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TO UNCOVER THE TRUTH AND REPORT IT ACCURATELY

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Conference to celebrate women in business

Undergraduate Women in Business conference will focus on non-traditional career paths, networking

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By CAROLYN HUTYRA News Writer

This year will mark the seventh meeting of the annual Undergraduate Women in Business (UWIB) Professional Development Conference, which will take place Feb. 13-14 in the Mendoza College of Business Atrium.

junior Patricia Bartlett said this year's theme is "Finding a Career Path You Love," which will focus on the many reer paths, available after career paths available to graduation," she said. business and non-business majors.

opportunity for women to connect with each other on various topics, for undergraduates to learn from

experienced professionals and for companies to promote their brands," she said.

The conference aims to provide undergraduate women the necessary skills to discover their interests and abilities in order to better understand how those skills translate into a career, Bartlett said.

"We feel that it's impor-Conference co-chair and tant to open the eyes of undergraduate women to the variety of opportunities, including non-traditional ca-

Fellow co-chair and sophomore Whitney Spiegel "The conference is a great said the conference will include two keynote speakers: Kristin Boyd, a vice president

see BUSINESS PAGE 5



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Kristin Boyd | Vice President | Credit Suisse Laura Hollis | Assistant Professional Specialist,

FEB. 13-14, 2015 MENDOZA COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ATRIUM

ERIN RICE | The Observer

Sixth annual Polar Bear Plunge to **benefit Hope Initiative**

By SELENA PONIO News Writer

Hundreds of willing participants will pay \$5 to submerge themselves in icy water for charity during the sixth annual Polar Bear Plunge on Saturday. The event, co-sponsored by Badin and Dillon Halls, will take place in St. Joseph's Lake from 2-4 p.m.

"We are hoping for record participation this year and would love to see over 500 plungers," Corinne Sullivan,

sophomore and president of Badin Hall, said. "The weather looks warm for Saturday, so that should help."

Every year, proceeds from the plunge go to the Hope Initiative, an organization founded by assistant professor of industrial design and Badin's Hall Fellow, Ann-Marie Conrado. According to Sullivan, all of Badin's signature events sponsor the Hope Initiative.

see PLUNGE **PAGE 5**



EMILY McCONVILLE | The Observer Students plunge into the icy cold water of Saint Joseph's Lake at last year's Polar Bear Plunge.

Observer names new editors

Observer Staff Report

Seven new departmental editors will round out The Observer's 2015-2016 Editorial Board, incoming Editor-in-Chief Greg Hadley announced Wednesday night.

Juniors Erin Rice, Tabitha Ricketts and Haleigh Ehmsen and sophomores Zach Klonsinski, Erin McAuliffe, Margaret Hynds and Zach Llorens will assume control of their departments March 15. Ehmsen, originally from Mt. Vernon, Iowa, will take over as Saint Mary's Editor. Ehmsen is a junior English and communication studies double major. She has been a news writer for The Observer

Poetry reading features student work

By OLIVIA JACKSON News Writer

For Saint Mary's Heritage week, seniors Kelly Konya and Sarah Prezek hosted a "Then and Now" poetry reading featuring professors who read poems by Saint Mary's alumnae and students who read their own work. Prezek said the idea for the

reading was Konya's [Editor's

note: Konya is Saint Mary's Editor at The Observer] and was based on a similar event held during Heritage Week 2014.

"Last year, students did not read their own work, and the poetry was mostly by Sister Madeleva [Wolff] because it was the 50th anniversary of her death," Prezek said. "John

see POETRY PAGE 4



MONICA VILLAGOMEZ MENDEZ | The Observe

Aaron Bremyer, head of the English writing center at Saint Mary's, reads a poem by a student during the "Then and Now" poetry reading.

see STAFF PAGE 5





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

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

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor-in-Chief Ann Marie Jakubowski.

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QUESTION OF THE DAY:

If you could spend the day with a superhero, who would it be?



Aniekeme Ukpong sophomore Morrissey Manor "Catwoman."



Jean-Pierre Vertil junior Stanford Hall

"Father Hesburgh."





Wilson Barrett freshman Keenan Hall "My mom."

Have a question you want answered?

Email photo@ndsmcobserver.com



Maddie Hetlage freshman Pasquerilla East Hall "Captain America."



Sara Schunk sophomore Badin Hall "Spider-Man."



Notre Dame cheerleaders get into formation during Notre Dame's matchup against Wake Forest on Sunday. The Irish defeated the Demon Deacons, 92-63.

Today's Staff

News Emily McConville Madison Jaros Peter Durbin

Sports Alex Carson Mike Ginocchio Matthew McKenna

Scene

Graphics Erin Rice

Photo Molly O'Neill

Mike Malabute Viewpoint Mary Kate Luft

Corrections

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at (574) 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

Saturday

Labor Cafe Snite Museum of Art 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Artistic representations of work and workers.

Tennis Match

Friday

Eck Tennis Pavillion 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. Women's tennis takes on Stanford.

Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Rolfs Aquatic Center 12 p.m. - 2 p.m. Both teams compete against Cleveland State.

Saturday Vigil Mass

Basilica of the Sacred Heart 5 p.m. - 6 p.m. Worship service.

10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Men's tennis takes on Ball State. Mass in Spanish

Eck Tennis Pavillion

Sunday

Worship

Service.

Tennis Match

Dillon Hall Chapel 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Want your event included here? Email news@ndsmcobserver.com

Monday

Chili Cook-Off Harper Hall 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. \$10/person. Proceeds to benefit ND Relay for Life.

"The University. Theology and the Curriculum" Geddes Hall 7 p.m. - 8 p.m. Lecture.

Tuesday

"Beyond Conflict, **The Power of Shared** Experience" Law School 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Lecture by co-founder of Beyond Conflict. **Stephane Wrembel** and His Band Leaends 8 p.m. - 10 p.m. French-born guitarist.

Men's rowing club to host ergathon for cancer research

By ANDREA VALE News Writer

The men's rowing club will host Saturday its first annual Joseph D. Boyle Memorial Ergathon to raise funds for pancreatic cancer research.

The ergathon, to be held in the Joyce Center Rowing Gym from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., will honor the memory of the father wallowing in grief."

Junior rower Bryce DeVenecia said the team invites the entire Notre Dame community to participate.

"We've contacted all the alumni, and now we're trying to reach out to the students mainly and see whoever wants to come and put in a couple meters for the cause and spread awareness about pancreatic

"My way of dealing with grief has been to give back, do something positive and be optimistic. It's what what my dad would have wanted, and I decided I wanted to do something constructive in helping other people that have pancreatic cancer."

cancer," he said.

percent for stage III.

According to the American

Cancer Society, the five-year

survival rate for stage I pancre-

atic cancer is 14 percent and 3

under-researched, very un-

derfunded, so this event is to

spread awareness and raise

funds," DeVenecia said. "We're

giving the funds to the Harper

Institute for Cancer Research,

"Pancreatic cancer is very

Joe Boyle junior

of junior rower Joe Boyle, who died of pancreatic cancer last October.

"My way of dealing with grief has been to give back, do something positive and be optimistic," Boyle said, "It's what my dad would have wanted, and I decided that I wanted to do something constructive in helping other people that have pancreatic cancer. It would be a good way to give back in his memory instead of just



CHILI COOK-OFF

Mon., Feb. 9, 3-5pm Harper Hall Multipurpose Room

Boyle said an ergathon is "similar to a walk-a-thon or run-a-thon or jog-a-thon" but performed on an indoor rowing machine known colloquially as an ergometer, or erg.

"The whole men's team is going to row as many meters as possible in four hours," Boyle said, "We're getting donations pledged to us per 500 meters. Some of us are planning to row 42,000 meters, so that's 84 500s, so if you donated a dollar per 500, that'd be an \$84 donation."

A rowing marathon is 42,000 meters, DeVenecia said.

Although this year's ergathon is the first, the team hopes to expand the event in the future.

"We're going to make it into an annual event, so sometime in the early spring or late winter every year," Boyle said. "Hopefully, every year we'll raise more money and keep it going in honor of my dad, keep the event alive and see how we can grow it. ... We're trying to get through the first one, but next year we'll definitely network it way ahead of time."

"Anyone that wants to come out and support us is welcome to," he also said. "Thanks for the support and check us out on Facebook. Like it, spread it around. Donate a dollar, five dollars, whatever you want ---every penny counts."

Contact Andrea Vale at avale@nd.edu



Observer Staff Report

Apache Corporation announced Jan. 22 that Notre Dame graduate Stephen Riney will become its new executive vice president and chief financial officer.

Lecturer discusses concept of black female sexuality

By GABRIELA MALESPIN News Writer

Gabriel Torres, director of undergraduate studies in anthropology, explored Thursday the intersection of race and sexuality and how these shape perceptions of black female sexuality in a lecture titled, "My Anaconda Don't: Portrayals of Black Female Sexuality, from Saartjie Baartman to Beyonce."

The lecture was the first in a series of talks and discussions hosted by Notre Dame's NAACP chapter in honor of Black History Month. The discussions center on topics such as black sexuality, reproduction, love and family.

Torres said perceptions of black female sexuality in contemporary culture historically has been shaped by racism.

"Race has always been gendered," Torres said. "Racism has never existed in a non-gendered form. Everywhere we find an ideology of discrimination of one group of bodies against another. There are always sexual and gendered norms that go along with it."

Torres said current conversations on race are misunderstood." "grossly He said that, although he recognizes there are certain trends in perceptions of black women across the current converworld. sations on black female sexuality do not take into consideration the multiple cultural perspectives that shape black female identity.

"There is no 'black female,'" he said. "We know that there is more diversity, heterogeneity and differences in lived experiences that determine what black female accounts for."

Torres said perceptions of black women and black female sexuality are largely influenced by the white European colonial perspective, which has consistently devalued and sought to both desexualize and hyper-sexualize black women. Torres said in order to gain a better picture of how black sexuality is shaped, observers should look at cultural expression in everyday life. He said that, although iconic figures such as Beyoncé have shaped ideas of black sexuality, it is critical to look at the context in which these ideas surface and grow.

the primary site we should all be paying attention to when thinking about the embodiment of difference, the embodiment of blackness, the embodiment of gendered blackness," he said. "... There has to be a socially and culturally viable way of understanding black sexuality and black female sexuality that helps us put Beyoncé in a political, social and cultural landscape."

Torres referenced the works of prominent black feminists such as Andrea Elizabeth Shaw and Patricia Hill Collins. Torres said Shaw and Collins provide critical insights on not only race, but also on how race, gender and body politics function in modern society.

"In contemporary times, hyper-sexuality is much more multifaceted," he said.

Torres said dominant indexes exist that shape people's receptions of black women in contemporary culture, including the invisibility/bitch index and the desexualized/hyper-sexualized index. The first refers to whether a black woman is perceived as threatening or non-threatening, while desexualized/hyperthe sexualized index refers to how people perceive black female sexuality depending on body type and social presentation.

