

## In TV interview, Te'o defends innocence

By **ANDREW OWENS**  
Assistant Managing Editor

In his first on-camera interview since the controversy surrounding the fake life of Lennay Kekua broke eight days ago, former Irish linebacker Manti Te'o maintained his innocence with his parents beside him Thursday on television host Katie Couric's syndicated talk show.

"The hardest part of this experience is seeing my family go through it because of something I did," Te'o said. "The greatest joy in any child's life is to make your parents proud. The greatest pain

is to know they're experiencing pain because of you."

In the hour-long program, Te'o defended his innocence in the hoax supposedly perpetrated by Ronaiah Tuiasosopo, however he did admit to misleading people about his relationship with Kekua, most notably the fact they had never met.

"I wasn't as forthcoming about it, but I didn't lie," he said. "I was never asked 'Did you see her in person.' That embarrassment [of not meeting her] ... scared me."

Despite having never seen

see MANTI **PAGE 5**



SUZANNA PRATT | The Observer

Former Irish lineback Manti Te'o, pictured here at a press conference before the BCS National Championship Game on Jan. 7, participated in a TV interview with host Katie Couric on Thursday.

## Spin for a cure

By **NICOLE MCALEE**  
News Writer

Starting at noon today and continuing for the next 24 hours, Notre Dame students will cycle for a worthy cause in the Pink Zone Spin-A-Thon.

The Spin-A-Thon, now in its second year at Notre Dame, is part of a larger, nationwide cancer-fighting initiative called the Pink Zone. It is sponsored by RecSports, the women's

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Image courtesy of Kristen Gallagher

Junior Mara Walsh, left, and Ryan Hall rector Breyan Tornifolio, right bike in support of cancer research at last year's Spin-A-Thon.

## MLK Jr. dinner fosters conversation

By **NICOLE MICHELS**  
News Writer

Student leaders charged to "bring home" the teachings of Martin Luther King Jr. to Notre Dame met Thursday in the Alumni Stadium press box to discuss contemporary issues during a dinner organized by the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Committee.

Senior and committee

member Armani Sutton said the group developed the topic in response to current issues the University and its students face, including the Call to Action program meetings.

"We tried to think about how we can 'bring it home,'" Sutton said. "From that point, we tried to come up with topics within that theme, ... topics we're faced

see MLK **PAGE 6**

## Notre Dame leads March for Life in capital



AP

A crowd marches in the 2012 Right to Life last January and passes by the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C.

By **JOHN CAMERON**  
News Editor

More than half a million people are expected to converge on our nation's capital today to rally in support of pro-life policies. At the very front of the March for Life, Notre Dame students, faculty and alumni will lead under a large white banner.

While Notre Dame has been represented at the March for years, senior and ND Right to Life Communications Director Stephen Wandor said this year is unique.

"It's really a great honor for us and speaks to all the great

pro-life work that's going on on campus, both through our club and through the Center for Ethics and Culture Fund to Protect Human Life, as well as the Institute for Church Life," Wandor said.

Club President Jen Gallic, a junior, said ND Right to Life received the honor of leading the March because the March's director spent time at the University last summer.

"The new director for the March, Jeanne Monahan, actually attended the Vita Institute run through the Center for Ethics and Culture," she said. "So I contacted her asking what we could do for the March and

she asked us about leading the March. [The invitation is] kind of from her being familiar with Notre Dame."

Approximately 600 students are registered to go on the March, and Gallic estimates approximately 100 faculty and administration members will attend.

"Last year we had 350 [students], so obviously it's a huge jump this year," she said. "We've never had alumni meet up with us, so that'll be a big difference."

Wandor attributed the uptick in participation to a number of

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FTT SCREENING **PAGE 3**

New leaders, here  
and everywhere

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'THE RUTABEGA'

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## THE OBSERVER

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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 Allan Joseph.*

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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:

## Who is your favorite One Direction member?

*Have a question you want answered?*

*Email [obsphoto@gmail.com](mailto:obsphoto@gmail.com)*



### Claire Troia

freshman  
Pasquerilla East Hall

“Harry.”



### Johnny Romano

junior  
Dillon Hall

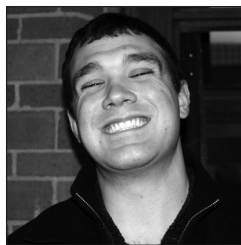
“Harry.”



### Jeff Sabol

sophomore  
Alumni Hall

“I refuse to pick.”



### Danny Burke

senior  
off-campus

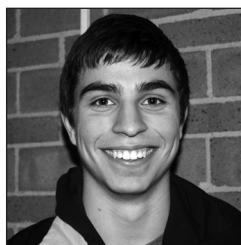
“Niall.”



### Leah Fisher

junior  
Ryan Hall

“Zayn.”



### Peter Harvey

sophomore  
Stanford Hall

“None of them, I don't like them.”



KIRBY MCKENNA| The Observer

*Elizabeth Argue, a junior from Breen-Phillips Hall, waits at Library Circle for the bus that will take her to Washington D.C. for the annual March for Life, which happens every year near the anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion. Students will return from D.C. on Saturday and Sunday.*

# THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

*Want your event included here?*

*Email [obsnews.nd@gmail.com](mailto:obsnews.nd@gmail.com)*

## Friday

### Tiempo Libre Concert

Leighton Family  
Cinema, DPAC.  
7 p.m.  
Grammy nominated  
Latin Band.

### Ice on the Mall

Fielhouse Mall  
10 p.m.  
Ice carving and hot  
chocolate.

## Saturday

### Men and Women's Swim Meet

All Day  
Rolfs Aquatic Center  
ND vs. Towson/  
Harvard.

### Men's Hockey

Compton Family Ice  
Arena  
7:05 p.m.- 9:05 p.m.  
Game vs. Ferris State.

## Sunday

### Rejoice! Mass

Colemna-Morse  
Center  
8 p.m.- 9 p.m.  
Mass in the African-  
American tradition.

### Vespers Concert

Basilica of the Sacred  
Heart  
7:15 p.m.- 8:15 p.m.  
Song and prayer.

## Monday

### The Think Justice of International Law

Law School  
3 p.m.  
12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m.  
Lecture

### EAP: Listening and note taking

303 Debartolo Hall  
6:30 p.m.-7:45 p.m.  
Target: Non-English  
native speakers.

## Tuesday

### Four: 7 Catholic Fellowship

Cavanugh Hall  
8:30 p.m.- 9:30 p.m.  
Student-led fellowship.

### Panel Discussion

Business School  
6:30 p.m.-8 p.m.  
“Measuring and  
Getting Results in  
Non-Profits”.



# MLK honored at SMC dinner

By SARAH SWIDERSKI  
News Writer

While the nation formally celebrated Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday, Saint Mary's will honor the civil rights leader tonight at the second annual MLK Commemorative Dinner.

The dinner culminates the College's week of celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Senior and student diversity ambassador Elizabeth Elsbach said the dinner's theme, "Diversity Beneath the Skin," encourages people to see through constructs that limit their interactions with others.

"Prejudice and intolerance go deeper than skin color and we wanted to highlight how we can help eliminate some of the

and Multicultural Services and the Sisters of Nefertiti club. Elsbach and sophomore Dara Marquez will also read poetry.

Elsbach won Saint Mary's Martin Luther King Jr. Peace Prize competition last year for her poem titled "Painting Empty," which is about dispelling prejudices and misconceptions.

"[It's] about first looking inward to dismantle personal prejudices before looking outward to tackle problems in the world," Elsbach said.

The poem Elsbach will read at this year's dinner expresses how people are both different and similar, she said.

"This year's poem will be about a long past great-great-grandmother conversing

**"Take time to remember and reflect."**

Elizabeth Elsbach  
senior

prejudice in society by looking beyond the surface," she said. "This year's theme highlights how socioeconomic differences and other factors can be just as devastating and aid in creating a society that denies people their full potential."

Assistant Director of Multicultural Services Tamara Taylor said College President Carol Ann Mooney's strategic plan inspired the theme.

The theme enables the College community to "look at the students on campus who are not immediately [seen as diverse] and what they bring to campus," Taylor said.

Mooney and senior London Lamar will be keynote speakers at the dinner, which is sponsored by Student Involvement

with her descendant and the recognition that they have nothing in common," Elsbach said. "Despite that, they still recognize each other's humanity. I think they are important because they showcase an emotional, human element that is behind every great cause."

Elsbach said celebrating Martin Luther King Jr. Day is vital.

"I think it is important for people to take time to remember and reflect on how far we've come in our fight against prejudice and recognize how far we still have to go," she said.

Contact Sarah Swiderski at  
sswide01@saintmarys.edu

# FTT screens student films

*Festival airs work produced in creative projects, classes*

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SATURDAY	JANUARY 26	9:30 PM

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BRANDON KEELEAN | The Observer

By MEL FLANAGAN  
News Writer

For some undergraduate film students, this weekend's 24th annual Notre Dame Student Film Festival will be the first time their work is shown to the public.

But others, like senior Film, Theater and Television (FTT) student Kathleen Bracke, have displayed their work publicly before. Bracke participated in last year's Film Festival and said the experience was extremely rewarding.

"The film program at Notre Dame is completely unique from bigger, more well-known film programs," she said. "Unlike at those schools, you can actually put your name on a film [here] and point out exactly what you did. And you get to watch it in a sweet movie theater like Browning [Cinema]."

The Film Festival began yesterday. It will continue today and tomorrow at 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. in Browning Cinema inside the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center (DPAC).

Bracke's film, "Journey of a Pen," follows a pen as it travels between diverse students and

faculty in a high school.

"Through the pen, we get to see all these different lives and how they interact," Bracke said. "We learn some things about each character, but it is always through the pen."

Bracke, who collaborated on the film with 2012 graduates Kelsie Kiley and Brendan Fitzpatrick, said she was attracted to the script because its features the unique perspective of an inanimate object, rather than a person.

The group produced "Journey of a Pen" over the course of a semester for an advanced film production class. Bracke said she finished editing the film just this week.

"I think that's one thing a lot of people not familiar with FTT don't realize about the program, how time consuming it is," she said. "There were five people in DPAC last night pulling all-nighters, and it's only the second week of school."

Senior Erin Moffitt is participating in the Student Film Festival for the first time this year. Moffitt partnered with senior Nicole Timmerman and junior Elizabeth Kellogg to create the documentary "Amie's

Image."

The film follows a day in the life of Amie, a handicapped middle-aged woman who lives at a YMCA in Chicago and sells her photography to support herself.

"It's a character piece about her and the struggles in her life, and yet she finds so much happiness through art," Moffitt said. "It keeps her going, and it's what she enjoys most even though her life isn't the best."

Timmerman, who participated in the festival last year with a short narrative piece called "Soles," said the weekend is an excellent opportunity for students in the FTT department.

"It's really exciting to be a part of it," she said. "It represents FTT in a very positive light. It's amazing how many talented filmmakers there are, and it's really cool to see your peers' work."

Tickets to the festival are \$7 for regular admission, \$6 for faculty and staff, \$5 for seniors and \$4 for students. Tickets are available on the DPAC website or by calling the center's ticket office.

Contact Mel Flanagan at  
mflanag3@nd.edu

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# iPads are 'heart' of course, professor says

By MARY KATE NELSON  
News Writer

Students in Web Design 1 and The First Amendment: Free Expression in the Digital Age are utilizing iPads — their only required course materials.

Students can use their own iPads or lease one through the University for \$70.

Lenette Votava, director of internal marketing and communications for the Office

***"I see technology as suite of tools that can make a big class smaller."***

Elliot Visconsi  
professor  
English

of Information Technologies (OIT), said the program is made possible through collaboration between OIT, the Registrar's Office, the Financial Aid Office, the Office of Student Accounts, the Department of Art, Art History and Design, the Law School and the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore.

Elliott Visconsi, professor of

The First Amendment, said the \$70 lease fee is the only cost associated with his course. His students use their iPads to access Apple Education tools such as iTunes U, iBooks and iBooks Author, all of which are available to them for free. Students also use their iPads to visit websites like Twitter and Google+ to continue conversation outside of the classroom.

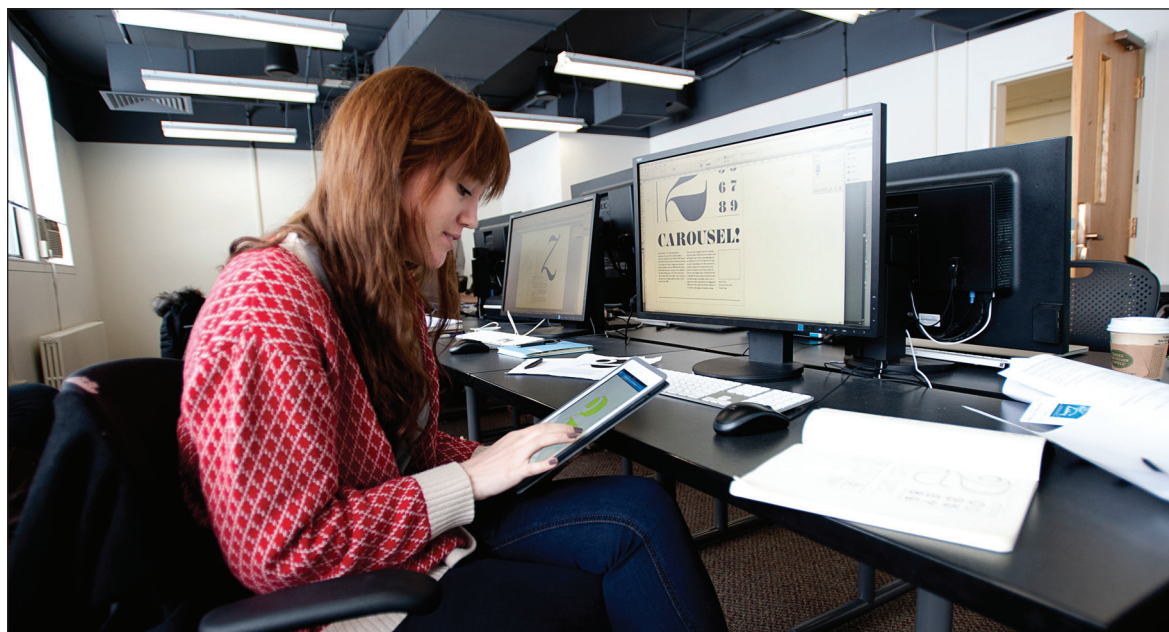
"We wanted all course content to be free," Visconsi said.

Visconsi said iPads and similar technologies help facilitate, rather than detract from, classroom learning. He considers this especially important in his class of 115 students.

