

Judicial council launches voter plan

“Vote Today” campaign aims to increase voter turnout by 20 percent

By **ABI HOVERMAN**
NEWS WRITER

The Judicial Council has developed a campaign designed to better advertise and simplify the voting process for next week's Student Government primary elections, Junior Kathryn Peruski, vice president of elections said. The Council hopes to use this plan to increase voter turnout, she said.

A seven-member Election Committee appointed by the Judicial Council has been working on the “Vote Today” campaign since last spring, which incorporates new strategies for

reaching student voters and encouraging them to vote, senior Michael Masi said.

“If there's not enough publicity, people won't know about the election,” Peruski said.

Masi, President of Judicial Council, said “Vote Today” focuses on advertising elections through redesigned posters, banners in LaFortune Student Center and both dining halls and communication through email, Twitter and Facebook.

“The big push is ‘Vote Today’ because we are actually encouraging people to turnout on

see VOTE **PAGE 3**

VOTER TURNOUT GOAL

50% → 70+%

“VOTE TODAY” INITIATIVE

- Display on Sakai homepage
- Display on University computer backgrounds
- New posters
- Banners in LaFortune, SDH and NDH
- Twitter and Facebook
- Voting booth in LaFortune

Steph Wulz | The Observer

Student government works to prevent assault

By **ELYSE HIGHT**
News Writer

With an announcement made last Wednesday, Jan. 22, President Obama launched a new White House Task Force for protecting students nationwide against sexual assault.

Obama is giving the task force, comprised of U.S. Government administrative officials, 90 days to come up with sexual assault prevention and response suggestions for colleges. The group is also tasked with proposing ways to increase

public awareness and possibly creating a reinforcement system of federal agencies for schools that do not confront this rising problem.

Prompted by a report made by the White House Council on Women and Girls, the President's announcement states that one in five women are sexually assaulted at college, with only 12 percent of assaults reported. The report said issues of sexual assault on college campuses related to drug and alcohol use should be especially examined

because these substances have been found to have incapacitated many victims of sexual assault.

Obama said he sees a need for college to be a safe place that harbors individual growth and that “it's not just these individuals and their families who suffer ... our communities- our whole country — is held back.”

Notre Dame has already made strides independent of the federal government's efforts, attempting to

see TASK FORCE **PAGE 4**

University reopens

Observer Staff Report

Notre Dame reopened on a limited basis Tuesday afternoon and will resume regular scheduling Wednesday, following the shutdown forced by inclement weather Monday.

The city of South Bend and St. Joseph County lifted the state of emergency at noon on Tuesday, and an email from the University stated that classes will resume at their regularly scheduled times for Wednesday.

The email asked all University staff to report to work at their next regularly scheduled starting time. The dining halls and

LaFortune Student Center will resume normal hours Wednesday.

Although the travel ban has ended, all students, faculty, staff and others were urged in the email to keep road and weather conditions in mind, dress warmly in the cold temperatures and use caution when traveling to, from and on-campus.

All students, faculty, staff, fans and others are urged to keep road and weather conditions in mind, dress appropriately and use caution when traveling to, from and on campus for athletic events.

Three students intervene in University lawsuit



By **MARISA IATI**
Assistant Managing Editor

Three students who want the University's health care plans to cover birth control are intervening in Notre Dame's lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit ruled

Jan. 14 that the female students, who remain anonymous, can participate in the lawsuit, according to a report by the Associated Press.

The lawsuit challenges an HHS mandate that required nonprofit religious organizations to start to cover contraceptive services Jan. 1. Paul Browne, the University's vice president

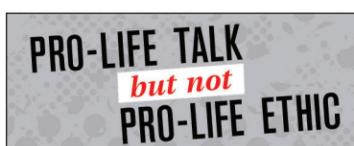
for public affairs and communications, said Jan. 2 that Notre Dame is providing this coverage through its third-party insurance administrator.

Americans United for Separation of Church and State is representing the students, according to the

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MEN'S LACROSSE **PAGE 16**

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:

How will you conquer the second coming of the polar vortex?

Have a question you want answered?
Email obsphoto@gmail.com



Anna Baumhoer
freshman
Ryan Hall

"Don't go outside for three days straight."



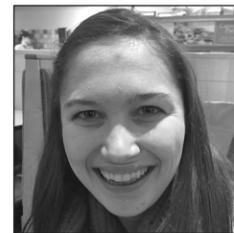
Annie McGarrigle
sophomore
Holy Cross Hall

"Friday Night Lights re-runs on Netflix, obviously."



Colleen Barry
sophomore
Holy Cross Hall

"Hmm I'm staying snuggled up and watching movies."



Courtney Wright
freshman
Farley Hall

"Watch lots of movies and eat popcorn."



Madeline Harris
sophomore
Holy Cross Hall

"Watching movies with friends."



Melange Galvin
freshman
Badin Hall

"Retreat into my bed and never come out."



ALLISON D'AMBROSIA | The Observer

Students at Saint Mary's built a snowman at the end of the Avenue on Tuesday afternoon instead of attending classes. Saint Mary's and Notre Dame cancelled classes and closed their campuses in response to the weather emergency and driving ban enacted by St. Joseph County and South Bend officials.

THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

Want your event included here?
Email obsnews.nd@gmail.com

Wednesday

Wellness Wednesday

LaFortune Student Center
6 p.m.- 7 p.m.
Learn how to increase your motivation level.

Valerie Sayers Reading

Hammes Bookstore
7:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.
Reading from recently released novels.

Thursday

Christianity Prayer Service

Keenan Hall
6 p.m.- 7 p.m.
In honor of Christian Unity Week.

Women's Basketball

Purcell Pavilion
7 p.m.- 9 p.m.
The Irish take on the Virginia Tech Hokies.

Friday

Curling Clinic

Compton Family Ice Arena
5:30 p.m.- 7:30 p.m.
Learn the basics of curling.

Bach's Lunch

DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
12:10 p.m.- 1 p.m.
Sponsored by the Music Department.

Saturday

Writing Workshop

LaFortune Student Center
10:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.
Writers reflect on the nature of violence.

Men's Basketball

Purcell Pavilion
12 p.m.- 2 p.m.
The Irish play the Boston College Eagles.

Sunday

Mass in Spanish

Dillion Hall
1:30 p.m.- 2:30 p.m.
Lunch is provided after Mass the first Sunday of the month.

Women's Tennis

Eck Tennis Pavilion
12 p.m.- 2 p.m.
The Irish take on the Indiana Hoosiers. Free and open to the public.

Health services warns students about cold

By **KATIE McCARTY**
News Writer

With temperatures plunging into the negatives this week, University Health Services advised students to protect their health against the risks posed by adverse conditions.

Dr. Kevin McAward of University Health Services said the most basic preventative measure students should take is to dress warmly and in layers.

"Cover your skin and dress in layers," McAward said. "Avoid your clothes or socks getting wet."

In such extreme cold temperatures, it does not take long for the body to be at risk for frostbite or hypothermia. McAward said it is important for students to be aware of the symptoms of these serious health problems.

"Pale, painful, burning skin is a sign of frostbite," McAward said. "Skin that doesn't pink [or] red up after going inside is concerning. Hypothermia is a state of full body cooling. Mild hypothermia presents with lethargy, confusion, shivering and then worsens to delirium and finally coma and respiratory depression."

McAward said the key to preventing frostbite is warming the affected areas in the right way.

"To avoid damage from frostbite, run areas of concern under warm water. Do not rub them to try to keep them warm. That can damage them more," he said. "Also it is very important to keep an area of potential frostbite warm after it has been rewarmed. Do not go back out into the cold."

According to McAward, the amount of exposure to cold is an important factor for the onset of health conditions like

frostbite and hypothermia.

"More important than the amount of time, is the amount of exposure [to the cold]. It depends on how cold the temperature falls. At -15 F it will only take five to 10 minutes before exposed skin is subject to frostbite," he said.

McAward also advised caution with regard to exercising outside in dangerously low temperatures.

"Staying covered again remains the most important consideration when exercising in the cold," McAward said. "While exercise will keep your

core temperature up, it will not help your skin to stay warm and may make [you] at greater risk if sweat accumulates in clothing."

McAward also said it was important for students to be aware that the most common cold-related injury is falling due to slippery conditions.

"Notre Dame does a fantastic job clearing sidewalks and parking lots, but there are still a lot of slippery spots. Being aware of your footing is extremely important," he said.

Contact **Katie McCarty** at kmccar16@nd.edu

Initiative seeks to improve global health

By **ALEX CAO**
News Writer

Michael Sweikar, head of the Notre Dame Initiative for Global Development (NDIGD), was recently awarded a contract from Project Concern International (PCI) to evaluate one of their projects in Indonesia.

The Child Health Opportunities Integrated with Community Empowerment (CHOICE) project, which Sweikar and others at Notre Dame will be working to evaluate, is centered on improving the health of local children through wells and other water-related interventions.

"We were to measure the

impact of the CHOICE project ... Project Concern International implemented," Sweikar said, "[Project CHOICE] is basically a U.S. Agency for International Development funded project that was primarily in Indonesia. It was a four-year project from 2003 to 2007 and one of the primary goals of the project was to try to improve or help the health in these communities for children.

"You're looking at impact in the terms of fine health improvements in children."

Sweikar said this work is part of a worldwide effort to help evaluate the impact of government-funded projects such as Project CHOICE.

"Our main focus is to look

at global government projects and look at what impacts those projects are actually having," Sweikar said. "What we do is above and beyond just measuring outputs, such as whether a well is built. Not only where the project is implemented, but what actual outcomes or impacts it has for community members in terms of better health or education.

"We're doing a project in Ghana where we're measuring the impact of water points — wells and other water systems in the country. We're also doing an investigation in Burkina Faso, which is nearby Ghana. We've done a number of evaluations as well in Uganda."

Sweikar said all the

information from those aid programs will help to tailor or to redesign aid for better efficiency and effectiveness.

"When we are able to view our final reports at any location, our goal is to work with the organization ... and we provide the information and the data," Sweikar said. "In some cases, they can modify the project or implementation. Or in the case of PCI, they may be able to use that information for a redesign for a new project or look for what works and what doesn't work for a new project proposal ... and ideally look at some lessons learned from all our work."

Sweikar said his work with other researchers from the

University will begin in the spring.

"The data collection will actually occur this spring," said Sweikar, "The data we're going to collect will be collected in April 2014. So Notre Dame researchers, including [Professors] Edwin Michael, Juan Carlos Guzman and Lila Khatiwada, are going to work with Project Concern International and go to Indonesia and that's where we are going to look at the sample size, investigate the households and conduct the survey to see the what benefits the program had."

Contact **Alex Cao** at acao@nd.edu

Vote

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Election Day," Peruski said.

Judicial Council is also working with the Office of Information Technology to advertise the elections on Sakai homepages and on screen backgrounds of University computers, Masi said.

"We've been trying to rebrand Judicial Council," he said. "It's been about increasing [student] awareness of elections."

Peruski said for the first time, in addition to the digital ballot, a physical voting booth would also be in LaFortune on Election Day,

Wednesday, Feb. 5.

The final element of the "Vote Today" campaign includes direct outreach to student organizations and hall councils to communicate election details, Masi said.

Peruski said students should appreciate the impact of their votes in this election.

"It's important for students to vote because [the elected students] do represent you for an entire calendar year," Peruski said.

Senior Michael Masi said Judicial Council has long been working to increase the disappointing turnout from

undergraduate students in the elections it oversees.

"Voter turnout practically hovers around 50 percent, which we find unacceptable for the Notre Dame undergraduate student body," Masi said. "It's never as strong as we would like. We would like upwards of 70 or 80 percent."

