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THE OBSERVER

SMC junior donates stem cells

By MEGAN UEKERT
News Writer

This year, junior and co-president of Saint Mary’s College Dance Marathon Allison Lukomska went a step beyond her group’s mission to raise awareness and money for the Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis — she donated her own stem cells in the form of blood over the summer.

Dance Marathon advocates for Be the Match, an organization that offers the largest and most diverse marrow registry through 600 centers worldwide. According to the Riley Children’s Foundation website, Lukomska received an email from Be the Match asking her to donate her stem cells to help save the life of a 60-year-old female with Myelodysplastic Syndromes (MDS) in July. MDS is a bone marrow disorder in which the bone marrow does not

University plans tuition increase of 3.7 percent

Observer Staff Report

Notre Dame announced in a press release Tuesday that undergraduate tuition and fees for the 2015 - 2016 academic year will increase by 3.7 percent, the lowest percent increase at Notre Dame in 35 years.

The increase will bring tuition and fees to $47,929, with average student room and board rates of $13,846 bringing total student charges for the academic year to $61,775, the press release said.

University President Fr. John Jenkins thanked parents and guardians of students for choosing the University to provide their students with the best possible educational experience in a letter recently mailed.

“We know that paying for college involves significant sacrifice for families, and we are grateful to you for making a Notre Dame education possible for your student,” he said.

In the letter, Jenkins cited the University’s 90 percent four-year graduation rate and 97 percent placement rate of graduates, both among the highest in the nation, as ways to measure the value of a Notre Dame education.

Investigation of Kim’s death continues

By ANN MARIE JAKUBOWSKI and MARGARET HYNDS
Editors-in-Chief and Associate News Editors

Investigation into the death of sophomore student Daniel Kim is ongoing, and authorities are not yet able to provide information on the cause of his death.

Roseland Police Chief Aaron Catanzarite said Tuesday a preliminary report from St. Joseph County coroner Dr. Mike O’Connell ruled out homicide and suicide, but cause of death cannot be determined until there are results from a toxicology report, Catanzarite said. Results could take several weeks to come back.

Catanzarite said the Clay Township Fire Department responded first to a call from Kim’s apartment in Roseland on Friday, and he was called in to assist them shortly after, around 12 p.m.

Catanzarite and O’Connell ruled out foul play Friday afternoon. “Conferring with [O’Connell] at that time, it was apparent to us at the initial investigation that there was no foul play and no suicide,” Catanzarite said.

A South Bend Tribune report this weekend stated that Notre Dame Security Police (NDSP) had taken over the investigation into Kim’s death, but NDSP director Phil Johnson described that information as “inaccurate” in an email.

“The Roseland Police and the St. Joseph County coroner’s office handled the case,” Johnson said.

Kim, a business major from Upper Saddle River, New Jersey, was formerly a member of the Notre Dame fencing team. A memorial service will be held Saturday at 3 p.m. in the Main Building.

‘Day of Man’ returns to campus

Siegfried Hall tradition fundraises for South Bend Center for the Homeless

By KAYLA MULLEN
Associate News Editor

Today, the Siegfried Ramblers will brave the South Bend cold in only t-shirts, shorts and flip-flops in solidarity with the homeless as they celebrate “Day of Man.”

This annual fundraiser raises money for the South Bend Center for the Homeless, Day of Man co-organizer Thomas Ridella said.

Residents collect money from students, staff and faculty on the day itself but also encourage donations from family and friends who wish to support the cause as well, Ridella said.

“In previous years we have raised between $6,000 to $8,000, and last year we hit a record $10,000. We are aiming for $12,000 this year, and we’re hoping the addition of an online donation page will help with our efforts,” co-organizer Alexander Campbell said. “The Center’s need grows each year, and we are hoping our support can grow to meet that demand.”

The fundraiser began nine years ago, Ridella said. “A sophomore in Siegfried was walking home from off

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Last year’s “Day of Man” participants, above, raised a record $9,377.77 for the South Bend Center for the Homeless.

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QUESTION OF THE DAY:
What is your favorite app?

Bryan Kennedy  
Freshman  
Knott Hall  
“Twitter.”

Colleen O’Mahoney  
Sophomore  
Badin Hall  
“Yik Yak.”

Kyle Casey  
Freshman  
Pungborn Hall  
“Snapchat.”

Michael McRoskey  
Freshman  
Dillon Hall  
“Dark Sky.”

Richard Kessler  
Senior  
Off-campus  
“Google Maps.”

Spicer Emge  
Freshman  
Dillon Hall  
“Madden Mobile.”

Two members of the men’s boxing team practice in the boxing gym, colloquially known as “The Pit.” The 85th annual Bengal Bouts will begin with a preliminary round Sunday from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Joyce Center.

THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

Wednesday

Reading: Lynne Tillman  
Eck Visitors Center  
7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
Novelist and cultural critic.

“Macbeth”  
Washington Hall  
7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.  
Performance by Actors from the London Stage.

Thursday

Staff Mass  
Log Chapel  
10 a.m. - 11 a.m.  
Rev. Jim Bracke will preside.

Mindful Meditation  
Coleman-Morse Center  
5:15 p.m. - 6:25 p.m.  
Open to students, faculty and staff.

Friday

Graduate Student Mass  
Baslica of the Sacred Heart  
5:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.  
Worship Service.

Men’s Hockey  
Compton Family Ice Arena  
7:35 p.m. - 10 p.m.  
The Irish take on Providence.

Saturday

Men’s Lacrosse  
Arlotta Stadium  
12 p.m. - 2 p.m.  
The Irish take on Georgetown.

Vigil Mass  
Baslica of the Sacred Heart  
5 p.m. - 6 p.m.  
Worship Service.

Men’s Boxing  
Joyce Center  
3 p.m. - 6 p.m.  
85th Annual Bengal Bouts Preliminaries.

Have a question you want answered?  
Email photo@ndsmcobserver.com

Want your event included here?  
Email news@ndsmcobserver.com
Jeopardy champ talks sexism, gaming

By JEREMY CAPPELLO-LEE
News Writer

Arthur Chu, 12-day Jeopardy champion and writer for The Daily Beast spoke Tuesday evening on the unhealthy views of women found in "nerd culture," in a lecture titled "Your Princess is in Another Castle," the second in the Men in Masculinity series sponsored by the Gender Relations Center.

Chu said the increasing portrayal of "nerds" in films and television as awkward but benign characters belies the fact that there are implicit misogynistic attitudes promoted by groups within the nerd subculture.

"One of the threads is the concept of sexual market value," Chu said. "It's the idea that sex is a transaction between man and woman, much like when you're interacting with a vendor."

Chu said this transactional view is not only found within certain online communities of men who blame their frustrations on women but is also present in popular entertainment.

"It sounds crazy. But it's not that weird. It's what you see in the battle of the sexes in sitcoms, where the husband and the wife hate each other," Chu said. "It's a trope so obvious that even the simplest video games for children use it, that you have to save the princess."

Chu said the frequent use of this trope in entertainment reflects a deeper societal tendency to view women as a prize.

"It's an old narrative; it's a very powerful narrative of how things should be between men and women," he said. "It's built into every story that has the beginning end with the promise of the daughter's hand in marriage for accomplishing this quest."

Chu said this view of relationships not only harms women but also dissolves the value of relationships.

"At the end of the day a trans- actional view of relationships is a bad relationship," he said. "The very nature of saying you deserve to be with someone for accomplishing some task means that the person that you want to be with is interchangeable with anyone."

