

THE OBSERVER

The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

VOLUME 45: ISSUE 60

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2011

NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

University strives to reduce carbon emissions

By MEGAN DOYLE
News Editor

The University announced a new sustainability strategy that sets ambitious goals to reduce campus carbon emissions dramatically in less than 20 years.

The new Sustainability Strategy pledges to reduce the University's carbon footprint by 50 percent per square foot by 2030, according to a Monday press release.

The strategy also outlines goals to improve water efficiency, expand sustainability education and divert 67 percent of campus waste from landfills by 2030.

Executive Vice President John

Affleck-Graves said in a press release that the plan builds upon the University's past green initiatives.

"We have made a great start: our carbon emissions per square foot have already declined 15 percent since our 2006-2007 baseline year," Affleck-Graves said. "During that time, we have invested over \$10 million in energy efficiency, and we continue to invest in energy and water efficiency technology as well as recycling infrastructure. But in order to achieve the goals we have now set for ourselves, we need the entire campus community to rise to the challenge."

Director of Sustainability Heather Christopherson said

plans for the new strategy began when the University founded the Office of Sustainability in 2008.

"[The Office of Utilities] was investigating all options for its energy demands," Christopherson said. "We worked in conjunction with that effort and looked a lot at what other universities have done, what other corporations have done in terms of what their goals have been ... We wanted to create goals that made sense for Notre Dame, that were achievable but aggressive."

Christopherson said the strategy also includes plans to investigate more alternative energy sources.

see CARBON/page 5

New Sustainability Strategy Goals by 2030

- » Reduce the University's carbon footprint by 50 percent per square foot
- » Divert 67 percent of campus waste from landfills
- » Improve water efficiency
- » Expand sustainability education
- » Increase use of natural gas over coal in the University power plant

BRANDON KEELEAN | Observer Graphic

Egyptians face civil unrest, political change

Office of International Studies cancels Cairo study abroad program

By SARA FELSENSTEIN
Associate News Editor

In light of the increased violence and unrest in Egypt, the Office of International Studies (OIS) canceled the Cairo study abroad program for the spring semester last week.

Ten Notre Dame students planned to attend the American University in Cairo (AUC) in the spring.

Kathleen Opel, director of OIS, said the University made the decision after the ongoing unrest in

see CAIRO/page 5



Egyptian women line up outside a polling center in Cairo on Monday. The event marked Egypt's first parliamentary election since authoritarian leader Hosni Mubarak was ousted nine months ago.

Citizens cast ballots, protest in historical parliamentary vote

By NICOLE TOCZAUER
News Writer

Crowds lined the streets of Cairo on Monday to cast their votes in Egypt's first parliamentary election since the removal of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak from office in February.

Political science professor Asher Kaufman said the election in an important step for the Egyptian people almost one year after the revolution that sparked the Arab Spring.

see ELECTION/page 4

Irish finish regular season with third straight loss to Stanford



Students watch Notre Dame take on Stanford on Saturday. The Irish ended the regular season with a 28-14 loss to the Cardinal.

By ADAM LLORENS
News Writer

Saint Mary's sophomore Natalie Schultz said while the Irish did not reign victorious on Saturday, they did win the battle of the uniforms.

"After they scored the last touchdown I gave up," Schultz said. "Our helmets looked fantastic though compared to Stanford's black ones, we just need to match up the pants to the helmets."

Schultz watched the game in her friend's dorm room at Saint Mary's.

"My friends and I were so sad after the game, we actually be-

gan to watch 'Twilight,'" Schultz said.

The Irish football team closed out their regular season on a sour note, losing 28-14 at Stanford on Saturday.

Freshman Sean Hamilton, a northern California native, cheered on the Irish at Stanford Stadium and noticed a prominent showing of Notre Dame fans.

"About a quarter of the stadium were Notre Dame fans," Hamilton said. "Pretty impressive considering Stanford set the record for amount of fans at their stadium."

Hamilton said the field conditions seemed horrible from his

perspective in the stands.

"The field was awful and looked to be really slippery," Hamilton said.

Hamilton said the outcome of the bowl game would largely rely on the opponent selected.

"We play pretty consistently, we just need to see how it stacks up against the other team," Hamilton said. "We always seem to make the same mistakes."

Saint Mary's sophomore Jessica Carter said she thought the play of the Irish was terrible.

"I thought we could have played a lot harder than we

see GAME/page 4

THE
OBSERVER

www.ndsmcobserver.com

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The Observer is the independent, daily newspaper published in print and online by the students of the University of Notre Dame du Lac and Saint Mary's College. Editorial content, including advertisements, is not governed by policies of the administration of either institution. The Observer reserves the right to refuse advertisements based on content.

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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 Douglas Farmer.

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 46556-077

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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 (574) 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT ARE YOU ASKING FOR FOR CHRISTMAS?



Greg Mitchell

sophomore
Duncan

"World peace."



Michael Prough

freshman
Dillon

"Digital
camera."



Tony Poole

sophomore
Alumni

"Call of Duty
Modern
Warfare 3."



Michael Nolan

freshman
Duncan

"More maps
in the United
States and Iraq."



Garrett Blad

freshman
Alumni

"A bike because
mine got stolen."



Sean Fitzgerald

freshman
Keough

"Socks — the
real thick ones
that never
flatten."

Have an idea for Question of the Day? Email obsphoto@gmail.com



PAT COVENEY/The Observer

Notre Dame student football managers juniors Sean Hannon and Brian Metz survey the BCS National Championship trophy on the sideline of Stanford Stadium on Saturday evening during the Notre Dame vs. Stanford game. Notre Dame lost the game, 28-14.

OFFBEAT

Trio charged in West Palm Beach toilet paper scam

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — Talk about a dirty scam.

Federal prosecutors in Florida say at least three people working for a septic tank company duped customers into buying about \$1 million in unnecessary products — in some cases enough toilet paper to last more than 70 years.

More than a dozen customers were told they needed special toilet paper to avoid ruining their septic tanks because the federal government changed regulations on toilet paper. The federal government does not regulate septic tank products.

The trio pleaded guilty in

federal court to conspiring to commit wire fraud.

The Miami Herald reported that they worked for FBK Products. A phone number for the Riviera Beach-based company was not working Saturday.

The trio faces up to two decades in prison when they are sentenced in February.

Enraged snowman arrested in annual parade

CHESTERTOWN, Md. — Who says "Frosty the Snowman" has to be jolly?

A man in a "Frosty the Snowman" costume was arrested Saturday during the annual Christmas parade in Chestertown, on Maryland's Eastern Shore. He's accused of scuffling with police and

kicking at a police dog.

Sgt. John A. Dolgos tells The Star Democrat of Easton that 52-year-old Kevin Michael Walsh became agitated when a dog-handling officer tried to escort him away from the crowd.

Walsh told The Associated Press that he has dressed as Frosty in the parade for at least 10 years. He says he was wrongfully arrested. He says an officer hassled him after he remarked about the police dog's presence. He says he became agitated only after getting arrested.

Walsh was released on his own recognizance.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Student government will host a blood drive in LaFortune Ballroom from 12 to 6 p.m. today. Sign up online at givelife.org

O. Carter Snead, professor of law and director of Notre Dame's Center for Ethics and Culture, will host a lecture entitled "Healthcare Reform: The Contraception Mandate and Institutional Freedom of Conscience" from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. today. The lecture will take place in Room 1140 in the Notre Dame Law School.

Student government will host open office hours today from 7 to 10 p.m. and Wednesday from 12 to 1:30 p.m. in 203 LaFortune Student Center for any students interested in sharing their views on constitutional reform issues.

Martin Scorsese's 2002 film "Gangs of New York" will show today from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

Alexander MacLeod, author of "Light Lifting," will read from his collection of short stories on Wednesday at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Badin Hall will host Conscious Christmas, a sale of fair trade handicrafts, Friday from 12 to 5:30 p.m. in the Badin Hall Social Space. The sale will benefit the Hope Initiative, an organization supporting children in Nepal through education.

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

LOCAL WEATHER

TODAY



HIGH 37
LOW 35

TONIGHT



HIGH 36
LOW 32

WEDNESDAY



HIGH 41
LOW 22

THURSDAY



HIGH 38
LOW 26

FRIDAY



HIGH 34
LOW 19

SATURDAY



HIGH 34
LOW 29

CAMPUS LIFE COUNCIL

Group discusses Mod Quad lights

By EMILY SCHRANK
News Writer

In an effort to increase student safety on campus, members of the Campus Life Council (CLC) discussed the possibility of putting additional lighting on Mod Quad during their meeting Monday afternoon.

Student body chief of staff Claire Sokas said she hopes the project is one the University can begin to work on over Christmas break.

"We'll be gone for over a month then," Sokas said. "That's something that could potentially be taken care of by the time we come back for the

spring semester."

Sokas said the CLC safety subcommittee has also discussed printing a map of off-campus student housing, especially for students venturing off on the weekends.

"This can give students an idea of how far off campus they are and if it is or isn't a good idea to walk home," she said.

Student body president Pat McCormick also reminded students to be mindful of safety during the end of the semester and Christmas break.

McCormick said students living off campus should set alarms while away from their homes if possible during the

break. He encouraged students to make use of the NDSP safe room, where they can store valuables over the break.

Diversity Council representative Alexa Arastoo said her subcommittee has also discussed the meaning of inclusion and how it applies to Notre Dame students.

"There are two types of inclusion," she said. "One is about students who feel like they don't fit on campus and how we can make them feel more included. The other is about inclusion amongst the different groups here on campus."

In this spirit of inclusion, Arastoo said her CLC subcommittee is working on the possibility of putting a Virgin of Guadalupe statue on campus to reach out to the Latino student population.

"The first step in that process is contacting the University architect," Arastoo said. "So that's something we would really like to get the ball rolling on and to have the backing of the entire CLC on."

Contact Emily Schrank at
eschrank@nd.edu

Students participate in Black Friday shopping



Black Friday shoppers take a break at Westfield Galleria at Roseville in Sacramento, Calif. on Friday.

By JOHN CAMERON
News Writer

When major retailers like Walmart and Target began their Black Friday sales over Thanksgiving break, the shopping rush drew some Notre Dame students straight from the dinner table.

Senior Michelle Ferreira, a Los Angeles native who stayed in South Bend for the break, started Black Friday on Thursday.

"I ended up leaving dinner at about 9 p.m. [Thursday], and I headed over to Walmart" she said. "They opened everything at 10 p.m. and it was pure chaos. It was absolutely nuts."

Ferreira had never heard of Black Friday before coming to Notre Dame, she said, and she was surprised by how seriously some took the sales.

"People waiting had lawn chairs out, it was completely packed," Ferreira said. "You had to know what area you wanted, because people had obviously scoped it out days in advance. There was like a 200 person line in every aisle. I wanted to get out as soon as possible."

Ferreira said some of her fellow bargain-hunters let the mania get the best of them.

"I didn't see pepper spraying or gun shots or whatever, but I saw people crying, I saw some disputes between people," she said. "They were cutting in line, there were some disputes between families — there was just chaos."

Ferreira walked out of the store unscathed with a number of additions to her movie collection.

"It was \$1.96 for DVDs. And they were recent movies, too," she said. "I got The Hangover and my brother wanted Fast Five Blu-ray for Christmas. They had it for \$10."

While shoppers like Ferreira hit the aisles early, not all of the deals were snatched up by the time the second wave of shoppers arrived Friday. Junior Aurora Kareh

opted for a Friday afternoon shopping trip at The Woodlands Mall in her Texas hometown.

"It was 2 or 3 p.m. when we got to Macy's," Kareh said. "It was more full than I had ever seen it, but it wasn't what I expected it had been when they opened."

Unlike Ferreira's DVD hunt, Kareh did not have a plan of action when she arrived at the mall.

"I didn't have anything specific in mind that I wanted to buy, but I knew Macy's would have good deals on things I would be interested in," she said.

Junior Lexi Casaceli's Black Friday shopping at the Lee Outlets in Lee, Mass., was even less deliberate.

