’s main attribute
is his ability to shut down the opposing team’s running game
and his ability to blitz. In that
respect, he will be very useful to
Notre Dame’s developing line-

backers corps. Coney was also
recruited by Florida, Alabama
and Auburn.

TEVON CONEY
LINEBACKER
6’0” • 221
Photo courtesy of BlueAndGold.com, Rivals

ASMAR BILAL
LINEBACKER
6’3” • 210
Ben Davis High School
Indianapolis

Bilal, who projects as an inside
linebacker at the next level, chose
the Irish in October over offers from
Michigan, Nebraska, Texas A&M, Tennessee and Michigan
State, among others. Bilal was se-
lected as a U.S. Army All-American
and is seen by some analysts to be an
instant impact player for the Irish,
especially if he were to move
outside. He is coming off a strong
senior season in which he racked
up a team-leading 155 tackles, 104 of them solo. He also helped
guide his team to the Indiana Class 6A state championship. Bilal
has a great motor to go along with
even better instincts to the ball,
seemingly always knowing which
direction the play is headed. He is
a heavy hitter who doesn’t give up
on plays.

ASMAR BILAL
LINEBACKER
6’3” • 210
Photo courtesy of BlueAndGold.com, Rivals

NICK COLEMAN
CORNERBACK
6’0” • 180
Archbishop Alter High School
Dayton, Ohio

The 6-foot, 180-pound Coleman showed some speed at
both running back and corner during his high school career. He
has twitchy speed, which is
great for reacting as a corner. He shows great closing speed,
also good for any defender,
and he displays some impec-
cable acceleration and sepa-
ration speed. As a nationally
unranked three-star recruit,
Coleman may be just the

stead Notre Dame needs for its sec-
ondary. Coleman committed
as a cornerback to Notre Dame,
but he has potential to be a

NICK COLEMAN
CORNERBACK
6’0” • 180
Photo courtesy of BlueAndGold.com, Rivals

MICAH DEW-TREADWAY
DEFENSIVE LINEMAN
6’5” • 280
Bolingbrook High School
Bolingbrook, Illinois

A raw and athletic defensive
lineman, Micah Dew-Treadway has all of the physical skills to be
a key player for the Irish in the future.

Although Dew-Treadway is
still relatively inexperienced,
having only recently transi-
tioned to football from bas-
ketball, he has already shown
signs that he can be a disruptive
player with a habit of shedding
blockers and getting into the
backfield.

MICAH DEW-TREADWAY
DEFENSIVE LINEMAN
6’5” • 280
Photo courtesy of BlueAndGold.com, Rivals

TREVOR RUHLAND
OFFENSIVE LINEMAN
6’5” • 285
Cary Grove High School
Cary, Illinois

A consensus three-star pros-
pert, Ruhland has been com-
mitted to Notre Dame since late April
and offers offensive line depth
for the Irish recruiting class.
Ruhland comes into college with
experience on both the offensive
line and the defensive line, but he
should look to line up on offense
for the Irish. He played tackle on
both sides of the offensive line in
high school, but his size would
suggest that he fits more at guard
for the Irish. Ruhland excels at
blocking on the edge and uses
his feet well to block at the sec-
ond level. However, he does en-
ter a position group with already
strong depth, which could limit
playing time in his first season.

TREVOR RUHLAND
OFFENSIVE LINEMAN
6’5” • 285
Photo courtesy of BlueAndGold.com, Rivals

JALEN GUYTON
RECEIVER
6’1” • 185
Allen High School
Allen, Texas

According to 247Sports, Guyton
is a three-star recruit ranked
88th in the nation among receiv-
ers and the 92nd overall player in Texas.
He received scholarship offers
from Arizona State, Baylor,
Clemson, Ohio State, Oklahoma
and Mississippi, among oth-
eres, before committing to Notre
Dame. Guyton had a dominant
senior season against quality
opposition in Texas. According to
MaxPreps, Guyton caught
74 passes for 1,605 yards and
rushed for 54 more yards. He
scored 17 touchdowns in 14
games to help Allen win the 2014
Texas 6A Division I state cham-
pionship. Guyton is an explosive
receiver with great hands who
can catch the ball in double cov-
er and turn short catches into
long touchdown runs by using
his speed and elusiveness.

JALEN GUYTON
RECEIVER
6’1” • 185
Photo courtesy of BlueAndGold.com, Rivals

Please recycle
The Observer.
Standing at a deceiving 5-foot-10 and 185 pounds, C.J. Sanders has proven to be one of the most electrifying players in the country. The four-star recruit, according to Rivals, attended The Opening, Nike’s elite summer football camp, last summer, and finished as one of its top athletes. He ran the 40-yard dash in just 4.32 seconds and finished the 20-yard shuttle in 3.80 seconds. His ability to switch directions quickly and turn down the field with blazing straight-line speed makes him an immediate threat in the slot position.

Sanders finished his senior year at Notre Dame High School in Sherman Oaks, California, with 437 rushing yards and nine touchdowns, 562 receiving yards and eight scores and four touchdowns on punt/kick returns.

Bo Wallace

DEFENSIVE LINEMAN
6’4” • 215
John Curtis Christian High School
New Orleans

At 6-foot-4, Bo Wallace has the frame of a defensive end, but his listed weight of 215 pounds makes him leaner and rangier than a typical linemen. Wallace himself has admitted that he needs to bulk up in order to make an impact at the collegiate level, and he is considered by many a likely candidate to switch to outside linebacker.

Mykelti Williams

SAFETY
6’0” • 200
Warren Central High School
Indianapolis

A six-foot safety who verbally committed to the Irish on Dec. 19, four-star recruit Mykelti Williams is another Hoosier who chose to stay in-state for school. The 200-pound Indianapolis native flies in from his safety position in run support and often played close to the line of scrimmage in high school. Not afraid to throw his frame around, Williams uses his speed to blow up screens, end-arounds and swing routes. The runner up for the Indianapolis Star’s Mr. Football 2014 also does a solid job of open-field tackling at full speed, demonstrating a knack for being able to take the feet out from under shifty running backs and receivers. This is not to say he is one-dimensional player; Williams also recorded seven interceptions as a senior.

