

Advocate reflects on formative years

In preparation for Urban Plunge, Notre Dame welcomes director of ILAACP

By **HENRY GENS**
News Writer

A special guest speaker headed the third and final pre-immersion class of Notre Dame's Urban Plunge program over winter break on Sunday.

Malik Nevels, executive director for the Illinois African American Coalition for Prevention (ILAACP), talked Sunday night about dignity and justice for urban America, sharing his life experiences and current work.

Nevels began his talk by discussing what dignity and social justice means to him, and how he's been exposed to these ideas

see JUSTICE **PAGE 5**



KARLA MORENO | The Observer

Executive director for the Illionois African American Coalition for Prevention (ILAACP) Malik Nevels advocates for dignity and social justice as he discussed his youth in Chicago and his current work.

Home robbed

Observer Staff Report

A burglary occurred at a student residence in the 400 block of N. Frances Street last week, according to an email from the Off Campus Council sent Saturday.

The email stated that the crime took place between 3 p.m. on Nov. 26 and 2 p.m. Dec. 1. The burglar gained entry by unknown means, there were no signs of force and the house's rear door was found unlocked.

Two flat screen televisions, an Xbox 360, an unknown

see ROBBERY **PAGE 3**

Islamic culture fostered by student group

By **GABRIELA MALESPIN**
News Writer

As part of the ongoing effort to promote and understand diversity at Notre Dame, the Muslim Student Association (MSA) has successfully incorporated an interfaith dialogue between Muslim students and the University to spread awareness of Islamic culture and religion.

The MSA boasts approximately 30 members of both graduate

and undergraduate. Club vice president Itrat Bin Shams, an electrical engineering graduate student at Notre Dame, said the MSA uses annual events to promote Islamic culture around campus.

Bin Shams said the EID festival (Eid al-Fitr), which means the Feast of Breaking Fast, takes place every year to commemorate the end of Ramadan.

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Students bring holiday cheer to Robinson Center

By **ALEX WINEGAR**
News Writer

Holiday cheer filled the air with cookie decorating, holiday music, snacks and Santa visits at Saturday's fourth annual Winter Wonderland at the Robinson Center.

The Community Outreach event, sponsored by Student Activities Board (SAB), was held for students at South Bend community schools and the

see WINTER **PAGE 3**



MARY O'NEILL | The Observer

Students from Notre Dame and Saint Mary's come together at the Robinson Center to spread Christmas joy with holiday crafts.

Professor analyzes history of Christmas star

By **GRACE MCCORMACK**
News Writer

Although most people associate Christmas with a manger, shepherds and overbooked inns, astrophysicist Grant J. Matthews from Notre Dame's department of physics enjoys examining the Nativity story from a cosmic perspective.

Matthews gave a lecture

titled "What and When Was the Christmas Star?" this past weekend.

"There's actually a wealth of astronomy about the circumstances of how we celebrate Christmas," Matthews said.

The lecture utilized Jordan Hall's state of the art Digital Visualization Theater to explore potential explanations of the Christmas star, which is described in the Gospel of

Matthew.

"Within our 10 computers here, we have programmed in memory every star, every object in the sky known to humankind. We can calculate their trajectory and where they've been, so we can go forward and back in time," Matthews said. "Using this, we can go back to the time when that Christmas star first appeared and see how the sky

might have appeared to the Magi and might have signaled that there was a newborn ruler in Judea."

Matthews said the Magi were early astrologers who searched for meaning in the carefully followed movements of celestial objects.

"[The Magi] believed that each sign of the zodiac referred to a different time of the year and a different geographic

location of the world," he said.

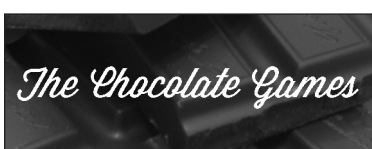
The night sky the Magi studied 2,000 years ago is distinctly different from the one we know today, Matthews said.

"The location of the vernal equinox changes with time," he said. "The vernal equinox was just departing the constellation of Aries, which actually fixed a lot of the lore of the

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THE OBSERVER

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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:

What is your favorite holiday beverage?

Have a question you want answered?

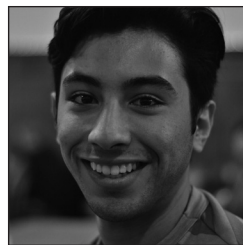
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Suzannah Muthoot

freshman
Lewis Hall

“Salted hot chocolate.”



Andres Vidaurre

junior
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“Johnnie Walker.”



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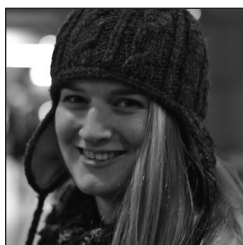
“Apple cider.”



Ana Arredondo

junior
Le Mans Hall

“Hot Chocolate.”



Mary Hession

senior
Ryan Hall

“Hot chocolate.”



JT Barnes

freshman
Sorin College

“Eggnog.”



ZACH LLORENS | The Observer

Sophomore midfielder Connor Klekota heads the ball during Notre Dame's victory over Michigan State Saturday night. The third-ranked Irish defeated the Spartans 2-1 to advance to the College Cup Final Four, to be held on Friday at PPL Park in Chester, Pa.

THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

Want your event included here?

Email obsnews.nd@gmail.com

Monday

Men's Basketball

Purcell Pavilion
7 p.m.-9 p.m.
The Irish take on Bryant University.

Community Choir Rehearsal

Coleman-Morse Center
7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
The choir practices for Christmas Mass.

Tuesday

Snite Salon Series

Snite Museum of Art
5 p.m.-5:45 p.m.
Discussion and debate on works of art.

Cultural Differences and Social Change

Geddes Hall
5 p.m.-7 p.m.
Student research presentations about developing countries.

Wednesday

Wellness Wednesday

Rockne Memorial
3 p.m.-4 p.m.
Prepare for exam week with free yoga.

Physics Colloquium

Nieuwland Hall
4 p.m.-5 p.m.
Lecture by Prof. Daniel S. Elliott of Purdue University.

Thursday

Zen Meditation

Coleman-Morse Center
5:15 p.m.-6:15 p.m.
Open to all faiths.

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Basilica of the Sacred Heart
5:15 p.m.-6:15 p.m.
Bilingual Mass.

Friday

President's Christmas Reception

Main Building
2 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
For faculty and staff.

Graduate Student Mass

Basilica of the Sacred Heart
5:15 p.m.-6:15 p.m.
Social in Coleman-Morse Center to follow.

SMC clubhouse event promote sustainable arts

By EMILIE KEFALAS
News Writer

Saint Mary's art department featured different forms of social media through a variety of media arrangements Friday at The Sustainable Arts Café and Market at Dalloway's Clubhouse.

Dr. Adrienne Lyles Chockley, social justice program coordinator at Saint Mary's, said when we think of social justice, art, poetry and music are not usually the first forms of expression to come to mind, but these mediums were at the forefront of last Friday's event.

"I wanted to have an installation of artworks created by students, and then [art professor] Julie [Tourtillotte] came up with the idea of having students sell their goods," Chockley said. "Then the students chose to have all proceeds going to St. Margaret's House, so it's another way of promoting social justice by providing funding for a really important social program in downtown South Bend."

All of the featured media, from the artwork to the poetry, had an underlying theme of social justice, including the selection of free organic snacks and fair trade coffee and tea, Tourtillotte said.

"You're making sure that the coffee was produced in ways that



EMILIE KEFALAS | The Observer

Student-made scarves and other artwork were displayed for purchase in Dalloway's Clubhouse on Friday.

were environmentally sound and also fair in terms of the people working are fairly treated both in terms of their wages and in terms of the kind of chemicals they might be exposed to in producing those products," Tourtillotte said.

Student-created pieces such as eco-dyed scarves, notecards and recycled denim paper were all made in Tourtillotte's "Sustainable Textiles" course. She said Selected pieces were all on display for show and for purchase.

"Everything from A-Z is the

student's work," Tourtillotte said "They fashioned everything really from scratch."

The student-made pieces allowed the Café to increase awareness about the justice behind production of the things we consume, Chockley said.

"People didn't know all these things were available on campus," Chockley said. "Just knowing you have a choice is an important issue to be raised today,

Contact Emilie Kefalas at
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Winter

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Early Childhood Development Center (ECDC) children of Saint Mary's and Notre Dame, SAB vice president Alli Gerths said.

Gerths said over 1,500 flyers were printed to advertise the event and 300 families from ECDC were invited,.

"Winter Wonderland is primarily for underprivileged students so it's really important that children have a chance to spend Christmas with their families and big holidays that might not have the opportunity to do so otherwise," Gerths said.

She said SAB recognizes that Christianity isn't the only religion celebrated in South Bend.

"We don't want to just exclude it to [only] Christmas although there is a lot of Christmas stuff going on," Gerths said. "We want all the holidays to be celebrated, that's why we call it winter wonderland."

In addition to the visiting Santa, children had access to a variety of crafts such as make your own reindeer and coloring pages, Gerths said.

"We want to make it a warm welcoming place for kids to be able to decorate their houses with, we assume they take those crafts home and actually use them to decorate their house because that's apart of the Christmas spirit," Gerths said.

She said Santa was an especially big hit at the event for kids of all backgrounds.

"Their excitement about Santa is unreal. We have kids here from every different nationality and kids from overseas," Gerths said. "Santa goes across worlds so it's really cool to see them get excited about it, just as we are excited about it in the United States." SAB values the importance of giving back to the South Bend community through outreach events like Winter Wonderland, Gerths said.

"I know sometimes there's a little bit of riff between community members and the college students," she said. "We want to allow the kids to make really good memories here at Saint Mary's and make it a positive place for the community,"

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Robbery

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

amount of U. S. currency and an iPad mini were taken, the email stated. Suspect information is not available.

For more information on crime prevention and ways

to reduce the risk of crime, the Off Campus Council said students should visit the Notre Dame Security Police website or consult the live crime map of Notre Dame, South Bend and Mishawaka available at www.crimereports.com

Star

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

time."

Aries, the first sign of the zodiac, is symbolized by a lamb and was considered by the Magi to signify Judea.

"Something that would have been seen as important at the time would be represented by something occurring in the constellation Aries," he said.

Though scientists are unsure about what exactly this phenomenon was, Matthews said the four most likely theories suggest it was a comet, nova, supernova, or conjunction of planets.

Using records of the Chinese Court, researchers discovered a few comets and supernovae that occurred near the time of Jesus's birth, Mathews said. However, Matthews does not think that the Magi would interpret these occurrences as joyous indications of a great leader being born.

"[Comets, novae, and supernovae] were seen as harbingers of a great disaster. For example, each comet is associated with some catastrophic event: the death of Cleopatra, the death of Caesar, these were not harbingers of joy, they were warnings of disaster" Matthews said. Rather,

Matthews said he believes the most likely explanation for what the Magi saw in the sky lies within our own solar system.