Masi thinks the busy schedules of Notre Dame undergraduate students may account for the low turnout, and that publicity of elections and explanation of differences between candidates can help combat this issue.

"Part of our problem is we have a campus full of leaders, and they're very committed in what they're doing, and they don't look beyond their organizations," he said. "We are very busy students and we don't have time to know what's going on."

Masi said correcting this trend of low turnout would put student leaders in a stronger position when Student Government meets with University leaders.

"This is the students' chance to choose a representative for them. Student Government leaders meet with administrators on a daily basis, and if we have less than 40 percent of students voters, it sends a weaker message," Masi said. "Higher turnout

allows greater engagement and gives greater authority to get things done. This is the opportunity for students to express their interests in what they care about on a greater scale."

Masi and Peruski said attending the election debates Monday at 8 p.m. in the basement of LaFortune offers the best way to learn about this year's candidates for Student Government. Masi also said that better coordination with Student Government helps increase student awareness of its elections.

"It's a group effort. Judicial Council needs to work with Student Government and candidates to make sure the students know what's going on. If all of us work together, we can increase engagement," he said.

Statistics on student voting have been available to Judicial Council only for the past three elections, since the Council took over the physical ballot recording process from OIT and created a Google form for digital voting, Masi said.

He said this new format allows for easier distribution of the digital link to the ballots, both on the Judicial Council website and through email, and allows the Council to oversee the process and results.

"That way the data is all in-house ... if there are allegations of election misconduct, we can look at the data," Masi said. "It seems to work really well and candidates seem to like it."

Masi said that although he does not have concrete statistics, he believes seniors vote at lower levels than any other class. Masi said he believes it is either because they think they cannot vote or because they do not care, but he encourages them to take the time to vote.

"Seniors, it's like leaving a legacy," he said. "If you care about the future of Notre Dame, it's important to vote."

Beyond a general apathy with Student Government, Peruski said dwindling membership on the Judicial Council Listserv makes it hard to distribute the voting link during the election, which only lasts from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Primary elections for Student Government representatives will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 5. If no candidate receives a majority of votes, a run-off election between the two candidates who receive the highest numbers of votes will occur Monday, Feb. 10.

Contact **Abi Hoverman** at ahoverma@nd.edu

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Task Force

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

address this serious concern.

Student body president Alex Coccia said Student Government's "One is Too Many" campaign has been put in place to "bring the topic of sexual violence into mainstream consciousness and conversation and to develop an attitudinal shift that leads to a culture that understands sexual violence and actively works to prevent it."

Coccia spoke on this topic before the National Campus Leaders Council, where he said Notre Dame can stand as an example for other schools and the task force to turn to when looking for solutions.

"The discussion nationally is crucial to our efforts on campus. It shows that our efforts here at Notre Dame have the backing of the national conversation, and that no one is alone in their efforts to respond to and prevent sexual violence," said Coccia.

The University administration has taken similar steps, creating the Committee on Sexual Assault Prevention and working directly with student government to develop policies directed toward preventing sexual assault, student body vice president Nancy Joyce said.

Joyce said she has worked on the sexual assault issue in the past and is in favor of this new initiative from the White House. Joyce said she believes the new task force will work in tandem with the system that Notre Dame has in place, bringing about increased awareness not just on campus but across the entire United States.

"The timing of President Obama's announcement both enhances and supports our 'One Is Too Many' campaign," Joyce said.

The approach Obama indicated is similar to that taken thus far by the University and Student Government, with some adjustments to the unique aspects of Notre Dame, Joyce said.

"President Obama mentioned that he hopes a stronger sense of peer pressure on college campuses will help to prevent sexual assault," she said. "To some degree, this is the approach we are taking here at Notre Dame, but I think Alex and I are more focused on the idea that Notre Dame's sense of community is what will enable us to take better care of each other."

Coccia said he hopes the White House initiative will finally bring due attention to this increasing problem from the rest of the country. Coccia also said he is optimistic this announcement will stand as an important

commitment by the White House to preventing sexual assault.

"Our goals nationally and on campus are to break that silence and ensure that men take responsibility in these efforts," Coccia said. "This is so important in the residential structure at Notre Dame, where leaders in male dorms have the unique opportunity to set the standard of behavior for all classes within the dorm."

As for the future of Notre Dame and the White House task force, Coccia said he believes promoting active bystander intervention, speaking out against trivializing sexual assault language and supporting the healing of survivors will be the main responsibilities of all those involved.

Contact Elyse Hight at ehight@nd.edu

Lawsuit

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

organization's director of communications, Rob Boston.

"We felt that, in this case, the voices of the parties who would be most affected by a loss of contraceptive access, largely women, were not being heard, and it was a possibility that their perspective might not be represented," Boston said. "We filed this motion to intervene on behalf of these students, specifically so that their perspective would be heard by the court."

"We believe that if Notre Dame is allowed to deny contraceptives, it could negatively affect students, faculty and staff at the institution, so we feel that the courts should hear from them."

Americans United's legal director, Ayesha Khan, who is representing the women, said the result of the lawsuit will have important implications for the students.

"They will get funded contraception, or they will continue to have to pay for it out of pocket, and that's of great importance to them because all three of them would like access to contraception, which they can't afford right now," Khan said.

Boston said Americans United's intervention in the lawsuit is about people "losing important medical services."

"The students are really looking at this more as an issue of their access to needed medication, more than they're looking at it as a religious liberty question. And I think that's what this is going to come down to in

the courts.

"Is it religious liberty matter, or is it a matter of people getting access to medication that they need? ... Once those questions are settled, we'll have some sort of a clearer understanding of how this is going to shake out."

Browne said the lawsuit "is fundamentally about religious liberty, and only incidentally about contraceptive services."

Khan said the students chose to be anonymous because they did not want to release information about intimate aspects of their lives.

"They were concerned about retaliation, both from the University and from the larger community," she said.

Contact Marisa Iati at miati@nd.edu

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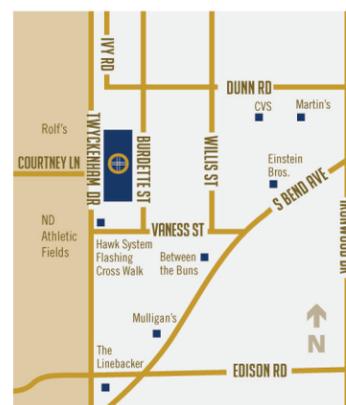
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Obama pledges several modest, important goals

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Count 2014 as the year President Barack Obama's agenda went from bold to bite-sized.

The president's State of the Union address Tuesday was an amalgam of modest proposals designed to chip away at some of the same problems he's been working on all along: persistent unemployment, middle-class insecurity, lagging schools and more.

"Let's make this a year of action," Obama exhorted members of Congress arrayed before him. "That's what most Americans want — for all of us in this chamber to focus on their lives, their hopes, their aspirations.

But coming off a year in which his major legislative proposals largely fell flat, Obama already was putting Plan B in play, too.

Where Congress won't cooperate, Obama aims to find creative ways to act more frequently on his own, through executive orders, regulatory action, presidential cajoling and the like.

"Wherever and whenever I can take steps without legislation to expand opportunity for more American families, that's what I'm going to do," he declared.

There is plenty Obama can do on his own. But creativity is no substitute for clout.

And an executive order on job training, wages or retirement security doesn't have the zing of an \$800 billion stimulus plan or

a historic overhaul of the health care system.

Obama isn't closing off further congressional action: He renewed his calls for legislation on immigration reform, extending unemployment benefits, boosting the minimum wage for all workers and bolstering preschool programs. And he added new items to his congressional wish list, including a call to expand the earned income tax credit to workers without children.

But Obama knows congressional Republicans are even less likely to cooperate this year than they were in 2013, which has largely been written off as a lost year. And that knowledge is giving him a new sense of urgency.

The White House announced Obama's first new unilateral action — raising the minimum wage for newly hired federal contract workers — even before he began speaking.

It quickly drew derision from Republicans. House Speaker John Boehner stressed that the change would affect only new contracts and predicted the number of workers affected would be "somewhere close to zero."

Still, small steps may be a better fit for these times than grand legislative proposals that would likely stall.

The economy is better, even if not everyone's feeling it yet. The unemployment rate is lower, even if 6.7 percent still isn't great. The health care law is taking effect, even if it's causing heartburn for plenty of Americans.

The president had a fine line to walk in his speech: projecting the optimism and energy that dispirited members of his party, and the public at large, are hungry for without overpromising at a time when his influence is sure to wane.

"This can be a breakthrough year for America," he declared.

Obama tempered that optimistic assessment with an open question to lawmakers: "The question for everyone in this chamber, running through every decision we make this year, is whether we are going to help or hinder this progress."

With Congress unlikely to deal on most issues, Obama must keep expectations low, without putting people into a funk.

If they're not already there, that is.

Polls show people are pessimistic about the country's direction and the condition of the economy. Seventy percent think unemployment will stay the same or get worse in the next year.

As for Obama himself, "both his supporters and his opponents are worried that he has lost his enthusiasm and his energy for the political contest," said Calvin Jillson, a presidential scholar at Southern Methodist University.

Jillson pointed to Obama's own comments in a recent interview that he's "overexposed" and that it's natural for people to want something new "after six, seven years of me being on the national stage."

Probe uncovers more cheating in nuclear corps

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The cheating scandal inside the Air Force's nuclear missile corps is expanding, with the number of service members implicated by investigators now roughly double the 34 reported just a week ago, officials said Tuesday.

It wasn't immediately clear whether the additional 30-plus airmen suspected of being involved in cheating on proficiency tests are alleged to have participated in the cheating directly or were involved indirectly.

Regardless, a doubling of the number implicated means that approximately 14 percent of the entire Air Force cadre of nuclear missile launch control officers, which numbers about 500, has been removed at least temporarily from active missile duty. It was not clear Tuesday how that affects the mission, beyond requiring the remaining crew members to bear a bigger share of the work.

The officials who disclosed the higher number cheating suspects spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to disclose the information by name while the investigation is ongoing.

The Air Force announced on Jan. 15 that while it was investigating possible criminal drug use by some airmen, it discovered that one missile officer at Malmstrom Air Force Base,

Mont., had shared test questions with 16 other officers. It said another 17 admitted to knowing about this cheating but did not report it.

The 34 officers had their security clearances suspended and they were taken off missile launch duty.

Lt. Col. John Sheets, a spokesman for Air Force Global Strike Command, which manages the nuclear Air Force, said he could not comment on the number of additional officers implicated in the cheating investigation since last week, but he said all are launch control officers at Malmstrom and all have been removed from performing that duty pending the outcome of the investigation.

The Air Force has 450 intercontinental ballistic missiles, or ICBMs, on alert at all times, with a contingent of about 500 launch control officers, some number of which are unavailable on any given day due to illness or other reasons. So the number temporarily unavailable for duty because of the cheating scandal, at roughly 68, is substantial.

Each day, a total of 90 officers work in pairs inside 45 underground launch control centers, with each center monitoring and controlling a group of 10 ICBMs. They work 24-hour shifts in the missile field and then return to their base. They generally do as many as eight of these shifts per month.

GOP responds with message of empowerment

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers on Tuesday offered a kinder, gentler vision of Republicans who are determined to empower Americans, not the government, and close the gap "between where you are and where you want to be."

Tapped to deliver the GOP response to President Barack Obama's State of the Union address, McMorris Rodgers touched on the daily routines of average Americans that overshadow Washington, from kissing children goodnight to preparing for a doctor's visit, and complained that Obama's policies are making life harder.