Elliah Taylor

DEFENSIVE LINEMAN
6’3” • 285
 Archbishop Moeller High School
Cincinnati

Elliah Taylor is a 6-foot-3, 285 pound defensive tackle from Archbishop Moeller High School in Cincinnati, Ohio. According to 247Sports, he is the 14th best prospect in Ohio and 23 at best defensive tackle in the country. He verbally committed this past summer and chose Notre Dame over Ohio State, Florida State and Michigan State, among others. During his senior season, he recorded 88 tackles, 15 of them for loss, and 12 sacks while leading the Fighting Crusaders to the Ohio state semfinals. He profiles as a one-technique tackle, provided he can add a few pounds to his big frame. His presence is very much needed after last season’s injuries along the defensive line exposed major depth problems at the position.

But what Wallace, a three-star recruit, lacks in size, he makes up for with blazing speed. He runs a 4.68 40-yard dash and can easily sprint by larger offensive linemen. On the high school level, opposing quarterbacks had trouble outrunning him. When he is blocked, however, he sometimes struggles to fight through the block and make tackles.

Wallace racked up 52 tackles and nine sacks and earned Louisiana all-state honors his senior season.
JUST EAST OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME
Within the Overlook at Notre Dame Professional Student/Faculty & Staff Apartment Community

JUST OPENED! The New Café at the Overlook at Notre Dame is a casually eclectic and cozy café with a fresh, trendy menu.

The Café’s inventive and flavorful dishes include daily specials and carry-out, with daily Quick Grab ToGo that are extra fast take-out dishes.

Whether you stop by the Café for a full meal, a snack and study, or for Quick Grab ToGo, we think you’ll find our atmosphere, cuisine and people refreshing.

Beer and wine will be available soon. We also offer Café Gift Cards.

HOURS
MON–SAT: 7 am – 7 pm
SUN: 8 am – 6 pm

LOCATION
54721 Burdette St.
South Bend, IN 46637
574.271.5727
Near the Hawk’s crosswalk

Follow us on Facebook for daily specials and news.
By MATTHEW MUNHAL
Scene Writer

Over the past two years, the rapper Mick Jenkins has moved to the forefront of the Chicago rap scene, and on Saturday night the MC will bring his idiosyncratic, socially-conscious music to Legends.

Jenkins’ second mixtape, “The Water[s],” was one of 2014’s most exciting rap releases, and he was voted one of the Best New Artists on Pitchfork’s 2014 Readers Poll. “The Water[s]” established him as one of the best post-Kendrick Lamar rappers, alongside fellow Chicagoans like Chance the Rapper and Vic Mensa, with whom Jenkins has collaborated. Jenkins’ conscientious lyrics are paired with brooding, jazz-tinged production, recalling the true quality of happiness,” Jenkins told police.Millisecond

Wake up, progress and get the most out of life and find the true quality of happiness,” Jenkins told Billboard last year. “Me and people in general have false ideas of what makes you happy and what it means to be successful.”

Like Chance the Rapper, Jenkins embraces an earnest worldview and positive attitude in his music, channeling it through his deep voice and witty wordplay.

“Most rappers these days is actors / And I can’t keep watching the same movie,” Jenkins raps on mixtape highlight “Jazz.” As the production builds to a climactic, distorted guitar line, he name checks jazz legends like Coltrane, Mingus and Sinatra, adding a dimension of history to the track. “Talkin’ all that jazz might get you popped,” he raps on the chorus in his mellow baritone, summing up the song’s bleak meditation on truth. It’s this kind of intelligent, thought-provoking lyricism that makes Jenkins’ music so powerful.

Jenkins’ social consciousness is best embodied on first single “Martyrs,” on which he delivers commentary on the materialism embodied by mainstream rap. “Ima get all this money / Ima buy all this s**t,” Jenkins raps on the chorus. Like Lamar’s “Swimming Pools (Drank),” you can as easily imagine the hook being misinterpreted as a party anthem, rather than an indictment of the thoughtless pursuit of money. “I pray it’s never too preachy but I’m preaching,” Jenkins raps on the track, summing up his nuanced approach to activism: thoughtful, but never hitting you over the head with the message.

Opening for Jenkins on Saturday night are Saba and Kirk Knight. Saba is a fellow Chicagoan and the front man of the Pivot Gang collective, of which Jenkins is a member. The 20-year-old rapper’s most high-profile break came with a guest verse on Chance the Rapper’s “Everybody’s Something,” and his solo mixtape “ComfortZone” follows up on that promise. “ComfortZone” is a mellow, moody release about growing up on Chicago’s West Side. Saba professes to being a quiet kid growing up, and while his mixtape shows that introspective streak, it is an assured artistic statement from a rapper who will surely break into the mainstream within the next few years.

Knight is a member of the Brooklyn-based Pro Era crew and perhaps best known as a producer. He has produced a number of tracks for Pro Era co-founder Joey Badass, including “Big Dusty” and “Hzeus View” off the rapper’s recent debut album, “B4.Da.$$.” Nonetheless, Knight has slowly stepped up to the mic, providing verses for tracks from other Pro Era members and releasing songs on SoundCloud.

On “Drink More” Jenkins raps, “Somewhere in the world there’s a Riff Raff concert that people gon’ swarm for.” No disrespect to the Neon Icon, but hopefully Notre Dame students will swarm in equally large numbers to Jenkins’ show at Legends on Friday night.

Contact Matthew Munhall at mmunhall@nd.edu

WEEKEND AT A GLANCE

THURSDAY

What: “The Missing Picture”
When: 7:00 p.m.
Where: DPAC
How Much: Free

Part of DPAC’s ScreenPeace Film Festival, “The Missing Picture” recreates images lost during the Khmer Rouge’s cruel reign over Cambodia from 1975 to 1979. The film is nominated for the Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film and will only be shown at DPAC once.