"[The Magi] would be very concerned with the location of the planets. What they would look for would be where planets line up. Around 6 BC, the sun, Jupiter, and the moon are all in Aries and Venus and Saturn are right next door," he said.

This grouping of planets would have been interpreted eagerly by the Magi. Matthews said different objects in the solar system were thought to represent different symbolic meanings.

"Jupiter is the symbol of a powerful leader. The moon means that the leader had a special appointed destiny in their death. Saturn indicated a giving of life. A powerful leader, a newborn king, born in the land of Judea in our time frame of interest."

Matthews said he believes this grouping closely matches the one reported in the original nativity story, sayingd the "Christmas star" most likely refers to this unusual grouping of celestial bodies.

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Master of BIOTECHNOLOGY

Banquet invites students to experience hunger

By **CHELSEY FATTAL**
News Writer

‘Tis the season of celebrating together over food and drink. However, many Americans will be hungry and cold during this holiday season.

To combat this issue, the Saint Mary’s College Student Diversity Board (SDB) will host a Hunger Banquet this Tuesday before winter break. Caroline Brown, chairwoman of the Saint Mary’s Student Diversity Board (SDB), said the event is well suited to the mission of the College.

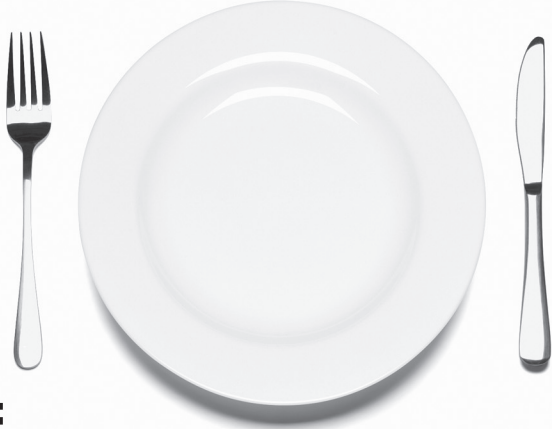
“The Hunger Banquet is designed to raise awareness and understanding within the Saint Mary’s community,” Brown said.

“It is a great opportunity to experience what it is like to be placed in poverty. As a Catholic institution, our social responsibility plays a large role in the mission statement of Saint Mary’s, as well as our diversity board.”

Students, faculty and staff will take on new identities to give them a true sense of the struggle faced by the hungry,

HUNGER BANQUET

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10TH



SOUTH BEND STATS:

- MEDIAN INCOME PER HOUSEHOLD IS \$34,749
- 26.3% BELOW THE POVERTY RATE

MARIA MASSA | The Observer

she said.

Identity slips will be given upon entry to the Banquet, placing participants in either the lower, middle or upper economic class. The participant’s role will determine which and how much food is

placed on his or her plate.

The Banquet will simulate each economic class and participants will be asked to manifest this identity throughout the evening.

Brown said SDB decided to go forward with the event

because the members believe hunger and poverty are prevalent issues that are greatly overlooked at Saint Mary’s.

“We hope that our participants will take a couple things away from this event,” Brown said. “First, as Oxfam

International and SDB believe, aid alone will not solve hunger, education will. We hope that our participants will come out of this event more educated and aware of the implications of hunger and poverty, and with the knowledge of how to take action. Second, we hope that our participants will take away a sense of passion for helping those in need around the world.”

In addition to the roles given, SDB will give a short presentation about getting involved through organizations like The Center for the Homeless, St. Joseph’s Food Pantry, Salvation Army, Hope Ministries and others.

Brown said that although the content of this event is serious, the event will also be an enjoyable and educational. “Hunger is not an option, so where will you sit?” said Brown.

The Hunger Banquet will be held on Tuesday from 7-8 p.m. in the Student Center Lounge.

Contact Chelsey Fattal at
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YEAR BUILT	2013	2008	2013	2009	1973
1BR/1BA	✓		✓	✓	✓
2BR/2BA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3BR/3BA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4BR/4BA	✓				
COST TO RESERVE	\$275	1 month + \$300	1 month + \$300	\$440	\$640
Leather Furniture Package	✓	✓	✓		
Full Size Washer/Dryer	✓	✓	✓		
24 Hour Clubhouse	✓				
Fitness Center	✓				
2 Tanning Beds	✓				
Resort-Style Pool	✓				✓
Game Room	✓				
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Professors experiement with new technology

By **GABRIELA MALESPIN**
News Writer

Notre Dame's Center for Digital Scholarship hosted a workshop on high-resolution digital panorama photography Friday.

The new program incorporates elongated and interactive digital images that professors hope to utilize in academic disciplines such as architecture, archeology and anthropology.

The workshop was hosted by Paul Turner from the Office of Internet Technology, Eric Nisly, from CurateND, David Hernandez, an associate professor in the Department of Classics and Matthew Sisk from the Center for Digital Scholarship.

The men performed a hands-on demonstration of the high resolution technology and how it can be used use in an academic setting.

"It's a very modern technology, one that has only been used for the past four or five years," Hernandez

said. "I'm always trying to find ways to record the archeological site as best as possible. Archeology is a non-repeatable enterprise and information from the excavation is dependent on how much is recorded."

Hernandez said he used this technology in his archeological investigation in Butrint, Albania with funding from ISLA and OIT.

"I have no doubt that this technology is going to become a central component of all archeological excavations in the near future," Hernandez said. "The photographic potential of it is extraordinary."

Hernandez said the workshop included gigapan technology, a new type of visual technology that gives an interactive visual interface and provides highly detailed resolutions of different aspects in an image.

Meanwhile, Sisk said collaborating with others has helped him see the value in the new technology.

"Where I came from I was the only person who even knew what this technology was," he said. "To come here and find people who are already entrenched in this technology not only for science but also for archeology and anthropology is really great."

Hernandez said he and other members of the University are collaborating to launch a website under the Department of Classics that will continue to implement and promote this technology and showcase the gigapan images taken at the Butrint archeological site.

James Belushi, a participant in the workshop said he could apply the lesssons from the demonstration to his interests.

"I think it was a great experience to see how this technology can be used in a very real world way," Beluhsi said "It's a submersive experience."

Contact Gabriela Malespin at gmalespi@nd.edu

Muslim

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

"We invite people from all around campus and give a presentation of what EID is, as well as information on the MSA," Bin Shams said. "We also take part in the 'Prayer from around the world,' a series organized by campus ministry, where people from all religions show their practices and how they pray."

The MSA is also hosting an upcoming seminar titled "Syria: Why It Matters" and a Fast-athon, an event organized over the summer where attendees were requested to skip a meal and donate proceeds to Fighting Hunger in Africa.

Bin Shams said the club works hard to create community between Muslim students by hosting smaller events.

"We have several students who came from Turkey or Pakistan. The Muslim Student Association provides a very nice umbrella for them. We try to bring them together, for example, we pray together, we share our thoughts together, etc." Bin Sham said. "Our mission is not only to provide facilities and

bring Muslim students together but also to breach a network together between all students at the University."

Next semester, the club is hosting Islam awareness week. Bin Shams said the weeklong program will include a number of seminars, dinners and speakers from outside camps.

Bin Shams said despite the majority of Notre Dame students belonging to a Christian background, the MSA's impact on campus has been noticeable.

"I truly believe the impact we have had on campus is huge," Bin Shams said.

Sara Abdel Rahim, a freshman biology major and an active member in the MSA, said she believes the club has built a strong foundation that will allow its influence to continue to grow in coming years.

"I'm very proud that we have a club like this on campus because I do appreciate the fact that we can practice our faith in a University that is predominantly catholic," Abdel Rahim said.

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Justice

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

over the course of his life and in his career.

"When we think about or talk about or begin to explore the concept of dignity and social justice I think what we're really speaking about or thinking about is the

quest, the search, for dignity and social justice, whether it be in the context of politics, race, gender or class," Nevels said. "We are talking about a particular group's activities to persuade their audience to value who they are or what they say as well as acknowledge certain unalienable rights to which they should have title."

This concept of dignity and social justice shaped the lens through which he views his experiences, Nevel said.

"I thought about two questions in particular," Nevels said. "One was how has this quest or search for dignity and social justice shaped or framed my personal narrative, and vice versa — how

has my personal narrative shaped my quest for dignity and social justice?"

Nevels then shared at length about four crucial life experiences that strongly influenced the work that he does now at the ILAACP, beginning with his mother's involvement in the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s.

"Throughout my life, and I remember early on, my mother passing on concern for those that were from disadvantaged communities, so every month we would volunteer in some type of capacity," Nevels said.

Next, Nevels highlighted the guiding principles of Catholic social teaching that his education in Chicago Catholic schools exposed him to during his childhood.

"It would be a disservice for me to ignore that Catholic social teaching to a great degree shaped how I view the work I do in dignity and social justice," Nevels said. "There are three key things in Catholic social teaching that stood out to me: The first was the call to family, community and participation. In that sense, people have a right and a duty to participate in society. The second thing that resonated with me was rights and responsibility, that human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can only be achieved if human rights are protected and responsibilities are met. And last, but not least, is the option for the poor and vulnerable. Basically for a society, to a degree, how well it has done is based on how well it treats its poor and vulnerable."

The third experience that Nevels talked about was a period of urban gentrification in the Lincoln Park neighborhood he lived in during the late 1970s, and how it altered and erased the demographics of the community seemingly overnight.

Lastly, Nevels discussed his

involvement as a Public Ally in Chicago in the mid-1990s, when Michelle Obama led the program. Nevels headed a funding program for the schools in the city, and was shocked by conditions he witnessed there.

"Even though this was in '95, some of these conditions exist today and are even worse," Nevels said. "You've got kids who are learning in hallways, taking class in the summer with no air conditioning, they're learning from textbooks that are outdated and, in some instances, they're being taught by people who have no business teaching them. Seeing this, what I thought was an injustice, led me to the work that I do today."

The work Nevels focuses on preventative measures against the negative outcomes associated with social and economic disparities, rather than acting as a reactionary agency, Nevels said.

"What if we started making the greater investments on the front-end of life? What if we started upstream?" Nevels said.

The ILAACP has efforts across a wide range of fronts, from raising public awareness about disparity to partnering with community-based programs to raise money and evaluate efficacy, Nevels said.

"We help those that help others do it better," he said.

"One of the things that takes place in Chicago because it's so political is that Chicago will get a large Federal grant to, let's say, improve the public education in Chicago, but you don't know who got the grant," Nevels said. "And they keep it a secret. So one of the things we've been able to do is get access to the information and share that with local community-based organizations."