"We went after lunch on a spur-of-the-moment trip because it was such a nice day out, so we would be able to enjoy the weather while shopping at the outdoor outlets," she said.

Like Kareh, Cascaceli avoided the intensity of the late-night shoppers.

"Unfortunately, I saw nothing ridiculous," Cascaceli said. "We had missed most of the Black Friday deals at the outlet that went from midnight to 6 a.m., so the crazies weren't out, although there were still a lot of shoppers."

Ferreira said these giant crowds, at least in South Bend, may be a result of the economic climate.

"In South Bend, it's pretty nuts," she said. "The economy is hurting people, so everyone's taking advantage of what they can with savings."

Ferreira said one Black Friday shopping trip was enough for her.

"I won't be going back next year," she said. "I'm a senior, so no more South Bend crazy Black Fridays for me. Unless I need a 70-inch plasma for half-off down the road, no thanks."

Contact John Cameron at
jcramero2@nd.edu

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Please recycle The Observer.



Egyptian soldiers guard a polling station in Cairo on Monday. Many Egyptians hope their votes will begin a new democratic age for Egypt.

Election

continued from page 1

“This is the first time since the early 1950s that they’ve been able to vote. There have been elections [in the past,] but they have been predetermined,” Kaufman said. “The party in power would expect seats in parliament and presidents could win most of the vote. The question now is: what will be the outcome?”

The week leading up to the first day of the election was not without violence in Tahrir Square. Kaufman said skirmishes between police and protestors killed more than 40 people.

“There were less casualties than in spring, but this has also stopped because we’ve arrived at the climax of election day,” Kaufman said. “Those who oppose the military council say the military will curtail the new parliament, but it’s impossible to know what will happen.”

While the polls functioned Monday, Kaufman said the lack of voting infrastructure forced some to wait in line for up to six hours.

“The military council promised to give power to a civilian government, but there are skeptics who believe otherwise,” Kaufman said.

Tension between demonstrators and the military government has led to a disjointed Egypt, Kaufman said.

“Unlike a year ago, there is

no unified front,” Kaufman said. “Not all parties that demonstrated last year participated again, so the unity that defined the movement a year ago is no longer there. There are disagreements, so there are reasons for a possible continuation of violence. There is a cause to be worried.”

While the Muslim Brotherhood was active in the spring protests, Kaufman said the group was not a major player in the streets. Instead, he said the party was organized in its campaign and is expected to win a dominant role in Parliament.

“The polls have not been closed yet,” Kaufman said.

“But there are signs that the Muslim Brotherhood envisions a major victory. If they win, we will see an entirely new political landscape in Egypt. However, it is not certain what would be the official policy of the Muslim Brotherhood, especially in a secular democratic branch of the government.”

Despite civil turbulence and an uncertain future, Kaufman said Egypt has entered a new era.

“Democratic processes are bringing down rulers,” Kaufman said. “The Western world welcomed the Arab Spring and the downfall of Mubarak. So long as it continues with little interruption, this could be a positive evolution. Still, there are too many question marks to be sure yet.”

Contact Nicole Toczaue at ntoczaue@nd.edu

Game

continued from page 1

did,” Carter said. “I was really happy when Coach Kelly put in [Andrew] Hendrix because I felt like [Tommy] Rees was having a bad day. He just was not there.”

Carter said she watched the game at home in South Bend with her family.

She said she thinks the Irish have a good chance of winning their bowl game.

“I hope we can play better,” Carter said. “The defense is doing better but I think we need to shape up our offense by giving the ball to [Michael] Floyd

more.”

Senior Julie Hyppolite chose not to watch the final regular season game of the year.

“I was at a surprise birthday party for a family friend who turned 50, but was not pleased with the outcome,” Hyppolite said.

Hyppolite said she hopes the team can play better for the bowl game.

“I feel like we play really sloppy sometimes, but I think we can do well at the bowl game,” Hyppolite said. “We have a lot of talent on our team and I think they can put it together.”

Contact Adam Llorens at allorems@nd.edu

SMC implements new Mass translation

By ALISON WINSTEAD
News Writer

Sunday marked the first use of the new translation of the Roman Catholic Mass, and Saint Mary’s Office of Campus Ministry said the transition went without a hitch.

Regina Wilson, assistant director of campus ministry, said she hopes the new translation will help students think more about the meaning of the words they recite during the Mass.

“I feel the change in the translation of the liturgy gives all the faithful a new and rare opportunity to reflect more carefully on what we are saying in our worship,” Wilson said.

Wilson said her office began preparing for the change and practicing the new translation in October.

“From what I observed on Sunday’s Mass people are paying more attention,” Wilson said. “They’re noticing new phraseology and words as the liturgy went on. The liturgy seemed to progress smoothly with a few little mix-ups as people spoke the old responses they all knew so well. It will take several months for all of us to internalize these changes.”

The changes were made to unify the Masses more and for a better translation for the original Latin text. In the new translation, for example, the congregation will say, “And with your spirit,” instead of “And also with you.”

“Over time, we will grow more accustomed to this new translation, and it will

feel more comfortable to us,” Wilson said. “We have the added benefits of some rich new texts to contemplate as we pray which should benefit to our faith and in the end, our relationship with God.”

Sr. Amy Cavender, a political science professor at Saint Mary’s, said the ritual editions of the Roman Missal typically arrive at parishes in October.

Among other things, the revised edition of the Missal contains prayers for the observances of recently can-

onized saints, additional prefaces for the Eucharistic prayers, and Masses and prayers for various needs and occasions; some updated and revised rubrics or instructions for the celebration of the Mass.

“After all we’d been using the previous translation for approximately 40 years,” Cavender said. “Adjusting to a new translation will just take time.”

Contact Alison Winstead at awinst01@saintmarys.edu



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Carbon

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“What’s in the strategy, as long it economically makes sense, is to push as much as we can to natural gas ... which is a smaller carbon output than coal,” she said. “In this exact moment, it doesn’t make sense for us to invest heavily in solar or in wind.”

Educating students on how they can contribute to meeting this goal will be the first step toward a change, Christopherson said.

“The University is making a commitment saying, ‘We commit to reduce carbon emissions, we commit to reduce our waste,’” Christopherson said. “The goal is to change the mindset of everyone on campus [about sustainability.]”

Christopherson said the Office of Sustainability will also continue to promote its current projects. Over 100 classes focusing on sustainability are taught each year, and minors in Sustainability and Energy Studies are growing.

The University’s \$2 million Green Loan Fund developed by the Office of Sustainability is

also used to fund projects such as high-efficiency data servers, environmentally friendly laundry equipment, real-time electricity metering in the residence halls and the annual CFL light bulb exchange, the press release stated.

“One of the aspects of the strategy that is really important is that it is really flexible,” she said. “It is part energy conservation, part look at fuel, part looking at renewable [resources] ... We can adapt to changing technologies.”

Small changes from students, staff and faculty members can also help achieve the strategy’s goals, Christopherson said.

“Being mindful of the energy that person consumes, so turning off lights; game systems and televisions when they are not in use, putting computers to sleep when not in use; when a cell phone is not in use, unplug the charger ... all of those little things, if all of us do those little things on campus together, it adds up,” she said.

Student body president Pat McCormick campaigned for his administration on the platform of improving Notre Dame’s sustainability. Shortly after he assumed his office last April, the

Student Senate passed a resolution proposing the adoption of a comprehensive University sustainability strategy.

The resolution stated that the strategy should “include a plan that will aim to put the University on a trajectory to reduce the University’s carbon footprint 70 percent from 2005 levels by 2050.”

McCormick and other student government leaders collaborated with the Office of Sustainability and the Office of the Executive Vice President as they developed the final strategy over the past few months. While the new Sustainability Strategy does not exactly match the resolution, McCormick said he feels the plan is “aggressive, but achievable.”

“The ultimate compromise that ended up developing as we talked about this was that we would have an interim target, a 2030 target that ... would be based on gross square footage so you could have a measure that could incorporate the future growth of the University,” McCormick said.

The plan, however, could still meet McCormick’s most long-term vision.

“What we are most excited about is that this still does put us



SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

Student body president Pat McCormick and vice president Brett Rocheleau lead a Student Senate meeting Oct. 25.

on the trajectory to potentially have the kind of trajectory that we had hoped for in the Student Senate resolution by 2050, but it sets an interim target that allows us to have an interim set of goals,” McCormick said.

McCormick said he sees students as important voices as the University attempts to meet its goals.

“As we move forward, the key

is going to be to ensure that students continue to have a place at the table when it comes to shaping this strategy,” he said. “We are just very grateful to Dr. Christopherson and Dr. Affleck-Graves in their willingness to really allow students to play a role in shaping this effort.”

Contact Megan Doyle at mdoyle11@nd.edu

Cairo

continued from page 1

Cairo surrounding Egyptian elections caused the U.S. Department of State to issue a series of emergency messages.

“Just being there is not safe right now, and they’re not anticipating that it’s going to get better soon,” Opel said. “We’re going to have flashes of this until there’s a government in place. Right now, there’s an emergency message for U.S. citizens ... There have been five [emergency messages] just in

the last week.”

Notre Dame’s program in Cairo does not have its own center or director overseas, Opel said, so the University could not be positive that it could provide for students in the case of an emergency.

Opel said communication was a primary concern when the University evaluated the current circumstances in Cairo.

“Last year during the disruption, the ATMs ran out of money, they shut down cell phones and Internet access ... If you’re not sure of the communication possibilities, it’s a riskier situation,” she said. “We just don’t feel confident enough to think

that we can protect students.”

Opel said while OIS wants to give students the chance to study in their location of choice, safety must be the priority.

“This is a [hard] case,” she said. “The tipping point often comes from the State Department, but primarily our review of the overall situation and that it may not be a safe place for students to be.”

But she said students were prepared for the letdown.

“All through the summer, the question was, ‘Will we be able to go to Cairo?’ We kept saying, ‘We’re monitoring the situation,’” she said.

Junior Matt Keenan planned to study in Cairo in the spring. When he heard the news of the program’s cancellation, he said he was not surprised by the announcement but was “extremely disappointed.”

“I had a feeling it was coming, even though I was hoping it wasn’t,” Keenan said. “You know the whole time it kind of felt like it could be canceled. We knew since January things have been going on, and it can come up at any time.”

Keenan said considering the past week’s violence in Cairo — specifically the arrest and detainment of three American students — he knew there was a good chance the program would be canceled.

“With the recent things in the last week I was really hoping it wasn’t going to happen but I kind of understand that it would,” he said.

Junior Ian Montijo said he understands why the University would cancel the program, but still wishes he could go ahead with his studies at AUC.

“It comes down to the University having to be responsible for us,” Montijo said. “I don’t think the University wants to put itself in a spot where they’re at risk.”

The Cairo group met with OIS at the beginning of the semester, Opel said, and the office gave them three options for the spring. The first was to stay in the Cairo program, knowing it may be canceled in the future. The second was to enroll at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and the third was to enroll at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in London.

Opel said most students were set on going to Cairo and decided to remain in the program.

Judy Hutchinson, assistant director of OIS, met with students Monday to discuss their options now that the Cairo program is canceled.

“Given the lateness of the semester and the fact that most other program deadlines are well past, the options are quite limited,” Hutchinson said. “Some may be able to participate in a study abroad program at London SOAS, but I am as yet unclear if this will

suit the academic needs of everyone in our program.”

Keenan said he appreciates the measures OIS is taking to still offer students a study abroad experience in London. However, he said studying at a university in London is completely different from the cultural experience he hoped to have in Cairo.

“They tried to accommodate us with school in London, but that’s not Cairo,” Keenan said. “It’s a school where we can take Arabic studies classes but it’s not the same atmosphere or experience.”

Twelve Notre Dame students were evacuated from Cairo last January when unrest erupted in the city, and OIS canceled the fall 2011 program last March. Opel said OIS has considered supporting alternate programs for Arabic Studies in the future.