FRIDAY

What: SUB Movie: “The Theory of Everything”
When: 8:00 p.m., 10:30 p.m.
Where: Debaratto 301
How Much: $3

Nominated for five Oscars, including Best Picture, “The Theory of Everything” tells the story of physics superstar Stephen Hawking and his wife, Jane. The real Stephen Hawking reportedly liked it so much that he allowed the filmmakers to retrack it with the same computer-animated voice he uses.

What: Mick Jenkins, Kirk Knight and Saba
When: 10:00 p.m.
Where: Legends
How Much: Free

Hip hop artist Mick Jenkins is coming to Legends Saturday night. He just finished up on the 2014 Smoker’s Club World Wide Roller’s Tour with Method Man, Redman, B-Real and Berner. Opening for him are rapper Saba and producer Kirk Knight.

SATURDAY

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

“The One I Love,” currently streaming on Netflix, stars Mark Duplass and Elisabeth Moss as a couple in a rocky marriage. First time director Charlie McDowell explores their attempt to salvage their relationship through a surreal weekend retreat. Check back Monday for Matt McMahon’s review!
Zach Klosinski
Sports Writer

Perhaps the most unique-high school basketball game ever took place Saturday night in Alabama.

To call the second matchup of the year between boys' varsity teams of Bibb County and Brookwood a low-scoring affair seems inadequate. Saturday's final score of 2-0 suggests for the most part.

The victors won the opening tip and missed a 3-pointer, but sophomore center Brandon Rutledge grabbed the offensive rebound and laid it off for the glass for the game's only two points. Fifteen seconds had elapsed, meaning over the next 31:45... nothing.

Bibb County inbounded the ball and made its way down the court. Uncomfortable with the zone played by the taller Bibb County, Brookwood simply passed it around the perimeter trying to extend the defense and allow the offense to pass and passing and passing.

"They came across half court and kept everything really spread out, making it hard for us to get our zone," Bibb County coach Thad Fitzpatrick told the Tuscaloosa News. "The intention was to get as much rest as we can offensively and do whatever we needed to do defensively. It was our fourth game of the week, and on Friday night we started cramping a lot, so I made some changes.

Four games in a week! It's absurd enough to make one team on average, including back-to-back Fridays before the scheduled time for a game. Bibb County had its schedule.

Sure, these 14-18 year-old kids on the court. Their bodies are young, fresh and supposedly able to handle the high levels of wear-and-tear. So, as the large amount of cramping showed Fitzpatrick the night before, this was too much for even younger to handle.

After all, play in the Class 6A, Area 7 tournament begins Thursday, so why should his team play and risk its health against Class 4A Bibb County?

Answer: They shouldn't. Even if this were a huge rivalry game, there is no reason why kids should ever have to play four games in a week during the regular season, something the AHSAA needs to address immediately.

This scenario is only part of a growing problem in youth sports, lumped in with kids who begin 'specializing' and playing a single sport year round. Sure, these kids kids and their fresh bodies can handle the high levels of wear-and-tear, for a little bit at least. Yet it won’t be long before they start falling apart and suffer long-term health complications.

Placing myself in the shoes of a parent, I actually appreciate the way Fitzpatrick and Wallace decided to coach this game. For the sake of the kids, I hope state high school athletic associations feel the same way.

Saturday night's game fun to watch? It was as far as getting the 2-0 score. It was better for these kids in the long run, absolutely.

Contact Zach Klosinski at zklosinski@ndu.edu.

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

Not to be outdone, wide receiver Julian Edelman stood tall on the roof of a duck boat in sunglasses and a white T-shirt, at times waving Patriots flag and holding up signs from fans, including one taunting the Seahawks' cornerback Richard Sherman.

By the city's colonial burial ground, where signers of the Declaration of Independence and other famous Americans were once laid to rest, a boy held high a sign on a wooden picket saying: "13 years old, nine championships," nod to the city's other successful sports franchises.

Elsewhere, signs proclaimed "They hate us cause they ain't us," referencing a James Franco line in the movie "The Interview.

Carl Estrella of Cambridge wore a T-shirt saying "Deflate This," mocking allegations that the Patriots cheated with under- inflated footballs in their AFC championship win against the Indianapolis Colts.

"After all that went on with the deflated balls, we are owed an apology," said Michele Cote Moran, a Lowell resident who said she was watching the parade with her brother. "I hope they get it, but it's all good. We did it again. We won."

Patriots draw crowds at parade in cold, snow

NFC Football

Associated Press

BOSTON — Giddy fans of the Super Bowl champion New England Patriots chanted "Brady! Brady!" and clambered atop massive snowbanks for better views as players danced and waved to the massive throng on their way through Boston in a Wednesday parade celebrating their fourth NFL title.

Well-wishers blew kisses, pumped their fists and screamed themselves hoarse as the team rolled through downtown aboard the World War II-style amphibious "duck boat" vehicles that have become a staple of the city's championship parades.

Some fans defied police warnings and climbed on giant piles of snow left from last week's blizzard to get a glimpse of quarterback Tom Brady, coach Bill Belichick and other players as trucks blew plumes of cold mist into the air.

The crowd roared as a smiling Belichick and his players snapped selfies and took turns waving, the Lombardi Trophy earned in a hard fought 28-24 victory over the defending champion Seattle Seahawks on Sunday.

A beaming Brady held his young son, Benjamin, who grinned and waved to the crowd. Later, Brady posted a video to Facebook.

"Thank you guys for all your support. What a year it's been. Look at this!" he said panning the camera over the roaring crowd. "Let's go!"

The convoy carrying players, their wives and girlfriends, the team mascot, cheerleaders and more rolled down Boylston Street on route to City Hall, crossing the finish line of the Boston Marathon, where two bombs killed three people and wounded more than 260 others in 2013.

Fans sported No. 12 Brady jerseys, shouted the MVP's name and held "We are the CHAMPIONS" placards. One had a sign that read: "Belichick for President."

"I'm feeling good, but it's been great. It's exciting," said Annie Cushing, a Quincy resident who had been standing in front of City Hall before the parade started, wearing a No. 87 Rob Gronkowski jersey and a homemade Lombardi trophy hat made of tin foil and tape.