In some cases, this "toxic" perception of relating with women leads to extreme violence, seen in the Virginia Tech and University of California Santa Barbara shootings, Chu said.

"It's often the least successful men — the guys who we think of as nerdy, rejected and pitiful — who are most resentful in this context and therefore the most dangerous," Chu said.

Chu said the danger in dismissing "loner-wolf" spree killings as anomalies undermines the awareness that these acts are one part of a much larger problem by which women are negatively affected.

"The problematic behavior lies on a spectrum," Chu said. "But the behavior that we're talking about is built into the assumptions of our society. The spectrum of antagonistic behavior based on a transactional view of sex and marriage is the idea that women owe you something."

"No matter how much an individual woman might look for a man who doesn't buy into this narrative, she's going to be exposed to men who are on the toxic side of the spectrum."

Chu said countering this transactional view of women and relationships first requires a willingness to address the issue head on.

"Just talking about it is a big deal," Chu said. "When it's the in the background, when it's the assumed state of how things are, if you don't put a name to it, it's very hard to oppose it."

"It is a big deal to recognize when these tropes come up, and recognize that they are tropes, that they are a specific way of looking at things that doesn't have to be true."

Contact Jeremy Cappello-Lee at jcappell@nd.edu

Series examines gender, theology

By CECILIA GREUBEL
News Writer

Saint Mary's Theology on Fire series examined gender's role in Christian theology with a discussion on "American Women and the Permanent Diaconate" facilitated by Katherine Harmon, a theology professor from Marian University.

Harmon began the conversation by recalling a project given to her by a former professor at Notre Dame called "On the Archives." She said the assignment was fairly open-ended and meant to delve into a particular subject of the student's choice.

Harmon said she researched the word "women" and soon came across "women diaconates."

Harmon asked the event's attendees if they could recall the role of a deacon. The audience said deacon's responsibilities include teaching, reading and assisting with baptism.

"The role of a deacon has to do with service," Harmon said. Harmon listed statistics pertaining to the average American deacon, including level of education, age and marital status.

"One-hundred percent of contemporary deacons are male," she said.

Harmon said the historically, this hegemony was not always the case. Harmon said various sources, like unclear passages from books in the Bible like Timothy and Romans, as well as letters from Church authority recognized the role of deaconesses.

Given this public information, Harmon said she pondered why the idea of a woman in the role of deacon seem so foreign to Catholics today.

"The issue, it seems, is dealing with the word ordination," Harmon said. "If you took the present definition and tried to apply it to the past, these women were not ordained."

Harmon said although she was unaware of a specific modern-day movement to return women to the role of deaconess, she was personally motivated to share this information because it is the unknown truth.

"To me, it is crucial to see that women were there and to see where they were. It is important to recognize the presence of women in history, especially in the liturgy," Harmon said.

Contact Cecilia Greubel at cgreubel01@stmarys.edu
Beyond Conflict chair explains mission

By ALEX CAO
News Voter

Tim Phillips, chair and co-founder of the global initiative Beyond Conflict, spoke about his experience working with leaders around the world for over two decades in the Eck Hall of Law Tuesday evening.

Beyond Conflict began in 1992 to facilitate discourse between societies divided in conflict, focusing on the human element of conflict and the experiences of other leaders transitioning to peace. Phillips said his network includes 75 initiatives in more than 22 countries in regions like the Middle East, Latin America, the Balkans, Eastern Europe, South Africa and Northern Ireland.

“What we do is find the relevant experiences around the world to bring and share with leaders at all levels,” Phillips said. “We describe leaders as not just political elites. Civil society, grassroots, anybody that exercises leadership in a society—we engage them.”

“We assist leaders in divided societies struggling with conflict, reconciliation and societal change by facilitating direct contact with leaders who have successfully addressed similar challenges in other settings.”

Phillips said Beyond Conflict’s method of resolving conflict in those societies is grounded in three rather basic, but perhaps under-valued principles: people can learn from the experiences of others; people can work together as a family and be champions, despite national, cultural or religious differences, his global network.

“They don’t respond to the legacy of repression, violence and trauma with their national identity card. They respond as humans.”

Tim Phillips
chair, co-founder
Beyond Conflict

On campus with only shorts and a t-shirt and actually noticed just how cold it can get in South Bend,” he said. “This realization turned into an event that year to help one of the greatest organizations in our community that helps the homeless all year, and particularly in these cold winter months.”

Recently, more than 200 of the Siegfried residents participate, Campbell said. “We take pride in the strength of our community and the willingness of our residents to bear a burden so that others’ may be lessened,” he said. “Siegfried gets stereotyped as an athletic, masculine dorm. On Day of Man, we live up to that ideal.”

The event also proves why Siegfried is called the “Hall of Champions,” junior James Pomeroy said.

“[A] champion ... means ‘a person who fights or argues for a cause or on behalf of someone else.’ Siegfried’s Day of Man is a chance for us all to be champions in another, much more important, sense,” Pomeroy said. “We, the entire campus, get the opportunity to come together as a family and be champions for a cause that desperately needs help.”

... What I am trying to say is that I participate because, at the end of the day, I know that whatever sickness I get will fade (along with the numbness that comes from walking to DeBartolo Hall), but the people who are struggling with homelessness don’t know when or if they will be able to bounce back and that is not fair.”

Day of Man allows the participants to give back to the community while also raising awareness of the difficulties the homeless face daily, junior Brian Davis said.

“It helps put a little bit into perspective what the homeless have to deal with every day, and if, in the process, we are able to raise a lot of money for them... Well then, that’s just something special that gets everyone interested,” Davis said.

Sophomore Eric Salter said the camaraderie of Day of Man makes it an experience not to be missed.

“I would not mistake walking to class in freezing temperatures in summer wear as enjoyable, but, when doing so with 200 of your best friends and neighbors, it becomes an act of unity,” Salter said. “Close sense of community is one the greatest aspects of Notre Dame life, and this event is a quintessential example of it.”

The annual event provides a way to bond with fellow Ramblers as well as helping a great cause, junior Jack Szigety said.

“Every time you walk by another Rambler in a bright t-shirt and shorts, you can’t help but feel a bond, even if you’ve never spoken,” Szigety said. “The real beauty of the day is that it does all this while supporting the incredible cause of helping the homeless during the harsh winter months in South Bend.”

Temperatures are predicted to be just above freezing Wednesday, with a chance of snow, but when asked how the event’s participants will deal with the cold, the organizers simply said, “What cold?”

To donate to Day of Man, go to studentshop.nd.edu, select “Residence Halls” and select “Siegfried Hall.” Checks payable to South Bend Center for the Homeless, with “Day of Man” as the memo, can be delivered to Fr. John Conley in 100 Siegfried Hall or directly to the center: Center for the Homeless, 713 S. Michigan St., South Bend, IN 46601.

Contact Kayla Mullen at kmullen2@nd.edu

Day of Man CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Charter Bus Service
Serving the Notre Dame/ St. Mary’s community to anywhere in the US or Canada

800.348.7487
www.cardinalbuses.com

Tuition CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Dame education. “But perhaps the truest measure of the value and impact of a Notre Dame education can be seen in the lives of our graduates,” Jenkins said. “In my travels across this great nation and in other parts of the world, it is a source of joy to encounter Notre Dame alumni making a difference in every imaginable field of endeavor. As women and men of faith committed to turning their gifts to the service of others, they give generously of themselves to their families, communities and the Church.”

“It is humbling and gratifying how often our graduates credit the education they received at Notre Dame and the people they came to know here with shaping them in profound and important ways for a lifetime. It is this sense of gratitude and connection that accounts for what is perhaps the most active, loyal and passionate alumni network in the world.”