“We’re always open to new ideas, and I can’t guarantee that we would open something quickly,” Opel said. “The beauty of the AUC is that it has a whole array of courses in business, engineering, arts and letters, sciences, whereas if they go on

one of the other programs, they’ll be pretty much limited to Arabic Studies.”

She said she thinks most students who were scheduled to go to Cairo in the spring will choose to attend SOAS.

“Those details are still being worked out but we believe anyone who [needs] Arabic Studies [classes] to complete their majors can go, and we’re in touch with SOAS right now,” she said.

But Montijo said SOAS isn’t a fit for his academic goals, so he has decided to stay in South Bend.

“At the end of the day it would have been more expensive and the classes I can take here would fit better with the requirements and everything I need,” Montijo said. “[In the future] I was planning to go to Jordan or Morocco or somewhere else in the region and hopefully take classes there and travel around. Hopefully [I’ll] be able to see Cairo that way.”

Contact Sara Felsenstein at sfelsens@nd.edu

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INSIDE COLUMN

Goodbye, traditions

Tradition should sometimes die. If it isn't your first year at Notre Dame, you already know that the student body gets really aggressive, really early about the Christmas season. Though I am all in favor of spreading Christmas cheer, I think there are a few traditions that can and should be scrapped, if only for the sake of my sanity.



Marissa Frobes

Scene Writer

Music: If I hear "All I Want For Christmas Is You" by Mariah Carey one more time in my life (which I inevitably will), I'm going to go Ebenezer Scrooge on the girl belting it at the top of her lungs.

Rely instead this season on some classics. Give me Nat King Cole, Bing Crosby and Frank Sinatra, and let Mariah save her hit for solo renditions for Nick and the twins.

Movies: Though I'm as much a fan of "Love Actually" as the next Domer, you have to admit we are putting all our eggs in one basket when the only Christmas movie gatherings are organized around this rom-com. You won't shoot your eye out if you pop in "A Christmas Story" and reawaken Red Ryder dreams or choose "White Christmas" for a heartwarming seasonal experience.

Theme Parties: Ladies, say no to the red or green satin dress you have hanging in your closet for your winter formal. Someone else will undoubtedly be wearing it the same night you are if you bought it within the last three months. Attire does not need to be so literal when dressing up around Christmas time.

And how many ugly-Christmas-sweater parties can one student attend? The four Good Will-salvaged, hideous sweaters (which have been worn multiple times) sitting in a box in my closet are a testament to our abuse of this theme. I'd be lying if I said I wasn't wearing one this weekend, but I'd be open to some more intricate Christmas themes in the coming weeks.

Décor: While homemade snowflakes and plastic candy canes are cute decoration items in theory, you can't go overboard if you stick to classic lights. Go Green this Christmas by taking a page out of Dillon Hall's decorating book. They put on an LED Christmas light show (that you can watch on YouTube) set to the tune of Christmas melodies. By switching from normal Christmas lights to LED, you can promote sustainability and maintain the traditional look of bright white lights that put anyone in the Christmas mood.

Maybe I'm just jaded. After all, these probably were all new concepts to me my freshman year that I'll reminisce about for years to come. Nonetheless I encourage you to step outside of the box this holiday season and start a new Christmas tradition. Out with the Peppermint Patties, in with whatever Christmas-colored concoction your heart fancies. Cheers!

Contact Marissa Frobes at mfrobes@nd.edu

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

Our problematic tax system

Earlier in the year, I wrote about the Fair Tax. I argued that it would solve many of the problems our country faces today. This article will take a step back and ask, "What are those problems?"

We all know United States of America has its fair share of abstract laws. The Constitution of the State of Tennessee contains a clause prohibiting people who have participated in a duel from holding public office. The General Laws of Massachusetts make it illegal for people to use stilts while working on construction. Many are viewed not only as trivial, but also humorous. After all, who in their right mind would want the police to spend time enforcing these laws? Though this may sound melodramatic, the federal tax code is getting to this point as well.

The first problem is its overwhelming length, which serves as an enormous inconvenience to the average citizen. Most people do not have the time to sort through a tax code that consists of 9,097,000 words. It's even longer than the Bible!

On top of that, people want to take initiative. According to The Tax

Foundation, a majority of Americans are "willing to give up some deductions to make the tax system simpler." The problem is our government. With the exception of a few Republican candidates looking to make noise, the political world has been extremely lackadaisical when it comes to addressing this issue. The tax code must be simplified.

The second problem is the partiality of the current tax code, which prevents people from paying their fair share to the government. Some, understandably, may assume that I will spend the rest of this article ranting in favor of raising taxes on the rich. That won't be the case. Both the upper class and the lower class need to accept blame. We can talk about a solution later, but this much must be a given.

On one hand, Warren Buffet claims to pay fewer taxes than his secretary. On the other hand, more than 46 percent of households will not pay the federal income tax this year. While both of these facts should seem absurd to you, our government doesn't think so. Democrats cannot accept that 46 percent is too high. Republicans cannot accept that the mega-rich need to pay more in taxes. In reality, both are right, but fail

to realize it. The tax system simply has too many loopholes for people on every level of the socio-economic hierarchy.

The third problem is the lack of revenue provided by the current tax code, which adds weight to the already fragile public debt. Whereas the federal government is projected to spend \$3.77 trillion this year, it is only expected to take in \$2.15 trillion. That's an astounding difference. Could you imagine if you spent \$1.75 for every \$1.00 received? I wouldn't call that sound budgeting.

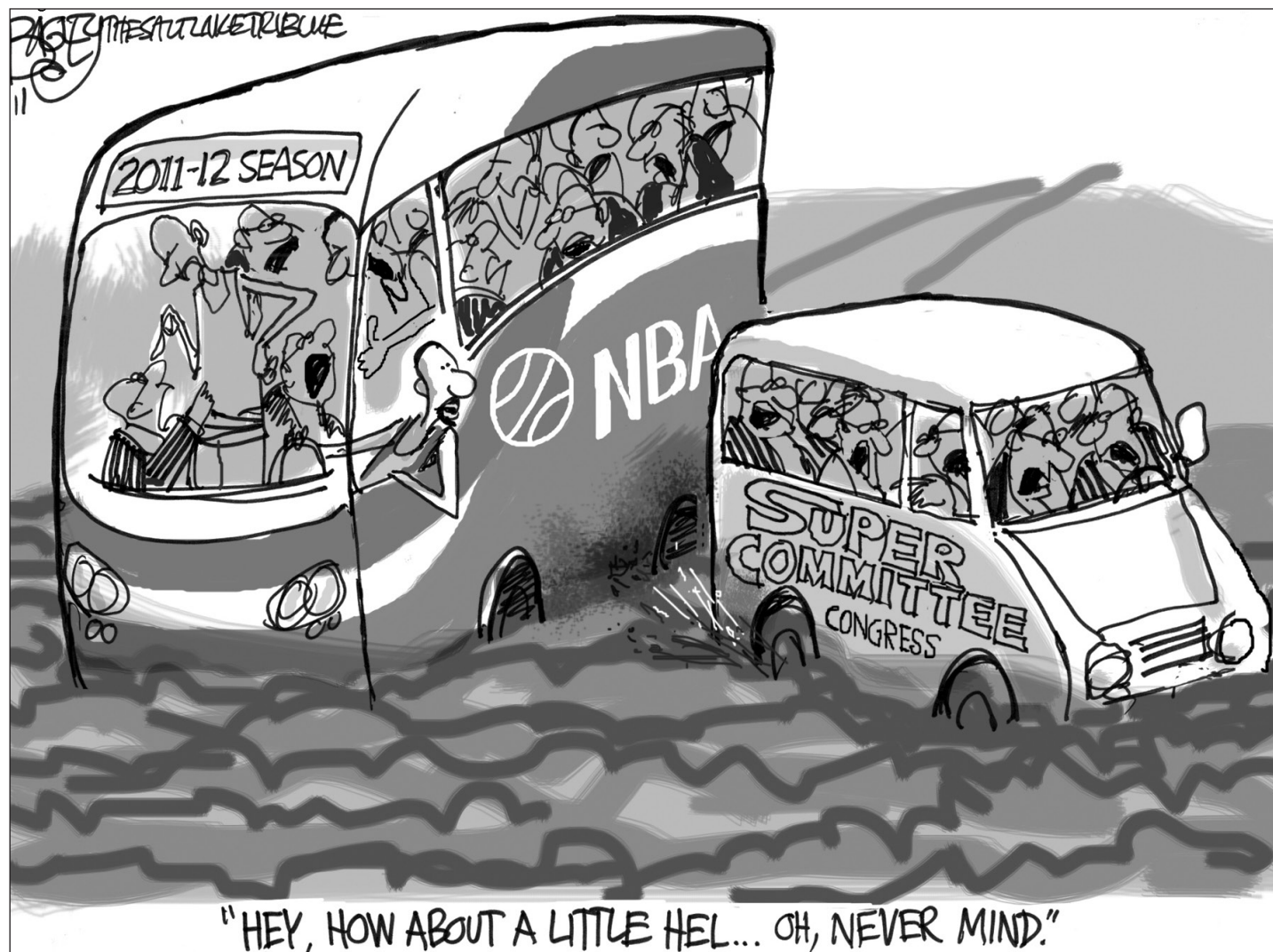
Even those who want to decrease spending to solve this problem know that we must first increase revenue. We need immediate action, and it is much tougher to decrease spending than it is to increase taxes.

These are just my personal opinions, but I hope everyone does recognize the one common problem with our current tax code. It's the result of partisanship. Before we go anywhere, our government must first learn how to compromise.

Brian Kaneb is a sophomore. He can be reached at bkaneb1@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



"HEY, HOW ABOUT A LITTLE HEL... OH, NEVER MIND."

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The power of illustrative anecdotes often lies not in how well they present reality, but in how well they reflect the core beliefs of their audience."

David Mikkelsen
American writer

**Submit a
Letter to
the Editor**

Email obsviewpoint@gmail.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"If Beethoven had been killed in a plane crash at the age of 22, it would have changed the history of music ... and of aviation."

Tom Stoppard
British dramatist & screenwriter

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Christmas gift

Gentlemen of Notre Dame, Christmas has come early for you this year.

This Friday night (Dec. 2) Lewis Hall is holding its Jingle Ball SYR, and I am offering you the chance to dance the night away with one of the hottest Chicks around, who just so happens to be a dear friend of mine. To say that she is intelligent, funny and gorgeous only begins to scratch the surface. She was an extra in the movie “The Perks of Being a Wallflower” (she and Emma Watson are tight, just FYI). She can ride a unicycle like a boss. She is proud to be a Nerdfighter, a Doctor Who-vian and a hardcore Harry Potter fan. She is essentially the most awesome person you will ever meet.

So gentlemen, if you are interested in having the time of your life with this lovely lady, email me at chasset1@nd.edu. Merry Christmas.

Carolyn Hassett
sophomore
Lewis Hall
Nov. 26

Changing the world through education

Greetings Fr. Jenkins,

I have a very interesting proposition for you. This could change the world as we know it. What if you could offer a Notre Dame education to every person on the planet? Intrigued? This would not have been possible at any time in history until this decade. I realized that our professors work very hard to give our students the best education possible. Well, this energy is expended every single year. Much of it is just repeated the next year, to a different and small group of students. What if we could capture this energy forever?

If we were to put video cameras in classrooms, we could harness this energy for the entire world to use. The young and the old alike would benefit. The poor inhabitants in Africa, Asia and South America would benefit. Every man, woman and child in the world with access to a computer would be able to bootstrap themselves out of poverty. Notre Dame could spearhead a new age of enlightenment.

The first issue that will logically arise is privacy. Teachers and students alike may resist the violation of their privacy that this brings. This is understandable. We would implement this as an opt-in program. Professors would be able to say no if they felt uncomfortable.

The University of Notre Dame seems to be the perfect place to implement this program. Every person at this great University has immeasurable character. Notre Dame is small enough to work as one team to accomplish this goal. It's large enough to cover most all of the necessary courses. And the quality is good enough to rank us as one of the premier universities in the country.

And as always, go Irish!