Torres said these indexes have shaped black women's experiences and how they decide to portray themselves in order to achieve acceptance. Torres said the hyper-sexualized index is "much more multifaceted" and involves a complex relationship between black women and sexuality.

"No matter how you sit in between these extremes, the way it's set up in our society is that who you are and your experiences are out of your control," he said. Torres later opened the floor for discussion and debated how the representation and perceptions of black women in different areas of life, such as entertainment, politics and STEM fields, could help overcome these extremes. "How do we change the frame through which these images — these extremes — are experienced?" Torres said. "To what extent does a black woman have the right to objectify herself without being judged?"

\$10 donation gives unlimited tastings and a "vote."

Proceeds benefit the Harper team for ND's **Relay for Life**

For questions or submissions, contact Jenna at: bilinski.9@nd.edu

CANCER RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Apache is a public American oil and gas exploration and production company headquartered in Houston. Riney studied finance and accounting at Notre Dame and received his MBA from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business.

Riney previously worked for BP and Amoco and has extensive knowledge of the oil and gas industry. He replaces Steven Farris, who has retired, The Wall Street Journal reported.

"I am going to suggest to you that [everyday life] is

Contact Gabriela Malespin at gmalespi@nd.edu

Finance professor recognized for trade research

By J.P. GSCHWIND News Writer

The International Economics and Finance Society (IEFS) recently elected Notre Dame professor of finance Jeffrey Bergstrand as president to honor his commitment and research work in international trade.

Bergstrand is also the associate dean of graduate programs in the Mendoza College of Business and has a concurrent appointment in the Department of Economics. He has been at Notre Dame since 1986.

"IEFS is a society of mostly academic economists but also includes some in the government and the private sector who explore research and policy," Bergstrand said.

Bergstrand said he became involved with IEFS approximately 20 years ago while he



was an associate editor for the Review of International Economics. Although IEFS does not publish research, it has a close relationship the Review of International Economics and the Review of Development Economics, which both do.

The IEFS is an associate member of the Allied Social Science Association, which hosts annual conferences for researchers from various organizations to present their work and collaborate. The IEFS has three leadership positions: president, executive secretary and treasurer. Bergstrand said his role as president will involve coordinating annual meetings on a national level and organizing more regional events. raise standards of living. Bergstrand said that reinternational trade and said. macroeconomics, to financial and investment trends. "I've

international trade flows and publishing in there for over 30 years," Bergstrand said.

Bergstrand said that his appointment as president was a way to recognize his contributions in the field, particularly his work on the gravity equation.

"There is a statistical tool generally referred to as the gravity equation in international trade, and it borrowed the name from Newton's law because the trade flows between countries can be very well explained by the economic sizes of the countries as well as the distance between them," Bergstrand said.

According to Bergstrand, the gravity equation first came into use during the 1960s to explain trade flows, butitinitiallylackedrigorous statistical underpinnings.

"I worked on it in the 1970s with my dissertation and published several papers based on it that helped provide an economic rationale for this relationship between trade flows between countries, their economic size and similarity, and the distance," Bergstrand said.

Bergstrand said his work with the gravity equation has allowed economists and researchers to study all kinds of trade impediments or factors that help trade. He said free trade agreements and tariff rates asre traditional examples, but even political scientists have used the theory to examine the relationship between conflicts, political systems and trade. Bergstrand said he also studies foreign direct investment and portfolio investment flows through the prism of the gravity equation.

Bergstrand said these topics are crucial for coming up with ways to solve economics problems such as how to "It's very helpful to undersearch associated with stand the impact of trade the IEFS spans a range of and investment policies on subfields and topics from trade flows," Bergstrand

Poetry CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Kovach played a recording of Sister Madeleva reading her own poetry, which was a big weekly event on campus when she was president. She would read her poetry for the students."

This year, the reading featured poetry taken from past issues of the Saint Mary's art and literary journal Chimes and poetry written by current students, Prezek said.

College archivist John Kovach said 2015 is the 123rd year of publication for Chimes, which also used to function as a student newspaper.

"From 1892 to 1926, Chimes contained short stories [and] poems and also served as a campus newspaper. Even now, if we need to find campus news from that time, I look back to Chimes first."

THU 2/12

4:30 - 5:30, Jordan Auditorium, MCoB

Kovach said Chimes was student-driven and often published from September to July. He said Saint Mary's has every issue of Chimes and all other campus literary periodicals since the date of initial publication in the archives.

Senior Catherine Sullivan said the poetry reading began with a poem by Sister Madeleva.

"It was nice that we started with a poem by Sister Madeleva because her work is such a valued tradition here at Saint Mary's," Sullivan said.

Sullivan said she and the other students who participated in the reading wrote their poems specifically for the event. Students were asked to write about their experiences as Saint Mary's women, and Sullivan said she enjoyed hearing experiences of past students juxtaposed with her own.

"Hearing [poetry] from girls

who are grown up now but were our age once makes the future not so scary," Sullivan said.

Aaron Moe, a professor of English at Saint Mary's, said he was asked to read a poem written by a 1897 graduate of Saint Mary's.

"So often with literature in grammatical time, language is just one word after another," Moe said. "Hearing current voices and past voices together gave language a whole new dimension."

Junior Jennifer Vosters said she found sharing her poetry in this unique context a positive experience.

"This [poetry reading] was such a special opportunity to showcase the work of students both past and present," Vosters said.

Contact Olivia Jackson at ojacks01@saintmarys.edu



Sister Eva Mary Hooker, left, discusses poetry with a Saint Mary's student. This year, the Heritage Week poetry reading featured poetry from current Saint Mary's students and alumni.



Contact J.P. Gschwind at been studying jgschwind@nd.edu

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ETHICS THROUGH A GLOBAL LENS SCHEDULE OF EVENTS: MON 2/9 12:30 - 1:30, Giovanini Commons, MCoB Transfer Pricing: Tax Avoidance or Tax Evasion? Jerry Carter, Vice President, Tax & International Finance, IDEX Corp. TUE 2/10 12:30 - 1:30, Giovanini Commons, MCoB ND International: Advancing Our Global Mission Tom Guinan, Associate VP, Administrative Operations, Notre Dame International WED 2/11 4:30 - 5:30, Giovanini Commons, MCoB Ethical Challenges Around the World Georges Enderle, Pat Murphy, and Fr. Ollie Williams

Joan Dubinsky, Director, United Nations Ethics Office

The U.N. Experience: Doing Ethics in an Imperfect World

Business

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

in equity derivative sales at Credit Suisse, and Laura Hollis, an associate professional specialist in Mendoza. Other scheduled conference events include a panel discussion and speed-networking session.

"For the conference, the UWIB board decided we wanted to highlight individuals with non-traditional career paths as well as give them a broad spectrum of experiences," Spiegel said.

Although the conference traditionally hosts a faculty keynote speaker and an outside speaker, Spiegel said the two women will provide different perspectives on potential career paths. "The UWIB Conference will allow undergraduate women to network and build relationships with successful businesswomen while learning about their unique experiences," Bartlett said.

This year, Bartlett said conference attendees will include the Notre Dame Career Center and 13 companies: KPMG, Ernst & Young, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC). Deloitte. Grant Thornton, BP, JPMorgan Chase, Bank of America, General AT&T, Mills, Cardinal Health, Nielsen and General Electric.

Spiegel said conference attendance last year exceeded 120 undergraduate women and included 10 different companies as well as two keynote speakers. "Each year, we have expanded in student attendance and company participation, and we hope to continue the trend this year," she said.

This year's conference will host the largest number of companies and undergraduate attendees since the conference began seven years ago, Spiegel said.

"The undergraduate women attendees will gain invaluable connections with female professionals across a variety of industries that will help these students discover their passions," she said.

The conference will include meals and giveaways and cost \$5, according to the event's Facebook page.

Contact Carolyn Hutyra at chutyra@nd.edu

Staff

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

since her freshman year and served as Associate Saint Mary's Editor in the fall of 2014.

Hynds, a native of McLean, Virginia living in Pangborn Hall, will take over as News Editor for the upcoming year. A member of the Observer staff since the fall of 2013, she has covered 2014 Mental Health Awareness Week, 2015 student government elections and student Senate, and she currently serves as an Associate News Editor. Hynds majors in political science with a minor in business economics.

Klonsinski, the new Sports Editor, resides in Knott Hall and is a native of Belgrade, Montana. A sophomore, he is a beat writer for the men's basketball team and has also covered Irish men's soccer, women's tennis, rowing, fencing and women's swimming. He is majoring in history and minoring in business economics, and he plans to add a minor in Journalism, Ethics and Democracy in the fall of 2015.

Llorens, born and raised in Los Angeles and a current resident of Zahm House, will assume the role of Photo Editor. A sophomore pursuing a double-major in finance and mathematics, next year will mark his third year on staff at The Observer. In the past, Llorens has covered lectures, sporting events and other campus events.

McAuliffe, a native of Cincinnati, Ohio, will be the new Scene Editor. A resident of Pasquerilla East Hall, she has been a staff member at The Observer for two years. She is a marketing major with a Journalism, Ethics and Democracy minor. Rice, who is originally from Lake Forest, Illinois, will assume the role of Graphics Editor. A junior majoring in visual communications, Rice joined The Observer in the spring semester of 2014 as a graphic designer. Rice resides in Howard Hall and has also worked for The Dome and the Snite Museum of Art.

Ricketts will join the board as Viewpoint Editor. She began her work with The Observer as a news writer for Saint Mary's four years ago and then became a member of the Viewpoint staff. A resident of Clarkston, Michigan, she is a member of the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's dual degree in engineering program. She will complete her transfer to Notre Dame in the fall of 2015 to finish her B.S. in Computer Science. This spring, she will graduate from Saint Mary's with a B.A. in English writing.

Two die in University of South Carolina shooting

The Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Two people died Thursday in an apparent murder-suicide inside a building on the University of South Carolina's campus in busy downtown Columbia.

The shooting happened about 1 p.m. Thursday as students were changing classes. Even as police cars with sirens blaring rushed to the new School of Public Health and the university sent out an alert that everyone should stay inside, people were walking around the sprawling campus.

State Law Enforcement Division spokesman Thom Berry said the shooting was "very isolated" but he wouldn't say who was involved, whether it was a student, professor or someone else.

One of Columbia's main streets was closed, causing massive traffic problems. Security was increased at the Statehouse about two blocks away. The university didn't cancel classes, but planned a candlelight vigil and extended counseling hours.

By the time the sun set, the increased security was gone and roads were reopened. A number of officers remained at the public health building, many of them crime-scene technicians.

Berry refused to release the names of the dead or their relationship. He also wouldn't specify where the shooting took place beyond a room in the building, not saying if it was an office or a classroom.

