

THE OBSERVER

The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

VOLUME 44 : ISSUE 76

MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 2011

NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

University to evacuate Cairo abroad students

U.S. State Department recommends U.S. citizens leave Cairo; communication devices are shut down and riots continue

Observer Staff Report

The University will evacuate Notre Dame students from Cairo due to ongoing protests and violence in Egypt, according to a University press release.

See Also

"Unrest spurs tourists' fears."

page 5

Notre Dame's decision to evacuate the students was in response to a U.S. State Department recommendation. Twelve Notre Dame students are participating in Notre Dame's study abroad program at the American University of Cairo (AUC).

"Notre Dame is collaborating with AUC and U.S. officials to have the students transported with other

American citizens as soon as possible on government-arranged transport to safe havens in Europe, from where they will be assisted by Notre Dame to locations in which they will be able to safely continue their studies," the press release stated.

U.S. government-arranged transportation from Cairo to safe haven locations in Europe is scheduled to begin Monday, according to a notice from the U.S. Embassy in Cairo.

The students arrived in Cairo Jan. 20 to begin their semester of study at AUC.

In a Jan. 29 emergency website announcement, AUC stated that, "due to the circumstances in Egypt," classes and activities were cancelled until at least Feb. 2.

The students in Cairo had

see CAIRO/page 5



An Egyptian tank enters Tahrir Square in Cairo with anti-Mubarak slogans painted in Arabic Sunday. Notre Dame will be evacuating students in its Cairo study abroad program.

Innovation Park looks toward expansion

By LAURA McCRYSTAL
News Editor

Rich Carlton, a local entrepreneur, attended the groundbreaking ceremony at Notre Dame's Innovation Park in 2008 as a member of the Chamber of Commerce for St. Joseph County.

At the time, Carlton did not envision himself participating

in the Park, but today he is the president and COO of Data Realty, one of 30 client companies at Innovation Park.

"I saw it as an opportunity to be involved in a true community partnership between the community and the University," Carlton said.

Innovation Park, located just south of Notre Dame's campus, opened in October 2009 and provides short-term

space and advisory services to entrepreneurs while they start new companies. Its client companies either have previous ties to the University or are looking to make connections to resources at Notre Dame.

Dave Brenner, Innovation Park's president and CEO, describes the Park as a bridge between the University and the marketplace.

"We act as a commercialization bridge between the University and the marketplace," Brenner said. "As a bridge, it's not a final destination. People go from one side to the other."

At Innovation Park, startup companies rent space for up to a year and are able to connect with Notre Dame stu-

see PARK/page 5

Observer elects new top editor

Observer Staff Report

The Observer General Board elected Sports Editor Douglas Farmer as the 2011-12 Editor-in-Chief Sunday.

Farmer, a junior Program of Liberal Studies major with a minor in Journalism, Ethics and Democracy, is a native of La Crosse, Wisc.



Farmer

A resident of Alumni Hall, Farmer has led several sports beats, including football, men's basketball, hockey, baseball, women's soccer and men's lacrosse.

"I look forward to the opportunities and challenges this new role will bring me. Fortunately, I know I will have a talented and dedicated staff working with me every step of the way," Farmer said.

Farmer became Sports Editor in the spring of 2010 and led coverage of Irish football coach

see EIC/page 5

Signatures support PSA petition

By KRISTEN DURBIN
News Writer

Members of Notre Dame's Progressive Student Alliance (PSA) and other student groups gathered Thursday at the kickoff event for the PSA-sponsored petition to add sexual orientation to the University's nondiscrimination clause, but this year's petition includes another goal for the group, senior and PSA treasurer Mary Dewey said.

"The petition to include sexual orientation in the nondiscrimination clause has been circulated nine times in total, but this year we added a state-



Members of the Progressive Student Alliance speak about the history of the sexual orientation movement on Notre Dame campus.

COURTNEY ECKERLE/The Observer

see PSA/page 6

THE OBSERVER

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The news is reported as accurately and objectively as possible. Unsigned editorials represent the opinion of the majority of the Editor in Chief, Managing Editor, Assistant Managing Editors and department editors. Commentaries, letters and columns present the views of the authors and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Viewpoint space is available to all readers. The free expression of all opinions through letters is encouraged. Letters to the Editor must be signed and must include contact information.

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor-in-Chief Matt Gamber

POST OFFICE INFORMATION

The Observer (USPS 599 2-4000) is published Monday through Friday except during exam and vacation periods. A subscription to The Observer is \$130 for one academic year; \$75 for one semester.

The Observer is published at:
024 South Dining Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779
Periodical postage paid at Notre Dame and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER
Send address corrections to:
The Observer
P.O. Box 779
024 South Dining Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779

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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 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

Who is your celebrity crush?
Hargis: Jessica Alba ... before baby.

What's your favorite part about Notre Dame so far?
Hargis: Coming from sunny Nor-Cal I would have to say frozen nose hairs.

What are your spring break plans?
Hargis: I am going to road trip through California universities.

What is your favorite TV show?
Hargis: It's between Dexter and Entourage. I love Dexter because it's really awesome and I love Entourage because it is the ultimate life.

What is one of your nicknames?
Hargis: JC ... for reasons that should not be printed.



Monday Meltdown



Zachary Hargis
freshman
St. Ed's

Know someone chill for Monday's Icebreaker? E-mail obsphoto@gmail.com



A gaggle of geese take a stroll through a snow covered south quad Sunday. They, along with the many ducks on campus, must not have received the memo to head South for the winter.

COURTNEY ECKERLE/The Observer

OFFBEAT

Florida sandbar mischief continues

MIAMI — First, a baby grand piano mysteriously showed up on a Miami sandbar. A day after it was removed, a small table with two chairs, place settings, a bottle of wine and a chef statue appeared on the now-famous strip of sand.

The latest prank has officials worried the sandbar could become a target for more mischief and they are warning such activity is illegal. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission says anyone caught leaving items on the sandbar a few hundred yards from shore will be arrested.

A 16-year-old art student admitted that he put the piano on the sandbar in Biscayne Bay as part of an art project, and a crew removed it Thursday. The table for two has also been taken down.

Shooting and Manhunt deemed hoax

LOS ANGELES — A school police officer who triggered a massive manhunt by saying he had been shot in his bulletproof vest was regarded as a pariah Friday by authorities who deemed the shooting a hoax.

"A lot of people were inconvenienced that day, particularly given the fact that we now find out it was

based on a fabrication," Los Angeles police Chief Charlie Beck said. "I am extremely sorry about that."

The Jan. 19 incident had the hallmarks of a brazen attack on law enforcement, when Los Angeles Unified School District police Officer Jeff Stenroos claimed he had been shot by a man with a gray ponytail who had been breaking into cars.

Hundreds of officers were dispatched to scour cars and yards as part of a massive dragnet.

Turns out, police said, there never was a gunman.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Bill Anthes of Pitzer College will deliver his lecture "Edgar Heap of Birds at Home and Abroad: Ethics in a World of Strange Strangers" today at 4:30 p.m. The lecture will take place in 217 DeBartolo Hall.

Raul Zurita will give a poetry reading today at 5 p.m. in 100 McKenna Hall. The reading is free and open to the public.

The Nanovic Institute for European Studies will sponsor the presentation "How to Put Together a Research Project" today at 6 p.m. in the Hammes Student Lounge of the Coleman Morse Center.

The seminar, "High-performance Membranes in Fuel Cells and Gas Separation" is tomorrow at 3:30 p.m. The seminar will be conducted by Rulian Guo of Virginia Tech in room 129 of DeBartolo Hall.

The Career Center will host a Diversity Reception Wednesday at noon. For more information visit career-center.nd.edu

A library workshop, "Find it in the Newspapers" will be held Wednesday at 4 p.m. in Hesburgh Library room 222. The workshop will be held by reference librarian Margaret Porter.

The Winter Career and Internship Fair is Wednesday from 4 to 8 p.m. in the Joyce Center. The fair is open to all undergraduate and graduate students from all majors.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to obsnews.nd@gmail.com

	TODAY	TONIGHT	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 21 LOW 18	HIGH 18 LOW 15	HIGH 21 LOW 16	HIGH 20 LOW 03	HIGH 12 LOW 03	HIGH 17 LOW 15

Saint Mary's joins Cristo Rey national partnership

By CAITLIN HOUSLEY
News Writer

The Cristo Rey Network announced Jan. 18 that Saint Mary's College is among its list of 14 National University Partners.

As a National University Partner, Saint Mary's has teamed up with the Cristo Rey Network of 24 high schools across the country to ensure that low-income students have an equal opportunity of obtaining a secondary education.

"The partnerships demonstrate Cristo Rey's ongoing com-

mitment to ensure that all of the graduates of its network high schools have access to the academic, social and financial supports they need to complete a college degree," Saint Mary's media contact Gwen O'Brien said in a press release.

As part of this partnership, Saint Mary's sends admission counselors to recruit at nearly all of the network high schools.

"This means we work with the network, the high school personnel and other partners in opening doors to postsecondary education to their students," Mona Bowe, vice president of Enrollment Management, said.

"But it goes beyond that," Bowe said. "We participate in the annual Summit, where we can exchange ideas with the guidance counselors and learn from them about their students and their success stories."

According to Bowe, Saint Mary's alumnus Janae Renteria is now the guidance counselor for one of the Cristo Rey High Schools in Tucson, Ariz. The college is very proud and honored to say they sponsored her to attend a national conference last fall.

Saint Mary's involvement with the Cristo Rey Network stems back even before the Network's

launch in 2001. Bowe said she visited the original Cristo Rey High School in the 1990s.

"As I learned more about the high school, and about the network as it was formed, I realized how close their goal and mission were to ours," Bowe said. "In particular, these caught my eye: learning in a context of faith, rigorous Catholic secondary education and a real world Corporate Work Study."

Saint Mary's Office of Admissions has enrolled a number of Cristo Rey students at the College, who have contributed their diverse views to the developing community.

Bowe said she is proud to note the contributions of the Cristo Rey students, and also expressed that the college gives the students something in return.

"The partnership gives us the best of both worlds," she said. "We [offer] Cristo Rey students an outstanding Catholic education paired with women's leadership development, and in return, we get some of their best and brightest women to join our community of learners, and their experiences enrich our community."

Contact Caitlin Housley at chousl01@saintmarys.edu

Businessman advises students on leadership

By ANNA BOARINI
News Writer

A visiting entrepreneur said his true passion is promoting business careers that have a social impact.

Dr. Mark Albion, one of the co-founders of Net Impact, a non-profit business focused on global student leadership, delivered the keynote address for the Greater Good Lecture Series at the Mendoza College of Business Friday.

After watching his mother battle cancer and overcome a fatal diagnosis, he said he decided to

seek out what his real purpose in life was. Throughout her battle, he said his mother continued to run her socially responsible textile mill.

"Her connection to her work and her impact was so phenomenal," Albion said. "She knew why she was here — I didn't yet know that."

Albion has written seven books, some of which made the New York Times bestseller list, was a professor at Harvard University and has founded multiple businesses.

Throughout the lecture, Albion talked about what he considers a fundamental question of leader-

ship. Business leaders should be asking themselves why are they here and what is their purpose as leaders, he said. Many people focus too much on what career they want rather than who they are and how they can use their passions to become a better business leader.

In Albion's book "True to Yourself," he writes about how leaders are there to serve others. He said that to be a good leader, three characteristics are needed: competence, commitment and compassion.

"A competent leader is an example of the values that you want to see your employees

exhibit," Albion said. "It does not mean knowing everything."

He said business leaders are still human beings and they need to have a commitment to the growth of their people, not just their business. A compassionate leader has to look beyond their company's impact on the industry and look at the impact it has on the world.

"You have to look beyond the borders of your own company and strive to do what is best for the world," he said.

Albion talked about MBAs struggling with monetary desires and how to involve their passions with a business plan. He said he

wants people to develop a destiny plan.

"Instead of being a conflicted achiever — that is, still trying to figure out who they are — you should be a passionate striver that has combined their passion with a business plan," he said.

Albion said figuring out who you are as a person and what you want to accomplish in life will create a better leader and businessperson.

"The way you make your way in the world is just by being you," he said.

Contact Anna Boarini at aboari01@saintmarys.edu

What makes a grant proposal average, good, or great?

Undergraduate Research Grant-Writing Workshop

Session I – Proposal Reviewers' Perspectives

Wed, Feb 2, 4-5 pm, Coffee House, Geddes Hall

Find out about

- the essential elements of a grant proposal
- what you need to know about research travel
- what opportunities are available for different majors

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Prof. Susan Sheridan, Dept. of Anthropology
 Prof. Yahya Kurama, Dept. of Civil Engineering & Geological Sciences
 Prof. Umesh Garg, Dept. of Physics
 Holly Rivers, Asst. Director, Kellogg Institute
 Robert Zerr, Director, Risk Management

Coming Soon:

Session II – Hands-On Grant-Writing Workshop

Sun, Feb 6, 1-4 pm, Writing Center, Coleman-Morse
 Bring your proposal drafts and get feedback from Writing Center staff.

Session III – Human Subjects Research and IRB

Wed, Feb 16, 3-4 pm, Location TBD
 Learn what you should know about human subjects research and the Institutional Review Board process.