Nick Myers
alumnus
Class of 2011
Nov. 26

Arts @ Notre Dame

Calling all artists and audiences!

What ideas do you have for the Arts at Notre Dame? What role do they and should they play in the lives of students?

Tonight at 8 p.m. in the Philbin Studio Theatre at DeBartolo Performing Arts Center marks the beginning of A.N.D. — Arts at Notre Dame Student Advisory Group. Join the conversation to capitalize on the enthusiasm, energy, intelligence and talent of those among us who support the fine and performing arts at Notre Dame. This evening welcomes all undergraduate and graduate students of all majors to voice and discuss questions, concerns and affirmations about the fine, performing and cinematic arts at Notre Dame.

Celebrate + Critique + Collaborate

Ryan Belock
fifth year
off campus
Nov. 28

The indulgence generation

“HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE BEST ROOMIE! Get ready for me to get you WASTED tonight” stated what appeared to be an average Facebook post. A lack of comments suggested that no one seemed to have found this post out of the ordinary. It’s sad to see my generation in this state, a state in which an over-indulgent amount of drinking is necessary to have fun, a state in which the night is not a success until one has “hooked up.” We belittle the consequences of our actions by choosing to overlook our better judgment.

This state applies to more than just our college lives. I find the frequency at which we tell white lies is increasing. I have noticed a laxness in academic honesty in all levels of education, and one can’t help but see more examples such as avoiding some of the harder conversations with friends and family because that may be slightly unpleasant. Many, but not all, of my generation are losing sight of the importance of self-respect, honesty and health because we can convince ourselves that these actions are no big deal. Our peers are okay with it, so it can’t be that huge of a

deal, right?

Newsflash: This behavior is not acceptable just because we can tell ourselves that it’s okay. This behavior does have harmful consequences that impact our safety, our relationships and yes, our future. More than likely, some of us won’t know when to say enough alcohol is enough instead of enjoying a drink with good company, while others of us will be unable to have children because some of our bodies will be ravaged beyond repair due to STDs from previous hook-ups.

A part of me believes that no one commented on that birthday post because we know better than we let on, but are too afraid to judge and tackle these social norms. I hope to live in a future where we look out for the whole well-being of ourselves and others and call out our fallacies. This piece is my first step toward getting there.

Christopher Weber
freshman
St. Edward’s Hall
Nov. 22

UWIRE

Waking from the European dream

“Why can’t we be more like Europe? It’s such a pleasant way of life,” students returning from abroad often grumble. Anything typically American, they sneer, is lowbrow. But using only personal experience as a gauge for Europe’s pre-eminence can result in being badly informed, especially amid current political, cultural and economic woes.

Apparently, understanding the centuries old, if not millennia old, culture of European countries is attainable in just a semester in Montpellier, Bologna, Toledo or Freiburg. Old World sophistication has become a souvenir you can bring back with you just as easily as your Oktoberfest mug or actual Dijon mustard. Throw in a suddenly undying allegiance to the local soccer team and your worldliness is unquestionable. It seems like only a few months ago you were inhaling Jell-O shots to “Party in the U.S.A.,” and now you’re a wine connoisseur who insists Sweden was cheated in the last Eurovision.

Smugly acting as if you’re now a cultured emissary, fully equipped to teach deprived Yankee Doodles that our lives aren’t quite so dandy compared to a café-lounging, siesta-enjoying one, ignores a reality for the sake of a Bavarian or Gaelic castle in the sky. The whole fortified castle mentality for Europe is fitting, its aim to keep some people out.

Even though the United States is nearly 40 percent nonwhite, Eurofans still argue it is relatively intolerant. Meanwhile, despite most of its countries hovering at only 10 to 15 percent nonwhite, Europe is considered tolerant when it comes to race.

It’s easy to be color blind to race when you rarely see other races. In France, North African black immigrants are hardly mingling with the idealized image of le français. Instead, they’re residing in low-income apartments in the Parisian outskirts, where unemployment is near 50 percent among Muslim youths, and crime is prevalent because of the lack of social mobility; the latest assault and murder rates are actually higher in France than in Algeria, where many of these immigrants come from. This lack of opportunity is hard to see from the comfortable and distant vantage point enjoyed by the “traditional” French. Conveniently, the country’s constitution doesn’t permit data collection based on race, so they’re never directly confronted with hard evidence either.

Even across the Channel, this front of multicultural harmony shows itself. In 2010, officials estimated that 57 percent of British Pakistanis were married to their first cousin. Forget the dating pool, what about the gene one? This sort of trend only comes about through cultural isolation. I’m not sure who is doing the isolating — the Brits or the Pakistanis — and it doesn’t really matter; the point is that it exists in a country regarded for its openness. Correction: a continent regarded for its

openness. The Netherlands, Spain and Italy have each experienced their share of race riots over the past couple years as well.

Ah, but even amid these socioeconomic issues, nouveau Europeans insist that the lifestyle is so pleasing, with their quaint bakeries and picturesque plazas. As Johnny Depp once said of Europeans, “Most important thing, though, is that people there know how to live!”

But do they? Fourteen of the top-20 countries with the highest suicide rates are in Europe, with an additional 10 countries ahead of the United States, which is 40th. Norway, dubbed “the happiest country” according to a recent survey, has a higher suicide rate than India, China and Venezuela. What’s causing these Europeans to take their own supposedly idyllic life?

Just glance at the European Union’s economic troubles and you’ll understand the source of their misery. One in five Greeks, Montenegrins and Spaniards is unemployed, and it’s even worse for our age group. Stateside, we get nervous if unemployment is above 8 percent. Debts continue to build up and there is popular resistance to doing anything to fix the problem. Turmoil has forced prime ministers to step down, replaced with appointed stand-ins who are entrusted with acting in the best interest of the people even though they were never elected.

But the dangers go beyond who will decide whether or not Greek government employees will continue getting their 13 monthly checks per year or Denmark can continue paying students to go to their universities. As feisty youths, we unwisely herald the latest unrests in London, Paris, Madrid and Athens as inspirational, looking past the injuries, destruction and deaths caused by the demonstrators. If we’re lucky, though, we won’t have to worry about hearing these menacing tales much longer. Since the start of the anti-austerity protests in 2008, Reporters Without Borders has dropped Greece 39 spots on its press freedom index, from 31st to 70th, during which a journalist was killed at his home because of his coverage. Apparently, enlightened activists think an environment of free flowing information is an unimportant casualty.

None of this is to discourage travel or studying abroad; my passport is decorated with stamps from across the globe and each stop has been personally enriching. Rather, bear in mind that these experiences are definitively distant from reality, adventures that you embarked on to escape it for a while. Of course coming back to your reality will always pale in comparison to a romanticized aura of Europe, but choosing to remain in that fantasy isn’t cultured, it is convenient simplification.

This article first ran in the Nov. 21 edition of The Minnesota Daily, the daily publication serving the University of Minnesota.

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

“MUPPETS PROVIDE FUN FOR ALL AGES”



By MARY CLAIRE O'DONNELL
Scene Writer

The Muppets haven't been in theaters for 12 years, but they haven't missed a step. Kermit, Fozzie Bear, Miss Piggy and everyone else brought the magic and laughter of the beloved puppets to life again this Thanksgiving season. The gang introduces some new characters in their new film, making for some all-around family fun.

The movie begins with Walter (voice of Peter Linz), a puppet from Smalltown, USA. He and his brother, Gary (Jason Segel), are best friends, but during his teenage years, Walter goes through a tough time dealing with the differences between him and his human brother and friends. Walter discovers the Muppets during this difficult period, and he becomes a huge fan.

As adults, Walter and Gary still live in Smalltown, and Walter still idolizes the Muppets. The two are inseparable, and Walter even accompanies Gary and his girlfriend, Mary (Amy Adams), to Los Angeles for their 10th anniversary. While there, Walter insists on visiting the Muppet Theater, only to find it in ruin. He sneaks into Kermit the Frog's office, where he overhears the sale of the theater to oil magnate Tex Richman (Chris Cooper). Richman secretly plans to demolish it to drill the oil he found beneath it.

And so, Walter hatches a plan to find the Muppets, reunite

them and raise the \$10 million needed to keep the theater safe. His plan is not easy. The Muppets have spread out across the globe, from Reno to Paris, anger management to plumbing businesses. In addition to the daunting troubles at hand, they must convince a TV station to host their telethon and find a celebrity host. Their task list is long, but, in true Muppet fashion, they attack it with laughter and song.

Overall, the movie is adorable and sure to bring laughs. The song-and-dance scenes are especially endearing. There's nothing as inspiring as watching the Muppets give their theater a much-needed facelift while rocking out to "We Built This City" to motivate a long-overdue cleaning of your own room.

An original song from the movie, "Life 's a Happy Song," is one of the highlights of the film. Walter and Gary perform the song at the beginning and end of the movie, delighting in the joys of having each other and the ones they love to weather life's hardships. It's moving, cutesy and sure to be stuck in your head for day.

Segel is great as Gary. He already looks like a Muppet, making him perfect for the role, but his wide-eyed innocence also endears him to viewers as he struggles with his identity in the film. His humor isn't dumbed down for the children in the audience and appeals to all ages. Adams, his romantic partner, also holds onto the innocence of Smalltown, USA without sacri-

ficing her acting talent.

Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for Rashida Jones, who plays Veronica Martin, the tough TV executive who finally gives the Muppets a slot for their telethon. She tries to be extremely stern and demanding, but it comes off flat — a disappointing performance from this actress.

But Jones aside, the movie is cute and funny. While most of the movie centers on the Muppets, there are memorable performances and cameos from big names like Jack Black, Neil Patrick Harris and Selena Gomez. Most of the jokes are definitely directed toward young children, but there's enough higher humor to keep people above the age of 6 laughing.

The Muppets will give you the third-greatest gift in this world, laughter, and the film is worth it for that present.

Contact Mary Claire O'Donnell at modonne5@nd.edu

“The Muppets”

Starring: Jason Segel, Amy Adams, Rashida Jones, Jack Black



My quest for the best Thai food in South Bend is complete. If you're looking for flavorful food and one of the toughest spice challenges I've faced, go to Cambodian Thai.

At first glance, Cambodian Thai isn't the prettiest girl at the ball. The storefront sign is easy to over-

look and the inside is more cramped than a Morrissey double. If you are planning on going there, I'd recommend take out, as there is barely enough room to seat 15 people in the entire restaurant and there's hardly ever a semi-quiet moment. Adding to the college dorm feel, the "menu" overhead of the cashier is reminiscent of an old hot dog vendor sign (be sure to look at the menu on yelp or urbanspoon.com beforehand).

What they lacked in ambiance, Cambodian Thai more than made up for it in the quality and quantity of their dishes. The first time I ordered, the waitress asked about spice level for my dish. Naturally, my bold self said, "spicy," to which she replied, "American hot, or Thai hot?" I should have taken this as a

warning. I should have kept my ego and bravado in check. Instead, I thought to myself, "Challenge Accepted," and ordered Thai hot.

Having ordered take out, the drive back from downtown South Bend was unbearable with the bags of Thai food taunting us, waiting to be eaten while smelling delicious. I had the Green Curry, which is a coconut milk based curry with chicken, eggplant, bamboo shoots and plenty of spice. Even with a full serving of rice to go with it, I had to drink 8 Grab n' Go juice boxes to handle the "Thai hot" level of spice. Still, it was worth every (mildly painful) bite and the best curry I've had within 50 miles of Notre Dame (yes, that includes my house and my mother's cooking).

Other standouts on the menu included their Panang and Red Curry, which each had solid strong flavors and as much kick as you ask for. The noodle dishes (i.e. Drunken Noodles, Pad Thai) while good couldn't remotely compete with the curry options on the menu. The portion sizes are more than enough to split if you're feeling generous, but also manageable if you have big appetite. Prices ranged from \$6-\$8 for curry dishes, and \$5-\$7 for noodles. They are very flexible with making dishes purely vegetarian and such, just adding to my adoration of the restaurant.