“Thank you so grateful to you for the giving us the opportunity to learn and live with them.”
Jon Stewart announces retirement after 16 years

Associated Press

Jon Stewart, who turned his biting and free-wheeling humor into an unlikely source of news and analysis for viewers of “The Daily Show,” will leave as host this year, Comedy Central said Tuesday.

His departure was announced by Comedy Central President Michele Gamelless after Stewart, host of the show since 1999, broke the news to the audience at Tuesday’s taping in New York. “Through his unique voice and vision, ‘The Daily Show’ has become a cultural touchstone for millions of fans and an unparalleled platform for political comedy that will endure for years to come,” Gamelless said in a statement.

She called Stewart, 52, a “comic genius.” He will remain as host until later this year, she said, but did not specify his exit date or what led to his decision.

He influence is seen in the work of Stephen Colbert, John Oliver and Larry Wilmore, who went on to earn shows of their own. Other “Daily Show” alumni include Steve Carell, Ed Helms, Josh Gadd and new “Saturday Night Live” anchor Michael Che.

Reaction was swift from Stewart’s admirers and, in some cases, likely past targets.

“Just had the honor of being the great Jon Stewart’s guest (on ‘The Daily Show’). I’ve been an unabashedly big fan since he announced he’s leaving. Emotional night,” David Axelrod, former adviser to President Barack Obama, posted on Twitter.

Stewart’s departure represents a second big blow for Comedy Central: Another star, Stephen Colbert, left “The Colbert Report” last year to take over from CBS late-night host David Letterman when he retires in May.

Larry Wilmore and the new “The Nightly Show” replaced “The Colbert Report.”

The Stewart and Colbert shows created templates for a comedic form that offered laughs along with trenchant political and social satire. Actors and politicians were as common as Hollywood celebrities on the self-described “fake news” programs.

Stewart took a several months-long hiatus in 2013 to direct “Rosewater,” a well-reviewed film about an Iranian-born journalist who was imprisoned for 118 days in Tehran and accused of being a spy. The Comedy Central statement did not indicate what his plans were after leaving.

Last November, in an interview with The Associated Press about “Rosewater,” Stewart was asked about his future with the Comedy Central show. He replied that the format he works in doesn’t matter.

“It’s a journey. It’s a conversation,” he said. “One thing I won’t do is write music or sing.”

Mindy Kaling blamed the hire of film director.

“I knew when Jon Stewart left to direct that movie he was gonna try something like this,” Kaling posted on Twitter.

When he returned from his filmmaking break, Stewart played a tape of President Barack Obama urging military action against Syria because of last month’s poison gas attack. The president’s plans were after leaving.

failed to mention the same Middle East re-

Stewart, said. “It’s like I never left.”

In July, Stewart and Colbert drew a crowd to the Washington Mall for their Rally to Restore Sanity and/or Fear. They tack-

erved by political gridlock in the nation’s capital and the political talk show culture that encouraged it.

Stewart was credited with effectively killing one cable program — CNN’s “Crossfire” — with his withering criticism of its partisan squabbling hit a nerve and CNN soon cancelled it.

He poked fun at politicians but spent even more time on the media establishment covering them. The most recent example was Monday night, when he tatt-

uted NBC’s Brian Williams for being caught exaggerating about the danger he faced cov-

ing the Iraq War.

On Tuesday, NBC announced that Williams was being sus-

“Nightly News” an-

— with his withering criticism of its partisan squabbling hit a nerve and CNN soon cancelled it.

16 years

bounced as “Nightly News” an-

— with his withering criticism of its partisan squabbling hit a nerve and CNN soon cancelled it.

16 years

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— with his withering criticism of its partisan squabbling hit a nerve and CNN soon cancelled it.
I’m an Indiana kid. It’s the only state I consciously remember living in and since I started at Notre Dame, it’s been something of which I’ve felt proud. Above all else, it’s probably the nature of Notre Dame’s student population that makes me feel that extra pride in my home state — after all, there aren’t too many Hoosiers here. And in an odd way, I like that. Be it knowing and accepting our state’s super weird liquor laws or just understanding how beautiful Indiana sunsets can be. I feel like there’s a part of me that wouldn’t want to be anywhere else.

I’m a Hoosier and more often than not, I try to make it known. But until I got here, I didn’t think of myself as a Hoosier. I was born in Youngstown, Ohio, not Indianapolis. My parents and I moved when I was 17 months old, but that doesn’t mean that everything about us changed.

Rather than adopting the hometown Indiana teams, I stuck with my dad’s allegiance to the Chicago Cubs and sports fan. And since just about our entire family still lives in Ohio, seemingly every Memorial Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas, we got in the car and made the drive back.

It’s surely a big part of the reason why growing up, I considered Ohio “home.” It’s where I went to school and my family was, where my favorite pizza places were and where I spent many Christmas Eves anxiously awaiting what Santa was going to bring me overnight.

Looking back on it, though, I think I’ve figured something out. I looked at what made me different rather than what made me the same. Instead of looking at myself as a Hoosier growing up, I focused on my Ohio roots and considered myself a Buckeye. It was something that I could take pride in, something that made me unique.

And then fast forward to the first day I set foot on this campus as a student. Instead of just accepting that we were all students here, I started thinking of myself as a Hoosier. What once made me like everyone else had suddenly made me unique.

But does it really matter? Sure, we come from all over and our origins and identities shape who we are, but doesn’t it matter more who we are, rather than where we come from?

So maybe next time you’re meeting someone new, try focusing on what you share, rather than establishing something you don’t have in common. Because, I mean, they’re probably from Chicago anyways.

Contact Alex Carson at acarson1@nd.edu

The views expressed in this Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Reaction and revolution in the Middle East

Billy McMahon
Blue Collar Blues

Kayla Mueller, an American aid worker taken hostage by the Islamic State, was confirmed dead yesterday. It is unclear whether she was killed in Jordan’s airstrikes on the Islamic State last week or if she had died prior to that. Those Jordan airstrikes occurred following the execution of a Jordanian pilot by Islamic State militants. Frequently abbreviated ISIS for one of its previous names — the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria — the Islamic State has torn a bloody swath across Syria, Iraq and Kurdistan. The United Nations and a number of international organizations have decreed ISIS for its strict religious laws, repression of women, war crimes, slaughter of ethnic and religious minorities and execution of foreign aid workers and journalists. There is a broad international consensus that the Islamic State must be opposed and destroyed. To do that, we must understand how movements like this come to be.

When people feel disadvantaged by certain social and economic structures, they tend to act against those systems. There are two broad impulses that manifest themselves in extreme cases — the revolutionary/progressive impulse and the reactionary/regressive impulse. It is generally accepted that the truth of their claims, these two camps are respectively characterized by either endeavoring to move forward to a new social structure thought to be better or endeavoring to move back to an old social structure thought to be better. Reacting to feelings of alienation produced by global inequality and to the perceived humiliation of the Arab world at the hands of imperialist and neoliberal forces, thousands of disaffected young men in the region have turned to religious fundamentalism and the real and imagined glories of past empires.