Featuring:

Dr. Darren Davis, Assoc. Vice President for Research, Office of Research
 Dr. Tracey Poston, Compliance Program Director, Office of Research

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Open to all majors!

College hosts formal

By **KRYSTINA HARCOURT**
News Writer

"Baby, It's Cold Outside" was the theme of the Saint Mary's College annual All School Formal, held Saturday night at the Century Center in downtown South Bend.

"We assumed snow would be on the ground, especially in January, and we tried to think of songs that incorporated winter," co-chair Brianna Lamp said. "We thought of 'Baby It's Cold Outside,' and, since the song isn't technically a Christmas song, we figured it would be a great choice for our theme."

Lamp and co-chair Kerriann Dooley put together a committee comprised of five sophomore and junior students to plan the event. The group met weekly, starting in September.

Tickets went on sale Tuesday and were sold out by 5 p.m. Thursday.

Lamp said they made several changes this year, including an increase in the limit on number of attendees, the venue location and security.

The committee was given a budget of \$16,000 by the Student Government Association to plan the event. The budget went towards security, decorations, transportation, the venue, entertainment and food.

"This year was the deciding factor on whether the formal would be held in the future," Lamp said. "Since we had a larger budget to work with, we upped security and made sure every precaution was taken to curb intoxication. More South Bend police were brought in to monitor students."

All School Formal is usually held at Palais Royale, but the committee decided to change the venue to the Century Center.

Junior Julia Humphrey thought there were numerous improvements from last year's formal.

"I really enjoyed the change of location," Humphrey said. "It was a really relaxed setting at the Century Center. I also think that the bus system was more effective. Last year, it took forever to board buses and get to and from Saint Mary's."

Senior Lisa Jaworski said she liked the changes.

"I liked that the new venue was larger and had more space to move around," Jaworski said. "The music was better this year as well. The DJ had some really good mixes."

The committee dealt with a few incidents dealing with intoxication, but overall, the event seemed to have fewer problems than last year, Lamp said.

"With everything bad that happened last year, I decided to get involved this year to restore Resident Hall Association's trust in the event," Lamp said. "It's my senior year and I wanted to make sure that this event continued to happen in the future. I think our committee did great and the event turned out extremely well."

Contact Krystina Harcourt at kharco01@saintmarys.edu

Campus celebrates Christian Unity Week

By **ADAM LLORENS**
News Writer

Christian Unity Week, a series of events hosted by Campus Ministry and the Department of Theology, works to help students and staff embark on a communal journey to come together in the Body of Christ through conversation and prayer.

"About 2.1 billion people claim the name Christian, but these followers of Christ are divided into a wide variety of denominations," Karen Kirner, associate director of the Folk and Celebration Choirs, said. "Different ways we can work towards unity include prayer, common work, witness and open dialogue."

Events for the week begin tonight with an Ecumenical

Lecture concerning Eastern Catholics and their relationship with the Orthodox Church at 7 p.m. in the Coleman-Morse Lounge.

A talk sponsored by Four:7 Catholic Fellowship about unification of all Christians through the Body of Christ will take place Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. in the Cavanaugh Hall Chapel.

History professors Mark Noll and Brad Gregory will lecture on the relationship between Evangelicals and Catholics Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the Oak Room of South Dining Hall.

Though there will be a prayer service at 8 p.m. Friday in the Keenan-Stanford Chapel, the pinnacle of the week will be the Christian Unity Prayer Service Thursday night at 10 p.m. in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Kirner said.

Kirner has helped organize several choirs for the Prayer Service. Five choirs from across campus will be leading the music, including the Celebration Choir, Voices of Faith Gospel Choir, Totus Tuus Band of Four: 7 Catholic Fellowship, musicians from Iron Sharpens Iron Interdenominational Fellowship and Coro Primavera.

"Each group will be highlighted individually, and we'll also sing several joint pieces together," she said.

It's important that members of the Notre Dame community share in all the similarities of Christian faith, have a chance to dialogue about differences with others and appreciate the nuances that each has to offer, Kirner said.

An easy way to participate is

to attend the Thursday night prayer service in the Basilica, she said. The organizers of Christian Unity Week hope, that with the time spent examining beliefs, all Christians can unite as one people.

"We want students to realize that Christian Unity is something worth celebrating and working toward, even though we probably won't see it brought completely to fruition in our lifetimes," Kirner said. "We want students to appreciate the validity of a wide variety of Christian expression, to be inspired by fellow students of different Christian expressions, to learn from each other, and primarily to realize that we are all one in Christ."

Contact Adam Llorens at allorems@nd.edu

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Cairo

continued from page 1

no access to Internet or mobile phone connections last week, but Notre Dame's Office of International Studies (OIS) received a Friday voicemail when AUC officials allowed students to make one-minute phone calls from landlines.

In a website update directed toward parents of students in Cairo, OIS said the students were safe in their residences.

"OIS has received a voice-mail from one of our Cairo students, calling on behalf of all of them," the note stated. "They are all safe at the student residence in Zamalek. ... They are obeying the curfew and, as instructed, have not ventured from their residences nor in anyway been involved in any of the protests. There are AUC officials in residence at Zamalek that are there to act as advisors to our students."

Notre Dame students also placed short phone calls Sunday when they learned they were leaving Cairo.

EIC

continued from page 1

Brian Kelly's first season as well as the Notre Dame women's soccer team's national championship.

"Douglas has done a tremendous job this year as Sports Editor, specifically in improving the feedback given to writers and increasing the amount of quality content on our website," outgoing Editor-in-Chief Matt Gamber said. "I

have enjoyed working with Douglas over the past three years and know he will continue to serve as a great leader and example for others at the paper."

Farmer said he expects to build upon The Observer's "strong journalistic tradition" with the help of the rest of the Editorial Board in the coming year.

"I anticipate a year of great experiences thanks to this new position," he said.

Farmer will take over as Editor-in-Chief on March 7.

MEXICO

Preliminary election places Aguirre ahead

Associated Press

ACAPULCO, Mexico — Both candidates for governor of the cartel-plagued state of Guerrero said they were confident of victory as early returns trickled in late Sunday from an election shadowed by corruption scandals, political violence and the drug war.

The vote in Guerrero, home to the resort city of Acapulco and a battleground for feuding drug gangs, was the culmination of an acrimonious campaign between two former party allies and second-cousins. The first of six gubernatorial elections this year

in Mexico, it sets the stage for the 2012 presidential election.

The first preliminary results gave an edge to Angel Aguirre of the leftist Democratic Revolution Party, or PRD. With 55 percent of polls reporting, Aguirre had about 57 percent of the vote, compared to some 42 percent for his rival, Manuel Anorve.

"All the trends favor us in an irreversible manner," Aguirre said earlier.

Anorve, of the Institutional Revolutionary Party, or PRI, made similar remarks.

The preliminary count was to continue into the night, with a definitive result not to be announced until Wednesday.

EGYPT

Unrest spurs tourists' fears

Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt — Foreign governments stepped up their warnings Sunday about travel to Egypt, with several urging their citizens to evacuate as soon as possible amid uncertainty over where the Arab nation is headed after nearly a week of mass protests.

The fears of foreign tourists mirrored those of many Egyptians. Dozens with the means to do so rented jets or hopped aboard their own planes in a mad dash that did little to boost confidence in the future of a country long viewed as a pillar of stability in a restive region. Those leaving included businessmen and celebrities.

The United States, Canada, Switzerland, Turkey and the Netherlands issued advisories encouraging nationals already in Egypt to leave and telling those who planned trips there to reconsider. The U.S. Embassy in Cairo said it was making arrangements to transport Americans who want to leave to "safehaven locations in Europe." Flights

would begin Monday.

Assistant U.S. Secretary of State Janice Jacobs said it will take several flights in the coming days to accommodate all Americans who want to leave.

Jacobs, who is in charge of consular affairs, said the U.S. may also send planes to other cities in Egypt, such as Luxor, if there are a number of Americans stranded there. Americans taking the charter will be billed for the flight and must make their own travel arrangements home from Europe.

Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Lawrence Cannon said its charter flights will begin as early as Monday to fly Canadians who wish to leave to locations in Europe.

A growing number of countries — including China, Australia, France, Germany, Belgium, Sweden, Finland, Russia and Poland — warned against travel to most, if not all, of Egypt. Arab nations, including Iraq, either sent in jets or offered to do so.

"If I had a visa to anywhere, I'd join them. But that's not going to happen," said

Mohammed Khaled, a 28-year-old Egyptian doctor. "Right now, I'd settle for a gun, but I can't even find one of those."

Surging lawlessness on the streets after the much-reviled police essentially melted away prompted neighbors to form armed patrols. But crowds of men armed with shovels, sticks, clubs, chains, guns and even whips did little to project an image of stability.

Compounding the problem was a continued Internet outage after the government cut off service Friday to undercut protesters' ability to organize demonstrations against President Hosni Mubarak.

U.S. Embassy officials said they were unable to send text message alerts - which have been blocked nationwide since late Thursday - complicating efforts to distribute advisories.

The unrest is sure to affect Egypt's vital tourism sector, at least in the short-run. Tourism accounts for about 5 percent to 6 percent of GDP, making it one of the top four sources of foreign revenue.



SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

Innovation Park provides advisory services for companies as they expand. These entrepreneurs have either worked with the University or hope to make connections with Notre Dame.

Park

continued from page 1

dents, faculty and research.

Being at Innovation Park allowed Carlton to find student interns from Notre Dame. While he has been in business in South Bend for more than 15 years, he made connections with the University for the first time when Data Realty, his technology-based startup, came to Innovation Park in October.

"The interaction that I get here with the students is not only energizing, I'm just thoroughly impressed," he said.

Other client companies come to Innovation Park because they already have connections to Notre Dame. Les Ivie, president of F cubed, is developing a molecular detection device based on technology that Hsueh-Chia Chang, a Notre Dame chemical and biomolecular engineering professor, invented.

After Ivie decided to start F cubed based on Chang's technology of using carbon nanotubes to attract and detect certain types of DNA, he came to Innovation Park because he could be close to research at Notre Dame. While he is based in Chicago, Ivie travels to South Bend

three days each week.

"It's been good for us," Ivie said. "Not only do we get support from Innovation Park, but we get a lot of support from the local community."

Ivie said the common laboratory with special equipment at Innovation Park has been especially valuable in developing a molecular detection device that can quickly and easily test liquid samples. Applications of his device include doctors being able to diagnose patients with conditions such as influenza or strep throat in 15 minutes as opposed to several hours. In addition, it could test lake water and quickly determine whether it is safe to swim.

After F cubed is ready to move out of Innovation Park, Ivie said he plans to remain in South Bend.

"My three top scientists that work at Innovation Park moved to South Bend, one of them from Pittsburgh, one of them from Raleigh-Durham and the third one from Austin, Texas," he said. "So our intention is to graduate and stay in the local area."

Innovation Park is also "a good community of like-minded companies," Ivie said.

Brenner said client companies at Innovation Park often communicate and collaborate with one another because

they find things in common.

"That's the secret sauce of what goes on in a park like this," he said. "It's very rare that a single individual has all the answers. They need to reach out to other people."

While all 30 client companies at the Park, which include for-profit companies and non-profit social ventures, are startups, Brenner said he and his staff have learned to be flexible in advising each company.

"Without any definitive data to base it, we really had assumed we would get companies in different stages of development but that there would be a number of them that would have common needs so it would be easy to shape programs," he said. "What we've learned is that we have 30 companies in different stages of development with different challenges."

Feedback from client companies has been very positive, Brenner said, and in the future Innovation Park could look to expand, although it is not yet at full occupancy.

"We do have space here on this site for four buildings," he said. "It's an open, active issue and we're very pleased we have the space."

Contact Laura McCrystal at lmccryst@nd.edu

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PSA

continued from page 1

ment about the recognition of AllianceND as an official club on campus," Dewey said.

AllianceND, the proposed campus gay-straight group, has applied for official club status 14 times since the 1990s but has been rejected by University administrators each time, senior and acting vice president of PSA Julia Duranti said.

Past petitions have garnered over 2,700 student, faculty and staff signatures, Dewey said. PSA decided to include support for AllianceND in this year's petition to make a more focused statement about the current environment on campus regarding sexual orientation.

"We realized that there hasn't been a positive response from the administration in the past, so we were trying to think of new approaches," Dewey said. "It's a demonstration of support from a majority of the student body and faculty, but we're mostly pushing for AllianceND to get official club status."

Dewey said the large number of signatures in support of adding sexual orientation to the nondiscrimination clause demonstrates the need and desire of both students and faculty to have an informal outlet for discussion between gay and straight members of the Notre Dame community, ideally in the form of AllianceND.

"There's a general level of discomfort for straight students in learning and talking about [sexual orientation]," Dewey said. "A lot of people don't know what they think about it, so we want a space where people can meet each other and talk in a comfortable environment."

Duranti said the University has countered the push to make AllianceND an official club by emphasizing the existence of the Core Council for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Questioning students — a University committee made up of students and faculty.

There are currently 12 council members.

"The University's biggest argument against the recognition of AllianceND is the Core Council, but it's not really a space for gay and straight students to meet, talk about issues and form friendships," Duranti said. "Core Council is directly controlled by the administration, so AllianceND would be an informal place for students to come together and break the ice about these issues."

Without official club status, AllianceND doesn't have access to University funding, can't meet officially in public places on campus and can't set up a table at Activities Night, Duranti said.