Overall, Cambodian Thai isn't the best place to take someone out for a sit down meal, but for a relatively cheap take out option, it is my new "go to" and the best Thai food I've had in quite some time. Though I will recommend being conservative with your spice ratings — a friend of mine couldn't handle what the storeowner labeled as mild.

Contact Ankur Chawla at achawla@nd.edu if you'd like to join him on his next quest for quality foreign foods in the area. Seriously, do it.

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

Cambodian Thai

Where: 229 S Michigan
South Bend, IN 46601
Hours: 11:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday



FOREIGN

F



D

FINDS

This Week’s Mix — Christmas in the Air



by Mary Claire O’Donnell

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> “Mistletoe” — Justin Bieber |
| 2 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> “All I Want For Christmas” — Mariah Carey |
| 3 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> “Last Christmas” — Wham! |
| 4 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> “The 12 Days of Christmas” — Straight No Chaser |
| 5 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> “Santa Baby” — Taylor Swift |
| 6 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> “Jingle Bells” — Michael Bublé |
| 7 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> “Christmas Lights” — Coldplay |
| 8 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas” — She & Him |
| 9 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> “God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen” — Glee Cast |

Thanksgiving is over, and it’s finally universally acceptable to blast Christmas music in your dorm room, or more subtly through your iPod headphones, at all hours. For a musical pick-me-up during these last, hard weeks of term, check out this playlist of modern versions of Christmas classics. From Justin Bieber to Mariah Carey, these tunes will leave a holiday smile on your face and visions of sugar plums dancing through your dreams.

Listen online at ndsmcobserver.com/scene

SCENE
Selects

1 Flannel Shirts

It hasn’t snowed significantly yet in South Bend, but colder weather is moving in just in time for the beginning of December. Even though these cold few weeks are full of papers, tests and stress, it doesn’t mean they are all bad. Flannel shirts can now return in full force to block out the biting wind or act as a comforting layer of warmth during long hours in the library. With their bright or bold plaid patterns, each flannel is unique and shows some personality. So here’s to cold weather and that oversized flannel finally coming out for winter.

2 Plaid Wrapping Paper

It’s the perfect way to decorate a dorm door as well as the classiest way to hide presents bought for friends and family. The red, green and gold of a good plaid hearken back to the 1950s when housewives like Betty Draper hand crafted bows and tags for Christmas presents galore. Bring the spirit of the season to your hall by adorning just about anything with this holiday season staple.

3 HeyTell

HeyTell is a free iPhone and Android app that allows users to deliver voice messages straight to their friends’ phones, walkie-talkie style. The conversation thread is available too, so users can entertain themselves by listening to their entire back-and-forth record of voice messages. The app is perfect for quick communication, be it incoherent mumblings or crucial information, and is way more fun than lame text messages.

4 The Hunger Games

With the first trailers for the March 23 release of “The Hunger Games” popping up, there seems to be a renewed interest in Suzanne Collins’ first novel of “The Hunger Games” trilogy. Long-time fans are re-reading the novel to prepare for the upcoming movie release. Those drawn in by the movie trailer are reading the book for the first time. In “The Hunger Games,” Collins tells a gripping story of a futuristic, hierarchical society in which teenagers are pitted against each other in an annual, televised battle to the death.

5 Christmas Lights

Thanksgiving is over, which means it’s finally socially acceptable to deck your halls and rock around the Christmas tree. Don’t have the space to fit a Christmas tree in your small dorm room? Get in the holiday spirit by stringing lights around the room. If you don’t have a loft, part of the fun is in getting creative to avoid hammering nails in the wall — unless you don’t mind large fines at your end of the year room inspection.

SPORTS AUTHORITY

Bring on the hate for the Heat in new NBA season

Let's get one thing straight here: I am a Miami Heat fan.

You're probably thinking, "Wow, the season hasn't even officially been OK-ed yet and we already have an uneducated, band-wagon Heat fan." But that's not what I'm about.

I realize LeBron James disappointed in the Finals and Chris Bosh cried in the tunnel and Dwyane Wade mocked Dirk Nowitzki and Erik Spoelstra still looks like the video coordinator he was a few years ago. But that was year one.

Now comes year two, where expectations are higher.

"The Decision" has been mostly forgotten and the center position is still very thin.

But let's not kid ourselves here. The Heat were so close last year in the Finals against the Mavericks. Late-game collapses in Games Two and Four ultimately sank the Heat, who very well could have swept the series.

So do they really need a top-flight center when Bosh, Udonis Haslem and, gasp, Joel Anthony almost won them a title? Do they really need a superb point guard when James and Wade handle the ball so frequently and when Mario Chalmers (assuming they re-sign him) knocks down the occasional three-point-er?

Maybe they do, maybe they don't. Some questions undoubtedly remain for the defending Eastern Conference champions but following a lockout that shortened the season by 16 games, every team has some flaws.

Regardless, the haters will reemerge to rip Pat Riley's organization, Spoelstra's schemes, James' clutch play, Bosh's toughness, Wade's foul calls and

the team's fans once Miami loses a few games.

But that is perfectly OK with me. Bring on the hate. Bring it on, Chicago.

Prove that Joakim Noah, Carlos Boozer and Luol Deng can become the players they have the potential to be. Prove that last year's regular season was not a fluke. Prove that blowing a 12-point lead the last four minutes of an elimination game at home was an anomaly.

Bring it on, Boston. Prove that an aging Goliath can return to form. Prove that Rajon Rondo finally has a jump-shot. Prove that your Big Three is better than Miami's Big Three.

Bring it on, Orlando. Prove that Dwight Howard is the next great big man. Prove that you can keep

him. Prove that shooting 26 threes a game is a viable strategy. Prove that you can hang with the big boys in the East.

Bring it on, New York. You can try to play some defense or you can wait for Chris

Paul. Your choice.

Bring it on, Los Angeles. Kobe, tell me how the sweep tastes.

Bring it on, Atlanta. Supposedly, they're a division rival. I guess I'll stop picking on the perennial fifth-seed in the East.

Bring it on, Cleveland. Too soon? Well, good luck with Kyrie Irving.

Bring it on, Dallas. See you Christmas Day. You don't have to prove anything.

I am about loving the Heat. I am about loving the hate.

So, here's a warm welcome back to the NBA. A welcome back to the Miami Heat. A welcome back to the Miami Heat hate.

I've missed you.

Contact Matthew DeFranks at mdefrank@nd.edu

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



Matthew DeFranks
Associate Sports Editor

Regardless, the haters will reemerge to rip Pat Riley's organization, Spoelstra's schemes, James' clutch play, Bosh's toughness, Wade's foul calls and the team's fans once Miami loses a few games.

NFL

Packers search for perfection

Associated Press

There is perfection — what the Green Bay Packers are chasing.

And then there is perfection — what the Indianapolis Colts are trying to avoid.

Neither team wants to broach the subject, although both are very aware it's out there.

"I think we're a long way from there," Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers said. "If we're fortunate enough to be still undefeated after 14 or 15 games, maybe we can start talking about what you were talking about."

What the rest of the nation is talking about: 16-0. And, in the Colts' case, 0-16.

"I think all the losses are tough. At this point, we're just trying find a way to get a win," Colts safety Antoine Bethea said. "We've got five games left now, so we got to keep rallying and stick together."

The Packers have been sticking it to just about everyone all season. They lead the NFL in points (382, 34.7 per game), and are near or at the lead in many other offensive categories. Rodgers is having the lights-out sort of season that Tom Brady had in leading the Patriots to their perfect regular season in 2007.

Indeed, there are several similarities between these Packers and those Patriots, including a heavy concentration on passing, a nice mix of veterans and youngsters, and a well-established coaching staff with a strong ability to adapt during games.

But there are many differences, starting with Rodgers' corps of receivers, which is deeper than what Brady enjoyed. Sure, Brady had stars in Randy Moss and Wes Welker, but beyond that his targets usually were Donte Stallworth, Jabar Gaffney, tight end Benjamin Watson and running back Kevin Faulk. Moss had a record 23 TD receptions and Welker grabbed 112 passes.

While nobody on these Packers figures to produce such numbers, Rodgers throws to as many as 10 receivers in a game, and double-covering any of them tends to create mismatches elsewhere, particularly with TE Jermichael Finley, unlike Watson a deep threat, and the emerging Jordy Nelson.

New England also had a



AP

Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers celebrates after throwing a touchdown pass to teammate James Jones on Nov. 24.

better offensive line than the Packers can put together, and its defense was stingier than Green Bay's.

Perhaps most notable is how the Patriots blew out teams in the first eight weeks, then were tested severely in the second half of the 2007 schedule, with four victories by four points or less. Thus far, the Packers have only two lopsided wins.

That actually might help Green Bay, toughen it for the postseason grind. Remember that the Patriots did not win the NFL title that season, losing to the Giants in the Super Bowl — and being held to a season-low 14 points.

To their credit, the Packers aren't totally ignoring the perfection chatter.

"Yeah, they don't mind it," coach Mike McCarthy said. "You guys don't like my same message, but it kind of works for us. I don't feel any pressure by it. It's a great place to be. It's nice to be undefeated and to be part of those conversations. Anybody would like to be part of those conversations."

"But really, not to be cliché, it's about the next game. Because if you don't get No. 12, that talk's over. We won't shy away from the talk if we get to that, but it's a hypothetical situation."

The reality is the Packers will be favored in their remaining five games, three at home. They visit the Giants on Sunday in what some think will be their toughest test. They also get the Raiders at

home, visit the Chiefs, then finish with consecutive divisional games at Lambeau Field against the Bears and Lions.

It is not an easy path, and Green Bay fully will deserve the 16-0 mark if it gets there.

Just as Indianapolis will deserve matching the ignominious 0-16 Detroit compiled in 2008. Yes, the Mannings, uh, Colts have a monstrous excuse for flopping: Peyton Manning's neck surgery and subsequent sidelining, something they clearly were ill-prepared to deal with.

But 0-11? And with some losses against the dregs of the league: Cleveland, Tampa Bay, Kansas City, Jacksonville and, on Sunday, Carolina — perhaps their best opportunity to get off this schneid?

The old saw that others will step up for the team when a star goes down certainly has not applied in Indy. Instead of stepping up, just about everyone from Reggie Wayne to Dallas Clark to Dwight Freeney have fallen down. And they haven't been able to get up as the losses mount.

Indianapolis is near the bottom in scoring, various offensive and defensive statistics, turnover differential and, naturally, wins.

Curtis Painter was not ready to be a starting quarterback, bringing Kerry Collins out of a short retirement backfired, injuries have plagued the roster, and coach Jim Caldwell and his staff have been at, well, a loss on how to fix anything.

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.

PERSONAL

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LYRICS: It's Beginning to Look
A Lot Like Christmas

It's beginning to look a lot like
Christmas

Ev'rywhere you go;

Take a look in the five and ten
glistening once again

With candy canes and silver lanes
aglow.

It's beginning to look a lot like
Christmas

Toys in ev'ry store

But the prettiest sight to see is the
holly that will be

On your own front door.

A pair of hopalong boots and a
pistol that shoots
Is the wish of Barney and Ben;

Dolls that will talk and will go for
a walk
Is the hope of Janice and Jen;

And Mom and Dad can hardly wait
for school to start again.

It's beginning to look a lot like
Christmas
Ev'rywhere you go;

There's a tree in the Grand Hotel,
one in the park as well,

The sturdy kind that doesn't mind
the snow.

It's beginning to look a lot like
Christmas;

Soon the bells will start,

And the thing that will make them
ring is the carol that you sing

Right within your heart.

HAPPY 21ST BIRTHDAY SUSH!!!!!!

NCAA BASKETBALL

Boeheim feels heat from Fine's molestation charges

Associated Press

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Syracuse men's basketball coach Jim Boeheim ran a closed practice Monday as sex abuse victims' advocates questioned whether he should still coach following the firing of longtime assistant Bernie Fine, who has been accused of molestation by three men.