This reactionary impulse is most familiar to the Western world in the examples of European fascism. European fascism sought to “fix” collapsing capitalism by incorporating elements of classist conservatism into a national and corporatist social structure, class collaboration, traditional family values and religious conservatism. A militaristic state presided over the glorification of the nation, giving the ideology a stronger foothold in nations that had suffered real and perceived humiliations. Class divisions and inequality persisted, and private ownership of production was retained in much of the economy, but all was subject to the “nation” and fascism saw itself as a “third way” distinct from capitalism and socialism. Born out of dissatisfaction with the inequality and exploitation of European capitalism, fascism committed grave crimes on the continent. The first major war against fascism was fought by Spanish republicans and anarchists that opposed the military coup led by General Francisco Franco. Backed by Adolf Hitler’s Germany, Benito Mussolini’s Italy, the Catholic Church and major American businesses, Franco eventually prevailed, bloodied but not beaten — a long destructive siege that marked the turning point against fascism years later — the Battle of Stalingrad.

Today, those doing the fiercest fighting against the reactionary Islamic State are the stateless Kurds. In Rojava — Syria Kurdistan — the Siege of Kobani was recently won by Kurdish forces following the deaths of thousands and the displacement of hundreds of thousands. The Kurdistan Workers’ Party (PKK), based out of Turkey, and its Syrian affiliates, the Democratic Union Party (PYD) and the People’s Protection Units (YPG), have been most intimately involved in Kurdish resistance around the city of Kobani.

Formerly a Marxist-Leninist party, the PKK was until recently best known for its conflict with the Turkish government. Following an ideological shift, the PKK and its affiliates now adhere to a quasi-anarchist, libertarian socialist program termed “democratic confederalism” and focused on community autonomy and a collective, mutual aid economy. 35 percent of YPG soldiers are women, who equal within their secular militias. Not only are the Kurds fighting the Islamic State physically, they are also seeking to reorganize society to eliminate the problems that led to religious fundamentalism and social reaction in the first place.

Last month, a conference was held in London on how to best counter ISIS. 21 countries were invited, but the Kurds were ignored. While some of these countries, including the United States, have aided Kurds through airstrikes, leaving Kurdish groups out of the conference betrayed the trust of the stateless people. The leftist revolution that has taken hold in Rojava threatens surrounding countries that repress Kurds (Turkey), women (Saudi Arabia) and workers (all of them), so these countries want to leave the Kurds behind. Kurdish groups are leading the fight against the Islamic State, fighting reaction with progress — the only way victory can be permanent. If the international community ignores this, these groups threaten to both the operation and create more reactionaries in the process. Kobani could be the Middle East’s Stalingrad, marking the turning point of the tide and the rolling back of murderous reaction, or it could just be another destroyed city.

Billy McMahon is a senior studying Latin American history and is active in the labor movement. He welcomes all comments at wmcnahon@nd.edu. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Making a case for theology

It would be a great shame if Notre Dame were to drop its theology requirement.

Theology should be a requirement for students because education is about much more than getting the particular skills a student needs for his or her career path. All students are required to take math and science classes, not because these courses will be advantageous for their careers (God knows most of us do not remember Taylor Series in calculus or electron orbits from chemistry, nor do most of us use them), but because they help the student to have a more developed understanding of the world. Most departments also require foreign language skills for the same reason. It is the same with theology — of the seven billion people in the world, nearly two billion are Christian (and nearly half of that number are Catholic), over one billion are Muslim and hundreds of millions are Hindu or Buddhist (to say nothing of the millions of people of smaller-sized religious traditions). With religion still playing such a prominent role in our global world (and the celebrity of our current Pope is good evidence of that), the University would be doing a disservice to its students by graduating them without any knowledge of their own faith or the faith of others.

I understand many parents believe that theology is a waste of time and unimportant in their children’s education. For that matter, so is football (and God knows Notre Dame students spend far more time watching/tailgating/celebrating football games than they do studying theology), but the Notre Dame experience would not be the same without it. College is not a wholly utilitarian experience — the point is not to get only what is needed and no further. This is, essentially, the difference between being an active student at Notre Dame versus participating in a correspondence degree program. Theology, like football, dorm life, freshman orientation, trips to the Grotto and midnight drummers’ circle, is not essential for career training, but it is a unique and important element of the Notre Dame experience.

A good theology course (or two) also helps students to better understand their own beliefs (theistic or non). Whether a student is Catholic, atheist, Lutheran, Buddhist, agnostic, Jewish, Hindu or any other faith tradition, he or she gains a deeper insight into the traditions and beliefs that are at the center of the Catholic Church (it may be noted as well that not every theology class is a Catholic theology class). The student who is doubtful regarding her faith, just as much as the student who is a firm believer, is better for having a deeper appreciation of just what it is that she doubts. Many of my own friends from Notre Dame have told me that theology courses made them very interested in attending to their own spirituality, whether or not they concluded anything definite.

Finally, it should be noted that the University of Notre Dame, if it can be said to be the Catholic flagship university of the United States, needs to fully support its own theology department. The Catholic identity of the university, so proudly called upon in defaming the University’s In-vitation to President Obama in 2009, is at risk.

Theology is how the church deepens its understanding of the human relationship with God, and Catholic theology is the particular way of expressing what Catholic identity, an identity rooted in an understanding of our divine createdness, really is. If Catholic identity is really of concern for the university, then it is vital to keep that identity in the curriculum.

Levi Checketts
class of 2010
Feb. 10
From London to Notre Dame: ‘Macbeth’

By JIMMY KEMPER
Scene Writer

“All hail Macbeth, thou shalt be king hereafter! Thou shalt get kings, though thou be none: So all hail, Macbeth and Banquo!”

If you have ever seen Shakespeare performed on a live stage, you know the language comes to life in a truly unique way as opposed to reading the text on dead, dried ink on the pages of a book (or in this case, a newspaper). Quotes such as the one above can stir strong feelings in text, but nothing can replace the chills that run down your spine when the witches declare their most insidious prophecy right before your eyes. Through blood and betrayal, the corrupted couple destroy the foundations that hold a nation together and threaten anyone who stands in their way. “Macbeth” already stands prominently in Shakespeare’s works as the source of his perhaps most unfortunate and most complex central character, Lord Macbeth himself. Michael Palmer, who plays Macbeth, as well as an English doctor and a murderer, is thrilled about the opportunities the character presents him.

“It’s an extremely complex part, but there’s two main aspects to it,” Palmer said. “The main two are grappling with his changes of thought and the changes of what he does. Some of it is absolutely perplexing, and deep, for lack of a better term. And the other is you have to go deep to understand why he is doing a particular thing. You have directors who can help you, but hopefully it comes through you and the people you are working with. I’m kind of still waiting to go crazy. I wouldn’t be able to do this if I was kind of still waiting to go crazy. We have worked extremely hard trying to make this clear and as entertaining as we possibly can,” Palmer said. “The main two are grappling with his changes of thought and the changes of what he does. Some of it is absolutely perplexing, and deep, for lack of a better term. And the other is you have to go deep to understand why he is doing a particular thing. You have directors who can help you, but hopefully it comes down to you. And then you have to get the measure of it. Even now, I’m just starting to get the measure of it. You could almost spend a lifetime playing this part and never get to the heart of it. With a role as complex and tragic as Macbeth, Palmer also said that part of the struggle lies in dealing with going crazy yourself. “A method actor actually advised me to be careful because this part might send you a bit crackers (that’s English for nuts),” Palmer explained. “I he said Macbeth is going to take you into some very dark places. And so I’m kind of still waiting to go crazy. I haven’t yet, but I could see how you could. You have to go through some odd places, otherwise it wouldn’t be very satisfying.”

Yet there is something else about AFTLS which suggests this particular performance will stand out on stage. Perhaps it is the opportunity to see such a dark tale on Friday the 13th, or perhaps it is the unique circumstances surrounding these shows in particular. Not only are the five actors doing all the roles by themselves, the play is also self-directed. Palmer explained that the cast is very supportive of each other and has been working together through over a month of rehearsals to get the nuances of such a unique show down.