PSA also hopes to collect at least 3,000 signatures for the official presentation of the petition to the University administration at the end of March, junior and PSA co-president Jackie Emmanuel said.

"While our most immediate goals for this campaign are changing, the nondiscrimination clause and getting recognition for AllianceND, the overall movement aims to create a more tolerant, accepting environment on campus for [lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender] students," Duranti

said.

Emmanuel emphasized the importance of the sexual orientation clause in creating a more comfortable environment for both students and faculty members.

"Currently, much of campus doesn't realize the trials gay faculty and students go through every day," Emmanuel said. "Untenured faculty members may hide their sexual orientations for fear of being rejected from campus or losing their jobs with no explanation, and closeted students may have to hide who they are from their friends for fear of being cast out of their friend groups."

Boston College, Fordham University, Georgetown University and Saint Mary's College, all Catholic universities, include sexual orientation in their respective nondiscrimination clauses.

Duranti said the proposal to change the University's nondiscrimination clause should not be construed as an attempt to challenge Church teachings.

"There's a misperception that we're challenging Church doctrine, but it's more of a question as to how strong the

protections are for students who deal with harassment combined with an overall culture that isn't the most accepting," Duranti said. "We're trying to hold Notre Dame to its Catholic ideals of nondiscrimination and universal love for all people, so Notre Dame has a long way to go to live up to that."

Dewey said the changes proposed by the petition may seem small but could prompt significant changes in the future.

"It's really not that controversial, and it's a pretty small change, but it could go a long way in making a difference in campus culture," Dewey said. "All of us love being at Notre Dame, so for most people the absence of AllianceND doesn't matter much, but it's important for LGBT students."

Emmanuel said several other student clubs are in favor of the petition, including MEChA, College Democrats and Feminist Voice, all of which have been helping to pass out petitions and to spread the word in general.

Contact Kristen Durbin at kdurbin@nd.edu



COURTNEY ECKERLE/The Observer

A member of the Progressive Student Alliance speaks at a meeting focusing on the nondiscrimination clause.

CHRISTIAN UNITY WEEK 2011

JANUARY 31 - FEBRUARY 4

PEOPLE OF ALL FAITHS ARE WELCOME



Mon. Jan. 31 – Ecumenical Lecture

- * "Being an Eastern Catholic: A Challenge for Catholic-Orthodox Ecumenical Relations?"
- * Fr. Yury Avvakumov (ND Theology Dept. and Byzantine Catholic Priest)
- * 7:00 pm, Coleman-Morse Lounge

Tues. Feb. 1 – Four:7 Catholic Fellowship

- * Speakers: Ryan Solava & Kaitlyn Kiger (ISI Co-Leaders)
- * 8:30 pm, Cavanaugh Hall Chapel

Wed. Feb. 2 – Ecumenical Lecture

- * "Evangelicals and Catholics Together? Some Real Progress But Some Real Problems Too"
- * Profs. Mark Noll & Brad Gregory (ND History Dept)
- * 7:00 pm, Oak Room @ South Dining Hall

Thurs. Feb. 3 – Prayer Service

- * Presider: Fr. Joe Carey, CSC
- * Reflections: Mr. Tim O'Malley (ND Center for Liturgy) and Ms. Jennie Weller (Senior & ISI Member)
- * Music provided by: Voices of Faith, Celebration Choir, Coro Primavera, ISI Worship Team, Totus Tuus Band
- * 10:00 pm, Basilica

Fri. Feb. 4 – ISI / Four:7

Praise & Worship Service

- * 8:00 pm, Keenan-Stanford Chapel

*I pray ... that all of them
may be one, Father,
just as you are in me
and I am in you. John 17:21*

CM
Campus Ministry

campusministry.nd.edu/ecumenical-interfaith/christian-unity/

HAITI

U.S. plans to continue aid

Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — The United States has no plans to halt aid to earthquake-ravaged Haiti in spite of a crisis over who will be the nation's next leader but does insist that the president's chosen successor be dropped from the race, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said Sunday.

Clinton arrived Sunday in the impoverished Caribbean nation for a brief visit. She met with President Rene Preval and earlier met with each of the three candidates jockeying to replace him.

Only two candidates can go on to the delayed second round, now scheduled for March 20. The U.S. is backing an Organization of American States recommendation that the candidate from Preval's party, government construction official Jude Celestin, should be left out in favor of populist rival Michel Martelly.

The top U.S. official at the United Nations, Susan Rice, said recently that "sustained support" from the United States required the OAS recommendations be implemented. Many Haitian officials, including leaders of Preval's Unity party and Martelly, interpreted that to mean the U.S. was threatening an embargo and cutting off aid.

Clinton flatly rebuffed that suggestion. "We're not talking about any of that," she said Sunday.

"We have a deep commitment to the Haitian people," she told reporters. "That goes



Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton shakes hands with Haitian presidential candidate Jude Celestin Sunday.

to humanitarian aid, that goes to governance and democracy programs, that will be going to a cholera treatment center."

Asked if there were any set of circumstances that would prompt Washington to cut off aid, Clinton said, "At this point, no."

Still, she insisted that the United States would press the recommendations by international monitors after a disorganized, fraud-ridden first-round presidential vote in November. They determined that Preval's preferred successor, Celestin, finished last and should drop out. Celestin has yet to do so.

"We're focused on helping the Haitian people," Clinton said ahead of the meetings. "One of the ways we want to

help them is by making sure that their political choices are respected."

Haiti is in a deepening and potentially destabilizing political crisis. The announcement of preliminary results from the disputed first round led to rioting in December. Final results are expected to be announced Wednesday.

Just five days after, on Feb. 7, comes the constitutional end of Preval's five-year term.

A law passed by an expiring Senate last May would allow him to remain in power for an extra three months, but it is not clear if his government would continue to be recognized by donor countries. But Preval has said he does not want to hand power to an interim government.

NETHERLANDS

Dutch freeze contacts with Iran after hanging

Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — The Dutch government has frozen official contacts with Iran to protest the hanging of a Dutch-Iranian woman, the Foreign Ministry said.

Iranian Ambassador Gharib Abadi was informed of the sanctions on Saturday after he confirmed reports that Zahra Bahrami, 45, was executed in Tehran Saturday.

His embassy later said the hanging was "an internal issue" that should have no impact on diplomatic relations.

Iranian state television reported Bahrami was hanged for possessing and selling drugs. The report said that initially Bahrami was arrested for committing "security crimes," but it did not say what became of that case.

Bahrami had been jailed in Iran since December 2009 after protests against President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's re-election. Protesters took to the streets, saying the vote was marred by fraud and that opposition leader Mir Hossein Mousavi was the rightful winner.

The Iranian Embassy in a statement late Saturday described Bahrami as a member of an international drug trafficking ring, who traveled on Dutch, Iranian and Spanish passports with different personal information.

It said Bahrami — who was born in Iran, but gained Dutch

citizenship after moving to the Netherlands — was accorded the legal rights of an Iranian citizen, but that Tehran does not recognize dual nationality.

Dutch Foreign Ministry spokesman Bengt van Loosdrecht said Foreign Minister Uri Rosenthal was "shocked, shattered by this act by a barbaric regime."

He added the hanging was especially shocking as Abadi had assured the Dutch minister on Friday that Bahrami's legal avenues had not yet been exhausted.

Dutch diplomats had been denied access to Bahrami while she was in prison because Iran refused to recognize her Dutch nationality. The Dutch government reportedly hired lawyers to defend her.

The diplomatic freeze means Iranian embassy staff are forbidden from meeting or having contact with Dutch officials without prior written approval, Van Loosdrecht said.

The Foreign Ministry also advised other dual citizens against traveling to Iran, as Dutch consular officials would now have no access to them if they are arrested.

Van Loosdrecht said Rosenthal would raise the issue next week when European Union foreign ministers meet in Brussels. The Netherlands will seek unspecified "collective measures" against Iran, Van Loosdrecht said.

GERMANY

Ten injured in train crash; death toll could rise

Associated Press

BERLIN — German authorities said Sunday that the death toll could still rise from a head-on collision between a cargo train and a passenger train that killed at least 10 people, injured 23 others and left wreckage scattered across a frost-covered field.

The trains crashed in heavy fog late Saturday on a single-line track near the eastern German village of Hordorf, close to Saxony-Anhalt's state capital Magdeburg, vaulting the passenger train from the track and tipping it onto its side. The front rows of the first passenger compartment were crushed and several seats lay outside the train. Both trains caught fire, but most of the dead were killed on impact, police said.

The crash is one of the worst train accidents in Germany's history.

"The crash was so strong that the passenger train was catapulted off the tracks," Armin Friedrich, the police officer in charge of the rescue efforts, said at a news conference in Hordorf, about 125 miles (200 kilometers) southwest of Berlin, Germany's capital. Nearly 200 police and rescue workers were sent to the crash site.

The cause of the crash was under investigation, and experts said they were still looking at all

possibilities, including technical failure and human error. State governor Wolfgang Boehmer, who visited the site Sunday, told reporters one of the drivers may have missed a red traffic signal.

Police said it was too early to comment on a possible cause.

"We are still speechless and shocked by the images and the level of destruction," said Holger Hoevelmann, the interior minister of Saxony-Anhalt.

The passenger train operated by Harze Elbe Express was on its way from Magdeburg to Halberstadt with about 50 passengers aboard, moving at a speed of 62 mph (100 kph), when it crashed with the cargo train, which was going 50 mph (80 kph).

The cargo train, run by Peine-Salzgitter, was carrying calcium carbonate, often used as a calcium substitute or antacid.

Neither train operator could immediately be reached for comment, but the head of Deutsche Bahn, the national German railway, told news agency DAPD that he was "deeply upset" by the accident.

"Of course, we will do everything possible to support all those involved in this accident," Ruediger Grube said, adding that he had contacted Harze-Elbe-Express and offered help.

At the scene, mangled parts of the blue and yellow passenger train were scattered around the



Police officers inspect an overturned passenger train after a train crash in Hordorf, near Oschersleben in eastern Germany Sunday.

field. The dark imprints of some of the bodies that had been removed could be seen on the white frosty ground next to the crash site.

The noise of the collision was heard in the village of Oschersleben, more than four miles (about seven kilometers) away.

Due to the heavy fog, rescue helicopters were not able to fly the injured to nearby hospitals

and they had to be taken by ambulance instead. Most of the injured were so severely hurt that doctors fear the death toll could rise, Hoevelmann added.

Several German media outlets said the train driver and a conductor of the passenger train were among the dead, but police did not confirm those reports.

Two bodies have been identified, but police did not want to release their identities before

informing relatives. A phone hotline was activated for family members and friends, and psychologists and ministers were on the scene to counsel rescue personnel.

Police said they were having trouble identifying victims because most of them were not carrying ID.

Chancellor Angela Merkel expressed her condolences, saying she too was shocked.

INSIDE COLUMN

Tradition

Tradition. A word so synonymous with Notre Dame it applies to discussions of football and graces numerous articles of memorabilia in the Hammes Bookstore.

But these trivial examples of Irish “tradition” pale in comparison with the ubiquitous family tradition that pervades every campus residence hall and encompasses nearly the entire country.

As an undergraduate admissions tour guide, it is my express responsibility to know myriad random facts about our beloved

University, but an important statistic I frequently repeat in response to questions from students and parents involves the proportion of legacy students at Notre Dame. According to admissions counselors, the University prefers to keep the number of students who had at least one parent attend Notre Dame at about 25 percent of the undergraduate student body.

That proportion often seems grossly inaccurate when meeting people who casually mention that their grandfather, parents, uncles, cousins and siblings went to Notre Dame and that their love for the school began in the womb.

Not that I don’t buy into Notre Dame’s image as a university deeply rooted in tradition, especially in terms of Catholicism and football, but I honestly can’t think of another university to which whole generations of families flock, save for maybe Harvard.

Although my parents aren’t Domers, my grandmother is a proud alumna of Saint Mary’s, and two of her brothers once called the Golden Dome home. This relatively “distant” connection to the University turned my decision to attend Notre Dame into the continuation of a 50-year-old “family tradition.”

Now that my younger brother became an official member of the Class of 2015 last week, the contagious Notre Dame family tradition has lured yet another sibling to snowy South Bend. The fact that my brother turned down the possibility of receiving a substantial scholarship to Marquette and guaranteed admission into their dental school in the future says something about the magnetic pull of Notre Dame. But what exactly attracts people to the University?

Obvious answers would include football (which will hopefully return to glory by the time I graduate), the University’s status as the best Catholic university in the world and the No. 1 undergraduate business school in the country. But these are simply the easiest reasons to put on paper.

During my tours, it’s often difficult to effectively convey the unique feeling of community that Notre Dame students share, despite the fact that I feel connected to the Notre Dame community every day. Maybe it’s the camaraderie the dorms foster or standing in a sea of green in the student section.

Whatever it is, it brings 2,000 new Domers to campus each year and attracts 80,000 football fans on fall weekends. It brings families together and strengthens relationships between siblings. Most of all, it unites us all as part of the Notre Dame family legacy, and I can’t wait for my brother to feel that unique blend of tradition and community next year.