University President Harris Pastides sent a letter that was texted to students and others, calling the day a great tragedy, thanking the police for their fast response and sending his prayers to everyone affected.

School officials told professors not to penalize students who failed to show up for afternoon classes, even if they missed exams.

Student Hayden Dunn, a senior from Myrtle Beach, said he was in the building about 1 p.m., getting in an elevator to change classes, when a police officer also got inside. Dunn said the officer asked whether anyone had heard gunshots, but they hadn't. Dunn said he went to class, then an alarm sounded minutes later, and people rushed outside. Another officer told him shots had been fired, he said.

"Otherwise, you wouldn't have known anything happened," Dunn said.

Workers and others fled the building after police told them to evacuate and they went inside other buildings wherever they could, said Barbara Reager, an administrative assistant who works nearby.

"They had no time to get their keys, to pick up their purses," Reager said by phone.

The university texted alerts and also interrupted programming on its cable system to warn students and others to stay inside.

Plunge
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1Mary Howard, sophomore
and vice president of Badin,
said she participated in the
event last year."Hope Initiative works to
build schools in Nepal and pro-
vides them with an innovative"The anticipation of standing
in the snow is the worst part,"
Howard said. "I am definitely

said. "On the walk home, the tutus froze and became rock hard."

Sister Denise Lyon, rector of Badin, said planning the event takes six weeks and involves everyone in both co-sponsoring dorms.

"It takes a village, all of Badin and Dillon as our co-sponsor, to prepare all the details and make the event successful," Lyon said. "We begin as soon as we return after winter break and start planning." Sullivan said the event's advertising included a Polar Bear Plunge shirt, a "backpack advertising" campaign, and a remake of freshman Henry Long's "Chandelier" dance for a Polar Bear Plunge promo video. "It is a lot of work to pull off an event this size and temperature," Sullivan said. "However, it is definitely worth it to hear everyone screaming in the water."



EMILY McCONVILLE | The Observer

Participants in last year's Polar Bear Plunge enjoy the water after jumping in. Dillon and Badin Hall will sponsor the event again this year. "It takes a village, all of Badin and Dillon as our co-sponsor, to prepare all the details and make the event successful."

education that focuses on en-

trepreneurial thinking [and]

Sister Denise Lyon rector of Badin Hall

creativity and helps lift children out of poverty by providing them [with] the skills they need to work," Sullivan said.

Sullivan said the Hope Initiative's commissioners have been instrumental in planning the Polar Bear Plunge. fit I will plunge in." Junior Lindsay Dougherty said she has been doing polar bear plunges since she was 13 years old. She said the Plunge on campus is one of her favorite events.

doing it again this year. . . . The

question is really just what out-

"Making yourself run into the water is the hardest part because the countdown feels so long, and you think you're going to lose your nerve," Dougherty said.

Sullivan said every year, waves of people run screaming and laughing into the lake while wearing some kind of costume.

"Last year, my friend Meg and I went in on tutus and tights and tank tops [with] bathing suits underneath," Dougherty

Contact Selena Ponio at sponio@nd.edu

VIEWPOINT

INSIDE COLUMN

What I can't have

Miko Malabute Scene Writer

Every two weeks, I deposit a small amount of my paycheck into my DraftKings or Fanduel account to launch myself into a consistent cycle of futility. In what feels like a horribly repetitive biweekly dream, I choose a sport that I convince myself I know, incorrectly predict a few athletes I am sure will perform well on that given night and stare at the meter on my phone indicating how hopeless it is for me to win any money. Any aspirations at a get-rich-quick scheme evaporate with the color-changing pixels on my phone.

Unlucky? Lack of sports knowledge? Poor choice in what to do with my five dollars? Perhaps. However, in what may be an early dark-horse "blessing in disguise" candidate for 2015, I think that this bi-weekly "investment" is beneficial to me and my bank account. And it is because I, like anyone else, am always wanting what I can't have.

Granted, I've been sold a dream. These two daily fantasy sports sites sold me a dream, teasing my ego as a man, impressionable college student and casual sports spectator. And I bought that dream. Yet I hold that my financial status has benefited from this, and it is because of this that I know I am not going to win the big prize.

I may improbably one day win a a few dollars here or there, but realistically, I know that I am more likely to walk on to Mike Brey's basketball team than win any kind of "jackpot" or "grand prize" money. I know that I will more than likely end up losing my small-dollar deposits and so to plan around that, I deposit a larger portion into my savings account. Because I want to win — even though I am counting on the fact that I am going to lose — I force myself to save and inevitably win in a different sense (but to those of you arguing that I could simply have just started saving without dabbling in daily fantasy sports: that conclusion makes too much sense and is therefore invalid).

I want the easy life. I want the freedom and ability to go out every weekend with my friends. I want to sit on the couch on weeknights and watch college and pro hoops (yes, to watch my drafted fantasy team squander my five dollars away into cyber dust). But I don't have the ability to enjoy all these things right now. I, like the rest of my peers, have responsibilities and priorities. And it is this kind of internal conflict that helps me in the end. This conflict forces me to balance my wants and needs, my desires and responsibilities. And who knows, perhaps one day it will lead me to these goals, these desires. And, of course, I need to work hard for them, but I need to want what I can't have as well.

Reagan's 'liberal' legacy

Gary Caruso Capitol Comments

Today marks the 104th birthday of former President Ronald Reagan — the first authentically ideological conservative elected to the White House since World War II. Republican politicians hold Reagan as their gold standard for all things anti: anti-government, anti-taxes, anti-unions, anti-regulation, anti-minimum wage and ironically, anti-gold standard. Their mythical revisionist history that describes Reagan could fill the sequel to the Grimm Fairy Tales children's book. In short, much of what they wish Reagan had been is simply untrue.

Utilizing metaphors, illustrating poignant examples and linking worthy attributes to a candidate are hallmarks of a successful campaign. Some GOP candidates showcase the feel-good Reagan era of standing tall patriotism that contrasted with the malaise of predecessor, Jimmy Carter. Similarly, Democratic candidates have demonstrated how they would mirror the economic success of Bill Clinton's second term, but without idolizing or embellishing Clinton beyond fact or truth. Why should it matter that political discourse today still includes Reagan who has been dead for more than a decade and out of office 26 years, which is longer than nearly any student on campus has been alive?

Rhetorically, Republicans — most recently GOP Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker who himself eyes a 2016 presidential run — attempt to bestow politically pleasing principles that they attribute to Reagan upon themselves. Unfortunately, most of the bridges they attempt to link their political stands with Reagan characteristics are either out of date or were never Reagan's in the way that they describe. They rely on the political expediency of recycled junk to eventually take on a luster when incorporated into mythology.

Once a card-carrying Democrat and AFL-CIO affiliated union president at the Screen Actors Guild who served six terms as president, Reagan refuted progressive populist thinking to change political parties and join the GOP. Walker relies on Reagan's antiunion conversion and dismantling of the Air Traffic Controller's union during his first year in office as traits Walker shares with the former president in his battles against Wisconsin public sector unions. However, neither Walker nor others who place Reagan on a rhetorical pedestal ever acknowledge how individualistically Reagan acted, thus not always perfectly aligning with today's far right movement.

For example, Reagan's cold war mentality against the USSR trumped any anti-union sentiment he may have held. The Polish union, Solidarity, formed in Soviet-occupied Poland as an independent trade union — the first free union ever within the USSR's sphere of influence. Yet, unlike American unions, Solidarity political programs were farther to the left than any comparable American-based unions. Solidarity's economic platform advocated worker-owned businesses in which workers decided holidays as well as the social control of the food supply so as to ensure that everyone was fed. In a radio message attacking the Polish government, Reagan condemned the outlawing of Solidarity saying it was "clear they never had any intention of restoring one of the most elemental human rights — the right to belong to a free trade union."

GOP operatives not only still cling to the mythical portrayals of Reagan being anti-union, but also ignore his massive government expansion of the military to outspend the USSR into bankruptcy. Most notably, though, Reagan's strong military personae pales with his "cut and run" military withdrawal from Beirut in 1986 after bombings killed Americans. The public becomes fatigued during campaign season when political advertising saturates our waking moments with this "Benghazi-like" proclamation. Yet, Reagan ran.

Finally, the notion that Reagan was a tax cutter who worshiped at the altar of lowest possible taxes is ridiculous. Reagan addressed budget deficits with 11 tax increases he signed into law during five of his eight years in office as noted in the Congressional Record:

In 1982, The Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act raised taxes by \$37.5 billion per year and the Highway Revenue Act raised the gasoline tax by \$3.3 billion.

In 1983, Reagan signed off on legislation to raise payroll taxes and tax Social Security benefits for some higher earners.

In 1984, the Deficit Reduction Act included increases in taxes on estates and distilled spirits and ended some business tax breaks, amounting \$18 billion per year.

In 1985, Reagan signed legislation making permanent a 16-cent federal excise tax on a pack of cigarettes, worth about \$2.4 billion a year.

In 1986, the Tax Reform Act lowered the top income tax bracket from 50 percent to 28 percent, but to pay for the reductions, the law closed a number of tax loopholes.

In 1987, Reagan signed the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act that extended the telephone excise tax and eliminated a real estate tax deduction loophole.

Overall, Reagan's budget had an Achilles heel. It counted "outlays," uncontrollable items such as interest savings on reduced debt and "management savings" from agency reductions and reforms. These theoretical savings unfortunately never amassed.

On this day commemorating Reagan's birthday, may he rest in peace along with those political myths and legends. But may the longstanding liberal policies he employed as president continue to shine daily.

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



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

VIEWPOINT

No, Obama is not "giving away the store"

Chris Newton Stepping Out of the Cave

I must confess, I do enjoy using a question for a title. It is inviting to the reader and often piques my own curiosity. Imagine my disappointment, however, when I receive no answer after an investment of precious minutes. I feel betrayed by the author, having been duped into delving headlong into his or her article after being promised the bestowal of an illuminative argument upon me.

This article is a response to Dan Sehlhorst's Jan. 27 piece, "Is Obama giving away the store?" Not only do I remain uncertain as to where the author stands regarding his own title question, but I also feel that several factually incorrect statements and a number of contentious claims require addressing. Mr. Sehlhorst stated that "a more nuanced approach is warranted" in analyzing the foreign policy of President Obama. I readily concur.

"Evidently, Al Qaeda is still relevant in that they are capable of toppling a U.S. ally in the Middle East," the article states regarding the recent Houthi-rebel seizure of Sana'a, the Yemeni capital. This is akin to claiming it is Hezbollah that seized Raqqa, Syria, instead of the Islamic State (IS). The group in Yemen that seized the presidential palace in Sana'a, along with sizable portions of territory, is not al-Qaeda. Indeed, the proper moniker for the Yemen-based affiliate of al-Qaeda is al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP).