As dark and tragic as “Macbeth” could potentially be, Palmer said it wouldn’t be all bad. “We have worked extremely hard trying to make this clear and as entertaining as we possibly can,” Palmer said. “I know it’s a dark piece. People can down in it’s about blood, it’s about witches. Yes, it is all about those things, but hopefully it is also clear and amazing. The story is wonderful, and it’s entertaining and it’s not very long.”

The three performances will run at 7:30 p.m. tonight, Thursday and Friday. Individual tickets are $22, student tickets are $12 and children under 18 are free with a paid adult. Tickets may be purchased at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center ticket office, by phone at (574) 631-2800 or online at shakespeare.nd.edu.

Contact Jimmy Kemper at jkemper2@nd.edu
Valentine’s Day is Saturday and that means Netflix is recommending all sorts of romantic comedies. But before you spend your Thursday and Friday curled up watching Netflix, consider heading out to see the Student Players’ most recent production, “Almost Maine.”

“Almost Maine” is a play by John Cariani based around a series of nine vignettes. Each scene, which is about five minutes long, takes place in the no-man’s-land, not-quite-a-town place of Almost, Maine (don’t worry, they’ll explain what that means), in the moments leading up to the appearance of the Northern Lights.

If you’ve seen “Valentine’s Day,” “New Year’s Eve” or “He’s Just Not That Into You,” the play runs on a similar concept.

Sophomore Tommy Favorite, who is playing East, Steve and Daniel, gave some insight into the genre.

“I refer it to as an all-encompassing romantic comedy because when you see romantic comedies, they all end differently,” Favorite said. “You have ones that end really happy and everything works out; you have ones really bad; you have ones that are really sad the whole time, and you have a little glimmer at the end.”

The play is the first full production of the year for the Student Players, who put on “Rage for the Stage” in the fall and produced “Inherit the Wind” last spring.

Director Paul Kuczynski, a senior, chose to do the play after he was introduced to it last spring by one of his friends. She proposed that they could work as a pair to produce and have it finished in two weeks; however, it didn’t quite turn out that way.

Auditions for the play were in October, and rehearsals have been running since then. Still, Kuczynski said his actors continue to surprise him.

“Sometimes you go through these scenes dozens upon dozens of times, and all of a sudden there’s a moment in there and it just completely surprises me,” Kuczynski said. “It’s so fresh.”

Kuczynski’s enthusiasm for the production is clear from his directing style, which has him watching the actors rehearse, running around the Lab Theater exactly to ensure that the best view is available from every angle.

The key challenge to this play is that almost every actor is playing two to three parts, and each character is only on stage for a couple of minutes. That’s not a lot of time for character development, and it means each character needs to be distinct and fully developed in the actor’s mind.

Playing characters Sandrine and Hope, senior Elizabeth Leader described what it feels like to nail a scene.

“When you’re in a scene, when running through it, sometimes there will be this moment where everything just clicks, where the fact that you’re in a scene, and you’re acting just falls away, and you’re just there,” Leader said. “You act without acting. Coming to the end of the scene and suddenly realizing that that happened is just so incredibly exhilarating.”

It was clear that this was still the goal Kuczynski had for his actors as they rehearsed Monday night. When junior Emma Fleming, playing Gayle and Glory, reached that clicking point in the scene “Getting It Back,” he exclaimed excitedly at the end of her speech, “You went there!” and asked her to channel that moment for the rest of the scene.

The play itself is peculiarly appropriate for this time of year. Though none of the scenes directly relate to one another, they all center around the same theme: love.

“There are nine different stories that we’re working with and they all land in a different place,” Favorite said. “They’re all really different and really creative, but they’re all tapping into something that ties in together really well.

Love is a really complicated feeling, and what I think the show does the best is to try to touch a little bit on everything that love can have you experience.”

That doesn’t mean that all the stories are happy. Some of the scenes could be pulled straight from your favorite, feel-good romantic comedies, but others won’t give you an easy happy ending.

“I think everyone could like the show,” Fleming said. “No one could sit through this and go, ‘Hmm... it wasn’t that good.’ You can relate to one of these characters, at least one. It’s light, but it’s also deep at the same time.”

If you’re on the fence about seeing the show, the cast says that there’s no way you could leave without loving it.

“If you’re absolutely in love with the idea of love, believe in romance, true love, all that, we’ve got scenes for you,” Leader said. “If you basically plan on wearing solid black on Valentine’s Day and live a life of gagging at any cutesy-coupley things you see, we’ve got scenes that will appeal to you as well. This is a show that showcases the full spectrum of romantic experiences, falling into and out of love, missed connections, almost connections.”

“Almost Maine” is playing Thursday and Friday at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday at 4 p.m. in the Washington Hall Lab Theater. Tickets are $5 and can be purchased at the LaFortune Student Center box office or at the door.

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The return of ‘Happy Endings’ and ABC’s 2012 Tuesday Nights

By MATT McMAHON Scene Writer

If we don’t study history, it is doomed to repeat itself. Such may be the case with ABC’s short-lived, little-watched 2012-2013 Tuesday night programming.

During the fall television season of 2012, ABC originally aired the critical darlings, cult sitcoms “Happy Endings” and “Don’t Trust the B---- in Apt. 23.” The two shows were relegated to being burned off by ABC in a nonsensical strategy from March through May of 2013.

Lackluster marketing and poor ratings, dipping under 3.0 million U.S. viewers per episode, ultimately forced ABC to cancel both programs. “Happy Endings,” in its self-assured third season, “Don’t Trust the B---- in Apt. 23” in its promising second. Now, possibly paradoxically, low viewership and a perceived lack of attention to — or remembrance of — ABC’s 2012 Tuesday night hour block of scheduling may prove to be its constituents’ salvation.

Recently, hints towards a “Happy Endings” television return and wild allegations based on these small clues have begun to crop up. Last Thursday, the show’s writers’ official Twitter account (@happywriters), which had been inactive since Oct. 30, 2014, began publishing a series of cryptic tweets linking to a countdowwebsite and coyly playing on themes of anticipation. The website, sporting only the phrase “It’s almost a new day” and a simple timer, is currently counting down to Mar. 31, 2015, at 11:59 p.m. PST. Obviously, the quick thinker will notice that the date being counted down to is a second before April Fools’ Day, and will also note the “Happy Endings” writers particularly fancy pranks.

However, based on recent developments, there is reason to think — reasonably or conspiratorially — that this countdown could be more than a mere April Fools’ Day joke. After all, how easy is it to uncover the date to which is being counted down? No, this date must signal a major event in the world of “Happy Endings” news.

Consider this: Of the six principal stars in the show’s original run, Damon Wayans Jr. has announced he’s leaving his series regular role on “New Girl” at the end of its current fourth season, and Adam Pally left “The Mindy Project” on Jan. 13, reportedly due to signing a new, nondescript contract with ABC. Additionally, Eliza Coupe’s series “Benched” was cancelled by USA a day later, despite a promising first season, leaving her free of commitment. As of now, the other three stars, Casey Wilson of “Marry Me,” Zachary Knighton of the upcoming FOX midseason sitcom “Weird Loners” and Elisha Cuthbert of the upcoming NBC midseason sitcom “One Big Happy,” are still tied to shows through 2015.

However, “Marry Me” lies in the balance with ratings dropping to the low two millions since its January return. Equally, “Weird Loners” and “One Big Happy” currently have only six episodes ordered.