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

Contact Kristen Durbin at kdurbin@nd.edu



Kristen Durbin

News
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Editor

Sticks and stones (and violent words and images) hurt

In the defense of her violent language that has been blamed for inciting the shooting of Rep. Gabrielle Gifford, Sarah Palin said, “Acts of monstrous criminality stand on their own. They begin and end with the criminals who commit them, not collectively with all the citizens of a state, not with those who listen to talk radio, not with maps of swing districts used by both sides of the aisle, not with law-abiding citizens who respectfully exercise their First Amendment rights at campaign rallies, not with those who proudly voted in the last election.”

Legally, Palin is correct. The only one to be prosecuted for the Tucson, Ariz. shootings will be Jared Lee Loughner. But Palin’s insistence on the crime ending with the criminal is naive, a frightening attitude for one who is presumed to be planning a run for the presidency, and it illustrates a serious problem in politics today: the lack of foresight among politicians.

With such a position of influence and with an appeal to a large number of people in America who are impressed by her disposition, Sarah Palin has the responsibility to understand the possible consequences of language such as “Don’t retreat; instead reload.” The use of the crosshair symbols on her “Take back the 20” map to designate the politicians who had voted for health care reform in conservative districts

was an enormous mistake. If it was not Sarah Palin’s mistake, it was the mistake of those who work for her. Columnists who have defended Sarah Palin on both her gun imagery and the use of the crosshairs have pointed out that the “crosshair” is a symbol used by the U.S. Geographic Survey to designate “Principal Points” on topographic maps. However, if that were the case, the time for Sarah Palin to disavow the “crosshairs” imagery and take down her map was spring 2010 rather than after the Tucson shooting. Since she failed to do that, how can we believe that she and her team intended the symbol on her map to be the marker used by the U.S. Geographic Survey? In fact, in a November 2010 tweet, Sarah Palin referred to the image as the “‘bullseye’ icon used 2 target the 20 Obamacare-lovin’ incumbent seats” (twitter.com/SarahPalinUSA/status/29677744457#). When I took a look at Sarah Palin’s “Take back the 20” map, the first thing I saw were the crosshairs as targets. Was this because I had just read an article about them being as such? Perhaps. However, I think most people would say, “Those look like crosshair targets,” rather than, “Those look like the markers designated by the U.S. to indicate ‘principal points’ on a map.”

I am not arguing that the language and images behind Sarah Palin’s midterm election campaign should have been censored externally, but that she should have moderated them herself. I believe in the First Amendment. However, I also believe that in any position of power, in any position in which one has influence over a group of people, government or otherwise, there

exists the responsibility to act in ways that provide for the bolstering of a society in the best interest of all. Violent language and graphic images that allude to taking up arms are not parts of the positions of power. The use of what Nobel Prize economist Paul Krugman calls “eliminationist rhetoric” is counterproductive for society as a whole. If politicians like Sarah Palin claim to have the best interest of the country and the future of the country at heart, then the use of violent language which requires an eight-minute public justification makes the claim unbelievable.

No, Sarah Palin. Criminal acts do not begin and end with just the criminal. They are the immediate responsibility of the one who commits them, but they must also be viewed within the context of society and those who lead it. Crime will be more common in a society that makes it seem as though such actions can be tolerated. A better society, one in which crime will still exist but in which it is clearly not tolerated, begins early on with the sentiment, “I will not raise my child to kill your child.” Politicians should use the same logic. Violence and words insinuating violence cannot be a part of America’s political system, and the line should be drawn now. With great power, comes great responsibility. For Sarah Palin and all politicians, it is the responsibility to influence those who listen to them to make America greater, not more violent.

Alex Coccia is a freshman. He can be contacted at acoccia@nd.edu

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



Alex Coccia

Shard of Glass

EDITORIAL CARTOON



QUOTE OF THE DAY

“Nothing fixes a thing so intensely in the memory as the wish to forget it.”

Michel de Montaigne
French essayist

Submit a Letter
to the Editor at

www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“Keep your broken arm inside your sleeve.”

Chinese proverb

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Gates the wrong choice for Commencement speaker

Last week's editorial endorsing the selection of Robert Gates as this year's Commencement speaker failed to take into account the gravity of the United States' current military engagements overseas and Secretary Gates' role in those operations. As a senior graduating in May, I am troubled by Secretary Gates' selection. Although he has had an impressive career marked by a number of praiseworthy accomplishments, Secretary Gates' role in recent U.S. foreign policy decisions makes him an inappropriate choice for Commencement speaker.

48,156 U.S. soldiers and civilian government employees have been killed or wounded in U.S. military operations in the Middle East as of Jan. 28, according to the Department of Defense. I, like many Americans, do not understand what purpose is served by our nation's continued military presence in the Middle East, and I fear that our foreign policy does little to keep America safe. I would welcome a visit from Secretary Gates in an academic setting, but the Commencement is not a venue for inquiry or debate. His role in the ceremony and the University's conferral of an honorary degree upon him will give the appearance of a tacit endorsement of the Bush

and Obama administrations' foreign policies, even if such an endorsement is not intended.

I look forward to reflecting on my experiences at Notre Dame and celebrating everything I love about our University on my graduation day. I am disappointed, however, that the centerpiece of that day will be a speech delivered by one of the chief exponents of a foreign policy that I believe is deeply misguided. It is my hope that Secretary Gates' selection as Commencement speaker will at least prompt those of us in the Notre Dame community to seriously consider the wisdom of the decisions he has participated in over the past four years. Though we may disagree in good faith about the necessity and justice of the United States' recent military actions, we would do well to remember Jesus' teaching, which lies at the heart of our University's mission: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

Benjamin Linskey
 senior
 Duncan Hall
 Jan. 29

UWIRE

Merger risks press freedom

Throughout my higher education I have heard cyberspace referred to as a place where consumers wield a great deal of power. My professors have cited blogging and social networking as tools that will ensure our Internet freedom. I have lived in this fantasy world, believing in earnest that maybe the power really had shifted from the hands of the producers to the consumers.

Mark Costigan
The Oregon Daily Emerald

Those days are over.

With the FCC approval of the Comcast-NBC Universal merger on January 18, any hope for net neutrality has been washed away with the sewage. Comcast owns more telecommunications lines and controls more Internet connections than any other service provider in the nation.

The company has been caught slowing down traffic and even prioritizing data and information on its servers. And now it controls the face of that information.

Comcast, as an Internet service provider, owns the framework and pipelines of the Internet in our country. The company is, in essence, a distributor and provider of the means by which we receive and transmit our information. This used to be a minor topic in our field of discourse, but now we have reason to be seriously concerned.

For example, take Tracy Record, who covers local news in the West Seattle neighborhood.

In light of five major corporations owning the vast majority of American media, she and her husband have taken it upon themselves to cover local news in their neighborhood.

Tracy writes the articles, her husband, Patrick, sells the ads and their middle school-aged son edits the photos.

The family not only supports itself this way; they provide relevant news to their community supported by local advertisers.

Like many bloggers, they use WordPress, an extremely cheap Web publishing platform.

Before this pinnacle merger, the family had a fair opportunity to distribute its information through the Internet. Using techniques like search engine optimization, they could inform and empower their community.

Well, now the West Seattle blog will have to compete with a merged media and distribution company that can prioritize information. Interestingly enough, the Federal Communications Commission insists this merger is in the interest of consumers.

When Comcast can silence its critics, it will be difficult for such a ludicrous statement to receive any backlash.

Previous to this conjoining of two major media conglomerates, we had hope for freedom of information. Our free speech rights in the United States were something many countries in the world could hardly fathom.

"I was astounded by the freedom of speech you have here," said Zedidi Oni, a native of the West African nation

of Togo. "You can talk about the government and still go to sleep at night not being afraid if you will not wake up in the morning. In my country, you can't really say anything or do anything against the government. Unless you want to risk your life or your family's, you constantly remain living in fear."

We were a paradigm for freedom of speech. Now that speech can be controlled, manipulated or even silenced.

The internet was the "fifth estate." It was a forum for watchdogs to keep our "fourth estate" media in check. Techniques of web advertising were the Wild West, with technology entrepreneurs creating new markets for information on an hourly basis.

But now we are entering a new world of cyberspace: a world where NBC Universal will be the vehicle for propelling the economic interests of Comcast.

A world where bloggers can be suppressed, independent Web developers are imprisoned and information entrepreneurs are left fresh out of options.

And one government organization is to blame.

The FCC wields a great deal of power of who speaks to it. It regulates satellite, radio and TV transmissions. It controls ownership rules that most of the United States does not even know exist.

These laws regulate how many television or radio stations a single owner can own, or whether newspapers can own television stations, and how many. These are regulations that are supposed to ensure diverse ownership of media, which subsequently encourages a fairness of ideas.

The concentration of media in the hands of fewer and fewer companies is not a new development, but the reforms in the last two decades have been astonishing.

In 1983, more than 80 percent of the media was controlled by just 50 companies. By 1992, that number had been more than halved to 14. By 2010, the overwhelming majority of the mass media was owned by only five corporations.

At this point, the FCC has relaxed ownership rules so much that fairness in media is nearly impossible. We have a set of changes that will move us in exactly in the wrong direction.

Comcast-NBC can now dominate the dialogue of our communities, moving it in whatever direction that satisfies its investors and advertisers.

Alternative ideas from independent media companies will become nearly impossible, as Comcast can prioritize information at will.

It will control the reservoir of information, the pipelines and the dams that stop it.

I fear for the day when it buys Facebook or Google.

This article was first published in the Jan. 28 issue of The Oregon Daily Emerald, the daily publication serving the University of Oregon.

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

Improv standout

Dear Alvin,

This is a shout-out to say how awesome you were Saturday night. Man, things were getting pretty slow with the "President of Egypt" skit that 3033 Improv troupe was trying to pull off, and then after intermission, when they invited you on stage, I was so happy that you agreed to join them. I have to say that hands down, you made my night the best night with the Humor Artists ever. Your quick thinking and witty replies to the dialogue had me and my friends rolling in the aisles. For those not present, you began as the humble waiter for a skit, but then showed your true talents as a babysitter in the following act. As you and your brother and sister attempted to pick a movie to watch, you quickly devised a chocolate Domino's pizza to resolve the situation! And when your friends were stuck in the airport terminal due to bad weather, you cheerfully declared, "The weather's clearing up!" and flew the plane to Miami yourself. The best part, by far, was the Mariott Murder Mystery Party, when you effectively identified the murderer in a mere three seconds. Alvin, you showed great promise and poise as an improvisational performer Saturday night, and for that, we thank you.

Your friend,

Deborah Olmstead
 senior
 Welsh Family Hall
 Jan. 30

Pet controversy

Reading the recent article "Rectors' pets call residence halls home" (Jan. 26) I was struck by the certain unfair quality inherent in the story. As a resident of Walsh, with a new rector this year, we did not have the good fortune of having a dog grandfathered in. By the new rule, we are now prohibited from owning one, much to the dismay of our rector and all of the girls in our dorm. It seems highly unfair that we should be excluded from this privilege and opportunity solely on the basis of circumstance. There are numerous benefits that result from owning an animal, many of which are especially relevant to college living. Having a dog in the dorm would encourage responsibility, healthy living and overall wellness while offering a relaxing outlet to students. From issues of depression to grief counseling, dogs have proved effective in reducing stress, homesickness and promoting well-being. In regards to allergies, being one of the oldest dorms on campus without much ventilation and totally lacking air conditioning, the addition of a dog would hardly have a significant effect on the air quality. With all of the positive effects, such a minor hypothetical difficulty seems trivial. Notre Dame has always striven to provide a multitude of resources to promote the health of its students, and it seems ridiculous that they should deny our dorms one of the possibly most beneficial.

They say that dogs are man's best friend. Well, the women of Walsh are waiting.

Kat Leach
 sophomore
 Walsh Hall
 Jan. 27

Every recycled Observer
 saves a polar bear.



By CHRIS COLLUM
Scene Writer

"Kiss Each Other Clean" is the fourth studio album by folk rock craftsman Sam Beam, the creative force behind Iron & Wine. After releasing a pair of albums and a few EPs that consisted largely of Beam's acoustic strumming and hushed melodies, he teamed up with numerous other musicians for the politically charged "The Shepherd's Dog," released in 2007.

"The Shepherd's Dog" was very well received by most critics, and began to slowly expand Beam's audience. This was in large part due to the album's closing track, "Flightless Bird, American Mouth" in the "Twilight" movie and best-selling soundtrack.

Like many independent artists who are discovered through movie soundtracks, Iron & Wine's first post-Twilight album comes on a major label for the first time. Despite this good news, the new label may be a cause of concern for longtime fans worried about Beam's direction.

Still, veteran fans need not worry, as Beam is as good as he has ever been, if not better. Album opener "Walking Far from Home" has been floating around on the Internet for a few months and acts as a manifesto for the album's thematic elements. It is almost certainly one of Beam's finest melodies to date.

Beam has always had a distinctly vivid writing style, and that certainly has not changed on this album. "Kiss Each Other Clean" discusses themes of youth, faith and love in one fell swoop, with a conspicuously pastoral tone.

"Tree by the River" is a great example of this. It is a tale of adolescent romance, presumably set in the South Carolina countryside in which Beam grew up. "I recall the sun in our faces/Stuck and leaning on braces/And being strangers to change" perfectly describes what he is singing about, and gives the listener a sense of his meaning as well.