The real Gronk drew laughs with his hip-hop dance moves. At one point, he chugged a can of beer held by his teammate on a stage wearing a goofy winter hat of a one-eyed "Minion" character.

Purdue snags big receivers, backs in recruiting class

Associated Press

WEST LAFAYETTE, Indiana — Purdue coach Darrell Hazell could be turning the "Cradle of Quarterbacks" into "Mann's Landing." The Boilermakers took a detour in recruiting this year.

In Purdue's recruiting class is Georgia's reigning H-back Williams, a 6-8, 300-pound tackle, one of the nation's top offensive linemen.

The new guys could have a long-lasting impact on the perception of Boilermakers' football.

"Every year has its own challenges, and with this year it was going to change the shape of things," a nod to this year's defensive line.

The Boilermakers' slot receivers.

Purdue's coaches believe powerful 5-foot-11, 205-pound running back Markell Jones, Indiana's reigning Mt. Football from Columbus East, could compete for a starting job this year.

"He's getting better," said Fournier that the Boilermakers' slot receivers.

Purdue's, of course, did take one over on offense with defensive linemen including 279-pound tackle Eddie Wilson who defensive line coach Robin Carter believes will add enough weight to become a 300-pound run-stuffer.

"They hate us cause they ain't us," referencing a James Franco line in the movie "The Interview."

Carl Estrella of Cambridge wore a T-shirt saying "Deflate This," mocking allegations that the Patriots cheated with under-inflated footballs in their AFC championship win against the Indianapolis Colts.

"After all that went on with the deflated balls, we are owed an apology," said Michele Cote Moran, a Lowell resident who said she was watching the parade with her brother. "I hope they get it, but it's all good. We did it again. We won."

NCAA Football

Associated Press

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid.
Irish strive to finish season on a high note

By SEAN KILMER
Sports Writer

Notre Dame aims to finish off its regular season on a high note Saturday when it takes on Cleveland State in seniors’ last chance to swim competitively at Rolfs Aquatic Center.

The Irish (5-6) come off two wins and a loss in the Shamrock Invitational last weekend. Notre Dame faced Missouri State and Incarnate Word handily but fell to Big Ten foe Iowa.

In the Shamrock Invitational, the Irish set two pool records and said goodbye to 14 seniors on the official senior day. Among the record breakers was senior John Nappi, who broke the pool record for the 1,650-yard freestyle with a time of 15:21.60.

The 800-yard freestyle relay C-team also eclipsed a record time with a 6:35.03 mark. The team consisted of seniors Kevin Hughes, Brid erick Kelly and Patrick Murphy and junior Michael Huds pith. That group broke a record previously held by a University of Michigan relay team.

Saturday’s competition marks Notre Dame’s final tune-up for the ACC Championships and will give swimmers a chance to evaluate themselves, freshman Justin Plaschka said.

“I’m definitely excited for this meet against Cleveland State, as it’s the last dual meet of my freshman season,” Plaschka said. “I’ll just look to do my best that I can because this meet will be a good test to see what position I am in and what I need to do in training the next few weeks.”

Cleveland State (5-6) has enjoyed a strong 2014-15 season. The Vikings compete in the Horizon League and will seek to test the Irish in multiple areas, most notably 3-meter diving and the 100-yard backstroke.

Cleveland State sophomore Danny Roberts, last week’s Horizon League Diver of the Week, recently scored a 324.53 in the 3-meter event, a number that could push a deep Irish diving team. Last weekend, the Irish claimed four out of the top five spots on the 3-meter board.

Philipp Sikat zki turned in a performance at his previous meet that would have beat any Irish swimmer in both the 100-yard backstroke and 100-yard butterfly last weekend. His 48.74 in the 100-yard backstroke would have beaten Irish junior Bogac Ayhan’s top time of 49.24 from last weekend. In the 100-yard fly, he would have won the race with a time of 47.97.

The 100-yard butterfly will feature Sikat zki and several Irish swimmers, including Plaschka and Ayhan.

“T’ll approach (this meet) as I do the rest of the dual meets: ready to race,” Plaschka said. “I’ll just get up ready to race as fast as I can, like I will when I have to race the top competitors at ACCs.”

After this weekend, the Irish head to the ACC championships, running from Feb. 25 through March 1 in Atlanta. The Irish finished sixth last year during a season in which they broke 15 school records.

Notre Dame and Cleveland State dive into the Rolfs Aquatic Center pool Saturday at 12 p.m.

Contact Sean Kilmer at skilmer@nd.edu


George pushes for an early return

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Larry Bird isn’t putting any constraints on Paul George’s recovery.

In fact, the Pacers president of basketball operations is hoping George will make it onto the court this season. Just six months after the two-time All-Star gruesomely broke his right leg in two places, Bird told reporters that if doctors clear George to play, he should.

“I always say if the player is ready to play, he’s got to play,” Bird said Wednesday. “We’re not going to hold him back if he’s able to go out there and play. I think it’s important because when you’re out like that, you lose something. He’s going to get beat up, he’s going to get knocked around, he’s not going to look good, but I still think it’s important, if he’s able to play, he should be out there.”

Bird said doctors initially told him that it would take seven months for the leg bone to fully heal. If that timeline still holds, George could conceivably be ready for a return from the Aug. 1 injury sometime next month.

Being cleared may not be enough. Coach Frank Vogel acknowledged that getting into game shape and getting back in sync with his teammates could add another month or two to the rehab process, possibly delaying George’s return until next season — the expectation all along.

George is expected to talk with reporters on Thursday, his first public comments since late November. After Bird spoke, George issued a one-word Tweet: “March!”

He has steadily increased his activity during practices, though Vogel declined to say what he’s exactly been doing. He also has been traveling with his teammates on some road trips.

While those are signs of progress, they are not necessarily an indication of an imminent return or whether George is anywhere close to his pre-injury form.

“Just think you just got to be smart with it,” Vogel said. “Like Larry said, if the doctors say OK, then I think he should be ready to go.”