This longer variant denotes the world's most dangerous offshoot of the highly decentralized group, whereas the shorter title commonly refers to al-Qaeda Central (AQC), the remains of the central command structure of the group based in the tribal areas of Pakistan. Nomenclature aside, the Houthi rebels currently rampaging through Yemen are Zaydi Shia from the north of the country that have an undetermined level of support from Iran, not radical Salafist Sunni based out of northwestern Pakistan.

"In China, the human rights record has improved drastically with greater trade with the West," the article stated in a wildly optimistic assertion more expected from an apologist for state capitalism than anyone concerned with human rights. If our point of comparison is the genocide wrought by Mao during the Great Leap Forward, then yes, I concede that China has drastically improved its human rights record. If we instead use basic morality for reference, I am forced to find significant fault with the article's claim.

I am also highly skeptical of the causation implied by this statement — that China's human rights improvement, whatever we take that to mean, has occurred due to Western engagement. The article applies the same logic to its approval of rapprochement with Cuba, yet the track record of this theory is dubious. Where are the reforms in Saudi Arabia, a longtime ally, or in Israel, an even closer friend? While the former still engages in public beheadings, the latter flips the U.S. obscene hand gestures while evicting tens of thousands of Bedouin Arabs from their Negev Desert homes.

"I was troubled to hear the President declare that American air strikes have stopped the advance of ISIS. This, undoubtedly, is no success," the article said. Allow me, then, to introduce a bit of doubt. The halting of ISIS advances are not only quite the success, but also all American policy can hope to accomplish in the short-term. As I began arguing in September, ISIS has occupied a large area of land only tenuously held by the Iraqi and Syrian governments. After picking the low-hanging fruit, the ISIS tide crashed against the American-backed redoubts of Baghdad and Irbil, Damascus and the borders of Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon. Moving any further will draw additional countries into direct confrontation with ISIS and force those already engaged with it to intensify their efforts, overextending the IS. Even with the Americansupported city of Kobani, Syria, having been held, ISIS is experiencing defeats it has not encountered since

the Sunni Awakening in 2007-2008.

In its analysis of Iran, the article argues that, in regards to the Iranian nuclear program, "The suspected connections between Iran and terrorist groups across the Middle East are raising more immediate concerns" and that "There is little that the United States can do to force Iran's hand short of an invasion or direct action," as it is unlikely to respond to sanctions. Mr. Sehlhorst underestimates the consequences of Iran's acquisition of a nuclear weapons program, overestimates the dangers of its patron-client relationships and outright dismisses the value of the U.S. and Iran to each other.

If Iran acquires a nuclear weapon, the geopolitics of the Middle East would experience a highly destabilizing shock and the global non-proliferation regime would experience an unprecedented defeat. In combination, this outcome alone would amount to President Obama "giving away the store." As I have previously written, Iran does indeed back the likes of Hezbollah, Bashir al-Assad and the Houthis. Yet as the U.S. wades into conflict with IS, it is these connections that make Iran invaluable to American policy in the region. We need Iran to rein in Hezbollah, engage with Assad and assist in holding an increasingly fragile Yemeni state together. Iran needs the United States to assist with IS and to orchestrate the lifting of sanctions, which have devastated the Iranian economy and brought the avatollahs to the negotiating table.

Unequivocally, Obama has not "given away the store" in his foreign policy. When nuance is indeed utilized, it demonstrates numerous successes, a few failures and a number of situations in which it is simply too early to pass judgment.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Make this Lent count

Traditionally, Lent is a time of preparation for Christians, in imitation of the 40 days Christ spent fasting in the desert. But whether you're Catholic, Protestant, Muslim, Buddhist, Atheist or none of the above, you should be giving something up for Lent this year. It's a good character builder and a practice in humility, a really underappreciated virtue around here.

Lent is characterized as a liturgical season that emphasizes the necessity of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. For many, it serves as a sobering reminder of their mortality and fragility and for others, a personal challenge of self-denial. I'm sure we've all made good Lenten promises before, giving up fro-yo, Netflix, or — if you have the mindset of a third-grader like I do - homework. I'm sure we've all also tried doing something new instead of giving something up: being nicer to our siblings, praying more or exercising more (you know ... the things we all probably should do anyway). Even in doing those, however, we're still giving something up, whether its the time we would have spent doing other things or the pride that would have made us act otherwise.

our attention to the sheer abundance we live in and those who go without (at least, in theory). Unfortunately, this isn't always the case and our inconveniences bring cynicism and complaints. I've got a few tips that I have picked up over the years to help make this Lent the most productive one yet. I'm by no means a Lenten expert; these are just what have worked well for me in the past.

1. Make it something quantifiable. Something like "be nicer" or "pray more" is great in sentiment, but won't get you very far in practice. Giving out three compliments per day or praying 10 minutes after you wake up and 10 minutes before you go to bed will get you much further. 2. Don't complain. I know it sucks not to have your morning coffee (believe me — I've grown dependent on the stuff), but complaining in this case helps nobody. It just annoys your friends and makes you more unhappy, ruining the spirit of the season. 3. Don't bring it up. Unless the topic gets brought up explicitly, try to avoid bringing up your sacrifice at all. It just becomes a fuel for your ego, and you're not really giving up anything if that's the case. (This is probably the hardest one for me.)

4. Don't give up. Even if you slip up, get right back to it. Missed your daily rosary yesterday? Just continue on the next day. Don't even feel bad about it. Well, maybe a little bad. But we've all been there.

5. Always keep the "why" in mind. Whether it is a religious motivation or not, there has to be a reason you're purposefully abstaining from something. Bringing yourself closer in spirit to those who are less fortunate or Christ (who is especially close to the less fortunate) is always a righteous thing to do.

Lent is very practical. By giving up even something small, our inconveniences bring

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6. (Optional) If it's something you know you're going to screw up, make some sort of reparation. I once knew a friend who wrote a tick on her hand every time she swore during the day and would say a prayer for each of the ticks at the end of the day. Not surprisingly, the ticks eventually disappeared. But don't abuse it.

Lent is a time of personal and spiritual growth. Let's make it count this time around.

> Brad Stalcup senior Fisher Hall Feb. 4

Join the Discussion | Send a letter to the Editor at Have an opinion? Let us bear it. | viewpoint@ndsmcobserver.com



SOUTH BEND



By MARC DRAKE Scene Writer

There is no denying that there has been a boom in craft products in the past several years. Viewed by some as a revolutionary reconsideration of the quality of our food and by others as a clever marketing strategy to exploit those who spend extra money for specially labeled products, craft products can be found on menus all throughout the country. Most notably, this boom has affected the brewing industry, with an explosion in demand for high-quality and local beers. Increasingly, however, this artisanal spirit is being applied to other culinary realms.

For most people, chocolate is a cursory indulgence. Saved as a special treat or used to modify another dish, little thought is given to the actual quality or the processes that go into chocolate making. Considered a market dominated by giants such as Hershey's and Cadbury, one South Bend resident is slowly taking steps to bring mindfulness back to the process of chocolate-making. Hans Westerink and his company, Violet Sky, have quickly made a splash among those who are pushing for greater quality in what they eat and drink. years ago, I began selling them at the [South Bend] Farmer's Market."

The fascination with truffles, however, soon became a wider interest in the art of chocolate-making:

"I didn't make the chocolate myself, I was just making truffles and selling them," Westerink said. "And then, I just stumbled upon this place that sold beans and had a whole description on how to make chocolate, which I didn't realize was even possible for me. I was actually looking up cacao beans for home brewing to make a chocolate beer, and this website had 20-25 origins of cacao beans at a time."

Over the course of the year, this hobby grew into a full-fledged business as more and more individuals were able to taste the chocolate and learn about his process. As Westerink walked me through the chocolate-making process, I realized how little I actually knew about chocolate or where it comes from. In between descriptions of roasting and "cocoa nibs," one thing in particular stuck out to me: the location of the beans matter. Despite my rudimentary knowledge of coffee, I knew that one of the important consideration for coffee lovers is the origin of the beans, and this is a principle that also translates to cacao beans. After tasting samples of the different chocolates, I was shocked to learn that the only difference between the bars was the origin of the beans and that something so small can make a large difference in the overall taste. "All four chocolates that I have and that I make are just cacao beans and sugar, no extra ingredients," Westerink said. "The roast

levels are different, but you could just eat the

raw beans, and they would taste drastically

different. ... It's the genetics as well as the soil, the altitude and the climate."

With bars named after the country of origin of the beans, tasters know exactly where their chocolate is coming from. Upon sampling the four bars that Violet Sky currently offers, I was shocked at the differences between the fruity "Madagascar" chocolate versus the very bitter "Venezuela," differences that arose solely from geographical diversity in the beans.

Westerink not only varies the locations of the beans that he uses, but also the concentration of the cacao beans that goes into his chocolate.

"Chocolate in the United States has to have 10 percent beans to be milk chocolate," Westerink said. "Dark chocolate in the U.S. only has to have 15 percent cacao beans to legally be dark chocolate, which is pretty low, and I'm using 77 percent. In Europe, I think chocolate has to be over 30 percent cacao beans to be considered dark chocolate ... here they use tons of cocoa butter and lots of sugar. It comes from the bean, but it doesn't taste like much, and is kind of just crummy filler." Westerink's devotion to the science of chocolate-making is palpable. He showed me the difference between propane and electric in chocolate-making, precise temperature ranges and large machines performing a dizzying variety of tasks. Westerink carefully shows me all his equipment, and the process behind chocolate-making slowly starts to make sense. However, as Westerink began to show me the molds he used for the bars, the art behind what he does slowly began to shine through.

"You don't want the science to get in the way of the creative aspects," Westerink said. "A lot of it for me is that there's a lot of science to it, but there's not a lot of science to base it off of. So it's kind of trial and error too, and I think that's where a lot of the creativity comes in, seeing what I like more."

Acknowledging the balance between the two enriches the experience of tasting the chocolate, according too Westerink. As we joke about the lingo that surrounds chocolate and beer tasting, the reality of chocolate as an artistic medium starts to make sense to me.

With the new year in full force, Westerink and Violet Sky have gotten off to a strong start.

"I want to do as much wholesale as I can, because it's definitely a much lower price for me," he said. "However, I'm definitely going to be selling to the LaSalle Grille. I want to sell as far as I can, and right now I can sell anywhere in Indiana. I want to see how much I can make, especially selling at the [South Bend] Farmer's Market. Purple Porch, Oh Mamma's, those are places that are both interested in having my chocolate, and those are the kinds of places that I want to be in. Oh Mamma's makes their own cheese, and the people who come in there are the people who are interested in handmade, local stuff." Violet Sky doesn't seem to display any signs of slowing down, and with Valentine's Day right around the corner, Westerink almost certainly has something special in the works.

Westerink's passion for chocolate-making goes hand-in-hand with his love of quality beer.