Avid Iron & Wine listeners may be wondering how similar or different this new album is. "Walking Far from Home" should answer that question and quell doubts about the record's quality

within the first minute. For the first time in his career Beam made a record that sounds like it was actually made by a band, not just by someone with a guitar. This record is very musically diverse, incorporating everything from horns to a harp.

Beam also uses bizarre-sounding guitar effects and even some electronic elements on "Kiss Each Other Clean." This may lead some listeners to draw parallels to fellow folkie Sufjan Steven's latest album "The Age of Adz" released late last year, in which Stevens also used electronic elements to compliment what was generally a folk rock album otherwise. Beam also has become a master at multi-tracking his own voice, in much the same vein as Bon Iver's Justin Vernon.

Finally, there are moments on the record, such as the last part of seven-minute closing epic "Your Fake Name Is Good Enough for Me," that go for a "fuzzed-out" or "cluttered" feel, bringing to mind so-called "fuzz-folk" artists such as Neutral Milk Hotel or The Microphones that saw their heyday at the beginning of the last decade.

What makes this album great is undoubtedly Beam's lyrics. A few lines from album highlight "Rabbit Will Run" shows what attracts listeners to Iron & Wine's strange poetry: "We all live in grace at the end of the day/And we've armed all the children we thought we'd betrayed/And I still have a prayer, but too few occasions to pray."

Iron and Wine
"Kiss Each Other Clean"

Record Label: Warner Brothers

Release Date: Jan. 25

Best Tracks: "Walking far from Home," "Rabbit Will Run," "Tree by the River"



Contact Chris Collum at
ccollum@nd.edu

At The Movies



by Adriana Pratt

- 1 Follow You Down - Gin Blossoms
- 2 Sweet Disposition - The Temper Trap
- 3 Let Go - Frou Frou
- 4 Dancin' in the Moonlight - Toploader
- 5 You Make My Dreams Come True - Daryl Hall & John Oates
- 6 Someday We'll Know - Mandy Moore & Jonathan Foreman
- 7 Love Lost - The Temper Trap
- 8 You're So Vain - Carly Simon
- 9 I'll Be Seeing You - Billie Holiday
- 10 Mrs. Robinson - Simon & Garfunkel
- 11 Weight of the World - Chantal Kreviazuk
- 12 Rhythm of Love - Plain White T's

As the workload piles up and the free time

dies down, priorities shift and it gets

difficult to participate in a favorite past

time - watching movies. This playlist,

made up of songs from "How to Lose a Guy

in 10 Days," "(500) Days of Summer,"

"Garden State," "A Walk to Remember,"

"The Graduate," "The Notebook" and "No

Strings Attached" can you give you a dose

of that movie bliss while you diligently

tackle the homework, something both you

and your professors can feel good about.

Listen online at ndsmcobserver.com/scene

NOTRE DAME *style spotter*



Maria Fernandez/The Observer

By MARIA FERNANDEZ
Scene Writer

Name: Sofia Llompart

Spotted: Working out at Rolfs

Sofia hits the gym with style! Her matching shorts and shirt are perfect for a jog or a spin on the stationary bike. Her red sweater adds color to her outfit and is great for the weather. Sofia definitely knows how to accessorize when she exercises! Her oversize bag and iPod are essential for a good workout.

Contact Maria Fernandez at mfernan5@nd.edu



Wanderlust: Making the best of the Midwest

Sometimes when I'm in one place for too long, I get a little restless. The world starts to feel like a stalled elevator, and I get a bit claustrophobic. No matter how much I love Notre Dame, sometimes I just need to get away. I know that South Bend's limitless array of exciting weekend activities is undeniable, but really, there are only so many busy, snowy and endlessly gray days I can handle in a row. Also, I get bored of eating at the dining hall.

Laura Mittelstaedt

Scene Writer

This semester, I will be writing a regular column for those of you who, like me, have a bad case of wanderlust and need some ideas for places to go. This is your source for nearby travel destinations worthy of walking all the way out to the D6 parking lot, hopping in the car and leaving Notre Dame in the dust for a day or two.

I will kick off this column with a three-part series on perhaps the most obvious local destination: Chicago. It always surprises me how rarely Notre Dame students go to Chicago because of its relative proximity. Chicago is a fantastic city with tons of things to do and really great food. Also, I swear it's always a little sunnier there, and even if it isn't, there's just something invigorating about being surrounded by buildings and people. Though I encourage you to explore Chicago on your own, especially in the neighborhoods north of downtown, I will spend the next three weeks focusing on fun things to do from museums to cupcake shops.

First, Getting There

Chicago is easily accessible from Notre Dame by train or car. The South Shore Line (\$10.95 each way) leaves South Bend Regional Airport five times daily and arrives at Millennium Station in downtown Chicago about two and a half hours later. Though two and a half hours might sound a bit daunting, the ride goes by quickly, especially if you have a good book or friends with you. If you're not into public transportation, Chicago is about an hour and 45 minutes away by car via I-80 and the Skyway. Parking can add up pretty quickly, and driving around downtown can be a little scary if you've never driven in a large city before, but hey, if you want to, go for it.

Parking in Chicago

Finding parking in the city, especially reasonably priced parking, can be tricky. Many department stores have discounted parking (about \$12) if you make a purchase at the store (Nordstrom, Bloomingdale's and Fox & Obel, for example). Otherwise, parking

garage rates are generally between \$20 and \$30 per day. If you are in the north side neighborhoods (Lincoln Park, Wrigleyville, Uptown, etc.) there are streets with free parking from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., as well as metered spots (\$1.50 per hour during the day; free between 9 p.m. and 8 a.m.). If you want more information about parking rates and hours, www.chicagometers.com is a great resource.

Getting Around

Chicago's train system (the CTA) is efficient and runs regularly, so it is perfect for getting back and forth between downtown and north-side neighborhoods, or even just around downtown if the Windy City is too cold for walking. Single tickets are \$2.25 and can be purchased with cash at kiosks in each of the train stations. If you think you'll ride the train a lot, a day-pass (\$5.75) is a good option. Refer to transitchicago.com for map and schedule information.

A Tourist in Chicago

I don't want to spend too much time on touristy things to do in Chicago because they are easy enough to find on the Internet or in guidebooks. However, I do have a few recommendations if you've never been to the city before.

The Art Institute of Chicago (\$12) is one of my favorite museums. The permanent collection is outstanding and the new Modern Wing is impressive, making the Institute a great way to escape the cold for a few hours.

A short walk from the Art Institute, Millennium Park is always a fun stop, even when it's cold outside. In the winter, the park offers ice skating (free with a \$10 skate rental) and features "The Bean," a giant stainless steel mirror-like sculpture shaped like a jelly bean that never gets old. Finally, the Skydeck (\$15.95) at the Willis Tower (formerly the Sears Tower) lets you see the city from 1,353 feet above street level, and you can even step into newly installed glass boxes that allow you to literally see the city beneath your feet — a bit scary, but fun.

When it's warmer, a myriad of free or inexpensive activities are offered in Millennium and Grant Park from free yoga to free concerts and movies. See chicagoparkdistrict.com for fun things to do before heading into the city.

So this, my friends, has been my very brief introduction to Chicago. Keep a look out for more articles in the next two weeks with recommendations for foodies and shopaholics in Chicago and more. Until then, fellow Domers, keep wandering.

Contact Laura Mittelstaedt at lmittels@nd.edu

NBA

Heat trio reunites in win over Oklahoma City

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Miami finally had its Big 3 of LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh reunited, and Oklahoma City's top trio was at its best, too.

Yet none of those stars came away with the biggest shot of the game.

Eddie House hit the go-ahead 3-pointer with 22.2 seconds left, then added two free throws to seal the Miami Heat's 108-103 victory in a Sunday showcase in which their All-Star triumvirate played together for the first time in nearly three weeks.

"Any time Eddie raises and shoots, you think it's going in," Wade said. "He's one of those guys that look for the moment."

Wade scored 32 points, James added 23 points and 13 rebounds and Bosh had 20 points — and coach Erik Spoelstra pulled the right string by putting House into the lineup during a timeout after Kevin Durant's jumper had put the Thunder up 103-102 with 34.3 seconds left.

Wade missed a jumper from the left wing, Mike Miller snagged the rebound and kicked it out to James, who passed it over to House for a 3 on the right sideline that made it 105-103.

"He's a unique player because he's ready and ignitable without rhythm minutes. Not many players in this league, you can do that," Spoelstra said. "You throw him in, he hasn't played, if he's been sitting for a while, he feels like he's hot."

Durant scored 33 points but

missed a contested jumper along the left baseline with 15 seconds left that would've put the Thunder back on top. Jeff Green had 23 points and 11 rebounds, and Russell Westbrook added 21 points and 10 assists as Oklahoma City's top three scorers all reached 20 points for just the third time this season.

It still wasn't enough to match a similar performance from Miami's Big 3, who all eclipsed 20 points in the same game for the 11th time. The Heat are 9-2 when that happens.

"I don't look at it as the 'big three.' They may look at it like that over there, but over here we're a whole group," Durant said.

After House's go-ahead 3, James contested Durant's attempt to tie it at the other end and Nick Collison swatted the rebound toward midcourt. Wade tracked it down and got fouled, hit his first free throw before missing the second, and that rebound was initially awarded to the Thunder after it went out of bounds under the basket with 6.9 seconds left.

James walked back to the huddle saying confidently, "It's our ball" — and a replay proved him right. The ball deflected off Collison, and House hit two free throws to close it out.

"We don't take moral victories here. We wanted to win that game," Durant said. "We had the game won and we just didn't. Moral victories have been out the door for two years now."

Bosh had been sidelined four games with a sprained

left ankle and Wade had missed two of those game due to migraine headaches and a wrist injury. Before that, James missed two games, also with a sprained left ankle. It had been since Jan. 12 since all three played together.

"It felt good to have guys back. It threw us off a little bit early. We hadn't played with each other for a while. But with Chris coming back early, to try to gut it out and go tonight, we needed just to get wins," Wade said. "Hopefully, we can build on it."

The Heat had been scuffling, losing five of six before beating Detroit by a point Friday night on James Jones' disputed block of Austin Daye's dunk at the buzzer. Oklahoma City, meanwhile, had lost three of four and then needed overtime to beat Minnesota and Washington — both in last place — in their last two games.

Wade staked the Heat to their largest lead by spinning away from Westbrook for a jumper along the left baseline that made it 98-90 with 5:51 to play and finished a 13-2 run.

But Wade was still upset after Serge Ibaka blocked his layup attempt on Miami's next possession and drew a technical foul after Green got a fast-break layup at the other end that would start a 13-4 comeback for Oklahoma City.

Westbrook and Durant each hit a pair of free throws to cut the deficit to one, and the Thunder got a chance to go ahead after Bosh's missed



Heat guard Dwyane Wade scores two of his 32 points Sunday against the Thunder. The Heat won their second game in a row.

jumper on a failed attempt to draw a foul against Durant — with the same rip move Durant uses frequently to catch opponents reaching in against him.

Durant came around a screen and connected on a jumper from the top of the

key with 34.3 seconds left to put Oklahoma City up 103-102. It was one of only two shots Durant made in 10 second-half attempts, with most of his damage coming from foul line. He was 11 for 13 in the second half and finished 16 for 19.

NHL

Team Lidstrom comes back to win high-scoring All-Star game

Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — Sorry Team Staal, Team Lidstrom felt right at home in Carolina.

Eric Staal had the No. 1 pick in the inaugural NHL All-Star fantasy draft and the unconditional support of his hometown Carolina Hurricanes fans behind him.

Still, he was left with a loss to a proven winner — Nicklas Lidstrom.

Danny Briere, Jonathan Toews, and Martin St. Louis scored dur-

ing a four-minute span of the third period to lift Team Lidstrom over Team Staal 11-10 on Sunday in the NHL All-Star game.

Lidstrom can add this victory to the four Stanley Cup titles and six Norris trophies he has won with the Detroit Red Wings.

Maybe Staal's pick of Hurricanes goalie Cam Ward with the No. 1 selection in the fantasy draft wasn't such a good idea, after all. Tampa Bay's Steven Stamkos, the league leader with 38 goals, went with

the second pick to Lidstrom, and Stamkos scored the goal that made it 6-6 in the second period.

Ward could hardly be blamed for the four goals he gave up in the first. Pittsburgh's Marc-Andre Fleury also allowed four in the opening 20 minutes of a typically defenseless All-Star game.

One consolation for the Staals: Chicago's Patrick Sharp claimed MVP honors in a losing cause after he posted a goal and two assists.

With the team in white named after Staal, the Carolina fans

deked out in red hardly seemed to care that Sidney Crosby and his Pittsburgh Penguins teammate Evgeni Malkin were missing because of injuries.

Staal's club had a 4-0 lead in the first, that was gone before the intermission, and an 8-7 edge after Kris Letang's second goal early in the third.

Then Lidstrom's club staged its second comeback and grabbed a late third-period lead — only to have Team Staal attempt a rally.

After Rick Nash brought Team Staal within a goal with 4:49

remaining, Loui Eriksson sealed it by scoring into an empty net at 18:49. That insurance was necessary because Staal gave the RBC Center one more reason to yell when he made it 11-10 with his fourth career All-Star goal with 34 seconds remaining.

Philadelphia's Briere got one of the injury replacement spots and made the most of it. Briere gave Team Lidstrom a 7-6 lead with 4:29 left in the second period and then tied it 8-8 at 9:57 into the final period with his third career All-Star goal.