"I see technology as a suite of tools that can make a big class smaller and can give students an opportunity to learn through argument, collaboration and other social practices," Visconsi said.

Visconsi and his students worked together to create a free digital textbook using iBooks Author. The custom textbook has essays, videos, illustrations, infographics, cases and image galleries.

Although the class also involves lectures, Visconsi said this digital textbook is "the



KIRBY MCKENNA | The Observer

***Eileen Murphy, a junior from Walsh Hall, scrolls through her iPad's custom textbook during class. The course is one of the first offered at Notre Dame to require an iPad.***

heart of the course."

Visconsi and his students face occasional challenges with their iPads and initially had trouble setting them up.

"I'm still getting used to walking around with my iPad in lecture and keep forgetting where I leave it," he said.

Overall, Visconsi said his students responded positively to using iPads.

"The students seem to be enjoying the course, the

textbook and the access to iPads," Visconsi said.

Students in Web Design 1 have found their iPads beneficial outside of the classroom.

Senior Jordan Bai values the flexibility and convenience iPads offer.

"I use [my iPad] for all of my notes and I can use it to show my portfolio in interviews," she said. "It's much lighter than carrying your laptop around."

Connor Sea, a senior, said

his iPad is valuable in his other courses.

"I use [my iPad] for other courses and I use it to read academic journals," he said.

Sea said he also appreciates the ability to read large files on his iPad without printing them.

"It's a greener way to do things because I am not wasting paper," he said.

Contact Mary Kate Nelson at [mnelson8@nd.edu](mailto:mnelson8@nd.edu)

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## Congratulations SIBC

*Jeanette Kim, Andrew Borchert & Patrick Cross*

Congratulations on your 1st place in the business policy division of the International Collegiate Business Competition at Queens University, Ontario, Canada, January 2013



Student International  
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# Notre Dame, IU partner on graduate program

By CAROLYN HUTYRA  
News Writer

The Eck Institute for Global Health and the Indiana University School of Medicine (IUSM) have paired up to offer IUSM students the opportunity to earn a joint Medical Doctor/Master of Science in Global Health (M.D./M.S.) degree beginning this fall.

Director of the Eck Institute David Severson said officials from IU initially proposed the program to Notre Dame's administrators.

"We felt it was a great opportunity to increase our interactions with other Indiana universities and to expand the scope of our M.S. [in Global Health] program at the same time," Severson said.

Joseph Bock, director of global health training at the Eck Institute, said the program aims to give people the tools to increase global equity in access to healthcare.

Indiana University's interest in global health took root years ago in a research-based program in Eldoret, Kenya known as AMPATH, Bock said. Indiana University students travel overseas every year to study under a professor who conducts research on health challenges in Kenya.

"Because of AMPATH, they are getting an increased number of students applying who

are interested in global health," Bock said. "Indiana University is interested in making its global health portfolio robust. Certainly they have already done that with AMPATH. This [dual degree program] is another way they are doing that."

Acceptance into the dual degree program is separate from acceptance to IUSM, Bock said, and IUSM students will compete with other applicants for spots. Those accepted will take a year of absence to enroll in the M.D./M.S. program and receive their Masters in Global Health from Notre Dame.

The year-long program takes place over two semesters and a summer, according to a University press release. Students will complete 30 credit hours, a research project and a six- to eight-week international field experience.

Bock said the current Master of Science in Global Health program sends students around the world to countries including India, Tanzania, Malaysia, Ecuador and Haiti. Students have partnered with organizations such as the National Institute for Medical Research in Tanzania.

"We are open to students coming in and suggesting places they want to go," Bock said.

Upon completing their international field experience, the future dual degree students will

return to any Indiana University campus to complete their third and fourth years of medical training.

Bock said the dual degree program will allow students to take courses that pertain to their specialized interests but also require skill-oriented, core classes. One core class will ensure students can use geographic information system data in a mathematical model.

"The students who take the epidemiology class, which will be required next year, will need

to be able to do that," Bock said.

Severson said he would love for Notre Dame eventually to establish a school of public health.

"The Eck Institute for Global Health will continue to seek to recruit and establish expertise in the areas [bio-statistics, immunology, and epidemiology] with an eye toward building a framework that a school could be established around," he said.

Bock said Notre Dame wants to inspire students to help people who cannot pay for even expensive medicines.

## MEDICAL DOCTOR/MASTER OF SCIENCE (M.D./M.S.) IN GLOBAL HEALTH

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BRANDON KEELEAN | The Observer

## March

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

factors.

"I think leading the March definitely assisted [with increasing participation], but most of the people signed up before we were aware we were leading the March," he said. "We did a lot of advertising this year. We really made a big emphasis on going to the March this year since it's the 40th anniversary of Roe v. Wade."

The March will begin at 11 a.m. with a rally at the National Mall, where various addresses will be given, and will conclude in front of the Supreme Court, Wandor said.

Wandor said he believes the large-scale show of support makes a powerful statement to leaders.

"Protest is a very important way to show our leaders that we really care about this," he said. "You can write a letter or editorial, but to make the trip, that speaks volumes to officials."

Beyond the impact the group can have on the March as its leaders, Wandor said the 13-hour bus trip and overnight stay at St. Agnes Parish in Arlington, Va. will increase participants' awareness of the club's other activities.

"[It's an opportunity] just to get the students involved and to get the students to see what we're really about, not just

going to the March but also on the buses there and being able to talk to them a little about some of the other events we do, perhaps to get them more involved on some of our other activities on campus," Wandor said.

ND Right to Life works with Hannah and Friends, a non-profit organization that aids people with special needs, and the Women's Care Center, which provides pregnancy services. The club also hosts weekly adorations and rosaries outside a local abortion clinic and performs outreach at a local home for the elderly.

"We also have a Joys of Life commission, and their mission is really the idea that the best way to protect life is to celebrate life," Gallic said. "That's really a mission that our club has revolved around this year."

Additionally, the club hosts various lectures and seminars. Not all focus on abortion and related issues.

"One thing we want to emphasize is that it's not just about us being against abortion," Wandor said. "The club's purpose and its mission revolve around human dignity and upholding the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception up until natural death."

Contact John Cameron at [jcamero2@nd.edu](mailto:jcamero2@nd.edu)

## Manti

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Kekua in person, Te'o said his emotions were genuine following her reported death Sept. 12.

"What I went through was real," said Te'o, who said he did not know if the personal tragedy aided him in his second-place Heisman trophy finish. "The feelings, the pain, the sorrow. It was real. That's something I can't fake."

Te'o provided voice messages to Couric that he claimed came from who he thought was

together.

"Previous to [Tuiasosopo's confession of his involvement] I had only talked to Ronaiah twice," Te'o said. "He was to my understanding, Lennay's cousin — her favorite cousin."

When asked by Couric if he is gay, Te'o said he is "far from it," and that he had developed a deep emotional bond with Kekua without ever meeting her.

"She was Polynesian supposedly," Te'o said. "She was Samoan. She knew a lot about — I'm Mormon and she knew a lot about that. ... They knew my standards and my culture."

"I found a lot of peace and a lot of comfort being able to talk to somebody and she knew my standards and culture."

In advance of the interview's airing, Couric appeared on ABC's "Nightline" Wednesday evening and said she found Te'o to be convincing.

"I do think that his affection for this young woman was very real," Couric said. "I think the relationship was very real. I think that the pain he endured when he was told she had died was very real."

"He would keep the phone on at night and wake up with the phone at his ear in the morning. It's strange, believe me, but I think it happened."

In early December, when Te'o claims he first heard from whom he thought was Kekua, he said he continued to speak

"It's a crime against humanity that you have people out there with tuberculosis who can't take the medicine for the six to nine months simply because they can't afford it," he said.

Severson said students want to impact the global community.

"I think many students today ... see an opportunity to incorporate this interest in global health in their career goals," he said.

Contact Carolyn Hutyra at [chutyra@nd.edu](mailto:chutyra@nd.edu)

of her death in media interviews because he was still trying to process the information himself and that it was not until he received a timestamped photo of a girl posing as Kekua on Dec. 21 that he was convinced she was alive.

"Part of me was saying, if you say that she is alive, what would everybody think," Te'o said of his reason not to make the matter public at the Dec. 8 Heisman trophy media availability.

His mother, Ottilia Te'o, said it "hurts" to see her son's name dragged through the mud by people who doubt his innocence in the hoax.

"That's my child out there. That's my child in my eyes who always puts others before himself," she said. "I am proud of his character. It just hurts to see his picture and his name being displayed as someone who is dishonest."

Te'o, who has been training for the NFL Draft in Bradenton, Fla., said the past few weeks have taken a toll on him.

"It's been hard. It's been difficult," he said. "Not only for myself but to see your last name and just to see it flash everywhere and to know that I represent so many people and my family's experiencing the same thing. That's what was so hard for me."

Contact Andrew Owens at [aowens2@nd.edu](mailto:aowens2@nd.edu)



# Bad weather causes transportation trouble

By **TABITHA RICKETTS**

News Writer

Heavy winter weather has made transportation off campus difficult for Saint Mary's students.

With snow and ice making biking nearly impossible, Belles are seeking other options to get to Notre Dame for classes and meetings.

Sophomore Rebecca Walker does not have a car on campus to take her to Notre Dame for Science Fiction and Fantasy Club gatherings.

"The trolley [Transpo bus] is really nice because it gets me to Notre Dame, but it's really inconvenient ... because the trolley likes to be late," she said. "And on the rare occasion that you need it to be late, it's early."

Some students with classes at Notre Dame said the listed bus schedules do not always match up with class hours. These problems are exacerbated by the seasonal weather.

"If the weather's bad, that means the [bus] will even more likely be late," Walker said. "Monday night ... I was waiting at least 10 minutes out in the snow."

David Gariepy, director of security, said the wait might seem longer for students who are dressed inappropriately.

"Increased ridership on our buses also ... slow our buses down," he said. "They do a pretty good job for the most part. During the winter, roads are ice-covered ... Traffic moves at a much slower pace during this time of year. I would encourage students to dress warmly."

"We have the Blinkie escort van, which runs a regular route from the residence hall parking lots from dark until 2 a.m. Mondays through Thursdays, and from dark until 4 a.m. Fridays through Sundays," Gariepy said. "It extends its route to the Grotto after The Sweep [Transpo route] stops running."

While the Security

Department offers these options for later hours, Gariepy said he encourages students to use buses when they are operating.

Students frequently complain the buses do not run Sundays.

"On Sundays, it's difficult to get [to Notre Dame] when the weather is bad and Blinky doesn't start until 7:30 [p.m.]," Steron said.

Transportation is easier for students with cars on campus, though this also has its disadvantages.

"Parking here is not that great," Kramer said. "Angela [Athletic Facility] parking is really far away, and parking for students at Regina [Hall] is limited."

Kramer said she tries to avoid driving when the weather is bad and roads are icy.

Even when the weather was warmer, students found transportation to and from Notre Dame difficult.

"Class times are so close together that traveling by foot or by bike takes so long that you

may be late," Costello said.

Safety risks are also a concern.

"I have a bike on campus, but I don't really use it because I don't feel safe using it," Walker said. "The only place I'd have to use it is to get to Notre Dame, but I don't feel comfortable stopping at [North Michigan Street.] ... The pedestrian light is so quick. ... Even if you're there when it turns green you have to run, because it's red by the time you get to the other side."

Gariepy said this has been brought to his attention before.

"We've talked to the highway department about [the pedestrian light], and they've checked the light and they feel that for the flow of traffic, it's appropriate," he said, "but I understand how that can be a frustration. ... If you follow the rules of the road, it should be safe."

Walker said she would appreciate the ability to rent or borrow cars from the College and more transportation options for Sundays.

Gariepy said he encourages students to be patient, particularly during the winter months.

"We can't always please everyone," he said. "There can't be instant gratification. Just understand that there are going to be delays when there is an excess amount of ridership."

He said regular stranded student policies are in effect, although the response may be delayed by weather circumstances.

"Anytime a student is off campus ... we will do everything we can to get them back safely," he said. "Anywhere within a 5-mile radius of campus isn't too much of a burden ... But we only have two security cars on duty at a time. [If we have to,] we'll send a taxi to pickup the student."

"Try to be a little understanding, especially during this weather. That's where I think dressing warmly really helps."

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## MLK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

with every day on campus."

Attendees sat at randomly assigned tables for the meal and participated in discussions facilitated by student moderators.

Campus Ministry's Multicultural Ministry Officer Judy Madden said Thursday's dinner marked the event's 10th anniversary.

"There was a majority student, a Caucasian student, 10 years ago, who was really bothered when she talked to some of her friends who were minority students who said that their experience at Notre Dame was not positive and she wanted to do something to create a more positive environment," Madden said. "She came up with the idea of this dinner and bringing people together to build relationships, build bridges and get to know each other personally to hopefully improve the relationships among all students at Notre Dame."

Sophomore Demetrius Murphy said the best part of the evening was the diversity among the students in attendance.

"We're all coming from different aspects in our lives, we're all coming from different majors and we're all passionate about different things, so when you get us together and we discuss [issues.] ... It's amazing to have that open dialogue and it's very necessary," he said. "I'm so happy they do this every year and

this is something they should continue."

Murphy said his table discussed whether social media networking impedes quality communication or makes it better, and if social media allows legitimate connections to form.

"It was cool to see different people's perspectives because some people thought you could build a lasting relationship but that at some point you would have to meet in real life," Murphy said. "Others said 'No, it's not possible to build any

***"It's important to know what your character is and how you're exhibiting that character."***

Armani Sutton  
senior

type of meaningful relationship because people don't present their true selves online."

Sophomore Shanice Cox said her group discussed the delineation between power and privilege, the situations when they coincide and if the coexistence of power and privilege can be healthy.

"It was nice to hear other people's sides, especially those of some of the Latin-American students who brought up politics in their home countries," Cox said. "I totally agree with [the conclusion] we came up with, which

was basically that either you're in power with someone, or you're in power against them."

Cox said the evening's theme helped her realize how much the diversity of minority students offers the University.

"I'm in Shades of Ebony, and we talked about the social networking problem that we're having where people are not showing their true selves," she said. "I feel like I can go back to those ladies and express the different sides [of that issue] that we talked about here."

Sophomore Amanda Peña said she was excited to learn the topics for Thursday's event after attending last year's dinner.

"I especially loved my table [this year]," Peña said. "We talked about politics and people's different opinions about politics and about how bipartisanship is really necessary."

She said the increased number of people at the event excited her.

"There were a lot of faces this year that I didn't recognize and last year I knew a good majority of them, so this shows that a lot of people are starting to recognize more leaders on campus and that there are a lot more passionate people that are willing to step out," Peña said.

Peña realized there is a sense of solidarity among the students present who are willing to agitate for social justice.