"For me beer came first, but at this point, it's kind of a saturated market," he said. "I knew I wanted to do something with food, and there was definitely no one else doing this. I used to make handmade truffles for Christmas, five or six years ago. Then at some Christmas party some lady told me, 'Oh, you should sell these.' So about three MARC DRAKE | The Observer

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By ERIN McAULIFFE Scene Writer

Screen stars on a theatre stage on film. This is what I was treated to at the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts on Wednesday at the National Theatre Live recording of the 2014 Broadway production of "Of Mice And Men."

The play marks National Theatre Live's first venture into Broadway after success with airing British theatre productions on screen — and a better choice could not have presented itself for the opportunity.

James Franco ("127 Hours," "The Interview," a bunch of other things) plays proactive, fiery and compassionate George Milton, while Chris O'Dowd ("Bridesmaids," "St. Vincent") plays cumbersome, innocent and dependent Lennie Small.

Leighton Meester ("Gossip Girl") plays Curly's "tart" wife. Desperate for any conversation or connection, but presenting trouble any time she is around because the jealous, vindictive, "handy" Curly doesn't want any competition, Meester stirred empathy in a character that can be a pretty flat read. It was almost as if she was playing a retro "Queen B" stuck in the west, when she longed for New York and to be "in pictures."

Directed by Anna Shapiro, the play did not lack star power. Broadway plays do not normally draw crowds via household names or Playbills featuring attractive A-list actors — however, Shapiro is trying out this tactic so frequently used in film.

She casted the same way in her more recent production, "This Is Our Youth," starring Michael Cera ("Juno," "Superbad") and Tavi Gevinson ("Rookie" author and "Nylon" Magazine's "It Girl").

With a cast of stars used to cameras, the show lent itself to a recording. However, a filmed version of a play is like a threeringed circus with curtains over two rings at all times. The camera decides what is important on stage, not you. An inherent part of Broadway is the stage setting enveloping your eyes with no interruptions or instructions. The filmed version, although allowing for up-close shots of emotions that would be missed in the nosebleeds, limits your visibility and interpretation. It is like bowling with the bumpers raised — a nice guide that provides a less fulfilling outcome.

The film works in an intermission feature that allowed the audience to hear Shapiro, Franco and O'Dowd voice their opinions of John Steinbeck's 1937 novella. They discuss the themes of the futile American dream and loneliness.

The production emphasizes the loneliness ranchmen feel as they move from job to job with no one stable in their lives. Lennie frequently pesters George to describe why they are different from those men.

"Guys like us, that work on ranches, are the loneliest guys in the world. With us it ain't like that. We got a future. We got somebody to talk to that gives a damn about us," George explains to Lennie.

"Because ... because I got you to look after me, and you got me to look after you," O'Dowd chimes in, delighted grin on his face as he is about to break into Lennie's signature laugh-and-clap sequence.

Their relationship stuck out to Shapiro as similar to her own relationship with her children.

"You look at these guys and see this

weird match of competency and incompetency," she said in the intermission feature. "And then I thought, that is what I am — a capable person in charge of a few incapable people."

Of course, George does wonder what his life would be like without Lennie "making messes and causing trouble."

"If I was alone, I could live so easy," he says as they lay by the river — I couldn't help but flashback to Franco in "127 Hours" in my head and laugh about the irony of this statement.

To counter this statement, Lennie offers to leave for the mountains, at which George laughs and does not even consider the prospect.

The love between the two will remind you of the love you felt for this novel in 10th grade English and the love you will find for the story told in a new medium.

"Of Mice and Men" will play at DeBartolo Performing Arts Center at 3 p.m. on Saturday. Tickets are \$16 for students.

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Onyinye Naomi Igboanugo Scene Writer

If you're an avid reader of the Scene section of The Observer, you might have noticed this curious new column — The

Valentine's Day: Three Outfits for Three Occasions

I'm sure we all share the same sentiments about Valentine's Day falling on a Saturday. Whether you are having a single ladies' night/bros' night (wait, do guys do that?), spending the day with your family or maybe doing something romantic with someone special, a great outfit can really set the tone for the day or night. Here are three outfit ideas for three possible events you might be attending next weekend. norm by spotting a velvet dress. Finish your look off with red lipstick and keep your accessories simple, tasteful and classy.

More dapper is always better for men. There are very few things sexier than a man in a nice suit. While a blazer is an essential piece, you can switch between matching pants and jeans depending on how formal your venue is.

Movie Night

While movie night is usually casual, you can still look stylish without compromising comfort. Girls, trade in your plain top for a sleeveless chiffon blouse and pair it with a pair of ripped boyfriend jeans. Throw on a leather jacket and a pair of booties, and you're good to go. If you want something a little fancier, try wearing a plain red dress with a statement necklace, a leather jacket and booties.

Stylin' Irish. Slightly similar to Fashion by Felicia, this column is dedicated to all things fashion from trends and style on campus to style advice to fashion show reviews and features of your favorite style icons. I am Onyinye Naomi Igboanugo, a senior accounting major with restless fingers. When I'm not crunching numbers and learning about SEC regulations, I love honing my passion for the creative. In addition to running a personal style blog — The Vain Sport — I also act as Notre Dame's head style guru for CollegeFashionista.com. When I discovered that The Observer was one fashion columnist short, I jumped at the chance to fill that opening. I will be writing this bi-weekly column on Fridays, so be on the lookout for great advice on style and fashion deals.

Dinner Date

While cliché, dinner dates on Valentine's Day are certainly not overrated. I mean, anything involving food simply can't be overrated. As expected, a red dress would be perfect for this occasion. Depending on how fancy your venue is, your options range from a low-back midi dress to a white blouse paired with a red high-waisted mini skirt. Personally, I'm a rebel when it comes to fashion. And if you're like me, you can go against the

Girls' Night Out/In

Calling all my single ladies. Don't have plans for Valentine's Day? Call up (or in the case of our generation, text) your girlfriends and plan a night out/night in with lots of wine, gossip and dancing. Alternatively, you can hit the bars and clubs to mingle with other single people. Jumpsuits are fun, flattering and flirty. They also allow a wide range of motion, making them perfect for a great night out.

Boys, if you're hitting the night spots, you should dress to impress. This means, button-down shirts, jackets, jeans/chinos and loafers. A nice button-down shirt and a pair of jeans will just work fine for boys.

Ladies, you can find more outfit ideas for Valentine's Day on my CollegeFashionista.

Then again, maybe you are just getting some personal time with Netflix or Hulu. In that case, your pajamas will work just fine.

Keep Stylin' Irish!

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

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SPORTS AUTHORITY

Praise Belichick, Patriots' defense

Daniel O'Boyle Sports Writer

Now that the red, white and blue confetti has settled on Super Bowl XLIX, we can look back on the Seattle Seahawks' last offensive play with a little more thought.

At the time of the play, of course, the reaction was near-outrage. Emmitt Smith tweeted that Seattle's decision to pass was "the worst play call I've seen in the history of football." Deion Sanders, Brian Dawkins and Torry Holt were among the many other names who expressed a similar sentiment. Jon Gruden said Seattle was wrong to choose a quick slant play instead of "Spider 2 Y Banana." Donald Trump's explanation was that "it must have been President Obama that called" the play.

But was Pete Carroll wrong to call the now-infamous play when he had Marshawn Lynch, the best power runner in the NFL, in the backfield? In some ways, yes he was. Malcolm Butler picked off Russell Wilson's pass, the Patriots got the ball and won the game. Clearly, something didn't go right. Otherwise it would have been Ricardo Lockette in a Minion hat chugging a beer during the victory parade, while Tom Brady would have been left with a mere three Super Bowl Rings, two league MVP awards, millions of dollars and a supermodel wife.

Just because the play didn't work, though, doesn't mean we should see it as a disastrous call from Seattle's coaching staff. Bill Belichick, Butler and the Patriots deserve plenty of credit for their work in forcing the interception, while the decision to pass the ball or run it was not as easy at it may appear.

First, we need to dispel the myth that handing the ball to Lynch for a one-yard touchdown was a sure thing Marshawn Lynch is one of the hardest players to tackle in the league, and it seems like he was made for these short-yardage situations, but he was 1-for-5 this year in converting touchdowns from the one-yard line. When teams knew that they needed to stop "Beast Mode" getting into the endzone, they usually could. And let's not forget, Russell Wilson is a top-10 quarterback who was having a brilliant game — he'd executed a short-yardage passing play for a touchdown when fighting the clock late in the first half, so there was no reason why he couldn't do it again. The Seahawks didn't take the ball from a sure-thing scoring

machine and give it to some scrub; one option was not clearly better than the other.

Then, there are the steps New England took that ultimately won them the game. First, Belichick made the decision not to call a timeout. After letting the Giants score a touchdown quickly in Super Bowl XLVI so Brady had time to get the ball back, it would make sense to think that Belichick would again want to give Brady some time. But instead, Belichick trusted his defense and let the clock run down. The Seahawks offense certainly didn't seem to expect this, and took a whole 35 seconds to snap the ball. While their lack of awareness and timing would rival that of the halftime show's left shark, their lack of speed was almost certainly at least partly due to Belichick's surprising tactics.

The Seahawks, with one timeout of their own, now had to make a choice: they had time to run the ball once and use their timeout if they didn't get it in, or pass it, knowing the clock would stop with an incompletion. If they had chosen to run instead of pass, their options would have been incredibly limited on third down: either run it again and let the clock expire, or pass it against a defense expecting just that. Passing on second should have kept their options open.

Of course, it didn't because Butler picked off the pass, and the Seahawks didn't get another play. But that shouldn't be held against Carroll or the Seahawks coaching staff. Butler's movement to win the ball was extraordinary, which he said was attributable to being beaten by that exact play in practice. Less noticeably, Brandon Browner, formerly of the Legion of Boom, jammed Jermaine Kearse perfectly at the line. Kearse was supposed to run a rub route and get in Butler's way, but Browner left the rookie free to be where

PGATOUR | FARMERS INSURANCE OPEN

Woods withdraws from tournament with injury

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — In an ominous start to his season, Tiger Woods walked off the course after 11 holes Thursday at the Farmers Insurance Open because of tightness in his lower back that he attributed to a fog delay.

Woods began reaching for his lower back midway through the round on the North Course at Torrey Pines, and his grimace became more pronounced. Billy Horschel picked up the tee for Woods on their 10th hole and took the ball out of the cup for him when Woods made birdie.

Woods hit a safe shot to the middle of the par-3 third green. When it was his turn, he had caddie Joe LaCava pick up his ball marker and he waited for Horschel and Rickie Fowler to finish before getting into a cart and driving to his car.

In his last six tournaments since returning from back surgery a week before the Masters, Woods has missed the cut three times, withdrawn twice and finished 69th in the British Open, his lowest 72-hole finish in a major.

He had said at his unofficial Hero World Challenge in December and last week in the Phoenix Open, where he had a career-high 82, that he was at full strength.

He blamed this on having to stand around in the cool Pacific air during a fog delay.