CLASSIFIEDS

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

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For more information, visit Notre Dames website: <http://csap.nd.edu>

Claire: We need a game plan, we need to map out exactly what we are going to say, because that is the only way I will be able to hold it together while our babies look at us with judgment and disgust.

Phil: That's how they always look at us.

Phil: Why do I have to watch a French movie, I didn't do anything wrong.

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

St. John's dominates Duke in upset victory

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Teams that beat Duke have reason to celebrate. Teams that blow Duke out of the building should be able to party all night.

So, how long will the St. John's players be allowed to celebrate Sunday's 93-78 victory over No. 3 Duke—a game that wasn't as close as the final score indicated?

"Coach Lav said we had two hours to celebrate and then we have to get ready for Rutgers," senior forward Justin Burrell said, referring to first-year coach Steve Lavin and the Red Storm's next opponent on Wednesday.

Two hours? It will take longer than that just to go over the highlight plays of a game that St. John's had won by halftime. Those last 20 minutes were just a formality.

"I felt like we were ready. The guys wanted to play this game," Duke guard Nolan Smith said. "We wanted to be here but they came out from the jump ball and kicked our butts."

It wasn't that St. John's (12-8) beat the Blue Devils (19-2), it was the way it happened.

St. John's was finishing a stretch of eight straight games against ranked teams. This win gave them three wins in that span. It was enough to have Lavin waving his arms to the crowd at a media timeout in the second half.

"You're caught up in the moment of the game and I wanted St. John's fans to come to the party in terms of supporting the players on the court," Lavin said.

"We had this arduous stretch of games and having lost five of six, at that moment it was just wanting to jumper cable the crowd and bring energy for our players because they deserved a pat on the back and some appreciation for the yeoman's effort and the cohesive brand of basketball they had been playing against the defending national champion."

The Red Storm, who had lost three straight and five of six, took control early and had a 46-25 lead at halftime. Duke, which came into the game shooting 40 percent from 3-point range, missed its first 10 shots from behind the arc and made one of 13 in the half.

The Blue Devils' overall shooting wasn't a whole lot better as they shot 29.6 percent (8 of 27) in the half—they entered the game shooting 48.1 percent from the field—and they were careless with the ball as well, committing 11 turnovers, one off their season average for a game.

St. John's had a lot to do with how poorly Duke played, using a three-quarter court trap to force the Blue Devils into low percentage passes that almost all seemed to either be stolen by St. John's or just thrown away.

"It's not an Xs and Os thing today," Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski said. "I felt we were not ready to compete, we had blank expressions on our faces and guys weren't talking and that's my responsibility. Our program didn't do well today and that is all our responsibilities."

There was plenty of praise to go around for the Red Storm, who gave the Big East a 6-1

record against teams ranked in the top 10 this season. They were 16 of 28 from the field (57.1 percent) in the first half, well above the 45.2 percent the Red Storm were shooting coming into the game.

Dwight Hardy had 26 points for St. John's, while Justin Brownlee had 20 points, nine rebounds and six assists and Paris Horne added 15 points and six assists. St. John's shot 58.2 percent for the game (32 of 55) and was 26 of 33 from the free throw line.

"I thought our team from the outset executed with precision on offense and brought great intensity to the defensive end of the floor," Lavin said, "and we were able to maintain a high level of basketball for 40 minutes and that was the difference."

Duke's loss continued the weekend of misery for members of the Top 25. On Saturday, four teams in the top 10 and 11 ranked teams overall lost.

Smith led Duke with 32 points and Kyle Singler added 20. Duke finished 5 of 26 from 3-point range—they missed 21 of the first 22 attempts—and had 17 turnovers.

"To sum it up they got whatever they wanted and we just weren't able to bounce back and match them," Singler said.

The sellout crowd of 19,353 at Madison Square Garden—about 60 percent of whom were cheering for St. John's—seemed to be waiting for a run by the Blue Devils, who had won four straight since its loss at Florida State, that would make their nightmare half go away.



Duke guard Ryan Kelly attempts to block the shot of St. John's forward Justin Brownlee in the first half of the Red Storm's 93-78 victory Sunday.

St. John's came out and scored the first two baskets of the second half—one on a dunk by D.J. Kennedy 10 seconds in, the other on a layup by Hardy off a nice pass from Dwayne Polee II—to take its biggest lead of the game, 50-25 1:04 into the second half.

St. John's had doubled Duke and the Red Storm managed to score enough the rest of the way to keep the Blue Devils at bay. The closest Duke would get would be 11 points after they hit four straights 3-pointers to pull to 87-76.

"I was really excited," said Burrell who had eight points and five rebounds. "I'm one of those guys who really enjoys college basketball and I was excited to be a part of this."

The Red Storm started their run against ranked teams with a 61-58 victory over then-No. 13 Georgetown. After losses to Notre Dame and Syracuse, they beat then-No. 9 Notre Dame 72-54 in a rematch. Losses to Louisville, Cincinnati and Georgetown preceded the win over Duke. All three wins were at Madison Square Garden.

"This was an interesting stretch as a coach," Lavin said. "I don't think it had ever happened. The mathematical probabilities have got to be one in a zillion. We've had to temper things with them and be mindful of that frustration. The concern was that our players realize this conference is really tough and you can lose five of six and not be playing bad basketball."

PGA TOUR

Woods starts season slow at Torrey Pines

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Tiger Woods began a new year with his worst season debut.

Woods failed to birdie a par 5 for the second time this week and closed with a 3-over 75 on Sunday in the Farmers Insurance Open, ending his five-tournament winning streak at Torrey Pines with a middle-of-the-pack finish.

"I have some work to do," Woods said. "There's no doubt about that."

The biggest surprise of his 74-75 on the South Course is that Woods had won seven times on this public course, including the 2008 U.S. Open. He had never finished out of the top 10 in the PGA Tour event at Torrey Pines.

This week, he looked liked anyone else.

Woods was out of the top 40 when he completed his final round, with the leaders just making the turn. He had never finished out of the top 10 in stroke play to start a season, and his worst result for a debut was two years ago in the Match Play Championship, where he lost in the second round and tied for 17th.

That was his first event after

missing eight months following reconstructive knee surgery.

Woods opened Sunday with two short irons inside 10 feet, missing both birdie putts. On the par-4 fourth, he nearly holed a long birdie attempt, then missed the 3 1/2-foot par putt.

"I hit it as pure as I could possibly hit it starting out, and got nothing out of it," Woods said. "As the round went on, I progressively got worse with my golf swing. And ironically enough, felt better and better with the putter. So it's one of those things."

But these things never seem to happen at Torrey Pines.

Woods won the Buick Invitational four straight times starting in 2005. He had never finished more than four shots out of the lead, but he was 13 out when he finished, the kind of deficit he experienced so much of last year.

Much more was expected considering how Woods finished last year, putting together three of his best rounds at the Chevron World Challenge until blowing a four-shot lead on the final day and losing to U.S. Open champion Graeme McDowell in a playoff.

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TENNIS

Djokovic wins Australian Open championship

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Novak Djokovic gave his old friend Andy Murray a sympathetic hug and a few consoling words, then got on with the real celebrations.

Djokovic walked to the middle of the court, tossed his racket into the crowd, then stripped off his shirt and shoes and hurled them, too.

The 23-year-old Serb had plenty to celebrate after his 6-4, 6-2, 6-3 win over Murray in the Australian Open final on Sunday night. Djokovic's second Australian title made him only the fourth active player on the men's tour to win multiple majors. Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer have had a lock on the men's side, winning 21 of the previous 23, while Lleyton Hewitt has two titles—the last coming at Wimbledon in 2002.

"It's been a fantastic tournament for me," Djokovic said. "I don't want to fly up to the sky and say, 'I am the best,' or whatever. I cannot compare to Rafa and Roger's success."

He's the most successful player so far in 2011, though, and that's what counts right now.

"Certainly this will give me a lot of motivation for the continuation of the season, because to win a Grand Slam at the start of the season is the best start you can ask for," he said. "It means a world to me. I'm still 23. I still have a lot of time to go."

Top-ranked Nadal came to Australia aiming to win a fourth consecutive major and complete a "Rafa Slam." He lost in the quarterfinals. Federer came in as the defending champion and lost to Djokovic in the semifinals.

The loss for fifth-seeded Murray continued his horrible stretch in Grand Slam finals—he hasn't won a set in three tries, including losses to Federer last year in Australia and at the 2009 U.S. Open. It also extended the long drought for British men at the majors that dates back to Fred Perry's titles in 1936.

Djokovic and Murray have been friends since they started playing each other at age 11 or 12, and often practice against each other. They're even talking about playing doubles together.

"I understand how he feels. It's his third final and he didn't get the title," Djokovic said. "As I said on court, I really have big respect for him and his game, because I think he has everything that it takes to become a Grand Slam champion."

He thinks the pressure on Murray to break the British drought may weigh the Scotsman down.

"It is in some ways a mental issue when you are facing a situation, playing the finals of a Grand Slam, being so close to winning a title," Djokovic said. "Every time you get it there, you know, you want to win it badly, but some things go wrong."

"You're thinking too much. You're worrying too much in your head," he added. "It's a mental battle, definitely. Bottom line is that this is a very mental sport in the end."

That's why he took his time to reflect after winning a 38-hit rally in the 10th game with a brilliant backhand that forced an error to set up set point on Murray's serve. He closed his eyes tightly, clenched his fists and let out a

scream of a satisfaction.

"Maybe there was a turning point in the whole match, that 5-4 game," Djokovic said. "I was a bit fortunate, kind of anticipated well and read his intentions and played some great shots and great moments."

The first set had gone with serve until then, and Djokovic stepped up his intensity. That was the second in a seven-game winning sequence for Djokovic that took the match from Murray.

"It is a big advantage mentally when you are a set up and you are getting to the second set and really going for the shots," he said. "So it was great."

Murray started to lose focus as the service breaks tallied against him. He didn't look sharp. He held his back and seemed to limp around, swearing under his breath as his unforced errors mounted and yelling at the people in his players box to keep quiet.

At stages during the second set he repeatedly blinked and rubbed his eyes—maybe he just couldn't believe what he was seeing. Murray said he didn't have any ailments that caused him problems in the match, and just conceded Djokovic was too good.

"I would have liked to have played better. But, you know, I think he would have beaten every other player on the tour if he played like that tonight," Murray said. "He served well. He didn't make many mistakes from the back of the court. He moved really, really well. He hit the ball very clean. That was it."

Murray said he was in a better state of mind after Sunday's loss than he had been last year, when he was comprehensively out-



Novak Djokovic poses late Saturday night with the trophy after winning the Australian Open over Andy Murray in straight sets.

played by Federer.

"I look at the tournament as a whole, it was excellent," he said. "I don't think anyone would say that reaching a slam final is a bad achievement."

Djokovic said he sorted out some personal issues that were clouding his concentration after some disappointing losses in Melbourne and at the French Open last year, and it paid off with his run to the U.S. Open final—including a semifinal win over Federer.

Now, he's truly on a roll. "Something switched in my head, because I am very emotional on and off the court," Djokovic said. "The things off court were not working for me, you know? It reflected on my game, on my professional tennis career. But then,

you know, I settled some things in my head. It was all on me. I had to try to find the best possible solution and try to get back on the right track."

Sunday started with Katarina Srebotnik of Slovenia and Daniel Nestor of Canada winning the mixed double doubles championship, beating Chan Yung-jan of Taiwan and Paul Hanley of Australia 6-3, 3-6, 10-7. The day ended with Djokovic kissing the men's singles trophy and holding it high for hundreds of Serbian fans decked out in red-white-and-blue clothes of all descriptions.

He planned a night of celebrations, something he did long and hard after helping Serbia win its first Davis Cup title at the start of December. Since then, he has knuckled down to work.

ND WOMEN'S TRACK

Irish runners earn three wins at Indiana Relays

By SAM GANS
Sports Writer

The Irish had three first-place finishes to close out the Indiana Relays in Bloomington, Ind. Friday and Saturday.

Notre Dame, who also had five second-place finishes, competed against Indiana, Michigan, Miami (Ohio), Missouri State and Southeast Missouri, among other schools. The Irish did not come out on top in any of their relays, but made a strong showing across the board in individual competitions.

Junior Molly Hirt returned to her hometown of Bloomington with a bang, winning the 3000-meter race in 9:57.62. Freshman Jaclyn Winkle won the 400-meter dash in 57.92, while sophomore Madeline Casanova finished first in the shot put with a distance of 13.72 meters.

Sophomore Rebecca Tracy, who recorded the second-fastest mile time in the country last week, came in sixth in the mile at 4:47.70. Senior Natalie Johnson was third in the 600-meter, and freshman Michelle Brown finished the 400-meter dash in fifth place.

Brown has made a noticeably quick adjustment to competing in college track.

"[For] Michelle, that was definitely a step in the right direction," Irish coach Tim Connelly said. "She's a freshman, and a lot of times with freshmen, it takes them a while to figure out where

they are. I thought this weekend was a really nice competitive effort."

In the field events, the Irish had a pair of impressive finishes from senior Jasmine Williams' fifth place finish in long jump at 5.56 meters and senior Rudy Atang's third in shot put, with a distance of 15.10 meters. The weekend continued a strong line of successful indoor performances for Atang, who returned to the field after suffering from a severe ankle injury.