The highest-ranking Republican woman in Congress said the GOP believes "in a government that trusts people and doesn't limit where you finish because of where you started. That is what we stand for — for an America that is every bit as

compassionate as it is exceptional. Our plan is one that dreams big for everyone and turns its back on no one."

Noteworthy for a member of the Republican leadership, McMorris Rodgers expressed support for changing the nation's immigration system, though she made no mention of what to do about the estimated 11 million immigrants living in the United States illegally.

The chairwoman of the House Republican Conference focused on dealing with border security and expanding visas to attract high-tech workers.

Her remarks were highly personal, devoted in large part to her background and family. She spoke while seated on a couch in her office, a flag, family photo and fireplace in the background. She spoke of preferred Republican approaches on school choice and lower taxes.

McMorris Rodgers said that

under the president's economic policies "more Americans stopped looking for a job than found one," and criticized his health care overhaul for leading to canceled insurance coverage and patients unable to see their regular doctors.

"Republicans believe health care choices should be yours, not the government's," said the five-term congresswoman from eastern Washington. "And that whether you're a boy with Down syndrome or a woman with breast cancer, you can find coverage and a doctor who will treat you."

McMorris Rodgers' son Cole, 6, has Down syndrome, and she co-founded the Congressional Down Syndrome Caucus six years ago to try to raise awareness of the difficulties that children with the syndrome face. The 44-year-old lawmaker delivered her third child just eight weeks ago.

Countering recent Democratic defenses of government, McMorris Rodgers

said the mission is "to ensure that we are not bound by where we come from, but empowered by what we can become. That is the gap Republicans are working to close. It's the gap we all face: between where you are and where you want to be."

Republicans have struggled to shed Democratic criticism that they've waged a "war on women," a difficulty reflected in the 2012 presidential vote in which Obama captured 55 percent of the female vote. Republican remarks about "legitimate rape" and Mike Huckabee's recent convoluted comment about birth control and women's libido have undermined the party's effort to appeal to female voters.

Hours before the president's speech, the House voted to bar federal subsidies to Americans signing up to health care plans that cover abortion, and Democrats accused the GOP of undercutting women's reproductive rights.

McMorris Rodgers, who is

fourth in the House leadership, has stood out in a GOP conference dominated by older men. Her national television address comes as the GOP is seeking to attract female voters.

The annual response to the president's address is often awarded to up-and-coming politicians, including ones with presidential ambitions. But delivering the speech to a camera after the president's applause-interrupted address can sometimes prove problematic.

Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal's stiff response in 2009 was widely panned, and the lasting image from Sen. Marco Rubio's speech last year was his desperate grab for a water bottle.

McMorris Rodgers was not the lone GOP voice Tuesday night. Sen. Mike Lee of Utah was giving the tea party response to the president, and Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky was delivering his views.

INSIDE COLUMN

A college snow day

Annemarie Loessberg
News Writer

I am from the East Coast, just outside of Washington, D.C. While I was in high school, we were hit by two very large storms christened “Snowpocalypse” and “Snowmageddon.” If there is about an inch of snow on the ground, the government closes, and schools closely follow suit. While I was in high school, we had so many snow days that a few years we had to make up class days on federal holidays and at the end of the school year. I remember hearing that, at the same time, friends of mine in the Midwest had their first snow day since kindergarten.

That brings me to now: I moved to the Midwest to attend Saint Mary’s College. I had heard horror stories from my family who had attended Saint Mary’s and Notre Dame 20 years before and how, one day, it was even illegal to drive on the roads. My first two years here, I kept waiting for those horrific winters and they never arrived. Yes, we did get a lot more snow than I did at home, but it wasn’t the extreme I had been led to believe was the norm, here. In my first two years, whenever it snowed, I would check my email and the news, out of habit from years of ‘when it snows, school is closed.’ For two years I was disappointed. At the beginning of this year, there were reports that we were due for the worst winter in a very long time. But I had heard that repeatedly since freshman year. I thought nothing of it.

Back home, we had strange weather over Christmas. Normally the big snows happen in late January, early February so I left all my snow clothes back at school, leaving room in my baggage for other things. But we got snow while I was home and the huge storm that swept through made it even worse over here in the Midwest. It was illegal to drive on the roads. It was so cold frostbite could occur in five minutes and engines could fail without warning; putting those two together is not appealing at all.

But now, when I had just gotten to the point where I had accepted I was never going to have a snow day while in college, I got two. IN A ROW. They didn’t affect me too much since I don’t have Tuesday classes, but they have given me a reason to open my bottle of wine, sit back and watch trashy television and enjoy the company of all my friends. So cheers! Hope you all enjoyed your snow days!

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

Grateful for salad

Robert Alvarez
Man on a Nag

I’m a huge fan of the North Dining Hall lunch’s Salad of the Day. If you’d ask my mom, you’d know that this is a huge deal. Historically, I’ve despised salads. Really, I hated food in general. I thought pizza was nasty until age five. I regularly drank sodas at family parties to fill me up, mostly because I didn’t like tamales until high school. My mom has tried to accomplish for years what NDH has accomplished with a simple fajita chicken salad. That salad line is now my daily lunch habit.

One day last week, I was overjoyed to find out that day’s salad was the Cobb salad with avocado ranch dressing. I shoulder-checked some poor girl to avoid the exponentially increasing line (this is standard practice), and eagerly walked to my friends’ table ready to get that turkey-bacon-avocado goodness in my mouth. As I sat down, though, a friend of mine commented, “It looks like they tossed your salad well, huh?”

Confused, I glanced at my salad and replied, “Yeah, I guess.”

Another friend then chimed in, “Ah man, I hate when they don’t toss it well!”

“I know, right? It ruins my salad.”

“Employee X is the worst.”

By this time, I was already halfway done with my salad, but I was concerned by what my friends were saying. They eventually went on to give an evaluation of other dining hall employees: “He doesn’t smile,” “She’s so slow,” “He freaks out when...,” all usually preceded by, “I hate.” I’ve heard these complaints before and I

usually shrug them off, but for some reason I was annoyed this time. Is this really representative of how we view our workers? Usually, when I press my friends about these kinds of statements, they respond by reminding me how much we’ve paid for these services; we deserve better than this.

How much, however, can we reasonably expect for the money we pay? We pay employees to carry out a service of some kind, and I’ve yet to encounter an ND employee who has not done their job when I paid them. The execution of a job is not the issue here. What is at issue is we seem to expect more; we expect “service with a smile.” Money can only buy so much, though. To me, it seems unfair to expect more than the service rendered. We are not owed a view into the psyche of the people who wait on us; I don’t know who the person swiping my card is, I don’t know what their day has been like. Why should I expect more from them besides a well-swiped card?

That being said, however, I’ve yet to meet an ND employee who wouldn’t return a smile if I was persistent in offering one. Even some of the “meaner” employees would eventually relent if I did something as simple as reading off their nametags. (This little tip is a game changer. Who knew, people respond positively when you recognize them as a person with a name). Regardless of whether I receive a smile in response, though, what does it say about me if I only view my smile or thanks as valid if I receive a “You’re welcome!” in return? Is my gratitude contingent on having my ego stroked? Am I only a friendly person when other people are friendly to me? This seems out of line with the spirit of gratitude, especially to us Notre

Dame students who have already been given everything. Granted, gratitude is not something one should expect from anyone, no matter how much they have. It is something that is given freely and shouldn’t be something conceded when certain material thresholds are reached. If this is our standard, I doubt we will ever be grateful. Rather, gratitude comes from a sense of wonder at our lives. Luckily, we live in a wonderful world; gratitude should be our default, not contingent.

This brings me back to our favorite salad-tosser. She has special needs, and special needs employees don’t have a minimum wage, so in all probability she isn’t paid much. Many special needs people still work for a pittance, however, because they love working. Yet, we’re upset because this lady doesn’t toss our salads well enough? Frankly, if a poorly tossed salad upset me to the extent I’ve heard others express, I’d need to reevaluate some things in my life. Try saying hi to her. Learn her name. She gets a little flustered when the line is long though, so don’t always expect a response if that is the case. But eventually you might catch her when things are slower and she’ll flash you a smile with a, “YOU’RE WELCOME!” She even wished me a good weekend once. The great thing about showing gratitude is that it is usually met with the same.

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EDITORIAL CARTOON



Pro-life talk but not pro-life ethic

Elizabeth Pfenson
Guest Columnist

Last week, approximately 600 students, faculty, staff and alumni represented the University of Notre Dame at this year's March for Life. Despite the unusual cold and vast amounts of snow (by D.C. standards, at least), the Notre Dame community demonstrated its commitment to life as beginning at conception. Roughly two months ago, the University re-filed its lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Indiana for relief from the HHS Mandate. This is a case about religious liberties, but at the heart of the matter is Notre Dame's commitment to the unborn and the teachings of the Church that celebrate life, whenever it comes and whatever its form.

In its November 13, 2013, "Special Message" on the HHS Mandate, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops reiterated their opposition to the mandate and celebrated the Church's long-standing practice of providing and advocating for "accessible, life-affirming health care" (usccb.org, U.S. Bishops Issue 'Special Message' on HHS Mandate at Conclusion of General Assembly). They grounded their concerns in the Church's commitments to "feed the poor, heal the sick, and educate the young."

I have often heard criticisms of the "pro-life" movement by members of the "pro-choice" community that construe pro-lifers as only caring about life at conception and as stopping to care about that life once it has been

born. Such critics point to a perceived comparative lack of vigor about the rights of the elderly, disabled, homeless and orphaned. To the extent that this criticism is true, it is well-deserved: a healthy respect-for-life ethic must be carried through to support and value life in all of its stages and forms, no matter if the work becomes less glamorous or harder because of social inequalities, racism and systematic poverty (to name just a few complicating factors).

At least at one time, it would have been harder to levy this criticism at Notre Dame. When I heard of the University Life Initiative called the "Pregnant and Parenting Student Assistance Fund," I was thrilled. This fund, to me, was a demonstration that Notre Dame was interested in following through with its commitment to support life; it was a sign the University was interested in engaging with students in the challenging and resource-intensive task of raising the life that often can be so easy to create.

Simply put, the assistance fund existed to support undergraduate or graduate students who faced intentional and unintentional pregnancies. Recognizing "pregnancy and parenting present challenges of fitting in as well as keeping up with academic demands," in its mission statement on the University Life Initiatives website, the University committed itself "to working with pregnant and parenting students to find ways for them to continue their education at the University." For many students, this meant they received financial assistance for diapers,

formula and childcare — costs that are not provided for in the typical financial aid award or graduate student stipend. This fund was a blessing to many students, some of whom I know here at the University and some of whom have graduated in recent years.

But this fund is no more — it has assisted its last pregnant or parenting student. In the words of the fund administrator, "no funding remains," and the University has "decided not to move forward with actively seeking donations for the fund at this time," according to an email from Peter Horvath, student services program director of the Notre Dame Law School, to me dated Jan. 23, 2014. I learned the fund had been discontinued when I went to apply for assistance for myself, my spouse and our child.

At one time, the University saw this fund as deeply connected to its mission as a Catholic university. It was a very concrete way for Notre Dame to follow through with its promise to support life. From the University Life Initiative's program description on its website: "Notre Dame is committed to life and to offering students resources that support a student's choice of life — both during the pregnancy and after the child's birth." To be fair, Notre Dame does offer limited additional resources for pregnant and parenting students, including counseling, academic support, housing accommodation for undergraduates and limited financial assistance for those with unintentional pregnancies. But none of these programs offer the same flexibility to meet individual needs as

the assistance fund, and many of the resources offered by Notre Dame are not available to graduate students or those who became pregnant intentionally. By closing off this avenue of support for many of its own families, Notre Dame opens itself up to criticisms that it is interested in the pro-life talk but not the pro-life ethic. By encouraging students to be open to life but not supporting them once that life has arrived, Notre Dame finds itself in a position that is too close to hypocritical for comfort.