Indiana (17-32) certainly could use George on the court. Though the Pacers are still ranked in the top third of the league defensively, they have been inconsistent. Offensively, the Pacers’ struggles have been so severe that injuries have sapped Indiana of more scoring punch. Bird said he expected this team to come together by the weekend.

Yet they are just 4 1/2 games out of the final playoff spot in the East and still have playoff visions. George’s return could help.

“I want to win and that’s been my goal, to try to get into the playoffs,” Bird said. “Hopefully, down the road, we’ll see where Paul’s at. We still have no idea whether he’s coming back or not, but it seems like every week he’s getting better and better. If we do have an opportunity to get into the playoffs and he can get some games under his belt and get ready to go next year.”

George’s absence and the Pacers’ continual woes have prompted speculation that Bird could break up the core of the two-time Eastern Conference runner-ups before the Feb. 19 trade deadline. The two biggest trade chips Indiana has are veteran power forward David West and two-time All-Star center Roy Hibbert.

Bird acknowledged he will listen to offers and will try to help improve the team upon George’s return, whatever that is, but does not appear to be in a rush to make any moves.

Vogel isn’t pleading for changes, either.

“I like the group that we have and I would love to come back with West, Hibbert, George (Hill) at the one, fill in a couple of spots and make another run at it,” Vogel said. “Obviously, Roy and David have player options, but I’m pretty confident they’ll be back.”

Which leaves just one question: When will George be back?

“I have no clue whether he’s going to play or not,” Bird said. “But if he gets healthy and he says he can play and he wants to play, we’ll put him out there.”


**FENCING**

**ND prepares for conference championships**

By CHRISTINE MAYUGA  
Sports Writer

Just two weeks shy of the ACC championships, Notre Dame will host all the teams in the ACC at the DeCicco Duals on Saturday.

"This weekend will help us get ready for the conference championships, which is what we will be focusing on," Irish coach Gia Kvaratskhelia said. "Everything we are doing at this point is gearing up to qualify for the NCAA championships."

The ACC conference championships begin Feb. 21 in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, and the NCAA championships start March 19 in Columbus, Ohio. Currently, the Irish top the NCAA coaches poll and hold the No. 2 ranking on the men's side, demonstrating the respect the team has garnered throughout the country, Kvaratskhelia said.

Notre Dame has turned in several strong performances this season. Last weekend, the Irish squads faced seven ranked teams at the Northwestern Duals and ended with a perfect 13-0 record, the women's team going 7-0 and the men's team finishing undefeated as well at 6-0.

The Irish now boast a 20-2 record for the women's team and 13-6 on the men's side. With numerous team members away at international competitions, including sophomore foilist Kristian Archer and freshman standout sabreist Francesca Russo, Kvaratskhelia said he still expects his team to perform well.

"The absent players shouldn't affect our overall performance," Kvaratskhelia said. "Our team is very strong and has lots of depth."

The Irish are led in the DeCicco Duals by freshman sabreist Jonathan Fitzgerald and junior foilist Lee Kiefer, who were named the ACC Male and Female Fencers of the Week for last week. It is the third occasion and consecutive week on which Notre Dame has swept the awards.

Previous recipients include senior epeeist Ashley Severson and freshman sabreist Jonah Shainberg last month and Russo and sophomore foilist Hazem Khazbak in November.

Despite the abundance of individual accomplishments this season, the Irish are concentrating on moving forward as a whole, Kvaratskhelia said.

"We are focusing on the broad spectrum of the team, getting ready for the championship season," Kvaratskhelia said.

The Irish aim to come out on top once again at the DeCicco Duals at the Castellan Family Fencing Center this weekend.

Contact Christine Mayuga at cmayuga@nd.edu

---

**Irish gear up for home invite and ‘Meyo Mile’**

By ANDREW ROBINSON  
Sports Writer

After mixed results at the Razorback Invitational against the most competitive field they have faced thus far, the Irish will be tested once again this weekend when they host over 1,000 athletes for the Meyo Invitational.

The Irish struggled out of the gates last weekend at the meet hosted by the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, Arkansas, which featured a combined 15 top-25 teams on the men’s and women’s sides.

The men’s squad finished 11th out of 12 teams, while the women were able to snap seventh out of 12.

Irish coach Alan Turner said he remains optimistic and thinks the attitude on the team is positive.

"We were pretty bad that first day, and the second day, we finally woke up and responded, so we ended on a pretty good note," he said. "The kids left the meet feeling, ‘I can compete with anybody.’ Obviously, we still have a road to go … [but] I think what we did Saturday is going to project us to have a pretty good season."

The upcoming meet will feature a large field of athletes from dozens of schools across the country, as well as from outside organizations. The invitational is full of top athletes in nearly every event, including the well-known Meyo Invitational mile race.

The ‘Meyo Mile’ is one of the most competitive mile races in the nation for NCAA and professional runners, and this year’s race will feature 75 competitors in the women’s race and 69 in the men’s.

Headlining the field is 2014 Notre Dame graduate Jeremy Rae, representing the Speed River Track Club. Rae won the race all three years in which he competed for Notre Dame. In 2011, 2012 and 2014 – in 2013, he was out with a strained Achilles tendon – Rae ran sub-four-minute miles en route to his three victories, including a Notre Dame record 3:57.25 in 2014.

"[Jeremy] is in shape and ready to run, so we could easily see a sub-four-minute mile from him [again this year]," Turner said.

The event will also feature 2008 Olympian Taylor Milne, one of Rae’s professional teammates, as well as Notre Dame junior Michael Cleverenger, who Rae has said could break the four-minute barrier.

In the women’s mile, junior Molly Seidel will compete after finishing first in the mile at the Razorback Invitational.

Top athletes and All-Americans will compete in events across the board.

"The Meyo Mile gets the attention … [but] all the events are deep here at this meet," Turner said.

He said that freshman Jessica Harris, who has impressed early in the season, could challenge her own record of 2:06.91 in the 800 meters. After three collegiate meets, Harris holds three school records in the 1,000-meter, 800-meter and 600-meter runs.