"It's a beautiful feeling to know that there are other people on this campus who care about social justice and really

big issues," Peña said. "There are a lot of issues that I am really passionate about but don't know where to go with them or who to talk to about them, but seeing these people and seeing what they represent ... it gives me an outlet and a place to look forward to going and networking and collaborating on issues."

Sutton said he lead a discussion at his table about the difference between words and actions, analyzing what it means to practice what you preach.

"My topic was private versus public representation of the self," he said. "I wanted to highlight that issue and address how we can solve it and get back to Dr. King's dream of everyone getting together and everyone having good character. ... It's important to know what your

character is and how you're exhibiting that character."

Sutton said his group concluded social media outlets are only bad if used the wrong way. They decided relationships require physical interaction, though social media can help begin communication.

Madden said the dinner offers a venue for students to talk about issues of substance.

"This gives them an opportunity to dive a little deeper and a safe place to talk about things that make people uncomfortable," she said. "And I think being uncomfortable — we don't like it — but sometimes it's a sign that growth is happening, and a great opportunity."

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## Pink Zone

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

basketball team and the College of Science.

"The Pink Zone is a nationwide NCAA women's basketball team fundraising initiative specifically for breast cancer research," said Jennie Phillips, assistant director of fitness and fitness facilities for RecSports.

The Spin-A-Thon started when the Pink Zone team reached out to Phillips and RecSports.

"Last year, [the Pink Zone planning committee] said, 'why don't we have a spin-a-thon on campus so our students can be involved?'" said Phillips. "The natural thought was that RecSports should oversee it because we have a cycling studio Science.

"The Pink Zone is a nationwide NCAA women's basketball team fundraising initiative specifically for breast cancer research," said Jennie Phillips, assistant director of fitness and fitness facilities for RecSports.

The Spin-A-Thon started when the Pink Zone team reached out to Phillips and RecSports.

"Last year, [the Pink Zone planning committee] said, 'why don't we have a spin-a-thon on



Image courtesy of Kristen Gallagher

**Volunteers cycle in last year's Spin-A-Thon event to raise money for breast cancer research. This year's event will be today at noon and last for 24 hours in the Rockne Memorial Cycling Studio.**

campus so our students can be involved?" said Phillips. "The natural thought was that RecSports should oversee it because we have a cycling studio and we know how to program, and so last year we started with our first one and it was very successful."

Last year, the RecSports Spin-A-Thon raised \$13,000, Gallagher said. The Pink Zone initiative as a whole raised \$200,000. This year's goal is to raise at least \$15,000, according to the College of Science website.

Phillips said teaming up with the College of Science was a natural choice.

"They do a lot of research on different kinds of cancers and Dean Greg Crawford [of the College of Science] is very passionate about doing research and helping find a cure for breast cancer," Phillips said. "I think when you have the College of Science involved, it adds credibility to the research we're talking about ... It's what's happening at Notre Dame, which I think is really great."

The College of Science oversees another Spin-A-Thon at nearby Knollwood Country Club in Granger.

Kristen Gallagher, fitness and instructional program coordinator at RecSports, said although Knollwood's Spin-A-Thon inspired Notre Dame's in some ways, the on-campus Spin-A-Thon is unique.

"It's really nice to work together with [Knollwood] because they did it first and they gave us some ideas of what we could do for ours, but it's just way

different doing it for students," Gallagher said.

Gallagher said the event will feature food, giveaways and a raffle for a pink cruiser bike.

"It's a 24 hour event, and we break each hour up into a different theme," she said.

Themes include an Ugly Christmas Sweater hour, Mustache Bash hour, and a Go USA hour, during which the film "Miracle" will be shown.

In addition to the hourly themes, several student clubs, including the Steppers, the Humor Artists and the Juggling Club, have volunteered their talents to entertain participants.

Phillips said the best part of participating in the Spin-A-Thon is the real difference it makes in people's lives.

"I think that doing something this simple can have such a huge impact, and I'm always impressed with the effort that the Notre Dame community makes when there's a cause involved," Phillips said.

Gallagher agreed.

"This is a special cause," she said. "It's very near and dear to people's hearts."

To register for the Pink Zone Spin-A-Thon, visit [recsports.nd.edu](http://recsports.nd.edu).

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# Pentagon lifts ban on combat for female soldiers

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — During her time in Iraq, Alma Felix would see her fellow female soldiers leave the Army installations where she worked at a desk job and head into combat with their male counterparts. But many returned home feeling that few knew of their contributions.

"I guess we do disappear into the background," the 27-year-old former Army specialist said. "You always hear we're

losing our sons out there. And although women have fallen out there, you really don't see very much of it."

Now, with the Pentagon ending its ban on women in combat, Felix and other female troops hope the military's plan to open hundreds of thousands of combat jobs to them will lead society to recognize that they, too, can be courageous warriors.

"We are the support. Those are the positions we fill and that's a big deal — we often run

the show — but people don't see that," she said. "Maybe it will put more females forward and give people a sense there are women out there fighting for our country."

"It's not just you're typical poster boy, GI Joes doing it," she said.

Thursday's announcement promises to change the image of battlefields around the world, as debate rages on whether women can fight like men. What's clear is that the move will pave the way for women to earn higher pay and earn better promotions.

The shift is the military's biggest since the policy banning openly gay service members was lifted in 2011. And as was the case with "don't ask, don't tell," troops were expected to fall in line with the new rules.

The change overturns a 1994 rule prohibiting women from being assigned to smaller ground combat units, and is expected to open up more than 230,000 combat positions that have been off limits to women.

"We owe it to them to allow them to pursue every avenue of military service for which they are fully prepared and qualified," said Defense Secretary Leon Panetta. He said women have shown they are willing to fight and die alongside their male counterparts.

Across the country, members of the military of both sexes said they accepted the policy so long as women will have to meet the same standards as their male colleagues. Both



AP

**Capt. Sara Rodriguez participates in a training exercise at Fort Campbell, Ky., in May 2012.**

men and women were skeptical about putting females in infantry units, however.

"This gives us more people to work with," said Army Sgt. Jeremy Grayson, assigned to field infantry at Fort Bliss, Texas. "But they would have to be able to do the physical stuff that men do. ... They have to be able to pull their own weight."

Panetta said the qualifications will not be lowered and acknowledged that not all women will meet them. He said allowing women to serve in combat roles will strengthen the ability of the U.S. to win wars.

It will be up to the military service chiefs to recommend whether women should be excluded from more demanding and deadly positions, such as Navy SEALs or the Army's Delta Force.

Veterans and some in the military argue the public may not be ready to handle seeing more female troops come home in body bags or with lost limbs. "It's harder to see a mother or a daughter dead. We (men) are seen as protectors," said Army Staff Sgt. Anthony Lemaitre.

Army Spc. Jean Sardonas, who works as a lab technician at a hospital, said she understood Lemaitre's opinion.

Sardonas said she had thought about joining an Army team that conducts social work in the field and faces combat situations. But she's since become a mother, changing her perspective, and said women tend to be more emotional.

"If you see the enemy, well, that's the enemy, but now if you see a kid with a gun you're going to think twice," she said.

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# Schools to modify access to sports

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Breaking new ground, the U.S. Education Department is telling schools they must include students with disabilities in sports programs or provide equal alternative options. The directive, reminiscent of the Title IX expansion of athletic opportunities for women, could bring sweeping changes to school budgets and locker rooms for years to come.

Schools would be required to make “reasonable modifications” for students with disabilities or create parallel athletic programs that have comparable standing as mainstream programs.

“Sports can provide invaluable lessons in discipline, selflessness, passion and courage, and this guidance will help schools ensure that students with disabilities have an equal opportunity to benefit from the life lessons they can learn on the playing field or on the court,” Education Secretary Arne Duncan said in a statement announcing the new guidance on Friday.

Federal laws, including the 1973 Rehabilitation Act and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, require states to provide a free public education to all students and bans schools that receive federal funds from discriminating against students with disabilities. Going further, the new directive from the Education Department’s civil rights division explicitly tells schools and colleges that access to interscholastic, intramural and intercollegiate athletics is a right.

“This is a landmark moment for students with disabilities. This will do for students with disabilities what Title IX did for women,” said Terri Lakowski, who led a coalition pushing for the changes for a decade. “This is a huge victory.”

Education Department officials emphasized they did not intend to change sports’ traditions dramatically or guarantee students with disabilities

a spot on competitive teams. Instead, they insisted schools cannot exclude students based on their disabilities if they can keep up with their classmates.

“It’s not about changing the nature of the game or the athletic activity,” said Seth Galanter, the acting assistant secretary for civil rights at the Education Department.

It’s not clear whether the new guidelines will spark a sudden uptick in sports participation. There was a big increase in female participation in sports after Title IX guidance instructed schools to treat female athletics on par with male teams. That led many schools to cut some men’s teams, arguing that it was necessary to be able to pay for women’s teams.

There is no deadline for schools to comply with the new disabilities directive.

But activists cheered the changes.

“This is historic,” said Bev Vaughn, the executive director of the American Association of Adapted Sports Programs, a nonprofit group that works with schools to set up sports programs for students with disabilities. “It’s going to open up a whole new door of opportunity to our nation’s school children with disabilities.”

A Government Accountability Office study in 2010 found that students with disabilities participated in athletics at consistently lower rates than those without. The study also suggested the benefits of exercise among children with disabilities may be even important because they are at greater risk of being sedentary.

“We know that participation in extracurricular activities can lead to a host of really good, positive outcomes both inside and outside of the classroom,” said Kareem Dale, a White House official who guides the administration’s policies for disabled Americans.

Dale, who is blind, wrestled as a high school student in Chicago alongside students who had full vision.

# Support for Hagel increases



AP

Secretary of Defense-nominee Chuck Hagel and Sen. Dick Durbin meet on Capitol Hill on Jan. 22. Hagel discussed his past statements on Israel and Iran on Thursday, garnering him Democratic support.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON—Democratic support for Chuck Hagel’s nomination for defense secretary grew on Thursday as the former Republican senator allayed concerns about his past statements on Israel and Iran.

Sens. Frank Lautenberg of New Jersey, Joe Manchin of West Virginia, Chris Coons of Delaware and Jeanne Shaheen of New Hampshire said they met with Hagel this week and were reassured by his commitment to Israel’s security.

Hagel would replace Defense Secretary Leon Panetta, who is stepping down. Despite early misgivings, about a dozen Democrats have announced they would vote for his nomination, and none has declared opposition to President Barack Obama’s choice.

Six Republicans have said they would vote against Hagel, with some stating their opposition before Obama announced his pick on Jan. 7.

“Senator Hagel clarified his position on Iran sanctions and Israel, and I am confident he is firmly committed to ensuring a strong U.S.-Israel relationship,” Lautenberg said, adding that he and his colleagues will be watching closely “to ensure that issues of concern do not emerge as he takes on this critical position.”

Separately, 13 former secretaries of defense and state as well as national security advisers sent a letter to members of the Senate strongly endorsing Hagel. Among them was former Defense Secretary Robert Gates, who has worked for Republican and Democratic administrations, and George Schultz and Brent Scowcroft, veterans of GOP administrations.

“For those of us honored to have served as members of a president’s national security team, Sen. Hagel clearly understands the essence and the burdens of leadership

required of this high office,” the former officials wrote.

Hagel, who served two terms as Nebraska senator, has faced opposition from GOP-leaning outside groups over his past statements about the power of the “Jewish lobby” of pro-Israel groups and his doubts about the effectiveness of unilateral sanctions on Iran.

Not one GOP lawmaker has endorsed the nominee. Sen. John Barrasso, R-Wyo., writing in an op-ed in The Wall Street Journal on Thursday, all but announced his opposition.

“When we are faced with unpredictable national security crises, we can’t afford to have a secretary of defense who has unpredictable judgment,” Barrasso wrote.

Other lawmakers have said they are waiting for Hagel’s confirmation hearing next Thursday in the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Democrats hold a 55-45

edge in the Senate and would have the votes to confirm Hagel.

“Chuck is a combat veteran and foot soldier who has a unique understanding of the challenges faced by our men and women in uniform, and a practical leader who understands the need for common sense in military spending and national security strategy,” Manchin said in a statement.

Coons said he believes Hagel “will be a strong and effective secretary of defense, and I will be proud to vote for his confirmation.”

Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-N.Y., who met with Hagel on Thursday, said he had satisfied her concerns and she felt his responses were sincere. A member of the Armed Services Committee, she said she would reserve judgment until after the hearing but described Hagel as well-qualified for the job.

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# Rhode Island legalizes gay marriage

Associated Press

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — The Rhode Island House of Representatives on Thursday overwhelmingly passed legislation to allow gays and lesbians to marry in the only New England state where they can't. The House voted 51-19 after

an often emotional debate that touched on civil rights, religion and the nature of marriage. The bill now moves to the Senate, where both supporters and opponents of gay marriage say it is difficult to predict the bill's fate.

"This has been a long journey," said House Speaker Gordon Fox,

who is gay and supported same-sex legislation when it was first introduced in 1997. "Today is a great day. Today ... we stand for equality, we stand for justice."

Thursday's vote posed the most significant challenge yet for gay marriage in Rhode Island. While the five other New England states already allow gay couples to marry, attempts have fallen flat in this heavily Catholic state.

"I wanted to be here to see it," said 70-year-old Warwick resident Ken Fish, who is gay. Fish showed up at the Statehouse hours early to ensure he had a seat in the crowded viewing gallery. "Go back 10 years, even five years, and I wasn't sure we'd ever get here. We're not done yet, but this is a big one."

Nine states and the District of Columbia now allow gay and lesbian couples to marry.

Gay marriage opponents vow to press their case in the Senate, where Senate President Teresa Paiva Weed, D-Newport, remains opposed to the legislation. Chris Plante, director of the state chapter of the National Institute for Marriage, said he believes state leaders

who support gay marriage aren't reflecting public sentiment.

"Rhode Islanders care about marriage, and they don't want to see it redefined," he said.

Some opponents have suggested placing gay marriage on the ballot as a referendum, but the idea is a nonstarter with Fox and independent Gov. Lincoln Chafee, a gay marriage supporter.

A handful of lawmakers rose during the debate to criticize gay marriage as a dangerous social experiment. Rep. Arthur Corvese, D-North Providence, warned lawmakers that same-sex marriage was an "irrevocable societal game-changer" that would redefine "the fundamental building block of our community" and could lead to the legalization of polygamy or plural marriages.

"Truth must not be sacrificed on the altar of political correctness," he said. "Is this the vision you want for Rhode Island's future? Is this the future you want for America?"