As a graduate student mere months from graduation, whether or not this fund is ultimately re-endowed is unlikely to impact my own life story. But my hope in writing this is that future students who are pregnant or have children can benefit from the University's wealth of resources as they nurture the lives entrusted to them. In our transition out of Advent, through Epiphany and now into Ordinary Time, let us not forget the story of Our Lady, who prepared to mother in the worst of circumstances, and who, I think, feels as deeply for mothers and families as she does for the unborn. May she continue to watch over young families in need of assistance, even if her University has decided to do so no longer.

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UWIRE

Finding solace in lost baggage

Ally Daniels
Yale Daily News

Last week I inadvertently bore witness to a quasi-psychological study involving baggage claim representatives and volatile customers.

Let me start off with some background. Over winter break, my family took a two-week trip to Asia. My brothers and I, all college students, packed our bags with almost everything we brought home for break. When we arrived in Hong Kong, two airline representatives were waiting for us at the gate to deliver the news that three of our six bags did not make it onto the aircraft. They sincerely apologized, gave us \$400 of compensation and told us the exact time the following day that the bags would be delivered to our hotel. The way in which the representatives handled it — with courtesy and a calm attitude — ameliorated any frustrations we might have had, and instead left us appreciative of their efforts.

My experience coming back to the U.S. could not have been more different. We arrived in Baltimore on a Saturday night and I was eager to

get my bags home, hoping to do my laundry before I returned to Yale the following day. After my luggage failed to appear on the baggage carousel, I waited in a long line to speak to an airline representative. With an unnecessarily rude tone, the representative told me my bag was still in Chicago, where we had connected between Tokyo and Baltimore. Though I was told it would be put on the final flight to Baltimore that night, it didn't leave Chicago until late in the afternoon the next day. I had to have the bag shipped to New Haven and I didn't receive it until 11 p.m. that Monday. I was given no explanation, no apology and no reimbursement.

Therein lies my study and, as a prospective psych major, I couldn't possibly pass up an opportunity to (very rudimentarily) analyze this. Both on the way out and on the way back our bags were lost. But, on the way out we were wholly pacified and on the way back we were incredibly frustrated. The ways in which the airlines handled the mishap framed the experiences for us, either positively or negatively. It was fascinating to see how much power those around us hold in creating the lens

through which we view our everyday experiences.

This reminded me of an adage that used to play every morning on my elementary school PA system: "Treat all people as you would like to be treated, with respect, courtesy and consideration." It is a simple cliché that is often forgotten and makes a world of difference in frustrating situations.

This lesson is made especially relevant during shopping period. We are thrown into a week of indecision and confusion, begging professors for spots in seminars and capped lectures while simultaneously trying to find backup classes that meet at the same time. We can't even shop those backup classes without risking losing potential spots in our first-choice courses.

Amidst the throes of the two-week period, we seek compassion from professors and are often given very little. I've received countless one-sentence notes from professors in response to my three paragraph emails to them, singing their praises and imploring them for a highly coveted spot in their class. It's not that I can't handle the rejection; I can and have prepared myself for not getting into

their classes. But I would come away from the experience much more positively if the professor tried to soften the blow a little bit, thanking me for my interest and wishing me luck with the rest of my classes. Professors are under no obligation to craft courteous responses — I assume they receive hundreds of these pleading emails daily — but the extra effort would go a long way in soothing the exasperating pandemonium that is shopping period.

The takeaway from this overly simplistic analysis of my pseudo-case is obvious, and one that is instilled in us from a very young age. But, in the spirit of New Year's resolutions, it's never a bad idea to be reminded of the basics. We've all been that person whose baggage was lost, or whose spot in a coveted seminar was denied. Just like the polite airline representative, we too have the capacity to frame even negative moments with kind words and an upbeat attitude.

The Yale Daily News is the independent student newspaper serving Yale University.

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

INTERVIEW: VALERIE SAYERS

By **EMMA TERHAAR**
Scene Writer

This evening, Notre Dame's Creative Writing Program will have its first reading of the semester. Valerie Sayers, the celebrated author of six novels, will be sharing her work. Of Sayers' six novels, two were named in the New York Times' "Notable Books of the Year." Her most recent novel, "The Powers," a coming-of-age story about Yankees slugger Joe DiMaggio, was released last fall to much acclaim. Sayers' five earlier novels have just been reissued by Northwestern University Press in a paperback set. Sayers, who is also a Notre Dame professor of English, spoke with Scene writer Emma Terhaar about her upcoming reading.

Emma Terhaar: What will you be reading from on Wednesday?

Valerie Sayers: Since this reading is to celebrate new uniform editions of five previously-published novels that Northwestern released in late 2013, I thought I'd read from the first of these, "Due East" (1987) and the last, "Brain Fever" (1996). My latest novel, "The Powers," was published in April 2013, and I also celebrated that publication with a campus reading.

ET: "The Powers" is a novel told from the perspective of Joe DiMaggio, right? What sparked your interest in DiMaggio?

VS: The novel explores pacifism and acts of witness

on the eve of World War II. Since Joe DiMaggio's famous hitting streak took place in 1941, and since so many Americans seemed to regard DiMaggio as the kind of hero they were looking for as they debated entering the war, he was a great way to tie together the questions I was asking.

ET: It's really interesting that you inhabited a very specific historical figure, not because you were overly interested in him, but because he was a way to answer some more socially important questions you had about that time period. About how much research went into writing about that historical era and Joe specifically?

VS: I researched a great deal — I read all the DiMaggio biographies to date, as well as books about pacifism and the Catholic Worker movement, and books about the early years of the Holocaust. Online, I followed the daily New York Times for 1941 (I was as interested in ads and the writing style as I was in the news, but the news was fascinating. I had no idea, for example, that accounts of Jewish residents being rounded up in Paris and Vienna were buried in the back pages of "the paper of record.") I also read The Sporting News' accounts of Joe D's streak games and looked up many baseball facts; I'm a fan, but I needed the knowledge of a fanatic. Finally, I looked at more photographs of the era than I could count.

ET: So is it correct to describe a book like "The Powers" as historical fiction?

VS: It's certainly historical fiction, but it's also an experiment in using two forms of narrative, prose and photographs, to tell two parallel stories.

ET: And how long does it normally take you to write a book, and "The Powers" in particular?

VS: The idea for it came when the U.S. was debating whether to invade Iraq and my sons were debating whether they considered themselves conscientious objectors. But I wasn't able to start working on it in earnest till several years later, around 2004. It took a long time to write, but getting permissions for all the photographs I used took up a lot of time too. No book of mine has ever taken so long to make it to print!

ET: Does Notre Dame influence your novels?

VS: Notre Dame influences me on a daily basis, but certainly the presence of a Kroc Institute where the ideas I was writing about are studied seriously provided a kind of moral support. And working among sports fanatics also illuminated some ideas for me, especially how sports can transport us and call forth a kind of fidelity we may otherwise find hard to honor.

Sayers' reading will be tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore. Attendance is free, and her newly reissued paperback books will also be available for purchase at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore.

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WORST THING EVER:

'I'm 'n Luv (Wit a Stripper)'



By **Matt McMahon**
Scene Writer

T-Pain produced his Top Ten, certified platinum single "I'm 'n Luv (Wit a Stripper)" in a mere two hours. This is pretty shocking, considering it sounds like the product took less than an hour of work to put together. Using only the GarageBand software from Apple — and his affinity for radio-penetrating earworms — the rapper and singer created the hit single, his third most popular to-date. The song combines, in my opinion, the worst elements of pop hip-hop and the non-confrontational, easy listening style of elevator music.

His use of a winding steel-string acoustic guitar to establish that perfect contemporary R&B sentimentality is so cheesy and unearned that it's difficult for me to even get through the first five seconds of the song. Then the chiptune fluty synth line he lays over the top sounds like you're listening to one of those non-copyrighted versions of a song on a music tab website. You know, the kind that avoids plagiarism by using a high-pitched wind instrument as the vocal melody in place of the actual vocals — actually, maybe that version of the song would be easier to listen to because you wouldn't be subjected to T-Pain's painful lyricism, but, don't worry, I'll get to that in a moment. The pervasive flute and guitar arrangement not only remains one of the most

annoying, inorganic pieces of music ever to dominate radios and clubs and any other place people decide to listen to terrible music, but also on top of that, it also gets stuck in your head makes it even more annoying for me to hear.

Not to mention the dually grating aspects of the vocals T-Pain lays down on the track. He uses vocal modification just for the sake of masking his own voice, but his delivery at the ends of all of his lines ends up intensifying the most irritating tendencies of his pronunciation. The autotune applied, even briefly, throughout the verses could easily be replaced by singing in a manner not so entirely flat and devoid of emotion. Then at the tail end of most, if not all, of the song's phrases, he either weakly and lazily drops the final syllable or sustains it for far too long in this lip-curved snarly drawl.

Even T-Pain seems embarrassed by the ballad, putting the fact that his infatuation is with this stripper in parentheses. It's an afterthought; he'd much rather the listener only know, "I'm 'n Luv" — with only two hours to make the song he couldn't afford dedicating any of that time to properly spelling out "in" or "love." So the "(Wit a Stripper)" looks like the typeface embodiment of his habit of trailing off at the end of a sentence. With his choice of song title T-Pain's basically pronouncing "I'm IN LOVE...with a stripper." If he really feels this strongly, he should own it: stalwartly declare that love by jumping up on stage with her and

screaming it for everyone to hear, man. Also, if I were the stripper he's in love with, I wouldn't know how to feel based on his decisions in punctuation.

And don't get me started on the rest of T-Pain's songwriting on "I'm 'n Luv (Wit a Stripper)." It's probably safe to assume that given the nature of the woman's profession, T-Pain's affection might be in some part physical. But, in composing an ode to his crush, T-Pain was presented an opportunity to expound upon her other qualities, possibly in personality or character or moments they've shared, that also might attract him to her. Instead, he spends five hundred words spewing out vague, superficial typicality. She's hot, she's thick, she does that thing with the pole — what sets her apart from all the other strippers he claims, "show me love," huh? His description cannot possibly do this girl justice, after all sexuality and intimacy have been taken away. The lines come off as excruciatingly mechanical, and while he only focuses on the physicality of this stripper he loves so much, he cannot even convey that bit poetically. I hope this girl, the subject of the ballad, didn't fall for such a lazy attempt at courtship; if she did, that would make the song even worse than the worst thing ever.

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LEAVE JUSTIN ALONE



Allie Tollaksen
Associate Scene Editor

I should preface this article by explaining that I am not a Justin Bieber fan. I don't know any of his music, to the extent that when I came to Notre Dame as a freshman and my dorm's Frosh-O "serenade" used the melody of a Justin Bieber song, I fumbled over the tune all week as apparently the only living person on planet earth who hadn't heard "Baby" before. What I do know about Bieber is that he's a Canadian teenager, Usher made him famous and, apparently since then, he's stirred up plenty of trouble.