Could the creatives behind “Happy Endings” be preparing their fans for a resurrection of their beloved show? The stars literally are aligning in an order that could suggest so. It would be foolish to expect that the show would return as soon as April 1, even more so with the 12 a.m. timing, it could be counting towards a release of the old seasons of the show on a streaming service, though, based on it being the turning of a month. However, “Happy Endings” has previously streamed on Netflix, and the streaming service confirmed it would not be re-viving it now. Instead, I’d like to hold out hope that ABC could be preparing a return to the 2012 Tuesday night sitcom block, right under our under-studious noses.

Meanwhile, ABC currently airs freshman sitcom “Fresh Off the Boat” on Tuesday nights at 8 p.m., and the promising show could use another comedy companion. Who better to accompany the Nahnatchka Khan-created “Fresh Off the Boat” than the return of David Caspe’s “Happy Endings”? Khan previously created and ran the very sharp and specific “Don’t Trust the B---- in Apt. 23,” so Khan and Caspe have a history of complementing each other in scheduling, ABC, “Happy Endings” and Khan — possibly — have the rare opportunity at a history-repeating second chance. Presumably, a lot more people will be taking notes this time around.

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MLB’s best offseason moves

Samantha Zuba
Assistant Managing Editor

There should be an award for MLB’s best offseason acquisition. I guess there is, when the bold move pays off. The Seattle Mariners, for a season in the form of a pennant or World Series title. Until then, the moves are just big and bold, not necessarily best.

They don’t all pan out, and sometimes a team ends up paying a large amount for significantly less than it expected to get.

So far this offseason, however, some of the big moves look like they should be successes.

On Monday, the San Diego Padres asserted themselves as potential contenders in the National League West with a reported four-year deal for righthander James Shields, previously of the Kansas City Royals, to be finalized if he passes a physical. The Padres have passed a physical. Shields has posted a 3.72 ERA over a nine-year career and has recorded 1,626 strikeouts, including 200—both in 2011 and 2012.

Most importantly, Shields is a winner. He’s won at least 11 games in each of the last seven seasons, but he’s also had 13 seasons where his return from a three-game absence because of an illness. The 6-foot-10 forward played 18 minutes and finished with four points and three rebounds. ... Kentucky has now won eight of the last nine meetings, with the lone loss to LSU coming last February in Baton Rouge.

The Tigers started quickly and led by eight several times in the first five minutes, but LSU fought back in the second half as it has against traditional power Arizona State, who could be its first 2-3 point shots, and the Pistons began to pull away.

A double-double in January to tie a franchise record, was dominant and a second-half 3-pointers for Charleston. The Pistons staked to a 5-42 lead at halftime despite the Hornets shooting 8 of 11 from 3-point range. Hairston, who had been out of the rotation and hadn’t played since Jan. 31, was 4 of 5 from the arc for the Hornets.

But the Hornets went cold in the second half, missing their first 10 3-point shots, and the Pistons began to pull away.

Tucker hit 7 of 14 from the field and 5 of 6 from the arc for the Pistons, who are 13 of 25 on their 2-3 point shots, and the Pistons began to pull away.
Belles suffer overtime loss to Kalamazoo

By MICHAEL IVEY
Sports Writer

Saint Mary’s lost an over-time thriller to Kalamazoo, 71-70, on Saturday at Angela Athletic Facility.

After the Belles (3-19, 1-12 MIAA) started the game with a 6-0 lead, the Hornets (14-7, 9-4 MIAA) responded by scoring 12 of the next 14 points to go up 12-0. However, Saint Mary’s went on a 12-4 run to gain a 20-16 lead with the first half winding down. The teams continued to go back and forth for the remainder of the first frame, and the Belles went into the locker room at halftime with a 27-24 lead.

With just under five minutes left in regulation, the Saint Mary’s led Kalamazoo, 51-49. The Belles then went on an 8-1 run to hold a 59-50 advantage with just over two minutes to go. Kalamazoo fought back and trailed by just two points with just over two minutes remaining. The teams were able to take a 68-66 lead with just over two minutes remaining. The Hornets evened the score before Saint Mary’s sank two free throws, and then Kalamazoo tied it up again with two free throws of their own and stole the ball on the ensuing Belles possession.

The Belles fouled and the Hornets were able to make one free throw for a one-point lead with just over 10 seconds remaining. After two Saint Mary’s attempts at a game-winning shot came up short, a jump ball rebound gave the ball back to the Belles with two seconds remaining on the game clock. Junior forward Krista Knapke caught the inbound pass and attempted the game-winning shot, but she missed, and time expired to give the Hornets a 71-70 win.

“The game against Kalamazoo was a great game,” Belles coach Jennifer Henley said. “It was a heartbreaker in the end, but we did so many things right on Saturday. We put ourselves in in a position to win the game in both regulation and overtime and just came up short in the end. I am so proud of how hard this team played.”

Paul was the Belles’ leading scorer with 21 points, and she added nine rebounds as well.

Knapke recorded 17 points to go along with a team-high 10 rebounds. Junior forward Eleni Shea had 10 points and four rebounds, while freshman forward Molly Robinson had 10 points and three rebounds.

“As we get ready for Calvin, we need to continue to work on our transition defense and not give away points at the free throw line,” Henley said.

The Belles final home game is against conference opponent Calvin on Saturday at 3 p.m. at Angela Athletic Facility.

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Irish finish 3-1 in tournament

Special to The Observer

The men’s Ultimate Frisbee team traveled to Grand Rapids, Michigan this weekend to compete in a one-night “hat tournament.” Hat tournaments typically consist of teams that are put together by randomly drawing names out of a hat, but this tournament also featured several college Ultimate Frisbee teams.

Notre Dame was split into “A” and “B” teams for the first time this season, and both teams looked comfortable under new leadership.

The Irish “A” squad started off by playing against two hat teams in 50-minute timed rounds. After starting off slow during a casual first few points, the squad shook off its rust, and the offense started clicking. Notre Dame won the games 18-11 and 16-6, respectively, due in large part to the athletic freshman class, comprised of Luke Brennan, Sam DeTrempe and Collin Kleinke.

Following a short bye round, Notre Dame had games against Michigan State’s “B” squad and Indiana Wesleyan. Firing on all cylinders by the third game, Notre Dame easily defeated the Spartans, 18-3. The game against Indiana Wesleyan proved more difficult due to a combination of fatigue and a still developing early-season chemistry. The final match of the night ultimately came down to double game points, and Indiana Wesleyan came out on top by a score of 12-11, despite strong defensive efforts from juniors Charles Labuz and Andrew Greisel.

Notre Dame capped off the night with a 30-minute game against a “hat-all-star team,” which was made up of the best players from the hat teams. It was a good-spirited match that showcased some of the tournament’s top players on both sides of the disc. Score was only loosely kept, as it was primarily an exhibition match, so Notre Dame officially finished 3-1 on the weekend.

Having lost just three seniors to graduation last spring, Notre Dame is poised for a big season in 2015. The team will travel to Cat Fight in Lexington, Kentucky, on the last weekend of February for its first outdoor exhibition of the season.
and learn from them, and there wasn’t a lot of pressure on me,” Reimer said of playing with Achonwa and Braker. “I think that really helped, so now in my sophomore year, now that we lost that experience in the post, I’ve kind of become a mentor on the team already in the post as a sophomore.

“So it’s a lot different, but I think that our seniors last year really prepared me and prepared all of us for that leadership role.”