She has contributed to a streak of Irish athletes breaking school records in each of their first four meets.

Turner also said that the women’s 4x400 team, one of the top units in the country, could contend for a school record if each runner takes about a second off her usual time.

“It’s going to be a very packed event and a loud atmosphere,” Turner said. “Our kids respond to that; they know it’s the biggest meet of the year.”

The Irish host the Meyo Invitational this weekend at Loftus Sports Center. The events begin Friday at 4 p.m. and continue Saturday starting at 10 a.m.

Contact Andrew Robinson at arobins6@nd.edu

---

**Irish junior epeeist Catherine Lee thrusts at Penn State sophomore Jessie Badanowich during last year’s DeCicco Duals at Castellan Family Fencing Center on Feb. 8. ND defeated the Nittany Lions, 14-13.**

**Irish junior Danielle Aragon leads freshman teammate Jessica Harris during a race Dec. 5 at the Blue & Gold Invitational at Loftus Sports Center. Harris has set three Notre Dame records in her last three meets.**

---

**Irish top sabreist Jonah Archer and freshman stand-out sabreist Francesca Russo, Kvaratskhelia said he still expects his team to perform well.**

---

**Irish junior Danielle Aragon leads freshman teammate Jessica Harris during a race Dec. 5 at the Blue & Gold Invitational at Loftus Sports Center. Harris has set three Notre Dame records in her last three meets.**
to a suspension. Sophomore center Vince Hinostroza has been a catalyst as well, dish- ing out 21 assists and total- ing 25 points on the year.

When Russo is on our power play, he likes to be a guy that’s a shooter, and [Hinostroza] likes to be the guy who has the puck,” Lucia said. “Once [Coach Jackson] separated those two, I felt like each guy kind of runs his own power play.”

For most of the season, the Irish had used Lucia, Hinostroza, Russo and two defensemen — junior Andy Ryan and freshman Jordan Gross — on their first power play unit. Despite their in- dividual production, they didn’t seem to be gelling.

“You know, early on in the year, there were so many games that if we would have got a few power play goals, we would have won,” junior center and team captain Steven Fogarty said.

Before playing Western Michigan on Jan. 10, Notre Dame had posted a 5.8 percent success rate on the power play. Now, says Fogarty, the team feels like they have one of the best power plays in college hockey.

But figuring out the power play has not neces- sarily translated to on-ice success for the Irish. Notre Dame is 2-4-1 over their last seven games, now strug- gling to generate offense when it is at even strength. In last Friday’s loss to New Hampshire, the Irish scored just two goals, both on the power play.

“[The power play is] maybe the one shining part of our game right now,” Jackson said.

Still, Jackson said he knew all it would take was a tweak or two for his team’s power play to jump from the bot- tom of hockey to one of the best recently.

“We have too much abil- ity to be where we were,” Jackson said.

The Irish travel to Orono, Maine, this weekend for a two-game set against Maine. The puck drops both nights at 7:05 p.m. at Alfond Arena.

Contact Brian Plamondon at bplamond@nd.edu

Irish sophomore center Vince Hinostroza shields the puck from a UConn defender during Notre Dame’s 3-3 tie Jan. 16.
Football

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

Irish sophomore guard Steve Vasturia runs up the court during Notre Dame’s 77-73 victory over Duke on Jan. 28 at Purcell Pavilion.

Never let up, Connaughton provided an early spark for the Irish, scoring 10 of the team’s first 16 points to put Notre Dame up 11 with 13:56 remaining in the first half.

From there, Notre Dame’s lead ballooned to 25 points as, the Irish held the Eagles (9-12, 1-8) without a field goal for over an eight-minute stretch, and the Eagles didn’t reach double-digits in the second half, as the Irish soon enough, Kelly said.

“Tarec Grace vertical jumped 28.5 [inches] yesterday, had a 4.46 short shuttle, so he’s really close to being back to where he was,” Kelly said.

Junior safety Nicky Baratti, who had a season-ending shoulder injury last fall, will also return to practicing.

“Nick Baratti is doing well; he’ll be cleared for spring,” Kelly said. “Probably no contact, but he’ll be cleared to go through everything in the spring, but we won’t let him do contact.”

Three members of Notre Dame’s 2014 starting defense are currently rehabbing injuries suffered late in the season and seem to be on their way back to the field, Kelly said.

“(Sophomore) safety Drew Tranquill is coming back from ACL, but he’s so far ahead right now,” Kelly said. “I think he had 315 pounds on his back yesterday full squat at two and a half months. That’s crazy, he’s so far ahead of schedule.

He’ll be doing some drill work in the spring. (Junior defensive lineman) Jarron [Jones] gets his boot off in the spring. (Senior linebacker) Joe Schmidt has had his boot off now for three or four weeks, and he’s starting to move through his rehab.”

Coaching staff

Kelly would not speak about his coaching staff, amidst rumors of some possible changes to the crew. However, Kelly assured the media he would be coming back.

“We’ve got nine coaches today,” Kelly said. “We’re going to talk recruiting today. Any changes that we have on the staff we will definitely get you up to date on, but I’m not going to get into it today talking about coaches, who’s coming, who’s staying, I’m still here.”

Blue and Gold Game

With Campus Crossroads construction well under way on Notre Dame Stadium, Kelly said the annual spring Blue and Gold Game is still up in the air.

“We’ve had some preliminary discussions about the spring training game, but we’re probably not ready to make a decision on it yet,” Kelly said. “We’re probably gonna have some form of spring game. I think the destination is going to be somewhere here on campus; we just don’t know where it is going to be right now. Obviously the stadium is off line. We want to keep it on campus, but our options are limited, and the format has yet to be decided.”

The “unfrozen five”

Kelly said cornerback KeiVarae Russell and defensive lineman Isahq Williams are both working on their academic in order to return to Notre Dame, and to his knowledge, they will be back next fall.

“KeiVarae is working on classes right now at the University of Washington, and he’s had conversations with the appropriate people to get those classes transferred back here and to meet the needs he has relative to transfer requirements and meeting eligibility,” Kelly said.