I first heard about Bieber's issues long ago in 2013 when his "birthday clubbing" incident hit the news. After reading Justin's rants about the London club that denied him and his friends entry, I dismissed the story as nonsense, thought of Bieber as kind of a jerk and didn't think of it again. It wasn't until last week that news of the star popped back into my usually Bieber-less life. News about the singer's "sizzurp" problem hit hard, and in reading the reports, I learned of the 19-year-old's history of close calls with drugs and alcohol – he was found with marijuana and a stun gun last April, had several run ins with club goers and owners throughout last year and was even detained in Australia for drug possession.

It was this January, however, that Bieber's "close-call" streak ended. In continuing his habit of bad behavior, Bieber was accused of egging a neighbor's house. The accusations led to a full-fledged police raid, which

exposed fully the teenager's involvement with drugs – allegedly, cups of "sizzurp," a drink made with codeine, as well as marijuana and ecstasy were found in the house during the raid. Somehow, the events managed to take an even worse turn when Bieber was arrested for drag racing a rented Lamborghini while drunk and high and charged with a DUI.

With this rapid-fire series of events leading to Bieber's arrest, "Bieber Fever" turned into some serious Bieber hate. As Bieber was put in and subsequently bailed out of jail, trends on Twitter indicated that most of the country was not pleased with the singer's actions, with hashtags like "#deportbieber" trending worldwide. An online petition to deport the Canadian star has gained over 50,000 signatures from "concerned" Americans.

It's clear that Justin Bieber has his fair share of problems. It's even clearer that the country has turned on the once-beloved pop star as he transitioned from baby-faced teen heartthrob to tattooed bad boy. But what I'm still not sure of is why our collective reaction to this news is shock and dismay.

While I certainly don't believe there's any excuse for Bieber's behavior, let's take a step back and think about the star's upbringing: He was discovered at age 13 and was quickly ushered (no pun intended) from living with his single mother in Canada into a life of world tours, paparazzi and magazine covers. Along the way, Bieber obviously became involved in some very adult activity, but at an age that most kids spend worrying about detention or their ACT scores, Bieber was surrounded by millions of dollars and group of managers and an entourage who never told him "no." Incident after

incident, the singer's managers and label dealt with his problems privately, likely with no repercussions for the star. And the public is actually surprised and angered by his recent actions?

Like so many child stars, Justin Bieber's upbringing in the limelight has put him in situations far past his maturity level, and if his recent home raid is any indication, Bieber isn't dealing with it well. But while his erratic, aggressive and irresponsible behavior is reprehensible; the knee-jerk reaction to deport the star due to his recent arrest seems bafflingly inappropriate to me. Rather than respond with any sort of compassion or concern for a clearly troubled teenager, America has decided to declare Bieber a "danger to society" and dispose of him. I'm still not sure why we as the public care so much about this kid, but if we're going to care, maybe it should be about his health rather than his impact on the fabric of American society. Just a suggestion.

Since Justin Bieber faces felony charges, there is actually a possibility that he could legally be deported. The star also allegedly is on the receiving end of an intervention from his label and will be encouraged to go to rehab. It seems that finally, the people around the 19-year-old are giving his problems the attention they need. But if the reaction of the public is to shame, abandon or literally deport a likely drug-addicted teenager who was so obviously headed in this felonious direction, I'm just glad I'm not a pop star.

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TOP 40: alternate universe edition

John Darr
Scene Writer

Yesterday, I asked one of my more strongly-opinionated friends if he had heard of some relatively obscure rock band. "I don't listen to that hipster bull****" he responded with deriding seriousness. I laughed it off, but it made me sad. I wasn't insulted; us musical hipsters experience a lot of this sort of thing. Instead, I was again reminded of a misconception commonly held about indie music.

Many indie bands make songs very similar to those on the radio with catchy chorus and friendly production. Such "indie-pop" bands are often the music heard at trendy clothing stores and during television commercials; nothing noticeably separates the music from mainstream pop music except for its popularity.

That being said, there's a lot of indie music out there. Most of it, for some reason or another, would never be on Top 40 radio. Some of it is recorded and produced with lo-fi equipment, some of it is experimental/artsy and a whole lot of it is just plain bad. Even if a radio listener wants to check out "indie music," it can be difficult for them to track down something they really like.

That's why I'm starting this column. After countless hours of exploring Spotify, iTunes and the like, I've tracked down amazing indie-pop artists whose music screams to be played on the radio. Every week, Top 40 A.U.E. will showcase an indie-pop artist whose music is friendly, catchy and just plain great. If anyone finds themselves happily jamming to indie music and hungry for more, I'll have done my job.

Well let's get started, shall we?

Snowmine

Snowmine makes warm, airy music with gorgeously layered guitars and soft orchestral atmospheres; think hot chocolate on a softly snowy day. Frontman/songwriter Grayson Sanders has a voice that effortlessly slips in and out of falsetto, allowing songs to have original vocal melodies that never stray into awkward territory. This is showcased in incredibly catchy singles "Penny" and "Let Me In" from debut album "Laminate Pet Animal." Just a warning: You will try to hit "those notes." You will not hit those notes.

'Laminate Pet Animal' is currently downloadable on their Bandcamp page for whatever price you want to pay. They also have a new album, "Dialects," coming out within the next month. That album is streaming on Spotify as of

yesterday.

Washed Out

Known best for Portlandia theme song "Feel It All Around," producer Earnest Greene makes chilled out, reverb-laden pop songs under the name Washed Out. Rich drumbeats that flit between world music and hip hop pin down gauzy synth atmospheres. While the vocals are often difficult to understand, they carve out irresistible harmonies and easy melodies that lull a listener into humming along.

Washed Out stretches out pop music's fist-pumping chord progressions into soft, pillowy backdrops. It's the perfect music for shutting one's eyes on a car drive through the countryside, or simply sinking into the comfiest chair in the common room. Check out Washed Out's excellent debut "Within or Without" to hear trademark singles "Eyes Be Closed" and "Amor Fati", and if you're thirsting for more, his 2013 offering "Paracosm" for a more flowery, tropical sound.

Contact John Darr at jdarr@nd.edu

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

SPORTS AUTHORITY

'Space Jam' is a game for the ages



Jack Hefferon
Sports Writer

Editor's note: This is the eighth installment in a 10-part series discussing the best rivalry in sports. Join the discussion on Twitter by using the #BestRivalry.

Over the past week and a half, on the off chance that you read this column regularly, you've seen some arguments for some of the great rivalries in all of sports. You've read about the illustrious competition in the Iron Bowl, the tradition of the Army-Navy match-up, Frazier and Ali's epic battles, the Cold War competition between America and the USSR, and more. There are several more worthy rivalries that will get their days in the sun later this week, as well.

But none those are even in the same ballpark — the same universe, even — as the greatest rivalry in all of sports.

The rivalry may not be a prolific one, as the teams played each other only once, nearly 20 years ago. But the game has not been forgotten by dedicated fans, and the highlights, even now, rank it as an instant classic.

The year was 1996. On the one side, the best player in the game, in his prime, along with legends your parents had grown up watching. Team chemistry could be an issue at times as these legendary personalities clashed, and arguments among teammates could get pretty animated — in a hurry. But when the game was on the line, this lineup knew how to put on a show and get the job done.

However, the crowd favorites were undersized and the obvious underdogs compared to their opponents, a team filled with loads of foreign talent and a huge frontcourt. Many of their players had come from lowly beginnings, but their no-holds-barred coach and some highly controversial training methods had whipped them into shape just in time for this crucial matchup on the road.

The contest was billed as "The Ultimate Game," and the stakes of this one time rivalry couldn't have been higher. The animosity between the two squads was evident from the opening tip, as things got physical in a hurry. But the referees were determined not to let the whistle decide the game, and let the players have at it, even as the on-court violence began to escalate to a nearly comical level.

This early style of game clearly favored the visitors, and the sell-out home crowd was quickly taken out of the game. Things only got worse for the

home team, as a pathetic effort sent them into the locker room down 48. After all the build-up and hype, the game seemed to be over before it started.

But then, halftime happened. Historians and fans have debated what exactly happened behind the closed doors of the locker room for decades. While the players maintain that the team's leaders gave a series of motivational talks and came out with new life after the water break, some cynics allege that a mysterious and secret performance enhancing substance was passed around at halftime.

Regardless of what you choose to believe, the results were sweeping and immediate. The home team came out on fire, focusing in on their own brand of aggressive defense and putting their big opponents on the run. With the crowd finding its way back into the game, the home squad used its superior bench depth to go on an incredible run, even as their injuries began to rack up. Unheralded players stepped into contribute along with the superstars, with seemingly everyone playing a role in engineering the comeback.

As all great rivalry games do, the game came down to the final play. Up one point with 10 seconds to play, all the visitors needed to do was hang on to the ball and secure the win. But things unfolded like a Hollywood script, as the scrappy home team forced a monstrous turnover on the inbound and moved the ball up the floor.

Watching the highlights, even all these years later, these 10 seconds still seem to stretch on forever. But after a series of passes, the underdogs finally get the ball to their best player, streaking over the half court line, and what happens next is just loony. He disappears into a crowd of two defenders, then seems to hang in the air for eternity, even with the defense draped all over him.

And when Michael Jordan's 50-foot arm threw the ball through the hoop as time expired — saving himself from enslavement, the Looney Tunes from destruction, Charles Barkley from a lifetime of therapy and ending a bizarre NBA lockout subplot — he puts the finishing touch on the greatest rivalry game ever played.

Tune Squad 78, Monstars 77. It doesn't get any better than that.

Welcome to the Jam.

Contact Jack Hefferon at whiffero@nd.edu

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

NFL

'Stoner Bowl' takes hold

Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — The way Bryan Weinman sees it, he and his friends already won their Super Bowl bet.

Two weeks ago, the nightclub DJ and a few buddies were sitting at a sports bar in Denver, joking about how funny it would be if the Seattle Seahawks and Denver Broncos — the NFL teams from the two states that have legalized marijuana — made it to the big game.

They decided to plunk down a \$44 wager — the fee for registering the Internet domain www.stonerbowl.org — just before the Seahawks and Broncos won their conference championships.

It paid off. They're now using the site to hawk T-shirts and hats celebrating the coincidence. One shirt features the Vince Lombardi Trophy, reserved for the game's victors, re-fashioned into a bong. Another features a spoof of the league's logo, with the letters "THC" — for marijuana's active compound — replacing "NFL."

From weed-themed Super Bowl parties to a Denver company's "Stoner Bowl" tours of recreational pot shops, this year's Super Bowl offers a twist on a sporting event better known for its beer commercials. Thanks to the recreational marijuana laws passed by voters in 2012, sales of taxed pot to adults over 21 began at Colorado pot shops Jan. 1 and are due to begin in Washington later this year.

There have been a slew of predictable, ready-made puns, most of which have to do with "bowl" being the part of the pipe where pot goes. Some fans have issued not-quite-serious calls for a cannabis-friendly musician — say, Willie Nelson or Snoop Dogg — to sing the national anthem.

"I'm staying home and will be watching the Super Bowl while I light up my own Super Bowl," well-known stoner Tommy

Chong, of the comedy duo Cheech and Chong, wrote on their Facebook page. The pair released a publicity photo doctored to show Chong in a Seahawks headband and Cheech Marin in a knit Broncos hat.

The Washington chapter of NORML, the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, said it would be rooting on the "THC-Hawks." It made a friendly bet with Colorado NORML for what they're calling "Bud Bowl XLVIII."

If Denver wins, the Washington chapter has to dress in Broncos colors and sing John Denver's "Rocky Mountain High." If Seattle wins, the Colorado chapter must dress in Seahawks colors and sing "Purple Haze," by Seattle native Jimi Hendrix. Video evidence is to be posted on the winner's Facebook page for at least a week.