Contact Henry Gens at hgens@nd.edu

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SHE GOT A LOAN



IN ROOM 329

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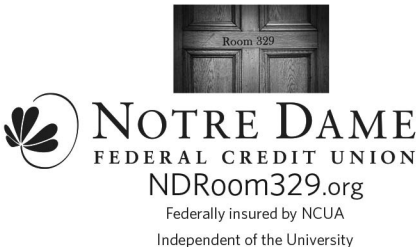
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INSIDE COLUMN

Let's talk,
not text

Brian Hartnett
Sports Writer

Over the last few weeks, I've had way too many thoughts about what I consider the dreaded "G" word — graduation.

In full disclosure, I'm not one of the approximately 2,000 seniors set to graduate in May. My graduation date doesn't arrive for another year and a half.

Still, as I've been preparing to study abroad next semester, I've had to combat the sad realization that I only have two semesters and about 10 days remaining on campus.

Naturally, facing this realization evokes several emotions, the most common of which is regret.

Now, regret is a term I like to avoid, mainly because it seems to marginalize the impacts of the actual choices one has made. And I'm certainly happy with the sum of my decisions here at Notre Dame.

But at the same time, regret does cause one to look at the roots of missed past opportunities and see what changes they can make to take advantage of future opportunities.

In my case, that involved looking at some of the reasons why I didn't try to get to know those around me better — fellow residents of my dorm, classmates, members of some of the activities I participate in, etc.

And in investigating these reasons, I came up with one common thread — my over-reliance on technology.

I'll be the first to admit that if there were an Olympic competition for internet surfing, I might have a good shot at medaling. I've spent more time than I can count perusing news sites and social media outlets.

And while these ventures into the web have filled my brain with plenty of inane facts, it's also detracted from the time I could have spent with others, people who have richer stories than can be found in a wall of text.

I still remember a recommendation my mother made during my first few days of college: "Don't get too caught up in social media. Your friends and family will still be there when you get back."

I wish I had heeded her warning right then and there. While it's important to maintain past relationships, it's equally important to cultivate new ones.

Fortunately, I've realized this tech obsession is not just limited to me. I can't even begin to count the number of times I've gone to a dinner or party and seen everyone texting more than actually talking.

Unfortunately, this issue will never quite go away, especially as technology evolves. But I do have a pretty simple solution for it. Over these final few days of the semester, put down the phones and laptops (except when you need them to study, of course).

They'll still be there when you get back.

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

Considering vegetarianism

Lisa Taylor
Storied Reflection

Over two-and-a-half years ago, I ate the last steak I'll ever eat in my life. I distinctly remember cutting into that medium-rare steak, slicing it into small pieces and eating every single tender bite. It was delicious, but I felt ambivalent at the time. I had just started researching vegetarianism, and for the first time, I was looking at that steak not simply as a piece of food, but as a product of violence. I looked down at something so common to the average American and thought about the destroyed life represented in this small chunk of protein. Could I really ethically justify my consumption based on the fact that it tasted good?

Two weeks later, I finally made the decision: I was going to go vegetarian. At the time, even I was surprised by this decision. As an incredibly picky eater, somehow I'd managed to survive on a diet of turkey sandwiches, pasta, chocolate, hamburgers and Ramen noodles for 19 years. I threw fits as a child when Mom put chicken pot pie on the table. But being the stubborn person I am, I'd made up my mind and taken the vegetarian plunge. I told myself presumptuously that there wouldn't be any more hidden violence on my plate, thank you very much. Since then, I've followed a meat-free diet for over two years, enduring many awkward dinners where people challenged my eating choices and repeatedly hit me with the protein question (let's clear that one up once and for all: Meat is not the only protein source, let alone the healthiest source. The world is full of beans, soy products, nuts and seeds, quinoa, vegetable proteins,

lentils, whole wheat grains and dairy products, if you eat those). So here are a few reasons why you should consider vegetarianism, even if it's just for one day a week.

First, respect for life. Most people disassociate their meat from the animals that provide it. Most meat, at least in the U.S., is produced on gigantic factory farms where animals are mistreated, violated and murdered. Industrial chicken producers keep the birds in cramped, excrement-filled pens where the birds cannot even spread their wings. Due to hormone injections and unnatural fattening, many chickens cannot support their own weight and their vertebrae snap, causing paralysis. On pig farms, sows spend their entire lives confined without being able to turn around, and male pigs undergo castration without anesthetic. Cows are similarly miserable. After spending their entire lives knee deep in manure, their murders are carried out in a cursory fashion, as cows are strung up, thrashing in pain for extended periods of time as they bleed profusely and die. We must realize that humans are not the only organisms that form friendships, have families, work together, pursue projects, grieve over death or suffer in pain. If we truly respect life, we ought to work to stop animal suffering. And even if animals are treated "ethically" before being murdered, can we really justify killing them when humans clearly do not need animal proteins to survive?

Second, health. The average American, according to the movie Food, Inc., eats over 200 pounds of meat each year. This incredible rate of carnivorism has resulted in the rise of a variety of diseases that could be easily fixed with a healthier diet. Meat-eating is linked

to heart disease, multiple types of cancer (colon, prostate, ovarian and breast), kidney stones, osteoporosis, hypertension, diabetes and obesity. While there are healthy meat-eaters and junk food vegetarians, eating a more plant-based diet can lower your risk for an array of diseases and improve life expectancy. And there's a bonus. No animals had to die for that rice and beans dinner.

Third, environmental stewardship. According to an investigation by the Centre for Agriculture and Environment, one cow produces the equivalent of 4.5 cars in greenhouse gas emissions. Moreover, the livestock industry is responsible for 18 percent of greenhouse gas emissions. This is higher than the emissions produced by cars, lorries, ships and planes combined. Moreover, pollution and manure run-off from factory farms seeps into water sources, the air and our bodies. Instead of exploiting the rest of creation and the environment for tasty food, we must consider more sustainable and ethical ways of consuming.

In sum, everyone has to eat, but not everyone has to eat meat. I challenge you to try vegetarianism, even if it's just once a week. Go meatless on Mondays. Think about the food you eat, and don't let it escape the ethical standards you uphold in other areas of your life. Let's move beyond surface explanations for eating meat ("It tastes good" and "I need protein") and critically think about what we put in our bodies.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The chocolate games

*Hello and good morning Domer friends
Although my time here has come to an end,
I wanted to do something special for you
Because of the love you've shown for Big Lou.*

*The prize I have is cool, I swear
An authentic signed jersey that I wear.
Put together the clues in this space in The Observer
each day
And this authentic jersey could come your way.*

*Only time will tell who will win
There can only be one...
Let the Chocolate Games begin!*

Clue one is easy — it's from my favorite show.
You need to know where this man had to go.
Giddy-up, Domers, and solve this capital clue.
Solve it before — oh before! — the others do

Louis Nix
senior
In your hearts
Dec. 8

Submit a Letter to the Editor | Email **obsviewpoint@gmail.com**

The real issue with the contraception mandate

Conor Durkin

Thinking Differently

This past week, Notre Dame made national headlines when it announced that for the second time in two years, it will be suing the federal government over the Affordable Care Act's contraception mandate, which forces employer-provided health insurance to cover birth control as a part of its standard package of benefits. The University argues that such a mandate imposes an undue burden on their religious freedom and that they and other religious organizations should be exempt from the law. I really have no idea how the courts will rule in the matter, but I am confident of this: the contraception mandate is simply bad policy, for an entirely different reason — an economic one.

To understand why, you have to begin with an understanding of the real purpose of insurance. Fundamentally, the point of insurance is to protect people against risk. An individual gives up money each month in the form of premiums to make sure that when and if something bad happens to him, he won't have to bear the brunt of the cost — the insurer will. Insurance thus makes perfect sense to buy in order to protect oneself against big unexpected risks, since most people would absolutely prefer not to be vulnerable to big negative financial shocks.

But what about for small, predictable expenses like birth control? Here insurance makes far less sense. As University of Chicago economist John Cochrane put it in the Wall Street Journal, "there are good reasons that your car insurance company doesn't add \$100 per year to your premium and then cover oil changes ... markets would become much

less competitive, and you'd end up spending more." When insurance companies have to provide more benefits, they end up passing these costs back to their customers through higher premiums, and if the cost of your employer-provided health insurance goes up, your employer will likely reduce your salary accordingly. If instead of spending \$50 a month on birth control an individual's birth control becomes free, but their salary is reduced by \$50 per month due to a rise in the premiums paid by their employers, are they really any better off than they were before?

Providing health insurance that doesn't provide free contraception isn't denying access to birth control any more than providing health insurance that does provide free contraception is denying access to the other goods an employee could have purchased with the wages they gave up to pay for their higher premiums. As anyone who's taken economics knows, there's no such thing as a free lunch, and pretending there is only worsens the debate about an important issue.

Now, none of this is to say that access to quality birth control isn't an important health issue. It is, and there are a number of ways we should work to make access easier for women. To begin, the government can make birth control available over-the-counter instead of requiring a prescription from a doctor. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists has already endorsed this idea, which is how women in some 50 other countries around the world — including South Korea, Portugal, Argentina, Mexico, India, and China — are able to get birth control. Even socially conservative Republican Bobby Jindal, governor of Louisiana, thinks this is a good idea, and it would certainly expand access by reducing hurdles most

medical professionals don't think are necessary, thus giving women more control over their health decisions.

There are other ways to give individuals more control over their health decisions, too. However, the solution isn't forcing businesses to provide more in benefits, it's letting individuals buy insurance policies on their own instead of receiving them from their employer. Coincidentally enough, the Affordable Care Act can actually help with that, with its exchanges creating a market in which individuals can purchase their own insurance and decide for themselves how generous or stingy their benefits should be. Transitioning more fully towards a system in which employers provide fewer benefits and higher salaries will give people more autonomy in regards to how they spend their money, which will leave us better off. Incidentally, this would also solve Notre Dame's woes, since employees would be responsible for their own insurance and the University could simply boost employee pay by the value of the healthcare they used to provide.

Birth control is an important part of healthcare, and figuring out how to expand access is an important issue, but mandating employer coverage ignores the economics of the situation and is simply the wrong answer to the problem. Instead, we should focus on solutions that actually give individuals more autonomy over their economic and healthcare decisions and remove hurdles to contraception access. We'll all be better off for it.

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The most dreadful time of the year

Alexandra Stembaugh

Subject to Change

The last few weeks of the semester seem to change us all. When we catch sight of someone with a pillow and blanket spending the night in a library study room, we think nothing of it. When we don't see a good friend for a couple days, we understand. When all junk food is sold out of The Huddle, everyone seems to have compromised immune systems and more than one person is fast asleep at the dining hall, we don't bat an eye. We simply turn to one another, shake our heads and murmur, "Finals."

Final exams make strange behavior completely understandable. Becoming slaves to work with grades occupying nearly every thought becomes the norm. The very idea of the elusive break to celebrate making it out alive is pushed out of mind. Instead, we flock to the library in the hopes of being productive, yet still generally procrastinate until we have no option but

to start working. We hole up in a study room for days without sleep with the hope that cramming will pay off, and we fight for grades at the expense of sleep and friends.