Supporters in Rhode Island are hoping to build on national momentum after votes to

approve gay marriage in Maine, Maryland and Washington. Meanwhile, in Minnesota, voters rejected a proposed state constitutional amendment that would have prohibited gay marriage, the first time such a ballot question has failed in the United States.

Lawmakers who argued in favor of allowing gays to marry warned their colleagues they could wind up on the wrong side of history if they cast a no vote.

"Your grandchildren someday will ask you... 'How did you vote on marriage equality?'" said Rep. John Edwards, D-Tiverton. "Hopefully you'll be able to say the right thing."

Passage in the House was expected, as 42 of the 75 House members signed on as sponsors.

Two years ago, Fox dropped gay marriage legislation after he concluded the bill would not pass the Senate. Instead, lawmakers passed civil unions for same-sex couples. But there has been little interest in the state. In the year since civil unions were first offered, only 68 couples obtained civil union licenses.



Kelly Smith, a member of Marriage Equality RI, hugs Patrick Crowley after a House committee's unanimous vote on gay marriage.

## Ex-CIA officer found guilty of leak

Associated Press

McLEAN, Va. — When former CIA officer John Kiriakou is sentenced Friday in federal court for leaking the name of one of the agency's covert operatives to a reporter, his ultimate fate will not be in doubt. The plea calls for a 2 1/2-year prison term.

Still, the fight over the 48-year-old Kiriakou's reputation remains fierce.

Kiriakou and his supporters portray him as an anti-torture

whistleblower paying the price for doing the right thing by exposing what they consider the worst aspects of the government's so-called enhanced interrogation program.

To federal prosecutors, though, Kiriakou's claims of altruism and martyrdom are galling. In court papers filed on Jan. 18, they say Kiriakou was motivated by fame and money and "was engaged in a concerted campaign to raise his media profile, principally to advance

his private pecuniary interests through, among other things, consulting engagements, publication of editorials, more remunerative and secure employment, and sales of his forthcoming book."

The claim to be an anti-torture whistleblower makes no sense, the government says, given that he essentially defended the CIA's interrogation techniques in his initial interviews, which were among the first given by a CIA insider after news broke about the government's admission that it engaged in waterboarding.

Kiriakou told one interviewer that he came forward "because he thought the CIA 'had gotten a bum rap on waterboarding,'" prosecutors wrote in their sentencing memo.

Even more, while Kiriakou now portrays the leak of one covert officer's name as an attempt to expose those who orchestrated the torture program, Kiriakou at the time described that officer, identified in court papers only as Covert Officer A, as "a very good guy" to journalists.

Defense lawyers maintained Kiriakou was a victim of a vindictive prosecution, alleging that the government only went after him because they didn't like what he was saying about the CIA in his book, "The Reluctant Spy," and in public interviews.

But prosecutors say the case against Kiriakou developed when authorities discovered a potentially dangerous security breach: prisoners at Guantanamo Bay were

discovered possessing photographs of one of their interrogators. It was that investigation that ultimately led to the discovery of Kiriakou's leaks.

Indeed, U.S. District Judge Leonie Brinkema rejected the claims of vindictive prosecution early on in the case.

Nevertheless, Kiriakou and his supporters insist he fits the mold of an honorable whistleblower persecuted for exposing wrongdoing. On Wednesday, Kiriakou's portrait was unveiled at the popular Washington restaurant Busboys and Poets, where it will be part of a traveling exhibition and hang alongside portraits of the Dalai Lama and Gandhi.

More than 2,000 people have signed an online petition asking President Barack Obama to commute Kiriakou's sentence. The petition calls Kiriakou "an American hero." It credits him with exposing CIA torture and says he is the only person going to jail in connection with the CIA's enhanced interrogation program.

Jesselyn Radack, one of Kiriakou's lawyers, acknowledged that Kiriakou's initial statements to the public about waterboarding and torture were ambivalent. But she said he became more and more adamantly opposed to torture as years went on, and that the CIA became more and more irritated with him.

She said the government's explanation that it prosecuted Kiriakou only because of what was found at Guantanamo

is belied by the fact that Guantanamo detainees were found in possession of multiple photographs of covert officers, and leaks that were traced back to others were never prosecuted. She said leaks that carry the government's tacit blessing, like those that informed filmmakers' research for the film "Zero Dark Thirty," which documents the CIA's hunt for Osama bin Laden, were never pursued.

Most aggravating, she said, is that of all the people who were implicated and exposed in the scandal surrounding the government's use of torture in the war on terror, Kiriakou is the only one going to jail, and he never tortured anyone. In fact, he explicitly turned down offers from his CIA superiors to be trained in so-called enhanced interrogation.

"If John had tortured anyone, I'm confident he never would have been prosecuted," Radack said.

Kiriakou, of Arlington, was a CIA veteran who played a role in the agency's capture of al-Qaida terrorist Abu Zubaydah in Pakistan in 2002. Abu Zubaydah revealed information that led to the arrest of "dirty bomb" plotter Jose Padilla and exposed Khalid Sheikh Mohamed as the mastermind of the Sept. 11, 2001 terror attacks.

Abu Zubaydah was subjected to both traditional interrogations and waterboarding. FBI agents who conducted the traditional interrogations say the waterboarding and other aggressive tactics were ineffective.

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## INSIDE COLUMN

## Carnatic music

Charitha Isanaka

News Writer

The Homo sapien is a highly gregarious creature. Its constant need to express and share was the basic premise for the development of multifold languages as we know today. There are around 10,000 languages spoken globally and we have various platforms to express them. The air is rife with communication. We talk, but is anybody listening?

Enter Art. Art, in my opinion, is born out of a need to share the real you. Unfiltered. Unfettered. It is a place where you do not need to don an avatar to adapt. It is a state of pure, unadulterated consciousness. From the graffiti artist to the virtuoso, they all share the same plane. My portal to that place is through Carnatic music.

Carnatic music is an Indian Classical art form and has a Hindu origin. Predominantly practiced in Southern India, I was exposed to this ancient art at the age of five. Sruthi (the musical pitch), Swara (the musical note), Raga (the mode or tune) and Tala (the rhythmic cycle) are the basic elements on which this mesmerizing musical journey is built. Carnatic music, unlike many other musical genres, is heavily dependent on the vocals and is almost a cappella in nature.

I still remember my first class. I was awestruck by the timbres and tones of various human voices around me. As a child, it was an intimidating first experience, but I somehow could not resist going back to class. I began to look forward to it each day. This childhood love continued well into my teens and I practiced it even in high school. Eventually, my voice developed and I began to perform at Kacheris (concerts). ML Vasanthakumari, a diva of Carnatic music in her day, was my muse and through her compelling vocals, I understood the language of human emotion.

Carnatic music has always been an enigma to me, which propels me to delve further into it. It has a calming, almost tranquil, effect on my mood. It is a time machine, where I can traverse annals of time in an instant. It fosters strong bonds between people and makes me connect with others in ways never experienced before. I have become much more confident as an individual and also enjoy the happiness my music brings to people. Music has a surreal way of explaining the most difficult things for it appeals directly to the heart and not to the intellect.

It is disconcerting to see this genre of music being sidelined under the guise of being “passé.” While I do enjoy more trendy and instrument-heavy genres of music that have cropped up, only Carnatic music seems to be able to offer a platform to showcase the human voice in its purest form.

I am privileged to have in me a piece of tradition that I will be able to hand down to the next generation. Sometimes I wonder how things would have shaped up, had I walked away from that mildew teak door that harbored behind it, a million different voices, waiting to be heard.

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

## New leaders here and everywhere

## THE OBSERVER EDITORIAL

This is an important time for our country, our own newspaper and our campus as a whole. On Monday, President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden publicly swore their oaths of office to begin their second term at the country's helm. On Wednesday, The Observer announced the election of a new Editor-in-Chief for the 2013-14 publication year. And today, petitions for student government executives are due, with elections to follow shortly.

The introduction of a new leader to any organization or community marks an important event. A new leader can signal a shift in policy to bring real change to the daily lives of that leader's constituents. A new leader can introduce new ideas and creative problem-solving, and a new leader can build upon the best work of his or her predecessor. Accordingly, we must choose leaders with the work ethic, determination and moral fiber essential to positive leadership.

Notre Dame's campus has no shortage of individuals with the aforementioned traits and then some. Our campus is full of students who have a history of leadership — in test scores and GPAs, on the playing field and at the front of student government. As belabored by our high school counselors, prestigious universities consider demonstrations of leadership just as they do our grades, and the Admissions Office at Notre Dame continues to garner the best of the best leaders from high schools around the country and the world.

We still see that tendency to lead among our students here at the University. We all know a person who forgoes sleep and a social life to save the whales, sit on three student government groups, captain an interhall team and run hall council. Plenty of students make a life out of going above and beyond — and for many of us, we have fallen into believing leaders have to be

hyper-scheduled and unbelievably driven. And when we just expect a few individuals to shine above all the rest, we run the risk of becoming complacent.

With every social issue in the surrounding community, there is an opportunity to take initiative. With each on-campus problem that goes unnoticed or unaddressed, there are still more ways students can put their leadership skills to use without titles or nameplates. While the majority of us feel something between love for and obsession with this University, we can hardly call it perfect. In real life, we should strive to be leaders in our clubs, activities, majors and residence halls. We excelled to get to Notre Dame — and we should still excel here.

Most of us hope to one day be in leadership positions, whether it be in government, the corporate world, medicine, service or even as the heads of families. So why take a four-year sabbatical on the leadership qualities that got us to this University and that we hope to rely on down the road? We have many opportunities to lead here on campus and the upcoming election in student government is perhaps the most immediate. Student government does work on campus that is sometimes unseen and underappreciated, but its office can be a conduit for important projects by student leaders at Notre Dame.

There's no question extraordinary leadership can have a huge impact at every level of society. There's no question that each Notre Dame student — from a freshman thinking about joining student government to a senior about to step into the real world — has the capacity to be an extraordinary leader. There's no question that Notre Dame offers chances to lead, whether that means reaching out to someone who is suffering or standing before the entire student body as a club leader. Let this week be a reminder that we have countless opportunities to be leaders on our campus and in our communities, right here and right now.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR



## QUOTE OF THE DAY

“Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit.  
Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.”

Miles Kingston  
British journalist

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# It's time to take a seat!

**Joel Kolb**

The Provocateur

A couple years ago I read one of the most disturbing newspaper articles of my life. It started out innocently enough, outlining a local middle school play, highlighting notable performances. Here is the disturbing part — the article mentioned that at the end of the production the middle-school students received a standing ovation!

Clearly, the state of affairs in America regarding the standing ovation is at an all-time low. Everyone and their kid brother receive a 'standing-o' nowadays. To fix this problem, we as a society need to turn to the origins of the Roman ovation. In short, a Roman ovation was a celebration for a returning warrior. The celebration fell short only of hosting an actual parade for the individual. The honor was given to those who had avoided war or won a war with minimal bloodshed. The point though is the Roman ovation was an honor to those who earned it.

Contrast the Roman ovation to the laughable use of the standing ovation in today's society. In 2010, the current Mexican president spoke to the Senate and denounced legislation which burdened illegal immigrants from his home country. Those who supported him gave him a standing ovation! It seems

preposterous that a dignitary would receive a 'standing-o' for merely being in concurrence with certain members of the Senate. Foreign dignitaries aren't the only ones receiving standing ovations. Watch any State of the Union address and you'll find standing ovations, which some look as if they're planned.

The overuse of the standing ovation only devalues it. But fear not, our world is not completely forsaken.

Every year, PBS hosts a Memorial Day service honoring our fallen veterans and their families. Often Hollywood actors read letters written by the deceased to their loved ones, capturing the emotion and tension of losing a spouse or parent. The families and the rest of the audience watch, captivated by the words the fallen soldier wrote as their final words. Upon introduction of the soldier's family, the audience almost always gives a standing ovation. In this situation, the soldier greatly deserves the standing ovation.

In the sports world, the great Andre Agassi, American tennis player, announced his retirement from the sport after winning a tournament. Agassi, arguably the best tennis player at the time of his retirement, received a standing ovation. Agassi and the veterans deserved the ovation, while the Mexican president did not.

Who deserves a standing ovation?

Luckily for everyone, I have a modest proposal to fix the flagrant misuse of the 'standing-o' in today's society. First, everyone should look inward and examine their values in life. From these you can recognize the people who deserve automatic standing ovations. Personally, the only 'automatics' on my list are war veterans and whoever ends up finding a cure for cancer. Your automatics can be whomever you like, but be sure to make them meaningful and rare.

Of course, it is much more likely a situation arises where there are no automatic standing ovations, but you are still considering giving one. If this is the situation, you need to ask yourself these essential questions: Is this one of the best performances/sporting events/feats I have ever seen and probably ever will see? Will I remember this moment/production/viewing for the rest of my life, namely because of the epochal quality of this situation? If you answer yes to either of these questions, then feel free to bust out of your chair. A final question is, however, "have I given a standing ovation within the past two years?" If yes, then the question becomes, "is this as amazing as or better than the last time I've given one?"

Finally, armed with these questions, remember the tenets of recognition, prevention and assimilation. Recognition — if you see

a couple of people starting to clap and stand, you should immediately begin asking yourself the essential questions and decide whether or not to act. Prevention — do society a favor. Do whatever it takes to prevent a bad standing ovation from occurring. Feel free to say things like, "Sit down before I make you." Assimilation — if you feel a standing ovation is worthy, then join right in. I've been a part of a couple of really good ones and let me tell you — it was phe-nom-e-nal.

I'd like to end on this note. Last semester, I listened to Father Hesburgh speak at a Veteran's Day service. At the end of the speech, he received a standing ovation. The same standing ovation which was given to the middle school play two years before. Should we as a society be comfortable putting Father Hesburgh on the same plane as middle school kids? I know I'm not comfortable doing that and you shouldn't be either. The next time you are confronted with a standing ovation, just recall what I said. If you're on the fence about participating in one, just remember, "When in doubt, sit it out."

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

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Fr. Tom Tallarida

"As I look to the Day of Christ, you give me cause to boast that I did not run the race in vain or work to no purpose." Phil 2:16

Fr. Tom Tallarida used this verse in his reflection on the 60 year anniversary of his priesthood. He died Jan. 5. Words cannot express how much I loved this man. I met him when I was an undergrad at ND. My roommate and I attended daily Mass at Zahm where Tom was the rector. He was my friend in the truest sense of the word. I knew he loved me, because he made this apparent through his demonstrative nature and his willingness to be there for me at a moment's notice. He married my husband and me, baptized my children, and buried my father. His life demonstrated that love is an action verb: it is what you do more than what you think or say. He acted on his commitment to be a priest of integrity and love. He always did what he thought was right, despite possible negative consequences for himself. He considered rules and procedures secondary to ministering effectively, and always chose the person over the rule. This sometimes caused conflicts with the powers that be. Fr. Tom is the best priest I have ever known. I was nourished by his positive regard for me over my entire lifetime.