In deference to the importance of good officiating, High Times magazine offered a guide to spotting "Stoner Bowl" party fouls, including the offense of "holding": "When the violator takes, two, three, maybe eight hits before passing the joint."

On Twitter, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals promoted its recipe for vegan "Colorado catnip" brownies, with caveats: "Note: This recipe is for humans only. Also note: This recipe is for legally obtained marijuana. PETA does not condone the purchase or sale of illegal drugs."

At the sports bar, Weinman, 35, and his friends scribbled down their T-shirt ideas — first on coasters, and then paper. Their motto: "One team and a lot of fans are gonna get smoked."

"There's so many easy jokes," he said. "I hope the average person finds comedy in what we're doing."

Even if the average person might, it's not clear the NFL does. "We do not have any response," league spokesman Greg Aiello

wrote in an email.

Derek Franklin, the president of the Washington Association for Substance Abuse and Violence Prevention, said all the attention about the "Weed Bowl or the Bong Bowl, what have you, it drives home the wrong public health message."

He noted that Washington NORML's Facebook page featured a cartoonish version of the Seahawks logo, with bloodshot eyes and a joint in its beak.

"That's the kind of thing that for kids, it's going to stick in their heads," he said. This Super Bowl is "incredible for the 'Hawks, but tough for those of us in prevention."

Medical marijuana advocates also suggested the joking over the big game underscores a serious issue: The NFL doesn't allow its players, even those in states that have approved medical or recreational marijuana, to use it to ease the pain from the beatings they take on the field. Commissioner Roger Goodell said Thursday the league could reconsider that.

"I'm not a medical expert," he said. "We will follow science. We will follow medicine. If they determine this is a proper method, we would consider it. Our medical experts are not saying that right now."

Among those hoping to make a buck on the Denver-Seattle matchup is Matt Brown, co-founder of My 420 Tours in Denver. The company is offering a three-night "Stoner Bowl" package starting at \$1,409. It includes tours of local marijuana shops and indoor gardens, lots of free samples, a cannabis cooking class and a private viewing party for the game.

Brown, who grew up in Kansas City and has mixed loyalties between the Chiefs and the Broncos, said he expected about 50 customers.

"We've been joking about the 'Stoner Bowl' for a couple weeks now," he said.

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all. We'll travel 'round from town to town,We'll visit ev'ry state.'ll repeat, "I love you sweet!"In all the forty-eight.Let's go again to niag'raThis time we'll look at the fall.Let's leave our hut, dear Get out of our rut, dear, Let's get away from it all.

SMC BASKETBALL

Belles set sights on rematch with Adrian

By **KIT LOUGHRAN**
Sports Writer

The Belles open up their second round of conference play Thursday with a home matchup against Adrian at Angela Athletic Facility at 7:30.

Saint Mary's (5-12, 3-5 MIAA) faces Adrian (8-9, 4-5) for the second time this season. Adrian won 80-70 when the two teams met Jan. 29 and the Belles will look to avenge that loss with a second look at the Bulldogs.

"The last time we played Adrian we did not show up to play in the first half," Belles coach Jennifer Henley said. "We had a great second half effort, but we need to put 40 minutes together."

Rebounding from a tough 70-68 loss to Olivet on Jan. 22., the Belles have concentrated their efforts on their defense.

"Our focus continues to be defense," Henley said. "We had a heartbreaking loss at Olivet last week as that game came down to a last-second shot."

Sophomore guard Maddie

Kohler tied the game against Olivet (16-2, 8-1) with a three-pointer in the last ten seconds, but the Belles' defense could not stop Olivet from scoring a last-second layup to win the game. Henley said the Belles will try to adjust their defense to Adrian's style of play.

"Adrian looks to run a lot," Henley said. "We have to find a way to slow down their transition game."

Like the Belles, Adrian recently lost to Olivet. The Bulldogs fell 71-59 to the Comets on Saturday. Senior guard Casey Fougrousse, who averages 7.1 points per game, led Adrian with sixteen points, while senior forward Amy Van Gessel scored thirteen points and had eight rebounds.

Though they lost to Adrian earlier this season, the Belles face the Bulldogs with more game-time experience this second time around. The loss to Olivet and the 67-64 overtime win against Albion on Jan. 18 were both strong tests for the Belles, Henley said.

"My team has certainly



CAROLINE GENCO | The Observer

Belles sophomore guard Maddie Kohler drives towards the arc during the Belles' 95-68 loss to Calvin on Jan. 15. Kohler tied up the Belles' game against Olivet on Jan. 22, but Saint Mary's lost in the final seconds.

been tested the last couple of games," Henley said. "I know those situations will certainly help us down the road."

Lately, Kohler and two forwards, sophomore Krista Knapke, and junior Ariana

Paul, have spurred the Belles' scoring. Knapke led the Belles with 23 points against Olivet to bring her season average to 10.8 points per game. Paul added 12 points against Olivet and averages 13.9 points per

game.

The Belles take on Adrian on Thursday at Angela Athletic Facility at 7:30 p.m.

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WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Ryan reflects on Notre Dame career

By ALEX WILCOX
Sports Writer

With Senior Night and the end of her swimming career fast approaching, senior backstroker Kelly Ryan is using her final moments with the Irish to leave behind a legacy.

Ryan has swam in the Olympic trials, been named an All-American, and captained Notre Dame during her junior year, accomplishments she will carry with her after graduation.

"It's been an awesome four years, I could never imagine being where I am today," Ryan said. "I've grown a lot as an athlete and person and the people at Notre Dame made that possible. I came from a club team and was a raw athlete coming here, and I just improved a lot through hard work and believing in myself, which I learned here."

This weekend's Irish Invitational will be Senior Day for Ryan, Sarah Dotzel, Mikelle Masciantonio, Christen McDonough, Kelly Ryan, and Lauren Stauder. For Ryan, she knows it will be an emotional weekend.

"I've come to think of Rolf's Aquatic Center as a second home to me, and it will always hold a special place in my heart," Ryan said. "I've had so many memories there, both good and bad, and made some of the best friends of my life there, so I'll be a little sad leaving on Saturday."

Ryan said of all her accomplishments with the Irish, the 2012 NCAA Championships will always be her favorite.

"I surprised myself at the 200-yard-backstroke and took seventh, which earned me All-American honors," Ryan said.

"It was a turning point in my career because it made me realize that I could swim with the top girls in the country. From a confidence standpoint, that was huge."

That turning point propelled Ryan toward her best season yet, as she earned Honorable Mention All-America honors in two events, All-Big East honors in six events, and was named a team captain.

"Being a captain was such a huge honor," Ryan said. "I wasn't really expecting it because I was junior, so I was just really honored to be selected as a co-captain. It was fun to lead the team and we had a successful year."

While she is not a captain this year, Ryan said she's proud of the way her senior class has led the team.

"This year all the seniors have really stepped up and proven to be leaders even if they aren't officially captains, so that's really great to see," Ryan said. "I try to lead more by example but I am vocal too. I always work hard in the pool and I'm always the one that cheers in the pool and yells 'Go Irish!' all the time, although I don't know if everyone always likes that, but I feel it helps."

In addition to the leadership of the senior class, Ryan has also been pleased with the success sustained in the pool.

"I think as a team we've been really good this year," Ryan said. "We've been working harder than we ever had before and it's really paying off in dual meets and skill work. At conference we'll really be able to see all the work we put in."

While the Irish Invitational is the last home meet of the season, the team is far from done. In order to prepare for



GRANT TOBIN | The Observer

Irish senior backstroker Kelly Ryan competes in the 400-yard medley relay on Jan. 25, 2013 at the Shamrock Invitational hosted by Notre Dame at Rolf's Aquatic Center.

their first ever ACC Conference Championships in February and the NCAA championships in March, Ryan said she is focusing on two things.

"My two main goals are to stay focused and stay confident," Ryan said. "It's really important to focus on details and technique going into conference. Confidence is a big deal

to me; I have to be confident in myself, in my coaches, and in my teammates."

After graduating, the pre-med and Spanish double major hopes to take a year off from school volunteering and shadowing doctors in Spanish-speaking countries before eventually going to med school.

Before she does that, though,

she has a legacy to pass on.

"I hope to leave the message that it doesn't really matter where you start, you can still succeed if you work hard, have confidence, trust in your coaches and teammates, and just keep at it."

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CLUB SPORTS

Synchronized skaters finish first at competition

Bowling Club finishes ninth at Blue and Gold Classic; Hockey takes third at Chicago tournament

Special to The Observer

The Fighting Irish Synchronized Skating team came in first place this weekend at the Midwestern Sectional Synchronized Skating Championships in Hoffman Estates, IL.

The team skated a nearly perfect program and performed difficult choreography to songs by The Temptations. They received a standing ovation at the end of the program and first place marks from four out of the five judges.

This is the fourth year in a row that the Notre Dame team has won this competition, which is its most important competition of the season. The

Irish skaters competed against nine other Midwest collegiate teams including North Dakota and Miami University, who came in second and third place, respectively. This was the team's final competition of the season, but they will perform several times throughout the rest of the semester.

Bowling Club

This weekend the Notre Dame Bowling Club competed in the Blue and Gold Classic.

Sophomores Steven Brill and Chris Hecht led the team, both bowling 184s during game one. Throughout the next two games, the team missed several spares and only scored

787 and 785 total. In the fourth game, senior Mike Murray posted a strong showing of a 208 and things started looking up for the team as a whole. The fifth game was the team's best game of the tournament and the team shot a combined 875. Towards the end of the day the lanes got very dry and challenging, and the team only shot 822 in the final game of day one. At the start of day two, the Irish were striking well, but struggled to convert spares. During the last three games, the team scored 816, 817, and 860 to end with a total score of 7428 on the weekend. Overall, the team finished in ninth place out of the eleven varsity teams. Murray finished

in 20th in the individual standings with a total pin count of 1647 and an average of 183.

Men's Ice Hockey

The Irish traveled to Chicago for a tournament over the weekend, falling to Nebraska before sweeping Northwestern, Indiana/Purdue-Fort Wayne and Wisconsin-Plattville to take third place in the eight-team tournament.

Notre Dame fell in its first matchup of the weekend, losing 3-1 to Nebraska as the Cornhuskers netted an empty-net goal with a minute remaining to win the game.

Saturday the Irish rebounded with a 3-1 victory over host Northwestern with junior

goaltender Justin Dancu earning the win. Sunday saw the Irish defeat IPFW 2-1 in a close game, with the team getting goals from junior forwards Joe Brogan and Mike Marino and sophomore goaltender Nick Stasack turning aside over 40 shots in the victory.

With Nebraska's Sunday night victory over the Northwestern, the Cornhuskers secured first place in the pool and a spot in the tournament championship, and the Irish were relegated to the third-place game Monday morning. A hat trick from Marino and strong goaltending by Dancu helped the Irish overcome a short bench to earn their third-straight win.

MEN'S SWIMMING

Irish to celebrate diverse group of seniors

By MARY GREEN
Sports Writer

When Notre Dame celebrates its four seniors at the finals of the Shamrock Invitational on Saturday it will honor a group from all over the map that found its home in the pool at Rolfs Aquatic Center.

"When you look at the geographic spread for these guys, you put a star in New York [for freestyler Frank Dyer], a star in Louisiana [for breaststroker Colin Babcock], for [breaststroker] Josh Choi, you put a star in California and for [backstroker] Bertie Nel, you put a star in South Africa," Irish coach Tim Welsh said. "It kind of exemplifies the international reach of Notre Dame."

The seniors represent the smallest class on this season's squad, but Welsh said their impact has been great nonetheless.