For Turner, a Pearland, Texas native, some of that leadership has been simple as starting every game she’s played in during her freshman campaign.

“She always helps me get to the right spot,” Turner said. “She always lets me know where I need to be.”

In terms of their styles of play, the two complement each other well, Reimer said.

“She’s so athletic, and definitely a lot more athletic than I am,” Reimer said, laughing. “I think that I am probably more of a mid-range player, I would say, as a post compared to her, but I think that we have a lot of similarities in our game offensively. Our job is to score and rebound, and that goes for both of us.

“It’s kind of the same and kind of different, but we love playing together, and we’re just going to keep getting better and playing off of each other and learning each other’s style of play.”

One key aspect both players bring to the table, Turner said, is speed to go along with their size. Both Turner and Reimer are 6-foot-3.

“I think because we’re forwards and not really centers, we’re more versatile, so we can probably get up and down the floor quicker than some other centers can,” Turner said.

Rebounding has been a team focus this season, with Reimer and Turner handling much of the load. Turner leads the Irish with 166 rebounds, an average of 7.5 per game, and Reimer is second with 147 rebounds, averaging 6.4 boards per game.

Irish coach Muffet McGraw sets rebounding goals for each game to keep the team on track, Reimer said.

“She always talks to me and Bri specifically about that being our job, and so when she puts it to us like that, it’s like, ‘Okay, this is what we have to be doing because it’s just what she expects from us,’” Reimer said.

So far, both Reimer and Turner said the transition into the regular starting lineup has gone well.

“We’re good friends, so we communicate well,” Turner said. “She just really adds so much athleticism to our team,” Reimer said of Turner. “It’s fun for me to throw lobbs for her, and I think we both just work off of each other really well, offensively and defensively. I just love playing with her and having her on our team.”
Irish sophomore guard Demetrius Jackson takes a jumper during Notre Dame’s 71-63 win over Boston College on Feb. 4 at Purcell Pavilion.

Irish junior forward Zach Auguste attempts to block a shot during a 71-63 victory over Boston College at Purcell Pavilion on Feb. 4.

Irish senior forward Pat Connaughton sets up to shoot during a 71-63 win over Boston College on Feb. 4 at Purcell Pavilion.

led to sophomore guard Demetrius Jackson’s tip-shot to tie the game at 56. After another Jackson basket gave Notre Dame the lead, Grant drained a fade-away jumper with under a minute left to give the Irish the go-ahead score.

Senior guard captain Pat Connaughton added 14 points for the Irish along with three of Notre Dame’s six 3-pointers. Jackson also contributed 11 points.

“We lost our last two on the road, so to get a road win like this is big time in the ACC,” Grant said.

Coming into the game, Clemson had one of the best defenses in the ACC, sitting in the top three in the conference in overall scoring defense. Although they held Notre Dame to just 43 percent shooting from the floor, the Irish showcased their own defensive abilities containing the Tigers to 43 percent shooting and forced them to turn the ball over 11 times. Clemson’s 38 points were the fewest Notre Dame has ever allowed in an ACC matchup.

“They hit shots and they came to play today,” Grant said. “We had to pick our defense up and we did it in the last four minutes.”

Sophomore forward Jaron Blossomgame led the Tigers with 17 points and 14 boards, which helped keep the Tigers in the lead for almost 18 minutes. However, in the last 5:45 of the second half, Notre Dame allowed just one field goal.

Although Clemson isn’t a team of the same caliber as No. 4 Duke, who Notre Dame fell to on Saturday, Grant said a win on the road is always important regardless of who the opponent is.

“Getting a road win in the ACC is tough no matter what,” Grant said. “To come in here on the road after losing like that [to Duke] is big time for us.”

The win for Grant means a little bit more for him because of the family ties he has with Clemson, he said. His older brother Jerai Grant played for Clemson from 2007-2011, his father Harvey Grant played for Clemson for a year before transferring to Oklahoma and his uncle Horace Grant is a member of Clemson’s Hall of Fame.

“I think it meant more,” Grant said. “Obviously with my family, I wanted to perform pretty well.”

Notre Dame has now improved to 10-3 in conference play, which makes it the first ACC team with 10 conference wins. Before the game, ESPN’s Joe Lunardi placed Notre Dame as a four-seed in his Bracketology. With just five games left in the regular season, Notre Dame is still in contention for an ACC Regular season title sitting two games behind No. 2 Virginia, which holds a 9-1 ACC record.

Notre Dame will take a short break before hosting Wake Forest, who are No. 12 in the ACC standings, on Feb. 17.

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Seniors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

12 points in the first half, Clemson led by as many as eight in the opening stanza. Grant and Connaughton went to work in the second half. Connaughton finished on a rough drive to the rack in the opening minutes after the intermission and added a 3-pointer moments later to put the Irish ahead by two points.

And as Clemson senior guard Damarcus Harrison remained scorching hot — he made his first five shots, including three long balls — Grant and Connaughton kept Notre Dame’s ship steady. Grant buried a beautiful, crowd-quieting fadeaway jumper, found slashing sophomore guard Steve Vasturia for an easy layup and picked off a Clemson pass that set up another Connaughton 3-pointer at the other end midway through the second half.

Clemson kept battling, and Harrison kept drilling jumpers. But Grant sneakily swiped away a short outlet pass in the backcourt and finished with an easy lay-in to get the Irish back within one with roughly five minutes remaining. A few minutes later, Grant forced another steal on the perimeter that prompted a layup by sophomore guard Demetrius Jackson.

And in the end, Notre Dame held on.

The Irish have an off day today and will reconvene Thursday in preparation for Tuesday’s matchup with Wake Forest at Purcell Pavilion.

Contact Mike Monaco at mmonaco@nd.edu

Senior guard Pat Connaughton sets up to shoot during a 71-63 win over Boston College on Feb. 4 at Purcell Pavilion.

Irish junior forward Zach Auguste attempts to block a shot during a 71-63 victory over Boston College at Purcell Pavilion on Feb. 4.

Irish sophomore guard Demetrius Jackson takes a jumper during Notre Dame’s 71-63 win over Boston College on Feb. 4 at Purcell Pavilion.
Turner said he thinks Rae will be able to qualify for the Olympics. "He definitely does," Turner said when asked if Rae had the talent to make it. "He hasn’t hit his top level yet. He hasn’t peaked yet. Now he can space out his training, space out his racing so he can be fresh for the summer. Jeremy’s one of the best Canada has, so I’m quite sure he’ll get his stuff together in 2016."

Echoing Turner’s confidence, Rae said he remains hopeful that he can qualify for the very next Olympic in Rio, despite the fact that it is only a year away. "I am optimistic," Rae said. "It’s not like I’m racing at an Olympic level right now, but it’ll come. I have faith in my training partners and coach. It’ll happen. I have to stay away from injuries and be consistent. ... The mile isn’t an Olympic event. It’s the 1,500-meter and my best is 3:38 and I have to get a 3:36 to qualify. It isn’t out of the realm of possibility." For the moment, though, Rae said he is just happy to be able to come back and race at his alma mater. "It’s very different," Rae said on returning to Notre Dame. "I’m not sleeping in the dorms like I’m used to. It feels like I’m competing at an away meet, but really so many things are familiar as well. It’s so nice to see the team, I was on the team with most of these guys. I had my time here so it’s not like I’m sad to come back, but it’s fun to be back and competing."