As we find ourselves on a collision course with finals and the endless quest for a better grade, it is easy to become overwhelmed and lose sight of what is important. Yet 10 years from now, it is unlikely that our exam grades or anything we learned in those hours of cramming will be remembered. Exams give each of us a chance to show what we have learned throughout a course, but putting ourselves through a week of misery is not the intent. Grades serve as a measuring tool to indicate what we have personally gained, not as a tool to measure ourselves against others or to indicate self-worth.

The good news is that exams do not need to be a horribly depressing. It's Christmas time and the semester is coming to a close. Before long, we will be home for the holidays and finals will be a distant memory. But before

the semester ends and we part ways, take a step back to enjoy the school and the people here. While it's easy to forget why we put ourselves through the stress of exams, taking a moment to remember why we came to this university can provide the motivation to keep going.

The next few weeks give us the opportunity to experience both the most stressful and the most cheerful time of the year. Finals cast a pall over campus, yet the excitement for Christmas is impossible to ignore. Snow is falling, hallways are being strung with lights and Mariah Carey is in the air. Rarely is there an obstacle that a warm cup of hot chocolate, a good laugh at Will Ferrell trying to survive as an elf and a trip to the Grotto can't conquer — even that 12-page research paper that is too daunting to even begin.

Christmas is a time of joy and cheer. It is a time of giving to others and a time to come together as a community in recognition of all that has been done and all that we have to be

thankful for. Don't let finals detract from the season. Christmas means giving up oneself to focus on bringing joy to others. It can be easy to lose sight of others during finals week and to forget that a lot of people are dealing with issues far more serious than final exams. Keep perspective, spend precious moments with friends, help others, take study breaks to sing Christmas songs, make time for the Dillon light show and don't forget about your favorite Christmas movies.

We have only a couple weeks left. Use it. Bury your heads in the books, but don't forget to come up for air. Keep the hot cocoa coming, and take the time to celebrate the bigger things in life with the people who make it special.

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Interested in writing a column for Viewpoint? | Email obsviewpoint@gmail.com

THE CHRIS GETHARD SHOW:

The strangest story in public access history

By **MATT McMAHON**
Scene Writer

Two weeks ago “The Chris Gethard Show” arguably became the most successful show ever to grace public access television. Created and hosted by comedian Chris Gethard, the loosely structured call-in show has been airing live on New York’s Manhattan Neighborhood Network and streaming online at thechrissethardshow.com every Wednesday at 11 p.m. for the past two-and-a-half years. Due to the strength and growing popularity of the show, Comedy Central has ordered to film a pilot of TCGS. Originally developed as a stage show for the Upright Citizens Brigade Theatre in 2009, this will be the second time Gethard and company have had to restructure the show for a different medium.

The show’s website describes it as “the most bizarre and often saddest talk show in New York City.” Episodes feature a varying panel of regular, recurring and special guests, who take calls from viewers to discuss either predetermined topics or anything on the viewers’ minds. Additionally, guest appearances by various fictional characters, episodic-themed games, musical guests and pre-recorded video shorts round out each hour. In the absurd episode titled “The Culture Show,” special guest and independent wrestler Colt Cabana takes requests from callers to demonstrate wrestling moves on panel members. Simultaneously, other friends of the show present lessons on such high-class topics as the playfulness in architectural design and how to properly pair wines and cheeses.

The public access iteration of The Chris Gethard Show has an unexpected charm to it, majorly due to its do-it-yourself production. Moreover, Chris Gethard conducts the show with authentic acceptance and considerate inclusion. He forms bonds with frequent visitors and callers, creating relationships between them and the show. Random people are often plucked from the audience and become characters or features of the show’s weird antics.

In fact, in the show’s second episode, the now-integral idea of the “Random,” a panel member who bears no ties to the show came about as a result of this inclusiveness. A viewer stumbled upon the show by channel surfing, called in to ask what it was about and was asked to head to the studio to get a full explanation. She showed up, sat on stage and Chris himself offered her a spot on the panel. It has since become tradition for a new “Random” to star on the show for 15 weeks.

These randoms come out of nowhere, with the rest of the panel frequently reiterating that

they know absolutely nothing about them. Not only do the randoms surprise and add another dynamic to the show’s aesthetics, but they also represent a microcosm for the entire show’s viewership: they start out as unknowns and, through the show, form meaningful connections by way of revelations, both serious and silly.

In another notable episode, which fell the week after Chris Gethard appeared on Late Night with Jimmy Fallon and plugged the show, Gethard challenged viewers, audience members and even his own panel to “Ruin This Show.” What ensued was a maddening onslaught of insubordination, disrespectful talking from audience members in the studio and arranged bits designated to irritate Gethard as he attempted to push through the show. For the first half of the episode, these foibles result in laughs and amusement from Gethard’s reactions and building annoyance. People were ruining the show, and it was funny. Yet, at around the 40-minute mark, each bit starts to get stale and grating. Chris begins to get more serious; he slouches in his seat, takes off his glasses and rubs his eyes. Retreating into himself, he mutters something along the lines of “This was a mistake, this isn’t funny, it’s all getting old.”

In this moment of collapse and dejection, the essence of the show is revealed. Gethard asked everyone to ruin the show, and they did, making it more entertaining. But it was not until the efforts became tired and he declared the episode a mistake that the episode was truly ruined.

Clearly Chris Gethard and his cohorts, which are far too numerous to list off, are not afraid to fail, as they concurrently remain optimistic and realistic. Whether in high concept episodes like “Ruin This Show,” loose concept episodes like Thanksgiving-themed “Sandwich Night” which only shows people making and eating sandwiches or episodes with no structure at all — in which the cast has come into the studio with nothing planned and just sees what develops over the hour — the panel, cast, crew and audience commit to it all. This all makes for some of the most compelling television broadcasting in recent history.

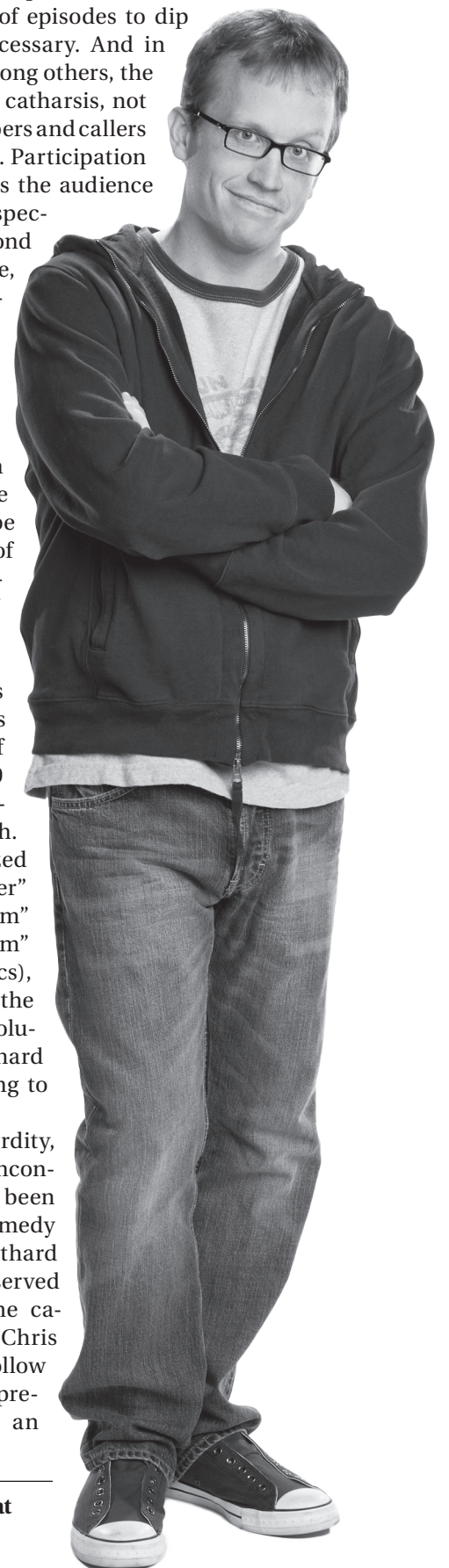
Moreover, this attitude has fostered the sort of “outcasts-welcomed” atmosphere of the show; TCGS coined “Loser is the new nerd” as one of its taglines. Viewers have to invest in the show as much as those directly involved in it do. In another episode, Chris completely abandons whatever was scheduled and, because of his mood, asks callers to call in with stories to discuss “Genuine Sadness.” Gethard makes it known throughout the run of the show that he’s self-deprecating, suffers from depression, frequently has panic

attacks and often cries for seemingly no reason. His stark honesty and openness allow for even the most absurd of episodes to dip into seriousness, if necessary. And in “Genuine Sadness,” among others, the topic allows for a lot of catharsis, not only for the panel members and callers but also for the viewers. Participation in the show encourages the audience to really reflect introspectively as well as beyond themselves. Meanwhile, Chris and friends offer very sincere advice that comes from real life experiences.

While its undetermined what format the pilot will take on Comedy Central (the show will probably be 30 minutes instead of an hour, FCC regulations restrict some of the show’s freedom and the call-in dynamic may not work), it is clear that the show has already had a wealth of success. There are 119 episodes archived online to search through. Surprisingly serialized (see the “Hintmaster” saga and “Random” Andrew and “Random” Messenger Bag’s arcs), this run showcases the development and evolution of “The Chris Gethard Show” and is something to celebrate.

The heart, the absurdity, the charm and the unconventionality have all been recognized, with Comedy Central giving Chris Gethard and the show a well-deserved chance. Hopefully, the cable version of “The Chris Gethard Show” will follow in the same light as its predecessors and gather an even larger fan base.

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WORST THING EVER: IMAGINE DRAGONS

By **ALLIE TOLLAKSEN**
Scene Writer

As 2013 comes to a close and we look back on the year, the top-10 lists start rolling in. We collectively need to know the best albums, shows and movies that took us by storm in the past 12 months. As I began to read the critics' choices, best sellers and highest-grossers, I found myself in agreement with most lists. But when I turned to scroll through this year's chart toppers in music, one band made an appearance over and over again, and I couldn't help but cringe. It's the band that undeniably took 2013 by storm — Imagine Dragons.

I know I am voicing an extremely unpopular opinion here. I realize that I am putting my head on the chopping block with this statement. Many of my close friends and beloved family members are huge fans of the four-piece pop-rock group, but I can't stay quiet any longer: I cannot stand Imagine Dragons.

The first time I heard Imagine Dragons was last year when the group's breakout hit "It's Time" came onto everyone's radar. It was catchy, kind of inspirational and though I wasn't a huge fan of front man Dan Reynolds' scream-singing, I was okay with hearing the song around every now and then. Sure, the chorus is repeated five times and makes up over half the song, but I went with it.