ND is full of caring professors, rectors and peers. My hope for all current ND students is you will meet those who will become "your people." Fr. Tom was one of my people and his profound influence on my life is one of the best things I received from my Notre Dame education. Academic achievement is important, but showing up for one another and forging authentic relationships is equally important. I remember a few courses I took, a few great professors, and lots of the anxiety of studying and striving. What has remained with me are the friendships I forged, and those I grew to love. I love you, Fr. Tom. RIP.

**Annette Magjuka**  
Class of 1978  
Jan. 17

## Gazing into the abyss

Six million Jews were murdered by Hitler's Nazi regime during WWII. Stalin dispatched roughly 20 million persons. In only 100 days, at least 500,000 Rwandans were murdered by their own countrymen. On Sept. 11, 2001, Osama bin Laden masterminded an attack that killed nearly 3,000 Americans and shattered the lives of so many others.

We rightfully cringe at these statistics. If it's difficult to really process such absurd numbers, just start by imagining that everyone you love — no, everyone you have ever met or known or even know of — being removed from your life.

Half a million people will descend upon the national capital to protest a subtler genocide. Since 1973, nearly 56 million children have been slaughtered by the very same parents who gave them life. No empathetic endeavors can make that fact make sense.

There is simply no justification for this, one of the most horrific genocides in history. But if I had to think of an explanation for why Americans get up in arms, devote billions of dollars, hours of service and volunteer time, and dedicate their lives to preventing such atrocious episodes as those described above from continuing or happening again, while simultaneously citing a "right" that awards legal license to murder others (or their own) children for convenience's sake ... well, I can't finish that sentence after all.

Hitler and Stalin are universally acknowledged as embodiments of evil. We all remember the degree of rejoicing with which the news of bin Laden's death was met. These men, all together, directly took less than half of the innocent lives that we ourselves have taken in the past four decades in the war against the unborn.

These men had justifications for their choices, though: they weren't slaughtering the innocent so much as defending ideals, defending rights, defending themselves. Yet everyone agrees that these men and their philosophies epitomize evil. What does that say about us and ours?

But abortion isn't murder because unborn babies aren't really, or fully, persons? Neither were the Jews. Neither were the Tutsis. Neither were the black slaves.

**Michael Bradley**  
junior  
off-campus  
Jan. 24



## CHECK OUT LOCAL DUO 'THE RUTABEGA'

By **LIZZY SCHROFF**  
Scene Writer

The night before the first day of classes, I got the chance to attend a concert by local band "The Rutabega" at Ignition Music in Goshen, Ind. Josh Hensley, singer and guitarist from the duo, gave me the low-down on the band and the music that they create.

LS: "The Rutabega" is a pretty unique name. What's the story behind it?

JH: My dad used to call me The Rutabega when I was a kid. Not sure why! I think it evolved from "Josh the Squash." I didn't realize I had misspelled it until after the first album had been released, but I suppose it's made it easier for people to find us through search engines.

LS: What was that sparking moment when you thought, "Hey. I want to make music for a living?"

JH: I've known since I was around 15 that I had to make music. It wasn't tied to money. I just felt like my heart would explode if I didn't have a creative outlet, and music felt so natural.

LS: You describe your band's style of music as "carp rock." What exactly is "carp rock"?

JH: Carp Rock is our attempt at getting out of describing our style. It's really just an inside joke. We thought it would be funny to claim we had invented a genre.

LS: Who are some of your musical influences?

JH: The Beatles, Simon & Garfunkel, and early 70s Neil Diamond were some of my early faves that never got old. Nirvana changed everything for me and led me to bands like Pixies, The Breeders, The Vaselines, and The Wipers. I love Elliott Smith, Tom Waits and Damien Jurado. I've also been fortunate to be close friends with some amazing songwriters that consistently inspire me and push me to be a better writer.

LS: Josh, you started out as a solo act. How did you meet Garth, and how has your music evolved as a duo?

JH: I started putting solo music out as The Rutabega in 2002. It became a three piece for a while, and then it was just me again. My wife Emily has been involved as well for several years. Garth recorded my old band, Space and Noise Productions, in the year 2000. We knew each other from the South Bend scene and would

occasionally catch up at shows. He and Emily had a mutual friend, Matthew Miller, who passed away in January of 2011. After Matt's funeral we started getting together for weekly dinners and would always end up playing music. Those dinners led to Garth playing his first show with The Rutabega in March of 2011.

LS: Where do you draw your lyrical subjects and inspiration from?

JH: Writing is kind of like self-hypnosis for me. My lyrics are very personal, but they don't necessarily follow a story line. I often write about my brother, Ben, who I lost several years ago.

LS: I hear that you are in the midst of recording some new material. Can you tell us a little about your project, or is it super-secret? When we can expect to see it come out?

JH: We are working on a new album that will most likely be called "Brother The Lights Don't Work." The plan is to release it this spring. Most of the songs we have been playing live will be included on this record, and we are really excited about how it is coming together. We tracked several songs in an old church in South Bend and have also done some recording in the Golden Mallard's echo room. It sounds big and open and sad and hopeful. Oh, and my daughter's all-girls choir Bella Voce sings on the first song!

LS: You achieve a really full sound from a duo. What are some of the things you think about or try to do in creating a really well-rounded sound with two people?

JH: Thanks! Garth and I really enjoy the simplicity of playing as a duo. We are both drawn to minimalism, but we also really want our live sound to be as dynamic as possible - from stark and exposed, without being precious, to lush and enveloping, without being overbearing.

LS: Your "Bull Carp" EP is pretty much the coolest packaged CD in my collection. How long did it take you to make all of those personalized EPs?

JH: All the covers were hand stamped from a linocut I made. It definitely took a lot longer than I had planned — each package had to be stamped, folded, packed, and numbered. Our friend Brandon helped with the liner notes, which are die-cut in the shape of either a bull or a carp (of course).

LS: What's life like out on the

open road and touring?

JH: Recording is a blast, but there is something almost spiritual about a good show. We love getting out of town and have formed some great relationships with other bands. It is also really cool to bring good bands into the South Bend area and know that they will have an appreciative audience.

LS: Where can we expect to see you touring next?

JH: We are heading up to the Upper Peninsula (in Michigan) in February for the PRF Thundersnow Winter BBQ. We will be playing Grand Rapids and Marquette [University] leading up to the fest. We are also planning to do some touring after the record comes out this spring. Hoping to get out to the East Coast and hit a lot of Midwest spots as well.

LS: What's been your coolest experience as a group/solo project thus far?

JH: There have been some

cool things like having songs used on MTV's "The Real World" and getting a positive review in "The Big Takeover", but honestly I am most excited about the friendship I have with Garth and the connection we feel to the music we're playing. We both really believe in what we're doing with "The Rutabega".

LS: Vinyl or digital, and why?

JH: Both! I prefer to experience albums I love on vinyl. The artwork is big. It feels good to physically hold a record and set the needle down. It even smells good. It's like a little ritual. That being said, it is super nice to have my iPod on the bus and be able to listen to whatever I feel like listening to. I love that labels are releasing vinyl that comes with a digital download. That is the way to go, in my opinion. Make a cool, personalized package that people are excited about.

LS: Anything else you'd like

us to know?

JH: We will be releasing "Brother The Lights Don't Work" on vinyl and as a digital download (and possibly a small run of CDs). We have been running a "Carpstarter" campaign (as opposed to a Kickstarter) to raise money to self-release the album. Instead of asking for fans to pledge money, we've been saving money from shows and doing silly things like selling plasma, cleaning up after raves, and collecting scrap metal. Fun! The first single from the new album will be coming out soon in the form of a video shot by my good friend Jared Myers (Daytime Volume). Think model rockets, gas masks, and a mysterious briefcase...

Check out The Rutabega's music on <http://theseknottylines.bandcamp.com/>.

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Photo courtesy of NICK YODER

*The South Bend born band "The Rutabega" performed at Ignition Music Jan. 14, playing songs from their soon-to-be-released album "Brother the Lights Don't Work".*





# THE ROSS PROBLEM

By **MAC HENDRICKSON**  
Scene Writer

Let's talk about Ross Geller.

And when we talk about Ross, we are really talking about the most interesting and challenging character of the show "Friends." It's been almost 10 years since the 10-season run of one television's most celebrated sitcoms came to an end. Pop culture vanguards as long-lived and successful as "Friends" are gifts to anyone hoping to pull apart a culture. "Friends" partially defined a generation. We learned how sexually-obsessed and irreverent our culture is. We learned that no matter your salary or upbringing, you can still enjoy a plentiful life, as long as your best friends are incredibly good looking. But first and foremost we learned that America doesn't mind when a wuss gets the girl.

That's right. Ross is a little baby. He's not a go-getter. Girls flirt with him. He

complains about nearly everything. His extended relationship with the girl of his dreams wouldn't have happened without the loose tongue of his friend Chandler. The mix-up and ensuing drama was funny to watch, but did Ross deserve to get off that easy? And this wasn't a one-season issue.

Behind all the drama and laughter lies the show's essential conflict: Will Ross and Rachel end up together? It's the opening hook of episode one, and the series finale details Ross's final stab at keeping Rachel in his life. This is what the show is all about.

And he wins. He gets the girl. Ross the great wuss and the gorgeous Rachel Green together at last. If this doesn't anger you, it should. Ross is with the girl of your dreams. Ross never proves himself, at least in the commentator's eyes. Sure, he is a nice guy. And attractive to boot. But are those the guys our culture condones? The passive dreamers who talk to

their friends about their loves and losses and wait for the next big thing? Ross Geller wasn't the first loser to win and surely won't be the last. (Ted Mosby, anyone? The similarity shouldn't surprise anyone considering that How I Met Your Mother is Friends Part 2 Starring Doogie Howser.) But why doesn't it bother us that Ross gets the girl? Does Ross deserve to win? Would Ross have won in the real world? This is the Ross Problem.

This conflict could be easily written off. "Friends" is a chick show, and Ross Geller represents what many girls look for in a man. A dreamer and a sweetheart. Someone innocent, and more feminine than usual. And the male viewership didn't mind. To them, it was reassuring: if Ross can take his sweet 10 years getting Rachel, I've still got time.

But consider an alternative proposal. We didn't mind Ross getting the girl because we have become lazy. "Ross and Rachel" convinces us of destiny,

that everything will work out no matter what. If two people are perfect for each other, they will eventually find love. Ross just needed to be himself and stick around for a decade. Sound like modern America yet? So really, the Ross problem is America's problem. We idolize the dreamers, not the go-getters. We believe in destiny, not sweat.

Another episode in season eight offers a rebuttal to its own dilemma. When Chandler fears that his wife Monica has met her true soul mate, Chandler's antics lead to a frank discussion between husband and wife. Surprisingly, neither believes in soul mates. "I don't think that you and I were destined to end up together. I think that we fell in love and we work hard at our relationship." It's the bits of realism in this show that help one digest the horse apples.

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## WHAT TO WATCH: PARKS AND RECREATION

By **WILLIAM NEAL**  
Scene Writer

Over the past decade, there have been several instances of experimentation with television series. In sitcoms, we saw plenty of shows stray away from the standard multi-cam, laugh track where every other sentence has to be a one-liner. They have moved onto single-cam series like "Arrested Development", "New Girl" and "Community", the "mockumentary" style and shows that combine the two such as "Modern Family". The "mockumentary" format made NBC's "The Office" seem like a one-of-a-kind (Ricky Gervais? Never heard of him.), so when "Parks and Recreation" first debuted in 2009, many viewers saw it as a rip-off with a less interesting premise. Its beginnings certainly weren't perfect, but after sharpening out its dull edges through character development, new cast members and show runner Greg Daniels, "Parks and Rec." quickly became "literally" one of the best shows on television. The problem was, and still is, that most

viewers still haven't given it a chance.

If you're not familiar with the series, "Parks and Rec." follows Leslie Knope (Amy Poehler) and her rag-tag team of government staffer misfits in their small, beloved (fictional) town of Pawnee, Indiana. Leslie and the rest of the show's hysterical cast of characters work for Pawnee's Parks Department, and if you think that doesn't sound like a glamorous job ... you're absolutely right. On a daily basis, their department puts up with being the underdog of government branches and deals with the insane locals, all in efforts to create places for children to play.

If you ask me why you should watch this show, however, I wouldn't give you this premise. Instead, I'd tell you to watch it for the best and funniest ensemble cast on television.

Let's begin with Leslie Knope. Unlike the dimwitted Michael Scott (insert "that's what she said" joke), Leslie is an idealistic and committed character who often seems to be the one glimmer of hope in her crazy little town. She's the waffle-addicted,

whirlwind-of-crazy figure of female empowerment whose first date topics include "whales," "parades" and "electricity.. And we can't help but love her. Ron Swanson (Nick Offerman), director of the Parks Department, is the true definition of a man. He's the stoic government employee who ironically doesn't believe in government, has two ex-wives named Tammy, a passion for meat-based products, hordes of underground gold, an alternate Jazz-playing persona, and one amazing mustache. Tom Haverford (Aziz Ansari) is a wannabe P-Diddy, a true entrepreneur ("Make a baby tuxedo clothing line!") and a hustlin' ladies man. Andy Dwyer (Chris Pratt) has the heart of a child, and the intelligence of one too. As a shoe shiner by day and FBI agent Bert Macklin by night, Andy can make anyone smile. April Ludgate (Aubrey Plaza) is the scowling dry-humored Puerto Rican assistant to Ron Swanson who may just be one of the funniest and most unique female characters currently on television ("Horizons are dumb. Never broaden your horizons.") The

list continues with funny and loveable characters such as Ben Wyatt (Adam Scott), Chris Traeger (Rob Lowe) and Ann Perkins (Rashida Jones). I don't have the space to do these characters justice, but believe me, you will not find a better ensemble of characters still on television.

Aside from the hilarious story lines involving penguin weddings, miniature horses, political campaigns and three-legged dogs, this is a show with a lot of heart. "Parks and Rec." at its core is a story about a group of people who may have their differences but are always there to support each other. To sum it up, it's a show about friendships. If you haven't taken the time to see this outstanding sitcom, please tune in Thursday nights on NBC because this is a show that, for countless reasons, deserves to stay on the air. Better yet, "Parks and Recreation" is a show that deserves to be watched by all who love to laugh. Always remember, "Pawnee Indiana: first in friendship, fourth in obesity."