"Rudy missed most of the fall with ankle surgery," Connelly said. "So the fact that she's throwing so well this early is a real pleasant surprise."

The Indiana Relays were good preparation for later in the season, Connelly said. Not only were there many competitive squads, but competing on the indoor track at Indiana will be beneficial for the future, as well.

"One of the reasons we went down there is because it's a 200-meter bank track, which, quite honestly, most of the country runs on," Connelly said. "We're kind of spoiled. We run on the huge 320-meter track all the time [at Notre Dame]. So one of the reasons we try to go to some meets on smaller tracks before the championship meets is to give them that kind of experience."

The Irish are next in action at the Mevo Invitational Friday and Saturday at the Loftus Sports Complex.

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Coffee at the Como

For GLBT & Questioning Students at Notre Dame



Tuesday—February 1
316 Coleman Morse
7:00pm—9:00p.m.

The Core Council invites GLBT & Questioning Notre Dame students, their friends, and allies, to an informal gathering at the CoMo.

Everyone is Welcome • Confidentiality is Assured

Coffee and Refreshments will be Served



Miami

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"It was a great game," Jackson said. "I would assume the fans enjoyed themselves. It was back and forth all game long."

A raucous sellout crowd of 2,957 was on hand Friday for "White-Out" Night, and the Notre Dame freshmen did their best to give them their money's worth. Freshman wing Jeff Costello got the Irish on the board first in the first period and freshman center T.J. Tynan tied the game 2-2 after a RedHawk run and then completed a late comeback to tie the

game at 5-5 with less than four minutes remaining. Freshman left wing Anders Lee earned three assists, while sophomore center Riley Sheahan and junior right wing Billy Maday each scored once.

"It was a fun game to be involved in as a coach, but it [was] a bit nerve-wracking," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said.

It looked bleak for Notre Dame when senior RedHawk center Andy Miele recorded his first goal and fourth point of the night with just 9:29 remaining to open up a 5-3 Miami lead. Sheahan's goal merely two minutes later gave the Irish hope, and Tynan's equalizer sent the home crowd into a frenzy. Despite not scoring in overtime

and losing the shootout point, Notre Dame was encouraged by its resiliency.

"Any time you're playing 65 minutes of that kind of hockey, you want to come out on top," Maday said. "[But] I think it was a great step for us to show that we could come back from a two-goal deficit in that short of a time — it's great character for our team."

It was evident that there was no love lost between the RedHawks and Irish, as there were multiple post-whistle scuffles and a total of 10 penalties over the course of the game. The penalties hurt Notre Dame, as Miami converted on three of its four power play opportunities.

"As long as we play with that physicality, it makes us a better team — as long as we don't take unnecessary penalties," Jackson said. "There were breakdowns that I didn't like to see on the penalty kill."

The energy of Friday night gave way to a more refined and controlled, but equally tight, Saturday evening affair. Freshmen led the way yet again for the Irish, as Lee scored two goals in a 2-2 tie and Tynan converted the only goal of the shootout to give Notre Dame the shootout point. Junior defenseman Sean Lorenz said the focus Saturday was in tightening up leaky fundamentals that led to Friday's wide-open play.

"We talked about last night, that we needed to tighten up some of our puck decisions and our play," he said. "We came out and tried to do some of the little, simple things. We came out and executed well tonight."

After conceding five goals Friday night, sophomore Mike Johnson gave way to freshman Steve Summerhays in goal. Summerhays performed well in regulation but shined in the crucial shootout, stonewalling Miami's Reilly Smith, Carter Camper and Miele — three of college hockey's best players —



COURTNEY ECKERLE/The Observer

Sophomore defenseman Sam Calabrese celebrates with teammates after the Irish scored the shootout point in Saturday's win over Miami.

in a row and setting the stage for Tynan's walk-off winner.

"Steven Summerhays did what he had to do in goal, which is really all we need — make the saves that you're supposed to make and make a few that you're not supposed to make," Jackson said. "He did a good job for us tonight and that's important for our team."

The Irish appeared to take the upper hand midway through the third period when Sheahan scored what seemed to be a goal to put the Irish up 3-1 on a breakaway. The goal was called off, however, when Costello was whistled for elbowing on a hit right in front of the Irish bench. Miami's Alden Hirschfeld equalized on the ensuing power play to cement the 2-2 final score. Jackson said the penalty was a tough blow to Notre Dame's momentum.

"If it was a hit to the head, it's a penalty," Jackson said. "I don't think it was an elbow necessarily from what I've been told. It's unfortunate that we had to take a penalty in the third period, because it's one of the biggest things, one of the most important things about winning a game like this is to not take penalties, especially as the game progresses."

With the shootout win, the Irish close the weekend with 44 points in the CCHA, good for a one-point lead over Michigan, though the Wolverines have two games in hand on the Irish.

The Irish will now enter a bye week, while preparing to take on Bowling Green at home in two weeks.

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Saint Mary's College Center for Spirituality Annual Endowed Spring Lectures 2011



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CLUB INFORMATION MEETINGS

Schedule

All Club Information Meetings will be held in LaFortune Montgomery Auditorium (across from Starbucks).

- Monday, January 31st at 4:30 pm (Social Service Clubs)
- Monday, January 31st at 5:30 pm (Special Interest Clubs)
- Wednesday, February 2nd at 5:30 pm (Cultural Clubs)
- Monday, February 7th at 4:30 pm (Athletic Clubs)
- Monday, February 7th at 5:30 pm (Academic Clubs)
- Wednesday, February 9th at 5:30 pm (Performing Arts Clubs)

Club Information Meetings are mandatory for all clubs.
At least two members from each club must attend a Club Information Meeting.

Contact the Club Coordination Council if you are interested in running for a position on the CCC (ccc@nd.edu). Elections will take place at the meetings for each division.

Please contact Mary Kate Havlik (mhavlik@nd.edu) in the Student Activities Office with any questions.

Presented by the Club Coordination Council and the Student Activities Office

STUDENT ACTIVITIES
SAO
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Rafael

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at the beginning of the match. The final doubles match went unfinished, as Arkansas had already taken the doubles point, despite by the Irish pair of freshman Jennifer Kellner and sophomore Chrissie McGaffigan's 6-5 lead against Razorbacks Kate Lukomskaya and Stephanie Roy.

Although Sunday pointed out some of the squad's weaknesses, Irish coach Jay Louderback said he is hopeful for improvement.

"We just got a little bit tight. As we played higher ranked teams, that's not going to be good, so hopefully we'll play a little better," he said.

The Irish secured three of the six singles victories, but not enough to take the final decision. Mathews began the string of success, taking Lukomskaya, 6-1, 6-0. Rafael, however, fell in both sets to Arkansas's Emily Cabone, 6-3, 6-0.

Ninth-ranked Frilling had little trouble with No. 26 Tigu once they played one-on-one, taking her singles sets, 6-3, 6-1, after Tigu experienced an ankle injury in the first set. Sabacinski continued the momentum by defeating Starkova, 6-4, 6-1. After that, the Notre Dame's luck ran out when McGaffigan fell to Paulson in the No. 4 match, 6-2, 6-4, and Kellner fell 2-6, 6-1, 6-0 to Roy, despite an early lead, at No. 5.

The Irish entered the championship match with great energy after easily triumphing over 47th-ranked Yale the day before. They won two of the three doubles competitions to earn the doubles point before sweeping all six singles matches.

Doubles competition began with Rafael and Sabacinski in No. 3 doubles, where they they flew past the Bulldogs' Elizabeth Epstein and Kim Szokol, 8-1. Frilling and Mathews secured the doubles victory for the Irish after a successful 8-5 match against Vicky Brook and Lindsay Clark, pulling ahead after a 4-4 tie in the middle of the set. With the doubles point already landed, McGaffigan and Kellner's 8-7 loss to Stephanie Kent and Annie Sullivan did not affect the overall score.

"Our No. 3 team lost last week at Illinois and we've worked with them a lot this week and they've played much better. They hadn't played together before so it was a new experience," Louderback said. "They played much better this week which was exciting."

Frilling coasted past Brook in the No. 1 singles, taking the sets 6-1 and 6-2. McGaffigan found her first victory of the season at No. 4, taking Sullivan 6-2 in both sets. Rafael closed out the match for the Irish at number three, defeating freshman Blair Seiderman, 6-1, 7-5.

With the victory already in hand, Mathews triumphed over Epstein, 6-0, 7-6, Kellner took Stevi Petrelli 1-6, 6-2, 1-0, and Sabacinski closed out the day with 7-6, 6-3 against Szokol.

"The two singles that lost last week won today, which was good. It was their first match of the year so it was good for them to bounce back," Louderback said of Saturday's play.

Notre Dame will travel to North Carolina this week, where they will face the University of North Carolina Saturday and Wake Forest Sunday.

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MEN'S TENNIS

Irish split pair of matches at ITA Kick-Off Weekend

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

The No. 36 Irish went 1-1 this weekend at the ITA Kick-Off Weekend in Champaign, Ill., as they defeated No. 17 Oklahoma Friday before falling to No. 16 Illinois in the final round Saturday.

"We played extremely well over this past weekend, the best we have played since the 2007 team went to No. 4 in late April," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. "In both matches we fought relentlessly and competed as well as anyone can. Our doubles has turned into a strength, as we lost only one of the six doubles matches against two top 20 teams, both of whom are likely to end up in the top 10."

Notre Dame jumped out to an early 3-0 lead against Oklahoma after clinching the doubles point early. Victories from the No. 1 duo of seniors Stephen Havens and Tyler Davis, as well as at No. 2 with

junior Niall Fitzgerald and sophomore Spencer Talmadge secured the doubles point and allowed the third doubles match to go unfinished.

In singles No. 122 Davis was able to earn a 6-2, 6-2 victory at No. 6 over John Warden. Fellow senior Dan Stahl earned the third Irish point at No. 3 singles with his victory over Laurentiu Gavrila, 6-3, 6-4.

At No. 5 singles, junior Sam Keeton dropped the only completed singles match for the Irish in a hard fought battle losing, 6-1, 7-6 (8), to Tsvetan Mihov.

No. 104 junior Casey Watt clinched the victory for the Irish with a victory at No. 1 singles over No. 26 Ionut Beleleu.

The Irish lost a hard-fought battle against the Illini, dropping the match 4-1 to round out the weekend.

At No. 1 doubles, No. 47 Havens and Davis were defeated 8-1 by Dennis Nevolo

and Johnny Hamui while the No. 2 doubles duo of Fitzgerald and Talmadge ran up a 6-0 lead before clinching an 8-3 victory to knot the doubles point at 1-1.

"The doubles has been gratifying to see," Bayliss said. "Fitzgerald and Talmadge have been a real strength for us. Davis-Havens and Watt-Andrews are quite good, with different styles. We need to keep building on this part of our team. We have played all matches to date without injured David Anderson [last year's No. 5] and Billy Pecor, who had a strong fall."

Watt and freshman Greg Andrews secured the doubles point for the Irish with a hard fought 9-7 victory at No. 3 doubles over Brian Alden and Stephen Hoh.

Havens lost a tough match at No. 2 singles to KU Singh in three sets. Keeton also lost in three sets to Roy Kalmanovich.

Watt faced Nevolo and lost



Irish junior Casey Watt prepares for a backhand. Watt captured both a singles and doubles victory at the tournament.

also in three sets, and Andrews lost the final match to No. 121 Abe Souza to clinch the match for the Illini.

The Irish will return home next weekend to host Duke at

noon and Toledo at 6 p.m. Sunday at the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

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ND WOMEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING

Notre Dame wins two of four at Invitational

Squad earns wins over Denver and Iowa, fall to Ohio State and Northwestern at Shamrock Invitational

By VICTORIA JACOBSEN
Sports Writer

Notre Dame closed the Shamrock Invitational with a 2-2 split Saturday, beating Denver and Iowa and losing to Ohio State and Northwestern on the team's Senior Day.

The Irish (4-7) defeated Denver by a final score of 253-117 and Iowa by a tally of 264-104. But Ohio State outscored Notre Dame 197.5-166.5, and Northwestern overpowered the Irish 193.5-176.5 for its second victory over Notre Dame this season.

Sophomore Kim Holden and senior Samantha Maxwell led the Notre Dame offensively in the pool.

Holden won both the 100- and 200-yard backstroke races and placed second in the 100-yard butterfly. She also swam legs in the first-place 400-yard medley relay and second-placed 200-yard medley relay.

"Kim is a superstar. She works hard every day, and it shows when she races. She goes out there and gives it everything she has and steps up and gets the job done every time," senior Kellyn Kuhlke said. "We're all really confident in her, and I think she's definitely gaining a lot more confidence. She's just a good teammate, and we love to watch her race."

Maxwell also put in an outstanding performance, winning the 100-yard breaststroke and 200-yard breaststroke with NCAA B-cut times. Maxwell also swam in 400- and 200-yard medley relays.

Freshman Kelly Ryan and junior Amy Prestinario finished out the 400-yard

relay squad, while Holden, Maxwell and Prestinario teamed up with sophomore Lauren Scott for the 200-yard medley.

The relays stood out as some of the most exciting events of the weekend. In addition to the 200- and 400-yard medley relays, the 400-yard free relay of Ryan, senior

Lauren Parisi, Scott and Prestinario performed well, finishing in a tie for second. The 400- and 800-yard free relays both finished in third.