Then came "Radioactive," and everything changed.

No matter how many times I hear the song "Radioactive," it still completely baffles me as to how it is so popular. No part of me can find the pulsing, low-register synth and heavy, industrial crash of the percussion enjoyable. It sounds like the theme song of some sort of dystopian theme park you would never, ever want to visit. In fact, it's like the band knew this when they created the music video for the song, which featured the group's members dramatically locked in prison paired with some puppet cage-fighting.

When Reynolds' finally comes in on the track, we are confronted with his harsh vocals and heavy breathing in the first verse. Just when you think it can't get any more dramatic, the chorus begins, and the song becomes a whole new kind of bad. This may be a controversial statement, but nothing about a group of people screaming the word "radioactive" paired with superfluous bass-drumming is pleasant or interesting.

I'm pretty sure that the song is supposed to be about change and revolution and the apocalypse or something, but the lyrics are far too ambiguous and repetitive to inspire. Nevertheless, the song was called the most popular rock song of 2013, so somehow I am apparently the only person who feels like someone is yelling incoherently at me every time I heard "Radioactive."

After "Radioactive," the group released two more singles that became unavoidable this year, "Demons" and "On Top of the World," both of which are essentially just iterations of their first two singles. When I first heard "Demons," it sounded enough like "Radioactive" for me to immediately loathe it. Again, the song is not subtle about its theme of addressing personal issues, but the lyrics are pretty much just a vapid series of couplets sung emotionally over a heavy beat. Hard pass.

Finally, "On Top of the World" is the band's latest single. The song is a happy-go-lucky single in the same vein as "It's Time." Chock-full of clichéd lyrics and a lot of clap-stomping, it's basically a hybrid of all of the kitschy songs we love so dearly in artists like fun., The Lumineers and Train. At least no one is screaming in it.

I know that the love of Imagine Dragons runs deep, especially at Notre Dame. I know I'm going to catch a lot of flack for my stance on the band. That's okay. I will continue to be a "hater" and fight the anti-"Radioactive" fight every day just as Imagine Dragons will continue to make more music and rack up millions and millions of dollars. We all know the joke's on me, because while I spew my Imagine Dragons hate, they're the ones "on top of their world." Ugh.

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WHY 'OUT OF THE FURNACE' WILL MAKE YOU FALL ASLEEP

By **KEVIN NOONAN**
Scene Editor

Though it likely and shouldn't win any Oscars and will probably bomb at the box office, "Out of the Furnace" will always hold a special place in my heart — it's the first time since graduating from diapers and grade school that I've ever fallen knockout, drop dead, full on snoring asleep in a movie theatre.

On one hand, an argument could be made that if I was dreamland for a good 15 minutes in the middle of the movie then I probably can't give an objective review, but I disagree. I would argue that it provides a perfect anecdote for just how earth-shatteringly boring this supposed awards season contender was.

The poorly labeled drama-thriller stars Christian Bale as Russell Baze, an honest and decent steel mill worker who goes to jail after a few drinks lead to a car accident that kills two people. His brother Rodney, played by Casey Affleck, is a soldier whose repeated tours to Iraq leave him more and more damaged and mentally unstable.

The film is ostensibly about the dynamic of the two brothers living in western Pennsylvania, neither able to escape their lives for something better. After he is released from prison, Russell learns that his girlfriend (Zoe Saldana) has left him for Forrest Whitaker's police chief (real-life age difference: 17 years, real-life believability: zero), and the steel mill is closing, so he knows his future is dim.

Rodney can't get over the horrors he experienced in war (which, in one scene, he graphically lists off with over-acted emotion that makes for one of the least effective

"horrors of war" scenes in any movie I've ever seen), and the Army isn't doing much for him now that he's home.

On that level, the film had promise. If the story had focused on the parallels and conflicts between these two brothers, it might have pulled off a watchable drama. After all, along with Bale, Affleck, Saldana and Whitaker, the cast includes Woody Harrelson as a brutal hillbilly drug kingpin, Sam Shepard as Russell and Rodney's uncle and Willem Dafoe as a local bar owner and petty criminal. All together, that's a lot of acting talent — two Oscars and another five nominations, to be exact.

Instead of that dynamic, though, the film focuses more on Russell's increasingly sad post-prison life. Rodney decides to make money in underground boxing, which quickly escalates to him traveling to the inbred, "their own breed of justice up" hills of New Jersey, where Harrelson's druglord is judge, jury and executioner. There's some deal that Rodney and Dafoe's characters make that involves Rodney taking a fall in a fight, and this is supposed to wipe out Dafoe's debt with Harrelson's character.

Long story short, and though it does feel like an eternity to get there it's actually in the first half of the film still, Harrelson kills them all. The rest of the film follows Russell's struggle with what to do to avenge his brother's death.

I listed off the astoundingly talented cast earlier, but it seems like to this point I haven't mentioned many of them in the plot of the film. And it's because there's almost no point to having them in this movie.

Shepard's uncle character does literally nothing. It's a total waste of time and space to even explain who he is. He goes along with Russell on one trip, a fake drug buy

that also had no real point in the movie, but the whole scene could have been done without him. Saldana's girlfriend character sort of shows us how down in the dumps Russell is after being released from prison, but it draws away from any of the actual story so much that it's more of a distraction than anything. Forrest Whitaker decided to spend the entire movie auditioning for Batman, talking in gravelly, undistinguishable tones for no real reason. He provides some stiffly delivered exposition that the film didn't really need and a voice of conscience at the very end that doesn't make any sense.

All in all, this could've been a three-person film, and it still would've been terrible, but at least it would've been shorter.

The rumor is that Christian Bale turned this role down at first, then later accepted after he heard the writer-director, Scott Cooper, wrote the role specifically for him. In retrospect, he should've just let it go.

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"Out of the Furnace"

Relativity Media

Director: Scott Cooper

Starring: Christian Bale, Casey Affleck

Genre: Crime/Drama



SPORTS AUTHORITY

BCS never lacks excitement



Mary Green
Sports Writer

I hate to admit it, but I'm going to kind of miss the BCS.

Sure, it seemed fickle at times, with rankings produced by a combination of humans and computers looking at strengths of schedules, big wins and probably even uniforms and styles.

But it also produced down-to-the-wire, win-and-you're-in games like yesterday's Big-Ten and SEC Championships.

If this situation had taken place next year, when the college football playoff is in place, Ohio State need not have worried about dropping the conference title game to Michigan State. The Buckeyes still could have claimed one of the four postseason slots and retained their chance at a national championship.

But with the BCS this year, Urban Meyer and his squad knew its season was over, at least in terms of capturing the crystal football, as soon as the clock hit zero and the Spartans started to put on their official championship caps.

The same goes for Alabama, which did not even play in its conference championship game. The Crimson Tide needed losses from Florida State and Ohio State to have a prayer of advancing to Pasadena and claiming their third title in a row, but a big Seminoles win thwarted those dreams.

There are many BCS critics who say the current system is unfair because it helps one-loss teams that fell early in the season, like BCS Championship-bound Auburn, and hurts one-loss teams that gained their only blemish later down the road, like Alabama and Ohio State.

Yes, that certainly is not fair if your team is one of those that dropped a critical game late in the season. But if your team was also that vulnerable so close to bowl time, how would it have fared compared to a team that lost early and had more time to regroup and

address its weaknesses?

From the perspective of a fan of the game with no cheering ties to schools with hopes of taking the title, there is nothing better than the drama that comes with the Saturday lineup of conference-championship games precisely because the implications of those matchups can be so titanic.

Look at the 2009 SEC Championship, which pitted undefeated No. 1 Florida against undefeated No. 2 Alabama. With a playoff system, both teams would have already had virtually guaranteed spots in the bracket, so the game might not have been as exciting and certainly would not have had as many consequences as it did.

But there was not a playoff system in 2009; there was the BCS, and Alabama took its spot in the championship by beating the Gators 32-13, while Florida and a crying Tim Tebow had to settle for a Sugar Bowl appearance.

Not only did this game quell any fears of fans outside the South of a potential all-SEC championship matchup, but it gave weight to a final contest before bowl season began. It provided an all-in, for-all-the-marbles game that entertained fans, no matter which team they rooted for.

The BCS has its faults, as any system does. If your school ends up on the short end of the stick when it comes to bowl selections, it is understandable to criticize the system that slighted you and your team.

But when you are just a fan cheering not for any particular team but just for a good game, the BCS keeps you filled up on drama, unpredictability and excitement.

I guess I'm just afraid we will lose that late-season magic, when every game has something on the line, this time next year.

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

NFL

Rookie propels Bucs to win

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Rookie Mike Glennon is leading a second-half turnaround that may help the Tampa Bay Buccaneers save coach Greg Schiano's job.

Rebounding from arguably his worst performance of the season, Glennon threw two touchdown passes to pace a 27-6 victory over the struggling Buffalo Bills on Sunday.

Bobby Rainey scored on an 80-yard run on the second play of the day, and the Bucs (4-9) intercepted EJ Manuel four times en route to their fourth win in five games following an 0-8 start.

Manuel, Buffalo's first-round draft pick out of Florida State, was sacked seven times and doubled his interception total for the season.

The Bills have lost five of six, are assured of finishing without a winning record for the ninth straight year, and also are likely to extend the NFL's longest current playoff drought to 14 consecutive seasons.

Glennon wasn't exactly sensational following a 27-6 loss at Carolina, going 9 of 25 for 90 yards. But he had TD throws of 5 yards to Tim Wright and 38 to Vincent Jackson, who had three receptions for 70 yards to go over 1,000 for the season for the second straight year. Rainey finished with 127 yards on 22 carries.

Buffalo took up where it left off in a 34-31 overtime loss to Atlanta. The Bills lost fumbles on their final two possessions of that game, Stevie Johnson in the final minute of the fourth quarter and Scott Chandler two plays into OT.

This Sunday, they turned it over three times within a four-possession span of the second quarter, a stretch that might have been game-changing if Glennon hadn't thrown two interceptions.

After outgaining the Bills 169 yards to 38 while building a 14-3 lead in the first quarter, the Bucs were limited to 77 net yards the rest of the way to finish with 246.

It didn't matter.

With Manuel throwing two more interceptions in the third period, the Bills never made a serious move to get back in the game, finishing with field goals of 40 and 46 yards by Dan Carpenter. Manuel hit C.J. Spiller on an 83-yard scoring play that was wiped out by a fourth-quarter holding penalty.

Manuel was picked off twice in the second quarter. Leodis McKelvin muffed a fair catch on a punt inside the Buffalo

20, and a roughing-the-passer penalty — albeit a borderline call — against Jairus Byrd helped set up Glennon's TD pass to Wright that extended Tampa Bay's lead to 24-3 at the half.