As criticism swirled about Boeheim's initial support of Fine and his verbal attacks on the accusers, the coach kept a low profile, seeking refuge in his office on the second floor of the Carmelo K. Anthony Basketball Center.

Boeheim, who had been sharply critical of the accusers, has softened his stance 10 days after an impassioned defense of Fine, who spent 35 seasons on the bench next to Boeheim and was fired Sunday.

The Rev. Robert Hoatson, president of Road to Recovery, a group that supports victims of sexual abuse, said the dismissal of Bernie Fine was appropriate but didn't go far enough.

"I think Jim Boeheim should be fired or resign as well," Hoatson said Monday. "These boys were members of the basketball program. Jim Boeheim's responsibility is to oversee that program, and the children were not safe on his watch."

Two former Syracuse ball boys were the first to accuse Fine, who has called the allegations "patently false." And a third man came forward last week, accusing Fine of molesting him nine years ago.

Bobby Davis, now 39, told ESPN that Fine molested him beginning in 1984 and that the

sexual contact continued until he was around 27. A ball boy for six years, Davis told ESPN that the abuse occurred at Fine's home, at Syracuse basketball facilities and on team road trips, including the 1987 Final Four. His stepbrother, Mike Lang, 45, who also was a ball boy, told ESPN that Fine began molesting him while he was in fifth or sixth grade.

Zach Tomaselli, 23, of Lewiston, Maine, said Sunday he told police that Fine molested him in 2002 in a Pittsburgh hotel room. Tomaselli, who faces sexual assault charges in Maine involving a 14-year-old boy, said Fine touched him "multiple" times in that one incident. During a telephone interview with The Associated Press, he said he signed an affidavit accusing Fine following a meeting with Syracuse police last week in Albany.

As supporters of victims of sex abuse called for Boeheim to be fired, university trustees were largely silent.

"I don't have anything to say about this," said trustee H. Douglas Barclay, who earned his law degree from Syracuse in 1961 and was a New York state senator for 20 years.

Reached in Naples, Fla., trustee Marvin Lender, class of 1963, referred all calls to Chancellor Nancy Cantor.

"It's a policy, and I want to adhere to it," he said.

Calls to several other trustees seeking comment were not returned.

The allegations against Fine surfaced a week after Penn State school trustees fired Joe Paterno in the aftermath of child sex abuse charges against former defensive coordinator

Jerry Sandusky, who is accused in a grand jury indictment of sexually abusing eight boys over a 15-year period.

Amid that child sex-abuse scandal, Penn State's trustees ousted Paterno and university President Graham Spanier. The trustees said Spanier and Paterno, who is not the target of any criminal investigation, failed to act after a graduate assistant claimed he saw Sandusky sexually abusing a young boy in a campus shower in 2002. And two school administrators were charged with not properly alerting authorities to suspected abuse and with perjury. They maintain their innocence.

When the allegations against Fine first became public Nov. 17, Boeheim adamantly defended his longtime assistant and attacked the accusers, saying he suspected they were trying to get money.

"It is a bunch of a thousand lies that he has told," Boeheim told ESPN, referring to Bobby Davis. "You don't think it is a little funny that his cousin (relative) is coming forward?"

Those comments prompted a swift backlash from victims' advocates, who were outraged by Boeheim's attitude.

Ten days later, his stance had changed considerably.

In a statement released Sunday night after Fine's firing, Boeheim expressed regret for his initial statements that might have been "insensitive to victims of abuse."

"What is most important is that this matter be fully investigated and that anyone with information be supported to come forward so that the truth can be



Zach Tomaselli, 23, is the third man to accuse Fine of molestation. Fine was fired from Syracuse following the allegations.

found," Boeheim said in a statement released by the school. "I deeply regret any statements I made that might have inhibited that from occurring or been insensitive to victims of abuse."

That apology did not appease all his critics.

Richard Tollner, a member of the New York Coalition to Protect Children, said even if the investigation finds Boeheim didn't know anything before, during or after any abuses occurred, he should at least offer to quit. Tollner and other victims' advocates have been sharply critical of comments Boeheim made when the scandal broke in which he said the accusers were lying to get money.

"We think he should offer his resignation to the Syracuse University Board and the let the board decide with a vote of confidence whether he should continue on or not," said Tollner.

"Mr. Boeheim has a responsibility," Tollner said. "He's a leader. Kids follow what Jim Boeheim says these days. In that light, he should have been more responsible in his remarks."

New York state Assemblywoman Margaret Markey, a Queens Democrat who has passed legislation increasing the age from 23 to 28 to bring a claim of sexual abuse, said if an investigation shows Boeheim was aware of the allegations against Fine and did nothing, he should be removed.

"But if he wasn't aware of it, and there was no way of him knowing about it, that's a different set of circumstances," Markey said.

On Sunday, ESPN also played

an audiotape, obtained and recorded by Davis, of an October 2002 telephone conversation between him and Fine's wife, Laurie.

Davis told ESPN he made the recording, which also has been given to Syracuse police, without her knowledge because he knew he needed proof for the police to believe his accusations. ESPN said it hired a voice recognition expert to verify the voice on the tape and the network said it was determined to be that of Laurie Fine.

During the call to the woman, Davis repeatedly asks her what she knew about the alleged molestation.

"Do you think I'm the only one that he's ever done that to?" Davis asked.

"No ... I think there might have been others but it was geared to ... there was something about you," the woman on the tape said.

On the tape, she also says she knew "everything that went on."

"Bernie has issues, maybe that he's not aware of, but he has issues. ... And you trusted somebody you shouldn't have trusted ..."

Federal authorities investigating Fine are not hampered by a statute of limitations should they turn up evidence Fine molested Tomaselli in Pittsburgh.

Under federal law passed in 2002, prosecutions for the sexual or physical abuse or kidnapping of a child under 18 can continue until the victim turned 25. Subsequent amendments changed that to the life of the child or 10 years after the offense, whichever is longer.

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NFL

Colts weigh option of taking quarterback in draft

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Money won't deter the Colts from taking a quarterback in April's draft.

They just have to make sure they've got the right man to succeed Peyton Manning.

Indianapolis vice chairman Bill Polian told radio listeners Monday night that the Colts could afford to keep Manning on the roster next season and still use their first-round draft pick on another franchise quarterback without sacrificing competitiveness.

"The payment to the first-round draft choice is far less than it was under the old (collective bargaining) agreement, so you could afford that," Polian told a caller. "I'm perfectly fine with that approach."

It would be a pricey move.

Manning agreed to a five-year contract worth \$90 million in July, a deal that includes a \$28 million bonus payment due in February. Manning hasn't played since having neck sur-

gery in May and has barely practiced since agreeing to the deal. If the Colts opt out of Manning's deal, the four-time league MVP would become a free agent.

At 0-11, Indianapolis also holds a two-game lead in the chase for the No. 1 draft pick -- a slot that most analysts believe will be used on Stanford quarterback Andrew Luck.

Last year's top pick, Cam Newton, signed a four-year contract worth more than \$22 million, meager compared to the six-year, \$78 million deal St. Louis quarterback Sam Bradford signed in 2009 as the No. 1 overall pick.

While Polian reiterated his previous position that this is the time to select Manning's successor if they find the right quarterback, Polian has declined to specifically talk about Luck, who some call the best quarterback prospect since the Colts selected Manning No. 1 overall in 1998. And Polian insists he's not even sure where Luck fits in this year's draft yet.

"A lot of names are being ban-

died about and Andrew Luck is one of them," he said. "He can go back to school if he wants, and those guys don't have to make that decision until Jan. 15, so they're not even part of the equation yet. I have said publicly on a number of occasions that if the right person was there, we would make that pick. We were prepared to do that last year and came awfully close to doing it. Who that person is, right now, I couldn't tell you."

Manning's future has been clouded because of the neck injury.

After having the initial surgery to repair a damaged nerve that caused weakness in his throwing arm, Manning underwent another procedure, a spinal fusion, Sept. 8. He still has not been cleared to practice with his teammates, though the Colts have kept him on the active roster in hopes he can start throwing during the final month of the season.

In the meantime, fans are asking why the Colts haven't been more forthcoming about

Manning's prognosis.

On Monday night's radio show, one caller asked Polian why Sunday's broadcasters seemed so pessimistic about Manning's possible return.

"I did see something in the newspaper today that alluded to the fact that there had been pessimistic comments made by the commentators," said Polian, who has repeatedly declined interview requests from local reporters. "During our meeting, they asked me for a timeline and I told them I couldn't give them anything anywhere near what would be accurate, that I could give them a guesstimate and I did. But I did not give them even a germ that indicated he would not play again. So I do not know what they were basing that on."

But Polian said he still does not have a definitive timetable for Manning's return, either.

Polian also acknowledged the team may make some lineup changes this week, partly because of injuries and partly because of performance.

Fans have increasingly voiced

concern with quarterback Curtis Painter, who threw two interceptions in the Carolina end zone to stop potentially tying scoring drives in Sunday's loss. Coach Jim Caldwell said earlier Monday he thought Painter improved throughout the game and did not indicate a move was imminent.

Polian did not say what might be different when the Colts head to New England (8-3) this weekend.

"This is a different offense and we need to recognize that's the fact and play to our strengths," Polian said. "We probably need to reconfigure and that's something we'll be looking at the next couple of days."

But the bigger question is what the Colts will do in the draft, and Polian seems certain that taking a quarterback with the No. 1 pick and pairing him with Manning is a distinct possibility.

"Of course you can do that," he said. "We're not ready to make any decision on who we take until April."

NFL

Questions mount for Eagles as playoff hopes continue to fade



Eagles Coach Andy Reid talks with quarterback Vince Young during the team's 38-20 loss to the Patriots on Sunday.

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Fans are calling for Andy Reid's dismissal more vehemently than ever. Assistant coaches are arguing on the sideline. A disgruntled star player isn't giving his best effort.

There's no saving the Philadelphia Eagles this season.

The best team money can buy turned out to be a whole lot of wasted dollars. All those big-name acquisitions the Eagles made in the offseason couldn't even get them back to where they were last year.

The defending NFC East champions are 4-7 following a 38-20 loss to Tom Brady and the New England Patriots that wasn't as close as the 18-point margin. The Eagles aren't mathematically eliminated from playoff contention, but it's just a matter of time at this point.

"These last five games? I think they'll show the character," rookie center Jason Kelce said Monday. "Whenever you're facing adversity, or whenever you're put in a situation where it's tough, you don't know what the outcome is going to be for

the year and everything else. I think true character. Everybody can play when you're up and when things are going well, but when you're backed into a corner, when you're down, that's when true character shows."

The Eagles don't have a lot of time to dwell on their latest loss. They have to get ready for a cross-country trip to play at Seattle (4-7) on Thursday night.

Road games will be more hospitable than playing at Lincoln Financial Field, where the Eagles have lost eight of their last nine games. Things were downright ugly on Sunday after the Eagles blew an early 10-0 lead.

Fans started chanting: "Fire Andy!" in the third quarter and the always sold-out stadium was

nearly empty by the end. Defensive line coach Jim Washburn exchanged words with offensive coordinator Marty Mornhinweg in the first half. DeSean Jackson dropped three passes, including two that should've been touchdowns, and the diminutive wideout clearly shied away from contact before getting benched.

"I just have to go out there and do my job. I have a job to do, which I get paid to do, I have to go out there and give my best effort," said Jackson, who is unhappy he didn't get a new contract. "Regardless of what happens, the dropped balls and all, it's not like it's happening on purpose. Everybody has things that they have to go through in life. Right now this is what I am going through to better myself. I will be all right."

Jackson is costing himself money with every lackluster effort, missed meeting, deactivation and benching. He's one of the most exciting players in the league when he has the ball in his hands. But, but Jackson isn't among the elite receivers and won't be getting top money from Philadelphia after his contract expires at the end of the season.

The Eagles are going to need a whole lot more than another receiver next year. Their biggest problems are on defense. Reid's decision to switch Juan Castillo from his longtime position as offensive line coach to defensive coordinator was highly questioned at the time. It looks like an egregious mistake with each passing game.