Woods warmed up for his 9:20 a.m. tee time and was near the 10th tee when play was suspended because fog rolled in. Fog delayed the start by an hour, and the next round of fog led to a 90-minute stoppage in play.

"I was ready to go," Woods said. "I had a good warmup session the first time around. Then we stood out here and I got cold, and everything started deactivating again. And it's frustrating that I just can't stay activated. That's just kind of the way it is."

Asked if it was new pain

from the back injury that forced him to withdraw at Firestone in August, Woods said his "glutes are shutting off."

"Then they don't activate and then, hence, it goes into my lower back," he said, sounding more like a physical therapist than a 14-time major champion. "So I tried to activate my glutes as best I could in between, but they never stayed activated."

Woods was 2-over par through 11 holes and in a tie for 130th when he withdrew.

He will fall to his worst world ranking since before he won his first PGA Tour event as a 20-year-old in 1996, and he most likely will not qualify for a World Golf Championship for only the second time in his career. Woods is not expected to play again until the Honda Classic in three weeks. Doral is the following week. He did not indicate earlier in the week that he would add tournaments to his schedule ahead of the Masters, which is April 9-12.

NBA

Paul George hopes to return to court

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Twotime All-Star Paul George said Thursday he is hopeful of returning to play for the Indiana Pacers this season after suffering a gruesome leg injury, though he remains uncertain it will actually happen.

George took Larry Bird's playful jabs for months and he said he was pleasantly surprised when the Pacers' president of basketball operations suggested George should play this season if he could. George had not taken questions since late November when he was just doing some light shooting work.

Even then, it seemed unfathomable that George could contemplate a return this season after his right leg snapped in a collision with a basketball stanchion during the U.S. national team's Aug. 1 scrimmage in Las Vegas. George left the court on a stretcher and had surgery that night to repair the compound fracture.

Bird, coach Frank Vogel and George took turns answering questions in mid-August about the long road back, but nobody ruled out the possibility of a return this season and they still haven't. Bird's comments raised the idea once again. Thursday, Vogel provided a different explanation.

"I think he (Bird) basically was just clarifying sort of the difference between Paul's situation and I guess what Chicago encountered with Derrick Rose where they just said he's out this year no matter what," Vogel said. "We're not going saying that. We think he (George) is likely out this year, but I think Larry was just stating that if he's able to play then we're going to openminded to that."

Team doctors told the Pacers it would take seven months for George's injured leg to heal completely, making a possible return in March plausible. Vogel said the latest update he's gotten is that the bone is almost completely healed. George's activity also has picked up. He's now participating in some one-on-one drills and has increased his shooting tempo at practice, and George went even further Thursday by saying he's able to do everything except

Wilson would never expect him to be.

In each part of the play, it was clear that the Patriots knew exactly what to expect from the Seahawks. Carroll doesn't deserve criticism, Belichick deserves praise for yet another piece of proof that he's the best coach in the league. If Carroll's decision looked foolish, it's because Belichick can make a fool out of anyone.

Contact Daniel O'Boyle at doboyle1@nd.edu

The views expressed in this Sports Authority are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. "I always talk to Larry about the situation. He always tells me how bad I look, being out there, so for him saying March, I was just playing off that," George said referring to a one-word Tweet "March?!" he sent out after Bird's comments on Tuesday.

"Ideally, that's a great time where I want to be there. I'm obviously a long ways away from it because I've got so many steps that I've got to take," he said. "But that's when I want to be back."



The comments could have been intended to convince players, fans or perhaps potential trade partners that the Pacers (18-32) remain all in this season.

But Bird usually doesn't resort to sending messages through the media, and on

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

MEN'S TENNIS

Irish prep for Ball State, Wisconsin

By RYAN KLAUS Sports Writer

Coming off a home vicover Northwestern torv last Friday, Notre Dame finishes off its five-match homestand against Ball State and Wisconsin on Sunday.

The Irish (3-1) were scheduled to play Illinois on Monday, but the match was postponed due to weather. That match is now scheduled for Feb. 28.

"Certainly we were disappointed that we weren't able to play Illinois on Monday, but there is a silver lining for every situation and having Monday off gave us a few extra days rest to get us fully recovered after the Northwestern match," Irish coach Ryan Sachire said. "It's allowed us to have a really full week of training this week. We really have been able to take advantage of the time off, and I feel like we are a better team because of the last four days of practice."

Sunday will be unique for Notre Dame in that it will be the first time the Irish will face two opponents on

the same day this season. Despite having two opponents, Sachire insisted that the Irish were not taking different approaches with Wisconsin (1-3) and Ball State (2-3).

"(We're) taking the same approach with both," Sachire said. "Both Wisconsin and Ball State are good teams. Both teams have had a history of NCAA success over the last few decades. We know they will be good, competitive matches this Sunday."

One benefit to the two matches Sunday is that it opens up more playing spots for the Irish, Sachire said.

"It will give us the opportunity to get other guys in our lineup and get a few more guys the opportunity to play, which will be really good for them and the depth of our team because I think it's probably unrealistic to think that over the course of the season we'll stay totally healthy," Sachire said. "For the guys that have been starting, it gives them the opportunity to potentially play two matches in a day. I think that you get better every match you play, so

MICHAEL YU | The Observer

Junior Quentin Monaghan lunges for a shot during a 4-3 win against Oklahoma State at Eck Tennis Pavilion on Jan. 24. Monaghan and the Irish look to knock off Ball State and Wisconsin on Sunday.

we're looking forward to the opportunity."

Sunday will also be different for the Irish in that it will be the first time this season that they play unranked opponents.

The two matches Sunday will be the last matches Notre Dame will play at home before the Feb. 28 makeup, as road contests at Michigan and Ohio State follow this weekend's play.

Sachire, however, denied that the impending road contests will add any extra urgency to the matches this weekend.

"I don't think there's any extra urgency before going on the road," Sachire said. "I think you're always urgent to play your best tennis. Certainly, we want to take advantage of every home opportunity that we have. A big key for us is to be a great home team so Sunday gives us that chance, but I don't know that there's any extra urgency because we're very comfortable going on the road too."

Notre Dame plays Ball State at 10 a.m. Sunday and Wisconsin at 6 p.m. the same day. Both matches will be held at Eck Tennis Pavilion.

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WOMEN'S TENNIS

ND to compete against pair of ranked opponents

By BENJAMIN PADANILHAM Sports Writer

No. 19 Notre Dame will host No. 8 Stanford on Friday and No. 31 Ohio State on Sunday in a pair of matches this weekend at Eck Tennis Pavilion.

The Irish (2-1) are coming off their first loss of the season against No. 15 Michigan and now welcome two more ranked opponents in the Cardinal (2-0) and the Buckeyes (3-0).

Despite the loss Saturday, Irish coach Jay Louderback said his players performed well and were able to learn a like we played well last weeklot about themselves in the matchup.

getting to play Michigan again. And then the team at three, [sophomores] Mary Closs and Jane Fennelly, hadn't played since early fall, so it was good for them to not only get to play together, but play well."

Regardless of what the scoreboard might have indicated after a 5-2 loss, Louderback said that the team played well against Michigan and that he would like to see them carry that effort forward to this weekend's matches.

"We were right there with them early, and I really felt end," Louderback said. "I felt like the intensity we had last week in singles and doubles was great. We've got to carry



"I thought we played really well in the doubles," Louderback said. "We felt like probably going in, our No. 2 doubles team [freshman Allison Miller and junior Julie Vrabel] might be our strength. They went [to the] semifinals at [the Midwest Regional] playing No. 2 for us, and what do we do? We win at one and three.

"Our one team [junior Quinn Gleason and sophomore Monica Robinson] had lost to that team in the regional finals, so they were really looking forward to

that over to this week." Having moved on from last weekend's match, the Irish will now look ahead to their matches against Stanford and Ohio State, a pair of ranked teams that Louderback considers to be two of the better teams in the country.

"I think this might be the best team that [Ohio State] has ever had since I've been here," Louderback said. "They're very good. And then Stanford is No. 8, but they're actually better than that.

EMMET FARNAN | The Observer

Junior Quinn Gleason prepares to hit a backhand during Notre Dame's 4-3 win against Indiana on Feb. 2, 2014. Gleason and the Irish take on Stanford on Friday and Ohio State on Sunday.

Their top five are as good as any other top five in the country. The thing that's great for us is getting both those teams here on our courts. ... Stanford doesn't play a lot of indoor tennis, and they're going to have to come here and play us indoors, which is good."

In order to come out of this weekend with two victories, Louderback said the Irish must focus on what they can

do and not worry about or overlook the two teams they are set to play.

"We've got to go out there and not worry about who we are playing," Louderback said. "Stanford has always been one of the top teams in the country for 30 years. At times, they've been like [Connecticut] and our women in hoops; they've been really really good. But in the last six to eight years, we've been right there with them, so I think that's a big thing. And we won't let them overlook Ohio State because they're good."

Notre Dame will square off against Stanford on Friday at 5 p.m. and Ohio State on Sunday at 2 p.m. at Eck Tennis Pavilion.

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ND SOFTBALL

Irish look to further program's success

By MANNY DEJESUS Sports Writer

After ending last season with a 1-0 loss to UCLA in the NCAA Regionals in Los Angeles, Notre Dame begins its 2015 campaign with a trip back to southern California for the So Cal Collegiate Classic this weekend.

The Irish posted a 41-13 record last season, reaching the 40-win plateau for the sixth straight season, and finished in the top 25 en route to setting program records in team onbase percentage (.419), batting average (.357), total hits (533) and doubles (107).

This season, two senior captains will lead the Irish: second baseman Jenna Simon and outfielder Emilee Koerner.

"We're excited to get our season started," Simon said. "Everyone has put in a lot of hard work this offseason in order to make this team successful, and we're excited to show what we have to the rest of the country. We want to dominate in the ACC this year, win a regional and continue to take Notre Dame softball to dominance."

Simon, who was named to the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) Mid-Atlantic second team last season, helped lead the Irish to an appearance in the ACC championship game in just their first season in the conference. Simon hit for a .359 average along with 20 stolen bases and 39 runs scored last season.

Notre Dame starts its weekend off with a pair of games Friday. The Irish will take on Utah before playing No. 6 UCLA in an NCAA regional rematch.

The Irish have used the season-ending loss to UCLA as motivation for this season, Simon said.

"Ending a season is a horrible feeling any way it happens, and we have used that loss as fuel to motivate ourselves and our team to be better this year," Simon said. "We have worked really hard on the fundamentals of the game, which will help us continue to win late in the season. We have a very experienced team, and we are confident in our ability to beat any team we play."

Koerner said she is confident in Notre Dame's chances to win the program's first ACC title. The two-time NFCA All-American and California native set the single-season program record for doubles (28) last year and the record for most doubles in a career with 61.

"Every year we've played here the experience gets more and more special," Koerner said.