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## SPORTS AUTHORITY

# Black Mamba still deadly



**Cory Bernard**  
Sports Writer

The NBA season has thus far provided fans with a multitude of interesting storylines. The Knicks have developed into a legitimate contender while the new-look Nets have moved into their new digs and immediately established an intra-city, divisional rivalry. Meanwhile, the Thunder and Heat have picked up where they left off last year, with superstars Kevin Durant and LeBron James outclassing the league with superior talent.

And of course, who could forget the saga in Los Angeles?

Juxtaposed against the flashy success of the Clippers' "Lob City," the Lakers and their all-star cast have failed mightily. Executive vice president Jim Buss and general manager Mitch Kupchak produced the biggest off-season headlines. First, they signed veteran all-world point guard Steve Nash and two-time all-star forward Antawn Jamison before luring the Association's best center — Dwight Howard — to Los Angeles. With guard Kobe Bryant and forward Pau Gasol already in the fold, the Lakers suddenly looked like the team to beat. Everyone knows how that has worked out so far.

Despite all of this early-season drama, the most intriguing story at the mid-point of the NBA season is the tragedy of one player in particular: Kobe Bryant.

Buried beneath the rubble of the Lakers' sub-.500 season is the fact that the 34-year-old Bryant is having a monster season. His scoring over the past few seasons has hovered just above his career average of 25.5 points per game, but his field-goal and 3-point shooting percentage has dropped ever season since 2008-2009. Except this year. Despite a coaching change just five games into the season and an ever-changing rotation of players around him, Bryant is second in the league in scoring, averaging just under 30 points per game. He is shooting a hair less than 47 percent from the floor, his highest mark since the 2008-2009 season. He is making more than 35 percent of his shots from behind the 3-point arc, his highest total since the 2007-2008 season.

Still, his team stinks and he can't seem to do much about it. The most prolific scorer since Michael Jordan is

producing at an all-time high despite playing on a surgically reconstructed knee and mangled shooting hand that have seen more miles than anyone in the NBA. Yet he is being overshadowed by a host of younger stars on better teams. The best teams in the league rely upon superior athleticism on the perimeter, and quick guards dominate the NBA. Bryant's Lakers do not possess the right pieces to compete with these teams.

At the tail-ends of their respective careers, iconic superstars Larry Bird, Magic Johnson and Michael Jordan competed in front of NBA fans at high levels on championship-caliber teams. All won titles within a few years of retirement (please disregard Jordan's two seasons with the Wizards from 2001-2003, that was not the real MJ). These icons remained, in basketball terms, relevant. However, fans will not be afforded the same luxury with Kobe Bryant. This tragedy is the NBA season's most overlooked story.

Since he set foot in the league, Bryant has been a once-in-a-generation figure on par with Bird, Magic and Jordan. He was a high school phenom who became the youngest person to play in an NBA game in his rookie season. He won the slam-dunk contest at 18 and never looked back, dazzling the NBA with high-flying acrobatics, impossible fade-away jumpers and a bevy of clutch shots in the regular season and play-offs. He will leave the league as a legend, but with the glory days of his championship teams as a distant memory.

His retirement is several years down the road, and many things may happen between then. Dwight Howard may decide to re-sign with the Lakers despite the debacle of this season, and Bryant may learn to treat him a little more like Shaquille O'Neal and a little less like every other center he has ever played with. Also, the Lakers may acquire a perimeter player who can actually stay in front of today's superstars. But until these events become reality, I, and countless other basketball fans, will continue to mourn the sudden and tragic disappearance of Kobe Bryant from NBA relevancy.

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

## NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

# Michigan overcomes early deficit to top Purdue

## Associated Press

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Tim Hardaway Jr. can't help but notice Michigan's place in the latest national ranking.

With a win this weekend, the Wolverines could take over the No. 1 spot in the AP poll for the first time since the Fab Five era.

"We would be lying to you if we didn't have that in our mind, but we really are trying to do a great job of just trying to get better as a team each and every day," Hardaway said.

On Thursday night, that meant being more aggressive on defense, especially during the second half of a 68-53 win over Purdue. Trey Burke had 15 points and eight assists and Hardaway added 13 points. The second-ranked Wolverines shut down the Boilermakers after Purdue had made seven 3-pointers in the first half.

Michigan has a chance to move to No. 1 in the next poll if it can win at Illinois on Sunday. Duke, the current top-ranked team, lost Wednesday.

The Wolverines (18-1, 5-1 Big Ten) trailed by seven in the first half, but Purdue (10-9, 3-3) couldn't keep up its torrid outside shooting. The Boilermakers turned the ball over 12 times.

"We're a very low-steal team," Michigan coach John Beilein said. "It's not a strength. We're trying to, at different times, pick your spots."

Michigan took control with a 14-2 run in the second half. The Wolverines have won 28 of their last 29 home games — the only loss was to Purdue last February.

Terone Johnson scored 14 points for the Boilermakers.

Michigan trailed 33-32 at halftime after the Boilermakers shot 7 of 13 from 3-point range. Purdue then missed all nine of its attempts



AP

**Purdue's Terone Johnson goes up for a rebound against Michigan's Glenn Robinson in the first half of the Wolverines' victory Thursday.**

from long distance in the second half.

Glenn Robinson III — the son of the former Purdue star with the same name — made a 3-pointer to put the Wolverines ahead 42-40 and start Michigan's decisive run.

"This was just another game for me," Robinson said. "It was my dream early on to go to Purdue, but I know that I'm where I am supposed to be. I love Michigan. This is home."

Burke gave Michigan some extra energy during one defensive sequence in which he nearly stole the ball at mid-court and then went diving on the floor to try to knock it free. Mitch McGary eventually stepped in front of a pass for Michigan, bringing the crowd to life.

"Once the crowd gets into it and our bench gets into it, the energy just carries," McGary said. "That's game changing."

Another 3-pointer by Robinson made it 49-40, and it was 51-42 after a steal and layup by Burke.

Purdue trailed by 11 before going on a brief run to make it 53-48. Michigan freshman Nik Stauskas answered with a 3-pointer from the left wing.

The Wolverines led 60-48 after McGary dunked on a fast

break.

Purdue gave Michigan all it could handle in the first half. After Burke breezed past the entire defense for a layup, Boilermakers coach Matt Painter called a timeout just 75 seconds into the game.

His team responded. D.J. Byrd's 3-pointer from several feet beyond the arc gave Purdue a 14-9 lead, and although Michigan rallied, Byrd banked in another shot from long distance to put the Boilermakers up 28-26.

Robinson's one-handed dunk along the baseline late in the first half gave the crowd at Crisler Center something to cheer about, but the Wolverines didn't pull away until much later.

"I wasn't crazy about some of our poise in the first half. We tried to hit some home runs instead of some singles," Beilein said. "Second half, we really played smart."

Robinson and Stauskas scored 12 points apiece. Byrd finished with 11.

"They made it a lot tougher for us in the second half," Byrd said. "We couldn't get the open looks we were getting in the first half, and we didn't knock down the ones we got. It is frustrating."

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NBA

# Knicks hand Celtics a crushing loss

Associated Press

BOSTON — Carmelo Anthony scored 28 points and won his rematch with Kevin Garnett as the New York Knicks ended an 11-game losing streak in Boston with an 89-86 victory over the Celtics on Thursday night.

It came 17 days after a verbal clash between the All-Star forwards following Boston's 102-96 victory in New York led to Anthony's one-game suspension.

Anthony was booed frequently Thursday but there was no sign of hostility with Garnett. At one point, Anthony even extended his hand to a fallen Garnett and helped the Celtic to his feet.

Rajon Rondo led the Celtics with 23 points, 10 rebounds and 11 assists, his fourth triple-double of the season. Paul Pierce added 22 points. Garnett had only eight points but finished with a game-high 12 rebounds as Boston lost its fifth straight game.

There were 17 lead changes in the game but none in the fourth quarter.

In the first half, Anthony was booed nearly every time he touched the ball and cheered when he was called

for fouls as fans reacted to the last meeting between the star forwards. One of the biggest cheers came when Garnett blocked Anthony's layup attempt with 3:15 left in the second quarter.

Garnett and Anthony had jawed with each other during the teams' previous matchup. After that game, Anthony walked toward the Celtics locker room before security personnel stepped in and sent him back toward the Knicks' room.

Comcast SportsNet New England posted a video on its website showing Anthony waiting near Boston's team bus after the game, with coach Mike Woodson and New York City police nearby.

The NBA suspended Anthony for the next game, an 81-76 loss at Indiana.

On Thursday, the Celtics took their last lead, 66-65, on a 3-pointer by Jeff Green with 2:22 left in the third quarter. Then Tyson Chandler put the Knicks ahead with a three-point play and they scored the last seven points of the period, taking a 72-66 lead.

They increased that to 84-76 before the Celtics cut it to two on a basket by Garnett and two by Rondo. Amare Stoudemire's tip made it



AP

Celtics forward Kevin Garnett and Knicks forward Carmelo Anthony meet at center court before the opening tip of their NBA basketball game in Boston on Thursday.

86-82 with 3:24 left before Rondo sank two free throws and J.R. Smith hit a 3-pointer. Rondo cut the lead to 89-86 with a field goal with 40 seconds to go and Jason Kidd missed a 3-pointer for the Knicks with 14 seconds remaining.

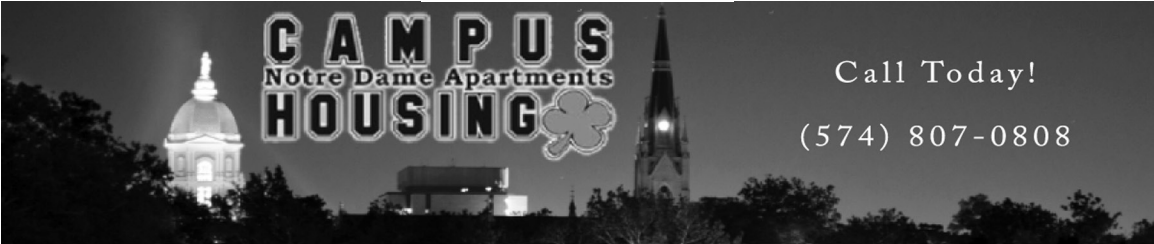
But Boston's last chance ended when Pierce lost the ball out of bounds as he was receiving a pass with 7.1 seconds left.

Anthony scored at least 20 points for the 27th straight game, third most in franchise history behind Richie

Guerin's 29 and Patrick Ewing's 28.

The Knicks led 50-48 at halftime but trailed 60-59 with just under five minutes remaining in the third quarter. Then they outscored the Celtics 13-6, with Anthony scoring six points.

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RECSPORTS

## Alumni beats Dillon in rivalry

Special to The Observer

After falling short in last season's men's interhall hockey championship, Alumni has unfinished business. Its run to redemption began with a 5-1 victory over rival Dillon in the first RecSports Game of the Week in 2013.

While the game was not as contentious as both teams had hoped, it made for an exciting matchup.

Alumni jumped out to an early lead and never looked back. Sophomore Joe Aiken said the Dawgs tried to get off to a good start.

"We tried to go out there and just have fun and put a few goals in early," Aiken said.

Alumni freshman Will Kelly attributed Alumni's success to the play of his teammates.

"We really moved the puck well, and we played off our crowd's intensity," Kelly said.

While the Dawgs had a lot of success on offense and found the back of the net five times, the team will need to improve for next week. They had three power play opportunities during the game but did not capitalize on any of them.

Dillon came into the game with high hopes but now will need to readjust after a poor loss. The Big Red goalies struggled under a constant barrage the entire game. The locker room after the game was melancholy and the Big Red players declined to comment on the game. Dillon's one goal in the last minute of the game was a highlight for the Big Red.

As the match up was not a divisional game, the loss did not have playoff implications for Dillon.

Join RecSports next Monday for the next Game of the Week: interhall women's basketball.



## MEN'S SWIMMING &amp; DIVING

# Notre Dame competes in final home meet

By MEGAN FINNERAN  
Sports Writer

This weekend the Irish celebrate senior week, honoring the top members of the squad at their final home meet. Harvard and Towson will visit Rolfs Aquatic Center for the Shamrock Invitational, taking place the span of the day on both Friday and Saturday.

No. 20 Notre Dame comes off a 131-112 win at Cleveland State on Jan. 18, which marked its sixth win in dual meet competition. The undefeated squad demonstrated abilities deep in the roster, gathering points with wins across the board.

Senior Bill Bass, recently named Big East Athlete of the Week, took first in two individual races and one relay event against Cleveland State to lead the team. His 50.58 performance earned him first in the 100-yard butterfly while his 1:50.59 led him to the top in the 200-yard individual medley. His 22.13 butterfly in the 100-yard medley relay team competition also helped secure first.

This weekend provides another opportunity to improve before the season picks up.

"Practice this week has been pretty normal," senior Chris Johnson said. "We're still focused on Big East."

Harvard has a record comparable to that of the Irish, with a 4-0



STEPHANI LEUNG | The Observer

*Senior Wesley Mullins, sophomores John Williamson and James McEldrew swim at the Notre Dame Invitational on Friday.*

dual meet record since November. They swim fairly consistently, with two 207-93 wins, one 192-108 and one 206-90 victory dating back to the fall. The Crimson come off a recent 206-90 win against Brown. In the meet, sophomore diver Mike Moscaled the day with two record-breaking performances. He scored 412.42 on the three-meter board and 273.45 on the one-meter. Four other members of the squad also won a pair of events in the meet.

"We do really want to beat Harvard but we think we can do it without changing our training too much," Johnson said.

Towson is 3-6, coming off a 220-78 loss to Delaware on Jan. 19. The team is 0-5 in the Colonial Athletic Association. The Tigers

feature a young squad, compared to the Irish team stacked with upperclassmen. Freshman Matt McKenney's 50.93 finish in the 100-yard butterfly secured first place for him against Delaware, while his 1:52.59 brought first in the 200-yard butterfly. Sophomore Matt Collingwood fell just short of first in the 1,000-yard freestyle, taking second in the race with a time of 9:33.97.

"We are hoping there's a big turn out to see the competition and celebrate senior day," Johnson said.

The invitational will begin Friday in Rolfs Aquatic Center.

Contact Megan Finneran at [mfinnera@nd.edu](mailto:mfinnera@nd.edu)

## WOMEN'S SWIMMING &amp; DIVING

# Irish take on undefeated Tigers

By MATT UNGER  
Sports Writer

The Irish women hit the pool for the third weekend in a row as they close out their home schedule at the Rolfs Aquatic Center in the annual Shamrock Invitational beginning at 5 p.m. on Friday. They host Towson, an undefeated squad from the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA), in the two-day dual meet.

The Tigers (10-0) enter the weekend following a dual meet victory against Delaware last weekend. Junior swimmer Kaitlin Burke will pose a challenge for the Irish in freestyle events as she won the 100, 200, and 500-yard freestyle events in that meet, earning her CAA Swimmer of the Week. The Tigers also defeated one BIG EAST foe, Georgetown, in a dual meet in October.