Castillo had no answers for Brady, who had his way with Philadelphia's defense. Brady

picks opponents apart often, so that's no surprise. But he did it with such ease and hardly broke a sweat against the Eagles. The defense was completely overmatched and seemed totally clueless. Several offsides penalties and having 12 men on the field are inexcusable. There appeared to be mass confusion at times and players didn't know who was supposed to be on the field.

"We have a lot of great players on this team and it's hard to see us lose," defensive end Trent

Cole said. "We know what kind of talent we have, so we have to pull together. It's hard. We're not going to bow our heads, we're going to keep them up and keep moving forward, go make plays and go win ball games."

It's uncertain whether Vince Young or Michael Vick will start against the Seahawks. Young played the last two games because Vick has broken ribs. Young threw for a career-best 400 yards against the Patriots, though his numbers were inflated a bit because of the score.

The Household Of Divinity: Mary and the Season of Advent



Timothy P. O'Malley, Ph.D.
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This program is made possible through a Worship Renewal Grant from the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, Grand Rapids, Michigan, with funds provided by Lilly Endowment, Inc.

Dealy

continued from page 16

Irish were on the outside looking in. After falling to Cincinnati in the Big East title game a week Nov. 20, the Irish held on to the slim hope that they would be selected for the NCAA tournament after a strong showing in the conference tournament, despite a mediocre regular season.

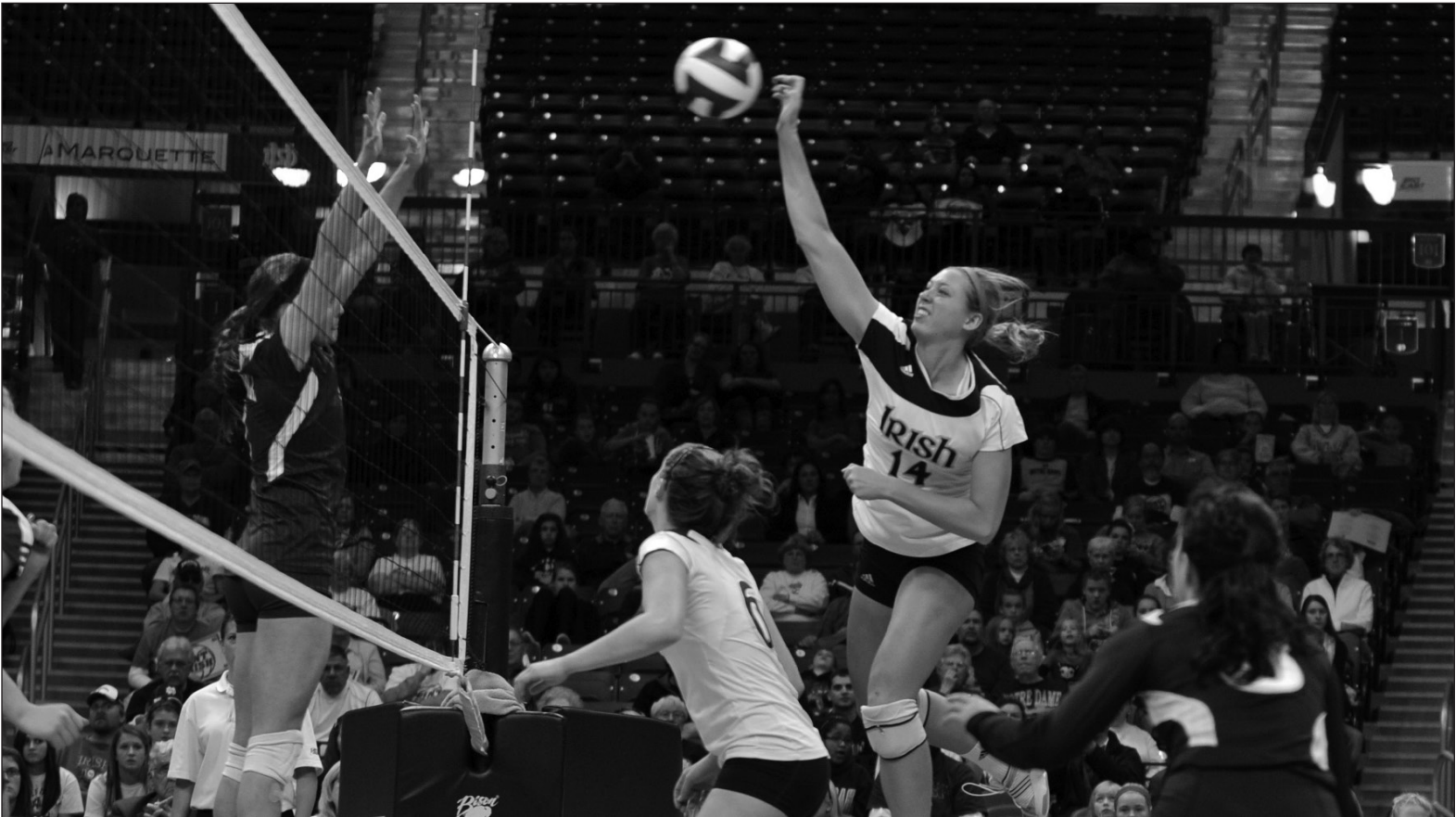
Against the Flyers, Notre Dame held set-point numerous times in the first set yet were unable to come up with the clutch point when it mattered.

“We were right on the cusp there a couple times,” Dealy said. “It’s fun to go back and forth like that, but that’s the way things have been for a lot of this year.”

In her final match for Notre Dame, Dealy led the team with 14 kills on the day, followed by junior Hilary Eppink with eight and sophomore Andrea McHugh with seven. Senior Frenchy Silva totaled 15 digs in the defensive effort.

The match was the last in the careers of Dealy and Silva, co-captains and the lone two seniors on the young team.

“We knew that this could very well be the last match that we would play in our careers,”



ASHLEY DACY/The Observer

Irish Junior middle blocker Hilary Eppink strikes the ball in a 3-1 victory over Big East opponent Seton Hall on Nov. 5. Following a 3-0 loss to Dayton on Friday, Notre Dame’s season ended when the team failed to qualify for the NCAA Tournament.

Dealy said. “So it was nice to be able to play one more time. Usually Coach Brown schedules these games as tune-ups

for the NCAA tournament. We were so close to getting there against Cincinnati.”

A win against the Bearcats

in the Big East final would have secured an NCAA berth for the Irish who must now turn to next season as the team re-

turns 12 of 14 players in 2012.

Contact Conor Kelly at ckelly17@nd.edu

SMC BASKETBALL

Belles come up short in both games of holiday tournament

By NICK BOYLE
Sports Writer

After two close contests, the Belles emerged without a victory in the Ohio Northern Thanksgiving Classic in Ada, Ohio. They fell to Ohio Northern 68-64 Saturday and to Otterbein 74-65 Sunday.

In Saturday’s contest, Ohio Northern (5-1) jumped out to an early 10-point lead only six minutes into the game. The Belles (2-4) battled back strong and scored on consecutive possessions to make it a one-point game at the half.

In a back-and-forth second half, the Polar Bears took their largest lead of the game on a

jump shot by sophomore forward Cenzie Yoder with 6:41 remaining, giving the tournament hosts a 62-47 lead.

Saint Mary’s did their best to fight back and went on a 17-4 run capped by senior guard Patsy Mahoney’s three-pointer with 35 seconds remaining on the clock to pull the Belles four points from the lead. Mahoney put up 20 points and six assists.

Unfortunately for the Belles, time ran out on their comeback for a four-point Ohio Northern victory.

Along with Mahoney, The Belles senior class led scoring. Senior forwards Kelley Murphy and Jessica Centa brought in 16 points and 10 points, respec-

tively. Classmate and starting guard Maggie Ronan scored 14 points against the Polar Bears.

“As a team we come into every game expecting to win, so the losses this past weekend were tough,” Mahoney said. “We know we are playing some very tough competition though, so we are learning from what we have done thus far and making ourselves better from it.”

Saint Mary’s gained an early lead against Otterbein (4-0) on

“Moving into conference play we know what we need to do to win games and we are working hard to fix our problems ... We just have to execute on both ends of the floor to get the results we know we can.”

Patsy Mahoney
senior guard

Sunday, going up 23-13 with seven minutes left in the half on a layup from M u r p h y who scored 14 points and had 12 r e b o u n d s before the clock ran out. The Cardinals fought back and closed the half on an 11-4 run, cutting the Belles’ lead to two. The second half was tightly

contested as the lead change four times between the teams. The Cardinals took the lead for good with 7:20 left in the game when they went up 56-55 on a field goal from Otterbein junior forward Rachel Snedegar. Otterbein closed the game on a 19-10 run, and Saint Mary’s went home without a win.

Along with Murphy’s double-double, Ronan matched Mahoney’s points with 18 against the Cardinals.

“Moving into conference play we know what we need to do to win games and we are working hard to fix our problems,” Mahoney said. “We just have to execute on both ends of the floor to get the results we know we can.”

Saint Mary’s next opens up conference play against Trine on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at home.

Contact Nick Boyle at nboyle1@nd.edu

Discussions on Development



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Irish sophomore guard Alex Dragicevich scores from under the net during Notre Dame's 93-69 win over Delaware State on Nov. 18.

Bulldogs

continued from page 16

guard Corey Maynard, who finished with 11 points. But the 15-3 Bryant run was countered by a 12-2 Irish run that put Notre Dame back up by 24 with eight minutes to play.

Sophomore forward Alex Francis led the way for the Bulldogs — who have yet to play a home game — with 22 points on 10-for-22 shooting.

The Irish relied on 27 bench points and 24 assists to atone for the loss of Abromaitis, who will have surgery this Friday.

In his first address to the media since the injury, Abromaitis said the injury came as a shock during routine practice drills.

"There was no soreness [or past knee issues]. I couldn't have

"There was no soreness [or past knee issues]. I couldn't have seen it coming ... We were just doing some two-on-two drills, and I went to drive down the lane. I planted to go up for a layup and [the knee] just gave out on me and I knew it wasn't supposed to do that."

Tim Abromaitis
Irish fifth year forward

seen it coming," he said. "We were just doing some two-on-two drills, and I went to drive down the lane. I planted to go up for a layup and [the knee] just gave out on me and I knew it wasn't supposed to do that."

But the fifth-year senior didn't rule out returning for a sixth-year, expressing his hope to continue playing basketball.

"I haven't thought too deeply about future plans. The sixth-year conversation will definitely come up and if it is a possibility I will look into it," Abromaitis said. "Hopefully my basketball career is not over. [Playing] is always in the back of my mind."

Notre Dame will next head to Spokane, Wash. on Wednesday to play Gonzaga.

Contact Andrew Gastelum at agastell1@nd.edu

Diggins

continued from page 16

"[Diggins] had a fantastic two-day tournament at both ends of the floor. She scored, she passed, and she didn't turn the ball over," McGraw said. "She managed the game. She did everything that she could do to help us win. I thought she had one of the best games of the season for her. I thought she really elevated her game and played well."

Notre Dame held the Trojans (2-3) to just one field goal in the last 7:34 of the first half, led the game by 12 points at the half and won their eighth of 10 total meetings between the Irish and Trojans.

USC continued to the consolation game, and beat Gardner-Webb 82-41 on Saturday before the championship game.

Next, the Irish play Pennsylvania at home Friday. Tip-off is scheduled for 7 p.m.

Contact Molly Sammon at msammon@nd.edu

Jackson

continued from page 16

forwards Bryan Rust and T.J. Tynan, and it looked to carry the momentum from 11 straight unbeaten decisions into Saturday's matchup.

However, things were stacked against the Irish before the game started Saturday, as Jackson benched three regular forwards. Sophomores Michael Voran and David Gerths were sidelined for missing a team meeting, and Larson was punished for taking a misconduct penalty the night before.

Things didn't go much better after the drop of the puck, as sophomore defenseman Steven Johns took a penalty just 10 seconds into the game. That led to the first of three Lakers power-play goals on the night.