"I think our relays showed a lot of potential. We had a lot of contenders in all of our relays, so it was very competitive," Holden

"Kim [Holden] is a superstar. She works hard every day, and it shows when she races. She goes out there and gives it everything she has."

Kellyn Kuhlke
Irish senior

said.

Meanwhile, sophomore Jenny Chiang and senior Heidi Grossman dominated the diving competition. The duo took first and second, respectively, in the three-meter diving competition Friday with scores of 307.55 and 306.95. Chiang followed up the impressive showing with a second place finish in the one-meter, scoring 290.81 points. Grossman was close behind, finishing in third with a score of 290.20.

"Chiang is a rockstar," Kuhlke said. "I know she and Heidi Grossman always battle it out and come away

with good performances."

The Irish aren't going to let their losses to Ohio State and Northwestern discourage them as they head into the championship season. Instead, they say they are looking forward to a possible rematch against these competitors, only this time on a larger stage.

"Hopefully we'll see a few of them at the NCAA's," Holden said.

The Irish will take on Ball State in the season's final home meet Saturday at 1 p.m.

Contact Victoria Jacobsen at vjacobse@nd.edu

McGraw

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that relies a lot on their three-point shooting to just one three in each half ... I think that may be the best defense we've ever played against them."

Seniors Becca Bruszewski and Devereaux Peters guided the Irish defense, which has played an increasingly important role in the team's success this season. Bruszewski had a team-high 10 rebounds, and Peters nine, as each grabbed four steals.

"[The defense] came through very well, and I was happy with the three-point defense, in particular," McGraw said. "That was something we worked on all week leading into the Villanova game, and everybody did a great job guarding the three-point line."

Peters shone again on offense with a team-high 20 points. Sophomore guard Skylar Diggins added 13 and junior guard Natalie Novosel chipped in 11. Bruszewski had 10.

McGraw said she is impressed with Peters' continued strong performance.

"I thought [Peters] was magnificent at Villanova and really had an All-America type of game. She played well and was consistent at both ends of floor," Muffet said. "She also is in great shape and never looked

tired, even though she was part of the press for most of the game. She's been playing really well for us and she just continues to surpass my expectations."

Laura Sweeney had 14 points for Villanova, which has now suffered four-straight losses.

Despite Peters' 20-point game, Notre Dame's mere 58 points was a season-low finish for the Irish, their fewest since losing 59-44 to top-ranked Connecticut on March 8, 2010, in last season's Big East Semifinals. Holding its opponent to less than 50 points was nothing new, however, as the team has

now done so 10 times this season, including four of their first Big East opponents.

Villanova took a five-point lead early in the first half, but Notre Dame quickly brought the advantage, bringing the game to 32-20 Irish at the half.

The final numbers don't reflect the Wildcat's efforts to overcome Notre Dame's lead heading into the second half, but they were never able to come closer than six.

"I never thought we would lose, but we did have some opportunities that we let slip by," McGraw said of her

team allowing Villanova to close in on their lead, however slight it was. "At the same time, it was a great challenge for us to see how we would respond to adversity on the road. Devereaux [Peters] made some big shots, Natalie [Novosel] and Skylar [Diggins] made some key free throws and Becca [Bruszewski] and [senior] Brittany [Mallory] each made a huge defensive stop at the end of the game, getting some critical steals to help us close it out."

The Irish are back in action at the Purcell Pavilion Tuesday against Syracuse (16-4, 4-3 Big East).

McGraw is looking forward to getting her team back on their home court and on a more regular game schedule, which will begin Tuesday.

"We really need to get back into a rhythm (of playing regularly). We had a whole week off before Villanova and then we came out flat," she said. "It will be good to get right back to game mode with practice Monday and then playing Syracuse on Tuesday. I think we need to get back to playing more and trying to get back into same rhythm we had earlier."

Notre Dame will face the Orange Tuesday with a 7 p.m. tip-off.

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"At the same time, it was a great challenge for us to see how we would respond to adversity on the road."

**Muffet McGraw
Irish coach**

ND MEN'S TRACK

Notre Dame records seven wins at relays

By JACK HEFFERNON
Sports Writer

Notre Dame continued its strong season this weekend with seven total victories at the Indiana Relays in Bloomington, Ind.

The Irish showed their depth this weekend in both distance and middle distance events, as well as in field events. Senior Spencer Carter and junior Joe Miller stood out in the distance events as Carter took first in the 5,000-meters and Miller won the 3,000-meter race. The Irish claimed the top-three spots in the 600-meter race as senior Kevin Labus took first and was followed by fifth-year Jack Howard and junior Mitch Lorenz, and sophomore Jeremy Rae took first in the 800-meters.

Notre Dame's 3,200-meter relay "B" squad took first while the "A" group came in second.

Junior Kevin Schipper took first in the pole vault, besting the field with a clearance of 5.20 meters. Junior Andy Hills also found the top podium spot with his 18.12-meter

shot put throw.

"I was pretty happy with my performance," Hills said. "I've been waiting to have a good day for a few weeks now. It was really nice to throw well, and to throw an indoor personal best was especially satisfying."

Notre Dame's depth will be critical as it advances to the end of the indoor season, especially with the annual Meyo Invitational taking place on campus next weekend. The Meyo meet is the last event before the Big East Championships, which the Irish took first in last year. Hills said he is confident his team can pull through once more.

"We should have some big performances at the Meyo [Invitational], people always go really hard there," Hills said. "After that, we'll have Big East Championships, and that's the one we really want. Hopefully we can repeat."

Notre Dame's Meyo Invitational will begin at 5 p.m. Friday at the Loftus Sports Center.

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Duals

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"Our sabre girls set the tone for the weekend when they beat Northwestern's squad 8-1 and made all the other weapons' lives much easier," he said.

Sabre assistant coach Ian Farr said the Irish took a slightly different approach this weekend.

"This weekend was more about getting a lot of new kids into competition," he said. "Many of the starters didn't fence much at all, so it was a real opportunity for some new faces."

Amongst the new faces was Marta Stepien, who finished the day 12-0.

Farr said that he was extremely pleased with the performance from the sophomore sabreist.

"Marta stepped in and fenced very well," he said. "She is emerging into someone who could really make an impact on the team."

Kvaratskhelia was also impressed by the performance from senior foilist Haley Reese.

"Haley was dominant yesterday," Kvaratskhelia said. "She is getting to the form we expected her to be in for this time of year."

Other strong performances from the women include junior Courtney Hurley and senior Ewa Nelip, who both posted 8-0 marks for the weekend. Senior Katie Heinzman (13-1) and freshman Adriana Camacho (11-0) led the Irish foilists, while junior Beatriz

Almeida (15-2) and sophomore Abigail Nichols (15-1) led the epee team.

The men (18-1) also swept through the competition, competing Sunday.

Kvaratskhelia said the most important story for the Irish was the return of Teddy Hodges, who battled back from a heart transplant just over a year ago. Hodges posted a 15-4 mark over the weekend.

"Teddy is showing great courage and not giving up," Kvaratskhelia said. "This [was] his coming out party and he [was] fencing phenomenally."

Senior epee captain Andy Seroff was pleased with the squad's performance over the weekend.

"I think I speak for everyone when I say we are at the top of

our game," he said. "We get a lot of teams from this area, and you never know who will throw and upset our way, but we really held our ground this weekend."

Sophomore Grant Hodges (19-1) and junior Nicholas Crebs (20-1)

led a strong foil squad for the Irish.

Eight Irish epeeists posted at least five wins over the weekend, with seniors Brent Kelly and Greg Schoolcraft each posting eight wins and sophomore Jack Piaso tallying seven.

The men's sabre team rested their starters and got a strong performance from freshman Carl Ianario (9-1) in its place.

The Irish next compete at the Northwestern Duals this weekend.

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"This weekend was more about getting a lot of new kids into competition."

**Ian Farr
Irish sabre coach**

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HOCKEY

All tied up

Irish skate to two draws with Miami over weekend

By CHRIS ALLEN and ALLAN JOSPEH
Sports Writers

No. 9 Notre Dame and No. 13/11 Miami just couldn't get enough of each other this weekend, with extra time needed in both games of a weekend series at the Joyce Center. The teams battled to a thrilling 5-5 tie Friday night, with the RedHawks (14-9-5, 11-7-4-2 CCHA) earning the shootout point.

Saturday night was a tense 2-2 affair, but the Irish (16-9-5, 13-6-3-2 CCHA) prevailed in the second shootout in as many days to cap an evenly battled weekend.

It was a back-and-forth affair Friday night, with the Irish taking 1-0 and 3-2 leads as well as a 2-0 run to close the game, while Miami earned 2-1 and 5-3 leads

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Irish freshman center Anders Lee skates up the ice against Miami (Ohio) Friday. Lee had three assists in Friday's 5-5 thriller and both Irish goals in Saturday's 2-2 tie.

COURTNEY ECKERLE/The Observer

FENCING

Both teams sweep field at duals

By MIKE TODISCO
Sports Writer

Both the Irish men's and women's squads survived the Notre Dame Duals unblemished over the weekend, each posting a perfect 8-0 record.

The women (19-0) competed Saturday, improving their winning streak to 78 regular season matches, a new program record. Notre Dame registered victories over Lawrence (25-2), Detroit (27-0), Cleveland State (24-3), Florida (26-1), Air Force (21-6), Swarthmore (22-5), Wayne State (21-6) and seventh-ranked Northwestern (18-9).

Assistant Coach Gia Kvaratskhelia said the women's sabre team helped establish Notre Dame's dominance in the tournament with an early win over highly ranked Northwestern.

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MEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING

Senior Eric Lex sets Irish diving record on Senior Day

By JOSEPH MONARDO
Sports Writer

The Irish celebrated Senior Day at home Saturday, defeating Denver 250-118 but falling to Iowa 194-174 in the Shamrock Invitational, allowing Notre Dame (6-4) to split the dual meet competition.

The weekend's biggest highlight was senior diver Eric Lex's record-setting performance from the 3-meter board. In the final home event of his career, Lex dove to a score of 405.5,

setting a new Irish record while eclipsing the 400-point mark for the first time in program history.

Lex and his classmates were excited not only at Lex's new record but also to swim in the comforts of their home pool a final time.

"It's always nice to compete at our home pool, especially after a lot of traveling in the recent weeks," senior swimmer Joseph Raycroft said. "We're definitely more comfortable here and it's great to sleep in

our own beds."

Notre Dame added six victories to Lex's first place finish. Freshman Frank Dyer continued a successful rookie season, winning both the 200-yard and the 100-yard freestyles. Seniors Michael Sullivan and Raycroft also recorded first-place times in the 400-yard individual medley and 200-yard breaststroke, respectively. Junior Petar Petrovic took first in the 100-yard backstroke, as did Christopher Johnson in the 100-yard breaststroke.

While all of Notre Dame's victories for the weekend came from individual performances, the team's relays performed well in a series of close calls and season-best times.

"I thought all of our relays did exceptionally well this weekend," Raycroft said. "I think all five relays had either season best or close to season best times, which is great for this time of year."

The Irish team, following the lead of Irish coach Tim Welsh, has downplayed the importance

of winning individual events and meets and placed an emphasis instead on improving for the post season, especially the upcoming Big East tournament.

"I think this meet put us in a great position for Big East," Raycroft said. "We had a lot of solid swims this weekend, and everything seems to be pointing in the right direction for the championship season."

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Team earns win at Villanova

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

No. 9 Notre Dame topped another opponent Saturday night, defeating Villanova 58-43 on the road in a match that was not as easy as the final score makes it seem.

But Irish coach Muffet McGraw said she was pleased with Notre Dame's (18-4, 7-1 Big East) performance, especially its defense.

"I was really thrilled with the win. We knew it was going to be one of those games where we would score below our average," McGraw said. "I thought we would score in 60s, but I was really pleased with our defense. To hold a team like Villanova

see MCGRAW/page 17



Senior Devereaux Peters controls a pass Jan. 23 vs. St. John's. Peters led the Irish in scoring in a 58-43 victory over Villanova on Saturday.

SARAH O'CONNOR/The Observer

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Notre Dame drops first match of season

By MEGAN FINNERAN and MATT ROBISON
Sports Writers

The No. 4 Irish went 1-1 at the ITA National Team Indoor qualifying tournament this weekend as they swept Yale 7-0 Saturday but fell 4-3 to No. 23 Arkansas Sunday in the championship round at the Eck Tennis Center.

Sunday's loss was the team's first loss of the season.

"We're all definitely really bummed about the loss. I think that we all have a lot to take from the matches both team-wise and individually, and I think we're all really working on moving forward," junior Kristy Frilling said.

After easily winning both the

doubles and singles points Saturday, where the team two of the three doubles competitions and all six singles matches, Notre Dame was faced with a much stronger opponent in Arkansas and fell behind early, losing the doubles point.

The first sign of defeat came when the No. 1 doubles pair of Frilling and junior Shannon Mathews struggled against the Razorback duo of Claudine Paulson and Anouk Tigu, losing 8-2. Notre Dame's No. 2 doubles pair, senior Kristen Rafael and freshman Julie Sabacinski, was unable to defeat Arkansas's Jade Frampton and Valentina Starkova, falling 7-4 after taking a 4-1 lead

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