EMILY McCONVILLE | The Observer

Junior catcher/outfielder Casey Africano swings during Notre Dame's 11-4 win over Michigan State on April 2 at Melissa Cook Stadium. The Irish finished 41-13 last season.

"With that being said, this year does not feel different from any other year we've played. Our goals are still the same, and that's to bring Notre Dame soft-

Irish have shifted their focus to their own game.

"We have made it a point to focus much more on ourselves and not on our opponents this year," Koerner said. "We believe if we can make ourselves the best Notre Dame softball team possible, there's no one out there that can beat us." The Irish start their season Friday at 4 p.m against Utah and 9 p.m. against UCLA at Easton Stadium in Los Angeles. Notre Dame continues play Saturday at Anderson Family Field in Fullerton, California, taking on Northwestern State at 2 p.m. and Cal State Fullerton at 4:30 p.m. before wrapping up against Cal State Fullerton at 1 p.m. Sunday.

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WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Notre Dame to race Cleveland State at home

ball to dominance and go some-

where we've never been before.

We have small goals within our

season as well, such as hosting

our own regional and dominat-

After playing UCLA, Notre

Dame faces Northwestern

State on Saturday morning and

Cal State Fullerton later that

ing the ACC."

By BENJAMIN PADANILHAM Sports Writer

Notre Dame will dive into the pool Saturday at Rolfs Aquatic Center for the last time this season when it hosts Cleveland State.

The Irish (6-9) are coming off two victories in what was a strong showing for the team at the annual Shamrock Invitational. They beat Iowa 282.50-87.50 and defeated Incarnate Word 292-62 before wrapping up the weekend with senior day festivities. With this performance just two weeks ahead of the upcoming ACC championships, Irish coach Tim Welsh said he was quite pleased by what he saw from his team. "I was so excited for them and pleased for them and proud of them," Welsh said. "I thought the team swam very well over the weekend. I hope they took away a lot of confidence, a lot of trust and a lot of eagerness to see how much faster they can go at the conference championships." This weekend, the Irish take to the pool at home against Cleveland State for the last dual meet of the

regular season. Facing the Vikings (4-7) provides the team with additional race experience to make improvements moving forward, Welsh said.

"It gives us one more chance to race," Welsh said. "Racing is a skill, and the more you practice your skill, the better you get at it. And I think that for several people, the season has pretty much been same event, same event, same event. When we get to the ACC meet, they're going to swim three events; they might only be swimming two at a regular meet. So we have some events people need racing experience in, and we all need a little more preparation and a little more polish on our skills. So I'm looking forward to that this weekend, and I hope



that it shows up." After last weekend's performance, Welsh said that he hopes to see more of the same spirit from his team this weekend. If the Irish can continue to compete at a high level, then the Irish can put themselves in a position to succeed in the stretch run of their season, Welsh said. "We're definitely poised," Welsh said. "And in a

WEI LIN | The Observer

Senior Erin Foley swims the 200-yard freestyle during a win over Valparaiso at Rolfs Aquatic Center on Nov. 15, 2013. The Irish take on Cleveland State this weekend.

position to do well. [But] you know, always fingers crossed because the pool never, ever owes you a fast swim. You always have to be prepared, and you always have to go get it. But we appear to be in a very good place, and we'll be even more ready, we hope, when we get to Georgia Tech for the ACC championships." This weekend's competition will also be the last time the eight seniors on the team take the pool at home for a race.

"It actually feels really weird," senior Bridget Casey said. "It's very bittersweet. My class, we've been through so much together, and the fact that we've made it to this point and made it that far — it's been an unbelievable journey."

The Irish will take on Cleveland State on Saturday at 12 p.m. at Rolfs Aquatic Center.

Contact Benjamin Padanilham at bpadanil@nd.edu



Irish right wing Peter Schneider tussles with the New Hampshire defense during Notre Dame's 5-2 loss on Jan. 30. Schneider and the Irish take on Maine this weekend.

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ND Hockey

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

With eight conference games remaining, the Irish are just two points behind Providence for the all-important fourth slot in the conference standings. The top four teams in the Hockey East host a bestof-three quarterfinal series in the Hockey East tournament and do not have to play in the tournament's one-game first round.

Hinostroza tallied a trio of assists against New Hampshire, and his recent offense has been integral to Notre Dame's recent turnaround on the power play unit. Through Jan. 10, the Irish power play unit ranked last in the country in goals scored. Since that date, the Irish have scored a power play goal in seven straight games, with Hinostroza notching one goal and four assists in extra man advantage situations.

Irish coach Jeff Jackson said his team's newfound offensive firepower is due to finding the right chemistry with the power play units.

"The last [seven] games the power play has been a big positive," Jackson said. "I think those groups that we have now are pretty much set for the most part."

In addition to continued success on the power play, Jackson also said the Irish will need to take care of the puck at the blue lines, something his squad has struggled with at times this year.

"There are certain things that have haunted us consistently this season, and one of those things is the players' will to make good plays with the puck and not turn it over at the blue lines," Jackson said.

Jackson think that this will be a difficult road test for the Irish, describing Alfond Arena, the home of the Black Bears, as a "very tough building to play in."

"It's a smaller venue, but the

fans are right on top of you, and when you have that kind of crowd, you have to be prepared for the intimidation factor as a visiting team," Jackson said.

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Given the expected raucousness of the home crowd this weekend, Jackson said he views the two games as an opportunity for the young Irish squad to mature.

"My hope is that we'll be able to grow this weekend because this is the toughest place that we'll have played in since probably Minnesota [on Nov. 7-9]," Jackson said.

To prepare his team for the type of road environment he expects, Jackson said he has increased tempo during team practices this week.

"We've been practicing at a higher pace and trying to create a little chaos during practices because that's the kind of atmosphere we're going to face when we play there," Jackson said.

Hinostroza said he feeds off energetic environments, as he enjoys "trying to shut the home crowd up."

"In stadiums like that, sometimes it starts to feel like the game starts to move a little faster, but we just need to realize that if we play our own game, we'll be good," Hinostroza said.

Jackson also mentioned the game speed as a factor in this weekend's matchups and said taking care of the puck is crucial in making sure the Black Bears' team speed is kept in check.

"They're a quick team," Jackson said of the Black Bears. "But their team speed and transition game can be eliminated if we protect the puck and do a good job of handling it around the blue lines."

Notre Dame will square off against Maine tonight and Saturday at Alfond Arena in Orono, Maine, with the puck dropping both nights at 7:05 p.m.

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Cooks

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

TheFootballBrainiacs.com first reported Sunday afternoon that at Kansas State, Western Illinois, Cooks would be named the defensive backs coach at Oklahoma. Cooks spent five seasons on staff with the Irish, most recently as the secondary coach this past season. In 2012 and 2013, Cooks served as Notre Dame's co-defensive coordinator and cornerbacks coach. The Irving, Texas, native joined

Irish head coach Brian Kelly's staff in 2010 as the outside linebackers coach and tutored the cornerbacks in 2011.

Cooks spent stints coaching

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Minnesota and Wisconsin prior to his time at Notre Dame.

Cooks, who played safety at Iowa, was drafted by the Minnesota Vikings in the fifth round of the 1998 NFL Draft, and also played for the Green Bay Packers, Atlanta Falcons and Jacksonville Jaguars before retiring from the league in 2001.

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M BBall

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

Just under two weeks ago, Blue Devil freshman center Jahlil Okafor, a leading candidate to be this year's first pick in the draft, tore up the smaller Irish defense. Okafor nearly finished with a double-double in the first half, recording 11 rebounds and nine points in the opening 20 minutes on his way to finishing with 23 points and 17 boards.

"We just don't want [Okafor] to get 32 [points] and 22 [rebounds]," Brey said of guarding the Chicago native this time around. "We have not been a team, a program that [double-teams]. We crowd off of who we can crowd off of, which is a little bit limited, the way they shoot the ball.

"Our game plan has got to be similar. We don't want [Duke] to light us up from the 3-point line, different bodies on Okafor, crowding of the right guy at the right time, mixing in some zone and then, as I said 10 days ago, we've got to score that ball to escape there."

Offense has been Notre Dame's strength all season. The Irish rank in the top-10 nationally in both points per game (eighth, 80.8) and fieldgoal percentage (second, 52.1 percent), while also averaging 40.4 percent from beyond the 3-point arc, good for 14th in the nation.

"Okafor has got to guard my guys," Brey said with a smirk on his face, flipping the tables after being asked another question about how the Irish will adjust to Okafor. "And if they're playing man-to-man, he's going to be on a lot of ball screens."

Brey also said that for all Okafor's success inside, Notre Dame found one way to at least slow him down: freshman forward Bonzie Colson.

Using his seven-foot wingspan, the 6-foot-5 Colson hounded Okafor for large chunks of the last game, despite giving up six inches and 44 pounds to his larger

got adversary.

"His length and his gangliness and unorthodox way of kind of draping himself on a guy really helped us," Brey said of Colson. "You get fooled playing against him — bigger players get fooled playing against him. Because of his length, he can bother a shot or even block a shot from behind."

This is Notre Dame's third trip to "The Triangle," the area home to North Carolina, Duke and North Carolina State, a trio of schools that boast traditionally tough home environments. So far the Irish are 2-0 in the area, beating the Tar Heels, 71-70, on Jan. 5 and the Wolfpack, 81-78, in overtime Jan. 25. A win over Duke to go 3-0 in the Triangle would be a powerful statement for the Irish to make, Brey said.

"I'm looking at the schedule when it came out and I'm thinking, 'Has anyone had to go through and play all three [Triangle] teams on the road since they did the old roundrobin [regular-season format]



JODI LO | The Observe

Irish senior Jerian Grant dribbles past a Duke defender on Jan. 28. *The Irish knocked off the Blue Devils in that last meeting,* 77-73.

when there were only eight teams in the ACC?" Brey said. "They're already talking about us a lot down there on Tobacco Road because of who we've beaten, but that would add to it."

Notre Dame will look to

Contact Zach Klonsinski at zklonsin@nd.edu ahead to March and wondering where you're going to be, and it's really important es-

complete its season sweep

of Duke and the Triangle at

1 p.m. Saturday at Cameron

Indoor Stadium in Durham,

North Carolina.

W BBall

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

from the field for 14 total points. However, she found other ways to be effective, and tied Allen with a teamhigh four assists.

"We had a game where Jewell was a little bit off, and we still were able to score 75 points, and I think we need to see that more often, where Jewell's not carrying us," McGraw said. "[Jewell] wants to make every shot, like all good players do, and I think she was a little frustrated because she missed a couple of easy ones."

The Irish jumped out to a 13-4 lead in the first five minutes of the game, and at one point in the first half went up by a comfortable 30-16 margin before Virginia could get a rhythm going.

Virginia narrowed the lead

to five with 2:10 left in the first half, but a five-point run by the Irish in the final two minutes of the first frame left them with a secure 41-31 lead at halftime.