"It was doomed from the start of the day," Jackson said. "The officiating from one night to the next was night and day, for both teams. I don't think we were prepared for the change in philosophy going from one night to the next. We took some unnecessary penalties, but they wouldn't have been penalties on Friday. We need to be able to adjust to that."

Despite the loss, one bright spot for the Irish was Rust, who scored in the first period to run his streak of goal-scoring games to four. And while the Irish may have been excused for running out of steam in their fourth game of the week, Rust said fatigue was not the issue on Saturday.

"I wouldn't say we got tired," Rust said. "Yeah,

it's been a long stretch, but we just had a bad game. We didn't make the smart plays like we should have, we didn't compete as hard as we should have, but I have no concerns that we won't be right back where we should be this Friday night."

Friday's upcoming matchup is against future conference opponent Northeastern, a team that will force the Irish

to play their best hockey if they want to start another winning streak.

"We took some unnecessary penalties, but they wouldn't have been penalties on Friday. We need to be able to adjust to that."

Jeff Jackson
Irish coach

"They're a typical Hockey East team with the up-tempo style and good forwards, and real good goaltender," Jackson said. "They're going to be a pretty good challenge for us. I expect it to be two

good hockey games."

Contact Jack Hefferon at whefferon@nd.edu

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CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**

1 Nurses at the bar

5 "Pipe down!"

9 Derive logically

14 Bad child's stocking filler

15 Indiana/Kentucky border river

16 Sound from a stable

17 Kendrick of "Up in the Air"

18 ___ contendere

19 North Dakota city

20 Time in the title of a 1965 Wilson Pickett hit

23 Skedaddles

24 Trial fig.

25 Doo-woppers ___ Na Na

28 TV oilman-turned-private eye

33 Doll's cry
- 37 Aussie boulder

38 Friars Club event

39 Multiple-dwelling buildings

43 Chop finely

44 Light bulb inventor's initials.

45 Light carriage

46 Droopy-eared dog

50 Small bill

51 ___-wolf

52 Perform better than

57 Question that follows "O Brother" in film ... and a hint to this puzzle's theme

61 Grotto isle of Italy

64 Grotto color at 61-Across

65 Java servers

66 Say "#%@!"

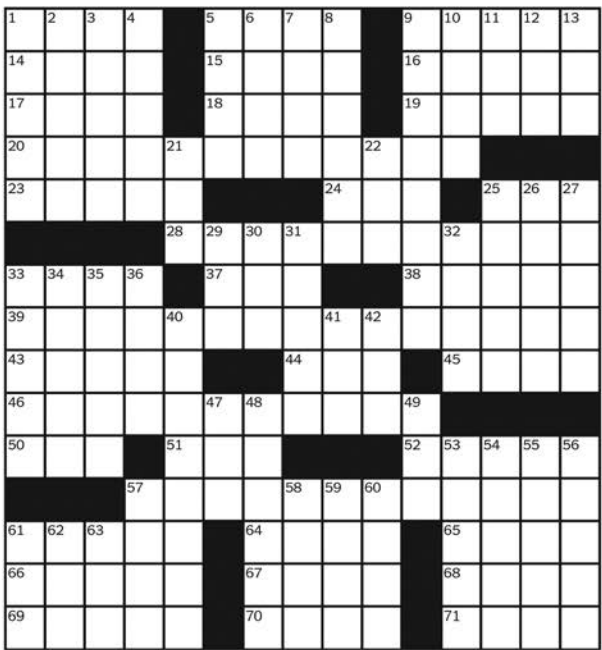
67 Calls upon
- 68 20-0 baseball score, say

69 Ill-suited

70 "___ we forget ..."

71 Keeps after taxes

- Down**
- 1 Con jobs
- 2 Greek column style
- 3 Bamboo-munching critter
- 4 Way of looking at things
- 5 ___ Kong
- 6 "We're in trouble!"
- 7 Delta deposit
- 8 Commotion
- 9 Yet to happen, at law
- 10 In the vicinity
- 11 Douglas ___
- 12 Cadbury confection
- 13 Letter before sigma
- 21 Suffix in poli sci
- 22 Ear-related prefix
- 25 Squirrel away
- 26 Minor prophet of the Old Testament
- 27 Prone to fidgeting
- 29 Prepare for combat
- 30 Tip of a boot
- 31 Scout's rider of early TV
- 32 ___-chef (kitchen's number two)
- 33 Cuban musical form
- 34 Bee-related



Puzzle by C.W. Stewart

- 35 Parson's home

36 Circle segments

40 Vacation souvenir wear

41 Letter after sigma

42 Old biddy

47 Everyday article

48 Like some teas
- 49 Part of a pointillist painting

53 Driver's one-eighty

54 Severe pang

55 Glazed or powdered item

56 Gives the boot

57 Cylindrical sandwich
- 58 Threat-ending word

59 Razor-billed birds

60 Take five

61 CBS drama with DNA testing

62 Bristle on barley

63 Split ___

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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



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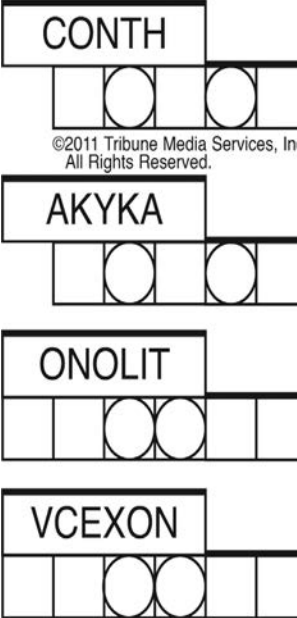
ALEX GRISWOLD and LEE HAGGENJOS



JUMBLE

HENRY ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

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



Answer here: " " (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: HUMID DOUBT LAWFUL BEETLE
Answer: The cow's husband refused to change his mind because he was this — BULLHEADED



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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Last second magic

By MOLLY SAMMON
Sports Writer

With less than a second left, Notre Dame senior guard Natalie Novosel scored the game-winning basket from the free-throw line, and the Irish beat Duke 56-54 in the Championship game of the Junkanoo Jam in the Bahamas on Saturday night.

"It was hard earned," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said.

No. 4 Notre Dame (5-1) made it to the final round of the Thanksgiving weekend tournament at St. George's High School in Freeport, Bahamas after beating USC 80-58 on Friday.

The No. 7 Blue Devils carried a 36-20 lead at halftime, and most of the Irish high scorers struggled putting up the points they had earlier in the season.

"We were having a really bad day shooting the ball," McGraw said. "We were taking bad shots. Defensively we weren't on our game. We just really played poorly at both ends. We were lucky to only be down 16 [points] at halftime."

In the first 20 minutes of play, Novosel only shot one for 10, far behind what her season average of just over 17 points per game suggested she should have by that point.

But Novosel made up for lost time in the second half. She scored 15 total points, including the game-saving basket.

Junior guard Skylar Diggins led team scoring with 19 points,



THOMAS LA/The Observer

Junior guard Skylar Diggins lines up a jump shot for the Irish during the team's 98-43 win over Hartford on Nov. 17 at the Purcell Pavilion. Notre Dame beat Duke 56-54 Saturday to win the Junkanoo Jam.

and the Irish went on a 21-3 run at the start of the second half as Duke shot 19 percent from the field in the second half.

"It was a role reversal in the second half," McGraw said. "The defense was the reason

that we won the game. [Senior guard] Fraderica Miller, [graduate student guard] Brittany Mallory, all of them played well defensively. I think it was our defense. It was a good contribution from everybody, a good

contribution in that game."

Against the Trojans on Friday, Diggins scored 22 points and brought in five steals for the Irish.

see DIGGINS/page 14

ND VOLLEYBALL

Campaign concludes with loss

By CONOR KELLY
Sports Writer

Every year Irish coach Debbie Brown schedules a non-conference match at the end of the Big East championship for a little competitive practice before tournament time. But without a spot in the tournament this year, a 3-0 defeat at the hands of Dayton on Friday was all the Irish had to show for the extra game.

After a marathon first set that went 60 points, the Irish (17-13) could not derail the NCAA-bound Flyers (25-6), falling 3-0 (31-29, 25-20, 25-19).

"I think we approached this game differently than we often do," Irish senior captain Kristen Dealy said. "There's a little bit less pressure and more of an emphasis on enjoying the game with your teammates because we knew this could easily be our last match."

Indeed, it would be the last match for the Irish. When the NCAA selected the 64-team field for the NCAA tournament Sunday, the

see DEALY/page 13

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Irish win in blowout, Abromaitis out for season

By ANDREW GASTELUM
Sports Writer

Notre Dame woke up from its worst nightmare — losing fifth-year senior forward Tim Abromaitis for the season — with a 84-59 blowout victory over Bryant on Sunday afternoon at the Purcell Pavilion.

Abromaitis tore his ACL at practice Friday morning, leaving a huge hole in the Irish frontcourt, but Notre Dame (5-2) responded with five players in double figures, led by sophomore guard Eric Atkins' 18 points and nine assists.

"With the loss of [Abromaitis], we were going to need guys to step up, and I am ready to be one of those guys," sophomore guard Jerian Grant said. "It was definitely a big blow knowing he wasn't going to be out there, but we all came together as the next man up."

Coming off a career high 20-point performance in Notre Dame's 61-57 loss to Georgia in the CBE Classic Nov. 22, Grant posted his first career double-double with 12 points and 11 assists, just three assists shy of a triple-double.

After trading buckets with the Bulldogs (1-5) to start the game, the Irish took the lead for good, sparked by the play of junior guard Joey Brooks.

Brooks recorded five-straight points with 10:43 left in the first half, bringing the Irish run to 20-5 and forcing a timeout from the Bulldog bench.

"[Brooks] got his shots as the fourth or fifth option, and we have got to let that happen," Irish coach Mike Brey said. "His frame of mind is good because we got him defending. He battled [defensively], and when he throws himself in on that end of the floor his offense is usually better."

Notre Dame took a 19-point lead into halftime following a hustle play from Brooks, who put back a missed layup by Atkins after fighting for a rebound over two Bryant defenders. Brooks was 4-for-5 from the field in the first half after only logging three against Georgia.

Down by 24 with 11:27 left in the second half, the Bulldogs cut the Notre Dame lead to 12 on a 3-pointer from sophomore

see BULLDOGS/page 14

HOCKEY

Weekend split halts win streak

By JACK HEFFERON
Sports Writer

Riding a 10-game unbeaten streak, No. 3/2 Notre Dame took the long ride up to No. 14/13 Lake Superior St. over the weekend for a pair of key conference games. The team played some of its best hockey of the season during Friday night's 4-1 win, but the Irish were left with a sour taste in their mouths after a 5-2 loss Saturday.

Friday's action got off to an exciting start, as the Irish (10-3-3, 7-2-3 CCHA) jumped out to a 1-0 lead just three minutes into the game off a goal from junior left winger Nick Larson. The Lakers (10-4-2, 6-3-1-1) evened the score just 20 seconds later, but the frenetic pace was calmed by Irish junior goaltender Mike Johnson, whose 29 saves kept the Lakers off the scoreboard for the rest of the night.

The game-winning goal came from the Irish powerplay early in the second period. Freshman right winger Austin Wuthrich found freshman defenseman Robbie Russo in the slot, and Russo finished the



JULIE HERDER/The Observer

Irish sophomore winger Michael Voran corrals the puck in a 3-2 victory over Western Michigan at the Compton Family Ice Arena on Nov. 15.

play with a rocket into the back of the net for his third goal of the season. All three of Russo's goals have come from the point on the powerplay, which has made the young freshman yet another weapon in Irish coach Jeff Jackson's arsenal.

"We expected Robbie to come in and be an impact player for us as a freshman," Jackson said. "Part of the reason we recruited him was because of his

poise. Now we finally have a guy out there that not only can make a play with the puck, but can also shoot the puck, and that's a key to a good powerplay. I wish he'd shoot the puck more frequently sometimes. It definitely gives our power play a threat from the top."

Notre Dame put the game on ice with goals from sophomore

see JACKSON/page 14