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CROSSWORD | WILL SHORTZ

Across
1. Forbidding lamp—"chop-chop!" (6)
2. Tug at sense (7)
3. Opera set in Egypt (7)
4. H.S. health course (5)
5. To be to Bernadette (5)
6. Fraternal party purchase (4)
7. City where 13-Aces debut (3)
8. Blacken in cooking (7)
9. Suppose evidence of the 36-Aces (9)
10. Year of the ___ (what 2009-09 was) (6)
11. Game piece on a strategy board (7)
12. Green figure, briefly (5)
13. 1905 Frank McCourt memoir (6)

Down
1. Poetic contraction (1, 1, 2)
2. 36-Aces to be made X (4)
3. "You guesses ___ good." (7)
4. Utterly bred (4)
5. "You called?" (7)
6. Fiery stables (5)
7. Marty's scientific pet in "Back to the Future" (5)
8. Field of study that includes the 36-Aces (5)
9. Voting alliance (5)
10. All it up (5)
11. Lotion additive (6)
12. In-love item (6)

SUDOKU | THE MEPHARM GROUP

Level: 1

12
23
4
5
6
7
8
9

GUESSES | CRISSCROSS PUZZLE

Answer to previous puzzle


HIGHLY PUNLICKLY | CHRISTOPHER BRUCKER

JUMBLE | DAVID HOTT AND JEFF KUREK

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

Answers today:

How are the colored letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

THE OBSERVER

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THE HORIZON | EUGENIA LAST

Birthday Birthdays: More options will become available. Fortunate circumstances will help you accomplish your goals. Look at the big picture and make your choices based on how your decisions will affect the people you love most. Additions to your home or family will bring both joy and limitations. Embrace emotional situations and make the interactions meaningful. You are stable, determined and intelligent.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): An opportunity to form a partnership should be taken advantage of by sharing and adapting your skills and services to fit universal needs. It's up to you to sell what you have to offer.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Making reforms will help you move forward with your plans. If you are questioned initially, but once you share your lofty new goal, you will be given the freedom to carry on. A worthwhile suggestion will pay off, enabling you to exceed your expectations.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take a cautious approach to whatever you do. Someone will be working against you. Keep your strategy secret and refrain from letting your emotions govern an important decision. A romantic relationship will take an unexpected turn.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't hesitate to ask questions or change your mind and direction. Consider starting a creative project based on your skills, and you will experience greater freedom. Thoughtfulness will ensure better personal relationships with the people you love the most.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Fix up your home or make a domestic move that fits your current lifestyle better. Try to settle a money matter, allowing you to exceed your expectations.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You are stable, determined and intelligent. Your ability to get a job will be strengthened. Someone will be working against you. Keep your strategy secret and refrain from letting your emotions govern an important decision. A romantic relationship will take an unexpected turn.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Make an effort to understand the partners you are involved with personally and professionally. A well-thought-out response will help you maintain your position and your reputation. Do whatever it takes to show off what you have to offer.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Someone will be working against you. Keep your strategy secret and refrain from letting your emotions govern an important decision. A romantic relationship will take an unexpected turn.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): A unusual idea you came across in the past will be an ideal solution to a problem you are facing now.


AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): An unusual idea you came across in the past will be an ideal solution to a problem you are facing now. Make a suggestion that will help you entice an audience to join in your pursuit.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Your vision of the future will be taken advantage of by sharing and adapting your skills and services to fit universal needs. It's up to you to sell what you have to offer.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Making reforms will help you move forward with your plans. If you are questioned initially, but once you share your lofty new goal, you will be given the freedom to carry on. A worthwhile suggestion will pay off, enabling you to exceed your expectations.

Happy Birthday: More options will become available. Fortunate circumstances will help you accomplish your goals. Look at the big picture and make your choices based on how your decisions will affect the people you love most. Additions to your home or family will bring both joy and limitations. Embrace emotional situations and make the interactions meaningful. You are stable, determined and intelligent.

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Men’s basketball

LaFleur becomes latest to leave ND

Observer Staff Report

Former Irish quarterbacks coach Matt LaFleur has officially been named to the same position with the Atlanta Falcons. The Falcons announced a slew of staff changes Tuesday under new head coach Dan Quinn. LaFleur spent one season in South Bend tutoring the Irish quarterbacks.

Before arriving at Notre Dame, LaFleur served as the quarterbacks coach of the Washington Redskins for four seasons.

The Mount Pleasant, Michigan native had previously coached under Irish head coach Brian Kelly as an offensive assistant for two seasons at Central Michigan.

Former Irish assistant coachs Tony Alford (Ohio State) and Kerry Cooks (Oklahoma) recently landed at new schools, too.

Notre Dame is scheduled to begin spring practice March 2.

MEN’S BASKETBALL | ND 60, CLEMSON 58

Clawing by the Tigers

By MANNY DE JESUS Sports Writer

No. 10 Notre Dame scored the tying and game-winning field goals against Clemson in the final minutes to come away with the 60-58 win at Littlejohn Coliseum on Tuesday.

The Irish (22-4, 10-3 ACC) started the matchup against the Tigers (14-10, 6-6 ACC) similar to their way against Duke began. After making the first two straight baskets, Clemson went on an 11-point run before Notre Dame was able to rally back and reduce the deficit to two points by the end of the first half.

Senior guard Jerian Grant led the charge for Notre Dame, scoring a team-high 22 points to go along with five assists and three steals. With 3:23 left in the game, Grant made a steal that

Irish senior guard Jerian Grant goes up for a layup during Notre Dame’s 71-63 win over Boston College on Feb. 4 at Purcell Pavilion.

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WAKING THE ECHOES | JEREMY RAE

Olympic hopes live on for Rae

By MAREK MAZUREK

Sports Writer

When Jeremy Rae toed the starting line of the Meyo Mile on Saturday, it was almost as if nothing had changed in the year since he graduated. Rae may come from the small town of Fort Erie, Ontario, but for five years, Notre Dame was his home.

And while he competed for the Irish, there was little Rae did not accomplish. A three-time All-American, one of the NCAA’s best in the 1,500-meter and part of a national championship distance medley relay team in 2012, Rae dipped below the four-minute mark in the mile on multiple occasions and won a silver medal representing Canada in the 2013 World University Games. He also earned all-conference honors three times in cross country.

Indiana native has assumed more of a leadership role this year after the senior forwards graduated.

“IT was great because I got to just observe what they did,” Rae said in his postgame radio interview.

“Jerian was flat-out fabulous making plays for us,” Irish head coach Mike Brey said in his postgame radio interview. With the Irish leading by two points with

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Irish turn to new frontcourt

By SAMANATHA ZUBA

Assistant Managing Editor

The Irish starting forwards got younger, fast.

Last season, Natalie Achonwa and Ariel Braker started at the position as seniors. This season, sophomore Taya Reimer and freshman Brianna Turner have stepped into their starting roles.

Now it looks like the two should have a few years to play and develop their games together.

“IT think that’s definitely something that I wanted, and I know that Bri wanted too,” Reimer said of the opportunity to play together. “We wanted to go somewhere we could make an impact and make an impact right away.”

That immediate impact has come in the form of a combined 24.3 points per game and 13.9 rebounds per game this season for the No. 4 Irish (23-2, 9-1 ACC).

“It’s good because we can get comfortable playing with one another,” Turner said of being able to work with Reimer over the next few years. “She’s really been a really great learning tool for me.”

Reimer was a spot starter last season, appearing in all 38 games for the Irish and starting six of them. The Fishers, Indiana native has assumed more of a leadership role this year after the senior forwards graduated.

“It was great because I got to just observe what they did,” Rae said in his postgame radio interview.

“IT was my first down year in my entire career. ... It was bound to happen