“There’s still some work to be done there, but I know he’s working toward getting that done, and our expectations are to have him back.”

Isahq has similar criteria. His bar is a little bit more complicated, but he knows what he needs to do as well. So we’re hoping that both of them can get it done.”

Senior Davarius Daniels talked about returning to Notre Dame, Kelly said, but due to some of the requirements needed to come back elected to enter the NFL draft.

“I think there were some complications with eligibility that we were going to have to work through, some high standards to be met,” Kelly said. “There were some academic eligibility issues that were going to be difficult for [Daniels] to meet.”

Contact Isaac Lorton at ilorton@nd.edu

Touchdowns On Sale Now

Let It Be "A Celebration of the Music of the Beatles" Thursday, Feb. 19

Disney Live! "Pirate & Princess Adventure" Friday, Feb. 27

Upcoming Events

Visit Morris Tickethand Out Books in Eddy Street Commons
ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ENSIGN, 14, 14, 8, 2 = $3.08

HIGHLY PUNLIKELY I CHRISTOPHER BRUCKER

DOMINO NUTS I ALEXANDRIA WELLMAN

THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community. Join the more than 13,000 readers who have found The Observer an indispensable link to the two campuses. Please complete the accompanying form and mail it today to receive The Observer in your home.

THE NEW YORK TIMES SYNDICATION SALES CORPORATION

© 2012 The Mepham Group. Distributed by Tribune Media Services. All rights reserved.

ANSWER TO PUZZLE

ANSWER TO PUZZLE

ANSWER TO PUZZLE

ANSWER TO PUZZLE

ANSWER TO PUZZLE

SUDOKU THE MEPHAM GROUP

LEVEL 2 [ ]

23 29 35 41 47 53 69

Sudoku by John F. Conrad

JUMBLE I DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

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

Who knows the answer?

The Math Class on the Space Station Featured This!

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

SOLUTION TO WEDNESDAY'S PUZZLE

20 Adriatic port

37 What's that in Italy?

64 Radial choices

48 Time-out, of sorts

15 Property heiress, at law

18 Riviera resort

60 Beauty shop stock

8 Dangerous locale

17 Remote-sensing robot

52 One way to have a drive

19 "Once in Love With..."

50 Friendly if a bit listless race in Africa

28 Year

53 Union members

14 Spectacular union leaders

31 Produce an answer for, e.g.

8 Willowy

27 Bring by cart, say

55 Quiet

54 Scrap

29 Second

52 Ottoman Empire

38 New Jersey

51 Scrap

30 Three

53 Scrap

28 Science fiction heroine

39 Scrap

40 Union members

41 More dear

42 Scrap

43 Scrap

44 Scrap

45 Scrap

46 Apr. addressee

47 Jobs creation?

48 Time-out, of sorts

49 Friendly if a bit listless race in Africa

50 Friendly if a bit listless race in Africa

51 Scrap

52 Ottoman Empire

53 Union members

54 Scrap

55 Quiet

56 Scrap

57 Scrap

58 Scrap

59 Scrap

60 Beauty shop stock

61 Scrap

62 Library receipt info

63 And other

64 Radial choices

65 1963 Johnny Cash hit

66 Laughable Lyrics” writer

67 #1 album, for four weeks, before “Woodstock”

68 Willowy

69 "The wolf ___ the shepherd"

70 Vocational youth

71 Poetic contraction

72 Not-so-great golfer holding

73 Proverbs

74 Spectacular display

75 "__ Beco" (1982)

76 Garden-variety

77 Bring by cart, say

78 2nd Amendment subject

79 Three

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

81 "The Math Class on the Space Station Featured This!"

82 "Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon."

83 "Sudoku by John F. Conrad"

84 "The Observer"

85 "Enclosed is $130 for one academic year"

86 "Enclosed is $75 for one semester"

87 "Make checks payable to and mail to:

THE OBSERVER

PO Box 779
Notre Dame, IN 46556

Enclosed is $130 for one academic year"

Enclosed is $75 for one semester

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s Community. Join the more than 13,000 readers who have found The Observer an indispensable link to the two campuses. Please complete the accompanying form and mail it today to receive The Observer in your home.

THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s Community. Join the more than 13,000 readers who have found The Observer an indispensable link to the two campuses. Please complete the accompanying form and mail it today to receive The Observer in your home.

THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s Community. Join the more than 13,000 readers who have found The Observer an indispensable link to the two campuses. Please complete the accompanying form and mail it today to receive The Observer in your home.

THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s Community. Join the more than 13,000 readers who have found The Observer an indispensable link to the two campuses. Please complete the accompanying form and mail it today to receive The Observer in your home.

ANSWER TO PUZZLE

ANSWER TO PUZZLE

ANSWER TO PUZZLE

ANSWER TO PUZZLE

ANSWER TO PUZZLE

SUDOKU THE MEPHAM GROUP

LEVEL 2 [ ]

23 29 35 41 47 53 69

Sudoku by John F. Conrad

JUMBLE I DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

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

Who knows the answer?

The Math Class on the Space Station Featured This!

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

SOLUTION TO WEDNESDAY’S PUZZLE

20 Adriatic port

37 What’s that in Italy?

64 Radial choices

48 Time-out, of sorts

15 Property heiress, at law

18 Riviera resort

60 Beauty shop stock

8 Dangerous locale

17 Remote-sensing robot

52 One way to have a drive

19 "Once in Love With..."