"Each guy brings something different to the class, but they've been very, very helpful to the program overall," he said. "They've established a level of this program that lets us compete at a very high level."

Three of them — Dyer, Babcock and Nel — have competed in their respective countries' Olympic trials, and Dyer was the program's first All-American and second NCAA qualifier.

Welsh said, however, that swimming does not

encapsulate all of Dyer's life.

"The thing about Frank is, he's more than his time on the scoreboard, and he's more than his place at our dual meets and at the national meet," he said. "He has an outgoing personality. He's very creative, and he sang for a while in the Halftime [a cappella] group. ... He's just been a very good representative of the University and our program."

As a pre-professional science major, Joshua Choi also boasts achievements outside of the pool.

"Josh Choi continues our excellence in pre-med," Welsh said. "We've had a pre-med character to our team for years and years, and it's represented in this year's class by Josh Choi. He's a very serious student, not that the other three aren't, but he continues to connect us to our pre-med history."

Babcock is a two-time winner of the team's Charles Blanchard Award for his performance, leadership and inspiration.

"Colin Babcock has brought constant energy and enthusiasm, and he is a team player," Welsh said. "He has been recognized as the guy who is most willing to help the team, so that combination of high-level achievement and team orientation has been really, really important."

The fourth senior, Nel, brings a positive presence to the pool deck, his coach said.



GRANT TOBIN | The Observer

Irish senior freestyler Frank Dyer swims his leg of the 400-yard medley relay during last season's Shamrock Invitational held at Rolfs Aquatic Center on Jan. 25, 2013. Dyer's relay team finished second.

"Bertie has been constant," Welsh said. "He shows up every day; he works hard every day; he's cheerful every day; he's an outgoing, friendly guy every day. He's simply a regular, friendly guy."

Though this group will be distinguishable from the rest of the team Saturday at Senior Night, Welsh said his team does not make much of a distinction between the classes in its day-to-day activities.

"We're not usually class-oriented," he said. "We look

at the senior class this time of the year, but we're just one team. These guys represent their class very well, and they represent the team very well, but we're all one team."

While Welsh said he follows the "one-team" philosophy when creating his meet lineup, he said a seniors-only relay could post a competitive time.

"If you look at them, Bertie's specialty is backstroke, Josh's specialty is breaststroke, Frank just set a university record in the 100[-yard]

butterfly and Colin is emerging as a sprint freestyler. So, if we were to put a 400[-yard] medley relay together, this senior class would have a very good relay."

While that relay might not compete at the Shamrock Invitational, its theoretical members will be celebrated for their four years of work at the meet's finals Saturday at 5 p.m. at Rolfs Aquatic Center.

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Lacrosse

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

Marlatt followed his superb sophomore campaign with an equally, if not more impressive junior season, notching 32 points off of 20 goals and 12 assists en route to USILA third team All-American honors, as well as a second-straight first team All-Big East selection.

Despite the individual awards he's racked up the past two seasons, Marlatt said the accolade he is most proud of is being named a captain this year.

"It's an unbelievable honor, because it's from my teammates and coaches," Marlatt said. "It's something I've always aspired to, and especially to be voted alongside one of my best friends, (senior defenseman) Stephen O'Hara, my roommate for three years, is really unique

and a great experience."

With team captain checked off now, only one goal remains on Marlatt's checklist, something he hasn't done since he helped lead River Hill High School to a Maryland state title his senior year of high school: win a postseason tournament.

"We were able to win a Big East regular season championship [in 2012] and that puts a better taste in your mouth, but we weren't able to finish in back-to-back years in the Big East playoffs, so finishing strong and bringing home a championship, especially in our first year in the ACC, is something we really want to get done this year."

That being said, Marlatt cautioned that he and the rest of team aren't looking that far ahead just yet.

"The most important thing for us is that we try to get better every day," Marlatt said. "Obviously you want to win

every game and win championships, but if you focus on getting better each and every day those things tend to fall in place. That's something I've been trying to do since I got here and something our team does really well."

Marlatt said, in addition to bringing Notre Dame its first ACC and NCAA championship, he wants to be certain he imparts two simple lessons to the younger players on the Irish squad before he leaves.

"It's cliché, but just have fun," Marlatt said. "We've got a lot of players on this team and not everyone can see the field. Division I lacrosse can be a very stressful experience at a tough academic school, so just being thankful for the opportunity to play is important, too, because it goes by quick."

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M Basketball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

“Let’s give them a lot of credit,” Irish coach Mike Brey said. “I think that’s the best team in the league, most confident team in the league. They thoroughly beat us down tonight.”

Beckoned by free admission and cancelled classes, the Irish student section was raucous at first, yet soon deflated as the Cavalier lead ballooned. Virginia’s suffocating defense — which entered Tuesday’s action in the top five nationally in opponent scoring average at 56.2 points per game — forced the Irish into a season-high 20 turnovers, and Notre Dame shot 20-of-47 (43 percent) from the field. Virginia scored 29 points off Irish turnovers.

Under Brey, Notre Dame’s most first-half turnovers is 14. Thirteen of the 20 Irish turnovers came in the first half Tuesday.

“I don’t know if you ever survive 13 first-half turnovers and deserve to win a game, 20 for the game,” Brey said. “We made some bad decisions, but I think they’re really good defensively, kind of imposed their will on us and broke our spirit a little bit.”

The Cavaliers stormed out of the gates and claimed a 20-point lead at one point in the first half. Ten minutes into the night, the Irish had more turnovers (eight) than field-goal attempts (seven). But Notre Dame entered the break on a 9-0 run and trailed by 10 at the intermission.

In turn, however, the Cavaliers began the second stanza with a 9-0 run of their own and pushed their lead to 43-24 within the first four minutes.

“I don’t know how the heck we made a run, I mean, when you have 13 first-half turnovers,” Brey said. “You have a little life at the end of the first half. I don’t even think we deserved that. But then the second half we couldn’t get stops.”



JODI LO | The Observer

Irish freshman guard Demetrius Jackson plays defense during Notre Dame’s 68-53 loss to Virginia on Tuesday at Purcell Pavilion. Jackson and sophomore forward Zach Auguste co-led the Irish with 10 points apiece.

Virginia rolled right on and busted open a 58-34 lead with 7:26 remaining in the second half. The Irish only got as close as 14 points the rest of the way.

Auguste and freshman guard Demetrius Jackson led the Irish with 10 points apiece, while senior center Garrick Sherman, senior point guard Eric Atkins and junior forward Pat Connaughton

combined for 21 points on 8-for-23 shooting.

“As far as offensively, tonight’s an example of when your three old guys can’t really find a very good rhythm, I don’t know if we’ll beat anybody that way,” Brey said.

Cavaliers redshirt sophomore guard Malcolm Brogdon scored a game-high 16 points and sophomore center Mike Tobey added 14, as Virginia hit

54 percent of its shots from the field. Brogdon stuffed the stat sheet with seven rebounds, six assists and five steals.

“His stat line was terrific,” Virginia coach Tony Bennett said of Brogdon. “He was very complete and he’s showing that.”

The Cavaliers led from wire to wire and held a double-digit lead for the final 29:36.

“You look at one of those and

you’re amazed it only counts as one loss,” Brey said. “We’ll go back to work tomorrow and try to find out how to regroup and win a league game.”

Notre Dame looks to snap its three-game losing streak when it hosts Boston College on Saturday at Purcell Pavilion.

Contact Mike Monaco at jmonaco@nd.edu

Gastelum

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

the life out of the other team that was favored by 10 points on the road. It’s boring, and it works.

But this, this is a dramatically different Notre Dame team in mostly one sense: the win column. And, the turtleneck, obviously. It’s a Notre Dame team that has been trying too hard to burn at the wrong times and then trying to hit the switch in order to run-and-gun.

It’s a Notre Dame team that prefers to make flashy passes and not take care of the ball on a fast-break. It’s a Notre Dame team that enjoys running the shot clock down

to 10 before starting their offensive set and settling for an NBA 3-pointer — who do they think they are, Luke Harangody?

It’s got to be the doggone neatly pressed, top-button open, light blue collared dress shirt. It’s just too much flash. Pizazz never worked at Purcell. It inspires too much of a laid-back, “we’ll get to it when we can” gameplan. It’s 1-on-1, individual basketball, and Notre Dame will never win at 1-on-1 basketball.

Just look at the 13 first-half turnovers on Tuesday night (an astonishing eight in the first nine minutes of the game). Or maybe the nine total points with nine minutes left in the first half. Or the 60 percent Virginia shot

for almost the entire game. Despite the blue-collar, it’s been anything but a blue-collar effort from the Irish other than a close loss to Ohio State and a home win against Duke.

After all, Notre Dame is not an ACC team. Those pleated Van Heusens may be the norm in the ACC, but not here — no sir. If they try to play collared-shirt basketball with the rest of them, they will continue to be out-done by those classier shirt-and-tie behemoths of the conference that once produced the coach who brought mock turtlenecks to South Bend.

Meanwhile, that was on full display Tuesday. They finally let students in for

free, but the arena was often quieter than pickup ball at Rolfs. Outside of a 9-0 Irish run at the end of the first half, there wasn’t any reason to cheer. Not even for free t-shirts. But Tuesday’s performance was nothing new for the new ACC Irish, all while the mock turtleneck collects mothballs in a closet somewhere.

No, the mock turtleneck doesn’t belong at a swanky jazz club or slam poetry night. It belongs on the basketball court in a crouch on the end of the bench soothing the vocal chords as they work their magic yelling “burn, baby, burn.” Moreover, it’s a mentality that has been lost, an identity that has been stolen.

Sooner or later, that mock turtleneck will assume green-jersey status and then fade away into urban legend. One would’ve thought that the turtleneck would have made it’s winter debut with the outside temperatures at 0 degrees and a potential ACC swing game in the wings. But alas.

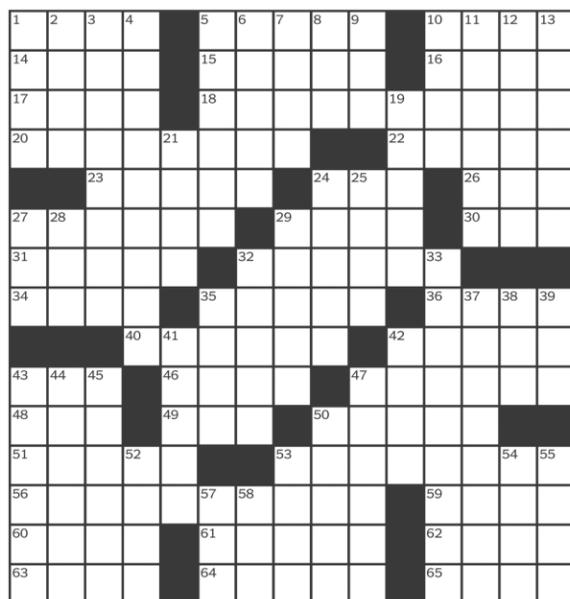
Until it works its way back into Mike Brey’s wardrobe and game plan, Notre Dame will continue to make, dare I say it, a mockery of itself.