Both teams would proceed to tighten up on defense in the second half, and the Irish lead hovered in single digits early in the half before they started to run away with the game about halfway through the second frame.

Notre Dame pressured Virginia into reducing its perimeter opportunities, something the Irish have rarely done this season.

"I was really happy with the defense in the second half," McGraw said. "I thought we had a lot more intensity and focus and really guarded the 3-point line pretty well and guarded the inside pretty well. Overall, just a much better effort in the second half." However, McGraw said there is still room for improvement on defense.

"I don't think we're there yet [defensively]," McGraw said. "You saw the first half where they shot pretty well, almost 50 percent, and that was disappointing to me. I think the second half was much better, but I'd really like to play 40 minutes of really good defense."

There is still plenty of work to be done on the offensive side of the ball as well, McGraw said, and she had high hopes that the Irish could continue to minimize turnovers.

"We need to still get better offensively," McGraw said. "Tonight we had 12 turnovers, that's pretty good. In that way, we're getting a little bit better. ...We need to add a lot more things offensively, put some new plays in, put some out-of-bounds plays in. I think we're a team that has been relying on some things quite a bit, and people are going to try to take that away, so it's a time for us to really shake things up."

After playing a struggling Boston College (10-12, 0-4 ACC) on Sunday, Notre Dame will have a bye week. Still, McGraw emphasized a need for the Irish to look at the next team up.

"February is a long month," McGraw said. "It's a real grind. Getting to the end of the season, you start looking ing where you're going to be, and it's really important especially for a young team to keep that focus on one game at a time. ...This is a time of upsets, this is when you've really got to be careful. Hopefully, our veterans will make sure our underclassmen are ready."

Notre Dame will visit the Eagles on Sunday at 1 p.m. at Conte Forum in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts.

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CAITLYN JORDAN | The Observer

Irish junior Jewell Loyd protects the ball against a Cavalier defender on Thursday. Despite shooting 4-for-15 from the field, Loyd finished second on the team with 14 points to help the Irish to a 75-54 victory. Students and Faculty are invited to submit nomination letters to:

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CROSSWORD | WILL SHORTZ

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For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.

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HIGHLY PUNLIKELY | CHRISTOPHER BRUCKER





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HOROSCOPE | EUGENIA LAST

Happy Birthday: Take a practical approach to partnerships and avoid the pitfalls that can happen if you try to do too much for others. Imbalance will be the enemy, making it vital for you to delegate jobs to everyone in a fair and responsible manner. Much of your success will depend on how you handle people in your personal and professional life. Your numbers are 3, 11, 18, 26, 32, 45, 47.

15

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't mess with people who can influence your future. Do whatever it takes to get along without compromising your integrity. Listen attentively to others. Being accommodating will help you get what you want in the end ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't take anything or anyone for granted. You may know what you want to do, but expect to face opposition. Don't be daunted by comments or criticism. Focus on finishing what you start and accommodating others only when possible. ********

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't expect to receive help from others and you won't be disappointed. Making changes to your home or professional direction will turn out to be a good investment. Learn new skills and don't let a personal relationship limit what you can do. $\star\star$

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Get down to business and you will excel. A partnership will be problematic if you are too compliant. Don't make a hasty decision that can have costly results. It's OK to do things differently or to follow your own path. ★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You may be all wrapped up in your personal relationships and trying to make changes to the way you live, but you should be focusing on financial and contractual matters that have the potential to turn costly. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Keep your thoughts and feelings to yourself. Someone will use personal information against you if you are too open. Take time out for self-improvement and raising your level of confidence. Don't give in to emotional blackmail or demanding individuals. *******

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't fight the inevitable. Go with the flow and see where it takes you. The changes that take place will turn out surprisingly well. Use your intelligence and take advantage of an emotional opportunity. Don't limit what you can do. $\star\star\star$

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Follow your heart, not what you hear. Gather information and come to your own conclusions before you make a choice. A change in the way you do things will help you avoid someone who wants to take control or shove you aside. $\star\star\star\star$

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Listen carefully, but do your own fact-finding. The information you gather will clear up issues you have been concerned about, allowing you to move forward and make positive personal changes at home. Act fast and finish what you start. **

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Take care of pressing family matters. Get involved in your community and you will be able to control the outcome of a situation that could affect an investment that concerns you. An old friend or lover will give you something to think about. ★★★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Emotional matters will surface. Don't put off what must be taken care of immediately. You can't move forward without clearing a path. It's out with the old and in with the new. Raise pressing issues and secure your future. ★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Get involved in organizational events that allow you to meet interesting and informative individuals. Sharing your thoughts will spark interest and lead to unexpected opportunities. Mix business with pleasure and you'll make a new and very valuable acquaintance. ***

JUMBLE | DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK



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SPORTS

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL | ND 75, VIRGINIA 54

Turner, Notre Dame coast past Cavaliers at home

By RENEE GRIFFIN Sports Writer

Freshman forward Brianna Turner earned the sixth double-double of her career, as she led the No. 4 Irish to a decisive 75-54 win over ACC opponent Virginia on Thursday at Purcell Pavilion.

Notre Dame (22-2, 8-1 ACC) faces a quick turnaround this weekend, as it will travel to Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts for a matchup against Boston College on Sunday.

Turner led the Irish with 26 points and 13 rebounds, both team highs, as the Cavaliers (15-8, 5-5) had no answer for the Irish inside presence; 50 of Notre Dame's points came in the paint, compared to just 18 for Virginia.

"I thought Brianna had a really phenomenal game," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "We were able to go inside early and were able to get lobs to her. [Sophomore guard] Lindsay [Allen] found her a number of times and really just executed



Freshman forward Brianna Turner reaches for a rebound against the Cavaliers. Turner led the Irish with 26 points and 13 rebounds.

well. I thought Lindsay had a good offensive game and played well defensively, too."

Allen finished with 12 points, third on the team behind

Turner and junior guard Jewell Loyd. Loyd had a quiet game by her standards, going 4-of-15

see W BBall PAGE 14

HOCKEY

Irish aim to beat Duke in Durham

By ZACH KLONSINSKI Sports Writer

After playing in front of one of the largest, rowdiest crowds in Purcell Pavilion history the first time around, the rematch between No. 10 Notre Dame and No. 4 Duke now shifts to the place where the word 'crazy' is a term of endearment and cries for revenge will shake the rafters.

Just 11 days after Irish senior guard Jerian Grant and sophomore guard Steve Vasturia delivered the final blows in Notre Dame's 77-73 win Jan. 28, the two teams meet again Saturday in a crucial regular-season ACC matchup at Cameron Indoor Stadium. This time, though, the confines won't be as friendly for the Irish (21-3, 9-2 ACC).

The Blue Devils (19-3, 6-3) and their 'Cameron Crazies,' which were recently ranked the most passionate college basketball fans by NCAA.com, create what Irish coach Mike Brey called the "ultimate road venue" during his press conference Thursday. to play," Brey said. "I just don't want them to get too revved up. I think what happens in that place a lot of times ... is teams get a little out of character or play too fast because of the crowd.

"Overall, though, we've done a pretty good job in loud atmospheres of staying poised, but I'm just thrilled that this team has put themselves in a position for a marquee game in that environment."

Up by one with just over a minute remaining in the first meeting between the teams, Grant had the ball knocked loose as the shot clock wound down but snatched it back and hit a floater from the free-throw line to put Notre Dame up three. After the Blue Devils cut the lead back to one on a pair of free throws, Grant drove the lane and threw a pass to Vasturia, who was all alone in front of the Notre Dame bench. The sophomore's 3-pointer, his only basket of the night, put the Irish up by four with 22 seconds remaining. After a Duke timeout, Grant sealed the victory with an emphatic block on a layup

see M BBall PAGE 14

"[Our guys will] be really excited

FOOTBALL

Cooks takes job at Oklahoma

Observer Staff Report

Notre Dame defensive backs coach Kerry Cooks has accepted a position as the secondary coach at Oklahoma, according to his Twitter account.

Cooks changed his Twitter biography Wednesday night to read "Secondary Coach at University of Oklahoma."

Thursday morning, Cooks

coaching in January.

Irish head coach Brian Kelly wouldn't address talk of Cooks' departure in his National Signing Day press conference Wednesday.

"We got nine coaches today," Kelly said. "We're going to talk recruiting today. Any changes that we have on the staff we will definitely get you up to date on it, but I'm not going to get into it today talking about coaches, who's coming, who's staying." TheFootballBrainiacs.com first reported Sunday afternoon that Cooks would be named the defensive backs coach at Oklahoma. Cooks spent five seasons on staff with the Irish, most recently as the secondary coach this past season. In 2012 and 2013, Cooks served as Notre Dame's co-defensive coordinator and cornerbacks coach. The Irving, Texas, native joined Irish head coach Brian Kelly's staff in 2010 as the outside linebackers coach and tutored the cornerbacks in 2011. Cooks spent stints coaching

ND heads to Maine for conference series

By BENJAMIN HORVATH Sports Writer

Notre Dame travels to the East Coast this weekend to take on Maine in a pair of crucial Hockey East conference games.

The Irish (11-14-3, 6-5-3 Hockey East) split this past weekend's series against conference foe New Hampshire, losing 5-2 Friday night and winning 5-3 Saturday.



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MEN'S BASKETBALL

tweeted, "New chapter in my life starting w the Crimson & Cream! Can't wait to meet my new family! #BoomerSooner"

Oklahoma assistant athletics director/communications Pete Moris wouldn't confirm the hiring of Cooks when contacted Wednesday night, according to Jason Kersey of The Oklahoman.

Sooners head coach Bob Stoops said in his National Signing Day press conference on Wednesday that he hopes to have his assistant coaching search finalized "between this week and next week."

Oklahoma's previous secondary coach, Bobby Jack Wright, announced his retirement from Currently, Notre Dame is tied for fifth place in the Hockey East, trailing first-place Boston University by nine points. Maine (10-16-2, 5-8-1) is 10th in the conference, trailing the Irish by four points.

Sophomore center Vince Hinostroza, who is currently tied for the team scoring lead with 25 points on the season, said that despite the team's inconsistencies this season, the Irish are still within striking distance in the conference standings.

"We're still in pretty good shape in our conference, and we only have conference games left, so we just have to take it period-by-period and game-bygame," Hinostroza said.

With eight conference games remaining, the Irish are just two points behind Providence for the all-important fourth slot in the conference standings. The top four teams in the Hockey East host a best-of-three quarterfinal series in the Hockey East tournament and do not have to play in the tournament's one-game first round.

Hinostroza tallied a trio of assists against New Hampshire, and his recent offense has been integral to Notre Dame's recent turnaround on the power play unit. Through Jan. 10, the Irish power play unit ranked last in the country in goals scored. Since that date, the Irish have scored a power play goal in seven straight games, with

see Football PAGE 13

see Hockey PAGE 13