Byrd also had the 22nd interception of his career, moving him into a tie for 10th on Buffalo's all-time list. Stephon Gilmore's pick six minutes later prevented Tampa Bay from turning McKelvin's muff into points.

Linebacker Lavonte David had two of Tampa Bay's four interceptions. He also had a sack.

49ers 19, Seahawks 17

SAN FRANCISCO — Frank Gore saw a huge hole with the clock ticking down and his team trailing, and went for it with everything he had.

Maybe not a season-saving 51-yard burst, but darn close to it.

The San Francisco 49ers are far from ready to hand over their two-year division reign — and certainly not on their home field, where they rarely lose against the NFC West.

Phil Dawson kicked a 22-yard field goal with 26 seconds remaining and the Niners held off the Seahawks 19-17 on Sunday, denying Seattle a chance to clinch the division at Candlestick Park.

"We're playing for our lives," wideout Anquan Boldin said. "We're playing playoff football right now. It's win or go home."

Gore broke for his big gain with just more than four minutes left, sparking the key 11-play, 76-yard drive that helped the 49ers (9-4) stop the playoff-bound Seahawks (11-2) from grabbing away the West in San Francisco.

Dawson's fourth field goal gave him 20 successful attempts in a row, a franchise record topping Joe Nedney's 18 consecutive kicks in 2006-07.

Russell Wilson threw a 39-yard touchdown pass to Luke Willson and Marshawn Lynch ran for an 11-yard score for Seattle, denied a franchise-best sixth road victory in its fifth straight loss at The 'Stick.

"I don't know if it was their Super Bowl, but they played a great game," Seahawks defensive end Red Bryant said.

The 49ers are unbeaten at home against the West since losing to the Seahawks on Oct. 26, 2008.

In an emotionally fueled afternoon of missed chances and costly penalties, this rivalry game more than lived up to the hype.

"Enjoy it? Not the word I

would use. It's like going to the dentist chair for 3½ hours and getting a root canal," 49ers coach Jim Harbaugh said. "These games are only for the tough."

Eric Wright, who briefly left the game with a head injury, intercepted a last-ditch deep pass by Wilson with 9 seconds left to seal it.

The two young quarterbacks finished with nearly the same stats. Wilson went 15 of 25 for 199 yards and a touchdown with one interception, while counterpart Colin Kaepernick threw for 175 yards and completed 15 of his 29 passes with a TD and an interception.

Vernon Davis caught an 8-yard touchdown pass just before halftime to give San Francisco some momentum.

After a home rout of New Orleans on Monday night, the Seahawks were trying to make it two mammoth wins over NFC powers in seven days. They hurt themselves several times down the stretch.

Golden Tate helped put the Seahawks ahead midway through the fourth quarter with a 38-yard punt return. Wilson then hit Jermaine Kearse for a 14-yard gain and first down from the 24. But on third down from the 13, Wilson was forced to throw out of bounds under pressure.

Seattle settled for Steven Hauschka's 31-yard field goal that stayed just inside the left upright with 6:20 remaining.

While Lynch went over 1,000 yards rushing for the third straight season and fifth in his seven-year career, he slowed down in the second half. He wound up with 72 yards on 20 carries — just 22 yards in the second half — as the 49ers defense kept intact its streak of not allowing a 100-yard rusher this season.

"It's December and we're playing our best football," linebacker NaVorro Bowman said. "There's something about this game that required a full 60 minutes of football."

Kaepernick recovered from an interception late in the third quarter with the 49ers deep in Seattle territory. Momentarily helped by Donte Whitner's 15-yard taunting penalty against Lynch, it came right back three plays later on Michael Robinson's facemask flag and Seattle punted.

With LaMichael James catching the punt, O'Brien Schofield bumped James and received a 15-yard fair catch interference penalty. That started San Francisco's drive at the 48 but the 49ers went three and out.

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WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING | FIRST PLACE

ND dominates at Hawkeye

Observer Staff Report

Notre Dame continued its strong fall season with a dominant win in the Hawkeye Invitational in Iowa City, Iowa over the weekend.

After starting the season 0-3 with losses to several ranked opponents, the Irish rattled off four straight dual-meet victories before this past weekend's performance, which saw the Irish win by 80.5 points, their largest margin of victory all season.

The three-day-meet began Friday, and Notre Dame wasted no time in establishing itself as it won four of the day's six events and jumped out to a 28-point lead.

Irish junior Emma Reaney set a meet and pool record in the 200-yard individual medley with a time of 1:55.65 and then won the event later that night. Irish junior diver Allison Casareto also captured the 1-Meter dive title.

The team also claimed two relay victories in the 200-yard

freestyle and 400-yard medley relay. The 200-yard freestyle team consisted of Reaney, seniors Christen McDonough and Kelly Ryan and sophomore Catherine Galletti. The 400-yard medley team of Reaney, Ryan, junior Courtney Whyte and freshman Katie Miller set a meet record with a time of 3:36.84.

The Irish won two more events on Saturday and expanded their lead to 82.5 points over Boise State and Nebraska. The team of Reaney, Galletti, Ryan and freshman Catherine Mulquin took home the 200-yard medley relay, but the star of the day was Miller, who set a meet record in the 400-yard individual medley with a time of 4:12.06.

On Sunday, Notre Dame wrapped up the victory, led by Reaney's record-breaking performance in the 200-yard breaststroke. After a rare loss in the 100-yard breaststroke the night before, Reaney set a meet record in the preliminary race with a time of 2:07.64. Reaney followed up that performance

by shattering her own record and swimming the fastest 200-yard breaststroke in the country with a time of 2:05.85. While Reaney stole the show, senior Christen McDonough also placed third in the event with a time of 2:13.79.

In the 200-yard butterfly, the Irish had four swimmers finish in the top six, led by a one-two finish by junior Bridget Casey and Miller at 1:57.62 and 1:58.70, respectively. Whyte and junior Melissa Scott placed fourth and sixth, respectively.

Notre Dame took second and third place in the 200-yard backstroke behind Ryan and Miller, and three Irish divers placed in the top 10 in the platform dive. Sophomore Lindsey Streepey recorded the highest Irish finish in the event, placing third with a score of 241.55.

With the win in the Hawkeye Invitational, the Irish concluded their fall season. Their next meet will be Jan. 11 against Northwestern and Michigan in Evanston, Ill., for a dual meet.

MEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING | FIRST PLACE

Irish take first



WEI LIN | The Observer

Irish junior John Williamson swims in the 200-yard butterfly during Notre Dame's meet against Michigan State and Wisconsin.

By **MARY GREEN**
Sports Writer

Notre Dame broke six school records and claimed first place for the first time in school history at this weekend's Hawkeye Invitational, held at the Iowa Campus Recreation and Wellness Center in Iowa City, Iowa.

"The meet was wonderful for us," Irish coach Tim Welsh said. "We swam well. We dove well. We had great spirit and great energy. It was just a great weekend for our team."

The Irish (4-4) earned 1228.5 points throughout the three-day meet, topping No. 20 Iowa's 977.5, Denver's 669 and Wisconsin-Milwaukee's 248.

The team jumped out to an early lead Friday, finishing in second place or better in each event except the 50-yard freestyle. The 400-yard medley relay of sophomore Bogac Ayhan, junior Cameron Miller, senior Frank Dyer and junior Zach Stephens set a new school mark in 3:11.15, and Ayhan's lead-off backstroke split of 47.80 also found a spot in the record book. Stephens's performance in the 200-yard individual medley rounded out the first day's record-breaking swims, taking first place in the event in 1:44.34.

"We did prepare differently [for this meet], so we did want to see what would happen if we took a little more rest midseason," Welsh said. "We took a little more rest before than we previously had for this meet, and our guys shaved, and we haven't done that. So the results set us up very well for the ACC meet [in February], and we should be pretty well set up for the national meet [in March]."

More records fell on day two, as the four members of the 400-medley relay returned to the pool for the 200-yard version and set an all-time school best with their time of 1:26.11.

However, freshman Tom

Anderson turned in the biggest new-record swim in the 400-yard individual medley. Anderson first broke the mark in Saturday's prelims and then topped that time by over four seconds to lower the new standard to 3:46.22, also good for a first-place finish.

"It was wonderful to see him do that," Welsh said of Anderson's swim. "His time was faster than what went to the NCAA Championships last year. We don't know if it's fast enough to go this year, but he's in that range, so we were just thrilled for him for how that 400 IM went."

Notre Dame finished in first place in 11 of 14 events in the first two days of the meet, and Stephens, Dyer, Ayhan, Miller, Anderson, junior John Williamson and senior Colin Babcock all took home multiple wins for the Irish over the weekend.

"We came in trying to swim fast in every event, and that's what we did, and we are very excited by the results of this weekend," Welsh said.

Williamson was the team's lone winner on the final day, claiming first place in the 200-yard butterfly, and Dyer set one last school record for the meet with his time of 46.92 in a 100-yard butterfly time trial.

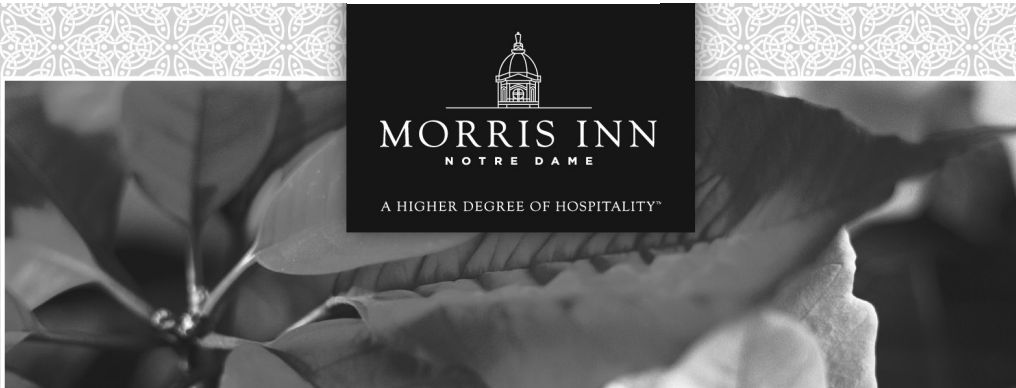
Despite just the single victory Sunday, Notre Dame racked up enough points over the three days to earn the top spot at the meet.

"We will take [Monday] off, and we'll go back to work on Tuesday," he said. "But we're going to do it with renewed energy because things turned out very well here, and we're very optimistic."

The Irish take their win into an almost month-long break from competition, which will conclude with a training trip to Puerto Rico at the Copa Coqui Meet on Jan. 4-5.

Contact Mary Green at mgreen8@nd.edu

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HOCKEY | IRISH 5, MASSACHUSETTS 3; MASSACHUSETTS 3, IRISH 2

Irish head into break with ‘disappointing’ split

By ISAAC LORTON
Sports Writer

Notre Dame's weekend series with Massachusetts was a tale of two nights, as the No. 13 Irish took advantage of three power-play goals Friday to win 5-3, while on Saturday the Minutemen converted on a power-play goal with 2:47 left in the game to win 3-2.