Meanwhile, the Irish (3-4) dropped a close dual meet to Indiana last weekend, 175-125. The Irish claimed first in seven of the 16 events as sophomore Emma Reaney and senior diver Jenny Chiang earned a combined five wins. Chiang won both the 1 and 3-meter diving events, while Reaney took first in the 100 and 200-yard breaststroke along with the 200-yard Individual Medley.

However, the Hoosiers swept the freestyle events and

relay races, hindering the Irish's chances of victory. Yet, Reaney remained confident that the Irish needed to focus on the little things in order to be in prime condition for the BIG EAST Championships next month.

"[Following the Indiana meet], we need to be more consistent in the water," Reaney said. "But we also need to focus on conserving energy out of the pool as we make our stretch run."

The Irish coaching staff also looks to gather additional information about its squad this weekend to help their swimmers improve for the conference championships. The Irish will don technical suits, from which data readings will be recorded.

"The technical suits will give us and our coaches a feel for turns, times in the pool, and strokes," Reaney said. "Also, it will give us more useful data, since our bodies will be tired after three weekend meets in a row."

Following the Shamrock Invitational, the Irish receive a one-week reprieve before a final tune-up meet at Toledo on February 9. Then, the squad reconvenes in competition at the end of February for the BIG EAST Championships in Indianapolis.

Contact Matt Unger at [munger3@nd.edu](mailto:munger3@nd.edu)

## NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

# UCLA upsets conference rival Arizona

Associated Press

TUCSON, Ariz. — Shabazz Muhammad scored 23 points, Jordan Adams added 15 and UCLA rode a dominating start to an 84-73 win over No. 6 Arizona on Thursday night.

The Pac-12's top scoring and shooting team, UCLA (16-4, 6-1) tried to turn Arizona's white-out into a blowout, racing to a 16-point lead in the game's first seven minutes. Even when Arizona chipped away at the lead, bringing the all-in-white crowd at the McKale Center to life, the Bruins kept their composure to pick up a huge road win.

David Wear added 15 points and eight rebounds for UCLA.

Arizona (16-2, 4-12) got off to a miserable start at both ends and never fully recovered, pulling no closer than four points after digging a huge opening hole.

Nick Johnson had 23 points, Mark Lyons added 16 and Solomon Hill 13 for the Wildcats, who went 5 for 24 from 3-point range.

Heading in, this was one of the most anticipated games of

the Pac-12 season, two of the conference's most talented teams that score in bunches and have some of the best freshmen anywhere.

Arizona's freshmen big men — Kaleb Tarczewski, Brandon Ashley and Grant Jerrett — have been solid in their first season in the desert, though they have been able to fall back on Arizona's veterans when things have gotten tight.

After opening with 14 straight wins, the Wildcats' luck in pulling out tight games ran out with a 70-66 road loss to Oregon on Jan. 10. They responded with a pair of impressive wins, beating Oregon State and Arizona State both by double digits.

UCLA had some rough patches early in the season, losing to Cal Poly and needing overtime to beat UC Irvine, along with Tyler Lamb and Joshua Smith transferring from the program.

The Bruins rounded back into form after losing to San Diego State on Dec. 1, winning 10 straight games before losing to No. 16 Oregon on Saturday.

UCLA's freshmen — Muhammad, Adams and Kyle

Anderson — handled a big road test in a win over Colorado two weeks ago, but the McKale Center and all those rowdy fans wearing white T-shirts and screaming at them.

No problem for these Bruins, young and old.

Confident and crisp on offense, UCLA made eight of its first 12 shots, racing out to a 19-3 lead. Arizona helped out by clanging shot after shot, opening 1 for 13, with most of those around the rim.

The Wildcats were getting decent shots, though, and a few started to fall as they chipped away at the lead.

Arizona climbed its shooting percentage up to 31 percent (11 for 25) by halftime, but had trouble stopping the Bruins, who went 19 for 34 from the floor for a 40-30 lead. Muhammad led the way with 11 points.

Even without Travis Wear, who sat out the second half with a head injury after scoring six points in the first, UCLA maintained its composure.

Scoring on the break, inside and on tough drives to the basket, the Bruins kept dropping in



AP

*Arizona junior guard Jordin Mayes drives against UCLA senior guard Larry Drew II during the first half a game in Tucson, Ariz., Thursday.*

shots, pushing the lead to 55-41 in the first seven minutes of the second half.

Arizona wasn't quite done, though.

Sparked by Johnson's three-point play, the Wildcats scored the next 10 points to get within four and crank up the volume in the McKale Center.

The Bruins made sure they didn't get any closer.

Tony Parker scored on a three-point play, Muhammad dropped in a 3-pointer and UCLA pushed the lead up to 70-60 with just over four minutes left.

Arizona kept clanging from the perimeter and the Bruins made the shots and free throws when they needed to, pulling out their biggest road win of the season.



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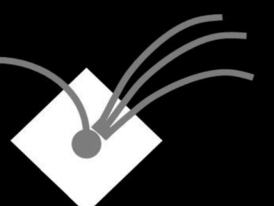
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## TRACK

# Notre Dame takes on tough competition

By **GREG HADLEY**  
Sports Writer

With the Big East championship less than a month away, the Irish track and field squad travels to Indiana this weekend for its biggest invitational of the year to date.

With over 30 schools competing, including Alabama, Xavier and Vanderbilt, the Indiana Relays in Bloomington, Ind., will provide the Irish with high quality competition from all over the country.

After a few early season meets, the Irish are now entering the midseason of indoor track, and will look to use the meet as a chance to grow in confidence and post-Big East qualifying marks. Junior captain and jumper Logan Renwick expects the team will do both.

"Everyone is looking forward to a solid performance so we can go forward and peak at the Big East [championship]," Renwick said. "For the jumpers, we're looking for anyone who hasn't qualified for the championship yet to do so."

The Irish boast impressive depth in the distance and middle-distance events, entering five runners in the invitational 3000-meter, two men and three women. On the men's side, senior Jeff MacMillan will look to improve upon his second place finish in the same event last year, and freshman Michael Clevenger will join him in the event. For the women, junior Meg Ryan also returns after placing fourth in the same event last year, and will lead fellow juniors McKinzie Schulz and Kelly Curran. In the invitational mile, the Irish women have entered senior Rebecca Tracy,

junior Alexa Aragon and freshman Sydney Meunier.

For the men, sophomore Chris Giesting will compete in the 800-meter after just being named the Big East Men's Track athlete of the week for his performance at the Notre Dame Invitational.

Overall, Renwick believes the team needs to take the opportunity to gain some valuable experience.

"We have a relatively young group, so we need to develop some confidence," Renwick said. "It's all about putting trust in our training."

The Indiana Relays take place this Friday and Saturday in Bloomington. The Irish will next compete at the Meyo Invitational in the Loftus Center on Feb. 1.

Contact Greg Hadley at [ghadley@nd.edu](mailto:ghadley@nd.edu)



MICHAEL KRAMM | The Observer

*Sophomore sprinter Brendan Dougherty competes in a relay Saturday at the Notre Dame Invitational.*

## FENCING

## Irish begin winter season

By **BRENDAN BELL**  
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will start winter competition this weekend as the Irish travel to New York for a pair of matches at St. John's and NYU.

Junior sabre Alex Coccia said this weekend's pair of matches is a great opportunity for the team to display its range of talents.

"I think what is exciting about this weekend is we will have sent a good mix between some of the seniors and some of the younger fencers," Coccia said. "The New York tournaments are a good precursor to the bigger tournaments at the end of the year and I am excited to see how people do."

Some of the Irish fencers are fresh off strong performances last weekend at the Junior North American Cup in Louisville, Ky. A number of freshmen competed at the club tournament, and freshman epee Catherine Lee won her event — an impressive feat because there were more than 200 competitors in the event. Male epee fencers John Poremski and Garrett McGrath also competed, placing 53rd and 65th respectively. Those placements put both Irish fencers in the top 20 percent of the junior epee field.

The Irish will look to take channel individual performances from Lee and others into the upcoming team matches. Both the men and women have high expectations for their teams. Notre Dame's fencing peers also think highly of the Irish, as the men were voted 3rd in



STEPHANIE LEUNG | The Observer

*Freshman foil Lee Kiefer contributes to the Irish win over Ohio State University on Oct. 28.*

the national polls, while the women fared even better and placed 2nd in the preseason rankings.

Despite this high honor preseason, Coccia said the team must stay focused for the task at hand.

"The goal this year is to win the national championship and I am confident in our ability and by the way we have been practicing," Coccia said.

St. John's and NYU are two of the top programs in fencing and the weekend will be a tough challenge for the Irish. St. John's men's fencers placed No. 5 in the preseason polls and the women No. 6. The

team has been preparing and conditioning for the matches this upcoming winter and spring season and despite the short turnaround time from winter break Coccia said the team will be ready to compete.

"Since we just got back we just had these two weeks of practice and the commitment before break with club work and footwork and specialized training will be really important heading into this weekend," Coccia said. "But the few days we have had has been very good and very focused."

Contact Brendan Bell at [bbell2@nd.edu](mailto:bbell2@nd.edu)

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## MEN'S TENNIS

# Irish travel to Nebraska to face tough foes



MICHAEL KRAMM | The Observer

*Freshman Alex Lawson, playing doubles with teammate junior Billy Pecor, helped the Irish to a 7-0 sweep over Marquette Saturday.*

By **MEGAN FINNERAN**  
Sports Writer

This weekend the Irish travel for the first time this season, leaving the comforts of the Eck Tennis Pavilion to hit the road for Norman, Okla.

There Notre Dame (2-1) will face Harvard and Oklahoma or Memphis in the ITA Kick-Off Tournament.

The Irish opened the spring season with two sweeps, taking down Marquette and Western Illinois 7-0. But they most recently come off a 4-3 loss to No. 41 Northwestern on Tuesday where the two squads served back and forth for more than three hours. Despite finishing on the losing end, the Irish said the match still provided many opportunities to learn and move forward in preparation for this weekend's events.

"Moving forward, we just need to each focus on getting better individually," junior Ryan Bandy said. "We have the ability to be great this year but we will

have to maintain focus every day in practice so we can ensure that, when matches come, we are confident that we have prepared as much as possible in order to be successful."

Notre Dame hopes to carry that focus through this weekend. The first challenge is Harvard, whose only play this season demonstrated abilities in both singles and doubles play. At the Harvard Winter Invite the squad hosted Boston College and Marist. Despite a young roster, the Crimson won 20 of 22 singles matches and nine of 10 doubles matches. Most outstanding were sophomore Denis Nguyen, who won the singles competition, and the duo of sophomore Alex Steinroeder and freshman Nicholas Mahlangu who took the doubles win.

Oklahoma brings a threat in the form of junior Guillermo Alcorta, ranked No. 36 in singles play. The squad also carries sophomore Dane Webb and Costin Paval. Like Notre Dame, the Sooners kicked off their

season with a 7-0 sweep, but that dual meet against Wichita State marks their only meet thus far in the spring season.

Junior Joe Salisbury and junior Johnny Grimal guide Memphis. The Tigers come off a 6-1 win against Michigan State.

The Irish enter the weekend with experience from upper-classmen that will help guide the team. Notre Dame carries four ranked singles members of the squad. Junior Greg Andrews leads at No. 80, followed by No. 88 junior Billy Pecor, No. 110 senior Blas Moros and No. 120 sophomore Wyatt McCoy.

"I'm excited for this weekend since it gives us another chance to prove ourselves and play some very good tennis," Moros said.

Competition opens Saturday at 2 p.m. with the dual meet against Harvard, followed by Oklahoma or Memphis on Sunday.

Contact Megan Finneran at [mfinnera@nd.edu](mailto:mfinnera@nd.edu)

## WOMEN'S TENNIS

# Notre Dame plays for spot in championships

By **VICKY JACOBSEN**  
Sports Writer

The Irish will make their first trip to Nebraska in the hopes of earning a berth at the national indoor championship.

No. 22 Georgia Tech (1-0, 1-0 ACC) and No. 23 Tennessee (0-0) will join the No. 18 Irish (2-0, 0-0 Big East) and No. 17 Cornhuskers

(2-0, 0-0 Big Ten) in Lincoln, Neb., for the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Kick-off Weekend. Notre Dame will play the Yellow Jackets in the first round Saturday, and the winner will face the victor of the Nebraska/Tennessee match in the final Saturday afternoon. The winner of the final will move on to the ITA National Indoor Championship, which will be held in Charlottesville, Va., in early February.

With all four teams ranked within six spots of each other, Irish coach Jay Louderback said there's no favorite going into the weekend.

"All four teams have a chance to win," Louderback said.

Although the Irish won their home dual meet against the Yellow Jackets by a score of 4-3 last February, bringing the series record to 5-2 in the Jackets favor, Georgia

Tech has been next to unbeatable in these qualifying tournaments in recent years. The Yellow Jackets have made seven straight trips to the national indoor championship, which they won in both 2007 and 2008. Their squad also won the 2007 NCAA tennis title, the first NCAA title in Georgia Tech history.

Although the Irish are currently ranked above Georgia Tech, the Yellow Jackets have the No. 1 freshman class in the country according to TennisRecruiting.Net. Still, the Irish said they are ready for the challenge now that they've gotten their post-winter break jitters out of their systems with wins over Bowling Green and then No. 24 Illinois.

"Even though the meet we are going to this weekend is pretty early on in the year, it is an extremely important one," senior Chrissie McGaffigan said. "Our past matches with [Georgia Tech] have always been extremely close. A win for us would provide us great momentum and confidence."

Junior Jennifer Kellner heads into the competition as the Big East women's player of the week after winning all three of her matches against Bowling Green and Illinois last weekend.

"Jen had a great week, so it's fitting she received the award," Louderback said. "She's worked hard to play high in our singles lineup."

Kellner, though, is just focusing on the weekend's competition.

"I'd love to win my matches and contribute to the two wins that



SARAH O'CONNOR | The Observer

*No. 5 junior Julie Sabicinski sets up to return the ball in a singles match, in the 7-0 of Bowling Green on Friday.*

could take us to the national indoor tournament this year," Kellner said. "I think this weekend will be a good opportunity for all of us."

The Irish will be the first on the court this weekend, kicking off the competition at 11 a.m. in the

Nebraska Tennis Center. They will return to action the next afternoon, playing either Nebraska or Tennessee.

Contact Vicky Jacobsen at [vjacobse@nd.edu](mailto:vjacobse@nd.edu)

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## Basketball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

at where we're at — we've lost three out of four — you need to get back into a good practice rhythm and I think we need to clean up some things offensively: screening better, we certainly need to rebound better."