Contact Andrew Gastelum at agastel1@nd.edu

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

CROSSWORD | WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- 1 Most cartoons
 - 5 "___ de Lune"
 - 10 Bills, e.g.
 - 14 Boomers' babies
 - 15 Out of the way
 - 16 Folkie who chronicled Alice
 - 17 ___ de boeuf
 - 18 Best Director of 1997
 - 20 Speech opener, often
 - 22 Michael Jackson wore one
 - 23 Touts' hangouts
 - 24 E.R. administration
 - 26 "Thumbs up!"
 - 27 Sudden pain
 - 29 Dark area on the moon
 - 30 Windsor's prov.
 - 31 Ecological communities
 - 32 Not so stuffy
 - 34 Hospital fluids
- DOWN**
- 1 Pearl Mosque city
 - 2 Word in the names of some bright colors
 - 3 Cabinet department
 - 4 Chile relleno, e.g.
 - 5 Sweet-talk
 - 6 Hurdles for future D.A.'s
 - 7 Actress Anouk
 - 8 Bouncers' requests
 - 9 ___ center
 - 10 Caravan transport
 - 11 Often-dry stream
 - 12 Neatnik's opposite
 - 13 "No lie!"
 - 19 Correspond
 - 21 Archaeological sites
 - 24 Bizet opera
 - 25 7 or 11, e.g.
 - 27 "Cougar Town" network
 - 28 Golf's Michelle
 - 29 Predecessors of photocopies
 - 32 Changes constitutionally
 - 33 ABAB, for one



Puzzle by DAN SHCOENHOLZ

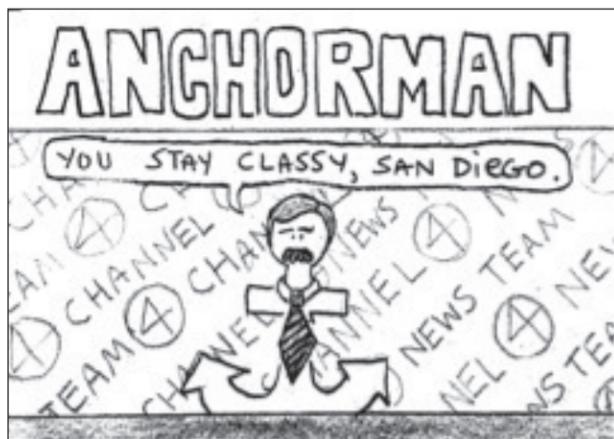
- 35 Fort ____, Md.
- 37 Rub the wrong way
- 38 Bearded antelope
- 39 Qin dynasty follower
- 41 Rose-red dye
- 42 Act the gloomy Gus
- 43 Flu, e.g.
- 44 "Speak up!"
- 45 Acrylic sheet material
- 47 Batters' toppers
- 50 Indiana's state flower
- 52 Cooper's handiwork
- 53 Lowlife
- 54 Business school subj.
- 55 Designer label letters
- 57 Clinch, as a deal
- 58 Pierre ou Jacques

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. AT&T users: Text NYTX to 386 to download puzzles, or visit nytimes.com/mobilexword for more information. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/wordplay. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

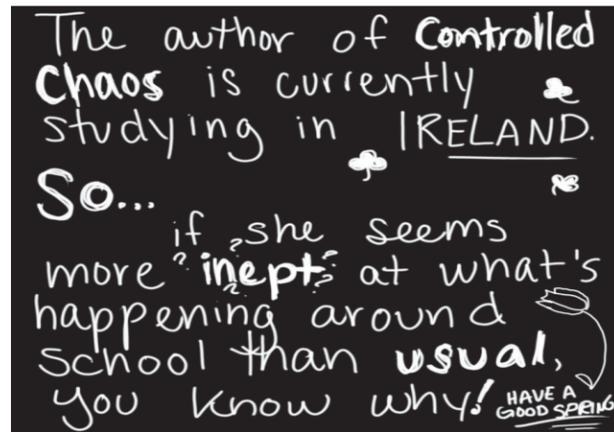
ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



HIGHLY PUNLIKELY | CHRISTOPHER BRUCKER



CONTROLLED CHAOS | HILLARY MANGIAFORTE



SUDOKU | THE MEPHAM GROUP

Level: 1 2 3 4

8		4						2
1			3	2				
9	6							8
			7	1	2			
			8	6	3			
	9			5				
	1						4	8
			2	8				3
4						6		7

SOLUTION TO TUESDAY'S PUZZLE 1/30/13

3	9	4	7	1	8	2	5	6
7	2	8	5	6	4	9	1	3
5	1	6	3	9	2	8	7	4
6	8	7	9	4	1	5	3	2
9	4	3	2	8	5	1	6	7
1	5	2	6	7	3	4	9	8
4	6	5	8	3	9	7	2	1
2	3	1	4	5	7	6	8	9
8	7	9	1	2	6	3	4	5

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

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HOROSCOPE | EUGENIA LAST

Happy Birthday: Take a methodical approach to both professional and personal situations involving money, contracts, health and your future. Strive for stability and security, and hang on to what you have. Building a strong base will ensure that you will not face setbacks due to excess or impulsive acts that have the potential to stand between you and your goals. Your numbers are 4, 13, 22, 26, 35, 38, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Wait to see what others do and say. Get promises in writing and don't offer something you may not be able to honor. An unpredictable situation is best left alone until you feel safe and secure regarding the outcome. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Take action and take control. Show how passionate you feel about the things you do and the people you care about most, and you will receive greater opportunity to prove how valuable you are. Put your best foot forward. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Look closely at your current position and you will find ways to improve what you do or what you receive for your time and effort. Step up the pace and keep everyone important abreast of the situation, and you will benefit. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Take on a project that is different from anything you have done in the past. Explore new avenues and meet new people. Up your game and appeal to others, and your personal gain will increase. Love is highlighted. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Voice your opinion and make a difference. A change of scenery or hanging out with people from unusual backgrounds will open up a host of new opportunities. Expect someone to show disdain or jealousy. Don't fuel the fire; massage the situation. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Enjoy people, places and hobbies that have brought you joy in the past. Interacting with someone you love will enhance your personal life. Children will play a role in a decision you must make. Be true to your word and your heart. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Try not to get caught up in inevitable personal situations. Go about your business and be as productive as possible with regard to research, educational pursuits and exploring new connections. Don't give in to emotional blackmail or unprofessional tactics. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You'll accomplish more if you get out and do things outside your home base. Business or promotional trips will be fruitful and take your mind off a personal matter. A lifestyle change will do you good. Look at your options. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Keep your head clear and your communication honest and straightforward. Move quickly and precisely to get your point across and make your position clear. Avoid spending your own money. Protect your heart and your reputation. ★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Change things up a bit. Do the unexpected and you will catch someone trying to give you a hard time. Offer a suggestion to someone you love and you will find out exactly where you stand and how to proceed. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You are overdue for a change. A new source of income will buy you freedom to follow a dream. Don't share too many of your ideas or someone is likely to pursue and take credit for a concept that is rightfully yours. ★★

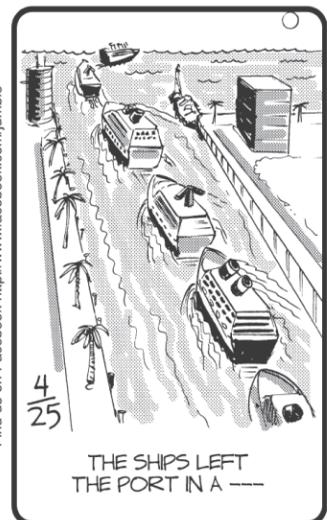
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Show your willingness to get along and to be a contributor. What you offer will lead to a contract, settlement or investment that will help you out financially. A love relationship appears to have a much brighter future than you anticipated. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are insightful, determined and loyal. You are industrious and goal-oriented.

JUMBLE | DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

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

TRNUG
 LEERD
 SKNIRH
 PEIEAC



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: [Circled letters from the jumbles]

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: STUNT OPERA GOVERN ATTEST
 Answer: Building such a long wall in China was this for the construction crew — NOT SO GREAT

WORK AREA

THE OBSERVER

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MEN'S BASKETBALL | VIRGINIA 68, ND 53

Falling flat

Virginia keeps foot on the gas on way to victory

By **MIKE MONACO**
Sports Editor

On a frigid night, Virginia stayed hot while Notre Dame remained cold.

The Notre Dame students swarmed into Purcell Pavilion, but the Virginia defense swarmed the Irish all evening.

And it all added up to a 68-53 Virginia victory on Tuesday night at Purcell Pavilion.

"We just gotta give it to them," Irish sophomore forward Zach Auguste said. "They definitely gave us a beating."

Notre Dame (11-10, 2-6 ACC) meanwhile, has lost six of its last seven games. Virginia (16-5, 7-1 ACC) is off to its best start in conference play since 1982-83, when star center Ralph Sampson and the Cavaliers began 7-1 in the ACC.

see M BASKETBALL **PAGE 14**



JODI LO | The Observer

Irish senior guard Eric Atkins drives into the lane during Notre Dame's 68-53 loss to Virginia on Tuesday. Atkins scored six points, and the two leaders on the night for the Irish netted 10 each.

Brey ditches turtleneck, Irish lose swagger



Andrew Gastelum
Editor-in-Chief

It's got to be the white-hot question on the minds of Notre Dame basketball fans. No, not "How many more days until Jerian Grant comes back?" or "Is it too late to refund my student tickets?"

No, it's a question that demands so much more attention and concern for the blue and gold.

Where the H-E-double-hockey-sticks is the Mike Brey mock turtleneck?

Laugh while you can, but it's more than just pleasantly cozy hipster neckwear. It's an identity. It's low-scoring games. It's shooting efficiency. It's a methodical catch-and-shoot ideology. It's the burn offense. It's draining

see GASTELUM **PAGE 14**

MEN'S LACROSSE

Marlatt overcomes injuries to excel

By **A.J. GODEAUX**
Sports Writer

Jim Marlatt has come a long way since he first stepped foot on the Notre Dame campus four years ago.

The All-American senior midfielder came to campus as a highly touted recruit, ranked 46th overall in the class of 2010 by Inside Lacrosse, but watched his entire freshman year from the bench after struggling with injuries and ultimately being redshirted.

"It was a little difficult not being on the field [freshman year]," Marlatt said. "But one thing I was able to do is watch and observe two great all-American midfielders in David Earl and Zach Brenneman. They were really instrumental in helping me learn what it takes to be a leader and great player at

this level."

With the loss of Earl and Brenneman to graduation after Marlatt's freshman year, it wasn't long until Marlatt got his opportunity, as he was thrown into the starting lineup immediately by Irish coach Kevin Corrigan.

"Any time you don't play that much, you have a chip on your shoulder," Marlatt said. "When you get on the field, you just want to prove why you're here, and I just wanted to come in and show I could contribute."

"Contribute" might not be the best way to describe Marlatt's opening season for the Irish, though. "Dominate" may be better, as he scored 19 goals and dished a team-high 11 assists on his way to a first team all-Big East selection.

see M LACROSSE **PAGE 13**



GRANT TOBIN | The Observer

Irish senior midfielder Jim Marlatt scans the field during Notre Dame's 10-8 win over Georgetown on April 16, 2013 at Arlotta Stadium. Marlatt recovered from a redshirt freshman season to become an All-American.

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARD

Men's Basketball vs. Virginia **L 68-53**

TODAY'S EVENTS

ND Women's Basketball vs. Virginia Tech **7 p.m.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Hockey at New Hampshire	Fri., 7 p.m.	Women's Swim./Diving, Shamrock Invit.	Fri.-Sat.
ND Women's Tennis vs. Illinois	Fri., 3:30 p.m.	Hockey at New Hampshire	Sat., 4p.m.
Track and Field at Indiana Relays	Fri.-Sat.	Fencing at Northwestern Duals	Sat.
Track and Field at New Mexico Invitational	Fri.-Sat.	Men's Basketball vs. Boston College	Sat., noon
Men's Swimming/Diving, Shamrock Invit.	Fri.-Sat.	ND Women's Basketball at Duke	Sun., 2p.m.