"[Friday night] was an ugly win," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. "We played better in the third period. We did what we had to do."

"[Saturday's loss was] disappointing," Jackson said. "I thought we played a lot better to night and lost. We had a chance to score a few goals in the first period and we couldn't finish. The difference in the game was special teams. They capitalized on the power play, we didn't."

Special teams played a crucial role in both games. On Friday, the Irish (10-7-1, 3-4-1 Hockey East) and Massachusetts (4-11-2, 2-7-2) combined for 15 penalties for 30 minutes. Notre Dame capitalized on three of its power plays, while the Minutemen mustered two power play goals. On Saturday, both teams had seven penalties for 14 minutes in the penalty box, and t

he rash of penalties contributed to a season high in shots allowed by Notre Dame on Friday. Irish senior goaltender Steven Summerhays made 36 saves on 39 shots, while Minutemen junior goaltender Steve Mastalerz blocked 27 on 32 shots in the series' first game. "A number of [Massachusetts' shots] were on the power-play situations, especially the five-on-threes," Jackson said. "They put a lot of pressure on us. They are very aggressive with their forecheck and we turned too many pucks over, especially early in the game."

The Irish jumped to an early 1-0 lead in the game's fourth minute when, after being hauled down on a breakaway, senior left wing and captain Jeff Costello converted a penalty shot for his fifth goal of the season.

Notre Dame picked up a 2-0 lead on a goal from sophomore left wing Sam Herr four minutes later. Senior center T.J. Tynan kept the puck in the offensive corner, spun around a Minutemen defender and hit Herr with a pass in the middle, who put it past Mastalerz.

Notre Dame then became familiar with the penalty box, committing four penalties in the next eight minutes, which resulted in two five-on-three power plays for Massachusetts. Notre Dame killed three of the four penalties but conceded a goal with 10:55 on the clock. Massachusetts freshman center Steven Iacobellis gathered a pass from senior defenseman Joel Hanley, found the left side of the net wide open and knocked

it in to make the score 2-1.

"After they scored right away off the first five-on-three, and then to get another one against us right away, you don't see that very often," Summerhays said. "It would have been easy for us to point fingers at the refs and kind of back down and let them score on the five-on-three, but we had great blocks and the defense got good clears. Anytime you can kill a five-on-three, let alone a 1:45 one, that's a big confidence boost, and I think we really rode that the rest of the period."

In the second period the teams each scored a power-play goal to make the game 3-2 to end the middle stanza. Irish sophomore defender Andy Ryan launched a laser-like slap shot past Mastalerz at 13:34 to take a 3-1 lead, but the Minutemen responded with five seconds left in the second with a power-play goal of their own on a wrist shot from Minutemen senior center Branden Gracel.

Sophomore Mario Lucia took advantage of Notre Dame's three power plays in the third, scoring on two of them to make the score 5-2. Lucia knocked home a rebound seven minutes into the period and 10 minutes later hit a one-timer top-shelf past Mastalerz. The Irish gave up a late goal to Minutemen freshman right wing Brandon Wahlin but closed out the game to win 5-3. Lucia credited Notre Dame's strong power play to the return of senior right wing Mike Voran, freshman center Vince Hinostroza and sophomore center Thomas DiPauli.

"Our power play was struggling prior to not having our guys back," Lucia said. "So it is good to have two good units."

On Saturday, the Irish fell behind Massachusetts for the first



EMMET FARNAN | The Observer

Irish senior center T.J. Tynan wins a face-off through the legs of Massachusetts freshman center Steven Iacobellis during Notre Dame's 5-3 win over the Minutemen on Friday night at Compton Family Ice Arena.

time all weekend. Notre Dame split the first period with the Minutemen 1-1, with Herr deflecting a shot from Ryan past Mastalerz for the Irish tally, but then conceded a power-play goal to Hanley in the third minute of the second period to go down 2-1. Notre Dame tied the game up at 2-2 with 1:32 left in the second period as Hinostroza kept the puck in the offensive zone along the left boards then fed a pass to Lucia in the middle of the ice, who placed the shot past Mastalerz. The Irish led Massachusetts in shots on the game 35-22 but were unable to convert on their early

opportunities, including a two-minute five-on-three power play in the 12th minute of first period.

"[Friday] night pucks were going in and we weren't overly sharp," Jackson said. "But it isn't a matter of how pretty it is. It's a matter of getting pucks to the net and getting pucks through."

With 4:18 left in the game, Costello got a two-minute penalty for slashing when he attempted to knock in a shot that had rebounded off of Mastalerz, missed the puck and hit Mastalerz's pad instead. Minutemen senior center Adam Phillips netted the game winner

1:31 later to give Massachusetts the 3-2 victory.

"Yeah, it was definitely frustrating," Costello said. "That was one of the better games we have played in this last stretch here and obviously it is frustrating to lose a goal that late in the game. Everyone battled [Saturday night] and it came to me making a stupid play at the end of the game that cost us."

The Irish will now take a break and return to the ice Jan. 4 against Boston College at Fenway Park in Boston.

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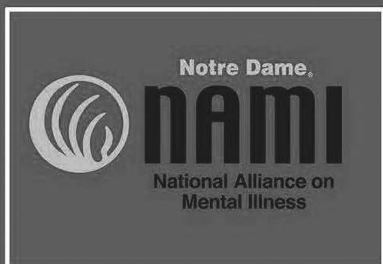
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Soccer

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

up goals on restarts, but to their credit they finished it," Rensing said. "I never thought this was going to be a one-goal game, so I don't think that was the end. I think the goal that really hurt was the one that we gave up early in the second half."

That second goal came from sophomore midfielder Patrick Hodan, who has now scored a goal in each of the last five games. Three minutes into the second half, Hodan dribbled the ball around multiple Spartan defenders and threaded a right-footed kick past another to put the Irish up by two. Clark described the goal as "a piece of beauty."

The Spartans battled their way back into the game with a goal of their own following Notre Dame's second. With 31 minutes remaining, redshirt junior forward Tim Kreutz sent in a cross that

sophomore midfielder Jay Chapman headed into the net to cut the lead to one.

"It was good build up. [Redshirt junior Tim] Kreutz made a great serve, [sophomore midfielder] Jay [Chapman] flicked it in," Rensing said. "Our guys played well tonight from top to bottom, so I'm very proud of them."

Each team had a few more close misses in the tense final minutes, but as victory drew closer and closer the Irish did their best to run out the clock.

"You don't want to sit too far back and just invite them to hit balls behind us, so it's tough," Panken said. "We just want to get the ball down as fast as we can and try and play the ball in the corners and kill the game off."

The entire match was played in sub-30 degree weather, and players on both teams occasionally struggled to find their footing on the frozen pitch.

"It was a hard game on a



ZACH LLORENS | The Observer

Irish sophomore midfielder Evan Panken controls the ball during Notre Dame's 2-1 quarterfinal victory over Michigan State on Saturday. Panken notched the first goal of the game.

very difficult surface," Clark said. "Our ground staff was getting it ready, but the longer we played the slicker it became. They took the cover off maybe at three o'clock, but by nine o'clock it's really quite difficult. I was glad it didn't go into overtime."

Also on Saturday night, Clark's son, Washington

coach Jamie Clark, was busy coaching his No. 2 Huskies in their own Elite Eight match against the Lobos. But Washington fell to New Mexico 1-0, and Clark and his son will not meet in the Final Four.

The Irish will kick off their first ever visit to the College Cup against the Lobos at 5

p.m. on Friday at PPL Park in Chester, Pa. The game will be followed at 7:30 by the second semifinal game between No. 5 Maryland and No. 8 Virginia, the only team that has defeated Notre Dame this season.

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL | ND 90, UCLA 48

Cable leads balanced Irish attack over UCLA

By **MARY GREEN**
Sports Writer

It was a tale of two halves for Notre Dame as the Irish scored from inside the paint and outside the arc in their 90-48 win over UCLA on Saturday in the Purcell Pavilion.

"Every team that comes in here, it's the Super Bowl to them," head coach Muffet McGraw said. "They want a big win. They want to knock us off — we're a ranked team. We've got a lot on it, so it's important for us to take every game seriously."

The game opened with back-and-forth play between the two teams, with the Bruins (3-5) responding to each Irish score and taking an 8-6 lead five minutes into the contest.

However, the Irish (8-0) went on a 29-6 run over the next 12 minutes to reclaim a lead they would never relinquish, using transitions and fast breaks to score easy layups for quick points.

"I like how competitive we are," senior guard Kayla McBride said. "I think that with [sophomore guard]

Jewell [Loyd] and [sophomore guard] Mike [Michaela Mabrey] and [junior guard] Maddie [Madison Cable], I think that they want to be on the court, and they want to be able to represent Notre Dame just like the seniors, like we have the past three years, and I think that competitive nature just fires everyone up."

Senior forward Natalie Achonwa led the way for Notre Dame with 10 points and six rebounds at the break as the home team held a 44-20 advantage, with 26 of its points scored in the paint.

UCLA opened the second half trying to crowd the lane to deter Notre Dame from scoring down low, but the Irish looked to their bench for help scoring from the outside.

Junior guard Madison Cable hit three consecutive three-point shots en route to a career-high 21 points, firing up the home crowd and contributing to the 46 points off the bench for the Irish throughout the game.

"It doesn't really surprise me much because we see her in practice. She doesn't miss," McBride said of Cable's performance. "But just for Maddie to get that confidence, because we're going to need her in big games, it's just great for her to come out there and hit those shots."

Cable shot 7-for-8 from the floor and 5-for-6 on three pointers, falling just shy of tying the Purcell Pavilion record for highest three-point percentage in a game.

Her 21 points also represent the first time a Notre Dame player has scored 20 or more



EMMET FARNAN | The Observer

Irish junior guard Madison Cable dribbles the ball during Notre Dame's 99-50 victory over UNC Wilmington on Nov. 9.

points off the bench since junior forward Markisha Wright had 20 against St. Francis on Dec. 31, 2012.

"It was fun," Cable said. "It felt good, I'll just say that. ... My teammates made good passes and found me when I was open, and we called some plays that I might be open, so it was just working."

Loyd added 15 points for the Irish, and McBride had 12 points and six assists. Bruins sixth-year senior forward Atonye Nyingifa earned a double-double with 19 points and 10 rebounds.

McBride and Mabrey split duty at point guard after freshman guard Lindsay Allen picked up her third foul less than a minute into the second half and her fourth after returning to the game nine minutes later.

"I think it's tough for a freshman heading into final exams," McGraw said of Allen.