On Monday the Hoyas outrebounded Notre Dame 35-24. Irish senior forward Jack Cooley hauled in 10 rebounds and sophomore guard/forward Pat Connaughton recorded four of his own. No other Irish player had more than three rebounds. Martin is second on the team this season with an average of six rebounds per game.

Brey said he has not decided on who will replace Martin in the starting lineup against South Florida, who enters Saturday on the heels of a 61-58 win over Georgetown on Saturday and a 55-47 loss to Seton Hall on Wednesday.

Irish senior center Garrick Sherman started the season as one of the top two reserves but has since found minutes hard to come by. Sherman played five minutes against St. John's on Jan. 15 and has not played in the past two games.

Other candidates to replace Martin's minutes include senior forward Tom Knight and freshman forwards Austin Burgett and Zach Auguste. Knight has been the first big man off the bench as of late, while Burgett and Auguste saw action down the stretch against Georgetown. Brey said every option remains a possibility for Saturday's game as well as the rest of the season.

"You're evaluating who are you going to start in that spot on Saturday," Brey said. "Austin Burgett, Garrick Sherman had a really good practice yesterday. Everybody's back on the board. Zach Auguste. You could play small which we've done at times with [Connaughton] and [freshman forward] Cam [Biedscheid] in there with our guards and [Cooley]. I think all of those things are things we have to evaluate and not just this week. That's kind of who we're going to be here moving forward."

Brey said the Irish need to improve their offense in order to stop the recent losing skid. Notre Dame has failed to hit the 70-point plateau in each of the past five games.

"In our three [recent] losses we're averaging [roughly] 57 points," Brey said. "We've got to score more. We talked about ball reversal in the last week. I think we need to emphasize

screening for each other more. ... We're trying to find ways to get better looks offensively."

The Bulls, meanwhile, have allowed an average of 60.6 points per game, which is good enough for sixth in the Big East and 56th nationally.

Junior forward Victor Rudd leads South Florida in scoring and rebounding with 11.2 points per game and 7.4 rebounds a night. Senior guard Jawanza Poland and senior forward Toarlyn Fitzpatrick are each averaging nearly 11 points to go along with five rebounds per game.

The Irish take on South Florida on Saturday at noon at the Sun Dome in Tampa, Fla.

Contact Mike Monaco at [jmonaco@nd.edu](mailto:jmonaco@nd.edu)



SUZANNA PRATT | The Observer

Irish junior guard Eric Atkins takes the ball down the court and looks for a pass, in the matchup against Georgetown Monday. The Hoyas handed Notre Dame its worst loss of the season 63-47.

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# SCREENPEACE

## FILM FESTIVAL

Thursday, Jan. 31

**5 Broken Cameras**

**7 p.m.**

A first-person perspective on the nonviolent efforts in a Palestinian village to stop the building of settlements in the West Bank. Discussion led by Atalia Omer, Assistant Professor of Religion, Conflict & Peace Studies.

Friday, Feb. 1

**Ai Weiwei: Never Sorry**

**6:30 p.m.**

Chinese contemporary artist Ai Weiwei combines art and activism like no one else. Discussion led by Lionel Jensen, Associate Professor, East Asian Languages and Culture.

**How to Start a Revolution**

**9:30 p.m.**

A documentary focused on Gene Sharp, a leading scholar on nonviolent resistance, whose approach has shaped movements worldwide. Discussion led by David Cortright, Director of Policy Studies at the Kroc Institute.

Saturday, Feb. 2

**The Loving Story**

**6:30 p.m.**

Tells the story of Richard and Mildred Loving, whose landmark 1967 civil rights case ended race-based restrictions on marriage in the U.S. Discussion led by Richard Pierce, Associate Professor of History and Africana Studies.

**Normal!**

**9:30 p.m.**

An unconventional "film within a film" about the challenges facing young people in Algeria. Discussion led by Alison Rice, Associate Professor of French.

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## Hockey

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

and improve.

"We can now see a lot of different problems arising that maybe weren't noticed ... when we were still winning games," Summerhays said. "It really puts

***"When you're in a slump, you just want to focus on getting back to the basics."***

Steven Summerhays  
junior

an emphasis on the little mistakes when you're only scoring one or two goals a game."

The Irish will need to correct those mistakes in order to stop a hot Ferris State team.

The Bulldogs (12-9-3, 10-7-1 CCHA) have won five of their last six and are closing in on the Irish in the CCHA standings. The struggling Irish offense will face a challenge in the unique defensive style the Bulldogs play.

"They have four or five guys trying to play goalie, blocking shots," Lind said, "We may have to win 1-0, as good defensively as they are."

Working in Notre Dame's favor is a full week of practice since its last game. The extra time has allowed the Irish to focus and recover from their long road trip. Rather than adding

any new wrinkles to their game plan, the Irish have been working on perfecting what they've been doing all season.

"When you're in a slump, you just want to focus on getting back to the basics,"

Summerhays said. "We don't want to try and change what we've been doing throughout the year, because what we did had a lot of success."

The Ferris State series also marks the debut of new jerseys designed to support the charity Defending The Blue Line. Senior left wing Nick Larson is leading Notre Dame's support of Defending The Blue Line, and the jerseys Notre Dame wears this weekend will be auctioned off in support.

"[Defending The Blue Line] supports military families ... by helping keep their kids in [hockey]," Larson said. "Basically they're there for monetary support for families in need."

Donations can also be made online, and a silent auction supporting the charity will occur during games this weekend.

The Irish look to finish up their four-game home stand on a positive note this Friday against Ferris State at 7:35 pm at Compton Family Ice Arena. The teams will also square off Saturday at 7:05 p.m.

**Contact Casey Karnes at**  
**wkarnes@nd.edu**

## Similarities

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

the team has.

"Most of the guys here went through what we did last year, and last year, we somewhat had a panic, I guess," senior forward Nick Larson said. "And this year, we're all supporting each other right now, and keeping each other mentally focused."

Sophomore forward Peter Schneider echoed his teammate's sentiments.

"It's very different [this year]," he said. "We are very confident that we're going to turn this thing around this weekend. It's obviously been a slump, but we're very strong as a team."

It's easy for the players to say the team is closer, of course, but it needs to be displayed on the ice. Junior goaltender Steven Summerhays noted the team learned from last year's mistakes and has already had extra meetings, while attempting to strike a balance of not placing too much pressure on itself, in an attempt to get back on track.

"Last year, we tried to let it blow by at points and think we'll just let it bounce back on our own, and then we tried lots of meetings, and it was just kind of like nothing we were doing was working," Summerhays said. "So I think this year, we've kind of just been in between that a little bit."

The Irish can point to a few reasons for their struggles and to show why they won't continue.



MICHAEL KRAMM | The Observer

**Junior center and captain Anders Lee takes the puck past the Irish bench in the 2-1 loss to Alaska Saturday.**

The first four of the six games during the slump were on the road and played with minimal practice time for the Irish to prepare, because two of the games were mid-week. Last week's series against Alaska also came on the heels of a Tuesday game at Bowling Green. And sometimes, streaks of bad play just occur in hockey.

But the Irish are now out of excuses. They have dealt with injuries to key players, including junior forwards Jeff Costello and Mike Voran, but every team in the country does throughout the season. They have had a full week of practice and rest for the first time since the layoff and will once again hit the ice at the Compton Family Ice Arena on Friday and Saturday. Ferris State (12-9-3, 10-7-1-0) is the defending national

runner-up and is currently one of the hottest teams in the CCHA, but the Irish have more talent, are at home and should be fully ready to go.

Notre Dame is more than capable of righting the ship, but its play this weekend will probably show if it will, or if this season will sink like last year's.

So, no, it's not time to go into panic mode yet.

But if things don't go well for the Irish against the Bulldogs, the hand should be ready to push the button Saturday night.

*Contact Sam Gans at*  
*sgans@nd.edu*

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

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

# Irish seek to stop surging Friars

**By SAMANTHA ZUBA**  
Sports Writer

While No. 2 Notre Dame was dominating the second half against Pittsburgh on Wednesday night, Providence was having an exciting second half of its own.

The Friars (6-12, 1-4 Big East) battled back from a 19-point deficit to upset No. 25 Villanova in overtime. So the Irish (17-1, 6-0 Big East) will face a team high on adrenaline and pride Saturday, which could present a challenge.

"They're going to come in ready," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "Villanova is a very hard team to play, plus they're ranked. We'll need to play our best defense."

The Friars can be tough to handle even when they do not have heightened inspiration. They feature a dynamic tandem of guards in senior Symone Roberts and sophomore Tori Rule. Both are fast, and they dominate Providence's scoring statistics. Their speed especially makes them dangerous game-changing threats.

Speedsters are not a new challenge for Notre Dame, who has struggled at times to contain some of the Big East's faster guards. However, the Irish have demonstrated their ability to adjust, even mid-game, as they did against Pittsburgh (9-9, 0-5 Big East) on

Wednesday. They tightened up their defense in the second-half to blow a close game wide open. McGraw recognized that defense is key to her team's success and dictates whether Notre Dame will play to its full potential on a given night.

"Our intensity on defense controls the outcome of the game," McGraw said. We stepped up the defense in the second half [against Pitt] with great results...Our team attitude is always about defense. That's been kind of the trademark of our team. We take pride in our defense."

As good as the Irish defense can be, they will have to work hard to maintain focus against one of the Big East's struggling teams. The focus and intensity has to start from tip-off if Notre Dame hopes to contain the Friar guard duo.

"Roberts and Rule are both playing extremely well," McGraw said. They're going to be hard to contain. That's been a problem for us with some of the quicker teams in the Big East."

Roberts averages 15.3 points per game, and Rule averages 14.7. The Irish's size could become a factor in stopping the Friars, as the Irish have several taller guards. As long as Notre Dame's defense can stay in front of Roberts and Rule, it can frustrate Providence's drives.

Providence senior forward Brianna Edwards also puts up good numbers, but the Irish feature four players averaging in double digits: senior guard Skylar Diggins, junior guard Kayla McBride, junior forward Natalie Achonwa, and freshman guard Jewell Loyd. As a team, the Irish average 46 percent on field goals to Providence's 36.9 percent, so provided Notre Dame avoids mistakes and laziness on defense, it should be able to use its big scorers to find the offensive rhythm necessary to beat the Friars.

McGraw hopes that the lessons about defense will stick from the game against Pittsburgh as the Irish continue to develop. Though she is proud of what her team has accomplished, McGraw still wants more, and that starts with the pre-game attitude. The Irish will head into Saturday's game ready to work and learn.

"You always learn," McGraw said. "Individually, each player can look at their game and see that they can do better, and as a team you see what you can work on. We're a long way from our potential."

Notre Dame and Providence will take the court at the Purcell Pavilion on Saturday at 2 p.m.

**Contact Samantha Zuba at**  
**szuba@nd.edu**



MICHAEL KRAMM | The Observer

**Senior guard Sylar Diggins streaks down the court on a fast break in the 79-64 win over Georgetown on Jan. 15.**



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## HOCKEY

## Must-win series

*The No. 8 Irish look to remain calm and turn around the recent losing streak*

By CASEY KARNES  
Sports Writer

After a rough start to its four-game home stand, Notre Dame will aim for a sweep of defensive-minded Ferris State this weekend to gain some momentum before going back on the road.

The Irish (15-9-0, 11-5-0 CCHA) were swept last weekend by Alaska in narrow fashion, with both losses coming by a single goal. It continued a recent trend of poor play, as the squad is 1-5 in its last 6 games. One recent bright spot was freshman forward Mario

Lucia scoring a goal in both weekend games.

Junior goalie Steven Summerhays said the team has to avoid pressing to break the losing streak.

"It's tough, everyone tries to put more pressure on themselves during these slumps ... to help the team out," Summerhays said. "Everyone wants to do everything they can to get out of the slump."

The current Irish four-game skid is their longest since last February, but the veterans have learned the key to recovery is to avoid panic.

"Every team has their rough spots," junior defenseman Kevin Lind said. "It's early and we're still in first place, so no panic yet."

In fact, the Irish see the losing streak as an opportunity to learn

see HOCKEY **PAGE 22**



MICHAEL KRAMM | The Observer

*Junior center T.J. Tynan skates past an Alaska defenseman in the 2-1 loss to Alaska on Saturday. With the loss, the Irish dropped their first series of the year.*



Sam Gans  
Sports Writer

It's too early to hit the panic button.

Notre Dame is entrenched in a recent slump, but the Irish (15-9-0, 11-5-0-0 CCHA) still sit atop the CCHA standings, are the seventh-ranked team in the nation and are tied for ninth in the PairWise rankings, the basis for determining who makes the 16-team NCAA tournament field.

Of course, Notre Dame's place in the standings and rankings is largely because of its 14-4-0 start to the season. The team's recent play naturally makes fans wonder whether that early-season success can be revived, or if it's a thing of the past. The Irish have lost five of their last six games since returning from winter break after a three-and-a-half week layoff, including being swept last weekend at home by Alaska. That stat on its own is alarming. It gets even worse when you look at recent history.

Last season, the Irish began the year 13-6-3. In their final 18 games, however, they went 6-12-0 to struggle to a final 19-18-3 record, missing out on the NCAA tournament. The slump last year began in early January, just like this season's downswing.

The similarities between the two seasons jump out, but the players are insisting this year is different, citing the camaraderie

see SIMILARITIES **PAGE 22**

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

## Irish move on without Martin



SUZANNA PRATT | The Observer

*Junior guard Jerian Grant drives to to the basket through a double team in Notre Dame's loss to the Hoyas. Georgetown handed the Irish a 63-47 defeat and held the Irish to 35 percent shooting.*

By MIKE MONACO  
Sports Writer

Irish coach Mike Brey paused the tape and waited.

No. 20 Notre Dame, loser of three of its last four games, was in a film session Tuesday preparing for Saturday's matchup against South Florida.

With team leader and graduate student guard Scott Martin out indefinitely with an injury, Brey waited for other players to chime in and lead the team.

In addition to newfound vocal leadership, the Irish (15-4, 3-3 Big East) are also in search of a fifth starter for Saturday's tilt with the Bulls (10-8, 1-5). After losing to Georgetown 63-47 on

Monday, Notre Dame will try to move forward without Martin.

"He'll go take care of his business to see if he can get healthy," Brey said of Martin. "In the meantime we can't count on that. We've got to move forward with our basketball team right now. We're 3-3 and we've got to figure this thing out."

Brey said getting back on track began with utilizing the four days in between games.

"We needed a couple good days of hard practice, [Tuesday], [Wednesday], [Thursday]," Brey said. "Right now when you're

see BASKETBALL **PAGE 20**