50 Friendly if a bit listless race in Africa

28 Year

53 Union members

14 Spectacular union leaders

31 Produce an answer for, e.g.

8 Willowy

27 Bring by cart, say

55 Quiet

54 Scrap

29 Second

52 Ottoman Empire

38 New Jersey

51 Scrap

30 Three

53 Scrap

28 Science fiction heroine

39 Scrap

40 Union members

41 More dear

42 Scrap

43 Scrap

44 Scrap

45 Scrap

46 Apr. addressee

47 Jobs creation?

48 Time-out, of sorts

49 Friendly if a bit listless race in Africa

50 Friendly if a bit listless race in Africa

51 Scrap

52 Ottoman Empire

53 Union members

54 Scrap

55 Quiet

56 Scrap

57 Scrap

58 Scrap

59 Scrap

60 Beauty shop stock

61 Scrap

62 Library receipt info

63 And other

64 Radial choices

65 1963 Johnny Cash hit

66 Laughable Lyrics” writer

67 #1 album, for four weeks, before “Woodstock”

68 Willowy

69 "The wolf ___ the shepherd"

70 Vocational youth

71 Poetic contraction

72 Not-so-great golfer holding

73 Proverbs

74 Spectacular display

75 "__ Beco" (1982)

76 Garden-variety

77 Bring by cart, say

78 2nd Amendment subject

79 Three

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

81 "The Math Class on the Space Station Featured This!"

82 "Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon."

83 "Sudoku by John F. Conrad"

84 "The Observer"

85 "Enclosed is $130 for one academic year"

86 "Enclosed is $75 for one semester"

87 "Make checks payable to and mail to:

THE OBSERVER

PO Box 779
Notre Dame, IN 46556

Enclosed is $130 for one academic year"

Enclosed is $75 for one semester"

Name

Address

City

State

Zip
FOOTBALL

Kelly talks more than just recruits

By ISAAC LORTON
Assistant Managing Editor

Irish coach Brian Kelly spoke a lot about recruits Wednesday during National Signing Day, but he also talked about several other crucial items, including returning players, injuries, possible coaching changes and three of the “frozen five” players.

Although the Irish have energetically recruited top prospects, Kelly said he and athletic director Jack Swarbrick were also actively working to ensure a few top talents returned. Kelly said it was critical to keep two juniors, defensive lineman Sheldon Day and left tackle Ronnie Stanley, from entering the NFL draft.

“We had great success with keeping a number of our players over the years, going back to Michael Floyd, Tyler Eifert, Manti Te’o and Zack Martin,” Kelly said. “But I felt this year after a couple players leaving early, I wasn’t going to leave this up to a phone call. So I was going to go and visit both of them. … We really wanted to be aggressive showing them and their families why it was in their best interest to come back to Notre Dame.”

“If they weren’t good locker room guys, I wouldn’t have gotten on the plane,” Kelly said. “But they are good guys that needed to get their degree from Notre Dame, and that’s why we did it.”

Injuries

A number of the Irish are recovering from injury-plagued seasons and are preparing to return to action. Senior offensive lineman Conor Hanratty, however, will not return to play, Kelly said. Hanratty decided to end his football career due to the multiple concussions he has received during his football career.

“Connor Hanratty will not participate,” Kelly said. “He has made the decision that see FOOTBALL PAGE 14

ND WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

ND stays wary of Cavaliers

By GREG HADLEY
Associate Sports Editor

Irish coach Muffet McGraw hasn’t forgotten the last time No. 4 Notre Dame played Virginia. She knows better than to take tonight’s home matchup against the Cavaliers lightly.

In 2014, the Irish traveled to Charlottesville, Virginia, and barely escaped with their perfect record intact, scraping by with a 79-72 win, their second-narrowest victory of the year.

In that game, three of Notre Dame’s top four scorers were seniors. Now, with a remodeled, younger lineup, McGraw no longer faces the pressure of an undefeated season, but the Irish coach still plans on using last season’s game to guide her approach for Thursday.

“That was our closest game last year,” McGraw said. “I mean, we won by single digits … so that’s a team that’s really really good.”

Like the Irish (21-2, 9-2 ACC), the Cavaliers (17-6, 5-4 ACC) lost three starters to graduation at the end of last year, but they returned two of their top scorers in senior center Sarah Imovbioh and

MEN’S BASKETBALL

Irish hold off rival BC

By BRIAN HARTNETT
Managing Editor

For much of the first half Wednesday, it seemed that No. 10 Notre Dame had put its 76-72 upset loss to Pittsburgh on Saturday far behind it.

For parts of the second half, however, it seemed that a repeat of last weekend’s loss wasn’t out of the question.

Nonetheless, the Irish (21-3, 9-2 ACC) held on, riding a hot start and strong first-half defensive effort in order to survive a lackluster second stanza and defeat Boston College, 71-63, at Purcell Pavilion.

“I’m thrilled how we bounced back [from the Pittsburgh game],” Irish coach Mike Brey said. “We talked about that for two days, bouncing back. … I thought the first 10 minutes, what we were doing offensively was off the charts, and we combined it with really solid defense to give us kind of a big cushion that we eventually needed.”

Notre Dame led the game wire-to-wire, as senior guard Pat Connaughton hit a jumper seconds after the opening tip and

HOCKEY

Line changes fuel power play revival

By BRIAN PLAMONDON
Sports Writer

The conversion rate of hockey power plays hovers around 17-18 percent, with the top-10 teams in Division I all above 22 percent this year.

After a success rate of 18.2 percent last year, Notre Dame’s 12.3 percent (14-of-114) this season might seem like a reason the Irish are having an off year at 11-14-3, 6-5-3 in Hockey East.

That conversion rate, however, is misleading, as the Irish are having a renaissance of sorts on the power play in the second half of the season. Notre Dame is finally putting the pieces together, posting a 31 percent (9-of-29) conversion rate over its last seven games, including a power play goal in every game since Jan. 10. Over the last three games, Notre Dame has gone 5-for-10 (50 percent).

“As crazy as that is, it’s just a matter of switching the point guys from what we had — and chemistry,” Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. One of those moves involved shifting leading scorer senior forward Robbie Russo to the second unit.

Junior left winger Mario Lucia also said the success of the power play has everything to do with personnel.

“I think we just got the right pieces together,” Lucia said. “The power play is all about fitting the puzzle together with the right players and finding the right chemistry and finding the right setup that works. It took us a little while to finally find that, but once we did, now it’s starting to click.”

For Notre Dame, getting the units right meant separating arguably its two best players. Russo has tallied 11 goals and 3 assists this season, despite missing this past weekend’s series against New Hampshire due