"She's got a lot on her plate as a pre-med major, and so I think she came out the last game not feeling she played as well as she could've, so I think she maybe was trying a little too hard to get things going today. But the foul trouble really, really hurt her game."

The Irish did not skip a beat without their starting point guard, however, and McGraw emptied her bench as her team cruised to the victory.

"I think for us, it's been a long week, mentally," McGraw said. "We need to rest. We need a break, mentally and physically. So we're going to take a few days off, come back Tuesday and get ready for Michigan."

Notre Dame next hits the road to take on the Wolverines at the Crisler Center in Ann Arbor, Mich., on Saturday.

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Observer File Photo

Yankee Stadium, shown above with the Notre Dame band on the field, hosted Notre Dame's 2010 matchup with Army, a 27-3 Irish win. Looking to finish its season with a ninth win, Notre Dame will return to Yankee Stadium to face Rutgers in the Pinstripe Bowl on Dec. 28.

Football

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

games before accepting the bid to play in the Pinstripe Bowl, including the Poinsettia Bowl in San Diego and the Hawai'i Bowl in Honolulu.

"There were three or four bowls that were certainly vying for Notre Dame as we were going through this process," Kelly said. "The Poinsettia Bowl was certainly one of those we

were interested in ... But once Northern Illinois lost that football game [to Bowling Green on Saturday], that kind of evaporated any opportunity for us in that game. The other one was the Hawai'i Bowl, but because of our exam schedule, which took us through the 20th, we would have had to gone out there on [the 21st, 22nd and 23rd], and it would have been practice, practice, practice and play the game. And then they don't hold the hotel rooms after the game for you, so you gotta

leave, or you gotta find other accommodations ... So it just didn't make a whole lot of sense to go there for three days and practice, play the game and then, 'sorry guys.'"

Although the Pinstripe Bowl does not offer the warm weather some of Notre Dame's other bowl options did, the opportunity to spend Christmas in New York and the attractive gift package that includes clothes, hats and a PlayStation 4 were determining factors in the Irish players'

excitement to face Rutgers in Yankee Stadium.

"It's Yankee Stadium," Irish senior receiver and tri-captain TJ Jones said. "We went there my freshman year, we had a great time. Everything from the game to just being in the city, being around the area, it was a great experience for us and we are happy to be experiencing it again."

The Irish will travel together to New York on Dec. 23 after the players finish exams on Dec. 20, but Kelly said they still have a lot

of work to do to finish their season on a high note.

"We've got to prepare our football team," he said. "We want a win for our program to get to nine wins, we want to win for our seniors. And then in that preparation if we can get some of our younger players some working during this bowl practice, this is a worthwhile time for us and very helpful for our program."

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Basketball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

with 23 points and 10 assists. Senior guard Davon Usher and junior guard Kyle Anderson each had 19 points in the losing effort.

The Irish also had three players with 19-plus points. Sherman followed up a 29-point effort against Iowa with a 19-point, six-rebound performance against the Blue Hens and Connaughton added 19 points to go along with 11 rebounds.

Connaughton, who has been starting as the second-biggest player for the Irish behind only Sherman, said his rebounding game will continue to be important for Notre Dame.

"It's something that we need and it's something that I've really focused on throughout the summer, throughout practicing," Connaughton said. "It's something I've always been able to do, I've just kind of lacked the last two years. I just want to step up this year and do it."

Notre Dame took an early 10-point lead following a 12-0 run in the first half, with Sherman notching eight points during the run.

Delaware clawed back into the game with timely 3-point shooting. The Blue Hens made five straight 3-pointers

in a span of three minutes to turn a seven-point deficit into a two-point lead. Delaware shot 43.5 percent from behind the arc for the game.

"You're feeling like we're off to a good start and after the ... third [3-pointer], I'm going 'All right,' and then they bang down two more," Irish coach Mike Brey said. "And they're tough shots and I'm thinking 'You've got to be kidding me.'"

The Blue Hens stretched their lead to five before the Irish closed the first half on a 13-1 run, taking a seven-point edge into the half.

"We let them spurt us and that was probably the difference in the entire game," Ross said.

The Blue Hens did not make a field goal in the final 6:06 of the first half and never led in the second half.

"How we finished the half, I'm really proud of," Brey said. "We got in there, we defended. We hit a couple shots. That was a key for us to answer that charge right there. That gave us enough confidence and cushion, really, to win the game."

Notre Dame will continue with the BlackRock Gotham City Classic tonight when they take on Bryant and Wednesday when they play North Dakota State.

"These next two teams are just like Delaware," Brey



MICHAEL YU | The Observer

Irish senior guard Jerian Grant dribbles the ball during Notre Dame's 84-69 win over Santa Clara in the Purcell Pavilion. Grant scored a game-high 25 points against Delaware on Saturday.

said. "They're veteran teams. They've won together before and they will come in here loose and letting it rip like the Blue Hens did."

Bryant (6-3) lost to North Dakota State (6-3) 66-62 on Saturday. Bulldogs junior guard Dyami Starks leads Bryant with 23.4 points per

game and has only scored in single-digits once this season. He scored 26 against North Dakota State.

Notre Dame is in the midst of an eight-day stretch that features four games. Brey said the team would have minimal contact Sunday before playing Monday.

"There's no day off until [next] Sunday," Brey said. "We're going right on through."

The Irish and the Bulldogs tip at 7 p.m. tonight at Purcell Pavilion.

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MEN'S SOCCER | ND 2, MICHIGAN STATE 1

From out in the cold, into the College Cup

Goals from Panken, Hodan propel Notre Dame past Spartans in quarterfinal matchup

By VICKY JACOBSEN
Sports Writer

As the announcer counted down to zero and the horn blew to end the game, despondent Michigan State players sank to the ground and the No. 3 Irish rushed to embrace each other in celebration of a 2-1 NCAA tournament quarterfinal win, the first in program history.

"It's an incredible feeling," sophomore midfielder Evan Panken said. "We've been working for it all year, all summer. Everyone worked so hard, and it's just a team win here, and we're all really excited."

The Irish (15-1-6, 7-1-3 ACC) are now headed to their first ever College Cup, where they will face No. 7 New Mexico (14-5-2, 7-1-1 Mountain West) in the semifinal game in Chester, Pa., on Friday.

"It's a huge win for us," Irish coach Bobby Clark said. "We've been knocking on the door for a while now. I think



ZACH LLORENS | The Observer

Irish sophomore midfielder Patrick Hodan controls the ball during Notre Dame's 2-1 win over Michigan State on Saturday at Alumni Stadium. With the win, the Irish advanced to their first College Cup.

this is our third final-eight, but the first time we've actually gotten [to the College Cup]. Last year we felt we had a very good team and were

the No. 1 seed going in but we fell [in the third round] to Indiana, the eventual winners, so that was disappointing. That inspired the guys."

The Irish controlled the ball during the opening minutes of the contest as senior forward Harrison Shipp gave the Irish a couple of close

scoring opportunities before Notre Dame cracked open the scoring in the 31st minute. An Irish corner kick landed near the far post, and though the ball was initially cleared, Panken corralled it. His first shot bounced off a Spartan defender, but he found the ball again, this time burying it in the back of the net.

"We've been working on that corner kick for a while now," Panken said. "[Junior midfielder Nick] Besler got a great flick on it, and it came back post and I saw it, took a touch, and I just put it in the back of the net. I was at the right place at the right time. It felt great, scoring a big goal to put us up ahead in a big game like that. It's a great feeling."

Michigan State coach Damon Rensing said his No. 11 Spartans (14-6-3, 3-2-1 Big Ten) were not worried after the first Irish goal.

"You don't want to give

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FOOTBALL

Irish to face Rutgers in Pinstripe Bowl in NYC

By JOSEPH MONARDO
Associate Sports Editor

The schedule hanging in the Isban Auditorium inside the Guglielmino Athletics Complex since the beginning of fall had a bowl destination already picked out for the Irish — the BCS Championship Game on Jan. 6. But after a four-loss season, Notre Dame (8-4) had to readjust its postseason plans and will face Rutgers in the Pinstripe Bowl in New York on Dec. 28.

"It's been a great place for us," Irish coach Brian Kelly said of the destination. "I remember us being at Yankee Stadium [in 2010 against Army] and the way we were treated there. New York is certainly a great place for Notre Dame, and we've got great support in that area, 'subway alums.' It's a home away from home ... the Pinstripe Bowl has been terrific to work with, they've done everything to make it a great event for our players."

Rutgers (6-6, 3-5 AAC) enters the game coming off 31-6 victory over USF on Saturday, but have won only two of its past seven



KEVIN SONG | The Observer

Irish receiver TJ Jones picks up yards after a catch during Notre Dame's 37-34 win over Arizona State on Oct. 5.

contests. The Scarlet Knights have been outgained by their opponents by an average of more than 30 yards per game this season, and in their six losses have been outscored by an average of 20 points. Despite Rutgers' struggles this year, Kelly said he does not view the Pinstripe Bowl as a game in which Notre Dame has nothing to gain.

"I don't see how that's the case when they're a BCS team,"

he said. "They beat Arkansas this year, you know they played Louisville and Fresno tight. They're going to the Big-Ten, this team is going to be in the Big Ten next year, so if we don't play well they'll beat us. So we've got everything to lose. We want to win the football game."

Notre Dame had considered participating in other bowl

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MEN'S BASKETBALL | ND 80, DELAWARE 75

ND escapes Delaware at home

By MATTHEW DeFRANKS
Assistant Managing Editor

In the opening game of the BlackRock Gotham City Classic, Notre Dame needed a superhero-like performance from senior guard Jerian Grant to avoid Delaware's upset bid and defeat the Blue Hens 80-75.

Grant scored 25 points on 10-of-16 shooting and nailed two late buckets to give the Irish (6-2) some breathing room with time winding down.

"I just knew we needed a basket," Grant said. "They were creeping in and it's the end of the game, coach is giving me the ball, my teammates are giving me the ball and telling me to make a play. So I did."

Notre Dame looked like it was going to blow the game wide open in the second half after junior forward Pat Connaughton drained a 3-pointer to put the Irish up 12 with 16:30 left in the game. The Blue Hens (5-4) chipped away at the Irish lead, cutting

it to one on junior guard Jarvis Threatt's driving layup with 2:09 left in the game.

Grant made sure the Blue Hens would not take the lead, burying two jumpers on the next two Irish possessions to quell the Delaware comeback.

"He's one of the best bad-shot shooters I've ever played with," Irish graduate student center Garrick Sherman said.

Grant's two shots, which were 36 seconds apart, were almost identical. He drove right before pulling up and knocking down his final two shots of the game.

"I told them 'That was better offense than our defense, so no worries,'" Delaware coach Monté Ross said. "There's nothing you can do."

The Irish closed the game with a 10-6 spurt to secure their sixth win of the season.

Delaware, who had lost three games by a combined eight points, had three players score at least 19 points. Threatt led the Blue Hens

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